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MFV Audacious

Survey 0723H

Demersal Vessel Charter SIAMISS Survey

#### **PROGRAMME**

10-23 May 2023

#### **Ports**

Loading: Ullapool, 10 May 2023

Unloading: Ullapool (TBC) 23 May 2023

In setting the survey programme and specific objectives, etc. the Scientist-in-Charge needs to be aware of the restrictions on working hours and the need to build in adequate rest days and rest breaks as set out in Marine Scotland's Working Time Policy (Lab Notice 34/03).

In addition, the Scientist-in-Charge must formally review the risk assessments for the survey with staff onboard before work is commenced.

In the interest of efficient data management it is now mandatory to return the Survey Report to Iain Gibb within eight weeks of a survey ending and the Survey Summary Report (old ROSCOP form) to Matt Geldart within four weeks. In the case of the Survey Summary Report a nil return is required, if appropriate.

Estimated Days Per Project: 14 days, MONKRV (20702).

Fishing Gear: Anglerfish Trawl BT 195 (Supplied by Jackson Trawls)

### **Objectives**

- 1. To undertake the Scottish Irish Anglerfish Megrim Industry Science Survey (SIAMISS). An internationally co-ordinated demersal trawling survey of Anglerfish (*Lophius piscatorius* and *Lophius budegassa*), Megrim (*Lepidorhombus wiffiagonis*) and Four-Spot Megrim (*Lepidorhombus boscii*) in the Scottish North West Shelf and Rockall Bank (ICES area Via and VIb).
- 2. To collect species distribution, length frequency and biological data of Anglerfish (Lophius piscatorius and Lophius budegassa), Megrim (Lepidorhombus wiffiagonis), Four-Spot Megrim (Lepidorhombus boscii) Cod (Gadus morhua), Blue Skate (Dipturus batis) and Flapper Skate (Dipturus intermedius).
- 3. To collect additional species distribution, length frequency and biological data/samples in connection with the UK Workplan, the EU Multi Annual Plan and by request.

#### **Procedures**

#### General

The (Scottish Irish Anglerfish Megrim Industry Science Survey (SIAMISS) trawl survey follows a set of protocols drawn up by an industry science survey planning group made up of Marine Scotland and Marine Institute scientists and fishing industry representatives. These protocols share much in common with the sampling regimes described in the Marine Scotland SOPs for demersal trawl surveys and the Manual of the IBTS North Eastern Atlantic Surveys. Series of ICES Survey Protocols SISP 15. 92 pp. http://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.3519.

MFV Audacious has been charter for the purposes of this survey. The trawl and scientific equipment will remain onboard from the previous charter 0623H. Staff will join the vessel at Ullapool on 10 May and *Audacious* will sail on 10 May following completion of safety drills. The vessel will proceed northwest where the first predefined station doubling as a shakedown trawl will be completed in order to check the net configuration, equipment functionality and the SCANMAR units.

The route taken to complete the survey will be weather dependent and formulated close to survey departure. After completing the survey *Audacious* will make for Ullapool or another port (TBC) for landing of catch and unloading of equipment. An operational daily survey plan will be formulated by the SIC subsequent to meetings with the vessel Master.

## **Trawling**

This is a semi-random-stratified survey design with trawl stations being distributed within predefined strata that cover the Scottish Northwest area and Rockall Bank (Figures 1 and 2). Access to NEAFC (including Rockall Haddock Box) and Irish waters are required to cover the survey area comprehensively. Trawling operations will occur in waters up to a maximum depth of 1000m. The positions of a total of 36 primary stations and 81 secondary (alternative) stations have been randomly generated for the survey (Tables 2 and 3).

Fishing operations will be conducted 18 hours a day with scientific staff working throughout whilst ensuring adequate WTR rest breaks.

The aim is for the 36 primary stations to be undertaken on suitable ground as near as possible to the specified station position, with ideally the midpoint of the tow intersecting with the position. If not possible, then the tow will be conducted within a 5 nm radius of the position. If this is not possible then the nearest suitable alternative station located within the same stratum will be used. Depending on survey progress, additional effort will be conducted in each strata utilising alternative stations to ensure maximum resolution in each of the survey strata where possible.

One trawl of 60 minutes duration will be made at each sampling station unless circumstances dictate otherwise. The SCANMAR system will be used to monitor wing spread, door spread and distance covered during each haul. The vessel's navigation outputs and echo sounder will be utilised throughout the survey. Bottom contact data from each trawl will also be collected using the NOAA bottom contact sensor which will be mounted in the centre of the ground-gear.

Though random generation of positions are likely to put trawl positions within protected areas that lie partly or fully within the boundaries of the strata, trawls will not be conducted in highly sensitive protected areas. The nearest suitable alternative station in the same stratum shall be chosen if the trawl cannot be conducted within a 5nm buffer from the position outside a highly sensitive protected area.

### Fish Sampling

Catches will be worked up according to the protocols for Marine Scotland Anglerfish surveys which are similar in principle to the protocols as described in the Manual of the IBTS North Eastern Atlantic Surveys. Series of ICES Survey Protocols SISP 15. 92 pp. <a href="http://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.3519">http://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.3519</a>. The sampling methodology will follow the SIAMISS Fish Sampling V1.0 SOP. In addition to the routine sampling, biological data and samples will be collected for selected ad-hoc species if time allows. The entire catch will be examined for species catch weight and length frequency when possible with biological data collected from the species detailed in Table 1.

# **Post Survey**

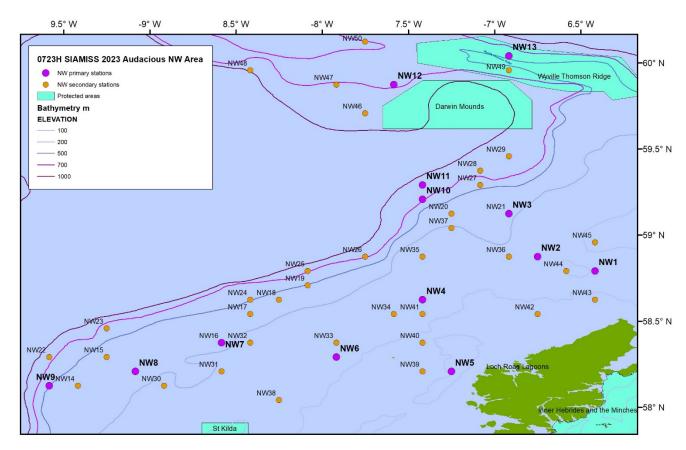
All scientific staff and equipment will depart the vessel on 23 May 2023.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the Laboratory.

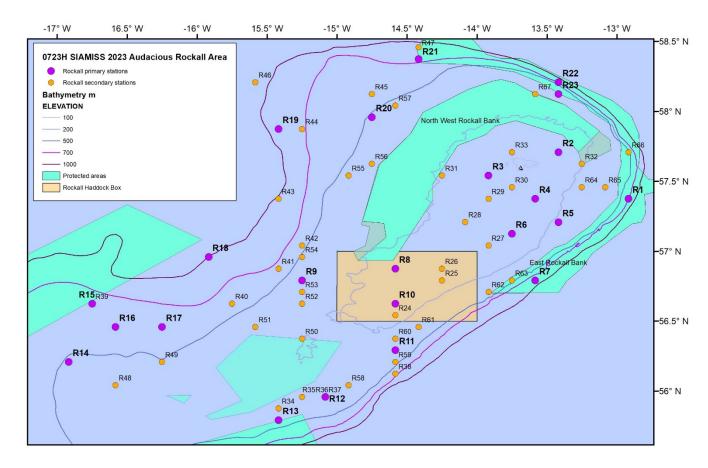
Submitted:

J Drewery 03 May 2023

Approved: I Gibb 11 May 2023



**Figure 1:** Chart showing the primary and secondary trawl positions generated in the Scottish Northwest area for 0723H.



**Figure 2:** Chart showing the primary and secondary trawl positions generated on Rockall Bank for 0723H.

**Table 1:** Biological sampling targets for 0723H. (\* Individual weight, gutted weight, sex, maturity and age; \*\* Individual weight, gutted weight, sex and maturity; \*\*\* Individual weight, sex and maturity – males only)

0723H Biological Sampling Targets						
Species	Target					
L. piscatorius (ANG) *	All					
L. budegassa (BAN) *	All					
L. wiffiagonis (MEG) **	1 / cm					
L. boscii (FME) **	1 / cm					
G. morhua (COD) *	1 / cm					
A. radiata (STY) ***	1 / cm					
All other skates and rays	All - except CRA, SPY and					
	TRA					

**Table 2:** Primary trawl positions for 0723H.

Area	Stratum	Туре	Station	Depth Range	Lat (DDM)	Lon (DDM)	Lat (DD)	Lon (DD)
Rockall	Rockall.M	Primary	R1	500-1000	57 22.5N	12 55.0E	57.3750	-12.9167
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Primary	R2	0-200	57 42.5N	13 25.0E	57.7083	-13.4167
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Primary	R3	0-200	57 32.5N	13 55.0E	57.5417	-13.9167
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Primary	R4	0-200	57 22.5N	13 35.0E	57.3750	-13.5833
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Primary	R5	200-500	57 12.5N	13 25.0E	57.2083	-13.4167
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Primary	R6	0-200	57 07.5N	13 45.0E	57.1250	-13.7500
Rockall	Rockall.M	Primary	R7	500-1000	56 47.5N	13 35.0E	56.7917	-13.5833
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Primary	R8	0-200	56 52.5N	14 35.0E	56.8750	-14.5833
Rockall	Rockall.H	Primary	R9	200-500	56 47.5N	15 15.0E	56.7917	-15.2500
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Primary	R10	0-200	56 37.5N	14 35.0E	56.6250	-14.5833
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Primary	R11	200-500	56 17.5N	14 35.0E	56.2917	-14.5833
Rockall	Rockall.L2	Primary	R12	500-1000	55 57.5N	15 05.0E	55.9583	-15.0833
Rockall	Rockall.L2	Primary	R13	500-1000	55 47.5N	15 25.0E	55.7917	-15.4167
Rockall	Rockall.H	Primary	R14	200-500	56 12.5N	16 55.0E	56.2083	-16.9167
Rockall	Rockall.M	Primary	R15	500-1000	56 37.5N	16 45.0E	56.6250	-16.7500
Rockall	Rockall.H	Primary	R16	200-500	56 27.5N	16 35.0E	56.4583	-16.5833
Rockall	Rockall.M	Primary	R17	500-1000	56 27.5N	16 15.0E	56.4583	-16.2500
Rockall	Rockall.M	Primary	R18	500-1000	56 57.5N	15 55.0E	56.9583	-15.9167
Rockall	Rockall.M	Primary	R19	500-1000	57 52.5N	15 25.0E	57.8750	-15.4167
Rockall	Rockall.H	Primary	R20	200-500	57 57.5N	14 45.0E	57.9583	-14.7500
Rockall	Rockall.M	Primary	R21	500-1000	58 22.5N	14 25.0E	58.3750	-14.4167
Rockall	Rockall.M	Primary	R22	500-1000	58 12.5N	13 25.0E	58.2083	-13.4167
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Primary	R23	200-500	58 07.5N	13 25.0E	58.1250	-13.4167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Primary	NW1	0-140	58 47.5N	06 25.0E	58.7917	-6.4167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.M	Primary	NW2	140-200	58 52.5N	06 45.0E	58.8750	-6.7500
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Primary	NW3	200-500	59 07.5N	06 55.0E	59.1250	-6.9167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Primary	NW4	0-140	58 37.5N	07 25.0E	58.6250	-7.4167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Primary	NW5	0-140	58 12.5N	07 15.0E	58.2083	-7.2500
Northwest	NW.Shelf.M	Primary	NW6	140-200	58 17.5N	07 55.0E	58.2917	-7.9167
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Primary	NW7	200-500	58 22.5N	08 35.0E	58.3750	-8.5833
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Primary	NW8	200-500	58 12.5N	09 05.0E	58.2083	-9.0833
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Primary	NW9	500-1000	58 07.5N	09 35.0E	58.1250	-9.5833
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Primary	NW10	500-1000	59 12.5N	07 25.0E	59.2083	-7.4167
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Primary	NW11	500-1000	59 17.5N	07 25.0E	59.2917	-7.4167
Northwest	North.L	Primary	NW12	500-1000	59 52.5N	07 35.0E	59.8750	-7.5833
Northwest	North.L	Primary	NW13	500-1000	60 02.5N	06 55.0E	60.0417	-6.9167

Table 3: Secondary trawl positions for 0723H.

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Area	Stratum	Туре	Station	Depth Range	Lat (DDM)	Lon (DDM)	Lat (DD)	Lon (DD)
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Secondary	R24	0-200	56 32.5N	14 35.0E	56.5417	-14.5833
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Secondary	R25	0-200	56 47.5N	14 15.0E	56.7917	-14.2500
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Secondary	R26	0-200	56 52.5N	14 15.0E	56.8750	-14.2500
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Secondary	R27	0-200	57 02.5N	13 55.0E	57.0417	-13.9167
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Secondary	R28	0-200	57 12.5N	14 05.0E	57.2083	-14.0833
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Secondary	R29	0-200	57 22.5N	13 55.0E	57.3750	-13.9167
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Secondary	R30	0-200	57 27.5N	13 45.0E	57.4583	-13.7500
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Secondary	R31	0-200	57 32.5N	14 15.0E	57.5417	-14.2500
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Secondary	R32	0-200	57 37.5N	13 15.0E	57.6250	-13.2500
Rockall	Rockall.L1	Secondary	R33	0-200	57 42.5N	13 45.0E	57.7083	-13.7500
Rockall	Rockall.L2	Secondary	R34	500-1000	55 52.5N	15 25.0E	55.8750	-15.4167
Rockall	Rockall.L2	Secondary	R35	500-1000	55 57.5N	15 15.0E	55.9583	-15.2500
Rockall	Rockall.L2	Secondary	R36	500-1000	55 57.5N	15 05.0E	55.9583	-15.0833
Rockall	Rockall.L2	Secondary	R37	500-1000	55 57.5N	15 05.0E	55.9583	-15.0833
Rockall	Rockall.M	Secondary	R38	500-1000	56 07.5N	14 35.0E	56.1250	-14.5833
Rockall	Rockall.M	Secondary	R39	500-1000	56 37.5N	16 45.0E	56.6250	-16.7500
Rockall	Rockall.M	Secondary	R40	500-1000	56 37.5N	15 45.0E	56.6250	-15.7500
Rockall	Rockall.M	Secondary	R41	500-1000	56 52.5N	15 25.0E	56.8750	-15.4167
Rockall	Rockall.M	Secondary	R42	500-1000	57 02.5N	15 15.0E	57.0417	-15.2500
Rockall	Rockall.M	Secondary	R43	500-1000	57 22.5N	15 25.0E	57.3750	-15.4167
Rockall	Rockall.M	Secondary	R44	500-1000	57 52.5N	15 15.0E	57.8750	-15.2500
Rockall	Rockall.M	Secondary	R45	500-1000	58 07.5N	14 45.0E	58.1250	-14.7500
Rockall	Rockall.M	Secondary	R46	500-1000	58 12.5N	15 35.0E	58.2083	-15.5833
Rockall	Rockall.M	Secondary	R47	500-1000	58 27.5N	14 25.0E	58.4583	-14.4167
Rockall	Rockall.H	Secondary	R48	200-500	56 02.5N	16 35.0E	56.0417	-16.5833
Rockall	Rockall.H	Secondary	R49	200-500	56 12.5N	16 15.0E	56.2083	-16.2500
Rockall	Rockall.H	Secondary	R50	200-500	56 22.5N	15 15.0E	56.3750	-15.2500
Rockall	Rockall.H	Secondary	R51	200-500	56 27.5N	15 35.0E	56.4583	-15.5833
Rockall	Rockall.H	Secondary	R52	200-500	56 37.5N	15 15.0E	56.6250	-15.2500
Rockall	Rockall.H	Secondary	R53	200-500	56 42.5N	15 15.0E	56.7083	-15.2500
Rockall	Rockall.H	Secondary	R54	200-500	56 57.5N	15 15.0E	56.9583	-15.2500
Rockall	Rockall.H	Secondary	R55	200-500	57 32.5N	14 55.0E	57.5417	-14.9167
Rockall	Rockall.H	Secondary	R56	200-500	57 37.5N	14 45.0E	57.6250	-14.7500
Rockall	Rockall.H	Secondary	R57	200-500	58 02.5N	14 35.0E	58.0417	-14.5833
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Secondary	R58	200-500	56 02.5N	14 55.0E	56.0417	-14.9167
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Secondary	R59	200-500	56 12.5N	14 35.0E	56.2083	-14.5833
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Secondary	R60	200-500	56 22.5N	14 35.0E	56.3750	-14.5833
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Secondary	R61	200-500	56 27.5N	14 25.0E	56.4583	-14.4167
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Secondary	R62	200-500	56 42.5N	13 55.0E	56.7083	-13.9167
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Secondary	R63	200-500	56 47.5N	13 45.0E	56.7917	-13.7500
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Secondary	R64	200-500	57 27.5N	13 15.0E	57.4583	-13.2500
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Secondary	R65	200-500	57 27.5N	13 05.0E	57.4583	-13.0833

ockall	Rockall.VH	Secondary	R66	200-500	57 42.5N	12 55.0E	57.7083	-12.9167
Rockall	Rockall.VH	Secondary	R67	200-500	58 07.5N	13 35.0E	58.1250	-13.5833
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Secondary	NW14	200-500	58 07.5N	09 25.0E	58.1250	-9.4167
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Secondary	NW15	200-500	58 17.5N	09 15.0E	58.2917	-9.2500
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Secondary	NW16	200-500	58 22.5N	08 35.0E	58.3750	-8.5833
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Secondary	NW17	200-500	58 32.5N	08 25.0E	58.5417	-8.4167
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Secondary	NW18	200-500	58 37.5N	08 15.0E	58.6250	-8.2500
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Secondary	NW19	200-500	58 42.5N	08 05.0E	58.7083	-8.0833
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Secondary	NW20	200-500	59 07.5N	07 15.0E	59.1250	-7.2500
Northwest	NW.Slope.H	Secondary	NW21	200-500	59 07.5N	06 55.0E	59.1250	-6.9167
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Secondary	NW22	500-1000	58 17.5N	09 35.0E	58.2917	-9.5833
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Secondary	NW23	500-1000	58 27.5N	09 15.0E	58.4583	-9.2500
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Secondary	NW24	500-1000	58 37.5N	08 25.0E	58.6250	-8.4167
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Secondary	NW25	500-1000	58 47.5N	08 05.0E	58.7917	-8.0833
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Secondary	NW26	500-1000	58 52.5N	07 45.0E	58.8750	-7.7500
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Secondary	NW27	500-1000	59 17.5N	07 05.0E	59.2917	-7.0833
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Secondary	NW28	500-1000	59 22.5N	07 05.0E	59.3750	-7.0833
Northwest	NW.Slope.M	Secondary	NW29	500-1000	59 27.5N	06 55.0E	59.4583	-6.9167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.M	Secondary	NW30	140-200	58 07.5N	08 55.0E	58.1250	-8.9167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.M	Secondary	NW31	140-200	58 12.5N	08 35.0E	58.2083	-8.5833
Northwest	NW.Shelf.M	Secondary	NW32	140-200	58 22.5N	08 25.0E	58.3750	-8.4167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.M	Secondary	NW33	140-200	58 22.5N	07 55.0E	58.3750	-7.9167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.M	Secondary	NW34	140-200	58 32.5N	07 35.0E	58.5417	-7.5833
Northwest	NW.Shelf.M	Secondary	NW35	140-200	58 52.5N	07 25.0E	58.8750	-7.4167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.M	Secondary	NW36	140-200	58 52.5N	06 55.0E	58.8750	-6.9167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.M	Secondary	NW37	140-200	59 02.5N	07 15.0E	59.0417	-7.2500
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Secondary	NW38	0-140	58 02.5N	08 15.0E	58.0417	-8.2500
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Secondary	NW39	0-140	58 12.5N	07 25.0E	58.2083	-7.4167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Secondary	NW40	0-140	58 22.5N	07 25.0E	58.3750	-7.4167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Secondary	NW41	0-140	58 32.5N	07 25.0E	58.5417	-7.4167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Secondary	NW42	0-140	58 32.5N	06 45.0E	58.5417	-6.7500
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Secondary	NW43	0-140	58 37.5N	06 25.0E	58.6250	-6.4167
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Secondary	NW44	0-140	58 47.5N	06 35.0E	58.7917	-6.5833
Northwest	NW.Shelf.L	Secondary	NW45	0-140	58 57.5N	06 25.0E	58.9583	-6.4167
Northwest	North.L	Secondary	NW46	500-1000	59 42.5N	07 45.0E	59.7083	-7.7500
Northwest	North.L	Secondary	NW47	500-1000	59 52.5N	07 55.0E	59.8750	-7.9167
Northwest	North.L	Secondary	NW48	500-1000	59 57.5N	08 25.0E	59.9583	-8.4167
Northwest	North.L	Secondary	NW49	500-1000	59 57.5N	06 55.0E	59.9583	-6.9167
Northwest	North.L	Secondary	NW50	500-1000	60 07.5N	07 45.0E	60.1250	-7.7500