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FRV MARA
Cruise 10/80
REPORT

JB
10MR80

25 September - 4 October 1980

Personnel: I M Davies HSO
R D Adams SO
C R Falconer ASO

Objectives

1. to recover a recording instrument moored off Ungam Island, Sullom voe
2. to deploy and recover cages of queen scallops off Calback Ness
3. to undertake hydrographic station work along an axial section of Sullom voe, and in the vicinity of the terminal jetties
4. to undertake sampling of sediment and benthic animals in the Orkney area.

Narrative

Equipment was loaded at Buckie on 21 August 1980 and scientific staff joined FRV MARA on 25 August. MARA then proceeded to Lerwick to uplift live queens from Shetland Sea Foods Ltd. Cages containing these queens were laid off Calback Ness on 26 August.

On 27, 28, and the morning of 29 August hydrographic station work was carried out in various parts of Sullom Voe, together with the collection of samples for the calibration of the moored instrument and other surface samples from a small boat.

On 29 August the moored instrument and queen cages were successfully recovered and MARA proceeded to Kirkwall for the weekend.

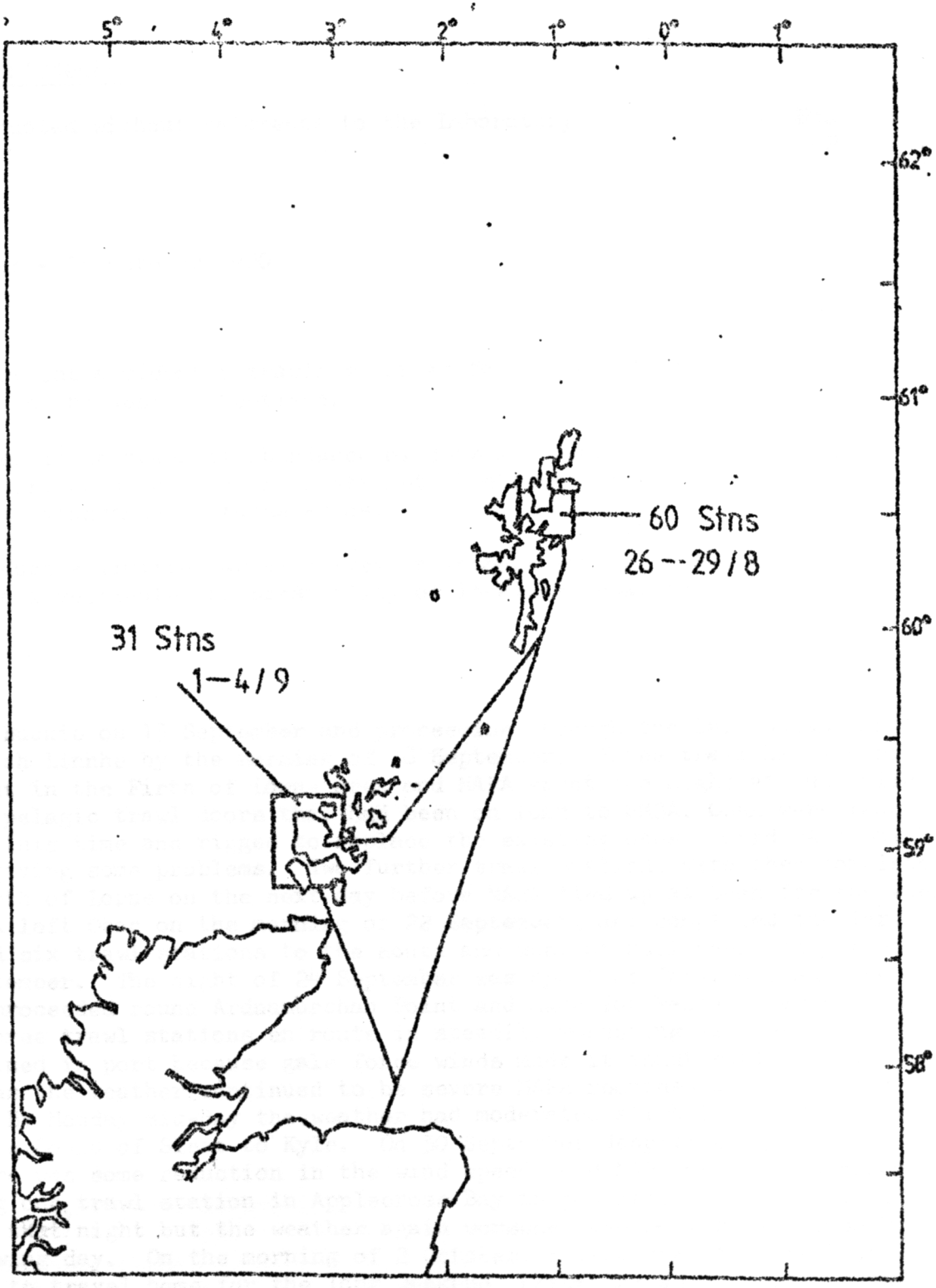
Benthic sampling was carried out west of Orkney on 1 September and in Scapa Flow on 2 and 3 September using an anchor dredge. MARA returned to Buckie on 3 September arriving at approximately 2130 hrs.

Results

1. The instrument was recovered and appeared to have functioned but was heavily fouled by barnacles.
2. The queen cages were covered with small mesh nylon netting, which prevented the predation by starfish which had been encountered in the previous experiment in March 1980. No significant mortalities occurred.
3. Water samples mainly await analysis, but oxygen levels in the deep water of the inner basin were only ca 15% of saturation.
4. Benthic samples await analysis.

I M DAVIES
8 September 1980

Seen in draft W B Reid



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