

R1/12

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FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 0599S

**REPORT**

23 March - 11 April 1999

**Personnel**

J R G Hislop	C1 (SIC)
D Galbraith	B3 (23 March - 1 April)
S A Reeves	B3
P J Wright	B3
F Armstrong	B2
J Dunn	B2
I M Gibb	B1
F M Kennedy	B1
K J Peach	B1 (1-11 April)
F N Burns	A4 (23 March - 1 April)
Stuart Fleming	Visitor (Glasgow University)
Corina Rice	PhD student (Aberdeen University)
Bardukh Gabrielyan	MSc student (Aberdeen University) (1-11 April)

Out-turn days to project (days): GCI1 10; MFO1q 10

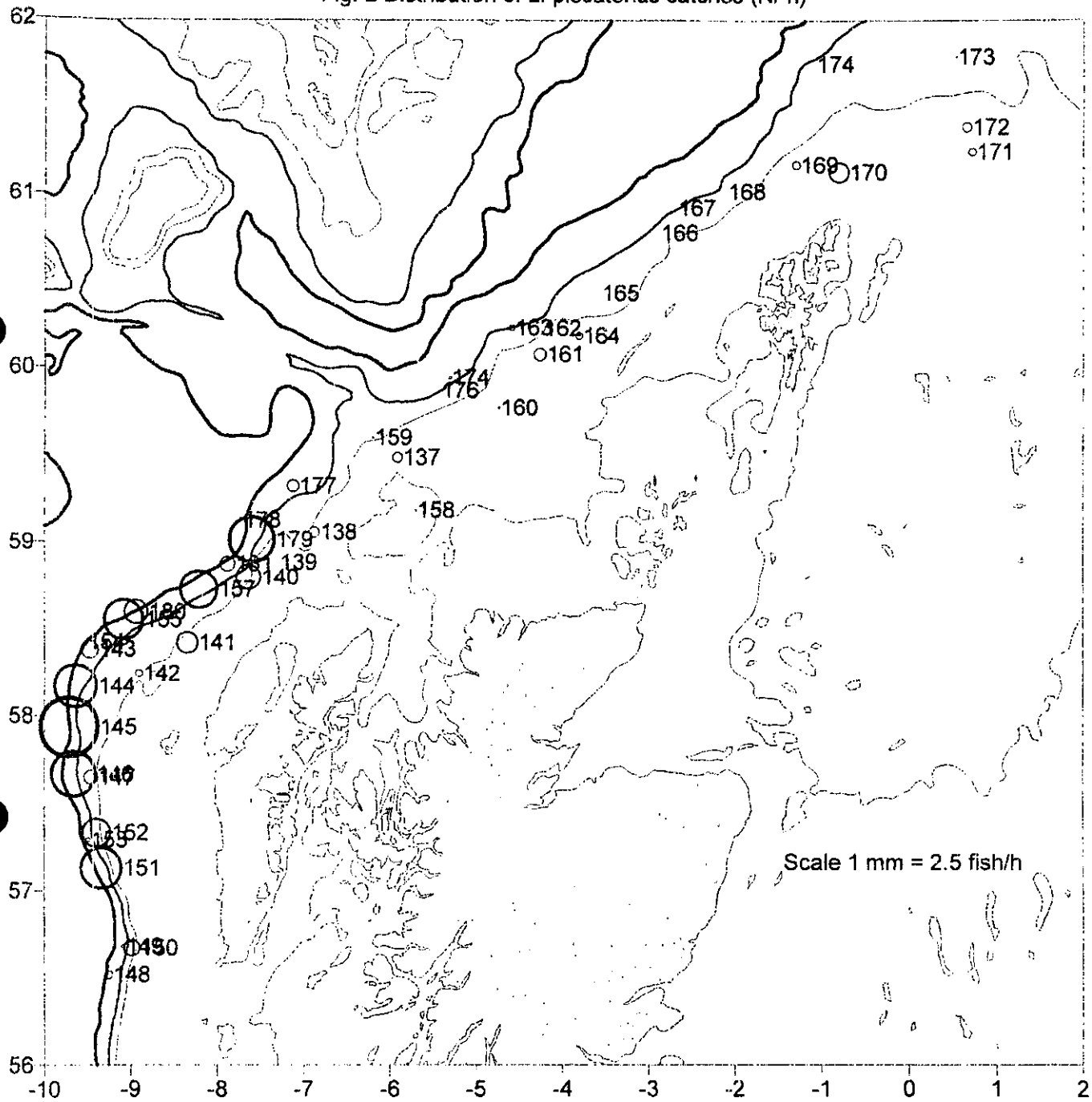
**Objectives**

- To survey the abundance and distribution of anglerfish and megrims off the north and west of coasts of Scotland.
- To obtain information on the reproductive biology of anglerfish and megrims.
- To sample anglerfish postlarvae.
- To collect anglerfish tissue for genetic studies.
- To sample spawning haddock and cod.
- To collect morphometric data from black scabbardfish.

**Narrative**

*Scotia* sailed from Aberdeen at 1600 hours on 23 March and commenced trawling west of North Rona on the following day. During the first part of the cruise the working area was to the west of the Outer Hebrides. One working day was lost because of bad weather. *Scotia* berthed in Stornoway on 1 April to exchange personnel. After leaving Stornoway at 0900 hours on 2 April *Scotia* worked in a northerly direction, reaching the Tampen Finger on 6 April. The vessel then moved south to work additional stations in the deep water west of the Hebrides. During the early evening of 9 April the trawl was badly damaged during what was intended to be the penultimate tow of the cruise. Because no further fishing was possible and the sea was too rough to permit the deployment of the Methot net, *Scotia* proceeded to Aberdeen, where she berthed at 1730 hours on 10 April.

Fig. 2 Distribution of *L. piscatorius* catches (N/h)



Bold lines refer to the 500 m and 1000 m isobaths.