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MFV *Geness*, BF505

Survey 0516H

REPORT

Loaded: McDuff: 09 April 2016

Unloaded: McDuff : 18 April 2016

In setting the cruise 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 cruise with staff on-board before work is commenced.

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

Personnel

M. Gault SIC

M. Kinghorn

B. Langlands (SFF Observer)

Project Days: 10 days, SU02ND

Fishing Gear: Anglerfish Trawl BT 195

Objectives:

1. To undertake a nationally co-ordinated demersal trawling survey of anglerfish species on Ices Iva Northern North Sea.
2. To obtain temperature and depth profiles at each trawling station.
3. To record and map distributions of megrim, four spot megrim and cod.
4. To collect biological data on Angler, cod, megrim and four spot megrim

Procedures:

This trawl survey follows a set of protocols drawn up by an industry science survey planning group made up of Marine Scotland scientists and fishing representatives. These protocols share much in common with the sampling regimes described in Marine Scotland standing instructions for demersal trawl surveys.

Trawling:

One haul of 60 minutes duration will be made at each sampling station; trawling operations will occur in waters up to a maximum of 500 m. Daily starting times will be 06:00 and all trawling should be complete by approximately 23:30 each night. The Scanmar system will be used to monitor wing spread, door spread and distance covered during each haul. A bottom contact sensor will be mounted on the footrope.

Hydrography:

A mini logger may be deployed on the trawl at each station to monitor salinity, depth and temperature.

Catches will be worked up according to the protocols for Marine Scotland anglerfish surveys which are similar in principle to Marine Scotland standing instructions.

Narrative:

Once loaded and set up the vessel Genesis BF505 left McDuff harbour at 13:00 hours on 9 April 2016 sailing in a south east direction arriving at the first station by 18:55. The weather was calm and the first haul was completed we then set off on an overnight steam to the next station. The weather remained favourable throughout most of the charter with only on day where the wind increased but did not impact on the fishing. We were therefore able to complete all 29 stations and 5 additional stations. We undertook 10 hauls in the Norwegian sector hauls 8 to 17 inclusive.

All trawls were of 60 minute duration except for haul 4 which came fast after 23 minutes, haul 10 was a foul haul, came fast after 15 minutes getting caught in the muddy bottom and was full of large sponges. Haul 20 was 1hr 23 min due to problems with the wire feed failing during the tow and had to be repaired while still towing.

Biological samples were taken from 379 Anglerfish, 17 Budagassa, 138 Cod, 41 Megrims and 12 Four Spotted Megrin. In total the number of Anglerfish was up on last year by 73 fish, once again anglerfish were present in all of the 33 viable trawls. Total numbers of fish caught including, monks (*L.Piscatorius* 379, *L Budagassa* 17), Cod 902, Megrin 203 and Four Spotted Megrin 29 are shown in Table 1.

The Scanmar system used to monitor wing spread, door spread and distance covered during each haul worked effectively this year and no adjustments were necessary. The net performed well with only a couple of instances of minor damage which was easily repaired on route to the next station.

The vessel returned to McDuff harbour at 23:10 on 17 April 2016 in preparation for unloading on the 18 April 2016.

All objectives which are stated below were carried out as described in the protocols and following the procedures as outlined below. The biological data collected was recorded directly to the FSS system on the laptop then uploaded on to the main system once returned to the lab.

Post Survey:

All Scientific equipment will be unloaded on 18 April 2016.

M Gault

27 April 2016

Table 1: Numbers of fish per haul

Haul No	Comments	ANG	BAN	COD	MEG	FME
1	Scottish waters	8	0	1	0	0
2	Scottish waters	4	1	5	1	0
3	Scottish waters	10	2	17	0	0
4	Scottish waters	2	1	16	0	0
5	Scottish waters	18	0	39	0	0
31	Scottish waters	31	0	58	0	0
7	Scottish waters	5	0	6	0	0
8	Norwegian sector	8	0	58	1	0
9	Norwegian sector	8	0	4	0	0
10	Norwegian sector foul haul	0	0	0	0	0
11	Norwegian sector	1	0	0	0	0
12	Norwegian sector	6	0	0	0	0
13	Norwegian sector	8	0	75	11	0
14	Norwegian sector	6	0	1	0	3
15	Norwegian sector	6	0	17	0	1
16	Norwegian sector	9	0	24	13	0
17	Norwegian sector	5	1	0	3	10
18	Scottish waters	8	2	0	16	1
19	Scottish waters deepwater	2	0	0	3	11
20	Scottish waters	5	0	15	74	3
21	Scottish waters additional	1	0	13	21	0
22	Scottish waters	10	0	40	29	0
23	Scottish waters	12	1	143	9	0
24	Scottish waters additional	8	0	25	5	0
25	Scottish waters	7	0	38	2	0
26	Scottish waters	15	0	46	2	0
27	Scottish waters	35	0	46	1	0
28	Scottish waters additional	44	0	110	1	0
29	Scottish waters	38	1	52	10	0
30	Scottish waters	10	0	13	1	0
31	Scottish waters	24	5	19	0	0
32	Scottish waters additional	9	1	7	0	0
33	Scottish waters additional	9	1	5	0	0
34	Scottish waters	7	1	2	0	0
Totals		379	17	902	203	29

