

SOOP Report for 2013

Country = AUSTRALIA

a. Programme description:			
Line	Agency	Sampling programme and target mode (if applicable)	No. of ships
IX01	ABOM	FRX+	1
IX12	ABOM	FRX	4
PX11/IX22	ABOM	FRX	1
PX02	ABOM	FRX	2
IX28	CMAR	HDX, SST/SSS, pCO ₂ , TCO ₂ , alkalinity, pigments, fluorescence, macronutrients	1
PX30	CMAR	HDX	3
PX34	CMAR	HDX	1
	RAN	XBT for operational requirements and or hydrographical surveying	8

b. Data management		
Agency	No. of JJVV messages on the GTS in 2013	Location of delayed-mode data
ABOM	2050	US NODC
CMAR	532	US NODC
RAN	177	US NODC

c. Major challenges and difficulties:**ABOM:**

Staff shortages following the transfer of PMO duties to the Bureau's regional offices have impacted on the Bureau's capacity to routinely visit XBT ships, although the situation is showing signs of improvement. The active recruitment of replacement XBT ships (along PX02) has been challenged by resource availability. Efforts to address these issues are currently being actively pursued.

CMAR:

A major challenge for CMAR XBT operations in 2013 was maintaining a regular ship on the PX30 line. Early in 2013 no ship was available. Only two runs were completed on this line, one in June (which utilised two ships) and one in October. Three ships were used for PX30 in 2013. We have now recruited new ships and hope to maintain this line into the future.

The R4 run on IX28 was cancelled due to ice at the base and cumulative delays during the summer season. R0 in the 2013-14 was cancelled again because of ice and the re-supply was carried out by aircraft. This may prove to be an ongoing issue.

RAN:

Some ships fail to submit their collected data, particularly toward the end of the year.

d. Research / development / testing:**ABOM:**

A sea trial was completed in September 2013 to test a preliminary version of a wireless Quoll XBT System. It is envisaged that further changes will be needed in the final design prior to an operational roll-out in FY2015/2016.

CMAR:

Development continues of an autolauncher system. Funding has increased to allow a prototype to be built, however this is being delayed whilst other work is completed.

RAN:

Trials will commence of the Devil XBT System on patrol boats.

e. Other comments:

JJVV totals from all three agencies are greater than that reported by ISDM. These differences are unlikely to be fully explained by a data loss of 6 days within the ISDM database, which is still being resolved.