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Not to be cited without prior reference to the Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen

Charter Vessel MFV *Kings Cross*

Cruise 1095H

## REPORT

7-28 July 1995

### Personnel

D Reid	SSO (in charge)
S P R Greenstreet	HSO
F Armstrong	SO
G Henderson	SO
I Garioch	SO (contract)

### Objectives

To carry out an acoustic survey for herring in ICES area VIa(N) as part of the ICES coordinated acoustic and mid-water trawling survey in the north western North Sea and North of Scotland.

### Narrative

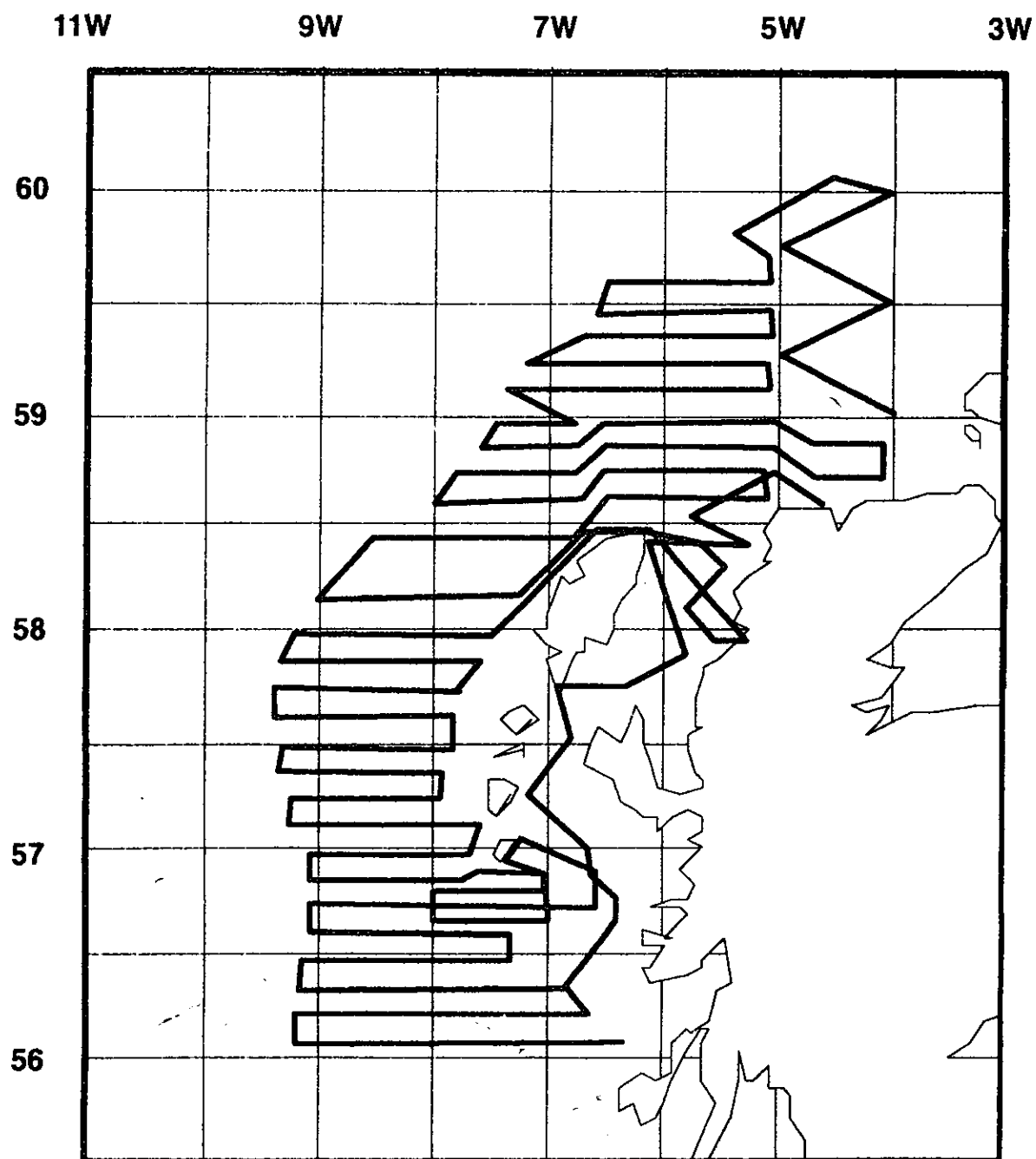
All gear was transported to Fraserburgh by lorry and furniture van on 5 July and loaded onto the vessel. Scientific staff joined the vessel in Fraserburgh on 7 July and *Kings Cross* sailed in the afternoon of 8 July to Loch Eriboll for calibration of the acoustic equipment. The survey commenced on the evening of 8 July. The survey (see attached map) proceeded southwards down the Minch, covered the area south of the Hebrides to 56°N and then up the west side of the Hebrides, out to the shelf break. The final part of the survey covered the shelf area west of Orkney and Fair Isle, up to 60°N, and west of 4°W. Transect spacing was normally at 7.5 nm, this was decreased to 3.75 nm in the area of Barra Head, and increased to 15 nm around St Kilda and between 4°W and 5°W. Spacings were based on the results of previous surveys. A half landing was made in Ullapool from 1400 hours on 18 July to 0800 hours on 19 July. A second calibration was carried out in Little Loch Broom on 19 July, and the survey restarted the same evening. A second, brief, landing was made at Ullapool on 24 July to land a crew member as the result of a bereavement. Approximately 16 hours survey time was lost. Following completion of the survey, the vessel steamed to Fraserburgh. Scientists and gear were unloaded on the morning of 28 July for return to Aberdeen.

### Results

The survey was very successful, with no time lost due to bad weather. A total of 2,910 nm was surveyed. Fishing was generally successful with 42 trawl hauls being carried out of which 16 contained significant numbers of herring. Full analysis of the survey is not yet complete but preliminary indications are that the stock is in a similar state and showing a similar distribution to 1994. One net was torn, and two doors damaged - all are repairable.

D G Reid  
19 September 1995

## Survey Track: Kings Cross 8 - 28 July 1995



# Haul Positions: Kings Cross 8 - 28 July 1995

