# R1/3

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Charter Vessel MV Aora

Cruise 9226H

### REPORT

15 June-3 July

### Personnel

D W McKay SSO T R W Howell HSO J Donald ASO

## Narrative

The scientific staff joined MV Aora at Largs at 1430 on 15 June. Between 16 and 22 June Aora worked northwards fishing grounds adjacent to Sanda, Macrahanish, Islay, Jura, Colonsay, Easdale, Mull, Tiree, Coll and Eigg. On Monday 22 June D McKay replaced T Howell. Following the changeover the Aora worked grounds around Skye and in the North Minch. On Tuesday 30 June Aora spent the day catching scallops for the discard mortality experiment being carried out at Gairloch. As the Aora was then making a passage back to Millport the scientific gear was unloaded at Kyle on 1 July and the scientific staff returned to the Laboratory.

## Results

During the trip 103 scallop dredge hauls were made. The position of each haul is shown on the attached Figure 1. Catch rates varied considerably throughout the trip from a minimum of 0/hr to a maximum of 760/hr. The mean catch/hr for each statistical rectangle is shown in Figure 2.

During the cruise samples of scallops from each statistical rectangle data were collected as part of a study on the annual variations of mean weight in scallops. The gonad stage of each of the scallops weighed was noted.

Some 500 scallops were collected at the mouth of Loch Gairloch for use in the discard survival experiment.

David W McKay

25 August 1992



