

Mr. Hall

CONFIDENTIAL: Not to be quoted without reference to the Laboratory.

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CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. "MARA"

February 23rd - March 2nd 1960

Objective: A routine herring trawl survey of the Moray Firth.

The cruise finished on 2nd March to allow "Mara" to go to Anstruther to be fitted with a new windlass. As a result, only the trawl survey was attempted.

Herring, and other species, were very scarce. Only three hauls (off Buckie and Lossiemouth) produced more than 50 'halflins' for a half-hour tow. No concentrations of herring 'plumes' were found.

Because of the small catches the experiment with small mesh pockets on the baitings and wings of the Vinge trawl gave inconclusive results.

GEORGE McPHERSON
16th March, 1960.