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FRV *Clupea*

Cruise 0208C

REPORT

24 January–8 February 2008

PORTS

Loading: 21 January, Fraserburgh

Unloading: 8 February, Fraserburgh

Personnel

S Davis	B2	(In-charge)
A Tait	B1	

Fishing Gear: Scallop Dredges

Cost to project: 14 days, M01T

Objectives

1. To carry out a survey of scallop stocks around Shetland.
2. To collect information on by-catches of other commercial fish and shellfish species.
3. To collect biological data on scallop growth rates.

Narrative

The scientific staff joined FRV *Clupea* at 0900 hours on 24 January but was unable to sail due to bad weather. The vessel left Fraserburgh at 1200 on 28 January, arriving at Sandwick at 0400 next day. Sampling began NE of Sumburgh at 0800 on 29 January but after only 2 days work, the vessel had berth in Lerwick due to bad weather again. Sampling resumed on 2 February and continued on the east side of Shetland until we had to head back to Fraserburgh on 5 February. The areas of Fetlar, Unst, St Magnus Bay and Scalloway were not sampled due to adverse weather conditions. The vessel arrived in Fraserburgh at midnight on 5 February and scientific staff returned to the laboratory with all equipment and samples on the morning of 6 February.

Results

During the trip 49 dredge hauls were made and a total of 3219 scallops were caught. The position of each haul is shown on the map in Figure 1. Catch rates varied from a minimum of 0/hr to a maximum of 124/hr. The aggregate catch rates for each area, expressed in numbers per hour per metre width age, are shown in Figure 2. The individual graph headings in Figure 2 show the overall catch rate for each area. The length frequencies in numbers caught per half centimetre length category are shown in Figure 3. The numbers of each by-catch species caught is given in Table 1.

S Davis
24 April 2008

Table 1: Total number of each by-catch species

SPECIES	NUMBER CAUGHT
Aequipecten opercularis	316
Aritica Islanica	58
Buccinum undatum	33
Cancer pagurus M	40
Cancer pagurus F	74
Gymnamodytes semisquamatus	1
Hippoglossoides platessoides	1
Limanda limanda	1
Lophius piscatorius	10
Microstomus kitt	1
Necora puber	1
Neptunea antiqua	125
Pleuronectes platessa	4
Raja clavata M	1
Raja clavata F	2
Raja naevus M	2
Raja naevus F	8
Scyliorhinus canicula F	2
Zeugopterus punctatus	1

Figure 1

Shetland Scallop Survey 2008

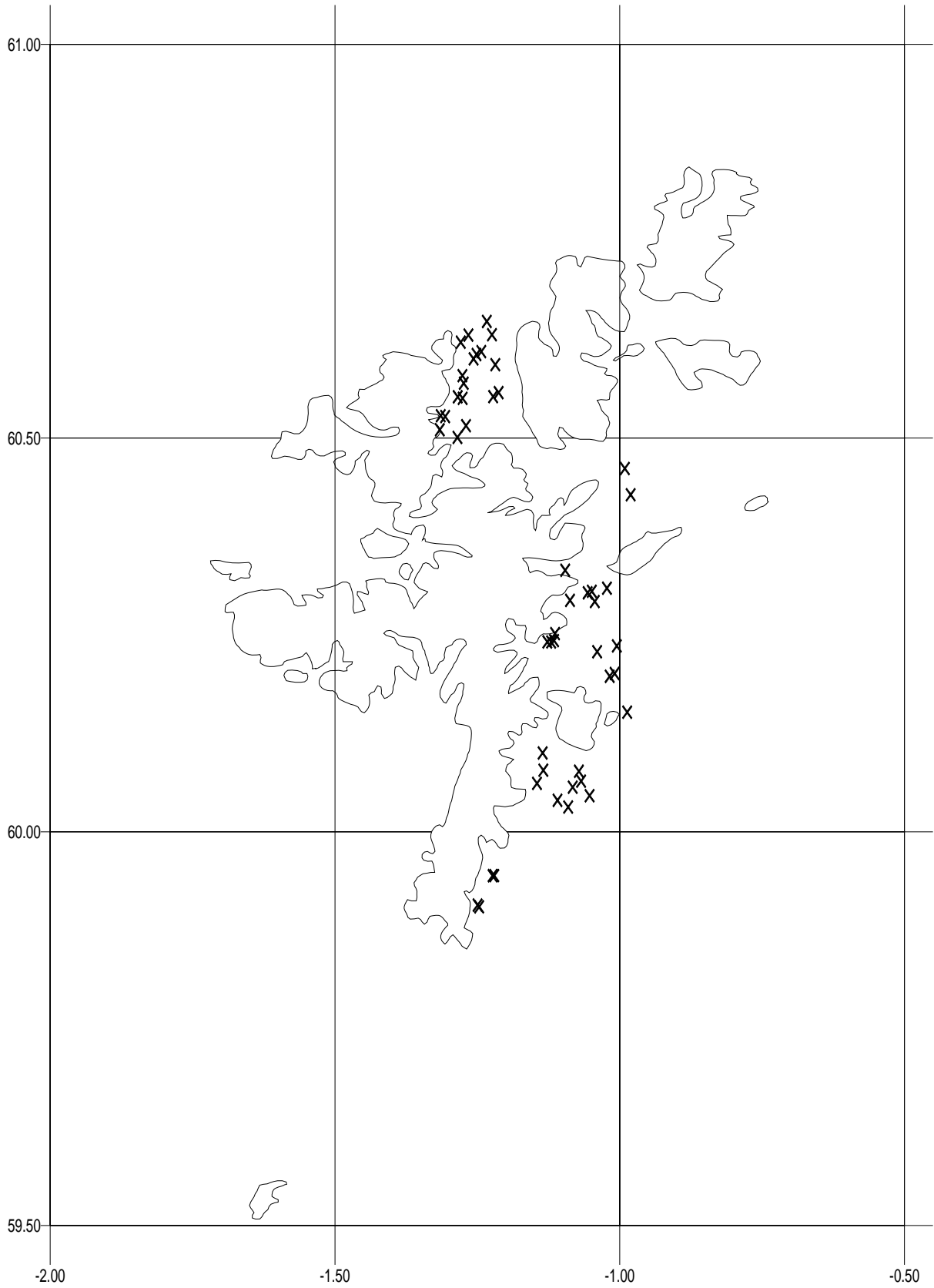


Figure 2.

Shetland Scallop Survey 2008

Catch Rate by Age in Area

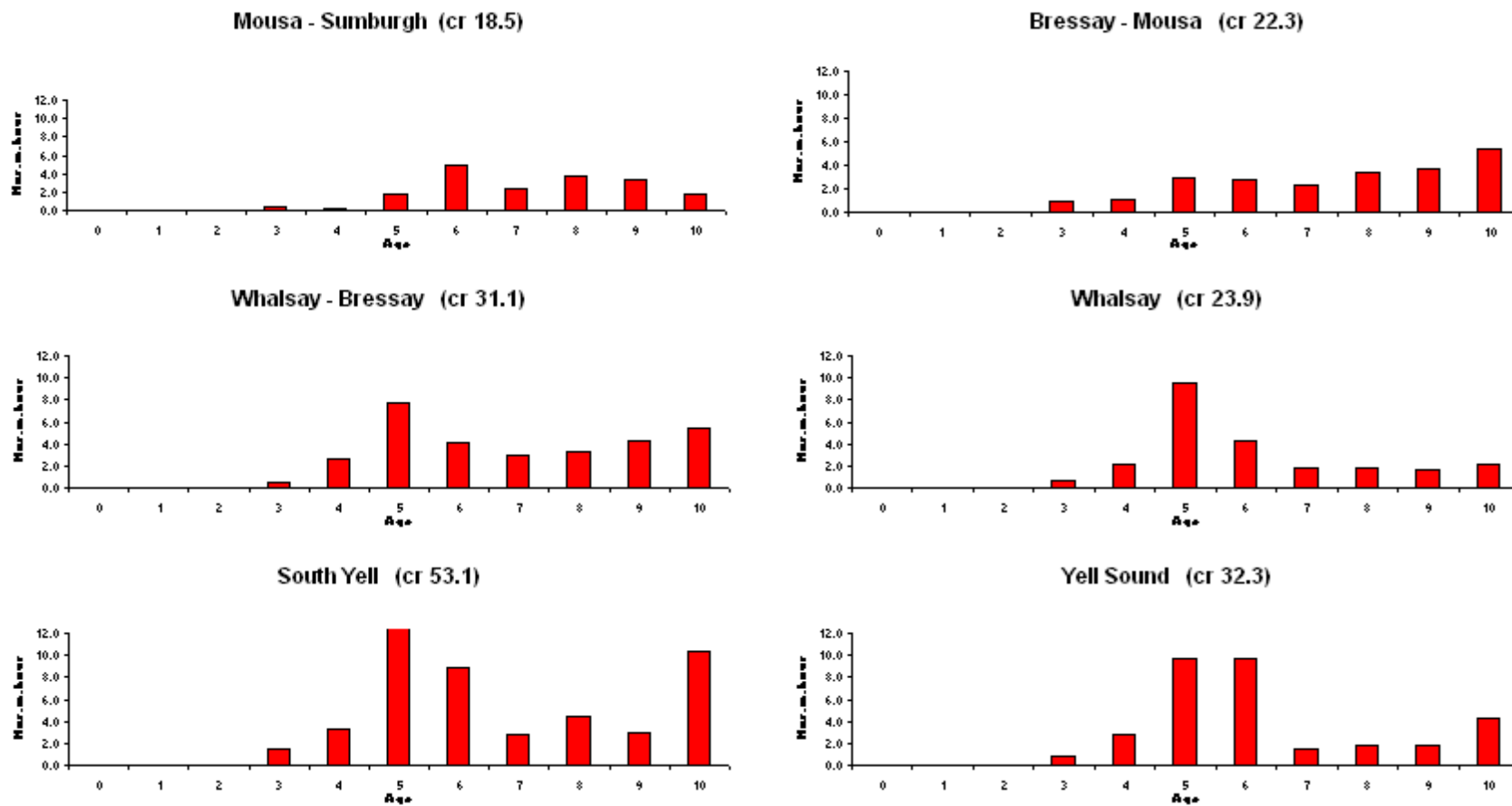


Figure 3.

Shetland Scallop Survey 2008

Numbers at Size in Area

