

PROVISIONAL CRUISE REPORT

Vessel: M.F.V. Reul-na-Maidne

Location: Waverider site west of South Uist

Period: 18.08.84

Personnel: E J Moore PTOIII Principal Scientist
R Gleason SSO
S Bambury ASO

Objectives: To replace the waverider buoy and mooring.

Procedures and Method: Buoy and mooring loaded on Reul-na-Maidne for assembly on passage to site. Buoy energised at 0930 but aerial not fitted until on site.

Arrived on station at 1230, sea state 3, visibility less than 1/4 mile but buoy appeared dead on station. The bottom end of the rubber cord, fitted with two 9" trawl floats, was floating on the surface.

The new buoy was laid some 200 m S of the old one in standard fashion. The buoy was deployed by hand and the top of the mooring paid out until the buoy was well clear of the ship. The anchor was then deployed by hand and lowered by surging chain on the nearest drum head, and then by surging the main mooring rope. Tension was kept on for some time after the anchor had reached bottom to stretch out the chain. This was easily observed on the vessel's echo sounder VDU. The buoy and anchor were then allowed to take mooring out together until all the mooring was clear. This rubber cord being fitted with 4" trawl floats: the rubber cord did not float.

The old buoy was recovered by use of the gilson, the rubber cord hauled in by hand and the rope put on the port winch drum. The mooring and anchor came out easily, again observed on the echo sounder VDU. The anchor, as usual, fouled the vessels bilge keel and had to be hauled in with the help of a grapnel. The mooring appeared in good condition and the anchor and 1/2" chain were left on board for use in a future deployment. Consideration should be given to reducing the length of this mooring.

Weather: Wind W 2-3, sea state 3, drizzle, visibility very poor, less than 1/4 mile.

Equipment Reul-na-Maidne is very suitable for this work but
Performance: since she has been used for sand eel fishing the smell
of rotten sand eels is unbelievable and would turn all
but the strongest stomachs. All clothing worn on
board had to be kept isolated from personal luggage
for the remainder of the trip, and thoroughly washed on
return.

Itinerary: 0900 Rendezvous with Reul-na-Maidne and crew at
fish factory pier, North Bay, Barra
0930 Sail for site via Washington Channel
1230 Arrive on site
1249 Deployed replacement buoy
1330 Recovered old buoy
1430 Obtained Decca co-ordinates for new buoy
1500 Sailed for North Bay via Pabbay Channel to
avoid low water on Washington Reef
2030 Alongside pier

Abridged details: Waverider No. 67201
Deployed 18.08.84
Decca Chain 8E/MP (Hebridean)
Red A 7.74
Green D 31.18
Purple A 73.38
Time 12.49 B.S.T.
Depth 51 fathoms
Frequency 29.725 MHz
Battery volts 21.1 + 21.1 volts
Output meter reading 8.0 volts
Calibrated 24.8.82
Sensitivity 1.860 Hzm⁻¹

Prepared by: E J Moore
Approved by: P J Hardcastle
Date* 23 August 1984

E J Moore
P J Hardcastle