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In confidence - Not to be quoted without reference to the Laboratory   (Pt 2)

Cruise Report

FRV "Clupea"

31 October - 18 November 1977

Objective

To investigate the relationship between turbidity at the wing ends and catch level
using the Aberdeen 40 ft and 4 panel 600 HP gears, and to compare the catch rates
of these gears.

Narrative

As the fishing gear and instruments had been loaded the previous Friday "Clupea"
left Buckie on Monday 31 October and fishing commenced in the Balta area on the
evening of Tuesday 1 November. Nine hauls were carried out in the Balta, Gloup
Holm and Fetlar areas before "Clupea" entered Lerwick on Friday 4 for the
weekend break.

Bad weather prevented fishing on Monday 7 but a further eight hauls were made in
the Balta area until gale force winds on Thursday 10 forced "Clupea" to take
shelter in Lerwick where she remained over the weekend.

"Clupea" left Lerwick on Monday 14 and steamed south to the Orkneys. Only one
haul was possible in the Copinsay area on Tuesday 15 before the weather again
deteriorated and "Clupea" sought shelter in Kirkwall. By next morning the wind had
moderated and three hauls were made in the Start Point area on Wednesday 16.
"Clupea" steamed south overnight and a further three hauls were carried out off
Cruden Bay before entering Aberdeen on the evening of Thursday 17. Instrumentation
and fishing gear were unloaded on Friday 18.

Results

Twenty-four hauls were carried out, 12 with each gear. The catches of both gears
were measured and the results are being statistically analysed.

A positively buoyant turbidity meter on a 4' strop was shackled to the wingend of
the gear on each haul and handling procedures were quickly established. Of the
two types tested only the more sensitive model gave indications of the presence
of suspended sediment at the wingend and further development trials will be
required (possibly using divers) before these meters can be used with confidence
on commercial vessels.

R D GALBRAITH
21 December 1977

Seen in draft : G Geddes