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FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 1092S

REPORT

6-26 August

Personnel

K A Coull	HSO (in charge)
D S Beveridge	SO
C G Davis	ASO
D J Tait	ASO
M C Donald	ASO
D J W Ralph	ASO
C Bower	Visitor

Objective

To undertake a bottom trawling survey of the North Sea.

Narrative

Scotia sailed from Aberdeen at 0930 on 6 August. Trawling commenced on the stations east of Aberdeen and continued uninterrupted on the southern part of the survey area until poor weather conditions on 14 August resulted in a delayed start. Work recommenced in the early afternoon and *Scotia* completed the stations in the Danish, German and Norwegian sectors before docking at Lerwick at 0830 on 18 August for the mid cruise break. The vessel sailed again at 0830 the following day and worked the Shetland and Orkney waters before completing the stations off the Moray Firth and east coast of Scotland.

The vessel returned to Aberdeen on the evening of 25 August.

Results

The survey area was covered with a total of 89 hauls being completed.

Catches in the central North Sea were generally less than 10 baskets per haul with one exception of 30 baskets, consisting mainly of large cod. In the northern North Sea the catches varied between two and 25 baskets per haul.

The numbers of 0-group haddock and whiting caught per hour in each statistical rectangle are shown in Figures 1 and 2 respectively.

The numbers of cod, haddock and whiting caught per 10 hours fishing during the August Groundfish surveys since 1982 are shown in Tables 1, 2 and 3 respectively. The numbers of 0-group haddock and whiting caught were higher than in any of the previous 10 years and the number of 1-group haddock (1991 year class) caught were the highest since the 1984 survey (1983 year class).

All length frequency and haul summary data were punched at sea and stored on a micro-computer.

The Scanmar system was used throughout the cruise to monitor headline height and wingspread of the gear during each haul.

K A Coull

23 November 1992

Seen in draft: P Ramsay OIC

Results from Scottish surveys conducted in August

Table 1 Numbers of cod per 10 hours fishing - North Sea

Survey year	Valid hauls	Age								
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1982	77	0.2	61.4	35.1	57.2	18.3	9.2	5.9	1.4	0.5
1983	79	2.3	32.5	78.0	18.1	19.7	7.5	2.3	1.5	0.0
1984	82	0.0	81.9	39.1	25.3	5.0	5.7	1.6	0.5	0.2
1985	83	0.0	6.6	114.3	19.7	11.2	3.0	2.4	0.6	1.0
1986	80	0.7	80.1	10.4	39.6	5.7	3.9	1.9	0.8	0.0
1987	73	0.0	21.9	89.5	3.4	9.2	2.9	0.7	0.2	0.0
1988	86	1.3	16.2	26.8	16.5	2.5	3.3	1.2	0.4	0.0
1989	86	0.3	56.1	13.5	16.8	9.5	2.0	0.8	0.5	0.0
1990	85	2.9	11.4	49.0	5.9	7.4	2.6	0.9	0.8	0.0
1991	90	1.4	30.3	15.4	13.3	1.3	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.0
1992	87	0.50	64.2	19.3	7.2	6.7	2.9	1.8	1.2	0.2

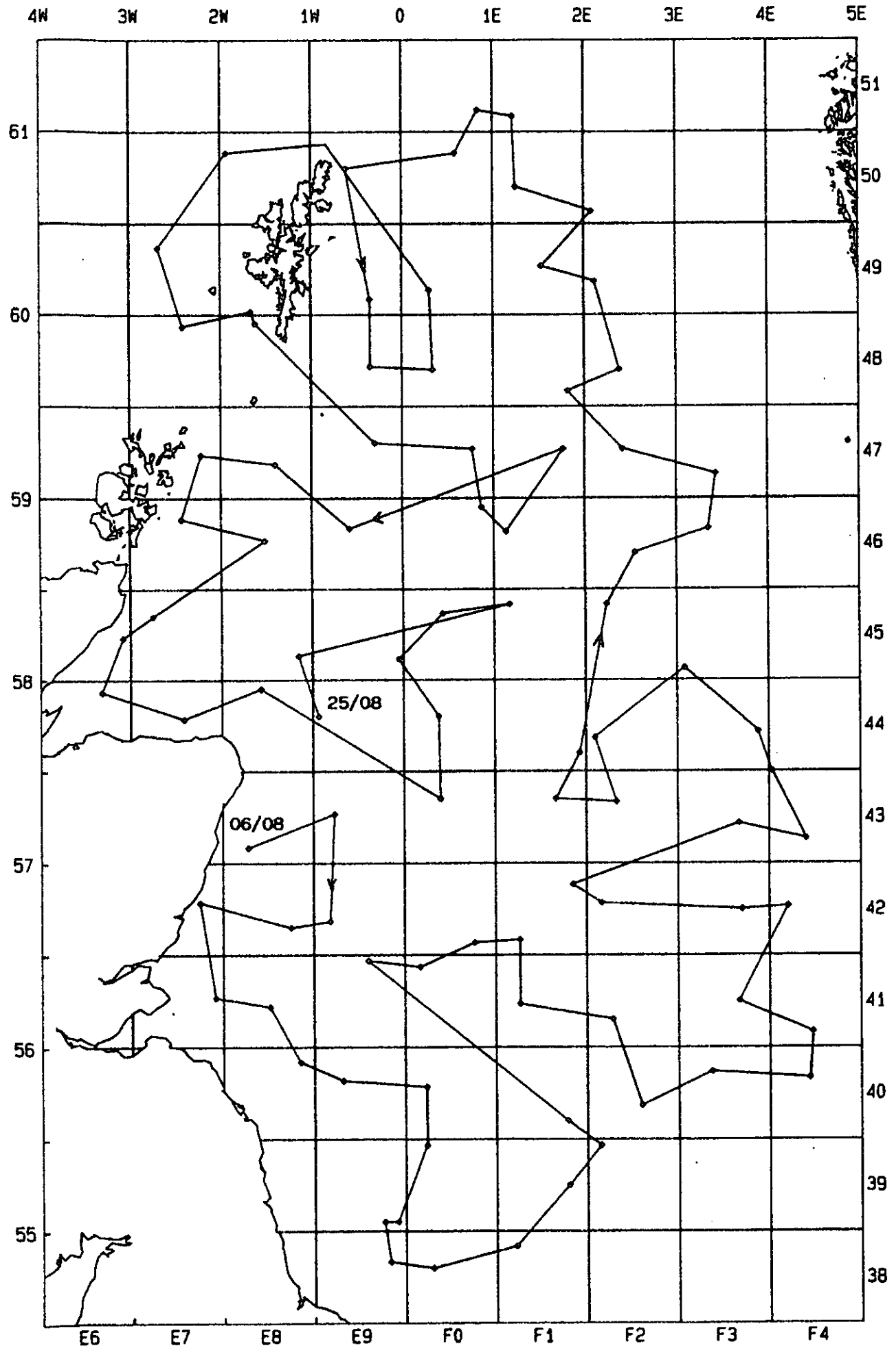
Table 2 Numbers of Haddock per 10 hours fishing - North Sea

Survey year	Valid hauls	Age								
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1982	77	1,235	2,488	988	1,336	115	7	2	1	2
1983	79	2,203	1,813	1,611	372	455	53	12	1	1
1984	82	873	4,367	788	336	55	65	9	5	1
1985	83	818	1,976	2,981	232	103	14	22	4	2
1986	80	1,747	2,329	574	598	36	27	4	3	+
1987	73	277	2,393	704	106	128	8	5	1	2
1988	86	406	467	1,982	170	27	23	2	1	+
1989	86	432	886	214	574	31	4	7	1	+
1990	85	3,136	1,002	240	32	103	7	1	3	1
1991	90	3,471	1,705	178	21	5	16	2	+	1
1992	87	3,270	3,832	963	48	8	3	8	+	+

Table 3 Numbers of Whiting per 10 hours fishing - North Sea

Survey year	Valid hauls	Age								
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1982	77	102	653	971	972	224	60	16	3	+
1983	79	210	563	578	407	511	118	17	3	5
1984	82	454	1,075	377	174	79	94	18	5	+
1985	83	169	1,577	973	247	63	36	18	10	+
1986	80	406	1,111	452	224	27	5	5	1	0
1987	73	120	1,405	1,150	206	77	16	3	+	+
1988	86	642	967	1,608	452	70	19	2	0	2
1989	86	427	4,043	741	733	157	13	6	1	0
1990	85	1,943	2,239	2,053	248	255	47	5	1	1
1991	90	1,379	1,769	950	759	51	40	9	+	0
1992	87	2,417	2,925	1,287	553	585	47	26	5	-

Scotia 6 - 26 August 1992 Cruise 1092S



August 1992 Haddock 0-group nos/hour

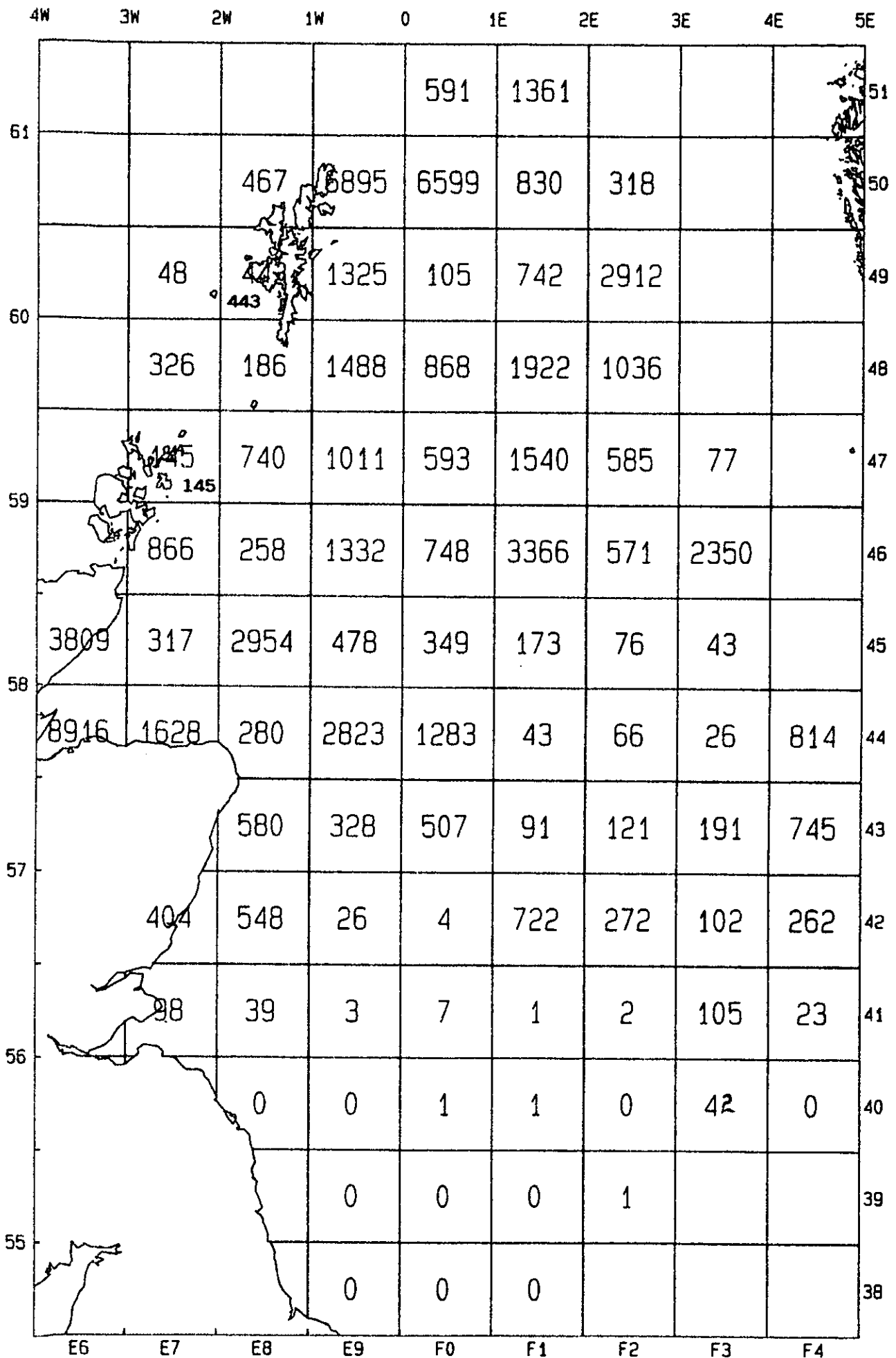


Figure 1

August 1992 Whiting 0-group nos/hour

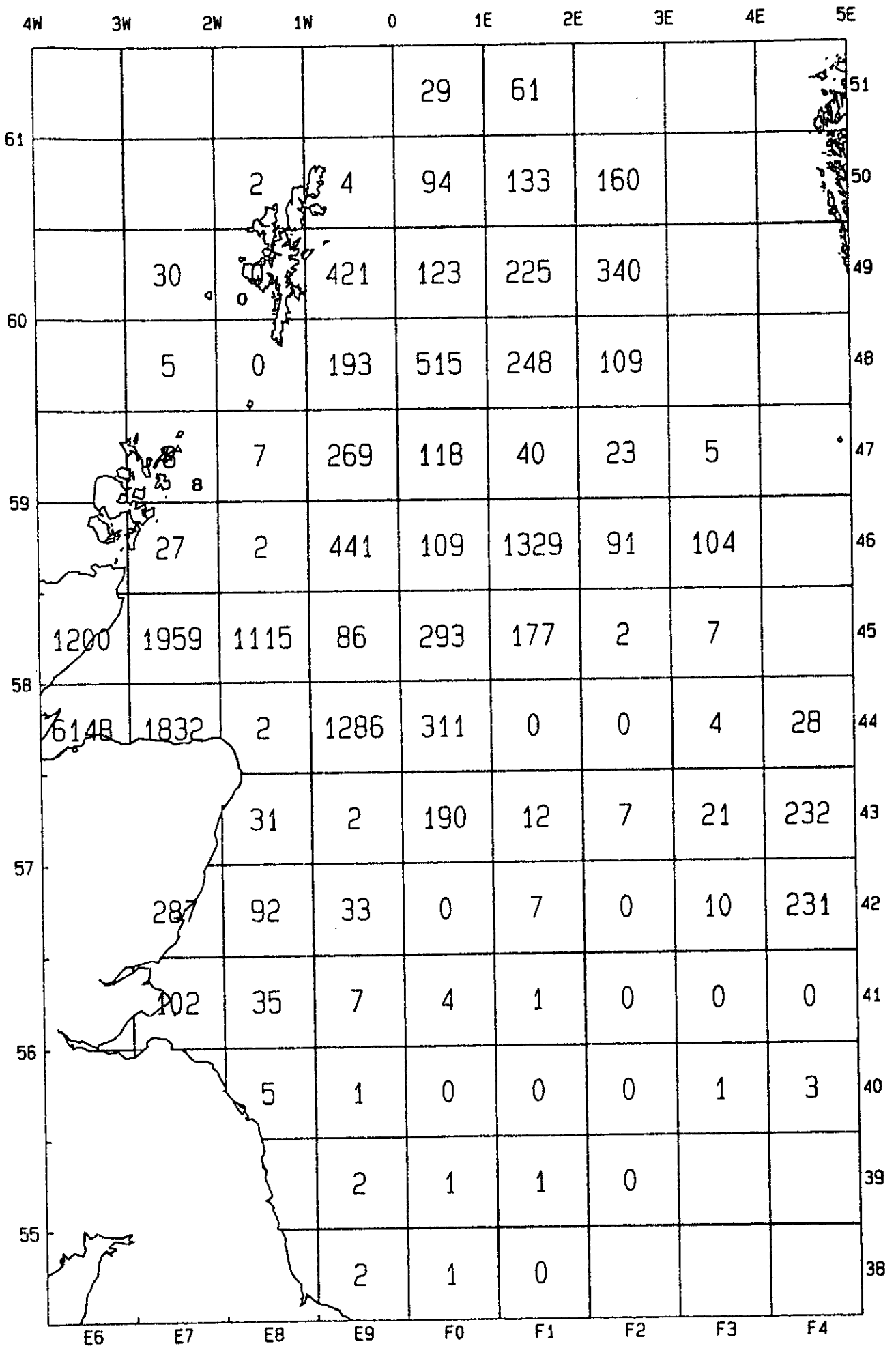


Figure 2