

R1/3

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

*MV Aspire*

Charter Cruise 2894H

## REPORT

1-26 August 1994

### Personnel

D W McKay	SSO	1-12 August and 22-26 August 1994
T W Howell	HSO	15-26 August 1994
D J Bova	SO	8-12 August 1994
J Donald	ASO	1-5 August and 15-19 August 1994

### Objective

To carry out a survey of scallop stocks off the east coast of Scotland.

**Out-turn Costs per Project:** 20 days FBAI

### Narrative

The scientific staff joined *MFV Aspire* at Fraserburgh on 1 August 1994. During the first week sampling took place east and southeast of Aberdeen before the vessel docked in Peterhead for the weekend. *MFV Aspire* sailed again on Monday 8 August 1994 and continued sampling in the area east and southeast of Aberdeen. Strong southeast winds on 10 August 1994 caused the vessel to move into the Moray Firth. *MFV Aspire* docked in Macduff for the weekend. During the third week of the cruise sampling was carried out in the Moray Firth and east of Orkney before the vessel returned to Macduff for the weekend. During the final week of the cruise sampling was concentrated on areas of the Moray Firth that had been previously missed. The cruise finished in Macduff on 26 August 1994.

### Results

During the trip 117 scallop dredge hauls were made and a total of 18,121 scallops were caught. 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 762/hr. The mean catch/hr/m dredge for each statistical rectangle is shown in Figure 2.

The number and length distribution of all other commercial fish and shellfish caught during the cruise were recorded. The total numbers of each species caught is given in Table 1.

David W McKay  
Trevor Howell  
10 January 1995

Figure 1

HAUL POSITIONS - EAST COAST SCALLOP SURVEY 1994

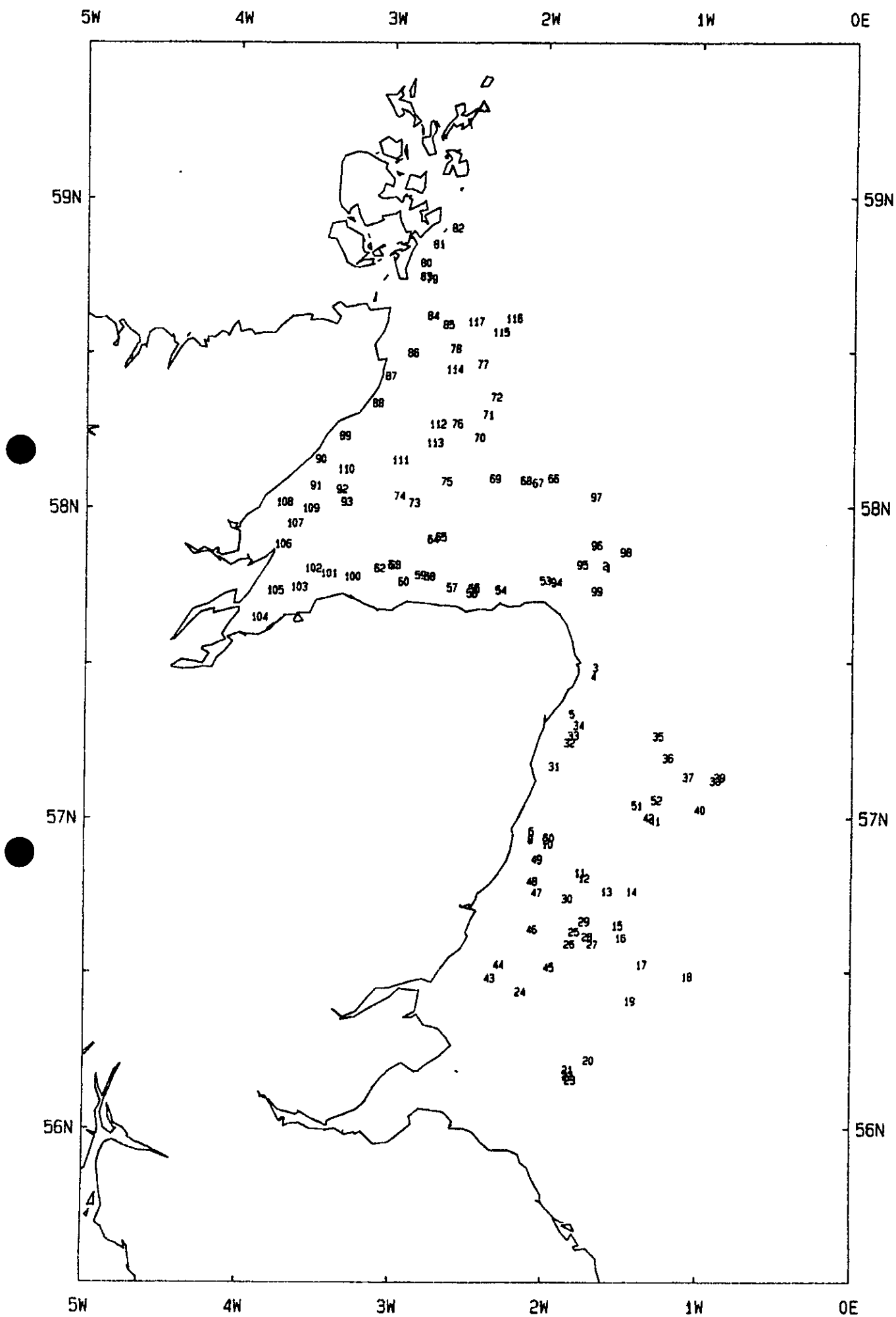


Figure 2

Aspire Scallop Survey 1994 - Catch/stsq/hr/mdredge

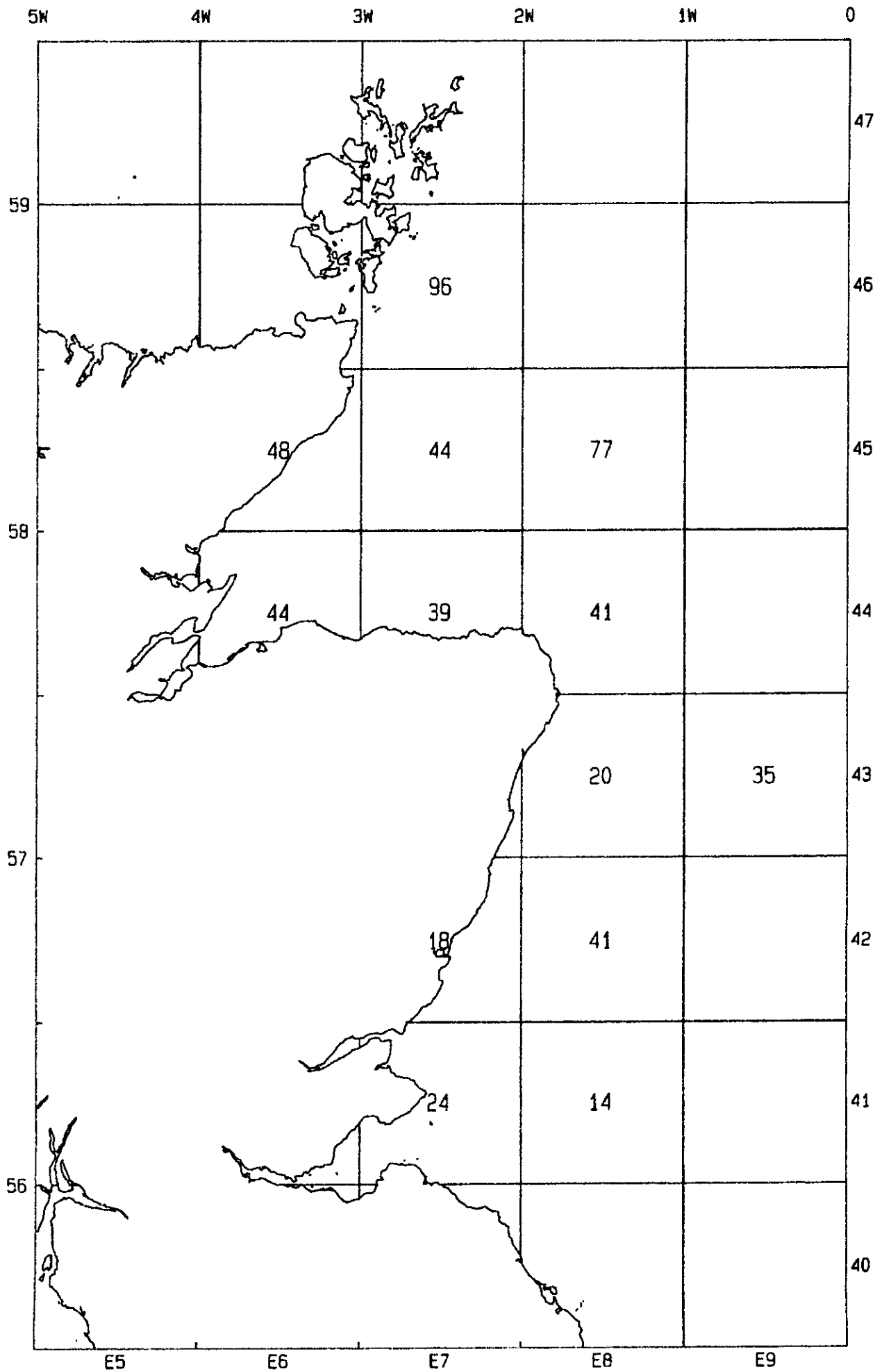


Table 1 Total numbers of each bycatch species caught

SPECIES		
Raja naevus	Cuckoo Ray	120
Raia montagui	Spotted Ray	1
Raja radiata	Starry Ray	23
Raja batis	Skate	2
Scyliorhinus canicula M	Spotted dogfish	1
Lophius piscatorius	Angler	198
Pleuronectes platessa	Plaice	148
Limanda limanda	Common dab	74
Microstomus kitt	Lemon sole	61
Hippoglossoides platessoides	Long Rough Dab	8
Zeugopterus punctatus	Topknot	10
Gadus morhua	Cod	3
Melanogrammus aeglefinus	Haddock	4
Eutrigla gurnardus	Grey gurnard	2
Myxocephalus scorpius	Bull-rout	9
Ammodytes marinus	Common sandeel	81
Chlamys opercularis	Queen	279
Modiolus modiolus	Horse mussel	0
Cancer pagurus F	Edible crab female	39
Cancer pagurus M	Edible crab male	12
Necora puber	Velvet crab	4