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MV *Aora*

Charter Cruise 1993H

REPORT

21 June - 9 July

Personnel

D W McKay SSO
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Objective

To carry out a survey of scallop stocks on the west coast of Scotland

Narrative

The scientific staff joined MV *Aora* at Largs at 1330 on 21 June. Sampling began in the Sanda area on 22 June and progressed steadily northwards. During the latter part of the cruise a prolonged period of strong westerly winds restricted operations to the sheltered waters close to the Western Isles and therefore reduced the sampling level on the east side of the North Minch. As the vessel was simply making a passage back to the Clyde at the end of the cruise scientific staff left the vessel at Kyle of Lochalsh on the morning of 7 July.

Results

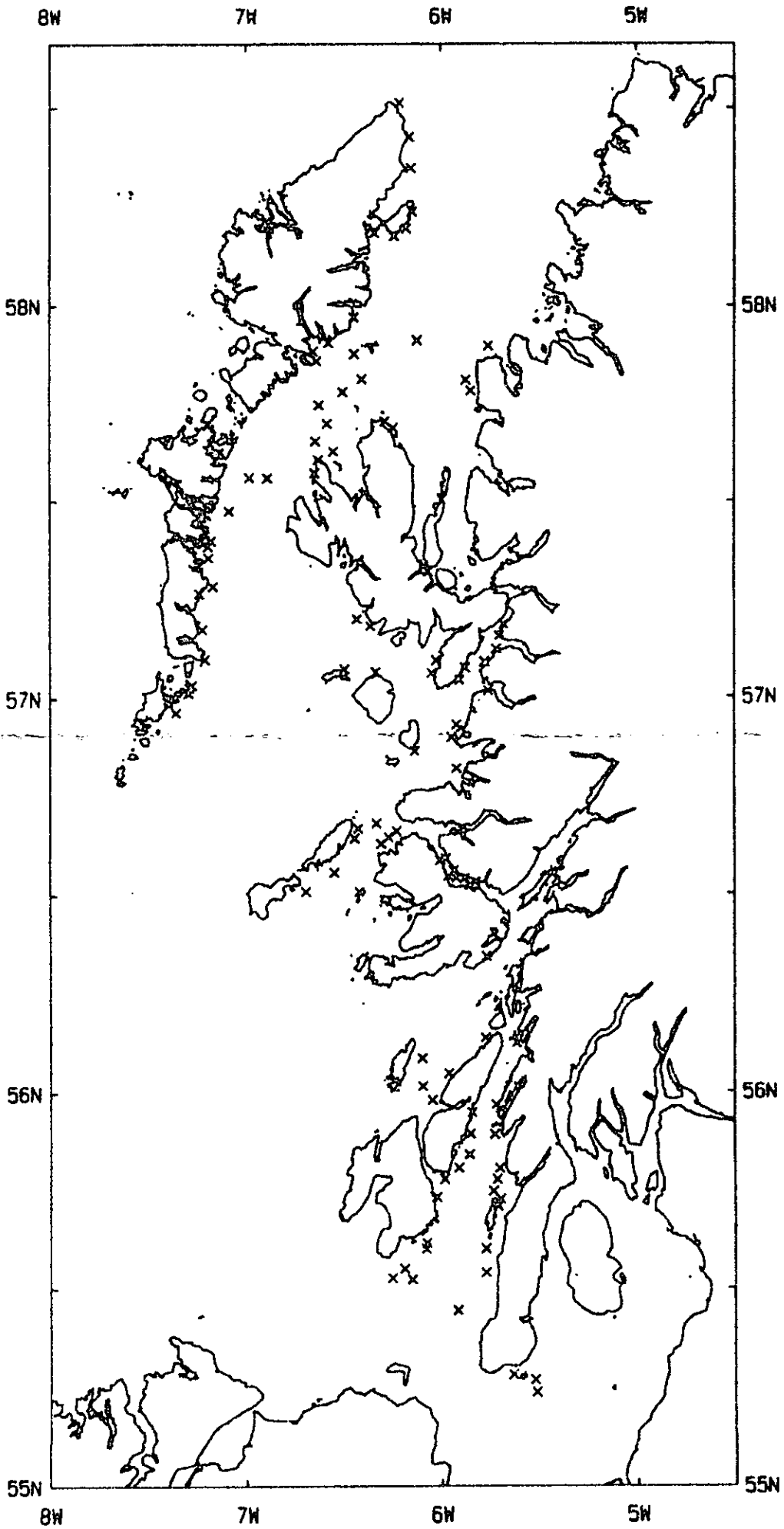
During the trip 109 scallop dredge hauls were made. The position of each haul is shown on the attached Figure 1. Catch numbers varied considerably throughout the trip from a minimum of 0/hr to a maximum of 925/hr. The mean catch/hr for each statistical rectangle is shown in Figure 2.

During the cruise samples of scallops were examined as part of the ongoing study on annual variations in meat weight. Samples of top shells of scallops were collected from a variety of sites and returned to the Laboratory as part of a detailed study on scallop growth rates. A note was also kept of the number and length distribution of all brown crabs and angler fish caught during the cruise.

David W McKay

20 July 1993

AORA DREDGE HAUL POSITIONS 1993



WEST COAST SCALLOP SURVEY 1993 - MEAN CATCH/HR / STAT SQ

