

IN CONFIDENCE - NOT TO BE QUOTED WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE LABORATORY

CRUISE REPORT

FRV "CLUPEA"

January 24 - February 12, 1972

OBJECTIVES:

To tag demersal fish in offshore waters and to bring live fish back to the aquarium.

NARRATIVE:

Due to the fact that the refit took longer than expected "Clupea" was not ready for sea until January 31. Severe SE gales then prevented her leaving Aberdeen until Friday February 4. The wind then moderated and "Clupea" put to sea; however, sea conditions made work impossible and "Clupea" returned to Aberdeen the same day. By Monday February 7, conditions had improved substantially and "Clupea" sailed for the Orkneys at 1500 hours. The presence of Dogfish and the lack of suitable demersal fish in Orkney waters necessitated a change of ground and work was resumed on a position 30' NE Buchan Ness. Another gale forced "Clupea" to return to Aberdeen and the cruise ended at 2100 hours on February 11th.

RESULTS:

Because of the scarcity of haddock east of Orkney only 32 were tagged in these waters. However good catches of haddock were obtained 30' NE of Buchan Ness and a further 351 were tagged there. In total 42% of haddock of taggable size were tagged.

During the 3 working days of the cruise, a total of 383 haddock, 23 whiting and 46 plaice were tagged. 2 cod and 12 plaice were brought back for the aquarium.

A W Newton  
21.2.72