

## Day 2 – 27.11.22

My day starts at 4am! My first task was in the cold room, sorting samples from the RMT nets (Rectangular Mid-water Trawl). We have to process the samples in an eight degree cold room, this is to preserve the samples. Anywhere where I have to wear more than shorts and a tee shirt is too cold for me, but hey, it's really interesting to see the species that they pull up from 1000-800m and 800-0m in the nets. I was mainly taking photos of the samples and helping get them ready to be put in ethanol or formalin. There were multiple things going on at once at about 8am, but I decided to go and have a tour of the CTD (which measures conductivity for salinity, temperature and depth of the water). I helped prep the water for the sieving of micro-plastics, which interested the National Trust team as they have a similar project happening now, so I eventually left and let them continue with the work. The BRUVS (baited remote, underwater video system) were being pulled up at this time. This is a piece of work that the SHG marine team are hoping to complete ourselves soon, so it was good for me to get this exposure. There was five or six BRUVS out and each recorded about an hour and a half of footage, which the team has to sit and go through. Unfortunately, nothing was really attracted by the bait  $\Delta$  but there were some small jellyfish. Another piece of work that was going on was the bait acoustics. This is basically a sonar device with different frequencies to find schooling fish (in this case the hope was for bait fish) in a transect, which this time was from Egg Island to the South West area. This work is to measure the population biomass of the bait. The rest of this work has to be carried out the next day as the local fishermen have to go and catch the various bait species. And that was the extent of my 12 hour day, not forgetting the food and coffee breaks in-between, as I wouldn't be able to stay awake.  $\mathcal{G}$  Stay posted to our page for more on my DISCO adventures!

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