

Cruise Report LF004 13-06-04 to 17-06-04
MESH Habitat Mapping

Personnel:

M Service DARD SIC
C Brown SAMS
A McDougall QUB

Objectives:

To conduct targeted habitat mapping as part of the MESH Programme;
Ground truth area surveyed by Celtic Voyager.

Narrative:

The vessel left Belfast at 18:00h on Sunday 13th to steam to Stanton Banks Pinnacle to conduct camera and side scan survey work. However, heavy seas were encountered on during the following morning and the decision was made to return to more sheltered waters and move to the Lacunia Bank station where side scan and video tows were carried out. Overnight the vessel undertook a detailed RoxAnn Survey of the Shamrock Pinnacle area.

Tuesday 15-6-04

A series of side scan runs were made over the Shamrock Pinnacle followed by a camera tow. The vessel then moved west to the Hemptons Turbot Bank. This area was under survey by the Marine Institute Vessel RV Celtic Voyager and a series of camera tows were made to “ground truth” backscatter interpretation provided from their multi beam survey. Overnight a RoxAnn survey was carried out over this area.

Wednesday 16-6-04

The vessel remained on the Hempton’s Turbot Bank undertaking a number of side scan lines. On completion of this she then steamed west to Middle Bank where a number of side scan lines were completed. The Lough Foyle then moved to Lacunia Bank where a video tow was completed. Following this ship attempted a video tow from the North Side of the Shamrock Pinnacles. However, due to a strong tide the water depth shoaled rapidly and the camera sledge became snagged and the towing wire parted. (*the camera system was recovered the following week using the recovery buoy*).

Following this vessel returned to Belfast, docking in the early hours of 17th June.

Despite the loss of the camera system of number objectives were achieved in particular the collaborative work with the RV Celtic Voyager.

M Service SIC

A Niblock Master

Details of Camera Tows

Lacunia Bank 14-6-04

Time	Cable Out	Depth		Longitude		
18.01		27	55	22.7377	6	22.8835
18.05			55	22.7555	6	22.9522 coarse gravel
18.07			55	22.7839	6	23.6405 soft gravel
18.12			55	22.8099	6	23.1661 ripples
18.14			55	22.8222	6	23.1986
18.18	220m	26	55	22.8419	6	23.2666
18.2			55	22.8439	6	23.2982
18.22			55	22.851	6	23.3158
18.24		34	55	22.8724	6	23.369
18.26		33	55	22.8951	6	23.3461

Shamrock Pinnacle 15-6-04

09:42			55	20.789		24.1859 rippled sand
09:45			55	20.7763	6	24.1292 rock
9.5			55	20.7746	6	24.0075
951			55	20.7839	6	23.9443
9.52			55	20.7974	6	23.8159
9.53		30	55	20.7967	6	23.7776 sponges
10		33	55	20.789	6	23.6612
10:09		30	55	20.819	6	23.4106 flat rock
10.14			55	20.8336	6	23.3666 octopuses
10:21		33	55	20.8671	6	23.1449 sandfilled crevices
10:24			55	20.8734	6	23.069 gravel
10:26			55	20.8843	6	23.018

Hemptions Turbot Bank 15- 06-04

Cable Out	Depth		Longitude		
110m	36	55	27.153	7	2.8962 coarse sand
	36		27.0951		2.7303 megaripples
	35		27.0924		2.69

new tow			55	27.7336	7	3.7192 sand waves with stones in trough
				27.7208		3.6891
14.26	47			27.6937		3.6094
14.33				27.6484		3.5736
14.36	47			27.6339		3.5027 stones in trough
			46	27.5976		3.4288
			45	27.586		3.4144
14.53				27.5389		3.306 more stones
15.08				27.4325		3.1185
15.13				27.3981		3.0648
new tow		90m cable				
15.44	41	55	27.0654	6	59.402 Glycimeris shell possible sand veneer	
15.48		55	27.0495	6	59.3074	
15.5	39		27.0379		59.2356 more gravel	
16:07		55	26.663	6	58.7627 gravel	
		55	26.9617	6	58.7235 gravel	
		55	26.9507	6	58.6708	
		55	26.9477	6	58.6377	
new tow						
17.4		55	26.6597	6	56.3947 coarse gravel	
17.47		55	26.688	6	56.5267 cobble	
17.51		55	26.6694	6	56.5896	
17.55		55	26.7001	6	56.6669	
18:00		55	26.6955	6	56.725	
new tow		160m cable				
18.38		55	26.0164	6	55.0335	
1842	36	55	26.0147	6	55.0995	
18.51	37	55	26.0184	6	55.3175	
	36	55	26.0316	6	55.4421 gravel	
18.57		55	26.0317	6	55.5567	
Lacunia Bank						
15.33	190m cable		55	22.9734	6	23.4067
15.34	200m			22.9734	6	23.4067
15.36	74.3			22.9517	6	23.3152
15.38				22.9385	6	23.2985
15.4				22.9145	6	23.2776
15.44				22.8869	6	23.2199
15.5	25			22.8449	6	23.1255
15.53				22.8216	6	23.1586 red\algae
15.56	43			22.8015		22.9637
16.03	80			22.7393		22.8521
16.05	85			22.7321		22.8404 rippled sand with

	16.07			22.7199	22.8096 brittle stars rippled unconsolidated coarse sand
	16.1			22.7039	22.7716
	16.12			22.6927	22.7459 broken shell
	16.13			22.669	22.6553 rock
	16.16	95		22.669	22.6553
Shamrock Pinacle	17:45	30	55	21.1496	23.7662 Camera fouled

