

Do not cite without prior reference to Aquatic Science Research Division

CRUISE REPORT LF/10/90.

JUVENILE FISH SURVEY

18th June - 26th June

Cruise Personnel:

Guests:

Dr.S.I.Heaney	Head ASRD (26th)	Mr.F Dillon	Principal Finance Officer
W.J.Mc Curdy	SSO (SIC)	Dr.R.Boyd	Head Research Admin.
R.Hunter	SO	Mr.T.Hutley	Chief Fisheries Officer
B.T.M.Hart	ASO	Dr.D.Stewart	Biometrics Division
S.Connor	ASO	Mr.J.Magee	DANI Press Office
Miss V.Henderson	TASO	Mr.M.Brown	DANI Press Office
		Mr.M.Drake	Belfast Telegraph
		Mr.H.Ford	Belfast Telegraph

Cruise Objectives:

1. To record the abundance of juvenile gadoids and other young fish at at each of 29 existing sampling stations during daylight hours..
2. To identify 5 replacement sampling stations.
3. To obtain water and plankton samples for laboratory analysis, to confirm the presence and distribution of dinoflagellates known to cause PSP.
4. To obtain water samples for nutrient analysis.

Cruise Narrative:

W, Mc Curdy, S. Connor, B. Hart, and Miss V. Henderson joined the vessel on the evening of 17th of June. R. Hunter joined the vessel on the morning of 18th June. The Lough Foyle left Belfast Docks at 07:42 on Monday 18th June in calm weather. Water and plankton samples were obtained from PSP sampling sites 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 in the Belfast Lough area for laboratory analysis of dinoflagellate content. These samples were landed in Whitehead at 10:50 by the vessel's work boat, q for collection by shore based ASRD staff. The Lough Foyle commenced fishing operations, and stations 32 and 30 were sampled before trawling was suspended, when the starboard trawl door mudded at station 31. The starboard trawl warp parted during recovery operations, resulting in gear damage and loss of the starboard trawl door. The vessel returned to Belfast for replacement gear and docked at 00:40 on 19th June. The vessel left Belfast at 11:15 on 19th June and recommenced fishing operations at 14:00 the same day. Stations 36,37 and 38 were sampled in S'ly F4 before fishing ceased for the day.

Stations 61,62,63 and 64 were fished on 20th June in SSE F4-5, with a good catch of "1" group cod (N=37) at station 62 (Luce Bay) as expected. Stations 65,66,67,68,48 and 51 were fished in calm to W F2 / N F2-3 on 21st June. Stations 46,50,52 and 56 were fished in N'ly F4 to W'ly F3-4 on 22nd June. Very good catches of "0" group cod were obtained at stations 52 (N=23) and 56 (N=275). Stations 75,11,73 and 71 were fished in W'ly F3-4 on 23rd June. Water and plankton samples were

also obtained from PSP sampling sites 7 and 8 (Carlingford Lough inner and outer) on 23rd June.

Stations 72,17,44,70 and 15 were fished on 24th June in SE F3-4 to S'ly F6. On 25th June stations 41 and 44 were fished in SW F2-3 but both hauls were invalid. At station 41 the cod-end was found to be torn due to a large catch of seaweed, and at station 40 a bridle was broken and the trawl net damaged. Water and plankton samples were obtained at PSP sampling site 9 (Burr Point), and the vessel then proceeded to Belfast to repair gear and to clean ship for the DANI guest party due on board on 26th June. The Lough Foyle docked in Belfast at 14:50 on 25th June.

During the cruise otoliths were taken from 150 Whiting, 153 Cod, 122 Hake and 177 Haddock for age determination. Water samples were collected from seventeen sites for nutrient analysis. Four replacement fishing stations (70,71,72 and 75) were successfully trawled, but it is recommended that three further replacements (for 31,41 and 40) be identified during the September 1990 young fish cruise.

On 26th June the DANI senior staff and press guests boarded the Lough Foyle at and the vessel left Belfast at 08:06. Stations 33 and 35 were fished in calm conditions. Sediment cores were taken in Belfast Lough at No.4 buoy, off Carrickfergus and off Kilroot using a Jenkins core sampler. The vessel returned to Belfast and arrived at 16:46 the same day. DANI senior staff, press guests and R. Hunter left the vessel at 17:00. All other DANI staff disembarked from the Lough Foyle at 11:00 on 27th June and returned to Coleraine.

W.J. Mc Curdy

