

Proposed Scallop Ranching area – scallop population assessment

Dive survey carried out on 2 October 2007, 1000 to 1053hours – HW 4.9m @ 1016hrs.

Divers;
Phil Goodhead
Paul Fivian

Max. depth 13.5m, bottom time ca. 47mins

Dive site – entered the water on the southern side of the northern resident pontoons off Coad Bay in The Bag, and arcing around to the eastern side before returning
50°14'.73 N 003°45'.45 W

Survey

King scallops were surveyed for their density and size class, using a 50 x 50cm quadrat and recording slate. No formal randomisation was included within the survey but was inherent within the system used.

A total of 104 quadrat surveys were made, recording a total of 14 scallops and giving an average density of 0.53 scallops m⁻².

Based on a slightly small cohort, the average suggested size was 115mm.

Nine scallops were removed from the site for microbiological testing and were found to contain 310 *E.coli* bacteria per 100g of scallop flesh. Personal communications with Devon Sea Fisheries Committee would suggest that this is a very good result, especially since all digestive parts of the scallops are removed first before cooking.

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