

Acoustic Herring Survey report for RV “DANA”

28th June 2011 – 11th July 2011

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Cruise summary

Total days	14
Days of monitoring	11
Number of acoustic samples, ESDU	1535
Number of trawl hauls	35
Number of CTD stations	37
Number of measured fish	23520
Number of aged and race-splitted herring.	2652
Number of aged sprat	419

1. INTRODUCTION

Since 1991 the DTU National Institute of Aquatic Resources (DTU AQUA) has participated in the ICES co-ordinated herring acoustic survey of the North Sea and adjacent waters with the responsibility for the surveying the Skagerrak and Kattegat area.

The actual 2011-survey with R/V DANA, covering the Skagerrak and Kattegat, was conducted in the period June 30 to July 11 2011, while calibration was done during June 28 3 to June 30 2011.

2. SURVEY

2.1 Personnel

During calibration 28/6 – 30/6-2011

Bjarne Stage (cruise leader)

Bo Lundgren (assisting cruise leader)

Torben Filt Jensen

Peter Faber

Mads Larsen

Frank V Knudsen

Ronny Sørensen

Eik Ehlert Britsch

An Hoai Pham

During acoustic monitoring 5/7 - 16/7-2009

Bjarne Stage (cruise leader)

Torben Filt Jensen (assisting cruise leader)
An Hoai Pham
Søren Grønby
Susanne Hansen
Helle Andersen
Nina Fuglsang
Frank V Knudsen
George Karatzas

2.2 Narrative

The survey of R/V Dana started on June 28 at 10.00 UTC with departure from Hirtshals heading towards Bornö in Gullmar Fjord, Sweden for calibration of the acoustic equipment. The vessel was anchored at Bornö in the Gullmar Fjord, Sweden early in the evening of June 28. The calibration was initiated in the morning of June 29 and continued until the morning of June 30.

At June 30 noon the scientific crew was exchanged outside the harbour of Skagen. After the short break, R/V Dana steamed northwest towards the border between Skagerrak and the North Sea. The acoustic integration was initiated on July 1 at 00,02 UTC at 57°52'N, 06°53'E.

During the evening of June 30 the wind had increased to above 13 m/s from northwest and continued at this level until the morning of July 2. The heavy wind introduced noise in the upper layer in the water and the towed body with the 38 kHz transducer were lowered to 5-6 m depth. The first trawl haul at 10.00 UTC at July 1 were conducted at 57°08'N, 06°17'E. But the rest of the trawl hauls during July first had to be cancelled due to the weather and fishery had to be stop until the morning July 2.

The North Sea and western Skagerrak area was covered during the period July 1 – 5, eastern Skagerrak during July 5 – 8 and Kattegat during July 9 – 11. The acoustic integration was ended July 11 at 57°45'N, 10°49'E at 07,19 UTC. R/V Dana arrived at Hirthals at 1100 UTC on July 11.

Totally the survey covered about 1900 nautical miles. Data from the 38 kHz echosounder were recorded mainly using a 38 kHz paravane transducer running at depths of 3 – 5 m, the depth depending on the sea state and sailing direction relative to the waves. Simultaneously, data from the 120 kHz and 18 kHz echosounders using hull-mounted transducers were also recorded. The quality of the latter data is strongly dependent on the weather conditions, but this year the weather was calm, so no data had to be excluded due to the weather. During trawling hull-mounted transducers were used for all three frequencies.

2.3 Survey design

The survey was carried out in the Kattegat and Skagerrak area, east of 6° E and north of 56° N (Fig. 1). The area is split into 8 sub-areas.

In principal the survey is designed with parallel survey tracks at right angles to the depth lines with a spacing of 10-15 nm in the area west of 10°E. Due to limitations regarding available time periods and places for fishing (late morning, early afternoon and immediately before and after midnight;

and a limited amount of fishable positions for bottom trawl hauls) this structure cannot not be kept strictly. Along the Swedish coast the transects are planned as east-west transects with a spacing of 10 nm approximately at right angles to the coastline. In Kattegat the survey track was made in a zigzag pattern adapted to the depth curves and the relatively heavy ship traffic.

2.4 Calibration

The echosounders were calibrated at Bornö in the Gullmar Fjord, Sweden during June 28 - June 30 2011. The calibration was performed according to the procedures established for EK60 with three frequencies (18, 38 and 120 kHz). This was the second calibration of the year, the previous one just before a cruise to the Norwegian Sea in May. The calibration of the paravane split-beam transducer at 38 kHz was done against a 60 mm copper sphere. The calibration of the three hull-mounted split-beam transducers at 18, 38 and 120 kHz were carried out against 63mm, 60 mm and 23 mm copper spheres, respectively. The results were close to those from the previous calibration earlier in May, and for 38 kHz on the towed body close to results from previous years. The calibration and setup data of the EK60 38 kHz used during the survey are shown in Table 1.

2.5 Acoustic data collection

Acoustic data were collected using mainly the Simrad EK60 38 kHz echosounder with the transducer (Type ES 38 7x7 degrees main lobe) in a towed body. The towed body runs at approx. 3 m depth in good weather and down to about 6 -7 m, as needed, depending on the weather conditions, this year mostly at 4 – 5 m. The speed of the vessel during acoustic sampling was 9 – 11 knots. Also EK60 18 kHz and 120 kHz data were collected. They have not been directly used for the survey estimate, but as an aid during judging when distinguishing between fish and plankton. The acoustic data were recorded as raw data on hard disk 24 hours a day also during fishing operations. During trawl hauls the towed body is taken aboard and the EK60 38 kHz echosounder run on the hull transducer, but data taken during fishing periods are not used for the biomass estimate. The sampling unit (ESDU) was one nautical mile (nm). For the purpose of the later judging process, raw data is pre-integrated into 1 m meter samples for each ping. These samples are stored in separate files one for each ESDU. Integration is conducted from 3 m below the transducer to 1 m above the bottom or to max 300 m depth.

2.6 Biological data - fishing trawls

The trawl hauls were carried out during the survey for species identification. Pelagic hauls were carried out using a FOTÖ trawl (16 mm in the codend), while demersal hauls were carried out using an EXPO trawl (16 mm in the codend). Trawling was carried out in the time intervals 1000 to 1600 and 2030 to 0300 UTC, usually two day hauls (pelagic on larger depth and demersal in shallow waters) and two night hauls (mostly surface or midwater). The strategy was to cover most depth zones within each geographical stratum with trawl hauls. One-hour hauls were used as a standard during the survey.

The total weight of each catch was estimated and the catch sorted into species. Total weight per species and length measurements were made. The clupeid fish were measured to the nearest 0.5 cm total length below, other fish to 1 cm, and the weight to the nearest 0.1 g wet weight. From each trawl haul 10 herring (if available) per 0.5 cm length class were collected and frozen for individual determination in land-laboratory of length, weight, age, race (North Sea autumn spawners or Baltic Sea spring spawners) and maturity. Fourier Shape Analyses calibrated to micro-structure formed

in the otoliths during the larval period was used for the discrimination of herring race. Maturity was determined according to an 8-stage scale as also used by Scotland.

2.7 Hydrographic data

CTD profiles with a Seabird 911 were made immediately before or after each trawl haul. Salinity and temperature were measured continuously during the cruise at an intake at about 5 m depth. Data is stored together with position and weather data in the vessel's general information system. The distribution of CTD stations is similar to trawl hauls and shown in Fig. 2.

2.8 Data analysis

The raw data is pre-integrated into 1 m samples for each ping and divided into 1 mile datasets and stored on harddisk as files. Scrutiny of the acoustic data is done for a fixed set of layers (3-6 m, 6-10, 10 – 20 and so on) for each mile, using special judging software. The software allows ignoring data from layers and/or intervals with interference from wave- or ship wake-bubbles or rarely with interference from bottom-integration. In areas with heavy abundance of jellyfish or zooplankton, usually krill, manually adjustable thresholds are applied separately to each layer to suppress background echoes.

For each subarea (56E06 – 58E08, C – E in Fig.1) the mean backscattering cross section was estimated for herring, sprat, gadoids and mackerel based on the standardized TS-relationships given in the Manual for Herring Acoustic Surveys in ICES Division III, IV, and IVa (ICES 2000):

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Herring TS} &= 20 \log L - 71.2 \text{ dB} \\ \text{Sprat TS} &= 20 \log L - 71.2 \text{ dB} \\ \text{Gadoids TS} &= 20 \log L - 67.5 \text{ dB} \\ \text{Mackerel TS} &= 20 \log L - 84.9 \text{ dB}\end{aligned}$$

where L is the total length in cm. The number of fish per species is assumed to be in proportion to the contribution of the given species in the trawl hauls. Therefore, the relative density of a given species is estimated by subarea using the species composition in the trawl hauls. The nearest trawl hauls are allocated to subareas with uniform depth strata. The length-race and length-age distributions for herring are assumed to be in accordance with combined length-race and length-age distributions in the allocated trawl hauls.

Length-age and length weight relationships by race for the herring were made based on the age and race analysis made on the frozen samples of single fish after the cruise.

3. RESULTS & DISCUSSION

3.1 Acoustic data

The total number of acoustic sample units of 1 nm (ESDU's) used in the stock size calculation is 1535. The numbers of ESDU's per stratum are given in Table 2. Table 2 also shows the mean Sa and mean TS per stratum used in the abundance estimation. The outline of the strata is shown in Figure 1 and the cruise track for the survey is shown in Figure 2.

Historically, herring and sprat have not been observed in midwater trawl hauls at depths below 150 meters. Therefore, layers below 150 meter have been excluded from the estimation.

The relative herring density in numbers per nm² along the cruise track is shown in Figure 3. In 2011 the herring was distributed in more patches in Skagerrak and northern Kattegat with low concentrations along the Norwegian coast and in southern Kattegat. The main concentration of herring is in 2010 primarily distributed in ICES squares 43F8, 44F9, 44G0, 44G1 (Fig. 5). This distribution is quite different from 2008 when the main concentration was further west (west of 8° E) (see fig 5). The main distribution pattern is more like the pattern in 2009 except that a larger part is found in Skagerrak along the Danish coast and in Kattegat than in 2009 (see Fig. 4).

3.2 Biological data

During the survey in 2011 35 hauls were conducted, 17 surface hauls and 18 bottom hauls. The geographical distribution of hauls is shown in Fig. 2 and details on the hauls and catches are given in Table 3 and 4.

The total catch for the survey was 21,1 tons. Herring was present in 32 hauls with a total catch of 9.7 tons or 46% of the total catch. Length distributions of herring per haul are given in Table 5.

Sprat was only present in the hauls in Kattegat (stratum E). The total sprat catch was 500 kg or 19 % of the total catch in Kattegat.

For the total survey area herring, mackerel and sprat contributed to the total catch by 46%, 23 % and 2 % respectively.

Herring maturity

Based on the frozen single fish herring samples (3678 specimens) from each haul, where race analysis of the otoliths was used to differentiate between North Sea herring and Western Baltic herring, a maturity by age key was made for both races. It is given in the text table below. For North Sea autumn spawners specimens with maturity stage ≥ 3 and/or age ≥ 5 are regarded as mature and for Baltic spring spawners specimens with maturity stage ≥ 2 and/or age ≥ 5 are regarded as mature.

North Sea autumn spawners:

Skagerrak											
WR	0	1i	1m	2i	2m	3i	3m	4i	4m	5	6
%	100.00	100.00	0.00	61.36	38.64	27.78	72.22	33.33	66.67	100.00	100.00

North Sea			
WR	0	1i	1m
%	100.00	100.00	0.00

Kattegat							
WR	0	1i	1m	2i	2m	3i	3m
%	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00

Baltic Sea spring spawners:

Skagerrak															
WR	0	1i	1m	2i	2m	3i	3m	4i	4m	5	6	7	8	9	10
%	100.00	95.28	4.72	36.13	63.87	9.09	90.91	0.65	99.35	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

North Sea			
WR	0	1i	1m
%	100.00	100.00	0.00

Kattegat														
WR	0	1i	1m	2i	2m	3i	3m	4i	4m	5	6	7	8	9
%	100.00	91.72	8.28	39.68	60.32	3.85	96.15	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Sprat maturity

Based on 419 sprat collected over all length classes and hauls including sprat age, weight and maturity keys were established. The maturity key for sprat is shown in the text table below. Sprat with maturity stage ≥ 3 and/or age ≥ 3 are regarded as mature

WR	1i	1m	2i	2m	3	4	5	6	7	8
%	28.57	71.43	26.63	73.37	100	100	100	100	100	100

3.3 Biomass estimates

Herring

The total herring biomass estimate for the Danish acoustic survey with R/V Dana in July 2011 is 345,488 tonnes of which 47,9% or 165,589 tonnes is North Sea autumn spawners and 52.1 % or 179,898 tonnes is Baltic Sea spring spawners.

For the total number of herring the survey results give 8,855 mill, of which 58.2 % are North Sea autumn spawners and 41.8 % are Baltic Sea spring spawners.

The estimated total number of herring, mean weight, mean length and biomass per age and maturity stage in each of the surveyed strata are given in Table 6 and 7 for North Sea autumn spawners and Baltic spring spawners respectively.

A comparison for the results of the last 6 years surveys are given in the text table below.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Autumn spawners						
Number in mill.	1530	4443	4473	9679	2723	5156
Biomass in tons	98786	315176	80469	157707	148946	165589
Spring spawners						
Number in mill.	6407	8847	7367	1326	1461	3699
Biomass in tons	471850	614048	450505	146590	88597	179898

North Sea autumn spawners

From 2006 to 2007 there was an increase in the abundance of autumn spawners of 190 % and in the biomass of 219 %. The age structure in the abundance for 2006 and 2007 showed the same pattern with 86 % and 91 % of the total abundance as 1 WR for the two years respectively. This increase corresponds to an overall increase of the abundance of autumn spawners in the survey area.

From 2007 to 2008 the abundance of autumn spawners showed an increase of 0.7% whereas the biomass showed a decrease of 74%. As it can be seen from Table 8 this contradictory development between abundance and biomass is the result of a dramatic change in age composition of the abundance from 2007 to 2008. In 2007 1 WR contributed to 91 % of the abundance of autumn spawners, whereas the 0 WR contributes to 88 % of the abundance in 2008. (Table 8).

From 2008 to 2009 the abundance of autumn spawners showed an increase of 116 % and the biomass showed an increase of 96%. As it can be seen from Table 8 the abundance in 2009 is dominated by 0 and 1 WR (81 and 19 % respectively). The abundance of 0 WR are the double of what was seen in 2008 and 1 WR are than 4 times the abundance in 2008.

From 2009 to 2010 the abundance of autumn spawners has decreased by 72 % where as the biomass has decreased with 6%. From Table 8 it can be seen that the abundance is dominated by 1 WR in 2010 where it was dominated by 0 WR in 2008 and 2009. It looks as if the age structure in the abundance is on it way back to the structure seen in 2006 and 2007 (see Table 8)

From 2010 to 2011 the abundance of autumn spawners has increased by 89% whereas the biomass has increased with 7%. From table 8 it can be seen that the abundance of autumn spawners are dominated by 1 WR as in 2010 but the abundance of 0 WR and 2 WR has increased compared to 2010.

Baltic Sea spring spawners

For the spring spawners no large changes in the age structure over the years from 2006 to 2008 have been seen (see Text table).

From 2008 to 2009 there has been a decrease in the abundance of 82 % and in the biomass of 67 %. From Table 9 it can be seen that the major part of the difference in abundance between 2008 and 2009 lies in a decrease in the abundance of 0-3 WR.

From 2009 to 2010 the abundance has increased with 9 %, whereas the biomass has decreased with 39.6%. From Table 9 it can be seen that there has been a change in the age structure of the spring spawners from 2009 to 2010. The abundance of 0-3 WR has increased with 39 % and the abundance of 4-13 WR has decreased with 83 %. This shift in the age structure of the abundance is reflected in the biomass.

From 2010 to 2011 the abundance has increased with 153 % and the biomass has increased with 96%. 2009 was the year with the lowest abundance in a period of the last 6 years and 2010 was the year with the lowest biomass. 2009 was exceptional with a very lower percentage of 0-3 WR compared to 4-13 WR. Whereas the age structure from 2010 and 2011 are back to the age structure seen before 2009 with abundance with approx.95 % 0-3WR and approx.5% 4-14 WR (see Table 9)

Sprat

The total abundance estimate of sprat for the Danish acoustic survey with R/V Dana in July 2011 is 1574.20 million corresponding to a biomass at 27464 ton. All sprats were in 2011 found in Kattegat Strata E during the Danish Acoustic survey in Kattegat and Skagerrak June-July 2011.

Abundance, biomass, mean length and mean weight per WR and strata are given in Table 10.

Figure 1. Map showing the survey area for the Danish acoustic survey with R/V Dana in July 2010. The map shows the subareas (strata) used in the abundance estimation.

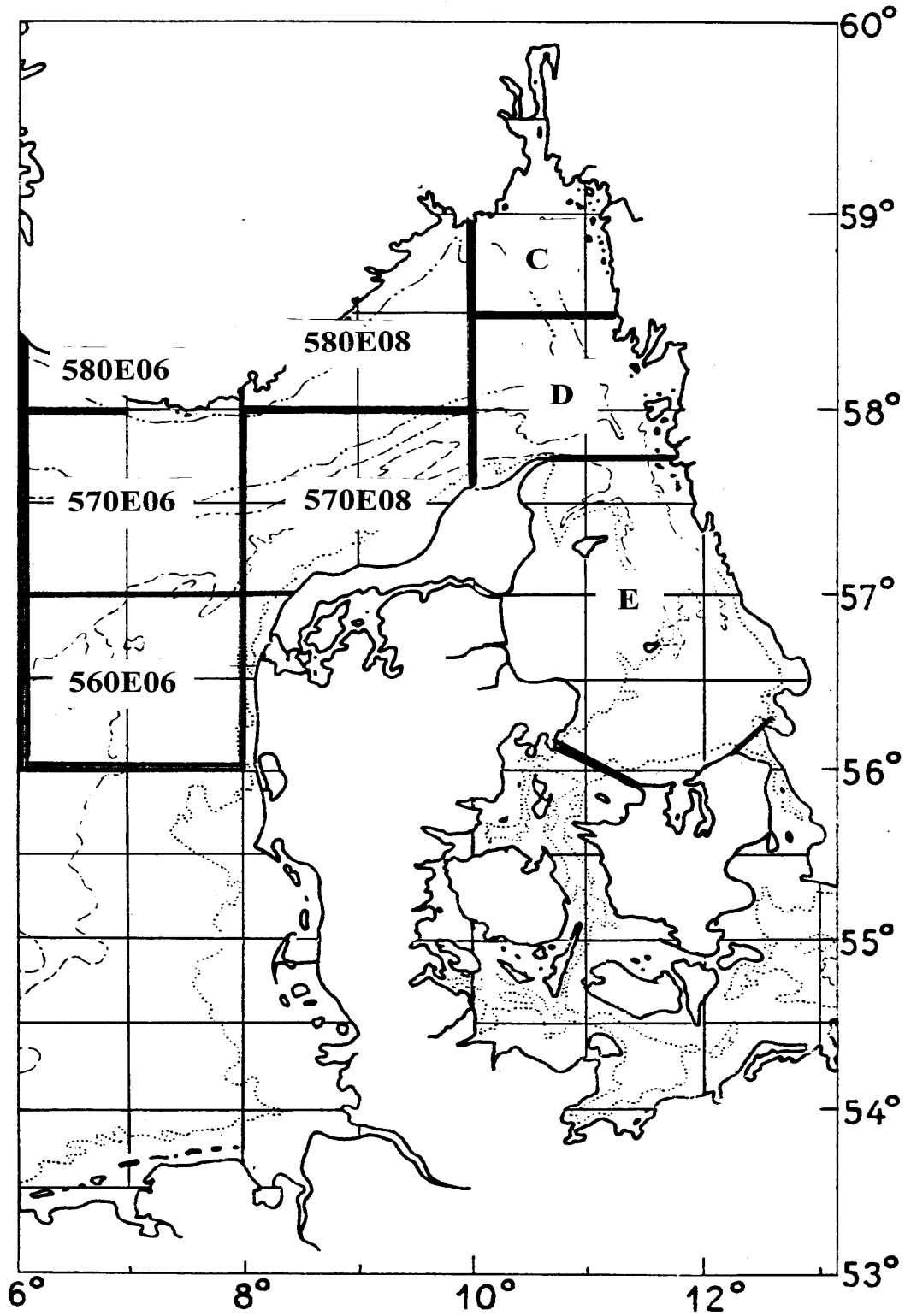


Figure 2. Map showing cruise track and trawl stations during the Danish acoustic survey with R/V Dana in July 2011.

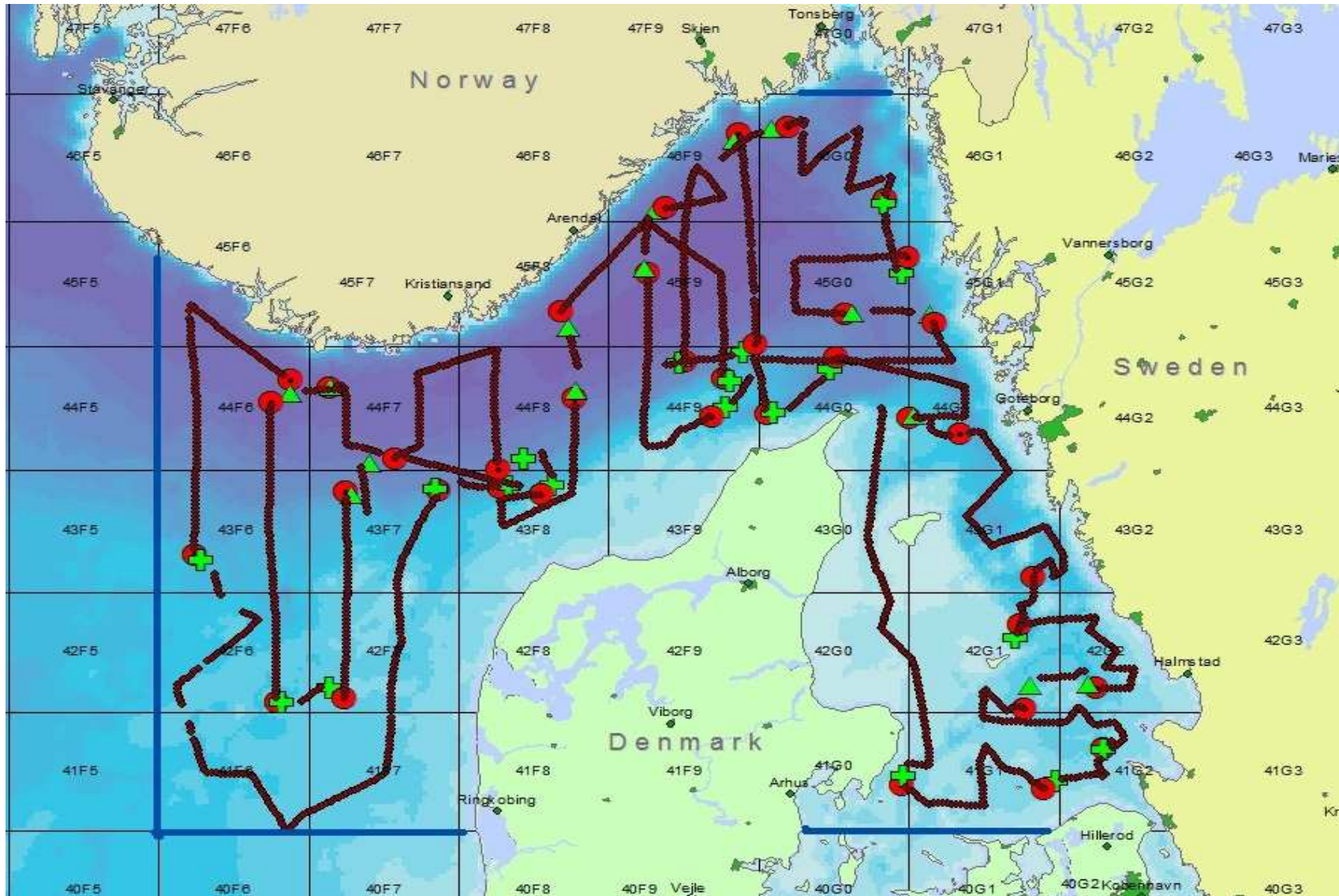


Figure 3. Relative herring density (in numbers per nm²) along the track of the July 2011 Danish acoustic survey in the eastern North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat. Red circles indicate relative density of herring per ESDU.

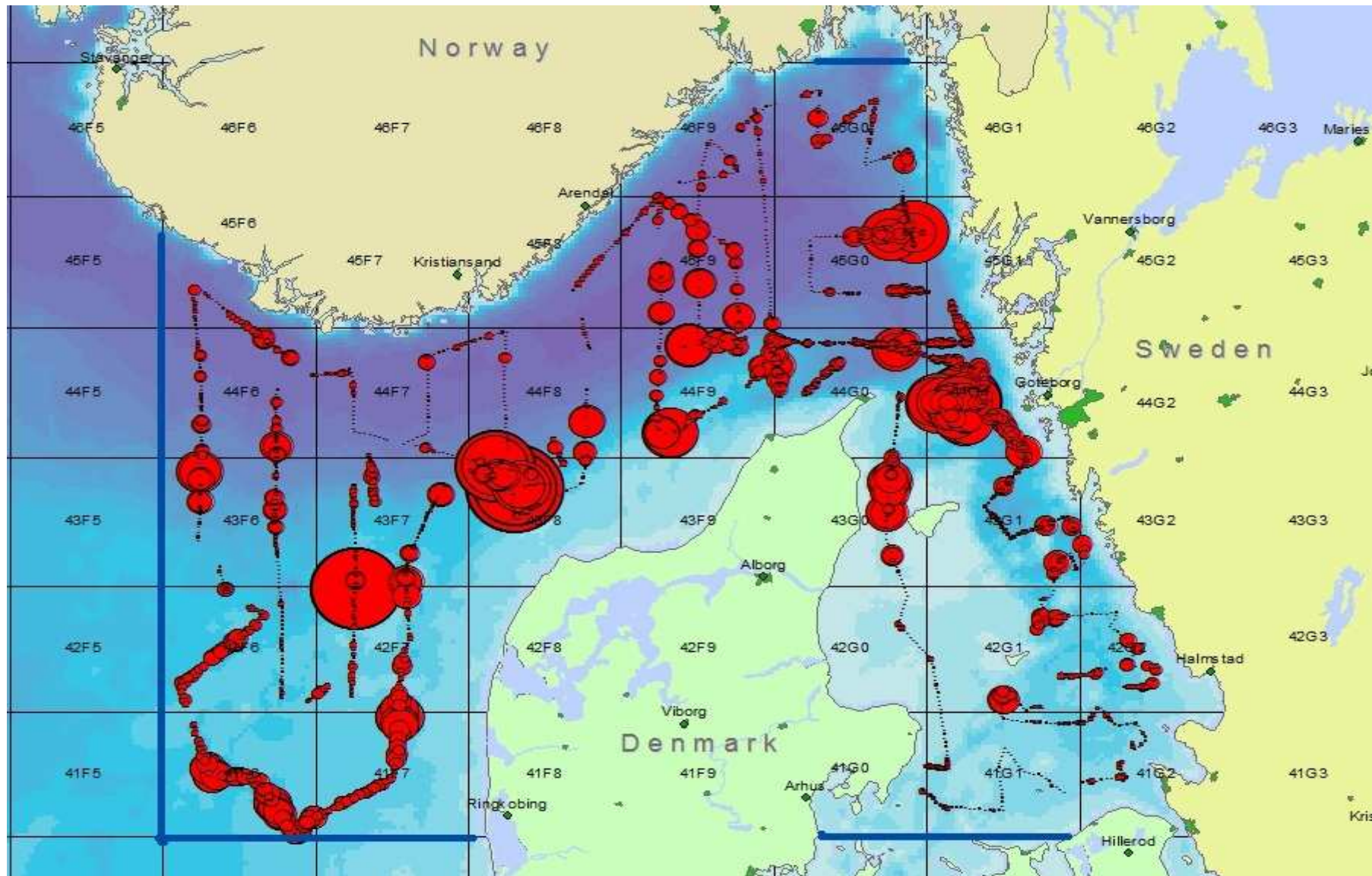


Figure 4. Relative herring density (in numbers per nm²) along the track of the June-July 2009 Danish acoustic survey in the eastern North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat. Red circles indicate relative density of herring per ESDU

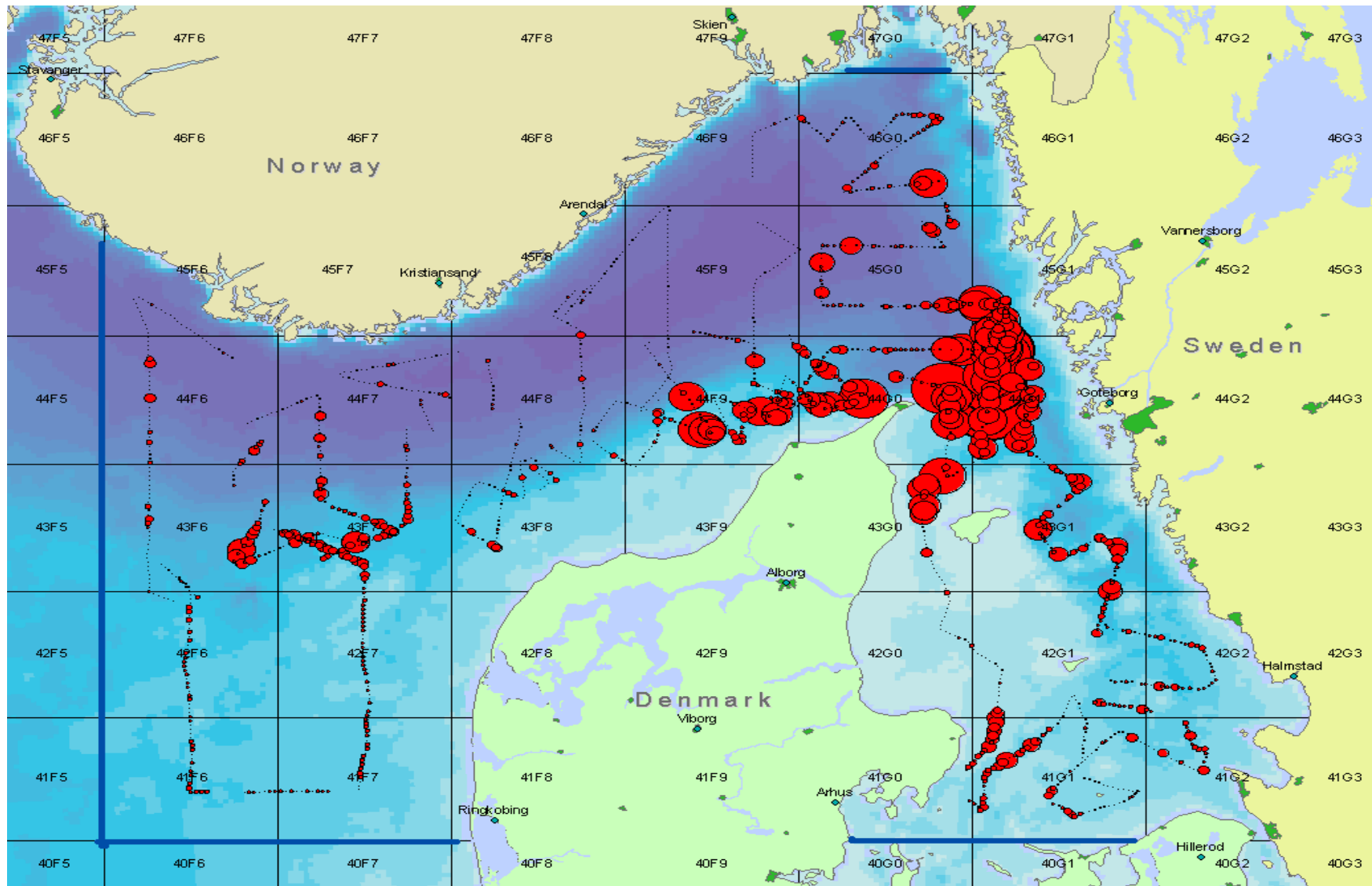


Figure 5. Relative herring density (in numbers per nm²) along the track of the June-July 2008 Danish acoustic survey in the eastern North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat. Red circles indicate relative density of herring per ESDU

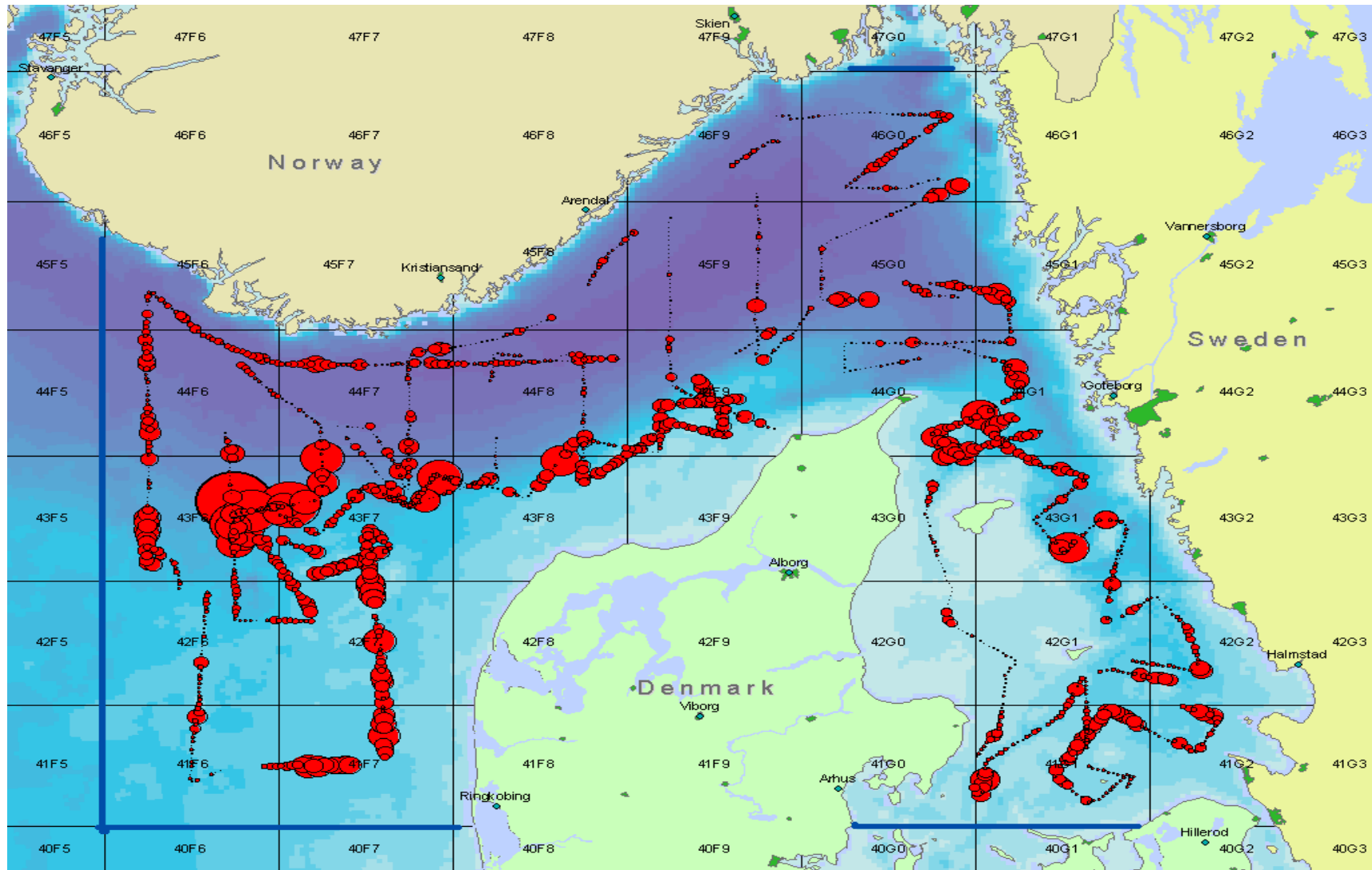


Figure 6. Stations with herring infected with Ichthyophonus (green crosses) and relative herring density (in numbers per nm²) along the track of the July 2010 Danish acoustic survey in the eastern North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat. Red circles indicate relative density of herring per ESDU

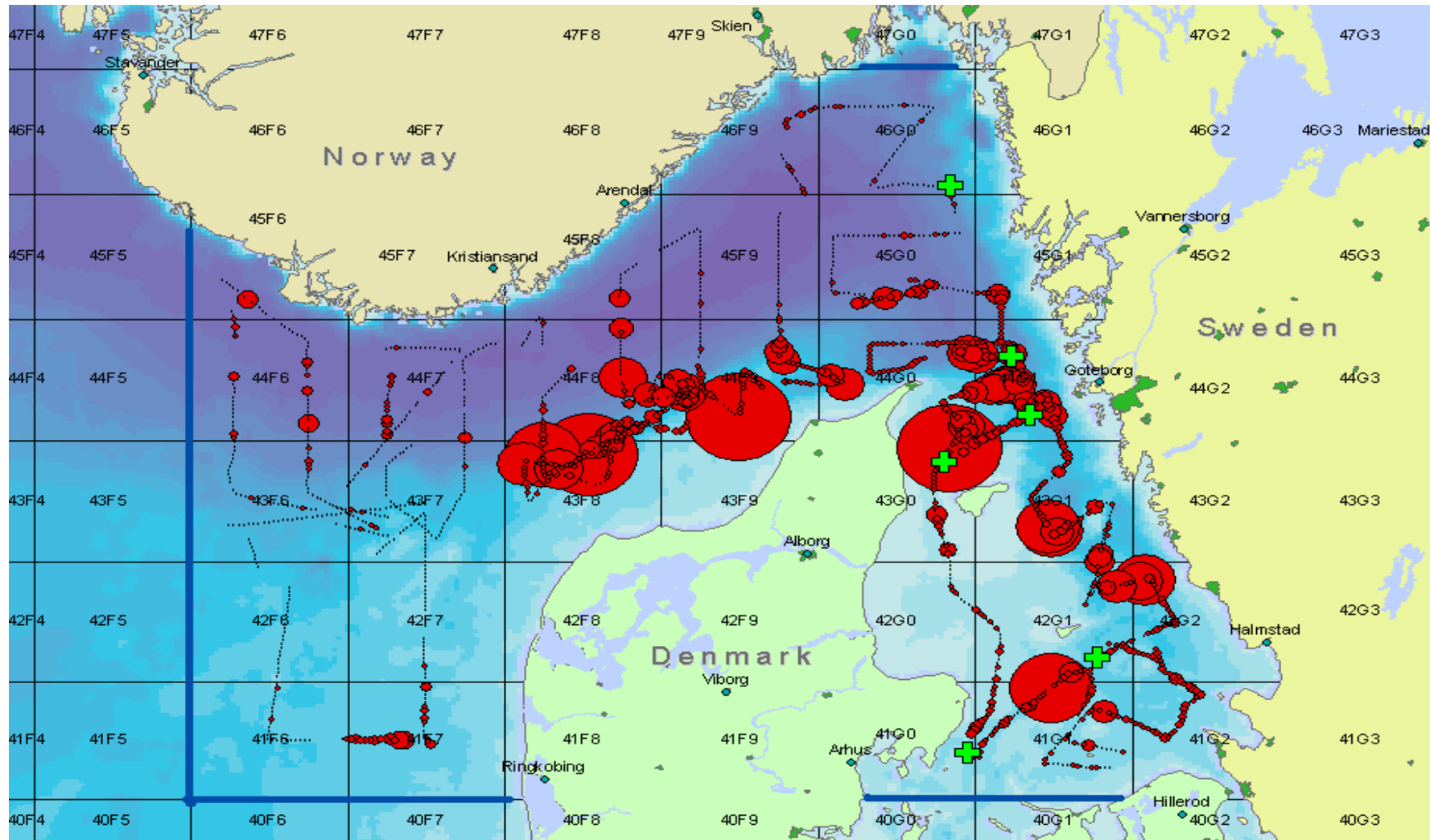


Table 1. . Simrad EK60 and analysis settings used during the Acoustic Herring Survey with R/V Dana Cruise July 2010

Transceiver Menu	
Frequency	38 kHz
Sound speed	1508 m.s ⁻¹
Max. Power	2000 W
Equivalent two-way beam angle	-20.5 dB
Transducer Sv gain	25.40 dB
3 dB Beamwidth	6.9°
Calibration details	
TS of sphere	-33.6 dB
Range to sphere in calibration	9.56 m
Measured NASC value for calibration	19300 m ² /nmi ²
Calibration factor for NASCs	1.00
Absorption coeff	6.063 dB/km
Log Menu	
Distance	1,0 n.mi. using GPS-speed
Operation Menu	
Ping interval	1 s external trig
Analysis settings	
Bottom margin (backstep)	1.0 m
Integration start (absolute) depth	7 - 9 m
Range of thresholds used	-70 dB

Table 2 Survey statistics for the Danish acoustic survey with R/V Dana in July 2011.

Stratum	Area, Nm*	ESDU	Hauls	Mean Sa	Mean TS	
560E06	0	3980	208	2	5.09E-06	1.94E-05
570E06	0	3600	251	5	2.03E-06	2.23E-05
570E08	0	3406	203	9	6.77E-06	3.10E-05
580E06	0	209	24	1	1.58E-06	1.85E-05
580E08	0	1822	214	5	2.13E-06	2.41E-05
C	0	988	62	3	3.68E-06	6.98E-06
D	0	1837	172	5	4.08E-06	1.05E-05
E	0	5228	401	7	4.58E-06	1.84E-05

Table 3. Trawl haul details for the Danish acoustic survey with R/V Dana in July 2011.

Trawl hauls Acoustic survey in Kattegat and Skagerrak 04/2011 1 July to 10 July 2011																	
Date	Haul	Time	ICES	Position		Trawl Direction	Wire length	Trawl type	Cath depth	Mean depth	Total catch	Main Species	Trawling speed	Trawling duratin	Wind speed	Sea state	
dd-mm-yy	no.	UTC	Square	Latitude	Longitude	deg.	m		m	m	kg		Kn	min,	m/s		
01/07/11	282	10:37	43F6	57.08.143 N	006.16.989 E	147	450	Expo	Bottom	62	39	Cod	2	60	15.9	5	
02/07/11	478	10:37	43F7	57.25.435 N	007.51.091 E	45	550	Expo	Bottom	140	961	Norway pout, Blue whiting	3	60	7.8	3	
02/07/11	493	13:50	43F8	57.26.234 N	008.20.402 E	167	375	Expo	Bottom	60	360	Herring	3	60	7.5	3	
02/07/11	529	21:40	44F7	57.50.320 N	007.09.260 E	101	375	Fotö	Surface	458	830	Mackerel, Herring	4	60	5.9	3	
03/07/11	542	00:32	44F6	57.48.693 N	006.53.010 E	250	385	Fotö	Surface	349	1235	Mackerel, Herring	4	60	9.4	3	
03/07/11	623	10:39	42F6	56.32.693 N	006.49.469 E	101	250	Expo	Bottom	37	99	Herring	3	60	10.8	3	
03/07/11	636	13:16	42F7	56.36.203 N	007.08.824 E	125	225	Expo	Bottom	35	240	Herring	3	60	12	3	
03/07/11	694	20:59	43F7	57.23.719 N	007.17.852 E	147	360	Fotö	Surface	61	1000	Herring	4	60	10.3	3	
04/07/11	710	00:18	44F7	57.31.546 N	007.24.623 E	110	400	Fotö	Surface	255	1040	Herring	4	60	8.6	3	
04/07/11	794	10:50	44F8	57.32.860 N	008.25.997 E	65	475	Expo	Bottom	101	1416	Norway pout, Herring	3	60	2	2	
04/07/11	807	13:26	43F8	57.26.445 N	008.37.663 E	225	275	Expo	Bottom	36	107	Herring	3	60	1.7	2	
04/07/11	868	21:02	44F8	57.49.061 N	008.47.023 E	356	400	Fotö	Surface	515	670	Herring	4	60	2.5	1	
05/07/11	882	00:08	45F8	58.04.475 N	008.43.958 E	350	400	Fotö	Surface	434	450	Herring	4	60	3.2	0	
05/07/11	964	10:39	44F9	57.51.909 N	009.48.881 E	77	350	Expo	Bottom	59	275	Herring	3	60	4	0	
05/07/11	976	13:12	44F9	57.45.361 N	009.47.139 E	234	225	Expo	Bottom	36	2405	Herring	3	60	00:00	0	
05/07/11	1045	21:04	45F9	58.18.667 N	009.14.868 E	5	400	Fotö	Surface	423	120	Krill	5	60	2.3	1	
06/07/11	1054	00:51	46F9	58.32.482 N	009.18.684 E	63	400	Fotö	Surface	351	275	Large medusa	4	60	2.2	1	
06/07/11	1129	10:25	44F9	57.56.328 N	009.28.381 E	242	675	Expo	Bottom	175	170	Norway pout, Blue whiting	3	60	4.9	1	
06/07/11	1148	13:53	45F9	57.58.820 N	009.53.846 E	53	450	Expo	Bottom	103	1640	Herring, Norway pout	3	50	6	1	
06/07/11	1205	21:16	46F9	58.48.954 N	009.50.426 E	229	400	Fotö	Surface	350	215	Mackerel, Herring	4	60	4.8	2	
07/07/11	1221	00:27	46G0	58.51.780 N	010.05.473 E	88	400	Fotö	Surface	183	1825	Mackerel	4	60	6	2	
07/07/11	1291	10:38	46G0	58.34.360 N	010.50.381 E	177	450	Expo	Bottom	91	153	Invetebrates	3	60	7.5	2	
07/07/11	1309	14:00	45G0	58.17.590 N	010.57.686 E	339	470	Expo	Bottom	90	335	Krill	3	60	3.1	2	
07/07/11	1362	21:10	45G0	58.08.047 N	010.37.932 E	39	400	Fotö	Surface	218	938	Herring, Mackerel	4	60	1.2	0	
08/07/11	1376	00:22	45G1	58.07.491 N	011.08.715 E	184	400	Fotö	Surface	77	983	Mackerel	4	60	2	0	
08/07/11	1448	10:37	44G0	57.44.167 N	010.06.069 E	73	425	Expo	Bottom	83	1640	Herring, Norway pout	3	60	4.7	3	
08/07/11	1464	13:39	44G0	57.54.476 N	010.29.004 E	45	550	Expo	Bottom	116	277	Invetebrates	3	60	9.1	3	
08/07/11	1518	21:05	44G1	57.43.288 N	011.02.486 E	128	400	Fotö	Surface	39	1371	Herring	4	60	4.5	3	
09/07/11	1629	12:45	42G1	56.48.667 N	011.43.042 E	25	250	Expo	Bottom	50	700	Sprat, Herring	3	60	8.2	4	
09/07/11	1687	21:02	42G2	56.36.844 N	012.11.830 E	348		Fotö	Surface	45	67	Herring, Large medusa	4	60	4.8	4	
10/07/11	1702	00:33	42G1	56.36.559 N	011.48.683 E	199	375	Fotö	Surface	32	113	Herring, Large medusa	4	60	7	2	
10/07/11	1780	10:43	41G1	56.20.719 N	012.17.974 E	172	200	Expo	Bottom	29	50	Invetebrates	3	48	5.7	2	
10/07/11	1799	13:46	41G1	56.12.623 N	011.58.974 E	227	150	Expo	Bottom	24	59	Invetebrates	3	60	5.2	2	
10/07/11	1857	21:11	41G0	56.14.093 N	010.57.728 E	348	200	Expo	Surface	19	297	Invetebrates	4	40	2.7	2	

Table 4. continued.

		Station		1376	1448	1464	1518	1629	1687	1702	1780	1799	1857
		ICES sq.		45G1	44G0	44G0	44G1	42G1	42G2	42G1	41G2	41G1	41G0
		Gear		Fotø	Expo	Expo	Fotø	Expo	Fotø	Fotø	Expo	Expo	Expo
		Fishing depth		Surface	Bottom	Bottom	Surface	Bottom	Surface	Surface	Bottom	Bottom	10m
		Total depth		77	83	116	39	50	45	32	29	24	19
		Day/Night		N	D	D	N	D	N	N	D	D	N
%	Species	Total catch	Total, kg	983	465	277	1371	700	67	113	50	59	297
46.09	Herring	<i>Clupea harengus</i>	9738.014	198.284	152.383	8.639	1122.925	196.026	10.368	17.31	0.406		1.658
22.50	Mackerel	<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	4753.462	643.49			8.092		1.788	13.872			
7.97	Norway pout	<i>Trisopterus esmarki</i>	1683.617		8.631	30.994							
3.62	Invertebrates	<i>Invertebrata</i>	764.311		219.087	135.221		51.759			32.8	40.8	195.421
3.45	Large Medusa	<i>Scyphozoa sp.</i>	728.117	58.141			102.322		45.1	59.1			
2.47	Saithe	<i>Pollachius virens</i>	521.712		0.212	14.2							
2.37	Sprat	<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	500.205				101.463	371.925	0.138	9.465	5.882	0.992	10.34
2.34	Krill	<i>Euphausiidae spp.</i>	495.235	72.831									
1.82	Haddock	<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	385.081		23.558	0.436	0.07	0.356	0.026	1.642	0.012	0.136	
1.41	Cod	<i>Gadus Morhua</i>	298.47	0.031	6.869	3.1		2.206	2.557	0.034	0.108	0.04	1.252
1.36	Blue whiting	<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	287.635			0.45							
1.23	Whiting	<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	259.775	0.078	11.624	0.214	0.532	14.222	0.344	0.328	3.934	6.64	2.992
0.55	Lumpsucker	<i>Cyclopterus lumpus</i>	115.822			30.7	0.144	2.168	2.99	0.652		1.36	2.654
0.36	Gurnard	<i>Trigala spp.</i>	75.695		0.21			0.524	0.538	0.418		0.27	0.728
0.34	Plaice	<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	72.295		10.85			3.096				1.058	47.845
0.34	Hake	<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	71.337			2.693				0.04			
0.31	Long rough dab	<i>Hippoglossides plattessoides</i>	64.786		3.718	5.524		2.721			0.088		
0.30	Dab	<i>Limanda limanda</i>	62.727		3.717				0.144	0.356	6.915	3.412	27.308
0.26	Garfish	<i>Belone belone</i>	55.987	0.556			16.6						
0.15	Pearlside	<i>Mauroliscus muelleri</i>	31.976	0.202	1.903	22.176							
0.14	Picked Dogfish	<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	28.764	8.6									
0.11	Horse mackerel	<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>	23.63	0.628			16.9						
0.11	Lemon sole	<i>Microstomus kitt</i>	22.426		15.872			0.516					0.096
0.09	Northern pink shrimp	<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	18.856			14.719							
0.07	Common weaver	<i>Trachinus draco</i>	15.497				1.892	0.552	2.232	9.235		0.93	
0.04	Norway lobster	<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	7.464										0.77
0.03	Snake blenny	<i>Lumpenus lumpretaeformis</i>	6.864										
0.03	Gray sole	<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	6.824		5.488	0.146							
0.03	Sculpin	<i>Myoxocephalus scorpius</i>	6.351									1.964	4.387
0.02	Four-bearded rockling	<i>Enchelyopus cimbrius</i>	4.49		0.18	3.147							0.044
0.02	Lesser silver smelt	<i>Argentina sphyraena</i>	4.031	0.031	0.443	0.033			0.004				
0.02	Ling	<i>Molva molva</i>	3.5			3.5							
0.02	Squids, octopusses	<i>Cephalopoda sp</i>	3.33	0.118		0.134	0.06						
0.01	Snake blenny	<i>Lumpenus lumpretaeformis</i>	3.046			0.836							
0.01	Tarry ray	<i>Raja radiata</i>	1.466									0.448	
0.01	Sole	<i>Solea solea</i>	1.174					0.036					1.138
0.00	Anchovy	<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	0.754						0.72	0.034			
0.00	Turbot	<i>Psetta maxima</i>	0.722									0.548	0.174
0.00	Greater sandeel	<i>Hyperoplus lanceolatus</i>	0.644							0.026		0.068	
0.00	Spotted snake blenny	<i>Leptoclinius maculatus</i>	0.364										
0.00	Hagfish	<i>Myxine glutinosa</i>	0.262			0.262							
0.00	Flounder	<i>Platichthys flesus</i>	0.228					0.228					
0.00	Brill	<i>Scophthalmus rhombe</i>	0.188						0.188				
0.00	Poor-cod	<i>Trisopterus minutus</i>	0.142		0.142								
0.00	Common dragonet	<i>Callionymus lyra</i>	0.112								0.112		
0.00	Silvery pout	<i>Gadiculus argenteus</i>	0.1										
0.00	Snake blenny	<i>Lumpenus lumpretaeformis</i>	0.089					0.089					
0.00	Three-spined stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus aculeatus</i>	0.067										0.067
0.00	Solenette	<i>Buglossidium luteum</i>	0.066					0.044		0.022			
0.00	Whiting pout	<i>Trisopterus luscus</i>	0.056		0.056								
0.00	Butter fish	<i>Pholis gunnellus</i>	0.054										0.054
0.00	Pogge(armed bullhead)	<i>Agonus cataphractus</i>	0.02		0.006								0.014
0.00	Sandeel	<i>Ammodytes marinus</i>	0.019										
0.00	Salmon	<i>Salmon solar</i>	0.01							0.01			

Table 5. Measured length distribution of herring by haul for the Danish acoustic survey with R/V Dana in June-July 2011.

Station	282	478	493	529	542	623	636	694	710	794	807	868	882	964	976	1041	1054	1129	1148	1205	1221	1291	1309	1362	1376	1448	1464	1518	1629	1687	1702	1780	1857						
ICES sq	43F6	43F7	43F8	44F7	44F6	42F6	42F7	43F7	44F7	44F8	43F8	44F8	45F8	44F9	44F9	45F9	46F9	44F9	44F9	46F9	46G0	46G0	45G0	45G0	45G1	44G0	44G0	44G1	42G1	42G2	42G1	41G2	41G0						
Gear	Expo	Expo	Expo	Fote	Fote	Expo	Expo	Fote	Fote	Expo	Expo	Fote	Fote	Expo	Expo	Fote	Fote	Expo	Expo	Fote	Fote	Expo	Expo	Fote	Fote	Expo	Expo	Fote	Expo	Fote	Fote	Fote	Expo						
Fishing depth	Bottom	Bottom	Bottom	Surface	Surface	Bottom	Bottom	Surface	Surface	Bottom	Bottom	Surface	Surface	Bottom	Bottom	Wsurface	Surface	Bottom	Bottom	Surface	Surface	Bottom	Bottom	Surface	Surface	Bottom	Bottom	Surface	Surface	Bottom	Surface	Surface	Bottom	Surface					
Total depth	62	140	60	458	349	37	35	61	255	101	36	515	434	59	36	423	351	175	103	350	183	91	90	218	77	83	116	39	50	45	32	29	24						
Day/Night	D	D	D	N	N	D	D	N	N	D	D	N	N	D	D	N	N	D	D	N	N	D	D	N	N	D	D	D	D	N	D	N	N	D	N				
Total catch, kg	39	961	360	830	1235	99	240	1000	1040	1416	107	670	450	275	2405	120	275	170	1640	215	1825	153	335	938	983	465	277	1371	867.119	196.026	10.368	17.31	0.406	1.658					
Total catch Herring, kg	2.668	0.074	255.664	129.07	574.591	34	132.954	809.564	925.764	286.2	48.1	558.764	327.602	253.298	2268.699	9.242	16.536	3.682	831.407	34.188	1.132	6.586	0.356	519.974	198.284	148.271	4.112	0.311	8.382	255.806	867.119	196.026	10.368	17.31	0.406	1.658			
Sample Herring, kg	2.668	0.074	20.414	55.414	48.824	20.068	17.768	23.737	57.514	69.222	21.926	62.136	66.168	19.916	17.992	9.242	16.536	3.682	68.669	34.188	1.132	6.586	0.356	57.858	25.578	1.706	4.112	0.038	8.382	2.618	24.945	26.511	10.368	17.31	0.046	1.658			
Length in cm	5.5																																						
6																																							
6.5																																							
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15.5	3		2																																				
16	5		23																																				
16.5	11		45																																				
17	15		65																																				
17.5	17		50																																				
18	11		68																																				
18.5	2		74																																				
19	3		48																																				
19.5			32																																				
20			18																																				
20.5			15																																				
21			9																																				
21.5			57																																				
22			2																																				
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23			39																																				
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27.5			4																																				
28			10																																				
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29			2																																				
29.5			1																																				
30			1																																				
30.5			6																																				
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Total no.	67	1	451	597	461	655	661	547	721	543	637	441	544	525	512	132	205	21	651	383	13	114	3	504	514	229	92	5	108	428	244								

Table 8. Age distribution in estimate of autumn spawners during the Danish acoustic survey with R/V Dana in June-July from 2007 to 2011 given as number per age and strata in mill.and % of total abundance given by age and strata.

Autumn spawners in 2007										Autumn spawners in 2008										Autumn spawners in 2009										Autumn spawners in 2010										Autumn spawners in 2011																																							
Numbers in millions										Age distribution in % of total abundance										Numbers in millions										Age distribution in % of total abundance										Numbers in millions										Age distribution in % of total abundance										Numbers in millions										Age distribution in % of total abundance									
WR										WR										WR										WR										WR										WR										WR										WR									
Strata	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total	Strata	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total	Strata	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total	Strata	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total	Strata	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total	Strata	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total																				
580E06	0.00	4.28	0.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.05	580E06	0.00	84.62	15.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	103.00	580E06	0.00	0.69	0.09	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.81	580E06	0.00	5.16	0.21	0.10	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.50	580E06	0.00	4.52	4.15	0.21	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.07	580E06	0.00	49.85	45.80	2.27	2.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	99.99																				
570E06	0.00	121.40	56.69	5.73	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	183.90	570E06	0.00	66.01	30.83	3.12	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	570E06	31.06	171.89	42.79	7.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	253.16	570E06	0.00	19.01	6.15	0.66	0.70	0.14	0.00	0.11	26.76	570E06	0.00	510.31	22.96	0.79	1.08	0.34	0.00	0.00	535.48																														
580E08	0.00	59.15	26.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	85.68	580E08	0.00	69.03	30.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	580E08	0.00	9.70	4.14	0.27	0.53	0.26	0.05	0.00	14.95	580E08	0.00	6.73	2.03	0.71	0.66	0.17	0.00	0.00	10.30	580E08	0.00	29.05	33.80	0.97	1.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.41																														
570E08	0.00	753.58	118.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	872.00	570E08	0.00	69.03	30.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	570E08	108.09	747.46	8.76	0.31	0.68	0.27	0.06	0.00	865.63	570E08	0.00	1095.58	86.44	3.23	1.29	0.20	0.00	0.00	1186.75	570E08	0.00	1095.58	86.44	3.23	1.29	0.20	0.00	0.00	1186.75																														
C	0.00	75.63	7.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	83.56	C	0.00	90.51	9.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	C	260.15	0.59	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	260.80	C	0.26	3.03	0.51	0.11	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.12																																								
D	0.00	1365.50	109.44	5.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1480.53	D	0.00	92.23	7.39	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	D	3864.97	482.56	3.47	0.16	0.85	0.37	0.00	0.00	4352.38	D	0.06	202.86	7.37	1.70	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	212.02																																								
E	0.00	1542.98	46.92	7.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1597.67	E	0.00	96.58	2.94	0.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	E	3409.91	277.26	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3687.48	E	49.68	966.47	8.69	2.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1026.98																																								
560E06	0.00	134.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	134.85	560E06	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	560E06	138.33	103.89	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	244.03	560E06	205.36	2.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	208.25																																								
All stratas	0.00	4057.35	366.72	19.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	4443.24	All stratas	0.00	91.32	8.25	0.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	All Strata	7812.62	1794.04	61.42	8.18	2.07	0.91	0.10	0.00	9679.24	All Strata	255.37	2428.48	30.91	6.58	1.64	0.36	0.00	0.12	2723.45																																								

