

Indexed ✓

16

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

FRV "Goldseeker"  
Cruise 7/85

7GR85 MB

Report  
8-23 May 1985

#### Personnel

J C McKie SO  
F Cruickshank PTO IV

#### Objectives

- 1) To uplift mussel cages deployed by "Goldseeker" in cruise 4/85.
- 2) To collect a water sample for radio caesium analysis at 56°32'N 2°20'W

#### IN ADDITION, time permitting

- 3) To conduct a grab survey of Bell Rock and St Abbs Head dump sites.
- 4) To fish for plaice and flounders using the SEUART PRAWN TRAWL BT 126 as part of the 1985 ICES Baseline Survey.

#### Narrative

The "Goldseeker" sailed at 1115 hrs on 8 May from Aberdeen and commenced work at Inzie Head that day. On 9 May the mooring at Tod Head was uplifted and the radio caesium sample was collected off Arbroath as the ship steamed for Anstruther. The following day "Goldseeker" proceeded to Fifeness and retrieved a further 2 moorings. Owing to bad weather the day was cut short and the ship headed for Methil.

~~On 11 May "Goldseeker" made passage to Blyth to retrieve the Southernmost moorings.~~  
On 14 May this work was completed and "Goldseeker" went to Granton for half landing on 15 May.

The equipment required to fulfill objectives 3 and 4 was loaded at Anstruther on 17 May.

On 18 May "Goldseeker" proceeded to St Abbs Head to retrieve the last line of moorings, to complete objective 1 and to undertake a grab survey of the dump site (objective 3).

Between 19-22 May further work was carried out at the Bell Rock dump site and in the Inner Firth of Forth to meet objectives 3 and 4.

The ship unloaded at Leith on 23 May and scientific staff and gear travelled back to Aberdeen.

## Results

Only 22% of the mussel cage moorings were successfully recovered. Despite these heavy losses samples were obtained from all areas off the Scottish coast.

The samples await processing and analysis.

Samples from the completed sediment programme at St Abbs Head and the partial grid at Bell Rock also await analysis. The fish samples collected in the Forth will be analysed as part of DAFS contribution to ICES 1985 Baseline Survey of Contaminants in Fish and Shellfish.

## Note

Recipients should note that the cruise report for the previous cruise in this project was issued as for Cruise 4/84. The Cruise was of course Cruise 4/85.

J C McKie

27 June 1985