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Not to be cited without prior reference to the Laboratory.

FRV SCOTIA

8SR87

CRUISE 8/87

12 August-1 September 1987

#### Report

#### Personnel

A Robb HSO (in charge) Miss M Bell S<sub>0</sub> G Henderson SO K Peach **ASO** Miss G Guthrie **ASO** D Campbell **ASO** Miss L Stout **Visitor** S Benn NCC

### Objective

- 1. To undertake a trawling survey in the North Sea.
- 2. To obtain video film of hydrocarbon/benthic sampling procedures.

#### Narrative

Scotia sailed at 0900 hrs on 12 August. Due to poor weather conditions video filming of hydrocarbon/benthic sampling procedures had to be postponed until a later date. Trawling commenced later that day at the stations off Aberdeen and the southern part of the survey was completed before the ship called at Lerwick on 24 August. Work recommenced on 25 August. However deteriorating weather conditions resulted in the ship having to dodge on 26 August. Work continued on the following day until problems occurred with the net drum. This resulted in the gear having to be hauled using only the trawl winches, a procedure which was only operable in good weather conditions. The resulting increase in the time required for shooting and hauling coupled with less than ideal weather conditions meant that some stations had to be missed out. Scotia docked at Aberdeen at 0900 hrs on 1 September.

### Results

A total of 81 hauls were made during the survey. Catches ranged from 3 to 15 baskets per hour with the bigger catches being taken in the northern part of the area. Overall catches were generally similar to previous years. The numbers at age of cod, haddock, saithe and whiting are given in Tables 1-4 for each market sampling area. Cod catches were similar to 1986 in the Northern part of the survey. However there was a decrease in the numbers of 1+ fish in the more southern areas. For haddock there was an upward trend in the numbers of 1+ age fish taken in all areas except Buchan and Moray Firth. For whiting the catches of 1+ fish were generally similar or greater than the 1986 catch rates. In the case of saithe the numbers caught were less than the previous year.

## Stomach Sampling

A total of 777 cod, 3676 whiting and 467 saithe were examined and samples preserved.

# Deep Frozen Samples

Samples of herring, saithe, dab and other species were brought back to the Laboratory.

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15714

A P Robb

30 October 1987

Seen in Draft: N E McInnes, CO

# NUMBERS AT AGE (PER 10 HOURS)

20.

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TABLE I COD

	Shetland		Viking		Moray	Firth	Buchan		Forties		Central		Humber	
Age	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
0	11		_				2		1					
1	10	16	8	14	7	20	27	13	66	37	129	21	356	37
2	9	91	12	56	_	_	_	24	21	104	15	60	2	125
3	38	8	51	4	_	_	3	2	42	10	69	-	12	
4	7	11	29	28		_	1	2	8	16	3	7	-	6
5	5	3	10	10	-	-	1	2	5	5	4	1	5	3
6	1	2	2	_		_	1	-	_	_	4	1	2	_
<b>≩</b> 7	1	1	-	-		***	-	**	2	-	1	~	2	
TABI	E 2 H	ADDOCK												<del></del>
	Shetland		Viking		Moray	Firth	Buchan		Forties		Central		Humber	
Age	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
0	3264	442	1585	820	540	25	2198	136	2827	739	641	51	-	1
1	1568	2841	1626	1749	5767	3742	4831	2949	2432	2605	1095	1645	1650	2759
2	737	1168	287	606	1217	196	1371	1080	315	814	192	308	214	504
3	646	269	428	71	120	145	1013	64	355	121	557	22	500	150
4	82	160	76	47	_	8	20	263	29	73	22	81	. 10	147
5	89	21	56		-	-	8	12	10	1	10	1	12	20
6	16	8	12	11	-	••	-	10		-		2	-	-
<u>}</u> 7	8	17	9				6	4	1	-		-	2	-
TABI	.E 3 W	HITING	}											
	Shetland									Forties				
	Shet	land	Viki	ng	Moray	Firth	Buc	han	Fort	ies	Cent	ral	Hum	ber
Age	Shet 1986	land 1987	Viki 1986	ng 1987	Moray 1986	Firth	Buc 1986	han 1987	Fort 1986	ies 1987	Cent 1986	ral 1987	Hum 1986	b <b>er</b> 1987
Age O				_	_						1986	1987		1987
	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987			1986	1987
0 1 2	1986 292	1987 41 117 1055	1986 220	1987 364	1986 5177	1987 479	1986 484	1987 172	1986 287	1987 289	1986 32	1987	1986	1987
0	1986 292 139 912 433	1987 41 117	1986 220 12 266 210	364 43 201 225	1986 5177 1503	1987 479 2954	1986 484 2660	1987 172 2520	1986 287 57	1987 289 54	1986 32 278	1987 9 1969	1986 - 6968	1987 19 2332
0 1 2 3 4	1986 292 139 912 433 62	1987 41 117 1055 355 139	220 12 266 210 27	1987 364 43 201	1986 5177 1503 50	1987 479 2954 935	1986 484 2660 684	1987 172 2520 3975 459 90	1986 287 57 238	1987 289 54 172	32 278 136	1987 9 1969 311	1986 - 6968 1022	1987 19 2332 978
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