

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

1979 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

~~PROGRAMME~~ ^{REPORT} R V TELLINA: CRUISE 7

STAFF: M S Rolfe
P G Maynard

DURATION: 15-31 October

LOCALITY: North Sea off Southwold

AIMS:

To conduct a pre-dredging survey over gravel extraction AREA 305/3, collecting epibenthos by beam trawling and infauna and sediments by grabbing; to make direct observations of the sea bed using underwater TV and still camera, and to monitor turbidity in the area using a recording transmissometer.

NARRATIVE:

Grabbing commenced on 15 October and was continued, with beam trawling, on 16 October. Easterly gales prevented any work on 18 and 19 October. An extension to the cruise was obtained but because of continuing bad weather, further work was prevented until 29 October when the beam trawling was completed. Mr Nunny of Sea Sediments joined TELLINA on 30 October; poor weather conditions prevented the use of side scan sonar over area 305/3, but the opportunity was taken to test equipment in sheltered conditions inshore. With further bad weather the cruise was terminated on 31 October.

RESULTS:

Forty grab stations were worked in and around area 305/3. At most stations many attempts were necessary to obtain adequate sediment samples which consisted mostly of sand, pebbles and Ross (sandy tubes of Sabellaria), the latter being abundant at some stations. Surface sediment samples were retained for subsequent particle size analysis. The benthos was extremely sparse and restricted mainly to a mixture of mobile sand dwellers and hard ground fauna. Fauna retained on a 1 mm sieve that could not be identified at sea was preserved for subsequent identification at the laboratory. Sixteen 2 m beam trawl hauls of 5 minutes duration were made within the experimental area but the benthos collected was sparse except at a few stations where Ross and shrimp were encountered. No direct observations of the seabed using underwater TV or still camera were possible because of excessive motion. No transmissometer recordings were made.

M S Rolfe
31 December 1979

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INITIALLED: A J L

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic list

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