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MRV Alba na Mara

Survey 1012A

PROGRAMME

14-28 June 2012

Loading: Fraserburgh, 12 June 2012

Unloading: Fraserburgh, 28 June 2012

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 on-board before work is commenced.

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

Personnel

P Boulcott (SIC)

C Hall

J Clarke

C Greathead

P Wright (14-21 June 2012*) *provisional date

Project: 15 days SP004

Gear

Pyramid frame and underwater video camera kit.

Pyramid frame calibration mesh (2 x wire panels).

Objectives

The trip will form the initial benthic survey of two Marine Protected Area (MPA) search locations; an area encompassing the island of Canna (Figure 1) and waters around the Summer Isles and adjoining sea lochs (Figure 2). It is the primary objective of this survey to locate suitable monitoring sites in each of the two areas. In the longer term, these sites may be used to determine the effect of MPAs established in Scottish waters. Both sites will be surveyed by the *Alba na Mara* using the UW camera frame developed by MSS. Multi-beam data and Roxann substrate data will also be collected. Species type, species densities and substrate type will be recorded during the survey. Further post survey analysis will be conducted on this data.

General

Weather permitting *Alba na Mara* will depart Fraserburgh at 06 00 on 14 June heading for the west coast. If the weather is suitable the vessel will continue her passage down to the Small Isles where she will operate over the next five days. The vessel will conduct a photographic survey in the waters surrounding the islands of Canna and Rum before passage is made for Mallaig to disembark scientific staff on 20/21 June. The vessel will then head north to survey the seabed around the Summer Isles and adjoining sea lochs for the remainder of the survey before making passage back to Fraserburgh for unloading on 28 June.

If, however, the weather is unsuitable for operations in the southern survey area at the start of the period then the northern area around the Summer Isles will be surveyed first.

The vessel may require to dock overnight at a suitable location to top up on fresh water prior to returning to Fraserburgh.

Normal contact will be maintained with the Laboratory.

Submitted:
P Boulcott
30 May 2012

Approved:
I Gibb
11 June 2012

Figure 1: Map of the study area in the waters adjacent to the islands of Canna and Rum. The red circle denotes the general area of scientific study



Figure 2: Map of the study area in the waters adjacent to the Summer Isles and adjoining sea lochs. The red circle denotes the general area of scientific study

