

IN CONFIDENCE - NOT TO BE QUOTED WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE LABORATORY

FRV SCOTIA

CRUISE 10/81

10SR81

REPORT:

9-29 October 1981

OBJECTIVE

To take part in the ICES Herring Larval Surveys in Division VIa.

NARRATIVE

After fuelling FRV 'Scotia' left Aberdeen at 1400 hrs on 9 October and headed for the stations north of Strathy Point. However on arrival in the area it was found that the weather conditions were very poor so that sampling was not possible. FRV 'Scotia' dodged in the north coast area until the evening of 11 October. By this time it was apparent from the weather reports that conditions in the southern part of the survey area were improving so it was decided to head south through the Minches. Sampling was begun south of Tiree at 1100 hrs on 12 October, and the survey continued southwards and westwards into the Donegal Bay area. The sampling in the southern part of the area was completed at 0400 hrs on 15 October and 'Scotia' headed north to sample the stations to the west of the Hebrides. Sampling continued northwards and eastwards until 1700 hrs on 18 October when bad weather halted operations in the Cape Wrath area. As the half landing was programmed for 19 October 'Scotia' headed for Stornoway. On arrival at Stornoway it was found that the harbour was full of Norwegian purse seiners and no berth was available. Miss A Cullen was disembarked and Mr R Mitchell embarked using the ship's boat. 'Scotia' then sailed again to sample stations in the North Minch with the intention of trying for a berth in Stornoway on 20 October. No berth was available on this occasion either and with the ship requiring to replenish its water it was decided to head for one of the Clyde ports. Stations were worked in the South Minch until 0200 hrs on 21 October when course was set for Ayr.

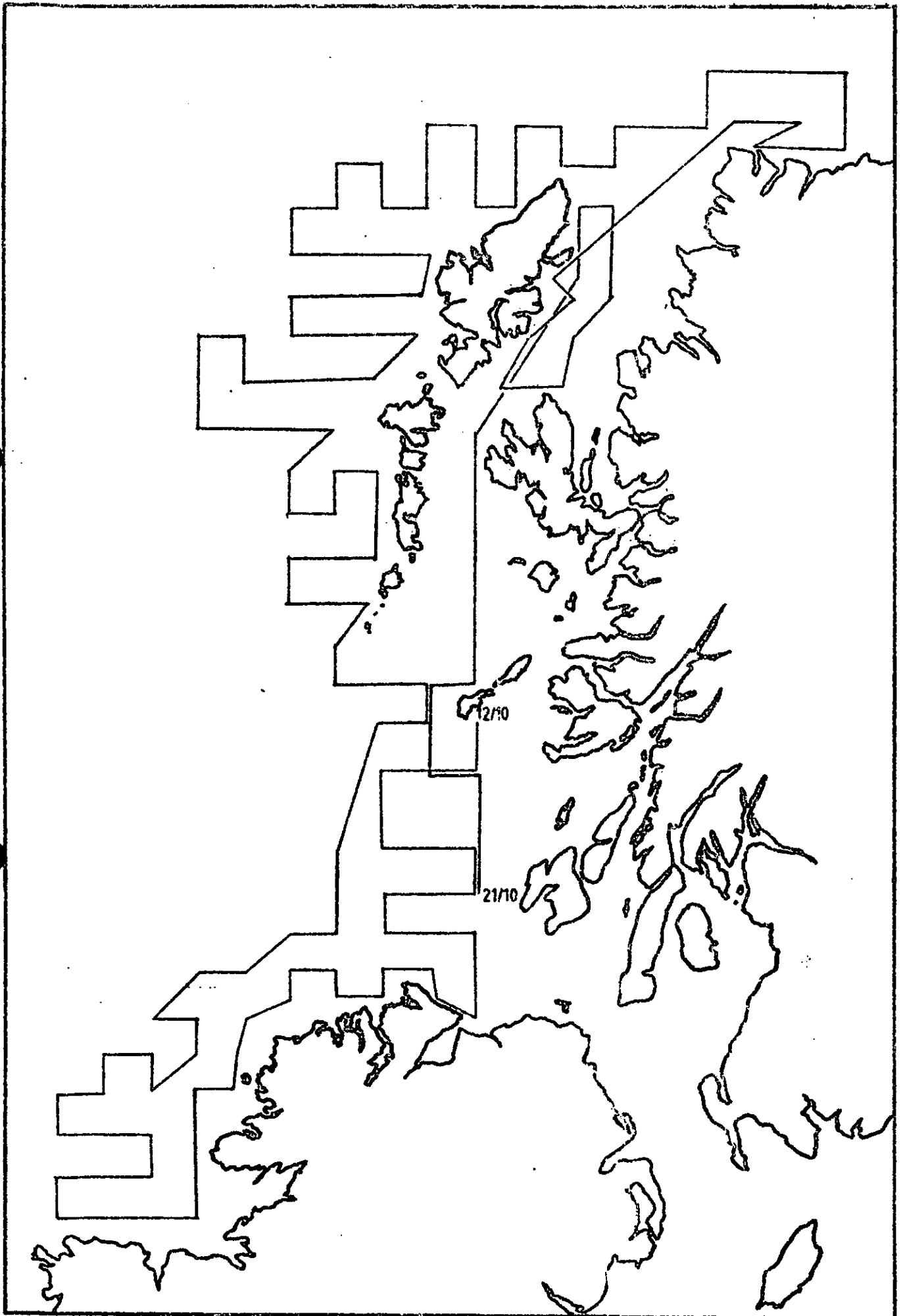
'Scotia' left Ayr at 0900 hrs on 22 October and headed for the stations to the NW of Ireland. Sampling in this area was completed at 0100 hrs on 24 October when 'Scotia' headed for the area west and north of the Hebrides. Sampling continued in this area until 1300 hrs on 27 October when poor weather conditions again halted the survey. It being near the end of the cruise and with no improvement in the weather forecast 'Scotia' set course for Aberdeen arriving on 28 October.

RESULTS

On the survey a total of 242 samples were taken. This represents two reasonably good coverages of the sampling area. Detailed analysis of the samples is not yet available but visual estimates at the time of sampling would indicate that older larvae were widely dispersed on both surveys. Small larvae however appeared to be most abundant in the area around Tory Island and the area south and east of St Kilda.

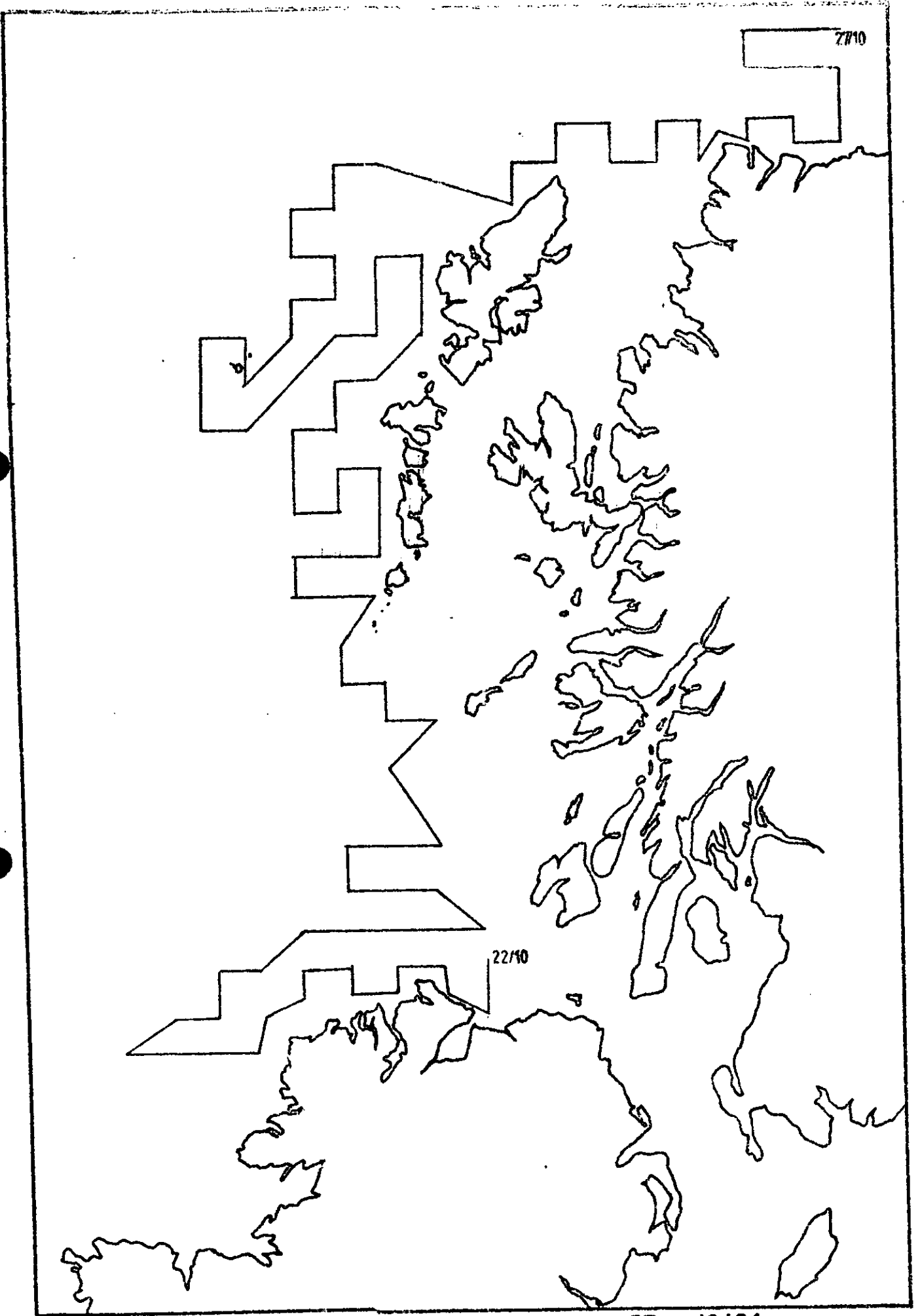
Seen in draft: J.W. Gillon

David W McKay
2 November 1981



FRV Scotia 12/10--21/10/81

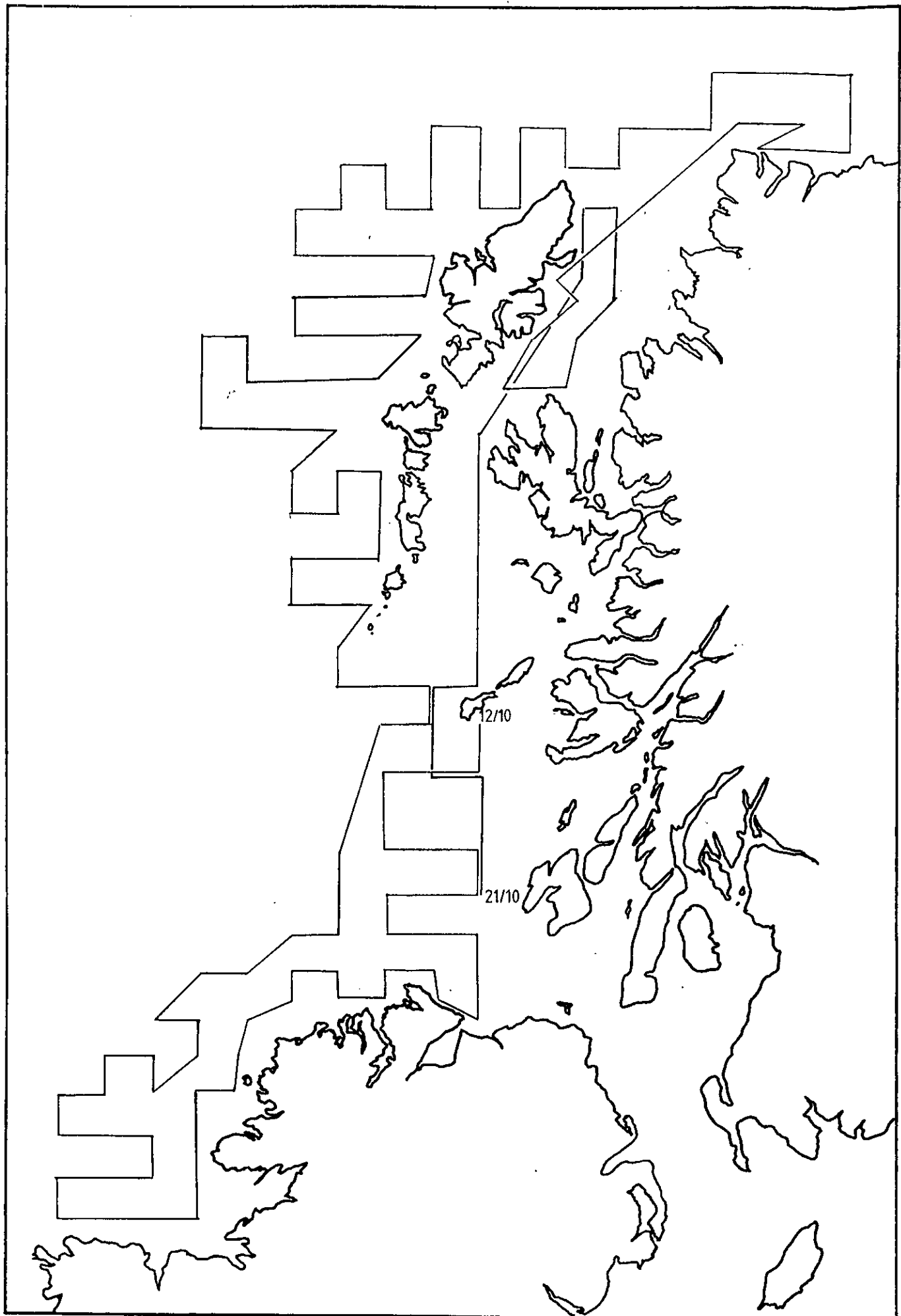
CR 10/81



FRV Scotia

22/10 - 27/10/81

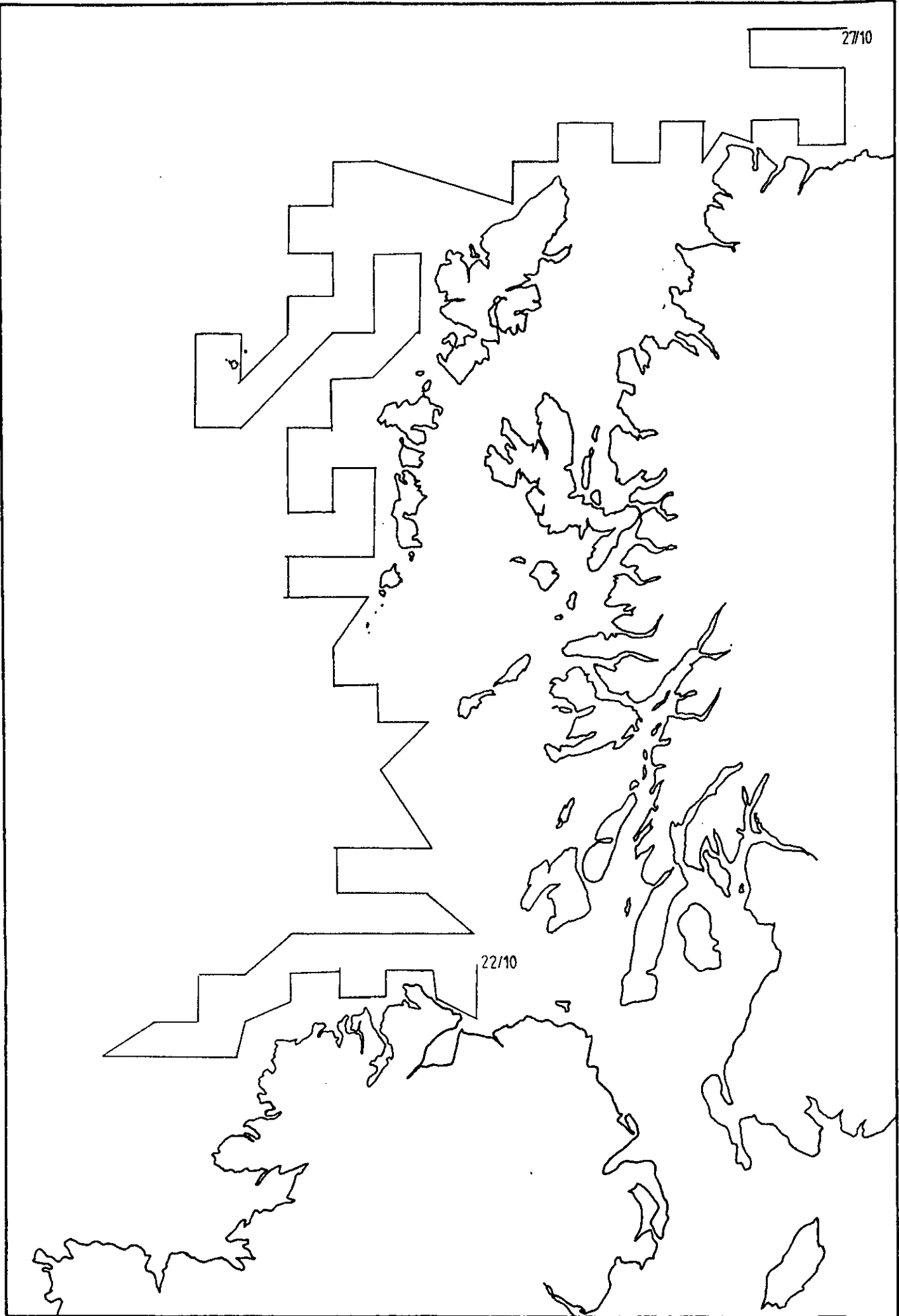
CR 10/81



FRV Scotia 12/10-21/10/81

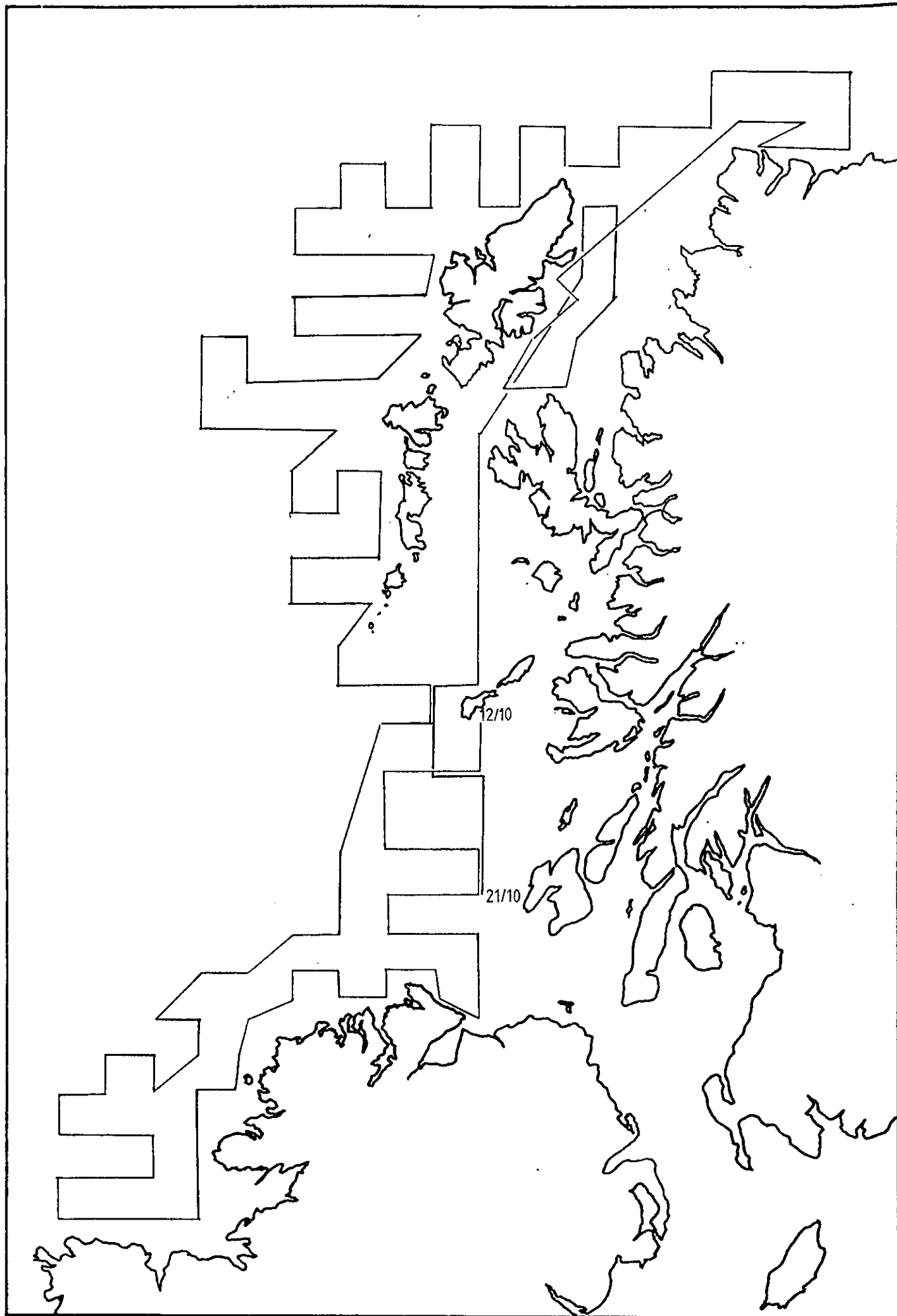
CR 10/81

27/10



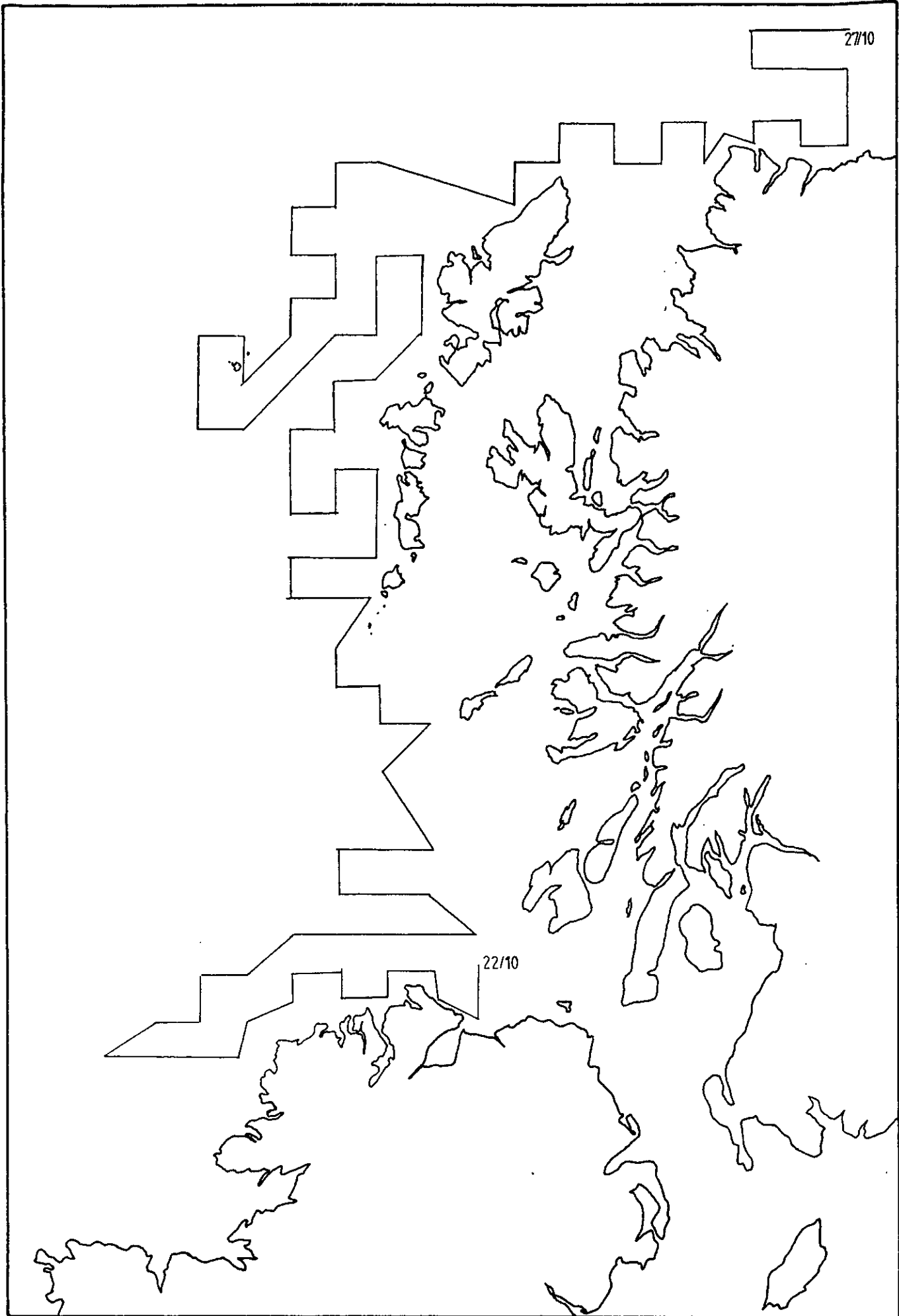
FRV Scotia 22/10 - 27/10/81

CR 10/81



FRV Scotia 12/10-21/10/81

CR 10/81



FRV Scotia 22/10 - 27/10/81

CR 10/81