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Charter Fishing Vessel *Jeannie Stella*

Charter Cruise 0794 Part V - Part 6

REPORT

21 September 1994

Personnel

I D Tuck Research Assistant (in charge)

Objectives

To disturb the sediment and associated fauna in a precisely defined area along the west shore of Loch Gareloch using a rock-hopper ground gear with no trawl net attached.

Narrative

The staff member joined *Jeannie Stella* at Gourock at 0745 21 September and proceeded to Loch Gareloch, where contact was then made with the Queens Harbour Master at RN Faslane for permission to enter the upper area of Loch Gareloch. On receiving permission, the *Jeannie Stella* moved onto station on the west side of the loch and commenced disturbance operations at 0830. Tows were carried out until 1514 when the vessel left the Gareloch and made for Gourock, arriving there at 1605.

Out-turn days per project: One day

Results

A total of 10, 45 minute trawls were completed during the day, each tow using a 75 m warp with an approximate vessel speed of two knots. All tow tracks were recorded to allow easy location of the work area in the future.

Mud, evidence of epifaunal organisms and pieces of debris were all observed on parts of the trawl gear indicating that the gear was digging into and having some effect on the bottom sediment and the local epifaunal community.

The next disturbance event is scheduled for 14 October 1994.

I D Tuck

3 October 1994