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Charter Vessel Cruise

RV 'Seol Mara'

Report

20-25 March-1988

Personnel

R Payne	HSO	
R D Adams	SO	
D C Moore	SSO)
J C McKie	HSO) 22-26 March
Miss A Scobie	Student)	

Objectives

1. To carry out a general hydrographic, chemical and benthic survey of Lochs Sunart and Aline.
2. To assess the quality of the loch water in close proximity to a large fish farm in Loch Sunart.

Narrative

The hydrographers and equipment arrived at Loch Sunart on 19 March and a site was established at Laudale Fish Farm. R V 'Seol Mara' arrived in Loch Sunart on 20 March. The hydro/chemical survey of the upper basin was completed on 21 March and the survey of the whole loch on 22 March. The close survey around the fish farm was completed on 23 March from the dory, while the benthic survey of the upper basin was completed using the 'Seol Mara'.

Storm force winds on 24 March caused the 'Seol Mara' to slip her moorings and run for shelter further down the loch. Despite the extremely poor weather conditions 'Seol Mara' arrived in Loch Aline at noon on 25 March and a combined, abbreviated hydro/chemical/benthic survey of Loch Aline was undertaken in the afternoon in very poor conditions. On the completion of the survey 'Seol Mara' left to run before the wind to Oban.

All staff and facilities returned to the Laboratory on 26 March.

Results

Samples obtained during the cruise are awaiting analysis.

R Payne
31 March 1988