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FRV *Clupea*

Cruise 1400C

REPORT

25 September - 13 October 2000

Loading: 20 September, Fraserburgh

Unloading: 13 October, Fraserburgh

Half-landing: 4 October, Fraserburgh

Personnel

T Howell In Charge (25 September - 4 October)

S Davis In Charge (4-13 October)

J Donald

Fishing Gear: Scallop dredges

Objectives

1. To carry out a survey of scallop stocks in the North Sea.
2. To collect information on by-catches of other commercial fish and shellfish species.
3. To collect biological data on component tissue weights.
4. To collect samples for pollution analysis.

Out-time costs per project: 19 days MO1T

Narrative

The scientific staff joined FRV *Clupea* at 0900 hours on 25 September and sailed from Fraserburgh at 1000 hours. Sampling began at 1400 hours off Buckie and continued in the Moray Firth until 1500 hours on 3 October when the vessel set sail for Fraserburgh for the half-landing. A change of scientific staff took place on 4 October. The vessel left Fraserburgh at 0700 hours on 5 October, sailed east and began sampling off Peterhead. The survey continued down the east coast until the evening of 9 October when the vessel entered Aberdeen harbour due to easterly gales.

FRV *Clupea* remained in Aberdeen until 0900 hours on 11 October when the vessel had sailed to Peterhead - where she docked and remained until 0900 hours on 12 October. On passage to Fraserburgh, one station was attempted but the sea state was too high for the scallop dredges to fish effectively and the vessel docked in Fraserburgh at 1400 hours on 12 October. Scientific staff, samples and laboratory equipment were disembarked and returned to Aberdeen later that evening. The fishing gear was unloaded on 13 October.

Results

During the trip, 101 dredge hauls were made and a total of 4,043 scallops were caught. The position of each haul is shown on the map in Figure 1. Catch rates varied from a minimum of 2/hr to a maximum of 298/hr. The aggregate catch rates for each statistical rectangle, expressed in numbers per hour per metre width of dredge at age, are shown in Figure 2. The individual graph headings in Figure 2 show the overall catch rate for each statistical rectangle. 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. Meat weight samples were taken from 11 different sites and is shown on Figure 1.

T Howell
24 October 2000

Seen in draft: A Simpson, OIC

Table 1

Total number of each by-catch species

Species	Numbers
<i>Aquepecten opercularis</i>	37
<i>Buccinum undatum</i>	95
<i>Cancer pagurus</i> M	48
<i>Cancer pagurus</i> F	114
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	1
<i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i>	4
<i>Homarus gammarus</i> M	1
<i>Limanda limanda</i>	19
<i>Lithodes maja</i> M	9
<i>Lithodes maja</i> F	13
<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>	31
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	1
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	2
<i>Microchirus variegatus</i>	1
<i>Microstomus kitt</i>	23
<i>Necora puber</i> F	2
<i>Neptunea antiqua</i>	221
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	28
<i>Raja clavata</i> M	2
<i>Raja clavata</i> F	3
<i>Raja naevus</i> M	45
<i>Raja naevus</i> F	42
<i>Scophthalmus maximus</i>	1
<i>Scyliorhinus canicula</i> F	1
<i>Solea solea</i>	1

Figure 1.

East Coast Scallop Survey

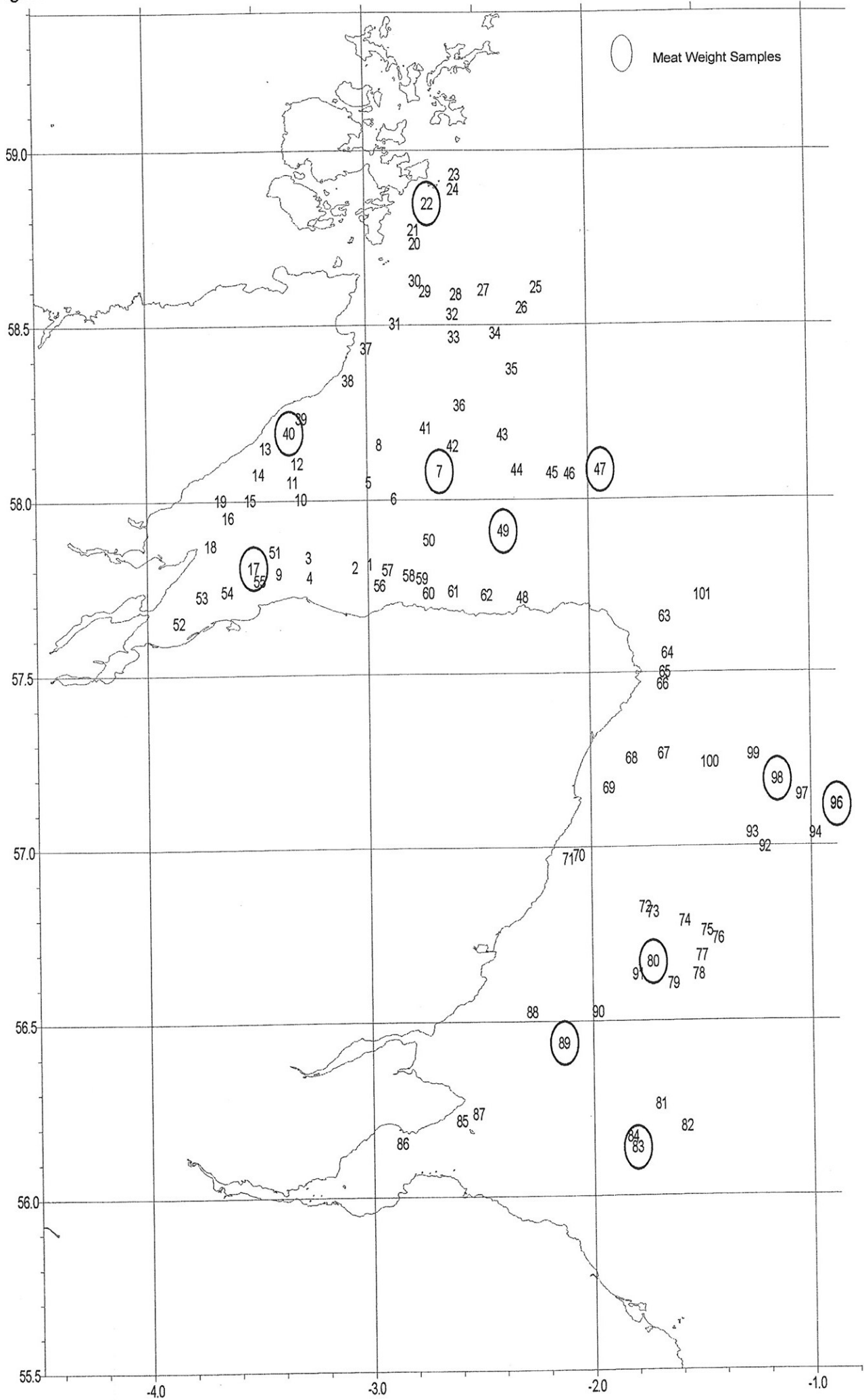


Figure 3. East Coast Scallop Survey 2000

Catch Rate by Length in Stat Square

