

R1/3

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Charter Fishing Vessel *Green Isles III* CE73

Cruise 1595H

REPORT

31 July - 15 August 1995

Personnel

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| J H B Robertson | HSO (in charge) |
| A M Shanks | HSO (pt 2-4 August) |
| D J Bova | SO |

Objective

To measure the selectivity (L50, selection factor and range) of velvet swimming crab creels having 24, 28 and 32 mm escape gaps and of standard creels with no escape gap.

Out-turn Days Per Project: 14 days IBD1

Narrative

Staff travelled to Portree on 30 August. Creels were rigged then deployed along the west shore of the island of Raasay opposite Portree on 31 August. Work continued on a daily basis from then until 15 August with breaks on Sunday 6 and 13 August. All individuals of all species captured in each creel were measured. Two additional creels were deployed at the start of each day with miniature cameras attached. These were recovered at the end of the day. Weather during the whole period was dominated by a high pressure system which gave excellent sunny spells with generally light winds and very little rainfall. The creels were finally hauled on 15 August and staff with all equipment returned to Aberdeen on 16 August.

Results

The data show that there were significant differences in selectivity between the four creel types. Underwater television observations of animal behaviour in the standard creels and those with escape gaps was obtained. Further analysis of the selectivity data and video film is being conducted at the Laboratory.

J H B Robertson
26 September 1995