NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED RESEARCH CRUISE

PART A: GENERAL

1. NAME OF RESEARCH SHIP: "M/S Fisktrans" CRUISE NO. 2015 823/824

2. DATES OF CRUISE From: 22 June 2015 To: 30 August 2015

3. OPERATING AUTHORITY: Institute of Marine Research
P.O.Box 1870 Nordnes
N-5817 BERGEN NORWAY

TELEPHONE: 47-55238500
TELEFAX : 47-55238531
E-MAIL: post@imr.no

4. OWNER Novita Rederi AS
Imo no.: 5817901
v/ Thomas Torrissen, Tommy Torvanger
Postboks 43
8001 BODØ NORWAY
thomas@novita.no

(if different from no. 3) +47 97 59 91 41

5. PARTICULARS OF SHIP: Name: "M/S Fisktrans"

Nationality: Norwegian

Overall length: 57 meters

Maximum draught: 6.0 meters

Net tonnage: 290 Gross: 969

Propulsion: Diesel

Call sign: L I A B
Vessels communication:
Phone (Satcom): -
Phone (GSM) (+47) 975 99 141
E-mail: thomas@novita.no / fisktrans@novita.no
Registration port and number
(if registered fishing vessel): -

MMSI no.: 258034000
Imo no.: 5248255 (vessel)

6. CREW Name of master: Thomas Torrissen
Number of crew: 7

7. SCIENTIFIC PERSONNEL Name and adress of scientist in charge: *Nils Øien*
Institute of Marine Research

P.O.Box 1870 Nordnes
N-5817 Bergen
NORWAY

Tel/telex/fax no.: *(+47)91002344/-/(+47)55238531*
No. of scientists: 10

8. GEOGRAPHICAL AREA IN WHICH SHIP WILL OPERATE (with reference to latitude and longitude)

62°00'N - 73°00'N
10°00'W- 28°00'E
This area includes parts of EEZ of UK, Faroe Islands and Iceland.

9. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PURPOSE OF CRUISE

Sightings survey to estimate abundance of whales with particular emphasis on minke whales. The vessel will follow tracklines on which observations of whales will be recorded by dedicated observers.

10. DATES AND NAMES OF INTENDED PORTS OF CALL

No planned ports of call outside Norway.

11. ANY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AT PORTS OF CALL
-

NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED RESEARCH CRUISE

PART B: DETAIL

1. NAME OF RESEARCH SHIP: *"MS Fisktrans"* CRUISE NO. 2015 823/824

2. DATES OF CRUISE From: 22 June 2015 To: 30 August 2015

3. a) PURPOSE OF RESEARCH

Collect sighting information for estimating abundance of whales, especially minke whales, as part of a long term survey program to cover the Northeast Atlantic over the years 2014-2019.

b) GENERAL OPERATIONAL METHODS (including full description of any fish gear, trawl type, mesh size, etc.)

Vessel cruising on tracklines (transects) with dedicated observers looking for whales. Data collected are: Species, position, position relative to vessel, weather data and other covariates. There will also be conducted experiments on whale observer's judgments of distance with the help of ordinary buoys at 1-2 nautical miles distance. No fish sampling is involved.

4. ATTACH CHART showing (on an appropriate scale) the geographical area of intended work, positions of intended stations, tracks of survey lines, positions of moored/seabed equipment, areas to be fished.

Two Charts reflecting two coverages of the survey areas are attached. Survey lines are indicated as red and blue lines.

5. a) TYPES OF SAMPLES REQUIRED (e.g., geological/water/plankton/fish/radionuclide.

None.

b) METHODS OF OBTAINING SAMPLES (e.g., dredging/coring/drilling/fishing, etc. When using fishing gear, indicate fish stocks being worked, quantity of each species required, and quantity of fish to be retained on board)

n.a.

6. DETAILS OF MOORED EQUIPMENT

Dates Laying	Recovery	Description	Depth	Latitude	Longitude
n.a.					

7. ANY HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (chemicals/explosives/gases/radioactives, etc.
(Use separate sheet if necessary)

a) Type and trade name NIL

b) Chemical content (and formula) NIL

c) IMO IMDG code (reference and UN no.) NIL

d) Quantity and method of storage on board NIL

e) If explosives give date(s) of detonation NIL

- Method of detonation
- Position of detonation
- Frequency of detonation
- Depth of detonation
- Size of explosive charge in kg.

8. DETAIL AND REFERENCE OF

a) Any relevant previous/future cruises

The most recent coverage of this area was in 2011. The survey in 2015 is part of a six-year survey program (2014-2019) to cover the Northeast Atlantic for estimating abundance of whales.

b) Any previously published research data relating to the proposed cruise

Results from similar surveys have been presented to the IWC Scientific Committee and other international bodies, where the survey results also have been or will be published.

9. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF SCIENTISTS OF THE COASTAL STATE(S) IN WHOSE WATERS THE PROPOSED CRUISE TAKES PLACE WITH WHOM PREVIOUS CONTACT HAS BEEN MADE

Previous contacts: Bjarni Mikkelsen (Føroya Natturugripasavn, Torshavn, Faroe Islands); Dr Phil Hammond (SMRU, St. Andrews, UK).

10. STATE

a) Whether visits to the ship in port by scientists of the coastal state concerned will be acceptable (Yes/No)

Yes

b) Participation of an observer from the coastal state for any part of the cruise together with the dates and the ports for embarkation and disembarkation

Participation of an observer will be welcomed, but no arrangements have been made for this.

c) When research data from the intended cruise is likely to be made available to the coastal state and by what means

A cruise report will be available early in winter 2016 and will on the first hand be presented to the International Whaling Commission's Scientific Committee.

PART C. SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT

Complete the following table using a separate page for each coastal state

Coastal state: *UK, Denmark (Faroe Islands), Iceland*

Port call: *None planned*

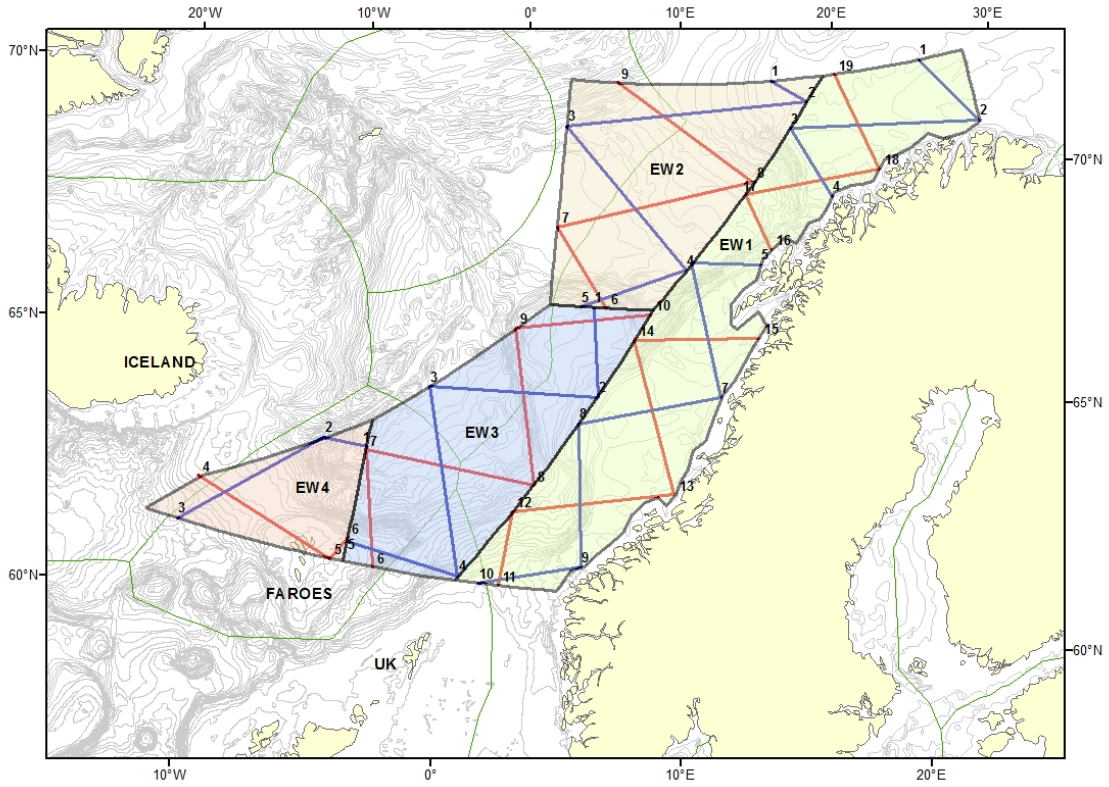
Dates -

Indicate "YES or "NO"

				Distance from coast		
List scientific work by function e.g. Magnetometry Gravity Diving Seismics Seabed sampling Bathymetry Trawling Echo sounding Water sampling U/W TV Moored instr. Towed instr.	Water column including sediment sampling of the seabed	Fisheries research within fishing limits	Research concerning the natural resources of the continental shelf or its physical characteris-tics	Within 4 nm	Between 4-12 nm	Between 12 and 200 nm
Searching (sighting whales on tracklines)	***n.a.***	***n.a.***	***n.a.***			***Yes****

**Usually 50 m depth contours are used as coastal delimiters of transects.*

IF ANY DETAILS ARE MATERIALLY CHANGED REGARDING DATES/AREA OF OPERATION AFTER THIS FORM HAS BEEN SUBMITTED, THE COASTAL STATE AUTHORITIES MUST BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY.



Survey maps with planned transect lines also showing the countries' EEZ.