

R1/3

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MV *Endeavour* BF 515

Charter Cruise 1000H

REPORT

6-15 November 2000

Personnel

K J Peach In charge
T Blasdale
G Johnson Visitor (MIA Dublin)

Gear

Twin Rig 2 x Seaway Nets 150 ft 16" disc groundgear, 90 mm square mesh panels
 110 mm cod-end

Objectives

1. To map the distribution of monkfish and megrim at 200, 400, 600, and 800 metres along the shelf break from 5730N to 6130N using the 1999 *Endeavour* monkfish charter trawling positions.
2. To sample monkfish for length, total weight, gutted weight, liver weight, gonad weight, sex, maturity and age.
3. To obtain monkfish skin samples for genetic analysis.
4. To sample megrim for length, weight, sex and age.
5. To obtain temperature at depth using a minilog sampler.
6. To obtain morphometric measurements from *Nephrops norvegicus*.

Narrative

Endeavour sailed from Kinlochbervie at 1830 hours and headed northwest to the first trawling position (5847N 0737W) arriving at 0500 hours on 7 November 2000. During the first 48 hours, fishing was restricted to 200 and 400 metres due to a spell of northwesterly gales. As the weather improved, fishing continued at all depths, and 28 valid hauls of approximately three hours duration were completed giving good coverage of the survey area. Damage to fishing gear was minimal except for haul 4 when the gear came fast after 50 minutes and one net was single ended and badly torn as a result. *Endeavour* returned to Kinlochbervie at 1400 hours on 15 November 2000.

Results

Catches ranged from 10 to 200 baskets of bulk with the largest haul comprising small saithe.

Catches of *L. piscatorius* were steady throughout the survey (Map 2). A total of 730 *L. piscatorius* were caught, of which 444 were scored for length, weight, sex, maturity and age,

the remainder were scored for length, sex and maturity. Skin samples were obtained from 27 fish for genetic analysis.

Numbers of *L. piscatorius* caught per hour were very similar to the 1999 survey (Table 1).

Catches of *L. budegassa* were restricted to the southern end of the survey area (Map 3). A total of 354 *L. budegassa* were caught, of which 46 were scored for length, weight, sex, maturity and age, the remainder were scored for length, sex and maturity.

Megrim catches varied with depth. *L. whiffiagonis* abundant in the shallow >400 m zones (Map 4) with *L. boscii* making a showing in the <400 m region (Map 5). A total of 978 *L. whiffiagonis* were caught, of which 340 were scored for length, weight, sex and age, the remainder were scored for length and sex. A total of 28 *L. boscii* were caught and scored for length and sex.

Catches of *Nephrops norvegicus* were restricted to the southern end of the survey area at depths ranging from 360 to 580 metres. A total of 152 were caught, of which 112 were measured for morphometric analysis. One relative stranger previously unseen by Marlab staff was caught, a deepsea anglerfish *Himantolophus groenlandicus* (haul 18, 745 metres) which was returned to the lab for formal identification and photographing. All survey objectives were met. The invaluable experience and hard work of Skipper Smith and his crew ensured the success of this charter.

K J Peach
28 November 2000

Table 1

Endeavour monkfish charter 1999/2000 comparison table.

Depth	Haul no	Haul no	Temp	Temp	Ang/ hr	Ang/ hr	Mean len	Mean len	% Male	% Male	% Female	% Female
190	E99/1	E00/1	10.5	9.8	20	20	52.56	54.41	58	62	42	38
390	E99/2	E00/2	10.2	9.5	4	4	58.58	58.75	42	88	58	13
610	E99/3	E00/14	9.1	8.7	6	7	60.33	65.94	94	94	6	6
800	E99/4	E00/15	8.6	8.1	8	6	79.35	74.94	50	56	50	44
600	E99/6	E00/13	9.3	8.9	3	7	64.89	58.21	89	71	11	29
210	E99/7	E00/12	10.7	9.8	22	14	53.07	52.38	67	71	33	29
370	E99/8	E00/3	10.2	9.1	0	4	0.00	59.41	0	75	0	25
800	E99/9	E00/9	8.8	8.3	52	25	61.33	61.05	74	78	26	22
380	E99/11	E00/8	10.5	9.4	6	6	54.37	55.00	84	78	16	22
200	E99/12	E00/7	10.7	9.4	27	26	46.83	52.97	69	67	31	33
800	E99/13	E00/10	8.9	8.2	20	21	60.61	60.16	83	84	17	16
600	E99/14	E00/11	9.8	9.2	10	10	63.25	63.45	79	68	21	32
390	E99/15	E00.5	10.4	9.4	1	3	52.00	65.78	0	44	100	56
200	E99/16	E00/6	10.7	9.4	7	26	50.17	51.52	70	55	30	45
200	E99/17	E00/16	10.5	9.2	18	2	61.92	51.80	50	60	50	40
600	E99/18	E00/17	9.1	8.4	1	3	61.00	64.80	0	90	100	10
800	E99/19	E00/18	8.1	8.0	3	3	61.00	73.56	88	78	12	22
200	E99/20	E00/19	10.6	9.7	1	0	58.00	79.00	67	100	33	0
320	E99/21	E00/20	10.2	8.8	1	1	59.75	70.75	75	75	25	25
600	E99/22	E00/29	0.3	1.8	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
800	E99/23	E00/28	-0.7	-0.2	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
200	E99/24	E00/21	10.2	9.6	1	5	65.75	87.67	25	6	75	94
760	E99/27	E00/27	0.2	-0.7	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
600	E99/29	E00/26	0.1	0.4	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
180	E99/31	E00/23	10.1	9.4	8	10	60.76	51.59	40	52	60	48
400	E99/32	E00/25	8.1	9.1	3	4	63.00	66.86	27	29	73	71
200	E99/33	E00/24	9.9	8.9	8	4	64.61	59.23	47	38	53	62
180	E99/36	E00/22	9.4	9.6	14	29	57.66	57.12	53	57	47	43

MAP 1

Endeavour Monkfish Charter 2000 Cruise track and trawling positions.





