

R1/6

7CR86

Not to be cited without prior reference to the Laboratory

FRV "Clupea"
Cruise 7/86

Report

28 May - 17 June

Personnel

D W McKay	HSO
W S MacDonalld	SO
F Armstrong	SO
I M Gibb	ASO

Objective

To carry out an acoustic and midwater trawling survey of the Clyde Sea area and adjacent areas.

Narrative

Scientific staff joined FRV "Clupea" on 27 May and the ship sailed from Buckie early on 28 May. Calibration of the acoustic equipment was carried out in Tobermory Bay during the morning of 29 May. "Clupea" commenced the survey in the Clyde on the morning of 30 May. During the period 30 May to 2 June "Clupea" carried out the first survey of the Clyde Sea area. After the first half landing "Clupea" carried out a second survey of the Clyde Sea area. Following the second half landing "Clupea" carried out a survey of the northern Irish Sea and North Channel. The acoustic equipment was calibrated for a second time in Balmacara Bay on the morning of 15 June.

Results

Acoustic Survey

During the cruise echo traces attributable to herring were very scarce. The main areas of concentration were SW of Arran, Lady Isle to the Cumbraes, and Turnberry to Girvan. Acoustic records from the survey have been returned to the Laboratory for detailed analysis.

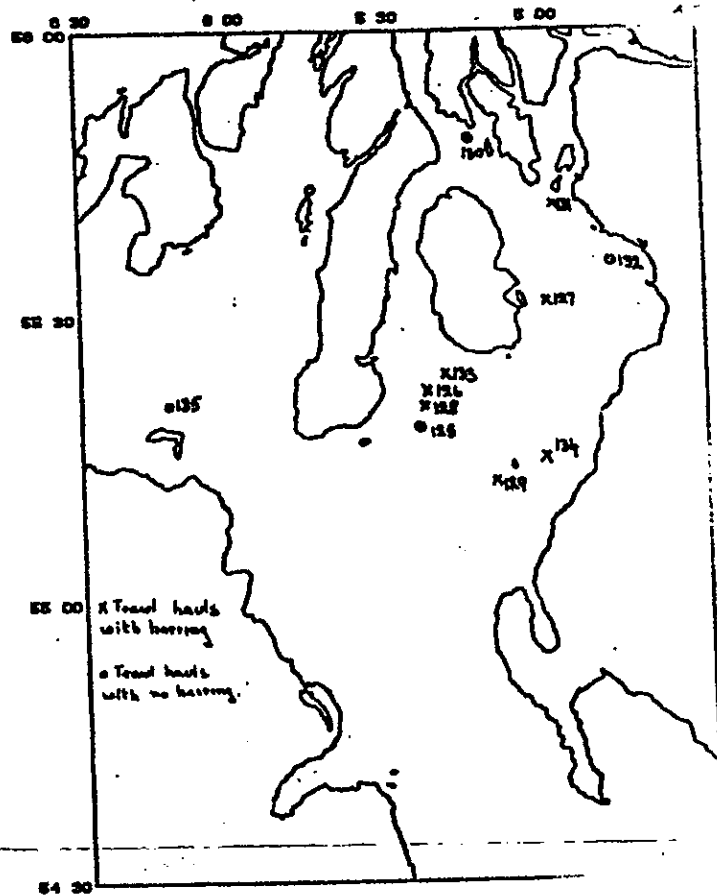
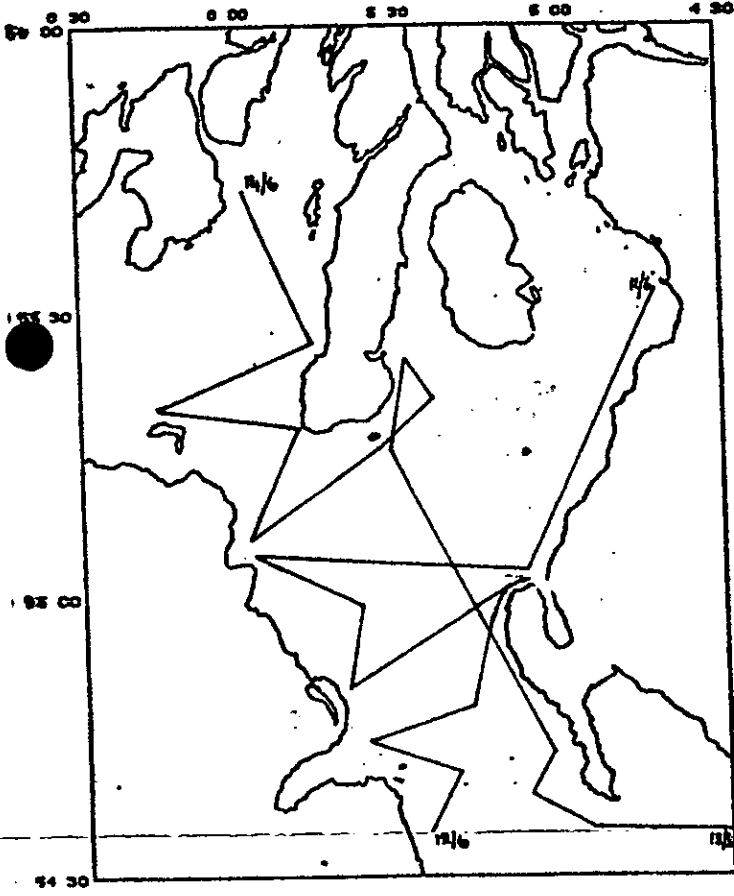
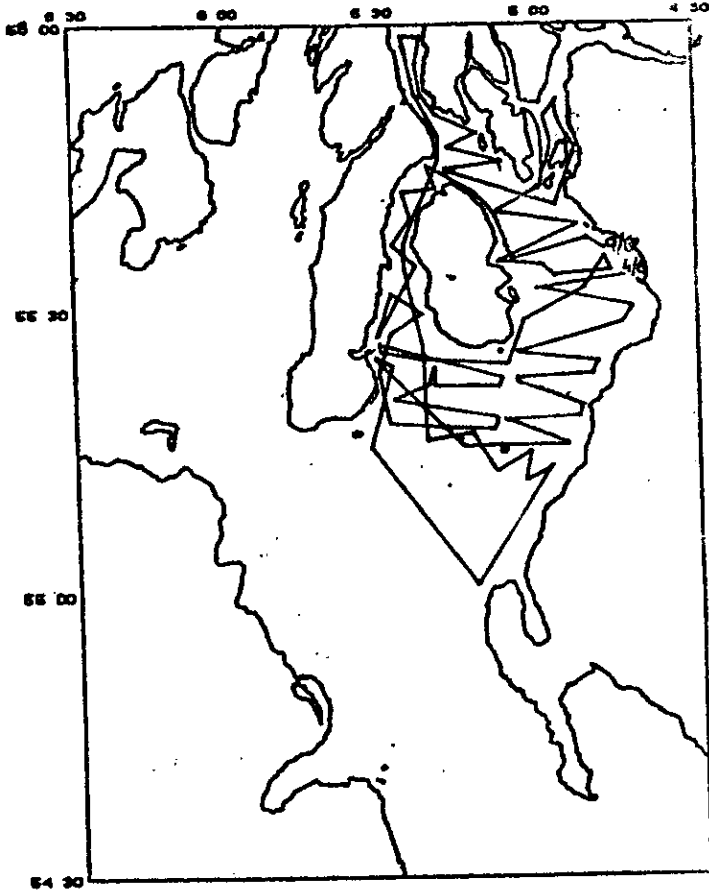
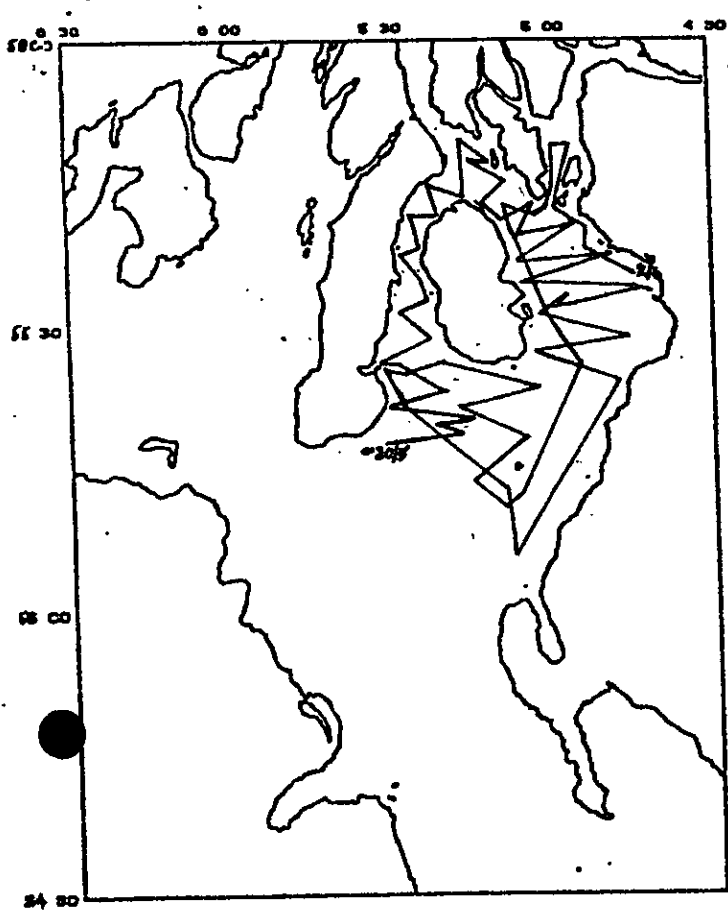
Trawling

During the cruise a total of 10 trawl hauls were made, adult herring being caught in 7 of them. Catches of adult herring ranged from 8 to 1376 fish. The length range of herring caught varied slightly from haul to haul but the majority of fish caught were in the 26-29 cm length range. In one haul off Ardlamont Point no adult herring were caught but large numbers of 0 group herring 3-5 cm in length were meshed in the net.

Apart from herring the only other species that appeared regularly in the catches was sprat. Because of the mesh size being used on the trawl the amounts caught were generally low except for one haul off Turnberry when 7 baskets were caught.

David W McKay
28 August 1986

Seen in draft: G Calder



Clupea 30/5 - 14/6 Cruise 7/86
 Track charts x position of trawl hauls