

PROVISIONAL CRUISE REPORT

Vessel : M F V JANET M

Location : Wavec site, Flamborough Head

Period : 4.10.84

Personnel : E J Moore PTO III Principal Scientist
P Hooper HSO
C Clayson PSO (IOS Wormley)

Objectives : Deploy Wavec buoy

Procedures and Method : The buoy was loaded on to the trawler's deck on 3.10.84 using the crane on the IOS lorry. The weather forecast for 4.10 was very bad - SE Force 8, so an early start was made to try and deploy the buoy before the weather deteriorated. As the vessel was small, only 50 ft overall, the mooring was completely rigged and checked in harbour. The anchor and heavy chain mooring was secured on the deployment side and lashed ready for deployment to avoid accidents when handling the chain at sea.

Sailed 0900, arrived on station 1045. As Wavec deployment takes longer than the normal Waverider deployment a marker buoy was dropped on the position. This meant that a quick visual check from on deck was possible during the operation and enabled a quick return to station after drifting down tide.

Some difficulty was experienced in lifting the buoy. Although the deck winch had plenty of power there was such a loss of efficiency through the various blocks and rollers that the plan of surging the lift rope on the winch capstan did not work, the rope simply slipped on the drum. The rope was transferred to the main winch drum which gave sufficient purchase but was less controllable. The lifting beam, normally used for beam trawling, was only just strong enough, and barely high enough. It was necessary, as on the previous deployment, for two people to physically lift the heavy mooring cross over the rail.

The buoy was then put overboard and deployed without damage and the lift rope removed. The rubber cord was paid out until the buoy was clear astern and then the anchor and chain were lowered by surging

a rope loop round the aft bitts. Once the whole mooring weight was suspended by the main mooring rope this was allowed to run by surging round the port winch capstan via a snatch block mounted forward. Once the anchor reached the sea bed strain was allowed to come on in order to lay out the chain and dig the anchor in. The mooring was then cast off and the buoy examined to try and determine whether the mooring cross was functioning correctly and not fouled.

Weather : Forecast SE Gale 8. Actual - calm, no wind, clear and sunny.

Equipment performance : As expected, the size, weight and above all, the height of the buoy, caused problems. Much care has to be taken to deploy from a vessel of this size as the heavy mooring is already poised on the deployment side. Lifting the heavy buoy high on the same side could cause stability problems.

The mooring cross has to be lifted over the rail by hand, by two people going under the suspended buoy, a dangerous practice only carried out from sheer necessity, and to be avoided in future if possible.

Itinerary : 3.10.84 Loaded buoy on Janet M
4.10.84 0900 Charles Clayson joined, sailed immediately
1045 On station, dropped marker buoy
1300 Buoy laid
1310 Obtained Decca co-ordinates
1320 Recovered marker buoy
1325 Sailed for Bridlington
1510 Alongside Bridlington

Abridged details : IOS Wavec buoy - Deployed 4.10.84
Decca Chain 2A - Green B.35.97 Purple I.64.50
Decca Chain 5B - Red H.22.93 Purple I.59.82
Depth - 28 fathoms

Prepared by : *[Signature]*

Approved : *[Signature]*