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IN CONFIDENCE: Not to be quoted without reference to the laboratory.

CRUISE REPORT

FRV "MARA"

29 March - 9 April 1971

OBJECTIVES

To sample the distribution and abundance of the planktonic spawning products of plaice and cod in the western Moray Firth.

NARRATIVE

On 29 March "Mara's" trawl gillows, which had been removed to meet the requirements of the previous cruise, were replaced.

"Mara" left Buckie at 0800 hours on 30 March. No work was done during the first 3 days due to delays caused by the loss of a Gulf III sampler and by a rope fouling the propellor. Thereafter work proceeded smoothly and no further delays were encountered during the cruise.

RESULTS

A total of 123 plankton hauls were made during the cruise; 14 of the stations in the programme were omitted. Samples were obtained, however, from most of the regions which it had been intended to investigate.

A complete analysis of the samples collected is now in progress.

D W ARMSTRONG  
3 May, 1971