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FRV "Goldseeker"

Cruise 2/88

Report

1-16 February 1988

Personnel

J R Hutcheon SO (in Charge)
I D Leaver ASO

Objectives

1. To carry out an echosounder and trawling survey for sprat in inshore waters from Peterhead to the Firth of Forth.
2. To collect water samples for radio caesium monitoring.

Narrative

After a delay of one day due to bad weather, "Goldseeker" sailed on 2 February to the Firth of Forth. Due to a deterioration in the weather, "Goldseeker" stopped at Montrose. The area off Red Head was surveyed on 4 February and the area from the Firth of Tay to north of the Firth of Forth was covered the following day. During the period 6-11 February the Firth of Forth was extensively surveyed. Due to lack of suitable fish traces, it was decided to leave the Firth of Forth and make a more extensive survey between St. Andrews Bay and Peterhead. This was completed on 14 February. A total of five days were lost to bad weather during the cruise.

Scientific staff left "Goldseeker" in Aberdeen on the morning of 15 February and the vessel then returned to Buckie for the next cruise.

Results

Intensive surveys were made in the areas from the Firth of Tay to Montrose, the Firth of Forth, from Grangemouth to the Isle of May and Bass Rock, and from Aberdeen to Peterhead (Fig 1). No evidence, of concentrations of sprat was found and due to the lack of fish traces, no attempt made to trawl. The shaded area on the attached chart was surveyed at least once.

A water sample was collected off Arbroath for radio caesium monitoring.

J R Hutcheon

22 February 1988

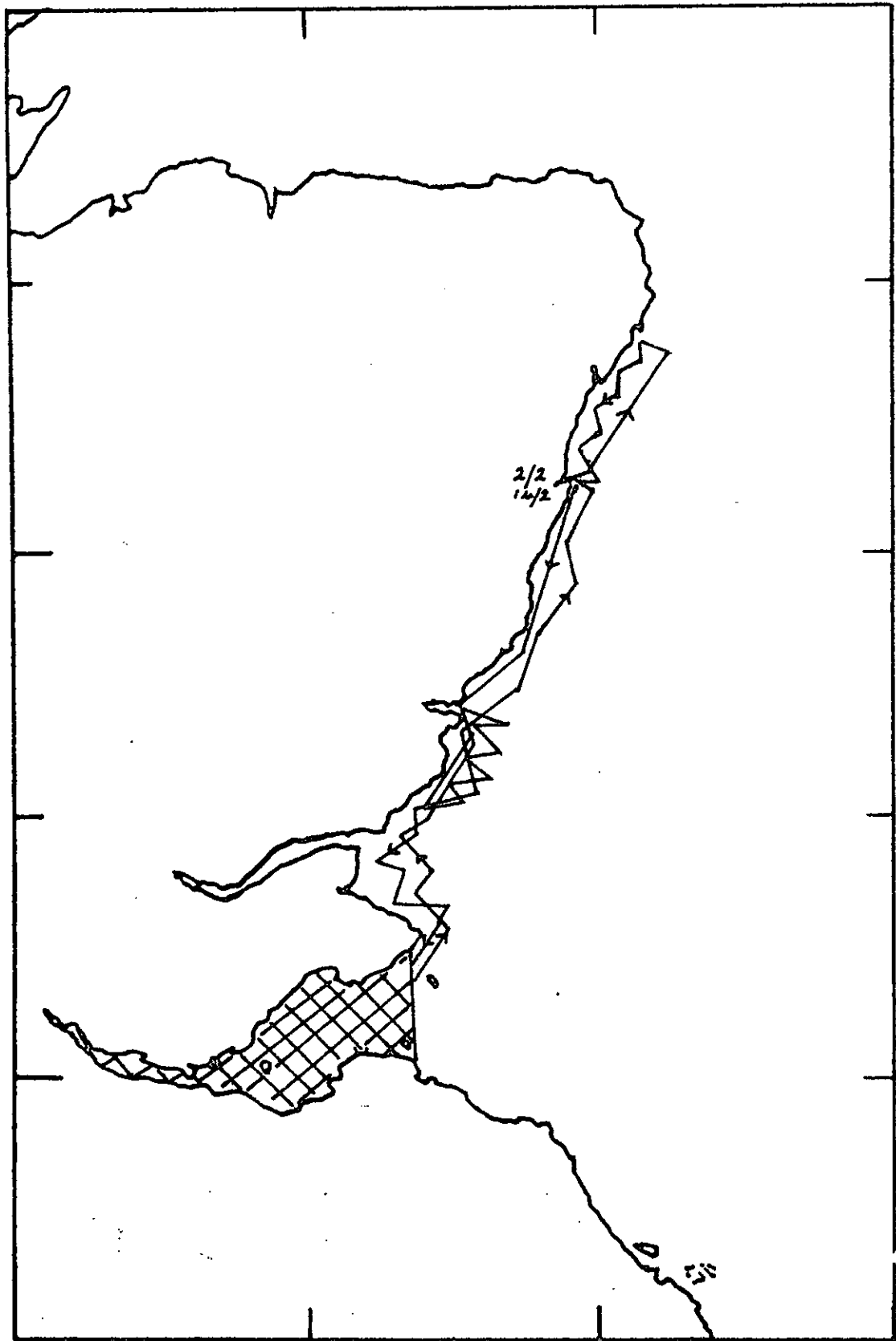
Seen in draft: D Findlay

GOLDSEEKER CRUISE TRACK 2/88

58°

57°

56°



4°

3°

2°

1°