

MR BATE

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
FISHERIES LABORATORY LOWESTOFT SUFFOLK ENGLAND

1974 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT R V TELLINA CRUISE 5

(PROVISIONAL: Not to be quoted without prior reference to the author)

STAFF

R S Millner
J R Joyce
B H Holford } 20 May only
M R Vince
J A Henderson

DURATION

20-29 May

LOCALITY

Southwold and Spoil ground off Lowestoft

AIMS

1. To obtain cores of bottom sediment from the dredger dumping grounds investigated on TELLINA 2/1974.
2. To carry out a survey of the sediments and benthos of Gravel Dredging Areas 221 and 224.

NARRATIVE

TELLINA worked on a day to day basis from Lowestoft. 20 May was spent obtaining sediment cores from the spoil dumping grounds using divers. Only the two periods of slack water were used. On 21 May TELLINA steamed to Southwold where five 30 minute tows were made with an 8 fathom trawl after the Smith-McIntyre grab failed to work. The following day qualitative sediment and benthos samples were taken with a Van Veen grab, anchor dredge and conical dredge. On 23 May the epibenthos was sampled with an Agassiz trawl and during slack water grabbing was carried out with the repaired Smith McIntyre. After a delay while a new length of cable was fitted to the grab, two stations of 5 grabs each were successfully worked on 24 May. Bad weather prevented working on the 25th but on the following day a total of 24 samples were taken before a pin sheared off the grab halting further work. A Herriott grab on loan from the Atomic Energy Authority at Winfrith was tried out on the 27 May but on this occasion failed to obtain any sediment. Three 30 minute tows with the 8 fathom trawl were then completed. The final two days were used to complete the grid of grabbing stations.

RESULTS

1. 12 complete cores were obtained by divers from the Lowestoft spoil dumping ground and on the last dive, the sea floor was reported to be littered with mud pieces, presumably from a recent dumping.
2. Despite the time lost with damaged or defective grabs, a grid of 23 stations was worked covering Areas 221 and three regions of Area 229. A total of 76 grab samples were taken for analysis of benthos and sediments.

3. Active bottom fauna was sampled with an Agassiz trawl and 8 hauls were made over the four main areas. A further 8 hauls were carried out with an 8 fathom trawl and the stomach contents of bottom feeding fish retained for analysis. The otoliths for age determination were removed from the sole caught as requested by Mr Watson.

R S Millner
10 June 1974

SEEN IN DRAFT A S P
INITIALLED A J L
DISTRIBUTION
Basic List

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