

R1/12

Not to be cited without prior reference to the Laboratory

FRV *Scotia*

REPORT

3/91

26 February - 18 March 1991

Personnel

K A Coull	HSO
M E Black (Mrs)	HSO
J R Hutcheon	SO
G I Henderson	SO (7-18 March)
K J Peach	ASO
C G Davis	ASO
J McWilliam (Miss)	ASO (26 February - 7 March)

Objective

Demersal trawling survey of the grounds off the north and west coasts of Scotland.

Narrative

Scotia sailed from Aberdeen at noon on 26 February and proceeded towards the stations off the north coast of Scotland. Trawling commenced on the morning of 27 February and, with a favourable weather forecast, *Scotia* then worked westward covering stations from the Butt of Lewis to south of St Kilda. Poor weather on 2 March prevented *Scotia* from trawling in the afternoon. Work recommenced on 3 March and *Scotia* completed the southern part of the survey area before docking at Stornoway on 7 March.

Scotia sailed at 0930 the following morning and worked the Minch stations before returning to Stornoway on the afternoon of 9 March to pick up gear. Work then continued on the northern part of the survey and this area was completed on the evening of 12 March. *Scotia* repeated stations in the Butt of Lewis and North Minch areas before finishing off the north coast on the evening of 15 March.

Scotia docked at Aberdeen at 0900 at 16 March to unload scientific staff and equipment before proceeding to Greenock for refit.

Results

The survey area was completed with a total of 56 valid hauls being achieved.

Average numbers of I-group haddock and whiting caught per hour in each statistical rectangle are shown in Figures 1 and 2 respectively.

Herring was widely distributed throughout the survey area with the largest hauls being 309 baskets (44E1) and 173 baskets (39E2). Average numbers of herring caught per hour in each statistical rectangle are shown in Figure 3.

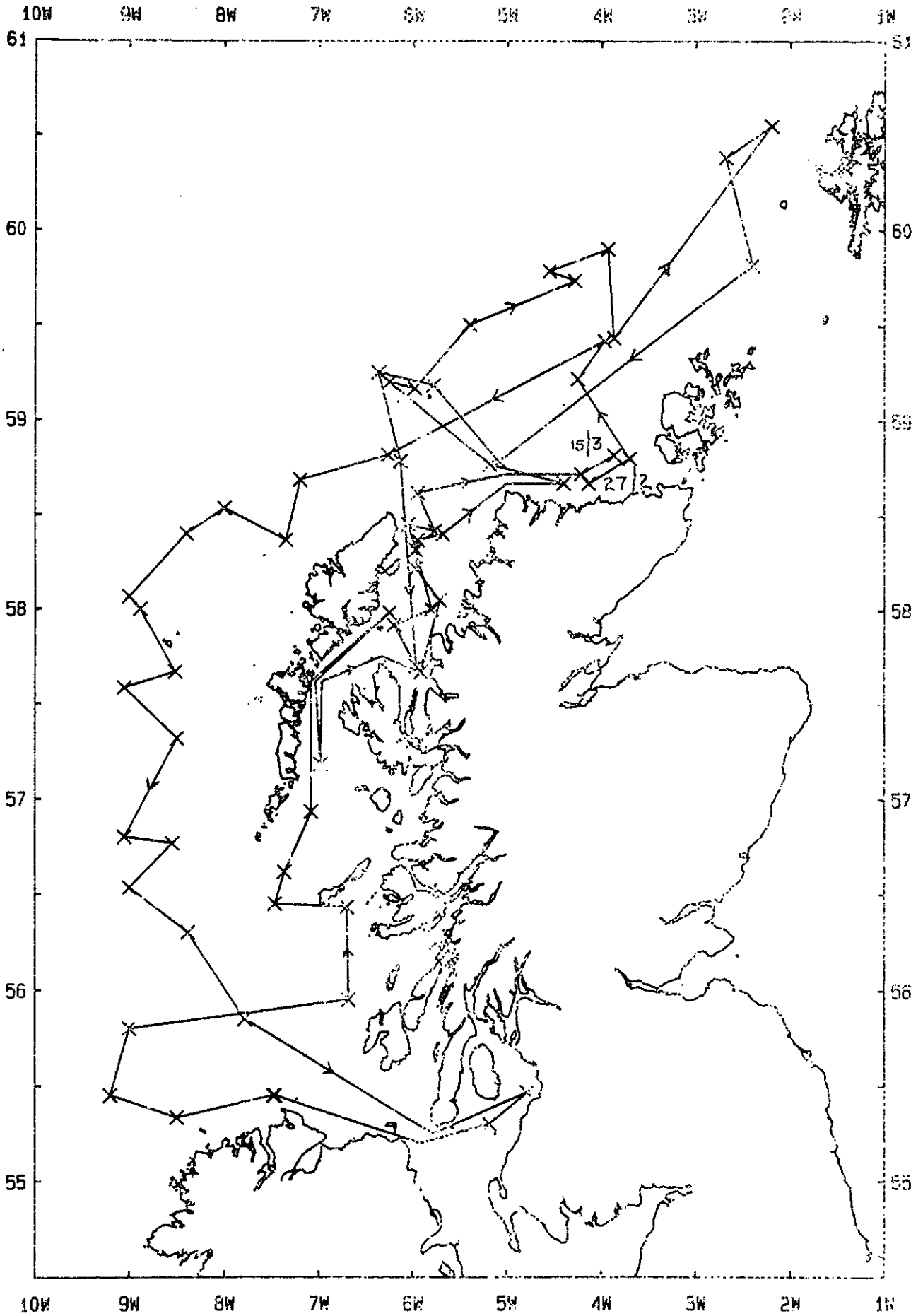
The scanmar system was used throughout the cruise to monitor headline height, wingspread and distance covered during each haul.

All length frequency and haul summary data were punched at sea and stored on floppy disk using a BBC microcomputer.

K A Coull
11 September 1991

Seen in draft: N E McInnes, CO

Scotia West Coast Survey 26/2 - 16/3/91



I-group Haddock average nos/hour

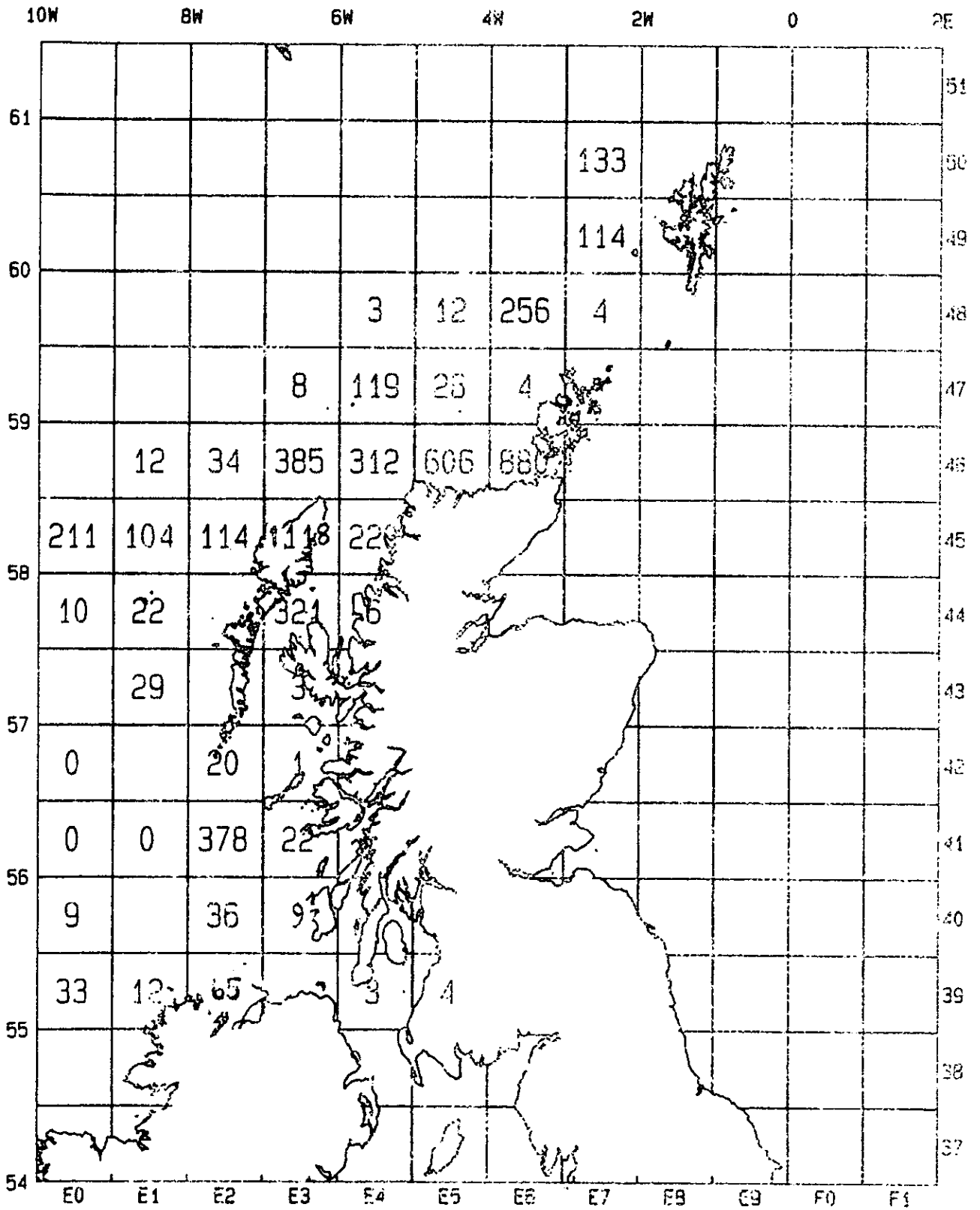


Figure 1

I-group Whiting average nos/hour

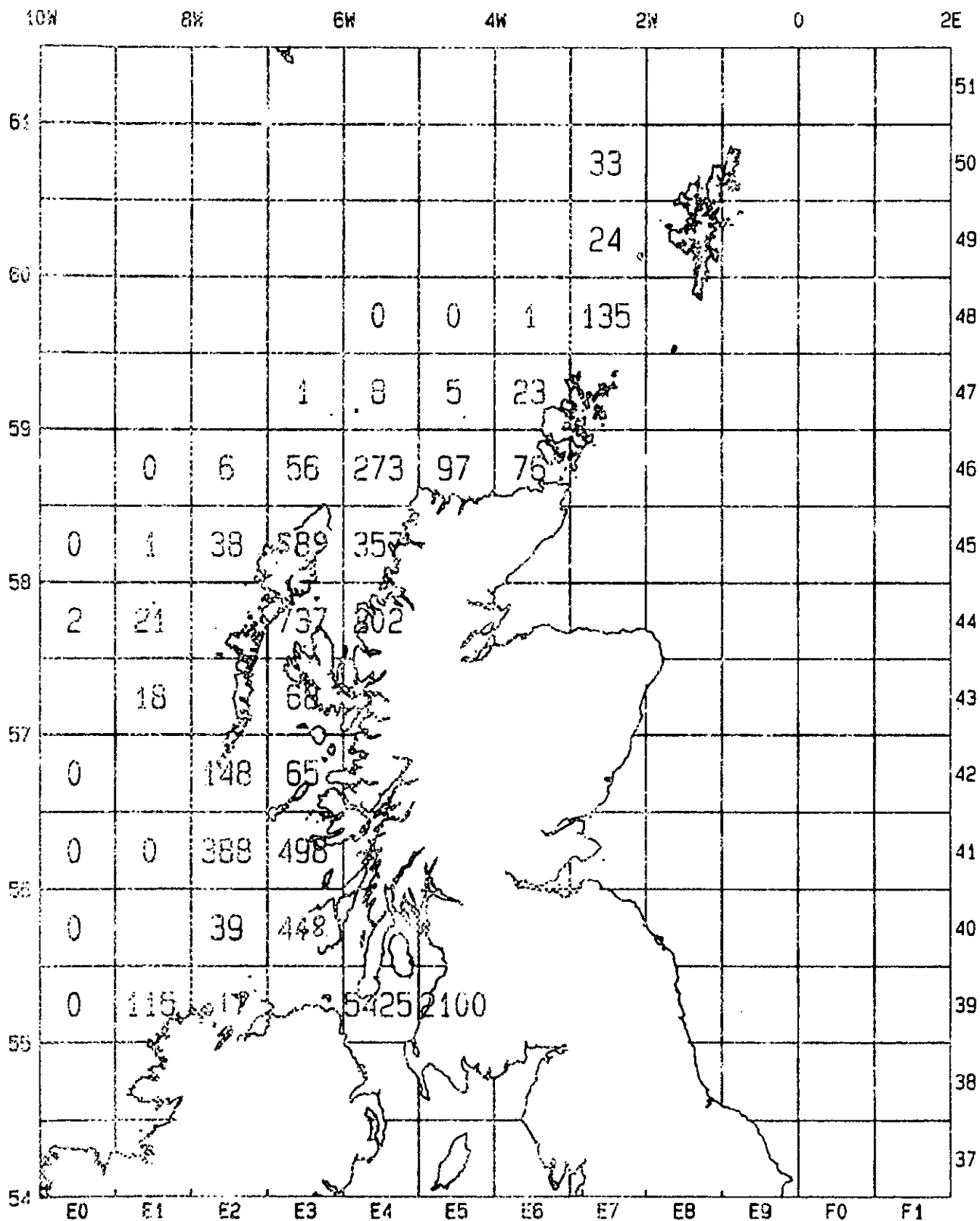


Figure 2

Herring average nos/hour

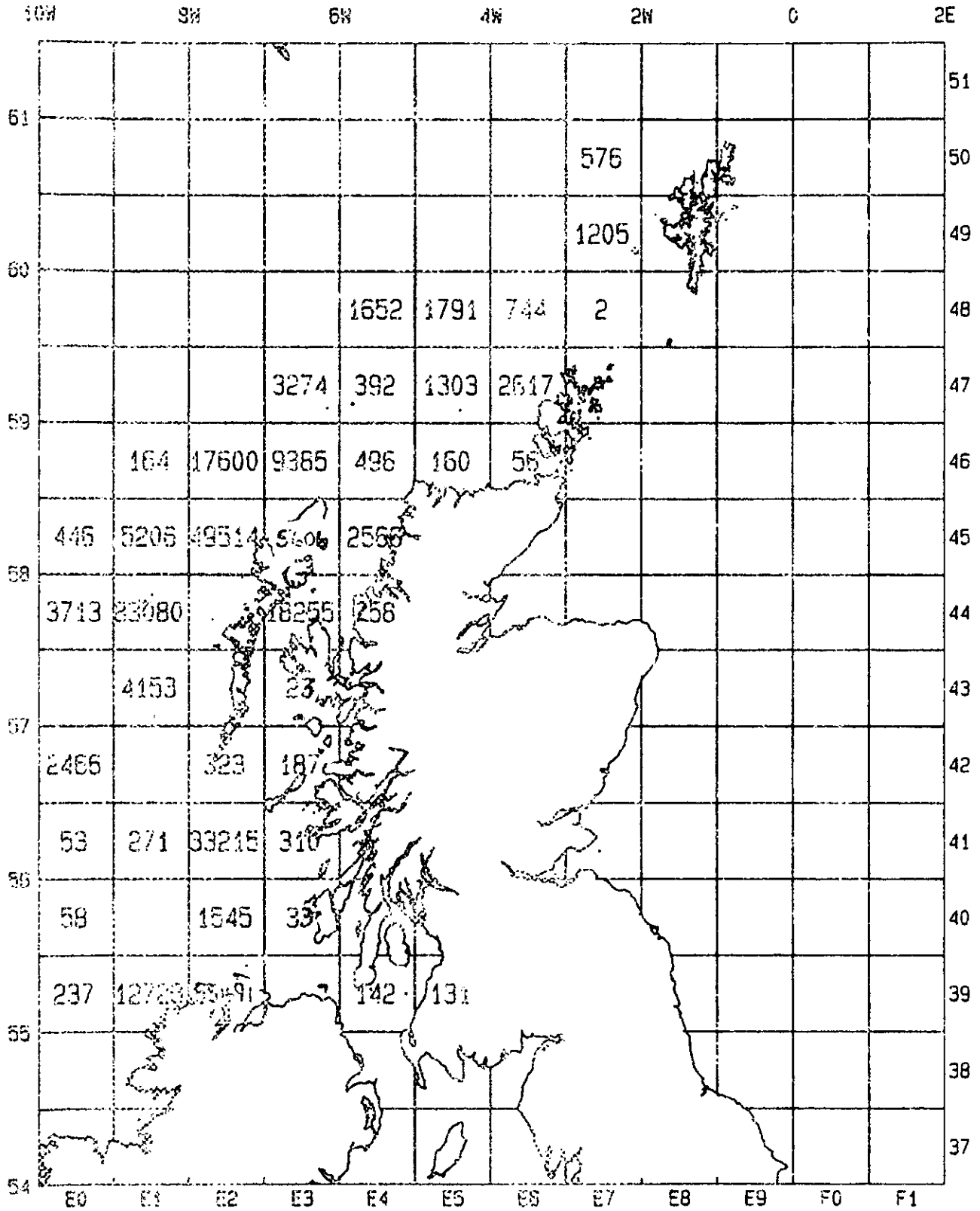


Figure 3