

*Labsary*

In confidence not to be quoted without reference to the laboratory

R1/6

6CR79

AR

FRV Clupea

Cruise 6/79

REPORT

21 May - 1 June 1979

Objectives:

To complete as far as practicable, the study of the ecology of late gadoid larvae begun by SCOTIA during Cruise 5/79.

Narrative:

Following the transfer of equipment and staff from SCOTIA in Lerwick, CLUPEA sailed at 1505 hrs on Tuesday 22 May, but due to heavy swell and prevailing weather conditions was forced to seek anchorage. Next morning CLUPEA left anchor and proceeded to the area of the first station but was forced to seek calmer waters to the east of Shetland where calibrations were carried out on M.L.A. type flowmeters. The ship then anchored again.

At 1720 hrs on Wednesday 23 May conditions had moderated sufficiently to allow CLUPEA to start a series of stepped WP3 1000u hauls. These hauls continued throughout the night and the following day, yielding large quantities of assorted fish larvae.

A series of high speed Loch Ewe net tows was then carried out in an attempt to study vertical distribution of fish larvae; on completion of this CLUPEA proceeded to Lerwick and docked at 1805 hrs.

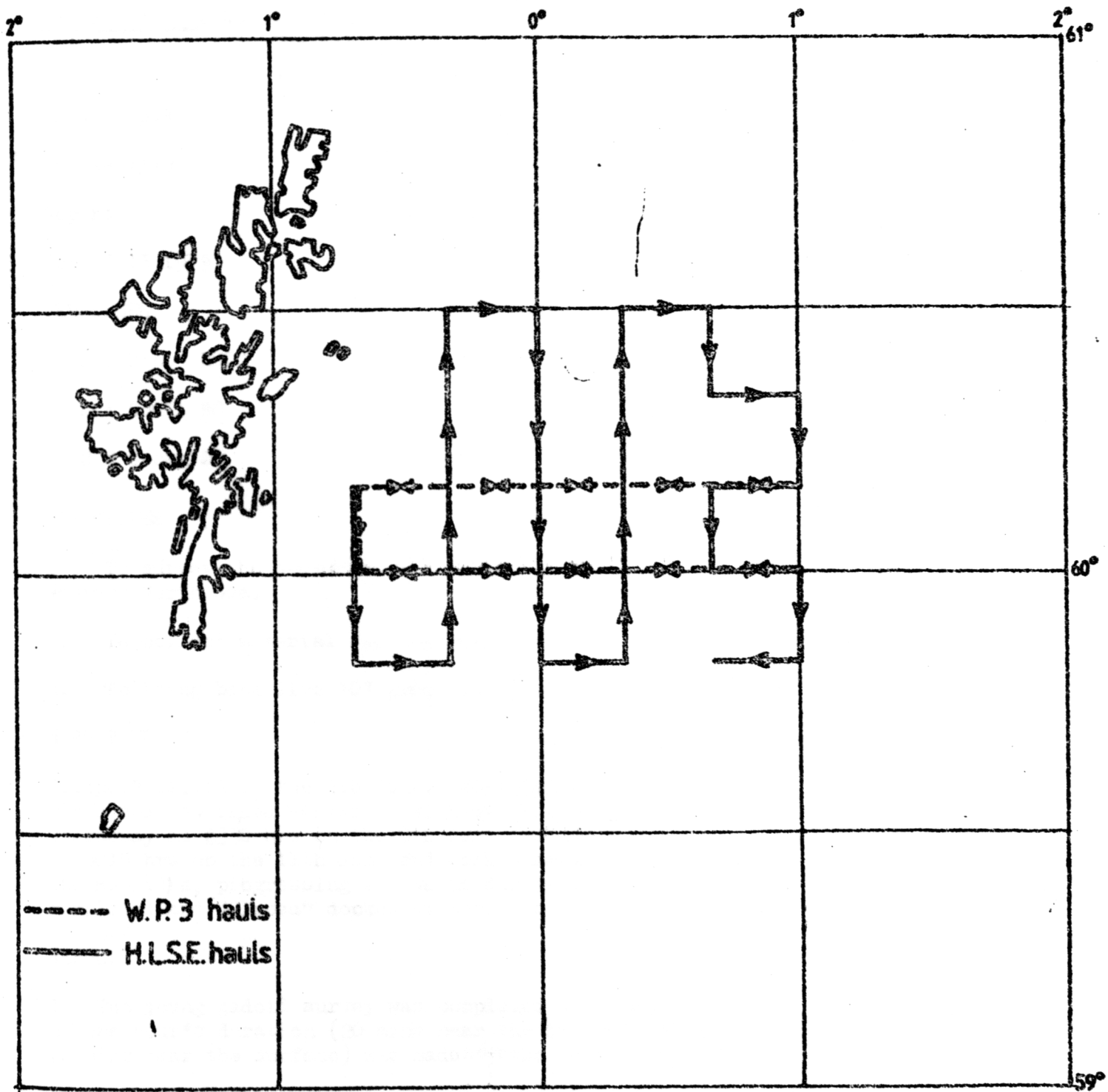
During the weekend repairs were completed to the plankton warp metering system and repairs to the ships radar were attempted. Owing to difficulties in obtaining spare parts for CLUPEA's radar and the prevailing thick fog in the working area, sailing was delayed until 0515 hrs on Tuesday 29 May, when CLUPEA proceeded to a grid of stations to the south east of Shetland. A high speed Loch Ewe net was towed obliquely at each station and, with the vessel working day and night, 27 stations were completed by 2100 hrs on Wednesday 30 May when CLUPEA set course for Aberdeen. En route to Aberdeen however, CLUPEA encountered thick fog and it was decided, in view of the non-operational radar and the thick fog down the east coast towards Aberdeen, to alter course for Buckie where the vessel docked at 1930 hrs on 31 May.

Results:

The preliminary results will be dealt with in the Report of SCOTIA's cruise.

J Dunn  
12 June 1979

Seen in draft: G Geddes



Clupea 21.5.-1. 6. 79. 6CP79