

R1/3

Not to be cited without prior reference to the Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen

Charter Fishing Vessel *JEANNIE STELLA*

0794H Part 9

REPORT

14 December 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

Joined vessel *Jeannie Stella* at Clynder, Loch Gareloch at 0830 hours 14 December, the vessel already having made contact with the Queen's 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 0845 hours. Tows were carried out until 1515 hours when the vessel returned the staff member to Clynder at 1545 hours.

Out-turn Days per Project: 1 day BGFZ

Results

A total of ten, 45 minute trawls were completed during the day, each tow using a 75 fm warp with an approximate vessel speed of 2 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 11 January 1995.

I D Tuck
29 December 1994