

R1/12

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

FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 0595S

REPORT

20 March - 7 April 1995

Personnel

K A Coull	HSO
P J Copland	HSO
J R Hutcheon	SO
D S Beveridge	SO
K J Peach	SO
C G Davis	ASO
M C Mathewson	ASO
Captain R Denholm	(VOM) 31 March - 7 April 1995

Objectives

1. To carry out monitoring of the ships electrical system.
2. Demersal trawling survey of the grounds off the north and west coasts of Scotland.

Out turn costs per project - 19 days DACI

Narrative

Scotia sailed from Aberdeen on the morning of 20 March. After conducting a series of gear trials off the east coast the vessel returned to port the same evening to obtain further equipment for monitoring the ships electrical system.

After having the monitoring equipment installed, the vessel left Aberdeen at 1300 hours on 21 March and proceeded to the survey station off the north coast. Two hauls were completed before poor weather conditions halted operations. The vessel then worked southwards, completing stations in the relatively sheltered waters of the South Minch and Clyde regions. On 26 March an improvement in weather conditions allowed work to commence on the stations off the north west of Ireland. The vessel then worked northwards on the outer stations until the evening of 29 March when severe weather conditions intervened. The following day was spent working the North Minch stations before *Scotia* docked for the mid cruise break in Stornoway.

The vessel sailed the following morning and work continued uninterrupted on the northern stations until the survey was completed on the afternoon of 6 April.

Scotia docked at Aberdeen on the morning of 7 April.

Results

1. Equipment for monitoring of the ships electrical system was installed and tested over the first two days. Monitoring continued throughout the duration of the cruise.
2. The survey area was successfully covered with several stations being repeated. A total of 48 valid hauls was achieved.

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

Average number of herring caught per hour in each statistical rectangle are shown in Figure 3. Moderate catches of herring were encountered throughout the survey area with larger catches being encountered in the Stanton Banks, St Kilda and Shiant's regions. During the course of the survey the Shiant's region was sampled twice with catches of herring being $\frac{1}{4}$ basket and 48 baskets.

All otoliths collected from cod, haddock, saithe and Norway pout were aged at sea. Length frequencies, haul summary data and age length data were punched at sea and stored on magnetic disk.

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

K A Coull
26 May 1995

Seen in draft: P Ramsay

Haddock I-group average numbers/hour

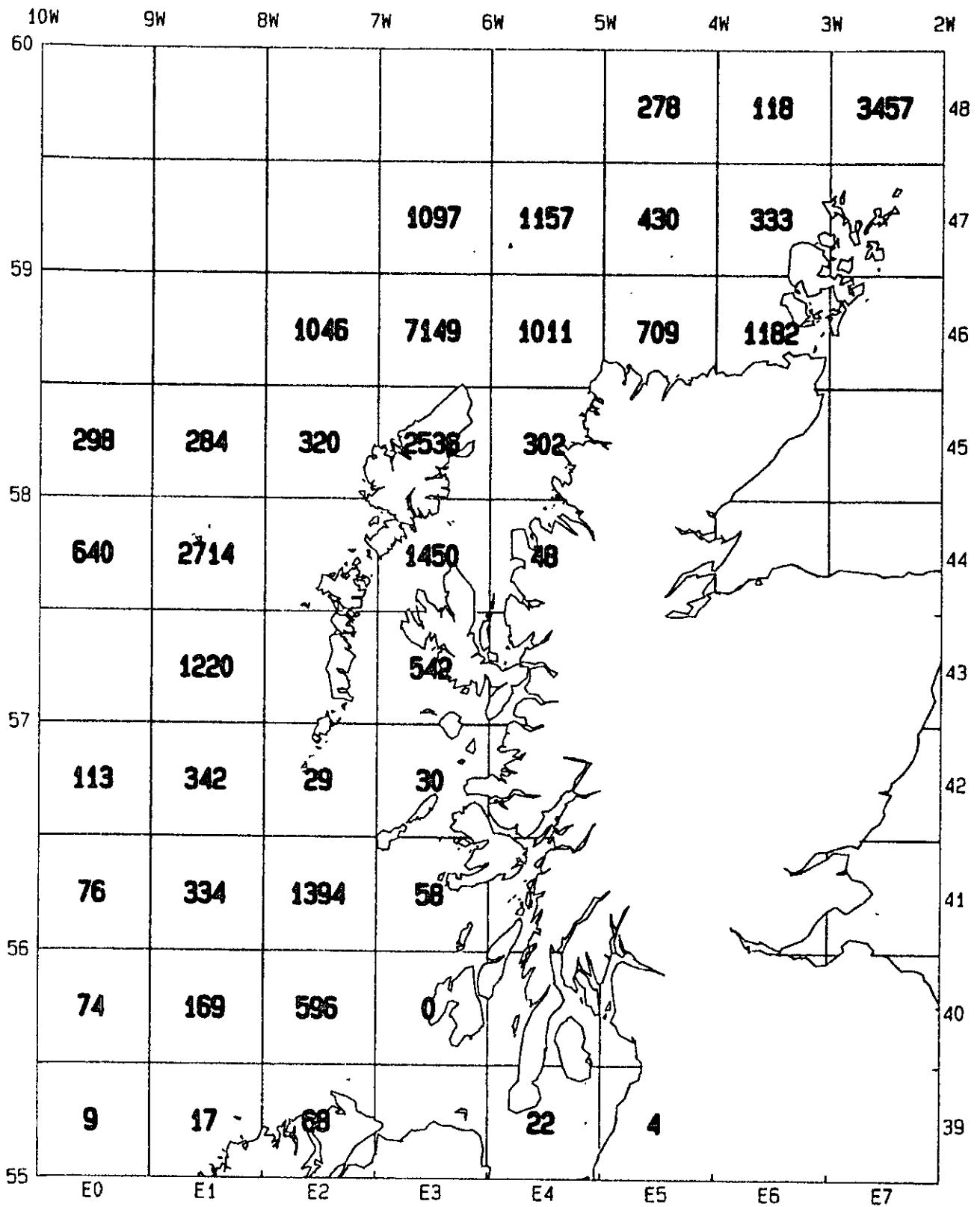


FIGURE 1

Whiting I-group average numbers/hour

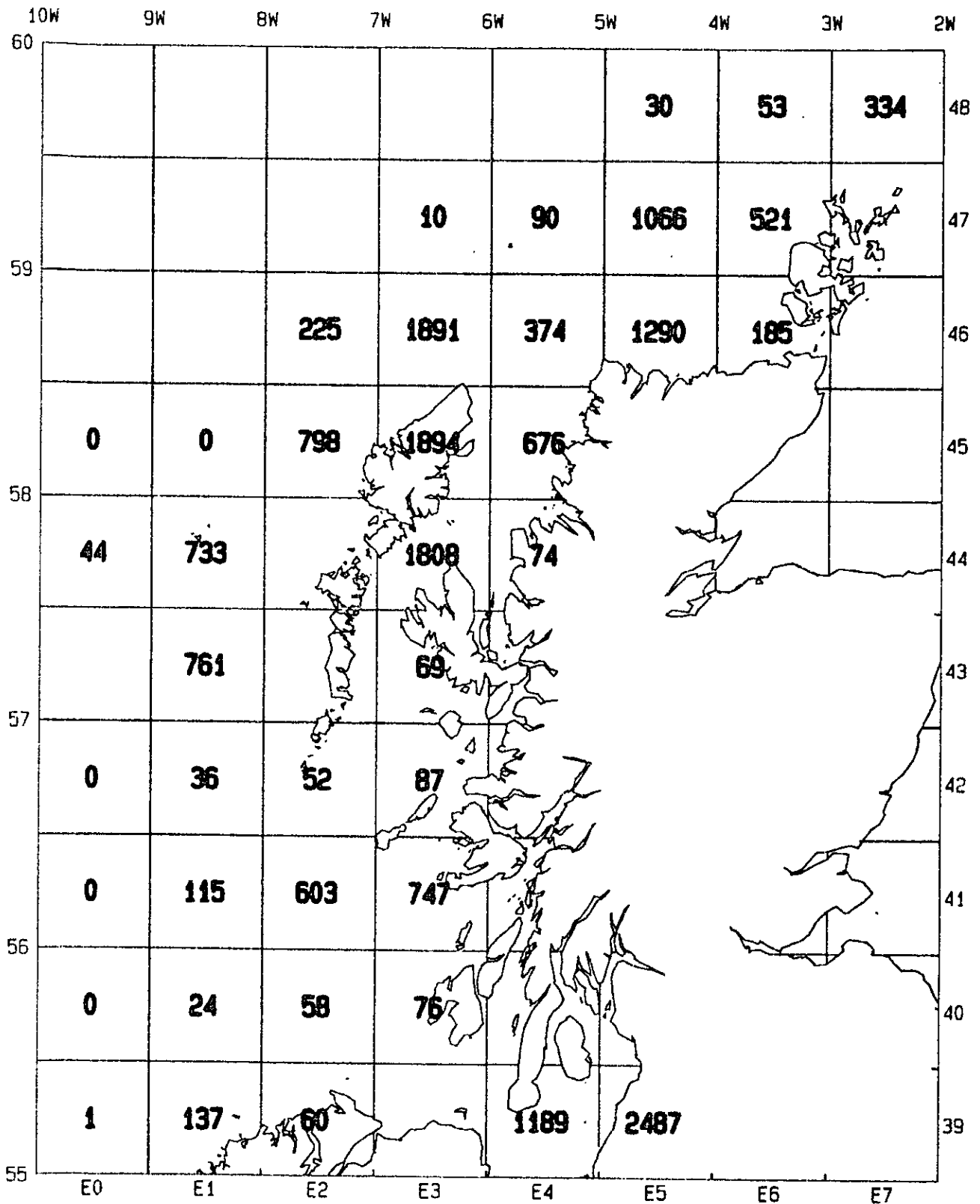


FIGURE 2

Herring average numbers/hour

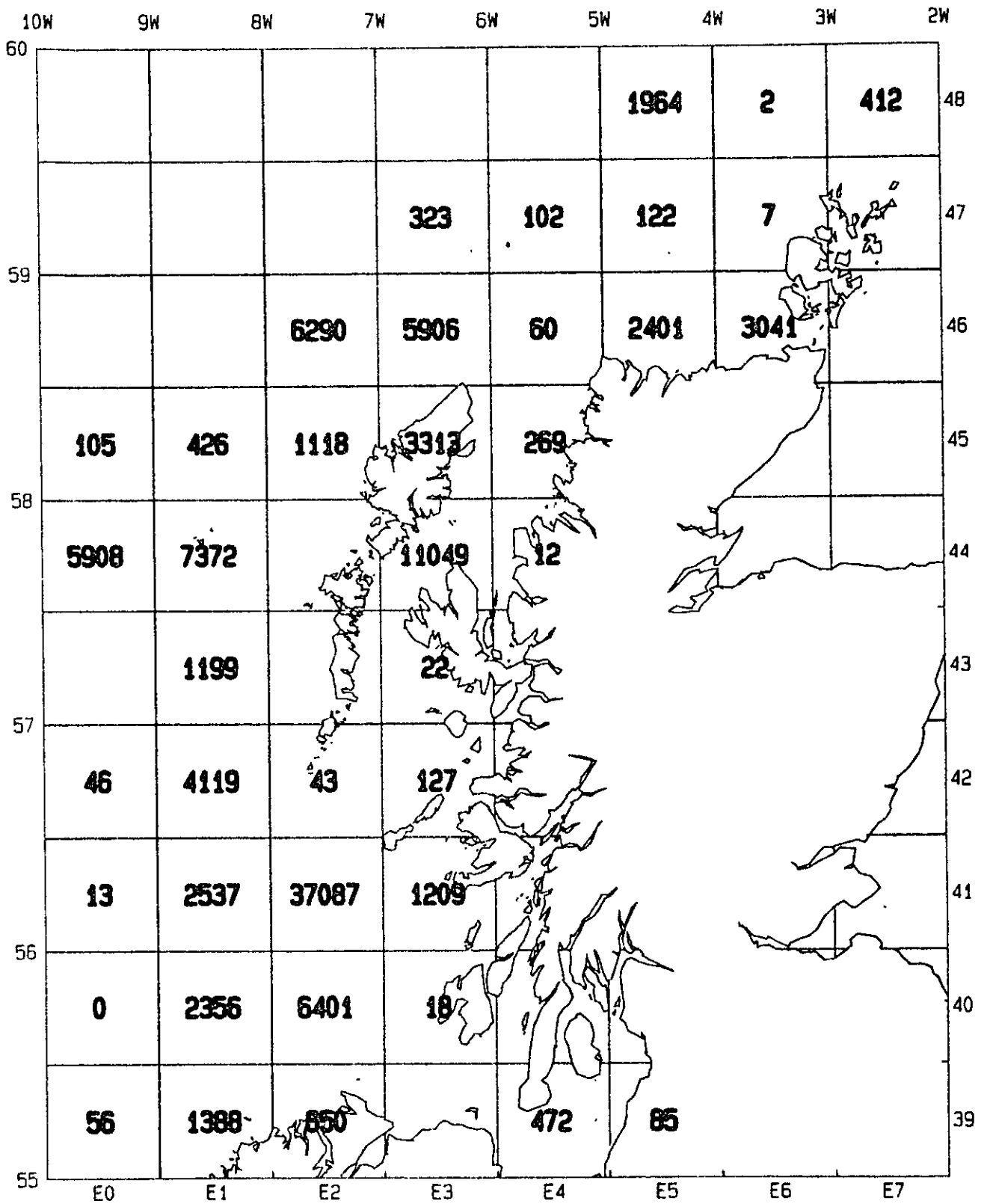


FIGURE 3

Scotia 20 March - 7 April 1995 Cruise 0595S

