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Not to be cited without prior reference to the Marine Laboratory Aberdeen

FRV *Clupea*

Cruise 1303C

REPORT

11-25 August 2003

Ports

Start Point: Fraserburgh

End Point: Fraserburgh

Half Landing: Fraserburgh

Personnel

J Kinnear (OIC)

C Shand

B Ward

Gear

50 mm prawn trawl BT 149B

Day grab

Towed TV sledge, umbilical towing cable and cameras (plus backup)

TV drop frame

Objectives

- To obtain estimates of distribution and abundance of Nephrops in the North Minch and Moray Firth using underwater cameras.
- To collect sediment samples at each station.
- To use trawl caught samples of Nephrops to examine biological features at different sites throughout the survey areas.
- The TV survey will also be used to collect data on other potential commercial species.
- Make video observations of crab and lobster habitat using the drop frame.

Project Out-turn: 15 Days MF01T

Narrative

Clupea left Fraserburgh on 11 August and steamed to Loch Eribol. Work began the next day, working south and anchoring in Loch Ewe for the night. Work continued in the North Minch anchoring at Tolsta Head that night and off Longa Island the following night. Work continued in the Torridon area before proceeding to Uig and the east side of the Outer

Hebrides, working north, finishing up in Stornoway on 16 August. *Clupea* left Stornoway in a freshening SW wind and headed for the Pentland Firth where several TV stations were conducted on crab ground before anchoring for the night in Dunnet Bay. On the Tuesday *Clupea* steamed to the Moray Firth to continue the TV survey. Strong winds delayed operations until 20 August. Deteriorating weather conditions hampered operations but the survey was finally completed on 24 August. *Clupea* then returned to Fraserburgh and unloaded on 25 August.

Objectives

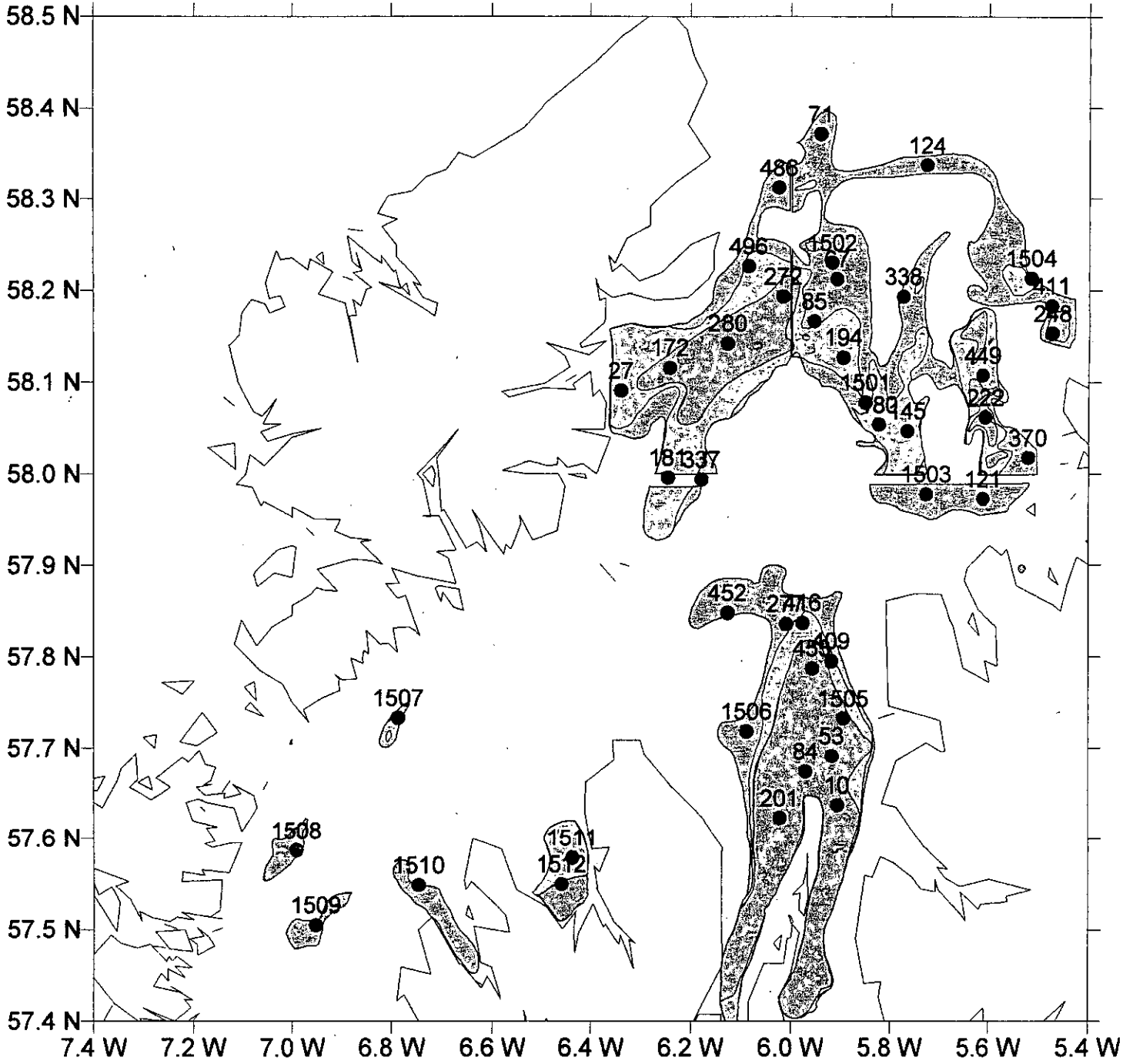
The Nephrops TV survey was completed in both the North Minch (43 stations) and the Moray Firth (25 stations). Creels did not pose a problem. Nephrops trawls were conducted on each sediment type within the survey areas and bottom sediment samples taken at each TV site. Charts of the sampled positions are attached.

The information gathered will be used in conjunction with the *Scotia* Nephrops TV surveys at the next Nephrops working group.

J Kinnear
7 November 2003

Seen in draft: A Simpson, OIC *Clupea*

North Minch, TV Survey 2003



Moray Firth 2003

