

CSIRO MARINE RESEARCH

1997 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAM

CRUISE PLAN

FRV *SOUTHERN SURVEYOR*

CRUISE SS 08/97

3 OCTOBER - 3 NOVEMBER 1997

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CRUISE PLAN

This plan is only a guide to the trawling procedures in each of the nine areas shown in Figure 1; details of trawl patterns will be provided before commencement of the cruise. *Southern Surveyor* will leave Darwin on Friday 3 October at 1800 hrs and steam to the Bathurst Island prawn grounds. Prawn nets will be deployed in these trawl grounds to test the gear and catches from these trial trawls will be fully processed as a shakedown experiment for the computerised catch data entry and to familiarise scientific crew with the computer-linked fish measuring boards. All prawn trawls will be for 30 minutes with a single standard 14 fathom headrope Florida Flyer net, similar to those used in paired trawls on the previous Bycatch Reduction project. In general, prawn trawls in each area will proceed across depth contours and up to a maximum of three nights will be spent in each area. Unlike previous cruises, prawn trawling will continue day and night to fully represent the prawn trawl species.

Trawled and untrawled areas will be compared by sampling the trawl closure area and adjacent open areas north west of Groote (see Fig. 1).

Equipment Required

- 4 x Florida Flyer 14 fathom prawn trawl nets (on board from SS297)
- 1 x 3 m Church Dredge (on board from SS297)
- 1 x Niskin bottle
- 1 x 5 tonne load cell (2 if available)

PERSONNEL

Leg 1: 3 – 18 October, 1997 (Darwin–Groote)

Leg 2: 18 October – 3 November, 1997 (Groote–Weipa)

John Salini	(Leg 1, 2) Cruise Leader
David Brewer	(Leg 1, 2) Alternate Cruise Leader
Don Heales	(Leg 1, 2)
Iloa Stobutzki	(Leg 1, 2) Project Leader
Margaret Farmer	(Leg 1, 2)
Justy Siwabessy (PhD, Curtin University)	(Leg 1, 2)
David Milton	(Leg 1)
Steve Cook (Qld Museum)	(Leg 1)
Quentin Dell (Australian Maritime College grad.)	(Leg 1)
Matt Sherlock	(Leg 1) Electronics
Alec Moore (UK)	(Leg 1)
Fleur Oliver (UK)	(Leg 1)
Young Park (PhD, University of Qld)	(Leg 2)
Janet Bishop	(Leg 2)
Lyndsay MacDonald	(Leg 2) Electronics
Joanne Langstreth (James Cook University grad.)	(Leg 2)
Erwin Coronado (Aust. Mar. Col.)	(Leg 2)
Craig Noell (Aust. Mar. Col.)	(Leg 2)

All personnel are CSIRO staff unless otherwise indicated.

Figure 1. Cruise track proposed for prawn trawling in nine areas within the Northern Prawn Fishery. Approximate chronological sequence is described under CRUISE SCHEDULE above.

