

CRUISE REPORT CR/11/89 LOUGH FOYLE CRUISE LF/11/89
Dates : 20-23 March 1989

PERSONNEL

D J Agnew HSO SIC
J Peel TASO (Tue 21/3/89 - Thu)

OBJECTIVES

1. to trial all newly installed equipment including Atlas echosounder, Scanmar net monitor, new Simrad Echosounder and Day grab.
2. to continue calibration of ROXANN
3. to perform trials with acoustic towed body and calibration equipment.

NARRATIVE

Lough Foyle sailed on Monday at 0800 and docked later the same day having completed the equipment trials. J Peel boarded Tuesday and Lough Foyle sailed 0800 for Dundrum bay. Strong winds were experienced throughout the day, during which the new Hydrobios grab was used to collect 4 samples from Dundrum Bay. Towards evening the wind dropped and Lough Foyle anchored whilst hydroacoustic calibration was carried out.

During the night and all of Wednesday gale force winds were experienced and the Lough Foyle remained at anchor until 0400 Thursday. Due to continuing poor forecasts and gale force winds the acoustic equipment was not deployed and the ship carried out further calibration of the Roxann equipment on Thursday morning in Belfast Lough. Lough Foyle docked at 0200 Thursday.

RESULTS

A total of 4, 15-30min tows were completed using the scallop dredges on sites around Dundrum bay and Belfast Lough. 7 Grab samples were also taken from various areas using a Day Grab. From subjective analysis of the tow and grab samples further outline boxes were input into ROXANN.

Hydroacoustic calibration was partially successful; very little current was experienced in Dundrum bay at low tide for a period of 4 hours.

D J Agnew