

FRV EXPLORER

Cruise 8/80

REPORT

9 - 29 July 1980

Objective

To participate in the ICES coordinated echointegrator and trawling survey for herring in the Northwestern North Sea.

Narrative

EXPLORER sailed from Aberdeen on 9 July and headed for Holm Sound, Orkney where an echointegrator calibration was carried out. The survey was begun in the area east of Sumburgh and continued up the east side of Shetland. After surveying the area NW of Shetland EXPLORER anchored in Ronas Voe to recalibrate the echointegrator equipment after repairs. After leaving Ronas Voe EXPLORER returned to the east side of Shetland and worked south to SE of Fair Is before putting into Kirkwall for the half landing on 18 July.

After the half landing EXPLORER surveyed the area to the west of Orkney and west of Shetland. EXPLORER docked in Lerwick on 25 July so that the scientific staff could attend a meeting to discuss the results of the surveys with scientists from the other participating vessels. Following the meeting EXPLORER left Lerwick and after calibrating the echointegrator resurveyed part of the area east of Fair Is before returning to Aberdeen, where she docked at 1930 hrs on 28 July.

Results

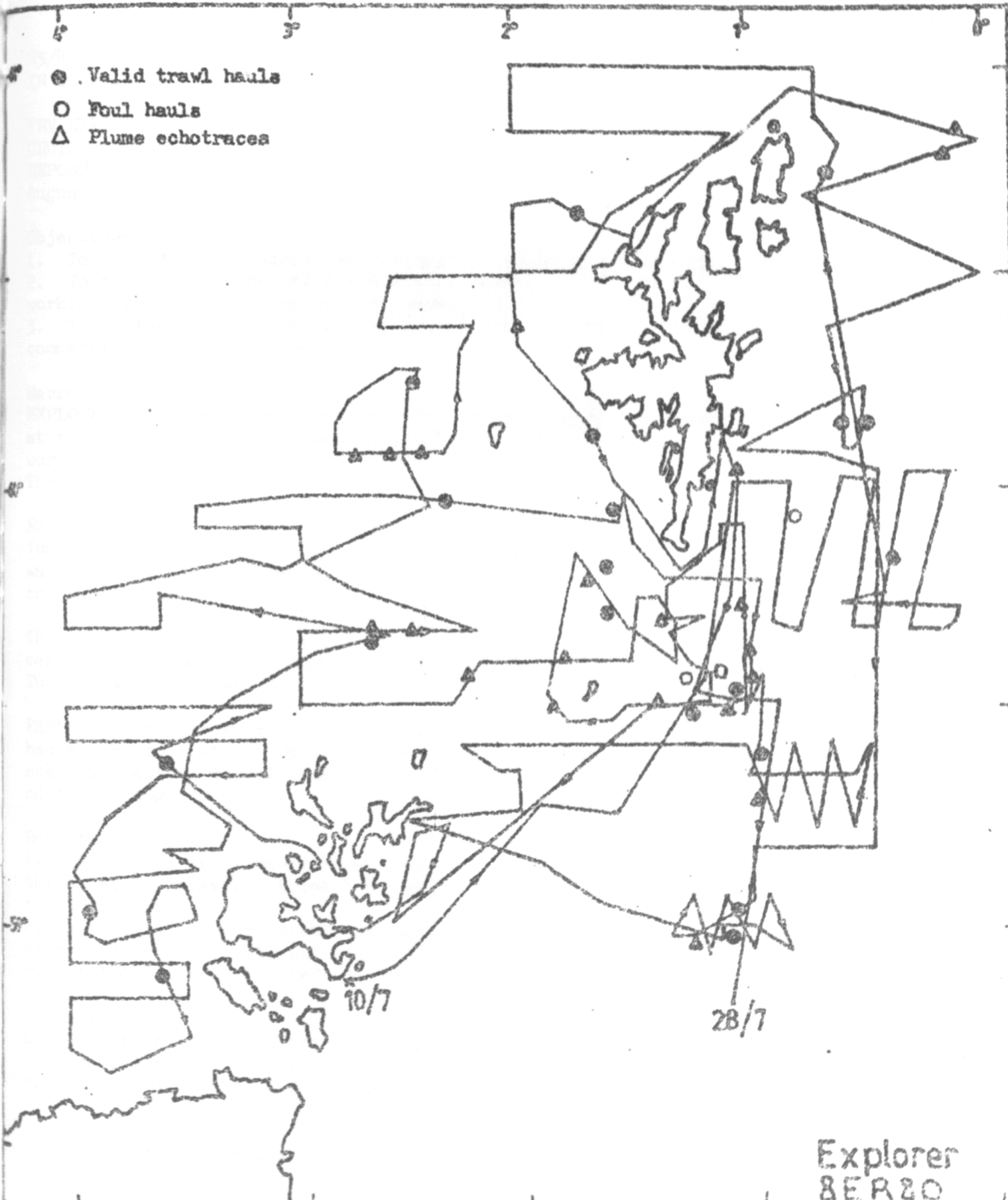
Echointegration:- Two types of herring traces were encountered during the survey, small ones close to the bottom and large ones extending up to 30 metres above the bottom. The small ones were found during the early part of the survey in the area east of Sumburgh and Fair Is. The larger type were found later in the survey in the area around Foula and south of Fair Is.

Trawling:- During the survey 26 hauls were made with a GOV bottom trawl. Of the 20 hauls in which no gear damage was sustained herring were caught in 13 hauls. In only 2 hauls, made E and SE of Fair Is, were catches of more than one basket taken. In most of the hauls the herring were large fish with a length range of 28 - 35 cms. However in the large haul made SE of Fair Is the herring were smaller with a length range of 25 - 30 cms.

David W McKay
25 August 1980

Seen in draft T H Henderson CO

- Valid trawl hauls
- Foul hauls
- △ Flume echotraces



Explorer
BERZO