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FRV "Goldseeker"
Cruise 4/88

REPORT

21 March - 9 April 1988

Personnel

T Howell HSO (In charge)
C Shand SO

Objectives

1. To obtain colour video tape recordings of the sea bed in potentially suitable areas for future work on scallops.
2. To investigate the use of a sledge mounted TV camera for surveying scallop grounds.
3. To observe the effect of modifications to the sledge.

Narrative

The scientific staff joined "Goldseeker" at Kyle on Monday 21 March and loading was completed that day. Between 22 and 29 March a detailed survey of the area in Loch Ewe, shown in Figure 1, was carried out using the colour TV sledge and scallop sampling dredges. On Wednesday 30 March "Goldseeker" steamed southwards bound for the Clyde. A broken exhaust had to be repaired in Mallaig, delaying passage through the Crinan Canal until Saturday. On the following day sledge runs were made at Claonaig Bay in preparation for tests of the modified sledge. During the half landing on Monday 4 April, a faulty stern gland was diagnosed. On Tuesday one run was completed at Claonaig, with the modified sledge, before "Goldseeker" steamed to Rosneath to have the stern gland repaired. The time remaining, after the repairs had been completed, allowed for two dredge hauls at Lamash, before "Goldseeker" made for Troon on the Friday. The scientific staff disembarked on Saturday 9 April.

Results

Figure 1 shows the 12 TV sledge runs made in L Ewe. The video tape from these, and the runs made at Claonaig, will be analysed in the laboratory.

Eight dredge hauls were carried out in L Ewe along the tracks of sledge runs 1-8 during which 108 scallops and 90 queen scallops were caught.

T Howell
11 May 1988

Seen in draft: A Mair

Fig 1

Survey Area

LINE

The map shows a large, irregularly shaped area representing the study area. A smaller, shaded area within this region is labeled 'Survey Area'. A line, possibly a road or boundary, is labeled 'LINE' and runs through the shaded area. An arrow points from the text 'Survey Area' to the shaded region.

