PROVISIONAL CRUISE REPORT

VESSEL:

RV Squilla

LOCATION:

Eddystone Rocks

CRUISE PERIOD:

2 November-5 November 1981

PERSONNEL:

B M Norman J D Humphery D H Joyce

OBJECTIVES:

To recover old Waverider and mooring system. To deploy new Waverider and Wavecrest buoys in order to continue data collection from the Eddystone site and also to run comparative tests between the two types of buoy. To install and commission receiving and logging systems at HMS Cambridge.

PROCEDURE AND METHODS:

The Waverider buoy was deployed by allowing the buoy and sub surface float to drift away from the vessel to ensure that no twists or kinks existed in the mooring. The anchor clump was then lowered to the sea bed on a steel wire. The lowering wire was then unshackled and allowed to drop free.

The Wavecrest buoy was deployed in an identical manner.

The old Waverider was recovered using boathook and jilson. The buoy was detached from the rubber cord and replaced with a large marker buoy. A large grapnel was lowered and several runs were made past and around the buoy in an attempt to snag the riser chain between the sub surface float and the anchor clump.

Eventually the grapnel or the wire caught fast, probably on a rocky outcrop, and after several attempts to free it the wire was cut and the grapnel abandoned.

EQUIPMENT

PERFORMANCE:

The failure to recover the Waverider mooring and the consequent loss of the grapnel was the only problem encountered during the cruise. The grapnel that was lost had been used very successfully on other occasions and it is thought that the extremely rocky conditions present at the Eddystone site rendered the grapnel unrecoverable using the winch and equipment available on the vessel.

ITINERARY:

Monday, 2 November: Travelled to Plymouth.

Tuesday, 3 November:

AM Loaded Squilla and prepared both moorings. Weather conditions caused postponed sailing.

PM Installed two more receivers and two track microdata logger at HMS Cambridge.

Wednesday, 4 November: Vessel sailed 0900.

AM Deployed Waverider buoy and Wavecrest buoy.

PM Recovered old Waverider buoy and attempted to recover old Waverider mooring. Returned to Plymouth.

Thursday, 5 November:

AM DHJ unloaded Squilla and returned to Taunton. BMN and JDH commissioned new receiving system at HMS Cambridge.

PM Returned to Taunton.

PREPARED BY:

B.H. No.

B M NORMAN

APPROVED BY:

AP Salbuld

A P SALKIELD

DATE:

80.il.81.

ABRIDGED DETAILS

Eddystone Wavecrest Buoy

Buoy No 104 Inventory No 1134

Frequency 27.015 MHz

Battery voltages 23.9 V + 23.8 V Top

23.8 V + 23.9 V Bottom on 14.10.81

Position Red A 11.8

Green C 46.7 Purple A 70.95 Depth 40.5 m

Deployed 1140 GMT 4.11-81 Calibrated 14.10.81 1.7777 Hz m⁻¹ Sensitivity Eddystone Rx Type No 964/7c Serial No 499

Microdata logger Inventory No 1097

Serial No 5266 3.11.81

Logger and Rx calibrated

Sensitivity

-64.00 Hz⁻¹ Readings prefixed by Negative symbol

Recording channel

Eddystone Waverider Buoy

Buoy No 67201 Frequency 26.990 MHz

Battery voltages 19.10.81 20.5 V + 20.5 V

Position Red A 11.7

Green C 46.3

Purple A 70.8 Depth 40.4 m MWD

Deployed 1100 GMT 4.11.81

Calibrated 14.10.81 1.8523 Hz m Sensitivity Eddystone Rx Type No 964/7c Serial No 447

Microdata logger Inventory 1097 Serial No 5266

Logger and Rx calibrated 3.11.81

Sensitivity

-64.00 Hz⁻¹ Readings prefixed by Positive symbol

Recording channel

The data from both of the buoys is being recorded on a 2 channel NB: Microdata Logger.

