

R1/14

IN CONFIDENCE: Not to be quoted without reference to the laboratory.

FRV "Explorer"
Cruise 10/83

Report

7 October - 27 October

Objective

North Sea pre-recruit survey

Narrative

Explorer sailed on 7 October commencing trawling the same day. After returning to Aberdeen on the 8th for radar repairs work recommenced. A total of 17 trawling stations were completed before the half landing on the 14th. Following the half landing a further 17 hauls were completed. Work was curtailed by necessary repairs to radar equipment and the trawl winch on the 19th and 22nd. Bad weather restricted fishing to the western stations of the study area. The ship docked on the evening of 26th October.

Results

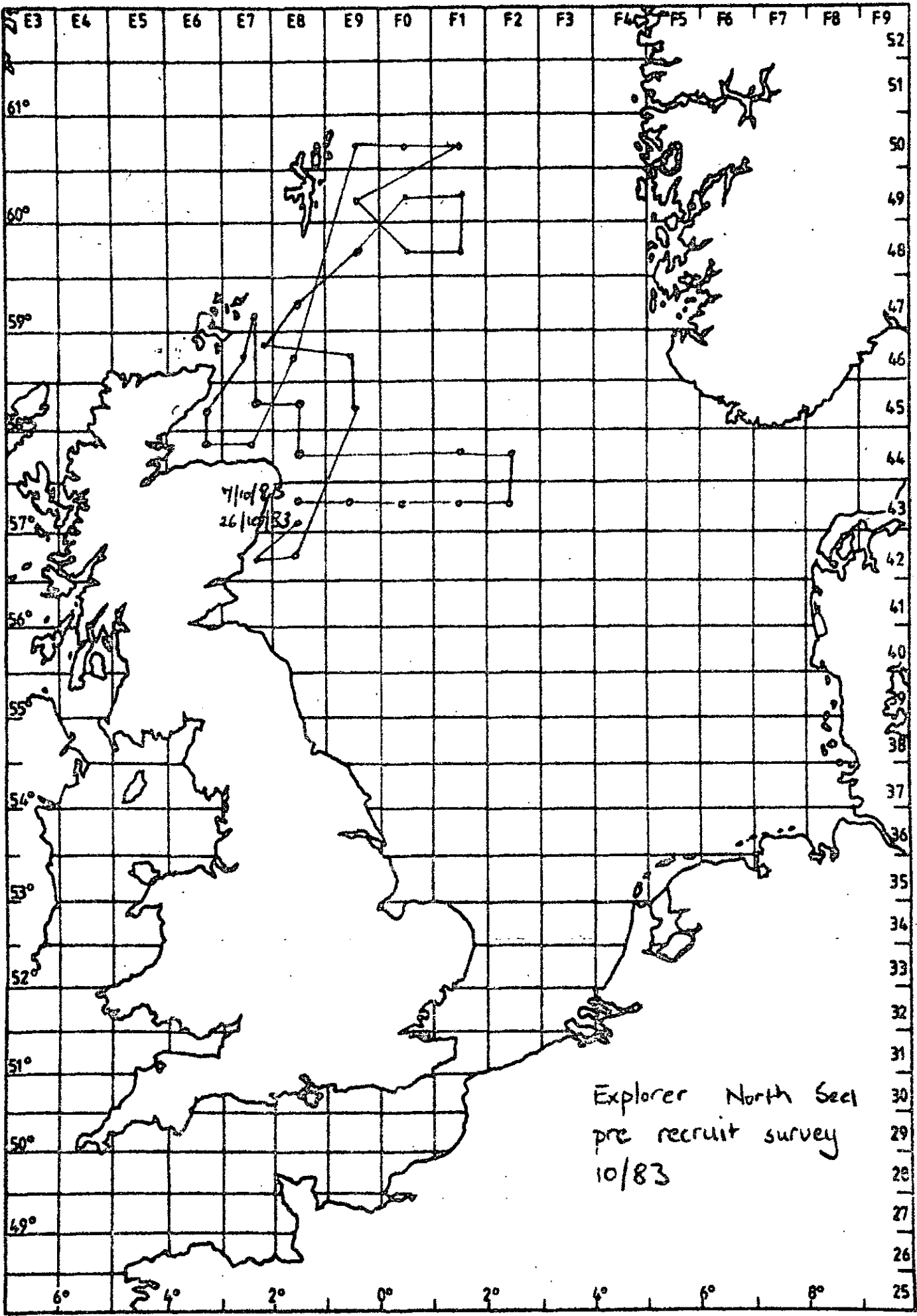
Preliminary results indicate that the strength of the 1983 haddock year class is above average. Largest catches were taken east of Orkney and in Buchan. Catches of 0-group whiting were low with very fish being caught in the north. Largest catches were in the Moray Firth.

CATCHES OF 0-GROUP FISH PER HOURS FISHING

Area	Haddock	Whiting	Norway Pout
Shetland	861	2	144
Viking	664	2	124
Central	390	45	346
Orkney	1580	50	25
Moray Firth	520	1405	84
Buchan	1240	122	142

Seen in draft: N MoInnes

R M Cook
1 November 1983



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