

**CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SCIENCE
LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, SUFFOLK, NR33 0HT**

2017 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME – Version 2

REPORT: RV Cefas Endeavour Survey: C END 06-17

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DURATION: 18th April – 5th May 2017

LOCATION: English Channel and Isle of Wight

AIMS:

The first aim of the survey is to acquire sentinel monitoring (Type 1 monitoring) data to contribute to the development of a monitoring time-series for Wight-Barfleur Reef and Bassurelle Sandbank cSAC/SCIs. These data will form the first time point of a dedicated monitoring dataset, however this wouldn't preclude their *ad hoc* comparison with existing data from these sites.

The survey will gather evidence on the structure, function and condition of Annex I features against which the rate and direction of change can be inferred in the long term. It is noted that data from this survey will form part of a monitoring time series and that future repeated monitoring and evidence gathering will be required to fully investigate and understand the long-term variability in any parameters measured.

The second aim of the survey is to understand the benthic environment within and immediately surrounding the Nab Tower licenced dredge disposal site. This will be carried out by carrying out a repeat survey of the stations visited in the 2014 monitoring survey (with the inclusion of an additional three stations).

NARRATIVE:

The RV Cefas Endeavour was mobbed on 18th April 2017 before a vessel safety induction was conducted by the ships Safety Officer. The vessel departed Lowestoft for a survey of Bassurelle Sandbank, Wight- Barfleur and Nab Tower. All aims and objectives were met in all three areas and the vessel docked in Falmouth on the morning of the 5th May 2017 to commence demobilisation of equipment, samples and survey staff.

RESULTS:

Data from this survey will be made available publically following processing and distribution to the relevant data archive centre. Survey reports for each piece of work will be published within one month of survey.

In summary, two candidate SAC/SCI areas were visited.

A total of 648.5 km of MBES data and 528 km of side scan sonar data were acquired. 140 Hamon grabs were collected for sediment and faunal analyses, 108 stations were targeted for seabed imagery and 50 x 2 m scientific beam trawls were acquired (Figure 1 & Figure 2).

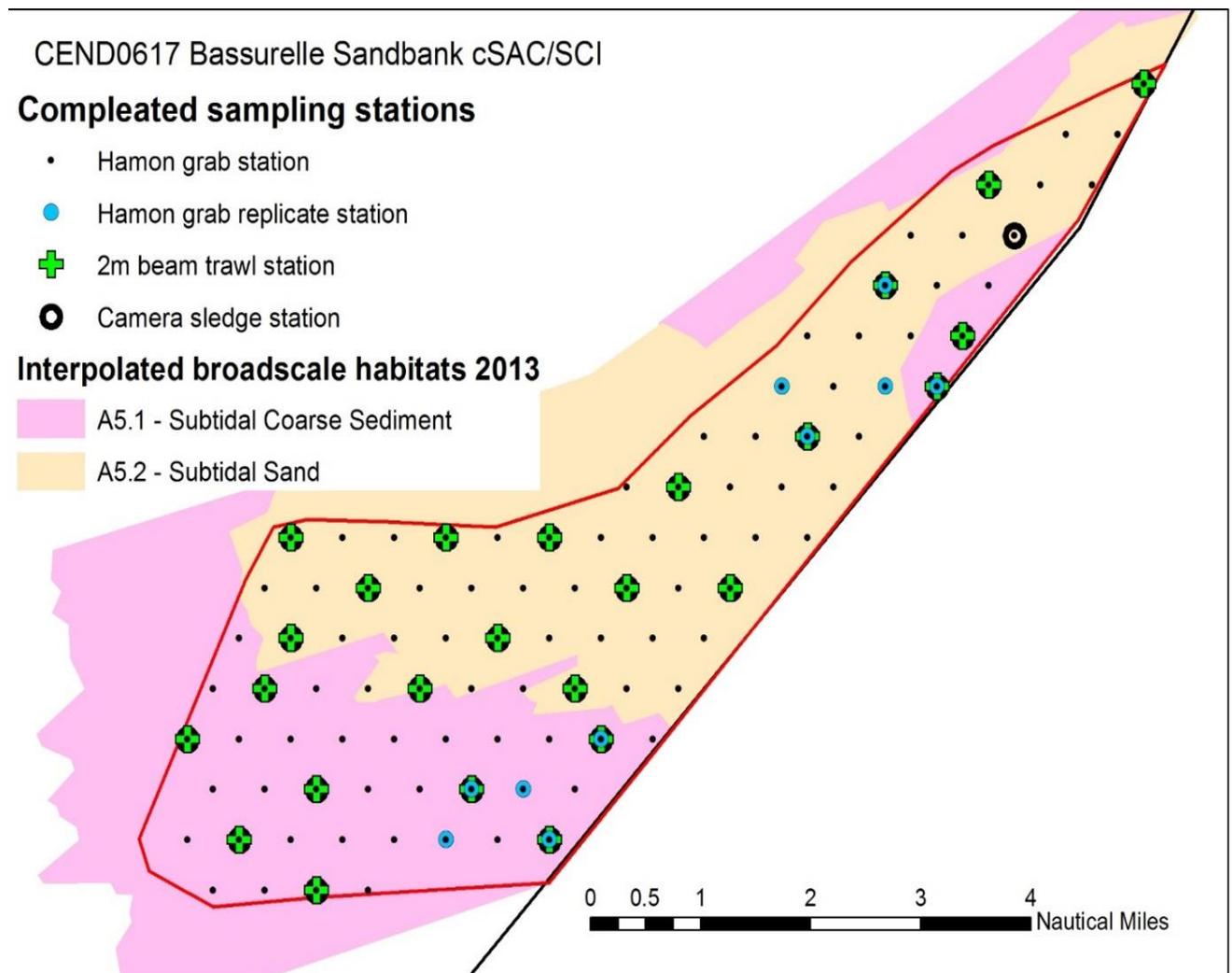
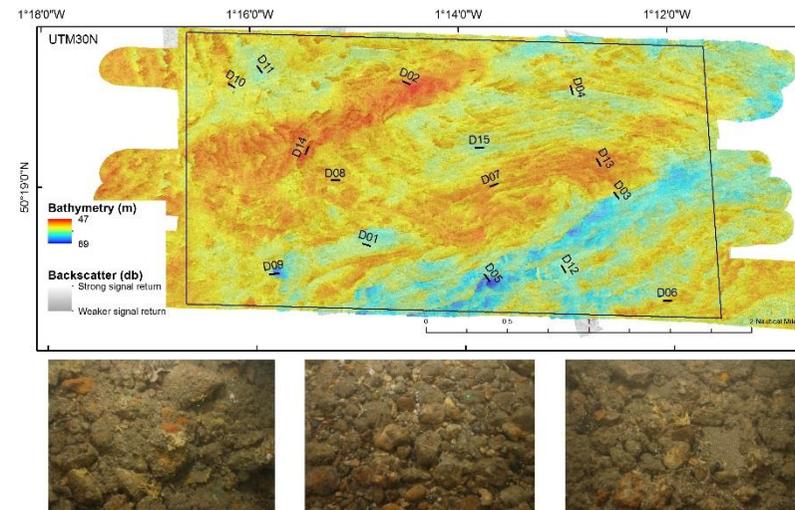
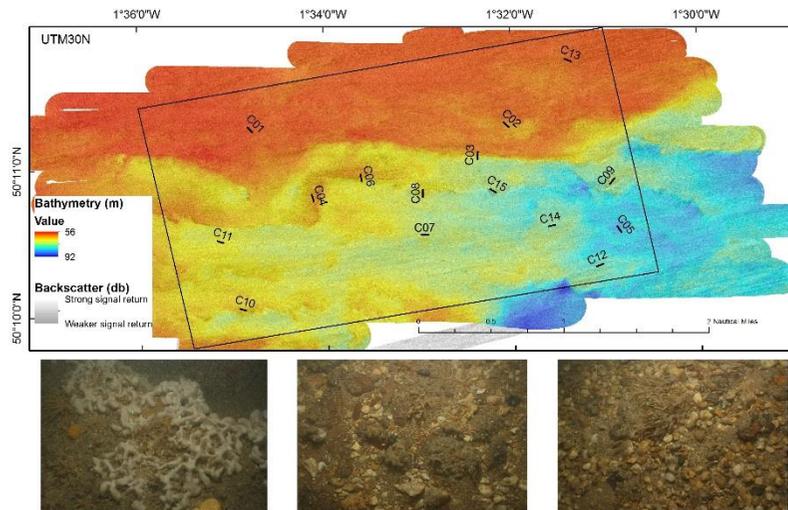
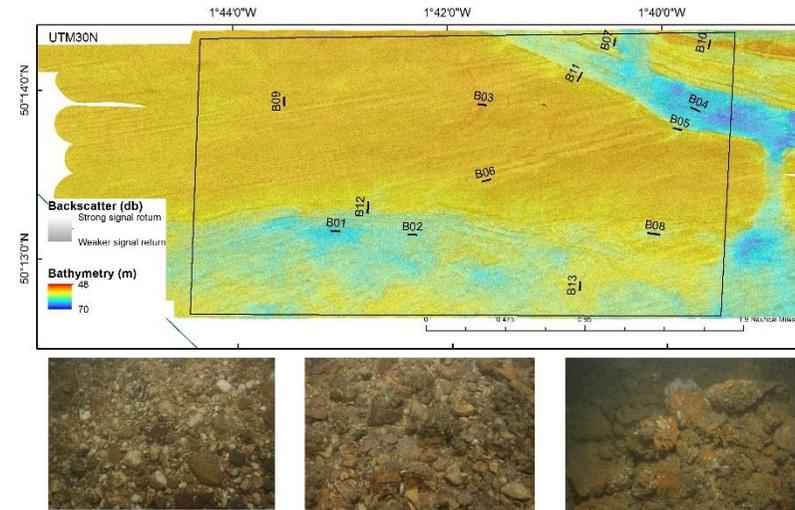
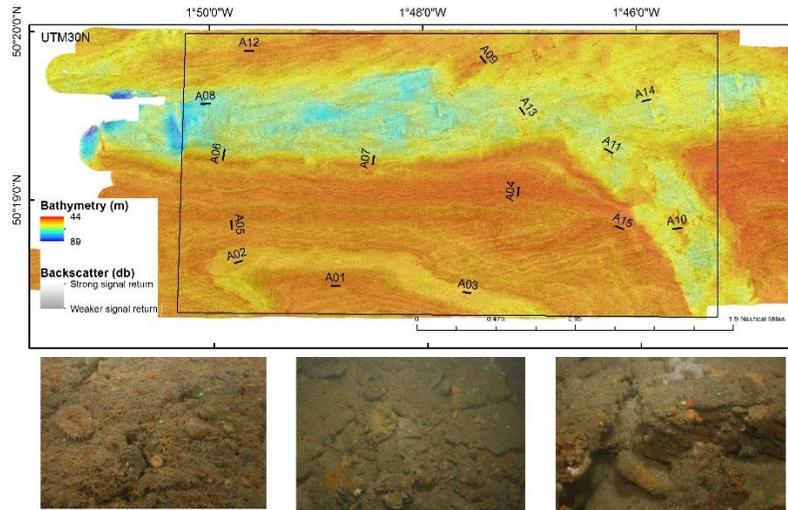


Figure 1 Bassurelle sampling strategy

Lead Author: PC0522

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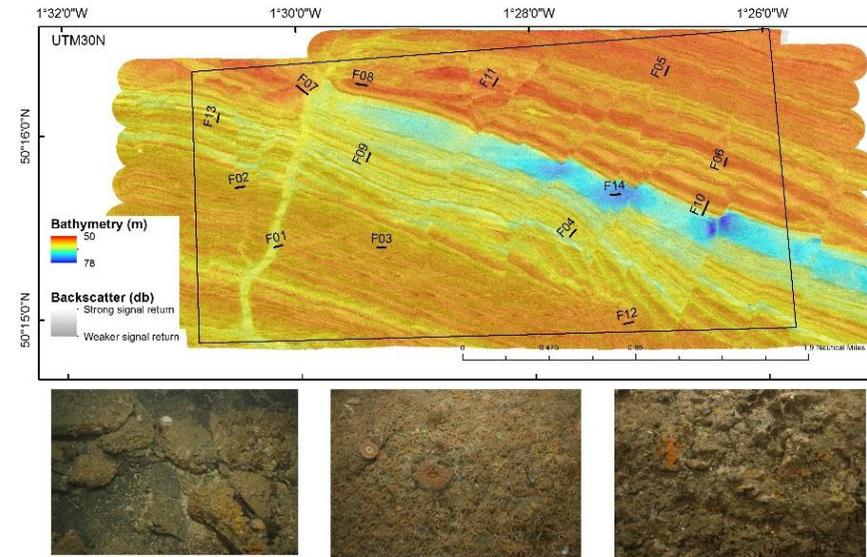
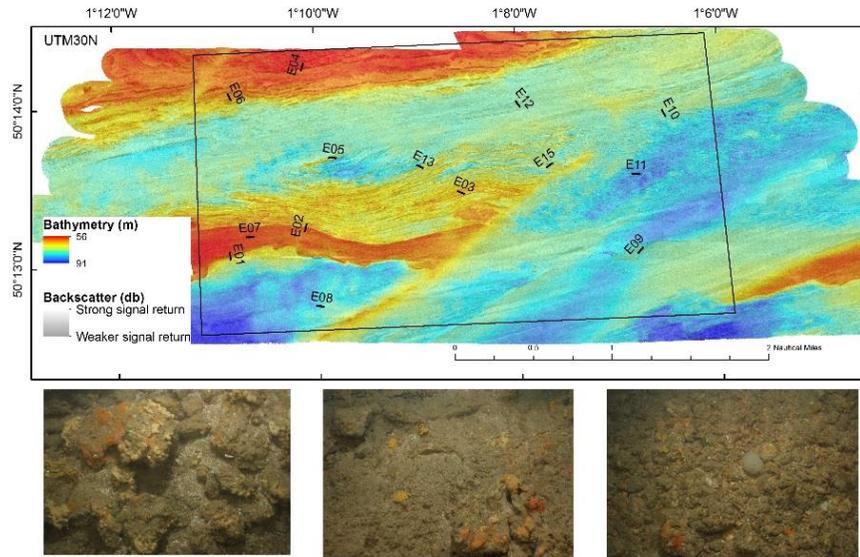


Figure 2 Wight-Barfleur sampling strategy

Nab Tower, a licenced dredge disposal site, was surveyed for particle size distribution and infaunal analysis (18 stations in total, 17 in triplicate and one with two replicates), (Figure 3).

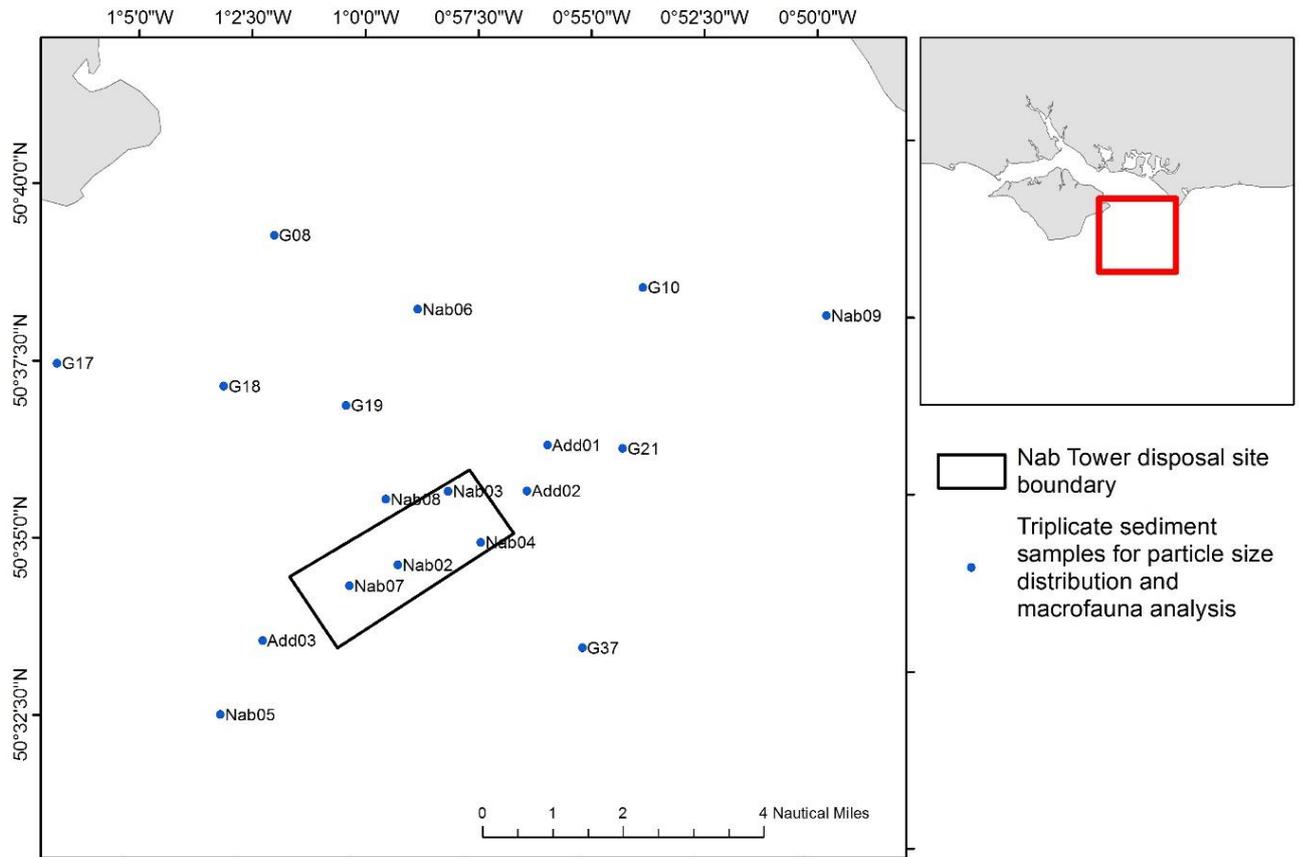


Figure 3 Nab Tower survey stations

Paul McIlwaine
Scientist In Charge
05/05/2017

SEEN IN DRAFT

Master:
Senior Fishing Mate:

INITIALLED:

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