

Included 19/11 JH2

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In Confidence: Not to be quoted without reference to the Laboratory

FHV "Goldseeker"

12GR85

Cruise 12/85

LD

Report

28 August - 12 September 1985

Personnel

P A M Stewart PSO (in charge)
G J Booth SO

Fishing Gear

Gill nets and codends

Objectives

1. To measure the characteristics of gill nets in tidal flows.
2. To measure the drag of short codends.

Narrative

"Goldseeker" sailed from Stornoway to Portree on 29 August where the scientific staff joined. The vessel worked out of Portree for the whole of the cruise. The gill nets were deployed north and south of the Narrows of Raasay. The codends were towed in the Sound of Raasay. Bad weather prevented work only on 1 September and on the afternoon of 3 September. The half-landing was taken on 4 September. "Goldseeker" left Portree on the evening of 10 September and sailed to Kyle of Lochalsh. On the 11 September she sailed to Corpach for the between-cruise break.

Results

Suitable sites for shooting the gill nets were found. Two fleets of nets with self-recording headline manometers were deployed on the sea bed each day and left overnight. A total of 18 sets was made. Speed logs were also deployed, including the Braystoke recording log. Although some initial difficulty was experienced with the recently modified manometers, a series of recordings was obtained of headline height variation with tidal flow.

The drag of 7 short codends was measured in a total of 16 hauls. Tests were limited to a single mouth diameter of 4.44m. The drag of short codends is small and sea conditions limited the precision of measurements. Several repeat hauls were required with some of the codends. In previous work on codend drag it was found that the dependence of drag on length was complex. Preliminary analysis of the new data suggests that the variance is too great for any novel conclusions to be drawn. The records will however, be re-read and re-analysed in the Laboratory.

P A M Stewart
13 November 1985

Seen in Draft: A Mair