

R1/12

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FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 1509S

## **REPORT**

6–27 November 2009

### **Personnel**

C G Davis	SIC
M Mathewson	
E Armstrong	
R Watret	
S Buckley	
I Penny	(Part 1)
L Allan	(Part 1)
K Summerbell	(Part 2)
E Guirey	(Part 2)

**Out-turn days per project: 22**

### **Fishing Gear**

GOV trawl (BT137) with belly lines & ground gear C

### **Objectives**

1. To participate in the ICES co-ordinated Western Division Demersal Trawling Survey.
2. To obtain temperature and salinity data at each trawling position.
3. To collect additional biological data in accordance with the EU Data Directive 1639/2001 and 1581/2004.

### **Narrative**

*Scotia* sailed from Aberdeen at noon on 6 November and proceeded northwards toward the survey area. Whilst en-route, the opportunity was taken to deploy and check the operation of the trawl gear; in particular to measure the gear dimensions under strain. CTD was also deployed and both hardware and software checked.

Fishing commenced the next day at 0630hrs at the station in rectangle 47E6. The medium term weather forecast was very favourable for this time of year and we took advantage of this to progress westward and then southwards for the next twelve days. *Scotia* docked in Killybegs on Wednesday 18 November at 1400hrs for the scheduled half landing. *Scotia* sailed from Killybegs at 1500hrs on Thursday 19 November in poor weather and made passage for grounds located on the north coast of Ireland where surveying commenced the following morning. Other than a period of a few hours when *Scotia* had to dodge severe

weather in the North Minch, fishing continued unobstructed up to the 26 November, when *Scotia* made way for Aberdeen. *Scotia* docked alongside Aberdeen at 2315hrs.

## **Results**

### **Trawling**

For the majority of the survey, *Scotia* was fortunate to have reasonable weather conditions for the time of year. As a result, very little time was lost due to weather. This resulted in the trip achieving a total of 78 trawl hauls with the GOV. Of this total, 2 were assigned as foul hauls due to the level of gear damage sustained. Of the remaining 76 hauls, 68 were undertaken in ICES area VI.

The Scanmar gear monitoring system and the NOAA bottom contact sensor were used throughout the survey to observe the gear performance.

The trawl positions are shown on the attached chart.

Table 1 summarises the historical and current survey indices for the major species caught in ICES area VIa.

Length, weight, sex and maturity were collected from all species listed in the EU Data Collection Regulation (EC) No 1639/2001.

### **Hydrography**

The thermosalinograph was run continuously throughout the cruise.

The CTD was deployed at each station to obtain temperature and salinity profiles.

### **Biological sampling**

Biological data was recorded for a number of species in accordance with the requirements of the EU Data Regulations.

Submitted:  
*C G Davis*  
31 January 2010

Approved:  
*I Gibb*  
19 February 2010.

**Table 1: West Coast Q4 IBTS Area VIa, Numbers at Age per 10hrs Fishing Effort.**

Year	Hauls	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Cod</b>								
2000	53	0	16	3	0	0	0	0
2001	58	1	2	9	1	1	0	0
2002	64	1	10	3	7	1	0	0
2003	63	1	2	11	3	1	0	0
2004	59	0	5	4	0	+	0	0
2005	63	+	2	3	0	1	+	0
2006	58	0	17	6	1	1	0	0
2007	75	0	12	20	1	1	+	0
2008	60	2	8	5	7	1	0	0
<b>2009</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Haddock</b>								
2000	53	2959	4231	147	191	59	25	5
2001	58	3083	2219	3563	48	138	22	12
2002	64	2943	1709	1770	2841	34	50	24
2003	63	293	2023	965	1470	639	28	17
2004	59	542	574	1068	410	649	524	5
2005	63	286	419	409	410	223	309	87
2006	58	19	543	233	162	281	79	100
2007	75	125	69	1392	109	128	90	48
2008	60	14	117	78	835	74	94	63
<b>2009</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Whiting</b>								
2000	53	4434	4055	789	160	9	7	1
2001	58	9615	1957	1420	155	40	12	2
2002	64	14658	1591	621	479	30	9	5
2003	63	9932	3446	567	338	83	27	4
2004	59	5923	1758	940	83	57	62	1
2005	63	2297	308	318	76	9	4	1
2006	58	415	296	140	101	35	8	3
2007	75	1894	434	326	100	83	48	1
2008	60	2297	208	78	110	28	24	4
<b>2009</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>4833</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>

Year	Hauls	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Saithe</b>								
2000	53	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
2001	58	0	+	50	15	2	0	0
2002	64	0	1	8	6	1	0	0
2003	63	0	+	25	5	1	+	0
2004	59	0	0	14	8	1	+	0
2005	63	0	+	4	6	3	+	0
2006	58	0	1	10	6	1	0	0
2007	75	0	3	94	14	4	3	1
2008	60	0	0	5	5	1	1	1
<b>2009</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### N.Pout

2000	53	25311	5984	2166	302	23	0	0
2001	58	34355	2498	1977	112	0	0	0
2002	64	59207	5843	493	355	8	0	0
2003	63	10549	7715	2291	108	92	0	0
2004	59	5281	4021	1757	530	0	0	0
2005	63	3118	455	143	117	31	0	0
2006	58	4351	1119	126	24	14	0	0
2007	75	7352	455	528	22	10	1	0
2008	60	7374	2148	590	390	1	0	0
<b>2009</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>39577</b>	<b>1495</b>	<b>1035</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Herring

2000	53	153	208	242	112	333	169	15
2001	58	223	121	3335	1452	588	1186	72
2002	64	144	94	124	230	18	31	7
2003	63	95	8861	5227	1124	1251	111	19
2004	59	433	194	807	1717	1903	2806	26
2005	63	292	252	251	194	482	527	30
2006	58	102	23	940	566	423	913	660
2007	75	145	916	701	503	318	617	989
2008	60	24	23	131	270	509	195	361
<b>2009</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1432</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>203</b>

### Mackerel

2000	53	102	98	118	47	9	1	1
2001	58	720	15	58	32	17	1	1
2002	64	12045	270	91	154	42	5	8
2003	63	1244	771	460	72	62	10	8
2004	59	23476	2095	8543	1591	262	108	10
2005	63	30446	5299	730	1694	492	138	6
2006	58	10040	2110	692	148	217	89	6
2007	75	813	4145	2078	1097	322	70	27
2008	60	2508	1865	4875	1916	475	11	1
<b>2009</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>7324</b>	<b>4352</b>	<b>3513</b>	<b>2571</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>20</b>

**2009 Q4 W.Coast IBTS Trawl Station Locations**  
(Stations in red are foul / invalid)

