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MV "BRITISH VIKING"

CHARTER CRUISE

Report

8-28 September 1987

Personnel

P W Rankine	SO (In Charge)
P Kunzlik	HSO
M R Robertson	SO
D Beveridge	ASO
Miss J Staples	ASO

Objectives

1. To participate in the ICES International Herring Larval Surveys in ICES Divisions IVA(N) and IVA.
2. To obtain hydrographic and plankton samples as part of a study on herring larval patch ecology.

Narrative

Scientists joined the vessel at 1100 hrs on 8 September at Fraserburgh and sailed at 1445 hrs on the same day after a faulty winch power pack was replaced. Sampling commenced at 1630 hrs, at Stn 18 of the Buchan grid, and continued as depicted in Fig I. This grid was completed on 9 September and "British Viking" then steamed for Stn 36 of the VIA(N) survey grid and commenced sampling at 1700 hrs. Despite very heavy weather conditions sampling continued as in Fig I until 1530 hrs on 12th when the survey was discontinued due to a Force 10 SW gale. The survey resumed at 0800 hrs on 14th. Advantage was taken of calmer weather conditions on 16th to sample 3 environmental stations (see Fig I) at which depth stratified salinity, temperature, phosphate, nitrate, chlorophyll and microzooplankton samples were taken in addition to standard Gulf III samples, before a westerly gale prevented further sampling. Larval sampling was then continued, as in Fig I, until the mid trip break on the 19th.

"British Viking" left Stornoway at 0800 hrs on the 20th and proceeded to Stn 38 where sampling commenced. The VIA grid was completed at 2200 hrs on the 20th and sampling of the IVA grid started the following day at Stn 38. Sampling continued as depicted in Fig 2, until "British Viking" docked in Aberdeen at 1600 hrs on the 28th.

Results

Larval distributions are depicted in Figs 3 and 4.

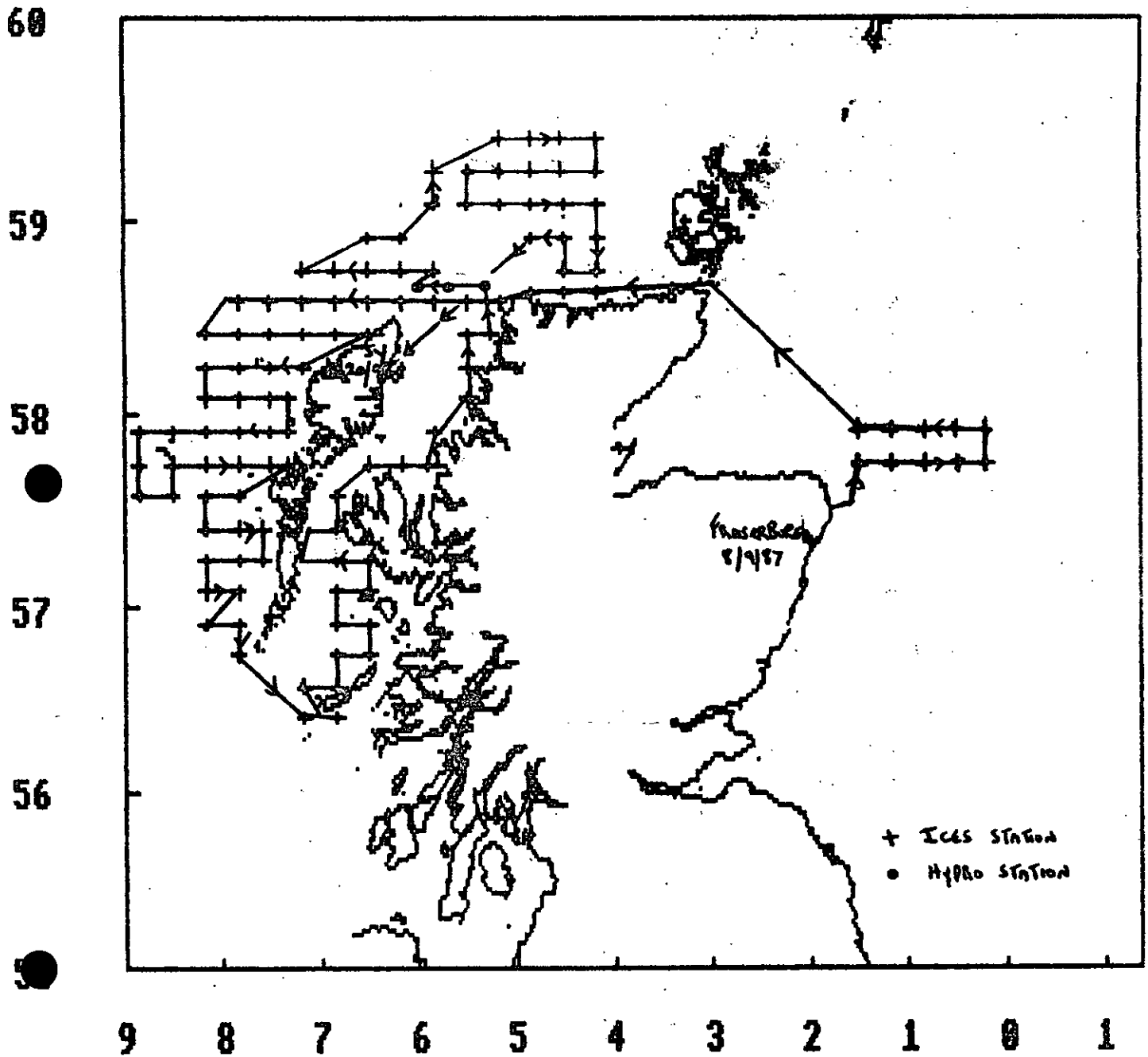
General

Surface temperature and salinity data were collected throughout the survey. Stations on the eastern edge of the IVA grid were sampled acting on information given by the German Research Vessel "Poseidon". Water samples for radio caesium analysis were collected as required, off Cape Wrath. Herring and other fish larvae were removed from plankton samples during the cruise.

Paul Rankine

2 November 1987

Seen in Draft: Robin W Hide, Master "British Viking"





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