

R1/12

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

FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 0995S Part I

**REPORT**

10-14 June 1995

**Personnel**

A McVicar (SIC)	PSO
D Bruno	SSO
D Smail	SSO
C Johnston (Ms)	ASO
N Bain (Ms)	ASO
K MacKenzie	Visitor
R Bray	Visitor (BMNH)
M Spencer-Jones (Ms)	Visitor (BMNH)
T Littlewood	Visitor (BMNH)

**Fishing Gear**

BT 101 (48" Aberdeen trawl) with tickler chain and small mesh cod-end.

**Objectives**

To perform a check monitoring fish disease survey of sewage sludge disposal grounds off the Firth of Forth, a distant reference area (east of Orkney) and in areas in the vicinity on an oil field (Moray Firth) and to perform a survey of rhabdovirus in cod, other gadoids and clupeoids.

**Out turn days per project:** 5 days BJB1.

**Narrative/Results**

*Scotia* sailed from Aberdeen on schedule at 1030 hours on 10 June and commenced trawling on the Bell Rock sewage dump ground during that afternoon. Sampling was completed in that area and the sewage dump site at St Abb's Head with nine trawls by early morning of 11 June and from the vicinity of the Beatrice oil field in the Moray Firth by the end of that day. A position south east of Fair Isle and three other positions were sampled on 12-13 June. *Scotia* docked in Aberdeen on the morning of 14 June. A total of 17 trawls were successfully completed.

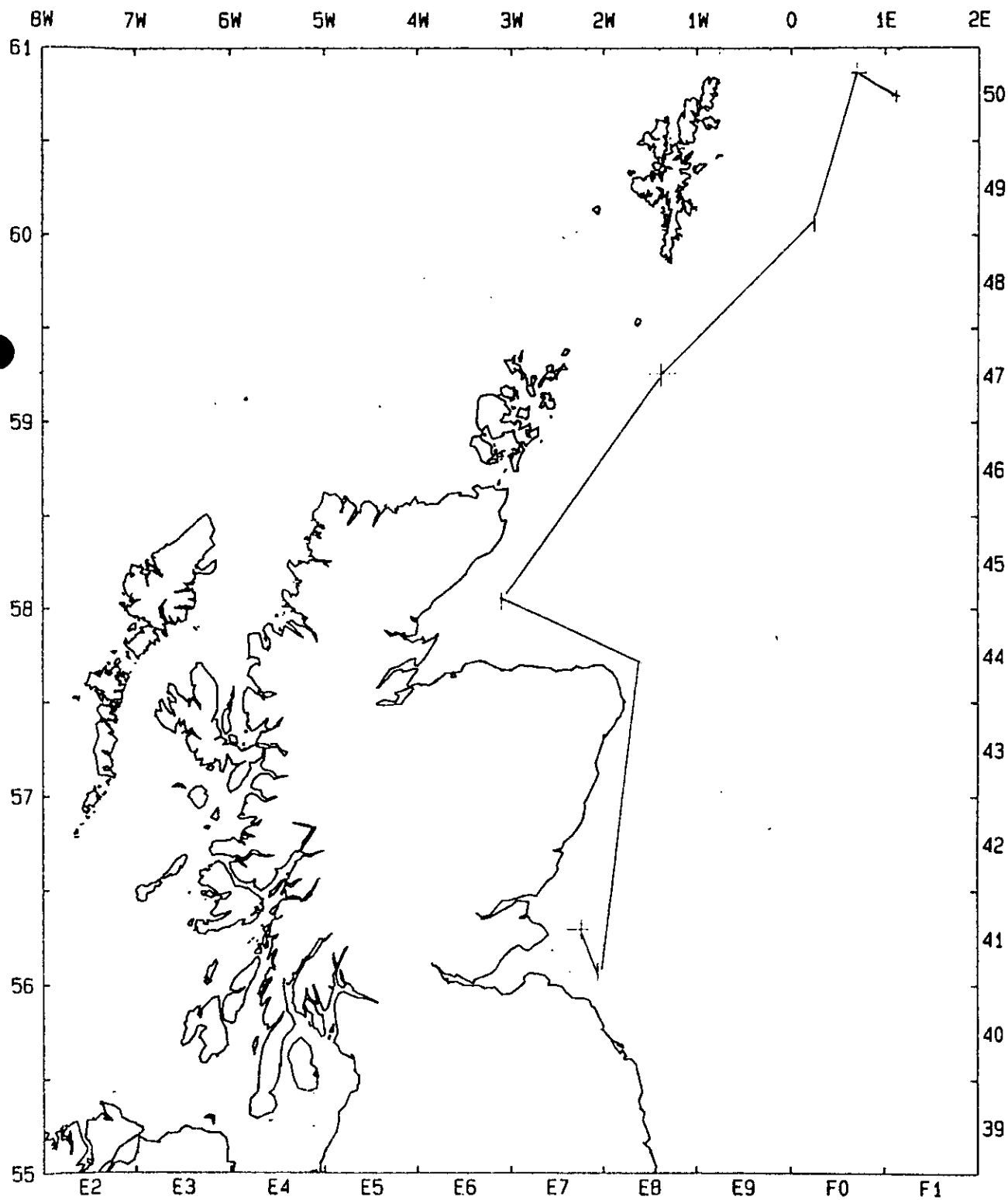
A total of 3,559 common dab *Limanda limanda* were examined for disease by standardised ICES methods and a full data set for the recommended fish length groups achieved for most of the long term monitoring positions. All cod caught (363) were examined for pseudobranch lesions and for evidence of skin ulcers, with viral samples

being taken when appropriate. When present in catches haddock >26 cm (total 380) from each position fished were examined for vertebral deformities. A total of 189 herring were examined for *Ichthyophonus* infection and 2,330 for dermal haemorrhaging. Samples were taken to further investigate the aetiology of these lesions. Whiting (448), herring (215) and sprat (12) were examined for monogenean gill infection. A wide range of parasites from representatives of fish species caught were collected by British Museum staff for national reference collections and interspecific genetic comparisons.

All the main objectives of the sampling programme were successfully achieved thanks to the excellent cooperation of the officers and crew of FRV *Scotia* and the generally good weather prevailing.

A H McVicar  
18 August 1995

Seen in draft: P Ramsay (Captain)



FRV "Scotia" Cruise 0995S Part I Sampling locations