

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(76) 535 final.

Brussels, 6 October 1976.

Proposal for a  
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

establishing a Community system for the conservation and  
management of fishery resources.

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(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(76) 535 final.

Proposal for  
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 176  
of

establishing a Community system for the conservation and  
management of fishery resources

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and  
in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the Act of Accession, and in particular Articles 102 and 103  
thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament,

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,

Whereas the Council of the European Communities has agreed that the Member  
States will act in concert to extend their fishing zones to 200 miles with  
effect from 1 January 1977 along their North Sea and the North Atlantic coast-  
lines, without prejudice to action of the same kind in respect of other fishing  
zones under their jurisdiction, in particular in the Mediterranean; whereas,  
in this context, in view of the over-fishing of stocks of the main species,  
it is essential that the Community, in the interests of both fishermen and  
consumers, ensure by an appropriate policy for the protection of fishing grounds  
that stocks are conserved and reconstituted; whereas it is therefore desirable  
that the provisions of Council Regulation (EEC) No 101/76 of 19 January 1976  
laying down a common structural policy for the fishing industry<sup>(1)</sup> be supplemented  
by the establishment of a Community system for the conservation and management  
of fishery resources that will ensure balanced exploitation;

Whereas this system should in particular include conservation measures which may  
involve limitations on fishing, rules for the use of resources, special provisions

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 20, 19.1.1976, p. 19

for inshore fishing and structural measures;

Whereas measures regulating fishing may include restrictions, established by species or group of species, on catches, with overall catches being limited by reference to stock or group of stocks;

Whereas the overall catch that may be taken by Member States will be determined by subtracting from the total allowable catch, by stock or group of stocks, the catch allocated to non-member countries in waters under the jurisdiction of Member States and adding to it the catch obtained outside the said waters;

Whereas the coastal populations of Ireland and of the northern parts of the United Kingdom are particularly dependent on fishing and related industries; whereas restrictions on fishing could have particularly serious social and economic repercussions on these regions; whereas provision should therefore be made in respect of the main species for a certain portion to be set aside from the overall catch as a Community reserve to be divided among the said regions in order to meet their vital needs;

Whereas the overall catch, less the abovementioned reserve, should be apportioned among the Member States on the basis of their fishing performances over a reference period;

Whereas the operation of the provisions concerning apportionment of the overall catch should be limited to the period up to 31 December 1982, provision being made for their re-examination in order to determine those to be applied beyond that date in the light of experience and of the results of the conservation policy;

Whereas there should be special provisions for inshore fishing to enable this sector to cope with the new fishing conditions resulting from the institution of 200 mile fishing zones; whereas, to this end, application of the arrangements established by Articles 100 and 101 of the Act of Accession should forthwith be extended beyond 31 December 1982 and Member States authorized at the same time to apply, to inshore zones within the 12 mile limit not covered by Articles 100 and 101 of the said Act, a system identical to that established by the said Articles; whereas, however, all these provisions will be re-examined by the Council before 31 December 1982 on the basis of a report by the Commission;

Whereas the creation of a Community system for the conservation and management of fishery resources should be accompanied by the institution of an effective system of supervision of activities in the fishing grounds and on landing; whereas to this end, inter alia, a system of permits for all fishing carried on by way of trade should be progressively introduced;

Whereas to facilitate the solution of structural problems arising from the establishment of measures limiting fishing, provision should be made for special arrangements, these to be the subject of joint measures within the meaning of Article 6(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 on the financing of the common agricultural policy<sup>(1)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2788/72<sup>(2)</sup>;

Whereas, with a view to the preparation of scientific and technical information to be used to assess the situation regarding the biological resources of the sea and the conditions for ensuring the conservation of

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 94, 28.4.1970, p. 13

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ No L 295, 30.12.1972, p. 1

stocks, a standing Scientific and Technical Committee should be set up under the ~~Auspices~~ of the Commission;

Whereas, to facilitate implementation of the provisions of this Regulation, a procedure should be laid down for close cooperation between the Member States and the Commission within a Management Committee;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

## Explanatory Memorandum

In its Communication to the Council on 18 February 1976, the Commission proposed a certain number of guidelines which could form the basis of a Community system for the management of fishing resources after the establishment of 200-mile economic zones.

The existence of such zones in the near future will of necessity have important consequences for Community fishing activities.

In view of the increasing trend, by numerous countries with large-scale fisheries, to unilaterally extend their fishing zones to 200 miles, without awaiting the conclusions of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, it is to be foreseen that there will be an increase in the fishing activities of non-Community countries in their 200-mile zones or future zones, and a substantial reduction in the catch potential of the Community fishermen who traditionally operated there.

This development will result in a transfer of the fishing effort of the Member States, as well as of certain non-member countries, to the "Community" zone. This transfer may well accelerate the deterioration of stocks, which are already threatened, if some limitations or rules ensuring the rational management of resources are not introduced.

In order to avoid such a situation, the Community has adopted the principle of joint action whereby the Member States might extend their respective fishing zones to 200 miles, with fishing inside these limits being subject to the principles of the relevant common policy and its provisions.

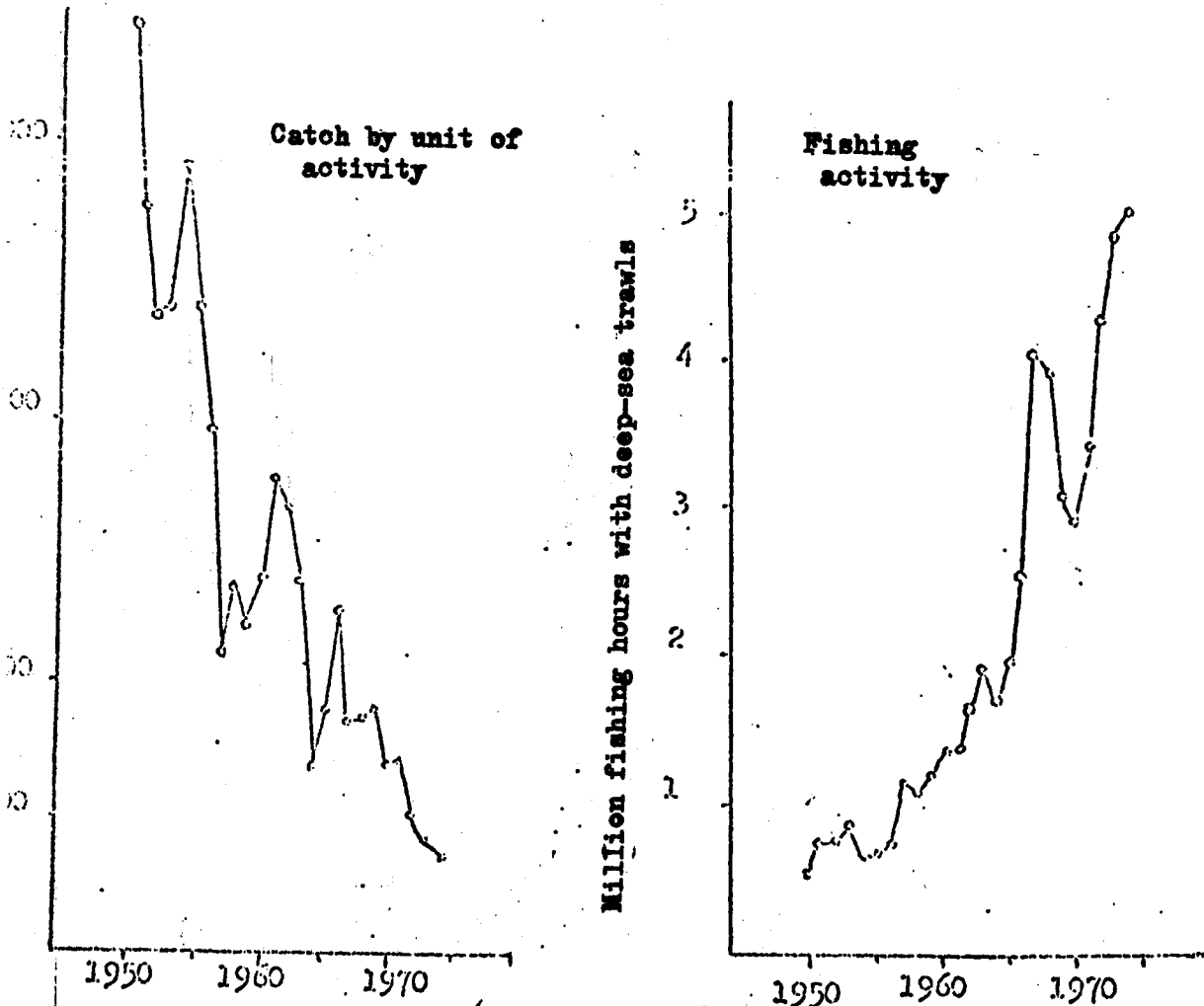
### 1. Current situation in respect of fishing resources

All but a few of the most important North Atlantic and Mediterranean species have been overfished during the last twenty years. This is due largely to fishing fleets being too effective in relation to the available resources; it has had the effect of gradually reducing stocks below their level of optimal production potential.

In this situation, greater fishing activity would not in future result in increased catches but would undoubtedly give rise to a dangerous drop in the volume of resources, and consequently to a reduction in the profitability of fishing operations and in fishermen's incomes. This has already happened with some species. Thus in the case of sole, as shown in the following graphs, fishing activity has quintupled since 1950 and has not been accompanied by a proportional increase in catches; on the contrary, yields dropped twice as quickly during the same period (1950-75).

Graphs 1 and 2:

Trend in fishing activity and catches in respect of North Sea sole by unit of activity

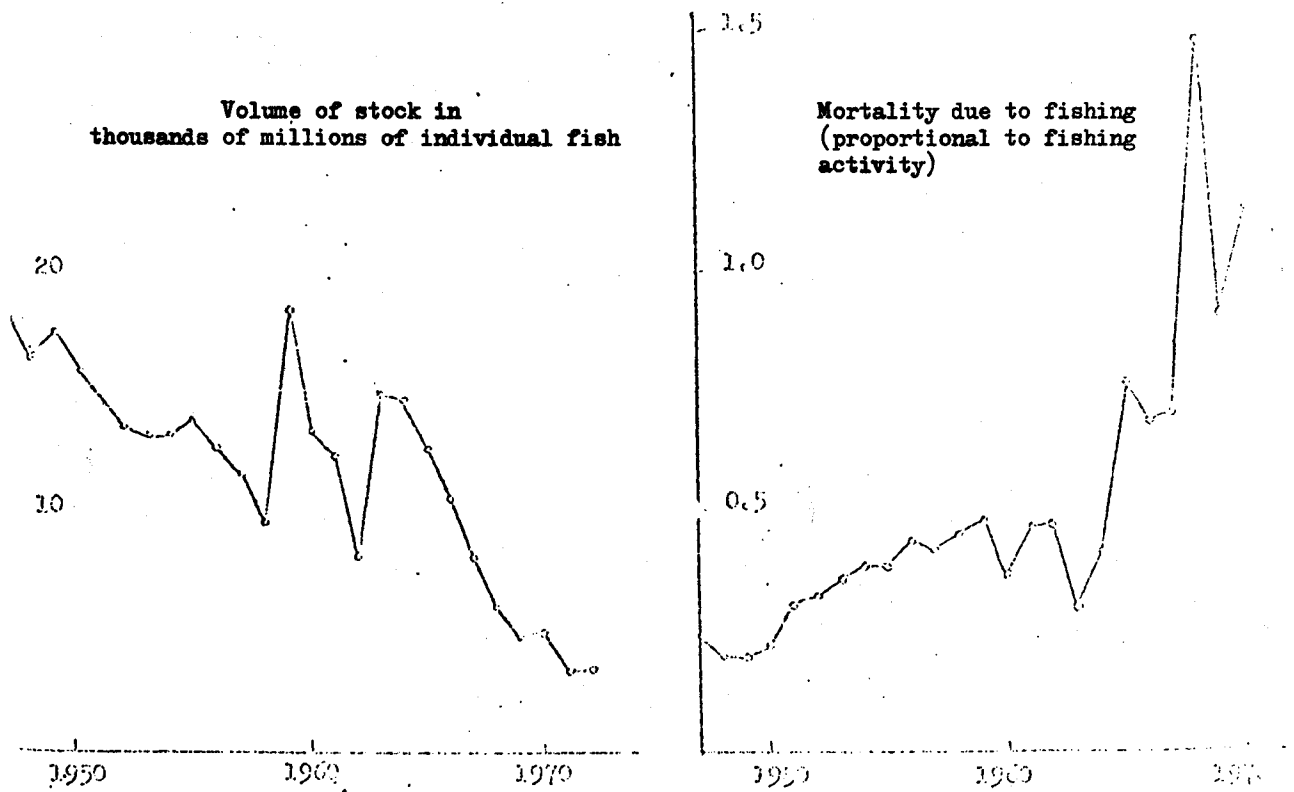


Source: ICES - Symposium on the changes in the North Sea fish stock and their causes No 30.

The same process had occurred in the past in respect of "Atlanto-Scandian herring", stocks which were almost exhausted some years ago. As shown in Graphs 3 and 4, North Sea herring stocks have also reached a critical phase of over-exploitation, which cannot be overcome without immediate action involving severe measures restricting catches. Mortality as a result of fishing activity has quadrupled since 1950.

Graphs 3 and 4:

Trend in the volume of North Sea  
adult herring stock and mortality (1950-75)



Source: ICES - Symposium on the changes in the North Sea fish stock and their causes No 16.



Similarly the situation for most of the other stocks in Community waters, such as mackerel, cod and plaice, will also certainly become a cause for concern without effective conservation and supervision measures governing fishing activity (see Annex).

The reasons for this situation can be attributed to over-intensive fishing, engendered in particular by cut-throat competition between fishermen of the same State or of different States, to often irrational investments and to the very rapid development of certain industrial fleets. Furthermore the lack of certain economic information and differences of opinion as to the state of the resources being exploited have also been major obstacles to the adoption of effective measures.

To try to check such a development, which it is impossible to control at national level, the International Fisheries Commissions<sup>1</sup>, within which the Member States concerned cooperate, would have had to have sufficient powers to introduce adequate control measures. In fact they have been unable to do so and the reasons for this must be sought above all in the very nature of the Commissions, for they have never had the powers to do anything but make recommendations<sup>2</sup>.

In addition they have been unable to develop an adequate supervision system and they have lacked the necessary means of action to alleviate the economic and social consequences inevitably entailed in an effective policy for the conservation and development of resources.

It therefore appears that the absence of a coherent and rational policy, both at national and international level, is the principal reason for the difficult stock situation outlined above.

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<sup>1</sup>NEAFC: North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (24.1.1950)  
ICNAF: International Commission for the North West Atlantic Fisheries (3.8.1959).

<sup>2</sup>The practical scope of the powers of recommendation of these Commissions has been reduced by the fact that in certain cases their action has been made totally ineffective as a result of the objection procedure to which each contracting party may have recourse to escape the constraints which are recognized as necessary on the basis of the most relevant scientific considerations.

## 2. Objectives

The future Community zone will extend to numerous and potentially rich fishing grounds, in which the Community will bear responsibility for conservation and exploitation.

Over-exploitation of these grounds in the past has so far prevented an optimal yield being attained.

In these circumstances the Community must without delay, by means of an appropriate policy for the protection of fishing grounds, ensure the conservation and replenishment of stocks; it must also undertake a progressive reorganization of economic activity in this sector, in the light of the volume of resources which can be exploited annually after replenishment.

The optimalization of exploitable resources to be achieved by the future system will inevitably require short-term sacrifices from the Member States. The main priority of the future measures will have to be to reduce fishing activity in order to avoid the elimination of threatened stocks and to replenish those which are being over-fished. These measures, which will initially entail a reduction in fishing activities, will eventually facilitate the optimalization of catches and will have beneficial effects on the profitability of ships and on fishermen's incomes.

The Commission has therefore based its proposal on three fundamental considerations:

- firstly, it is in the medium and long-term interest of both fishermen and consumers to ensure the optimal exploitation of the biological resources of the Community zone. Consequently there is a vital need to consider effective measures for the conservation, development and management of these resources;

- secondly, in the framework of the management of resources and by means of the various financial instruments at the Community's disposal, it is necessary to maintain as far as possible the level of employment and income in coastal regions which are economically disadvantaged or largely dependent on fishing activities;
- thirdly, in the next five years it will be necessary to intensify efforts aimed at adapting fleets to catch potential. This will require specific measures which could receive Community financing.

Concomitantly with the procedures to have the attached Regulation adopted by the Council, the Community will try to increase the volume of possible catches for its fishermen through negotiations with non-member countries, and to maximize the exploitable resources in the Community zone by reducing or perhaps eliminating fishing activity there by non-member countries' fleets.

### 3. Proposed measures

Under its common policy the Community has already some powers of action at its disposal. The new situation requires both a diversification and strengthening of these powers and in certain cases the obtention of additional powers.

#### 3.1 Conservation and development of resources

The conservation policy to be implemented will only be effective if there is a rational policy based on management by species or groups of species in a given maritime area. These measures will in particular include supervision of fishing equipment, the delimitation of areas closed to certain seasonal or long-term fishing, limitation of catches by the fixing of an annual total acceptable catch (TAC), perhaps leading eventually to the regulation and supervision of fishing activity in general.

With this in view, the Commission proposes the adoption of a Community system for the management of fishing resources, based on permanent rules for conservation and supervision.

This system includes in particular a mechanism for allocating quotas, proposed for an initial 5-year period.

This mechanism will be re-examined at the end of this period in the light of the results of the conservation policy and of the changes in the structure of fleets as a result of the new conditions governing the exploitation of resources, affecting the ships of the Member States in their various traditional fishing zones.

In the framework of the conservation policy, fishing for industrial purposes (fish meal) merits special examination. Numerous stocks of highly valuable commercial species intended for human consumption are affected by such fishing, either directly because of their being caught unintentionally during industrial fishing activities, or indirectly, for it is known that certain species caught in the course of such fishing are a source of food for highly valuable commercial species. It will therefore be necessary not only to apply general conservation measures in respect of fishing for industrial purposes but also to assess the influence of such fishing on the balance of species for human consumption.

### 3.1.1 In-shore fishing

Special attention must be paid to the position of in-shore fishing, which may well be threatened during the process of adapting Community fishing to the new situation.

In the Community this type of fishing is of considerable economic and social importance for numerous coastal regions, where it is the main if not the only activity of the population.

The Community fleet comprises about 45 000 vessels, the major portion of which have a waterline length of less than 18 metres, and an operating range which is generally close to the home port, with trips to sea usually not exceeding two days fishing on average. The number of fishermen employed full-time in this activity is almost 80% of all fishermen in the Community, and if we include the members of their families and shore workers employed in related activities, it can be estimated that the income of about 600 000 persons is dependent on this sector. Although in-shore fishing comprises a majority of non-industrial undertakings facing acute problems as a result of their obsolescent equipment and their financial weakness, there are significant possibilities for its development in view, *inter alia*, of the adaptability of such undertakings and the close proximity of the fishing areas to the home ports. In view of these facts, the preservation of in-shore grounds could be achieved both by specific conservation measures and by a fair balance between the interests of in-shore fishing and those of deep-sea fishing.

At present Community legislation makes provision for certain privileges for in-shore fishing, which entail various derogations from the principle of equal conditions of access to and use of fishing grounds in maritime waters under the sovereignty or within the jurisdiction of Member States (Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 101/76 of 28 January 1976). In waters within a limit of six nautical miles, fishing can be limited on the basis of Article 100 of the Accession Treaty to vessels which traditionally fish in these waters and which operate from ports of that geographical coastal area.

In a certain number of zones laid down in Article 101 of the Act of Accession, the six mile limit is extended to twelve miles. Within both the six and twelve mile zones the fishing rights which the Member States enjoyed in regard to the coastal State on 31 January 1971 continue to apply (Article 100(2)).

All these derogations remain in force only until 31 December 1982. However, the Council, as laid down in Article 103 of the Act of Accession, is to examine the provisions which could follow these derogations.

In the new context which will exist after the establishment of 200-mile economic zones, and in view especially of the conservation measures which will have to be taken for numerous species in order to build them up to an optimal level within reasonable periods of time, supplementary provisions must be laid down to help in-shore fishing.

To this end, it is proposed that:

- (a) the provisions contained in Article 100 of the Act of Accession should be applied to the zones between six and twelve miles which are not referred to in Article 101 of the said Act. Thus, the special rights which the Member States could exercise in these zones vis-à-vis the coastal State upon implementation of this measure are maintained.
- (b) the Council should forthwith take the decision to extend the provisions of Articles 100 and 101 of the Act of Accession beyond 31 December 1982 and agree that the measures referred to under (a) should apply as long as the said provisions remain in force.
- (c) the special rights referred to in paragraph (a) and those which the Member States may exercise in the zones referred to in Articles 100 and 101 of the Act of Accession pursuant to Article 100(2) should be exercised in the light of stock conservation requirements. The necessary supervision may be effected through a system for the granting of fishing licences.

The provisions under (a), (b) and (c) above will be subject to re-examination by the Council on the basis of a Commission report before 31 December 1982. Should the Council take no decision to the contrary, on a proposal from the Commission, these provisions would remain in force.

Furthermore, in certain peripheral coastal regions of the Community, which are near important fishing grounds and are less favoured economically, the local communities are particularly dependent upon fishing and the industries allied thereto, these providing most of the employment and the production of the region. This situation arises in certain specific regions of Ireland and the northern part of the United Kingdom. When it becomes necessary to take stringent conservation measures for certain stocks on which the fisheries of these regions are particularly dependent, these measures may have a considerable effect upon the income level of the population concerned.

For this reason it is proposed that account should be taken of this special situation and that the provisions relating to fishing in the zones from six to twelve miles should be supplemented by provisions whereby fishermen in these regions may receive an additional share when quotas are allotted.

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These provisions will not deal with all the particular problems arising in the fishing zones around Greenland. For this reason, they should be supplemented and the Commission will put forward proposals on this matter at a later date.

3.1.2 The management of fishing resources in the future Community zone

A. Community system for the management of the biological resources in the zone

The management of the biological resources of the Community will require the implementation of a Community system of management, the structure and operation of which may be outlined as follows:

- each year, for the purpose of the formulation of Commission proposals concerning the management of the biological resources of the zone, the national laboratories and statistical offices will forward all the necessary information to a Community Scientific and Technical Fisheries Committee set up for that purpose;

- this Committee will consider how each stock, or group of stocks as appropriate, should be managed and will submit a report each year to the Community Institutions. This will cover not only the stocks located in Community waters but also, in collaboration with the parties concerned, to the mixed stocks moving from the Community zone to the waters of non-member countries and vice-versa;
  
- the Commission will make its proposals to the Council (covering where necessary the question of fisheries agreements with non-member countries) on the basis of this report and of any other relevant information available,
  
- after their adoption by the Council, it will be for the Commission to implement the measures, in accordance with the Management Committee procedure. To this end a Management Committee for Sea Resources will be set up by the Commission.

**B. Management measures**

**(a) Fixing of the TAC**

The fixing of a total annual catch (TAC) per stock or group of stocks would at present appear to be, for most species, one of the most effective means of obtaining an optimum yield from the resources. The fixing of the TAC is accompanied by supplementary measures (meshing of nets, fishing seasons, etc.) to prevent the taking of immature fish, so that stocks may be maintained at maximum yield.



(b) Distribution of quotas

Following the fixing of the TACs per stock or group of stocks<sup>1</sup>, the Community must distribute the permissible catches fairly among the fishermen of the Member States, using a system of quotas. The volume of these catches will equal the total of the TACs, minus the total catches allocated, if any, to non-member countries in the Community zone, plus catches by the Community in the waters of non-member countries.

The allocation of the availabilities among the fishermen of the Member States in the zone from 0 to 200 miles may have particularly serious social and economic repercussions for the northern regions of the United Kingdom and for Ireland, especially where the availabilities for a given species fall below their previous level.

It is therefore proposed that a Community reserve stock should be established for each of the main species, and that the amount of this reserve stock should be fixed each year on the basis of the vital needs of the fishermen in those regions and the extent to which catches have been reduced below their previous level. This reserve stock will enable an additional quantity to be allocated on a priority basis to those fishermen who have traditionally fished the stocks in question.

The allocation of catches should be done primarily on the basis of the Member States' fishing performances in the past, related to a reference period to be determined.

The mechanism for the allocation of the quotas should be reviewed before 31 December 1982 in order to determine, in the light of experience and of the results of the conservation policy, what measures should be applied in this field after that date.

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<sup>1</sup>This concept of stock or group of stocks would be based on the classifications hitherto adopted by the International Fisheries Commissions.

(c) Supervision measures

The application of a system of management of fishing resources based on the establishment of a system of catch quotas must of necessity be accompanied by a suitable system of supervision, organized on a Community basis.

Such supervision, which must cover the conservation measures as a whole, must be effected in a detailed manner and must relate to both activities in the fishing grounds and the quantities landed. This is the only way of ensuring that the sacrifices made by fishermen in order to replenish resources are not in vain as a result of the irresponsible behaviour of other fishermen who are less heedful of the need to comply with the conservation measures and in particular with the catch quotas.

Unlike the International Fisheries Commissions, the Treaty and Community rules provide the Community with the necessary powers to adopt any measures, including binding ones, to attain the objectives laid down and to ensure that they are observed. With this in mind, it is proposed that a system for the supervision of fishing should be introduced, based on a Community system for the granting of fishing licences.

Applying this Community supervision will require an appreciably greater effort from national administrations, which will be mainly responsible, within a Community framework, for implementing the Community rules in their waters.

This system, which is to be implemented progressively and will permit the general supervision of fishing and of the observance of the provisions in force, and action against infringements, is organized on the following main lines:

- (1) establishment of a system of licences requiring the registration of
  - vessels engaged in professional fishing,
  - fishing skippers in command of vessels and responsible for the fishing operations,
- (2) the systematic recording of information relating to the position, intensity and results of the fishing activity of each vessel,

- (3) the compilation at regional, national or Community level of the information concerning fishing activities supplied by skippers subject to the licence system,
- (4) the establishment of a progressive system of financial or administrative sanctions; the latter may include warnings, penalties, and the temporary withdrawal of the licence of the skipper concerned, and in the case of any subsequent breach, the temporary withdrawal of the licence of the vessel in question.

The system of licences should apply initially to Member States' vessels engaged in fishing in the coastal zones between zero and twelve miles of other Member States.

In order to increase the effectiveness of the supervision of the quantities landed it will be necessary to formulate a list of the permitted landed points and to concentrate marketing in officially recognized selling centres. The obligation to market publicly the species subject to catch limits will also enable all those concerned, by means of the regular publication of the results, to ensure that the catch restrictions in force are being observed.

### 3.2 Structural measures

3.2.1 The Community fleets have been designed to conform to exploitation models based on both the nature of the fishing resources and on restrictions of a geographical nature (distance from fishing grounds).

These models no longer correspond to the new conditions which will govern fishing in the Community.

It will therefore be necessary to effect a major reduction and redirection of fishing capacity to bring it to an optimum level in relation to the fishing potential, and also to adapt the land-based structures and the other activities closely linked to the on-shore process. In order to attain these objectives, different measures must be considered, including:

process. In order to attain these objectives, different measures must be considered, including:

- the overall reduction of the present production capacities of the fleets:

The practical application of this measure requires the withdrawal of a number of high-sea fishing vessels, by the breaking-up of ships which are old but still in use, or by the sale to non-member countries of more recent ships or by assigning them to activities other than fishing. The extent of this reduction will depend essentially on the extent to which fishing can be continued in the waters of non-member countries and also on the cooperation agreements (joint ventures) which can be concluded between fleets in the Community and in non-member countries.

- the progressive conversion of fleets:

This conversion must be effected progressively in keeping with a rational management of resources in the Community zone, the fishing possibilities in the waters of non-member countries and the need to avoid a premature cutback in production potential during the transitional period. This potential can in fact be subsequently re-oriented towards new activities by means of suitable adjustments.

Furthermore, any serious economic dislocation between the upstream and downstream sectors of production must be avoided as far as possible. This requirement will necessitate, in each instance where this proves necessary, the taking into account of all the relevant regional factors and also of projects for the improvement of the Community littoral.

- In view of all the measures which must be taken, given the resources situation described above, particularly as regards the pelagic species, and in view of the interdependence of stocks and of the need to maintain a natural balance in the marine food chains, there must also be a significant reduction in the short term in the production capacity for fish meal.

### 3.2.2 The structural measures proposed

With regard to high-sea fishing, the Community must propose as soon as possible specific measures to deal with the increasing difficulties which may irreversibly affect the normal activities of this sector and give rise to premature action.

Although the exact content of such common measures cannot be defined until a later date, it is advisable to make provision now for:

- the introduction of short-term measures to facilitate the gradual conversion of vessels;

- the allocation of a budget appropriation for the EAGGF for the attainment of the abovementioned objectives.

A. The short-term measures should help bring about the definitive withdrawal from operation of obsolete and uneconomic fishing vessels and, where appropriate, the temporary withdrawal of fishing vessels capable of adaptation to the changed operating conditions.

They should encourage recognized producers' organizations laying down plans for cutting back their fleets' operations in line with the introduction of catch quotas, and encourage efforts to locate new species or fish new areas and to evolve techniques for developing and expanding the market for species of fish at present not used, or under-used, for human consumption.

They should make possible the phased conversion of some plants producing significant quantities of fish meal and fish oil where the continued production of these would be in conflict with the general objectives of conserving the biological resources of the sea.

On account of present over-capacity in the fisheries sector, national aid for the construction of new fishing vessels should be limited and be harmonized at Community level.

B. The Commission will submit to the Council by 1 March 1977 a proposal for common measures under Article 6(1) of Regulation No 729/70 with a view to action to facilitate the structural adaptation of the high-sea fisheries sector.

These measures will certainly have financial implications calling for special expenditure on the part of the Community. Although a detailed estimate cannot really be made at this stage, this expenditure may be put at something like 400 million units of account spread over five years.

#### 4. Social aspects

The measures to limit catches or supervise fishing activities necessary to achieve the rational management of the resources of the Community zone are likely, during a transitional period, to have consequences which could affect the activity of fishermen, and therefore their social situation, in certain maritime regions of the Community.

The Community and the Member States must, by the adoption of suitable measures, ensure that the level of employment is maintained in balance with local requirements. These measures must take into account the stage reached in the development of the coastal regions, and ensure the presence of a labour force suited, as regards both numbers and skills, to the new situation and its foreseeable development in the medium and short term.

In the Member States, sea fishermen, with a few exceptions, are already benefiting from a number of measures which, as in the case of the other social categories, relate to training and to a social security scheme covering unemployment benefits and retirement pensions.

At Community level, the European Social Fund, on the basis of the Council Decision of 19 December 1972 (72/428/EEC) on assistance from the Fund for persons leaving agriculture to pursue non-agricultural activities<sup>1</sup>, may also be used for the occupational readaptation of fishermen leaving sea fishing. The other financial instruments of the Community, such as the European Regional Development Fund and the EIB, should help in creating new employment.

In addition, certain measures aimed at sea fishermen engaged in coastal fishing have been proposed by the Commission to the Council and are being examined by the competent bodies.

In view of the diversity of the existing national provisions governing this matter, Community coordination measures are required to harmonize the social possibilities open to fishermen in the Community.

At the same time, specific Community measures, complementary to those existing already, should contribute to attaining the general objectives of the common fisheries policy and facilitate the adaptation of the sea fishermen concerned to the structural difficulties of the sector.

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<sup>1</sup>OJ L 291/158 of 18 December 1972.

ANNEX

I. Summary tables showing the state of the main stocks fished in the North Atlantic and in the Baltic by the Member States of the Community

<u>Table 1</u>	:	North Sea	- Herring - Sole - Cod - Haddock - Mackerel
<u>Table 2</u>	:	North Sea (contd)	- Coalfish - Plaice - Whiting - Sprat
<u>Table 3</u>	:	Irish Sea and Bristol Channel - English Channel and West Ireland	- Sole - Plaice - Cod - Haddock - Whiting
<u>Table 4</u>	:	English Channel and Celtic Sea	- Plaice - Sole - Mackerel - Herring
<u>Table 5</u>	:	West Scotland	- Herring - Haddock - Cod - Coalfish - Whiting
<u>Table 6</u>	:	North East Arctic	- Cod - Haddock - Coalfish
<u>Table 7</u>	:	Iceland	- Cod - Haddock - Coalfish
<u>Table 8</u>	:	Faroes:	Aand Greenland: - Cod - Cod - Haddock - Coalfish
<u>Table 9</u>	:	Baltic	- Cod - Halibut - Plaice - Sprat - Herring



Table 10 : Other species

- species in deep water off West Scotland
- capelin fisheries

Table 11 : Underfished species

- Blue ling
- Horse mackerel
- Lesser sand eel
- Norwegian whiting pout

II. Maps showing the distribution of the main species in the north of the future European Community zone

- Fig. 1 - Herring
- Fig. 2 - Sprat
- Fig. 3 - Mackerel
- Fig. 4 - Plaice
- Fig. 5 - Sole
- Fig. 6 - Redfish
- Fig. 7 - Whiting
- Fig. 8 - Coalfish
- Fig. 9 - Haddock
- Fig. 10 - Cod (spawning grounds)
- Fig. 11 - Cod (nurseries)
- Fig. 12 - Cod (fishing grounds)
- Fig. 13 - Lesser sand eel

TABLEAU 1

Species Stock	Level of exploit.	Recent ave. Catch level '000 tonnes	Spawning stock level	Optimum Yield	Objective of Gestion	Recent catches and recommended TACs									
						Catch 74	ICES TAC 75	NEAFC TAC 75	Catch 75	ICES TAC 76	NEAFC TAC 76	Catch 76	ICES TAC 77		
NORTH SEA STOCKS All have a complex stock structure with coastal and offshore components	HERRING (IV+III a + VII) HIGHLY OVER-EXPLOITED (on both adults & juveniles)	62-72 70-74	Dangerously depleted 1/10 of post war level	500/900 (depends on catch of juveniles)	Minimum landing size of 20 cm	275	140		303	140	254 (7/75-12/76)		76	77	0 (quota fully taken as by catch of industrial fishery)
		Declining trend IV c catch very low			Rebuild spawning stock to \$00 by 1980										
SOLE (mainly IVb, IVc)	HIGHLY OVER-EXPLOITED	62-72 72-74	Dangerously depleted 1/9-1/10 of post war level	About 14	Mesh size of 80 mm. Double spawning stock (at least) by 1980	18	6	12.5	17	8	12.5				6.7 NEAFC accepts 12.5
		Declining trend													
COD	OVER-EXPLOITED	62-72 70-76	Moderate	100/320 (variable mesh size. levels of recruitment)	Increase mesh size. Optimise fishing mortality.	211	230	236	177	210	236				174 (stat. quo) 99 (opt. mise)
		Declining trend													
HADDOCK mainly IVa, IVb	OVER-EXPLOITED	62-63 69-70 71-74	Moderate but variable	80/300 + (recruit. variat.)	Increase mesh size. Reduce juvenile industrial catch. Optimise fishing mortality	193	260 (stat. quo)	275 (stat. quo)	198	155 (stat.)	206				190 (stat. quo) 103 (optimal)
		Declining trend													
MACKEREL (IVa, IVb, III a + Links with VI&VII)	FULLY EXPLOITED	62-65 66-70 71-74	Moderate but variable	200/400 (recruit. variat.)	Reduce fishing effort to conserve stock in a period of low recruitment	298			281	249					165
		Declining trend													

TABLEAU 2

Species Stock	Level of exploit. '000 tonnes	Recent ave. Catch level	Spawning stock level	Optimum Yield	Objective of gestion	Recent catches and recommended TACs						
						Catch '74	ICES TAC '75	NEAFC TAC '75	Catch '75	ICES TAC '76	NEAFC TAC '76	Catch '76
SALTIE mainly IV a links with VI and Norway	FULLY-OVER-EXPLOITED	35 62-64 86 65-69 207 70-74	Probably satisfactory but recent R is low	175	Prevent expansion fishing mortality	231	200		219	200		210
					Note migration & immigration links.							
PLAICE (VIIa, IV, IIIa)	FULLY-OVER-EXPLOITED	103 62-68 122 69-74	Declining to pre-war level	85	Increase mesh. Prevent expansion. Optimise fishing mortality	116	85	126	110	85	100	71
					Note connection with Channel							
WHITING	FULLY EXPLOITED	99 62-65 154 138 66-70 71-74	Moderate, but R is below recent average	100-153	Prevent expansion fishing mortality	188 (status)	160	189	148	160	189	130 (Status) 76 (opt.)
					Diffuse stock structure							
SPRAT (includes coastal + III A	BECOMING FULLY EXPLOITED	69 62-72 166 70-74	Declining very dependent on R, which is variable	396 ? uncertain	Prevent spawning stock falling below 1/3 of virgin level	313	300		635	300		400
									103			100

NORTH SEA  
(CONTINUED)

VI-D-3

TABLEAU 3

Species Stock	Level of exploit.	Recent ave. Catch level '000 tonnes	Spawning stock level	Optimum Yield	Objective of gestion	Recent catches and recommended TACs							
						Catch 74	ICES TAC 75	ICES TAC 76	ICES TAC 77	ICES TAC 75	ICES TAC 76	ICES TAC 77	Catch 76
<u>VIIa, of (IRISH SEA AND BRISTOL CHANNEL)</u> + <u>VII d, e and VI g, k (ENGLISH CHANNEL, AND WEST OF IRELAND)</u>	SOLE	62-72 1.3 70-74 1.6	MODERATE TO LOW	0.9 - 1.1	Optimise fishing mortality Present TAC prevents expansion	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.67	1.4	1.4	1.4
	VII f	62-72 0.6 70-74 0.72	LOW	0.4	As above	0.7	0.67	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.4
PLAICE VII a	OVER-EXPLOITED	62-72 3.8 70-74 4.3	LOW	4.0	As above	3.7	5	4	4	4.15	4	4	4
	OVER-EXPLOITED	62-72 0.7 70-74 0.6	LOW	0.5	As above	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.54	0.4	0.4	0.4
COD VII a + VII f VII d, e VII g, k	HIGHLY OVER-EXPLOITED	25-29 3.7 60-74 6.7 70-74 9	LOW	12	Optimise fishing mortality	18	-	18.1	18.1	-	-	-	14 (status quo) 8.2 (50% cut back)
	NO DATA	25-29 2.4 60-74 8.2 70-74 8	NO DATA	2-8? (catch data)	Set precautionary TAC at present catch								
HADDOCK VIIa+VII f VII d, e + VII g, k	NO DATA	25-29 0.4 60-74 1.3 70-74 2.0	NO DATA	1.0? (catch data)	Precautionary TAC at present catch level								
	NO DATA	25-29 1.9 60-74 6.5 70-74 7.0	NO DATA	1.9-6.5?									6.5 (status quo) 3.2 (50% cut back)
WHITING VIIa+VII f VII d, e + VII g, k	HIGHLY OVER-EXPLOITED	25-29 7.1 60-74 12.1 70-74 8	LOW	13	Precautionary TAC								
	NO DATA	25-29 11.4 60-74 12.3 70-74 11.0	NO DATA	11-12? (catch data)	Optimise mortality	28		19.5	19.5		25		20 (status quo) 10 (50% cut back)

Stock structure to all these cases may be complex with several populations in coastal areas plus some offshore distribution

TABLEAU 4

Species Stock	Level of exploit.	Recent ave. Catch level, '000 tonnes	Spawning stock level	Optimum Yield	Collective of Section	Recent catches and recommended TACs								
						Catch 74	ICES TAC 75	NEAFC TAC 75	Catch 75	ICES TAC 76	NEAFC TAC 76	Catch 76	ICES TAC 77	
PLAICE VII d + e	HIGHLY OVER-EXPLOITED	70-74 3.54	LOW	2.5 (based on catch data)	Optimise fishing mortality Present TAC is precautionary only	3.1	3.26	3.26	2.5	3.26	3.34	76	77	2 VII d 0.45 VIIe
SOLE VII d + e	VII d FULLY EXPLOITED VII e OVER-EXPLOITED	70-74 1.36	MODERATE TO LOW NOW	1.4 on basis of catch data	As above	1.36	1.4	1.45	1.6	1.36	1.45			I VII d 0.45 VIIe
MACKEREL (stock is linked with the other mackerel stocks - celtic, N. Sea) and data refer to area VII as a whole	FULLY EXPLOITED	70-74 141	NO DATA, BUT ACCOUSTIC ESTIMATES being developed	180-325 depending on juvenile mortality	Control heavy exploitation of "deep sea" preserve coastal fishery	249			295					182
HERRING VIIa, VIIg-k complex of stocks	OVER-EXPLOITED especially Celtic	70-74 57	Celtic stock declining. Present recruitment poor	47 Max 14 Mourne 16 Celtic 17	Optimise fishing mortality Rebuild Celtic spawning stock	VII a 38 Celtic	6/74/6-75	74/75	75/76	75/76	75/76	75/76	76/77	13 10-12 NEAFC 76/77
							25	32	18	19	25	14		16.8
							Main fishery is closed October/November inside 12 miles. October closure in UK limits for Mourne fishery							

ENGLISH CHANNEL FLATFISH

VI-D-3

TABLEAU 5

Species Stock	Level of exploit.	Recent ave. Catch level '000 tonnes	Spawning stock level	Optimum Yield	Objective of section	Recent catches and recommended TACs						
						Catch ICES 74 TAC 75	NEAFC TAC 75	Catch 75	ICES TAC 76	NEAFC TAC 76	Catch 76	ICES TAC 77
<u>MOST OF SCOTLAND</u> VI including Rockall VIb unless otherwise stated	HERRING	62-65 64 66-69 106 70-74 206 (some allocation difficulties)	400-700 Present recruitment not good	75-145	Capture of 209 small herring already restricted spawning grounds outside the Hebrides are closed August/Sept. Maintain spawning stock levels Prevent any increase in mortality	156	155	128	66	136		83
	Complex of several populations over a wide area				Difficult stock structure especially over Irish-Scottish link Minch fishery is the source of one "Scottish problem"							
HADDOCK	VI a	Via 70-74 33?	NO DATA	31 ?	Precautionary TAC to check the fishery until stock levels established		66	23				12
	VI b	but difficulty over the rising Ross catch in 75 VI b 70-74 132		--2			51					8.8
COD	FULLY EXPLOITED	Via 70-74 12 VI b 70-74 11	NO ESTIMATE	9-16 1	Prevent expansion Optimise mortality			13		14		9 (Status quo)
SAITHE	OPTIMAL but rising trend of mortality on young fish	70-74	Satisfactory	19-25	Useful to increase mssh size. Prevent expansion			22	30			20
WHITING	Appears to be UNDEREXPLOITED	VI a 25-54 VI b 60-74 70-74	Satisfactory	2-12 0.6	Precautionary TAC to prevent too much expansion			17	13			21 (status quo) for VIa+b

Migratory links with other saithe stocks

TABLEAU 6

Species Stock	Level of exploit.	Recent ave. Catch level '000 tonnes	Spawning stock level	Optimum Yield	Objective of gestion	Recent catches and recommended TACs							
						Catch 74	ICES TAC 75	NEAFC TAC 75	Catch 75	ICES TAC 76	NEAFC TAC 76	Catch 76	ICES TAC 77
<p><u>NORTHERN STOCKS</u>                      NORTH EAST ARCTIC                      (I, IIa, IIb)</p>	<p>COD                      ↑                      HEAVILY OVER-EXPLOITED but recently effort has fallen to optimum level                      ↓                      caught together in same fishery</p>	<p>62-72 739                      70-74 817</p>	<p>LOW BUT RECOVERING</p>	<p>820 to 930 (depends on natural mortality rate)</p>	<p>Rebuild spawning stock to 1950 level                      Optimize fishing mortality                      Increase mesh size</p>	<p>1102</p>	<p>625                      650</p>	<p>810</p>	<p>834</p>	<p>700-800</p>	<p>810 + 40 coastal</p>	<p>810 + 40 coastal</p>	
	<p>HADDOCK</p>	<p>OVER-EXPLOITED</p>	<p>62-72 138                      70-74 194</p>	<p>LOW</p>	<p>180</p>	<p>Increase mesh size                      Optimize fishing mortality                      Improve stock</p>	<p>221</p>			<p>178</p>	<p>100</p>		<p>110 (on basis of by catch in cod fishery)</p>
<p>SAITHE</p>	<p>OVER-EXPLOITED</p>	<p>62-72 176                      70-74 239</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>191</p>	<p>Optimize fishing mortality</p>	<p>264</p>			<p>226</p>	<p>190</p>		<p>200</p>	

The major cod stock of NEAFC region

Migratory links with other stocks.

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TABLEAU 7

Species Stock	Level of exploit.	Recent ave. Catch level '000 tonnes	Spawning stock level	Optimum Yield	Objective of gestion	Recent catches and recommended TACs							
						Catch 74	ICES TAC	NEAFC TAC	Catch 75	ICES TAC	NEAFC TAC	Catch 76	ICES TAC
NORTHERN ICELAND (Va)	COD	62-72 403 70-74 415	LOW OR VERY LOW 230	354 or more, depending on pre-recruit fishery	Rebuild spawning stock Optimise fishing mortality	75	75	75	75	76	76	76	77
	HADDOCK (coastal mainly)	62-65 105 66-69 55 70-74 44	POOR	63	Rebuild stock Optimise fishing mortality				Subject to special Agreement on Catch limits and closed areas Iceland cod is linked to South and East Greenland stocks				
	SATHE	62-68 61 69-72 118 70-74 115	MODERATE but becoming POOR	111	Optimise fishing mortality	98			85	75			60





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TABLEAU 9

Species Stock	Level of exploit.	Recent ave. Catch level '000 tonnes	Spawning stock level	Optimum Yield	Objective of gestion	Recent catches and recommended TACs							
						Catch 74	ICES TAC 75	NEAFC TAC 75	Catch 75	ICES TAC 76	NEAFC TAC 76	Catch 76	ICES TAC 77
COD (East and Western stocks)	HIGHLY OVER-EXPLOITED	62-72 150-200 62-72 158	Must be LOW	+ 60 % of present	Raise mesh size Optimise fishing mortality	75	76	76	75	76	76	76	77
	FLOUNDER Numerous isolated populations	11-14 ?	Moderate to Poor	present catch level ?	Raise mesh size Prevent expansion								
FLAICE Mainly Belt Sea and Western	OVER-EXPLOITED	?	MODERATE TO POOR ?	+ 20 % of present catch	Raise mesh size Optimise mortality								
SPRAT	NO DATA at the moment	62-68 74	NO DATA at the moment	NO DATA at the moment	Prevent further expansion								
		69-72 155			short-lived population								
HERRING	NO DATA at the moment	62-72 261 (G.D.R. catch not included)	NO DATA at the moment	NO DATA at the moment									

BAITIC  
(POOR DATA)

TABLEAU 10

Other Species	Species Stock	Level of exploit.	Recent ave. Catch level '000 tonnes	Spawning stock level	Optimum Yield	Objective of gestion	Recent catches and recommended TACs						
							Catch ICES TAC	NEAFC TAC	Catch	ICES TAC	NEAFC TAC	Catch	ICES TAC
	West of Scotland Deep water Species. various species, including ling and blue ling, along the edge of the western continental shelf. Not exploited (except fishing of blue ling by France) Exploratory surveys and biological investigations have been carried out by U.K. Populations are generally of old fish and several seem to be distributed out to even greater depths, perhaps on a seasonal basis. Difficulties of exploitation relate to reduced fishing time (extra depth of operation), need for special gear and ships with large winch capacity, difficult and rocky grounds, large by catches of sharks etc., variable quality trash fish amongst the few species of equivalent quality to cod. The effect of exploitation on these species could be rapid at first, unless the growth rates change as a result of the changes in density.						74	75	75	76	76	76	77
	<u>Capelin Fisheries</u>												
	Iceland Stock	Moderate	1972 : 277.000 1974 : 462.000	Good at the moment	No data	Prevent immature fishery. National measures exist in Iceland to this effect.							Capelin are caught after spawning, so that provided the immatures are not overexploited, and provided the spawning fishery does not decimate to spawning stock (vulnerable point because life cycle short and subject annual fluctuations) these fisheries should not experience problems in the immediate future.
	Barents Sea stock	Full	1974 I 772.666 II a 242.521 II b 244.087	Satisfactory but subject to natural fluctuat.	?	1-2 year old protected by 13 cm min. landing size. Certain closures apply							



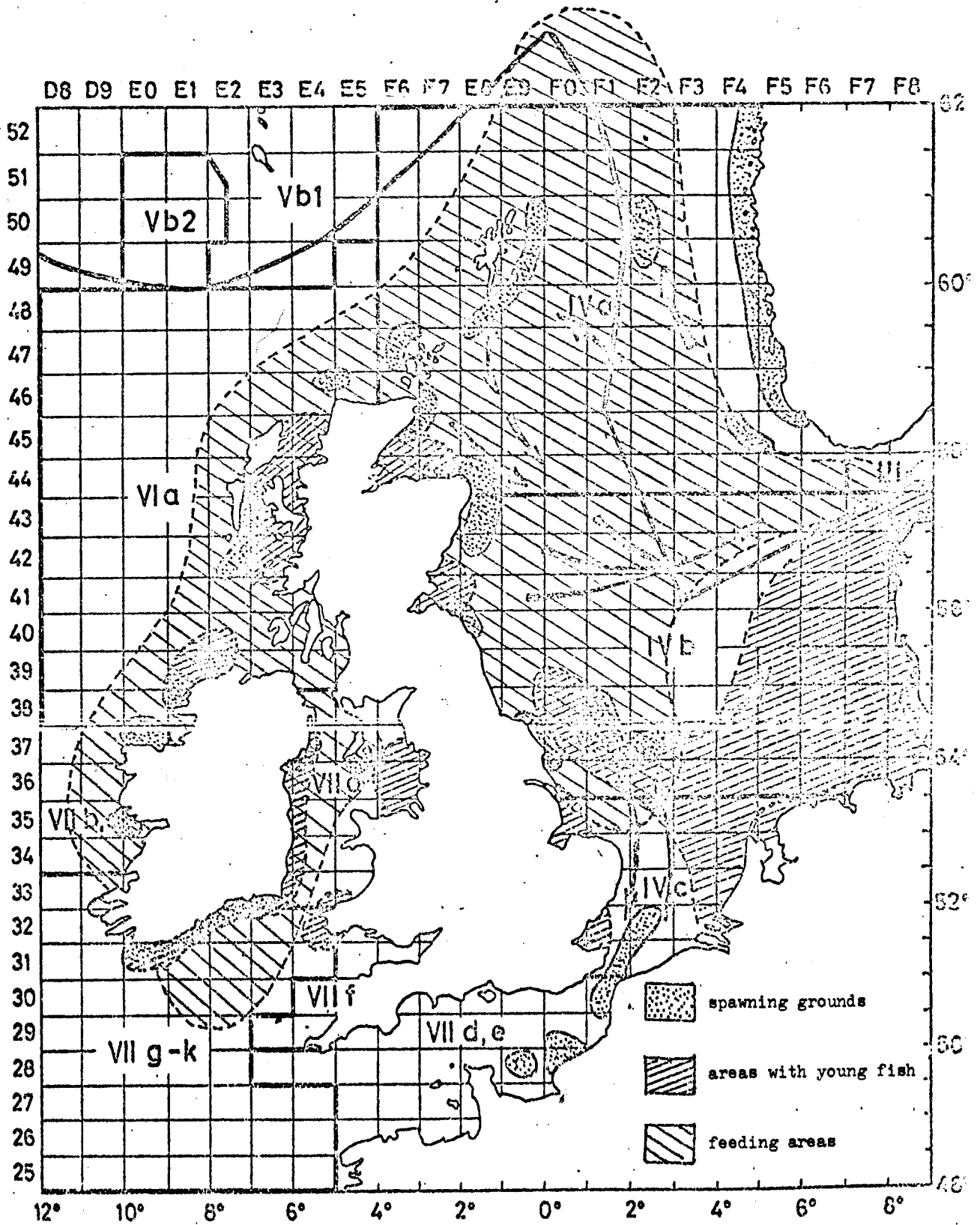


Fig. 1 : Herring from the North Sea to the Irish Sea

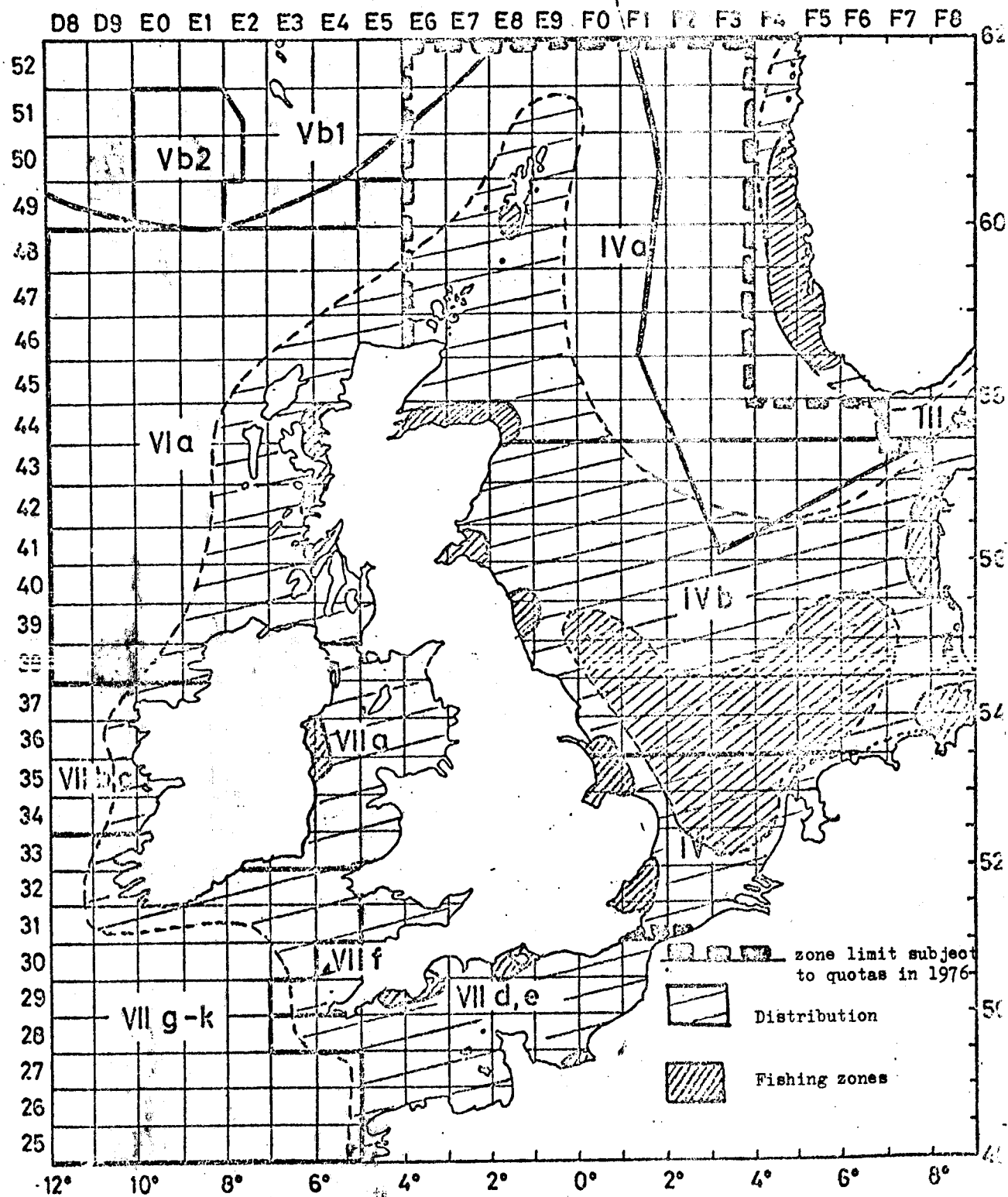


fig. 2 Sprat

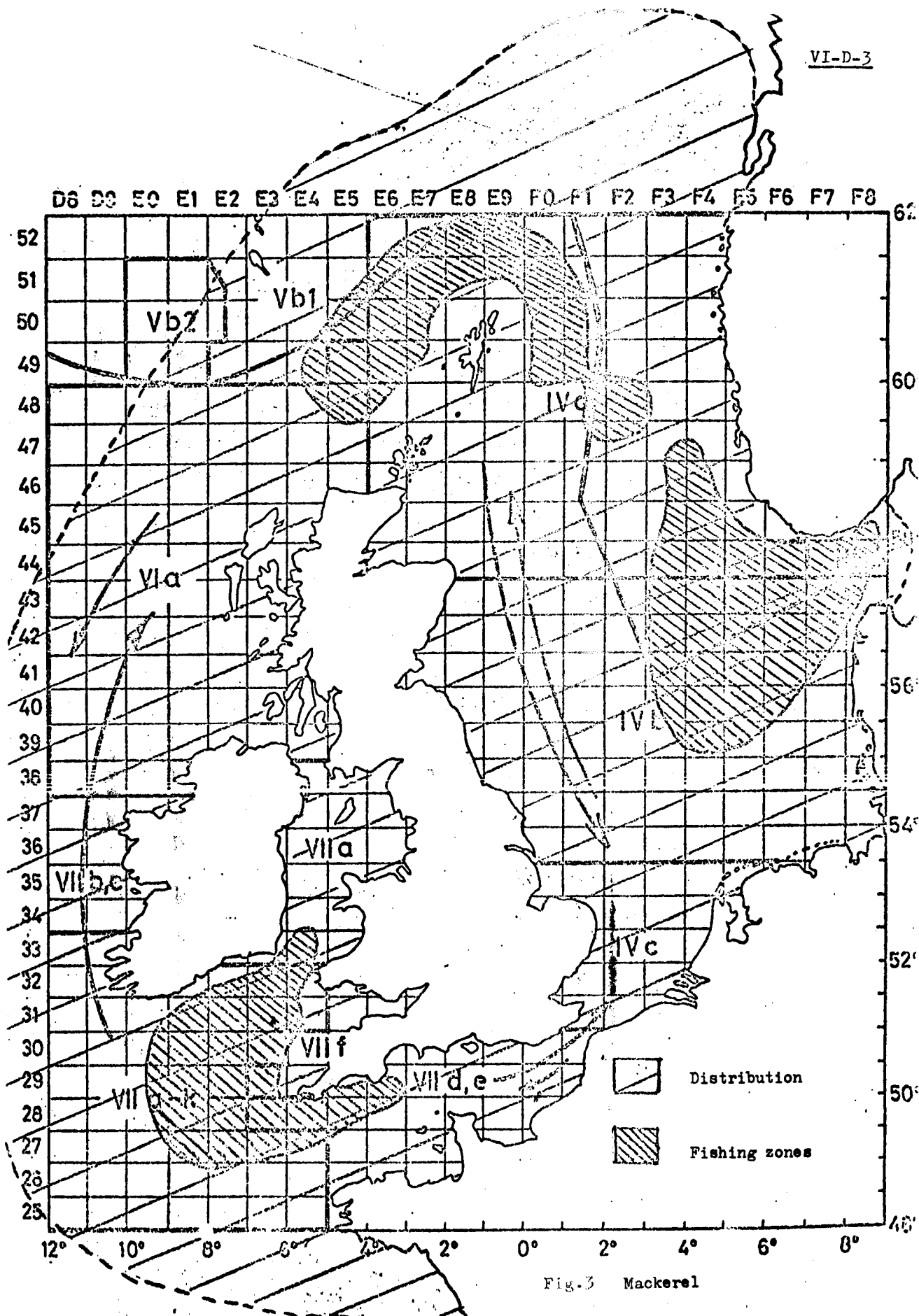


Fig. 3 Mackerel

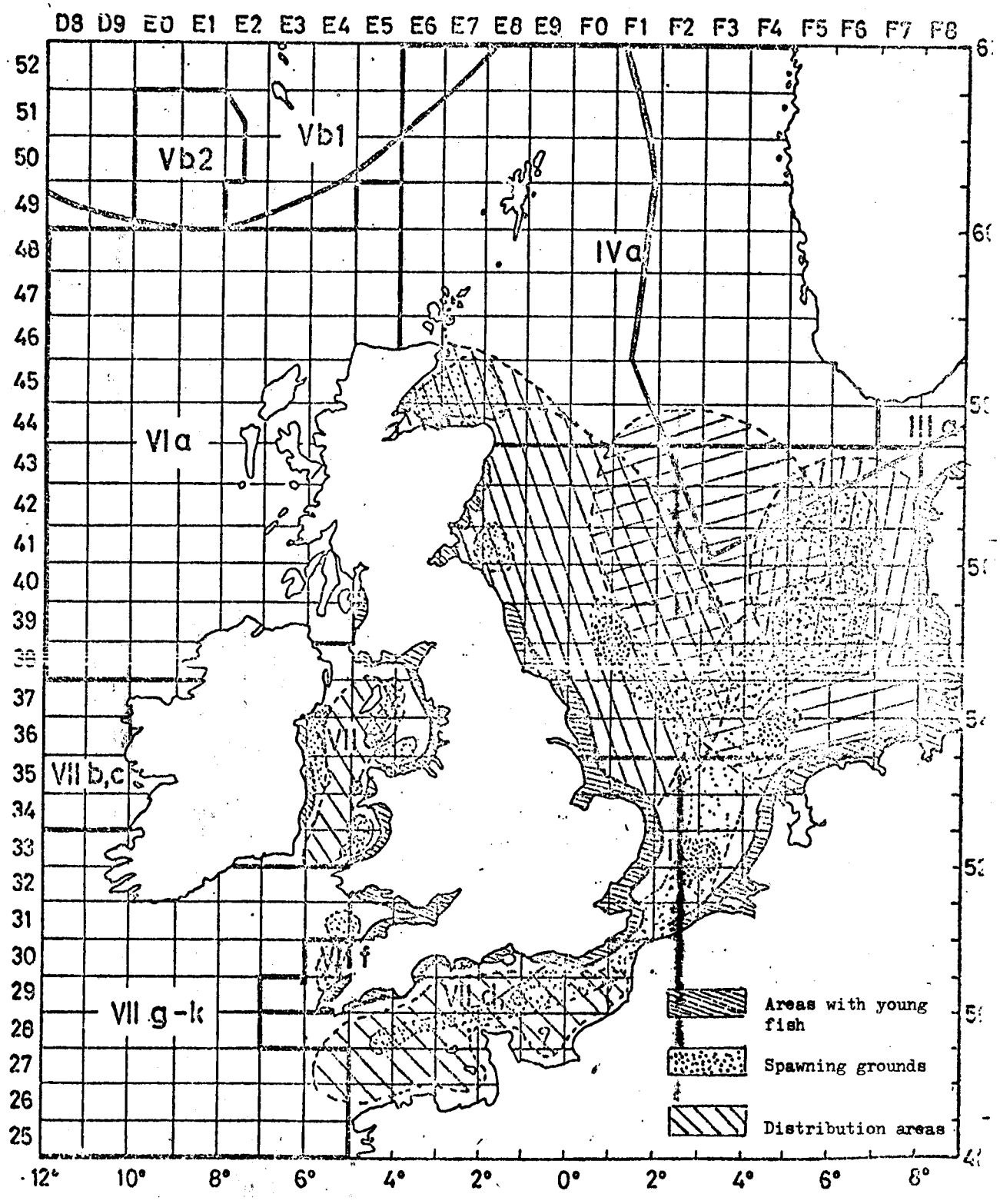


Fig.4 Plaiice



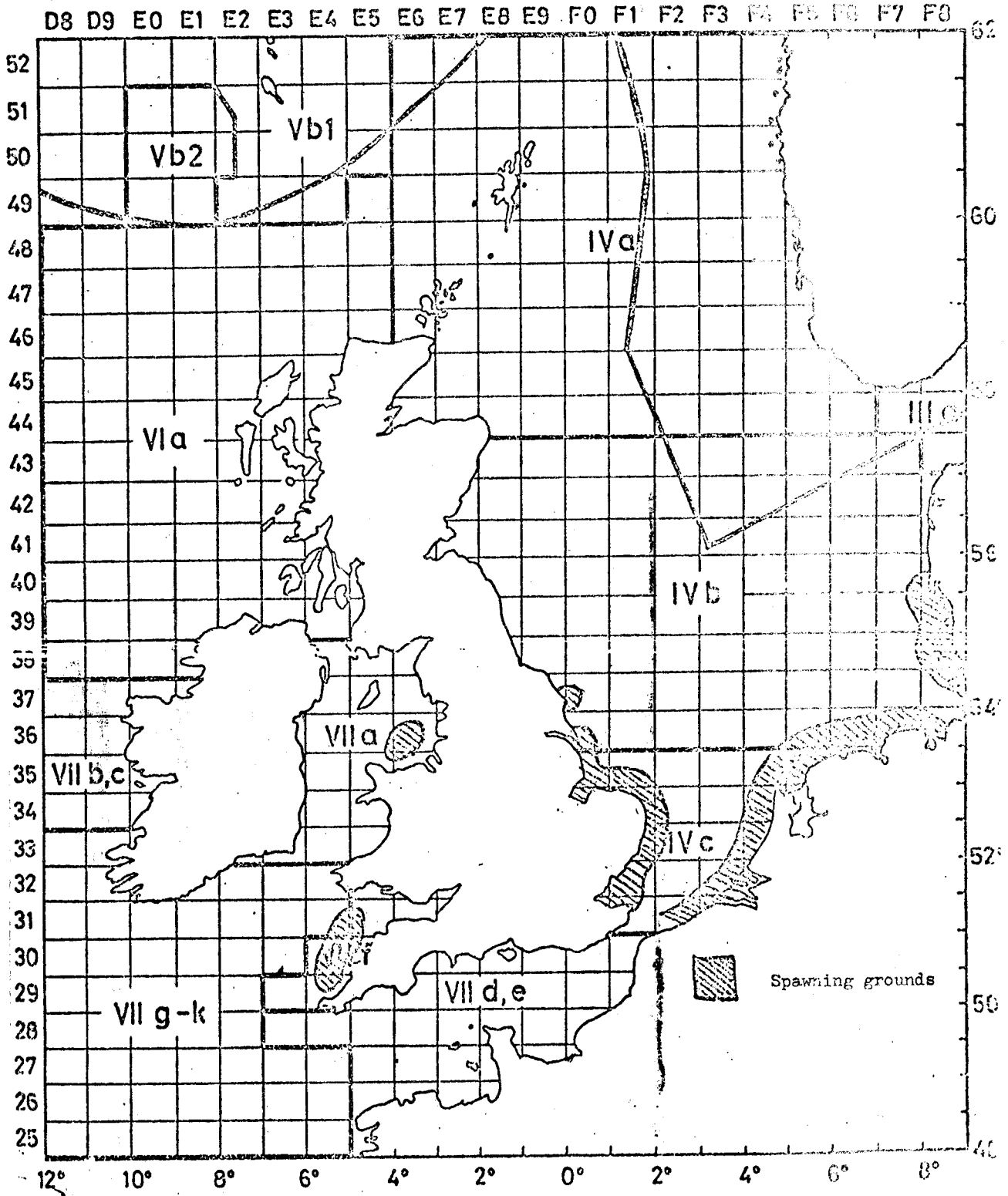


Fig.5 Sole

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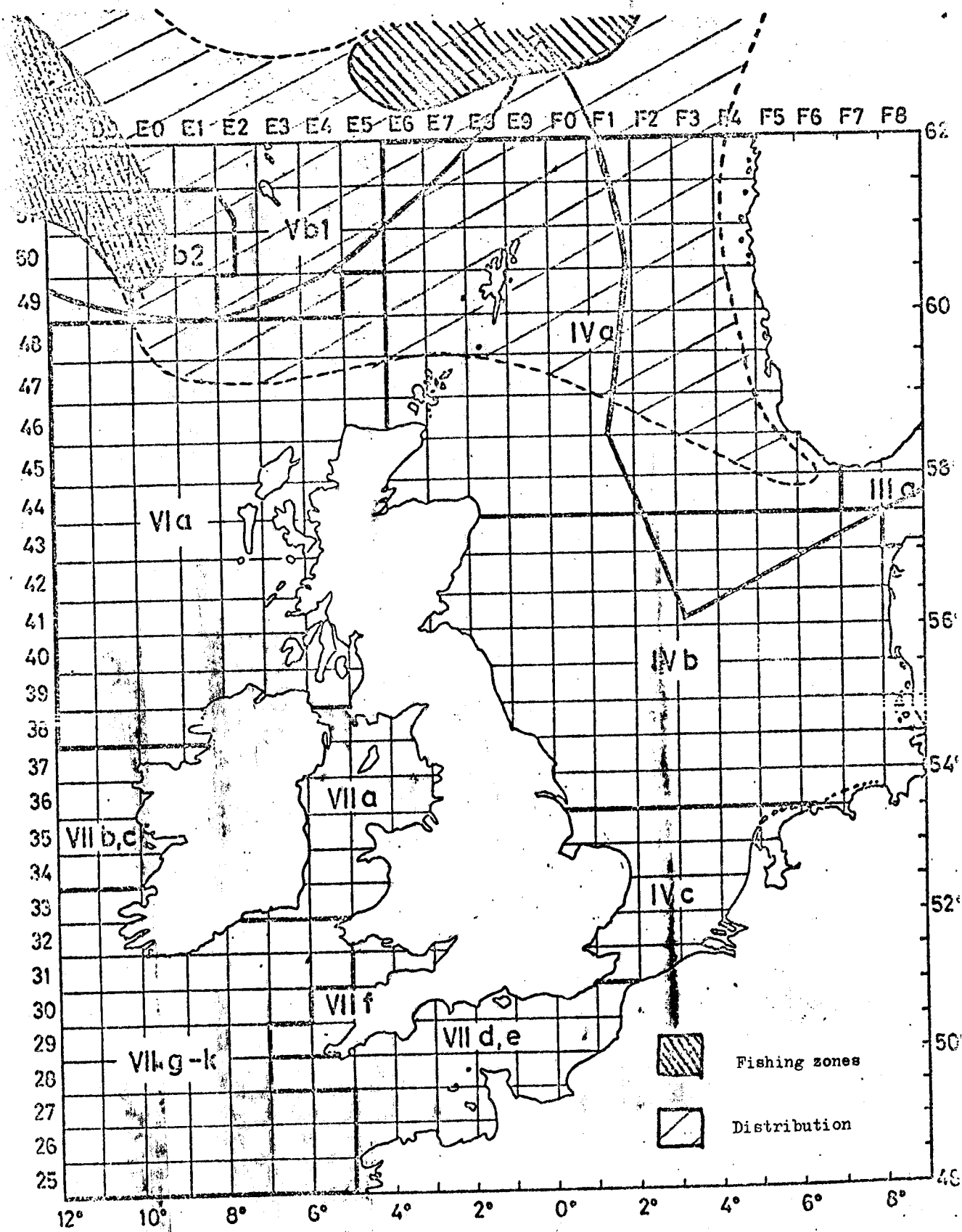


Fig. 6 Redfish

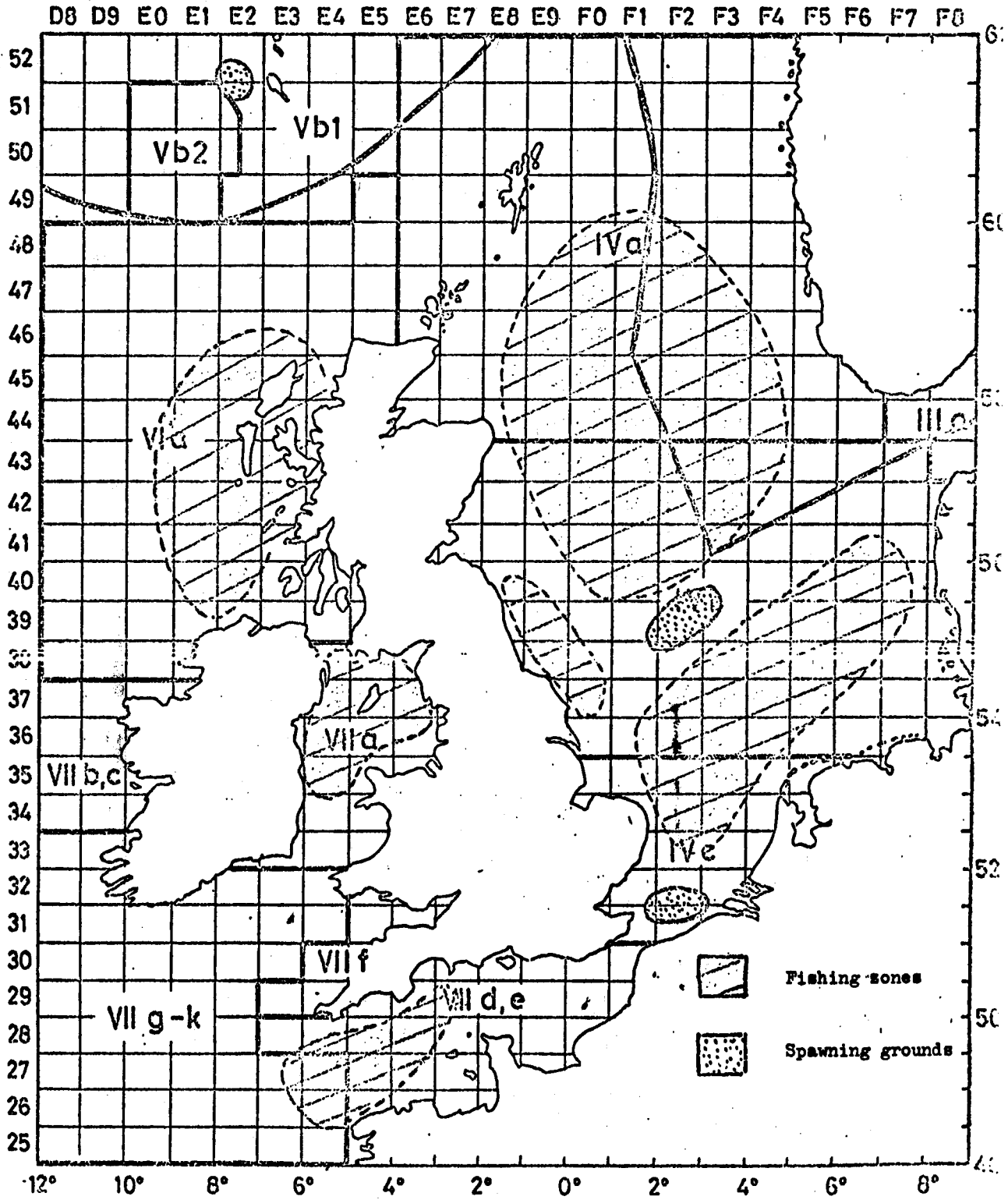


Fig. 7 Whiting

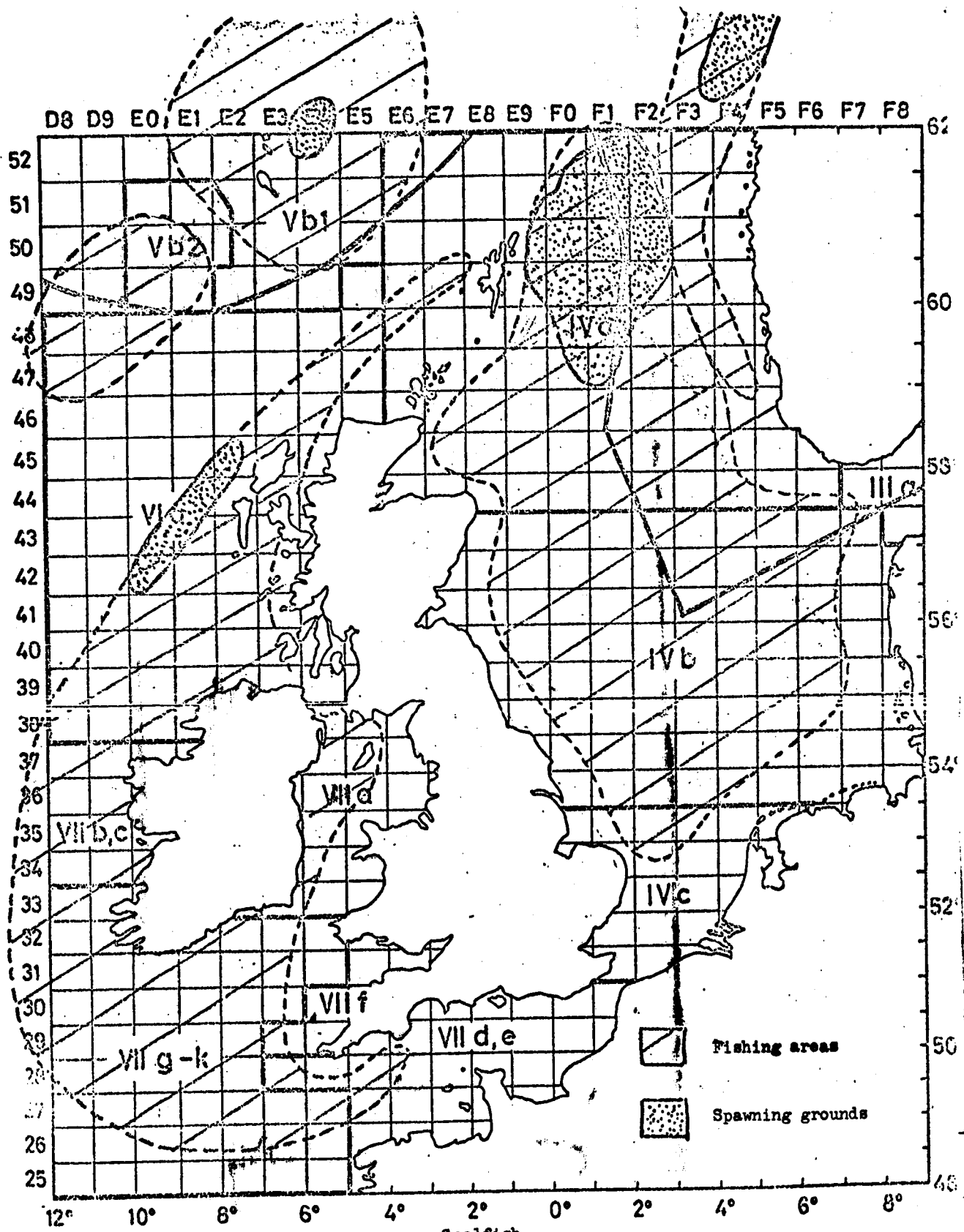


Fig. 8 Coalfish

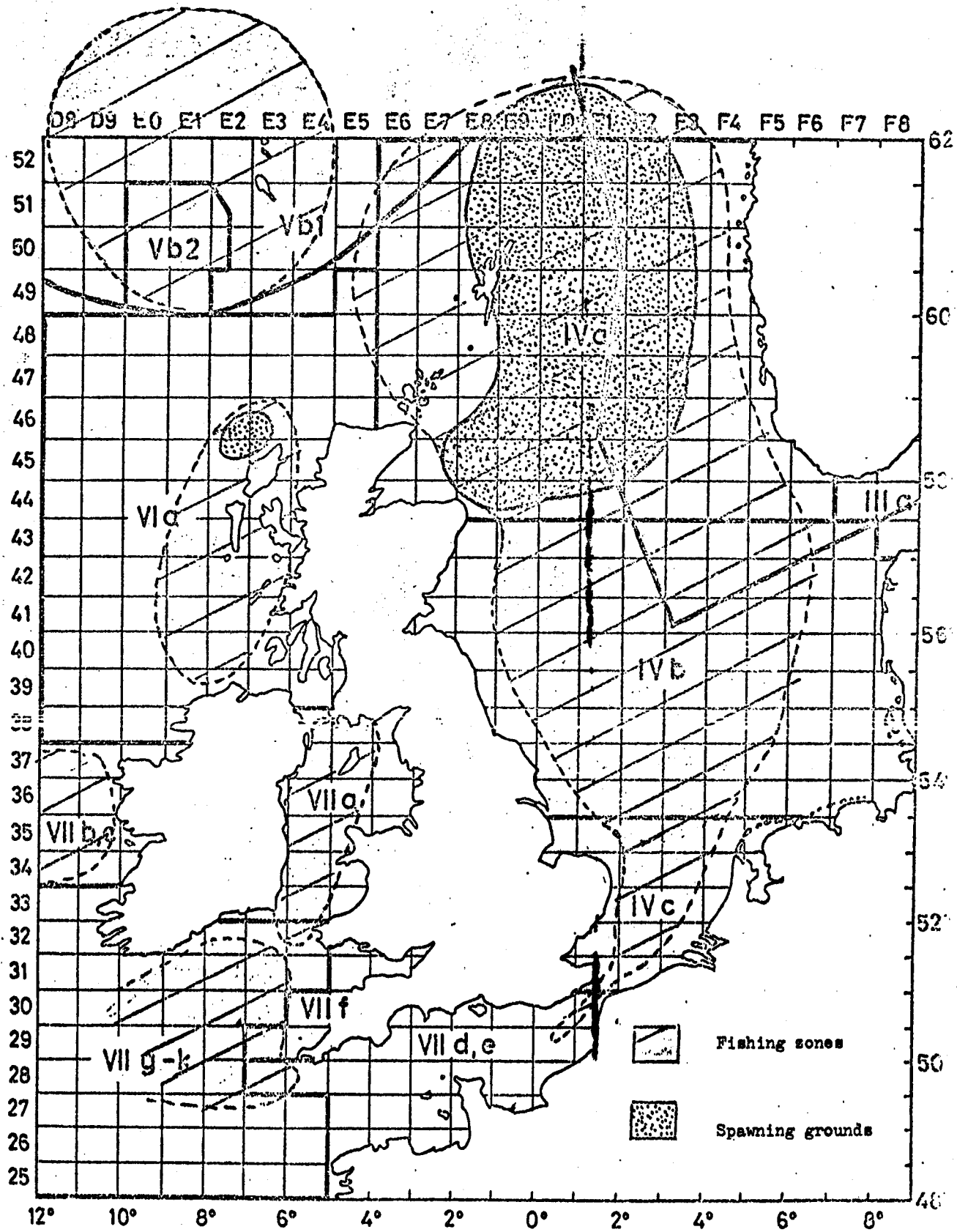


Fig. 9 Haddock

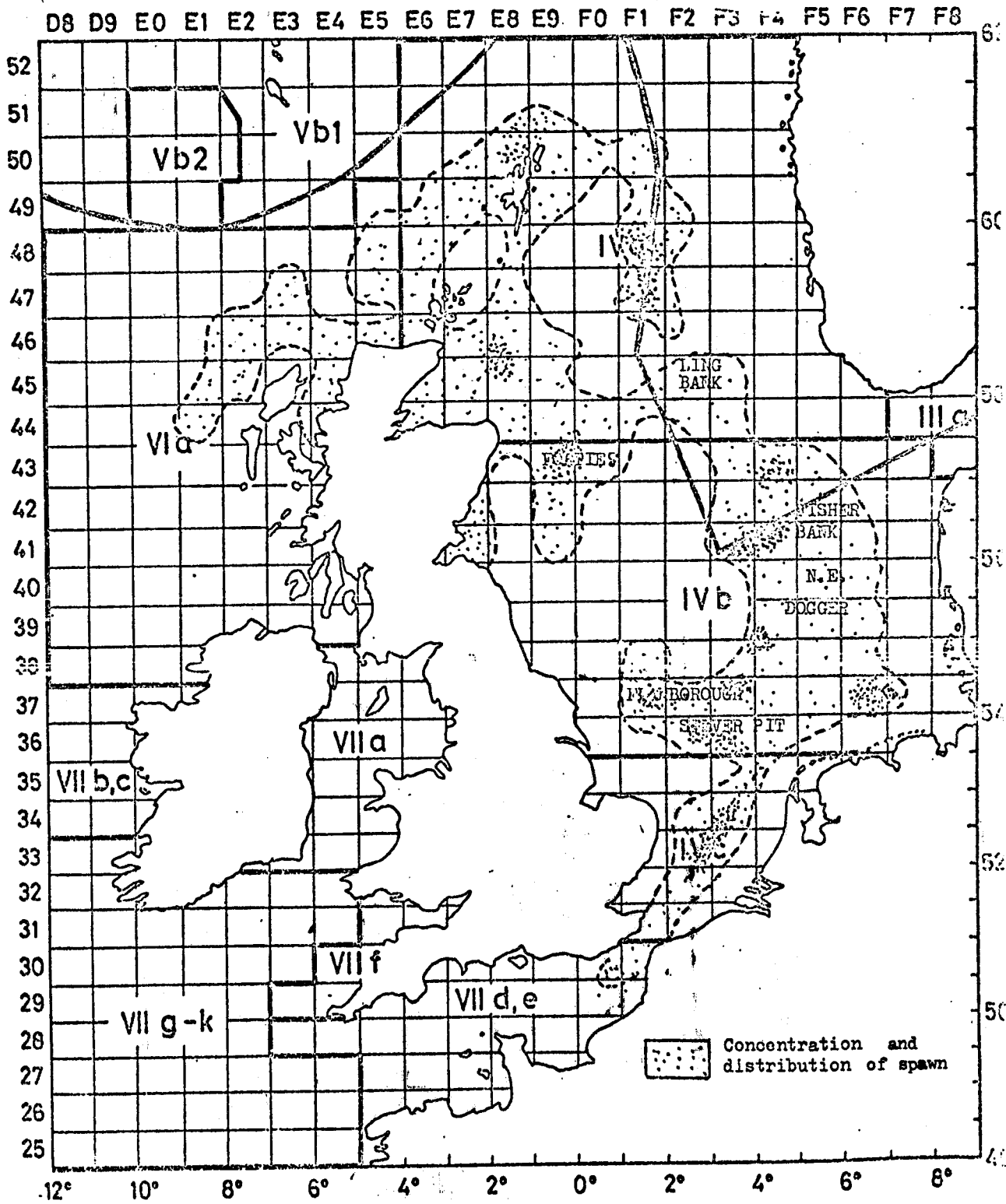


Fig. 10: Spawning grounds of cod in the North Sea

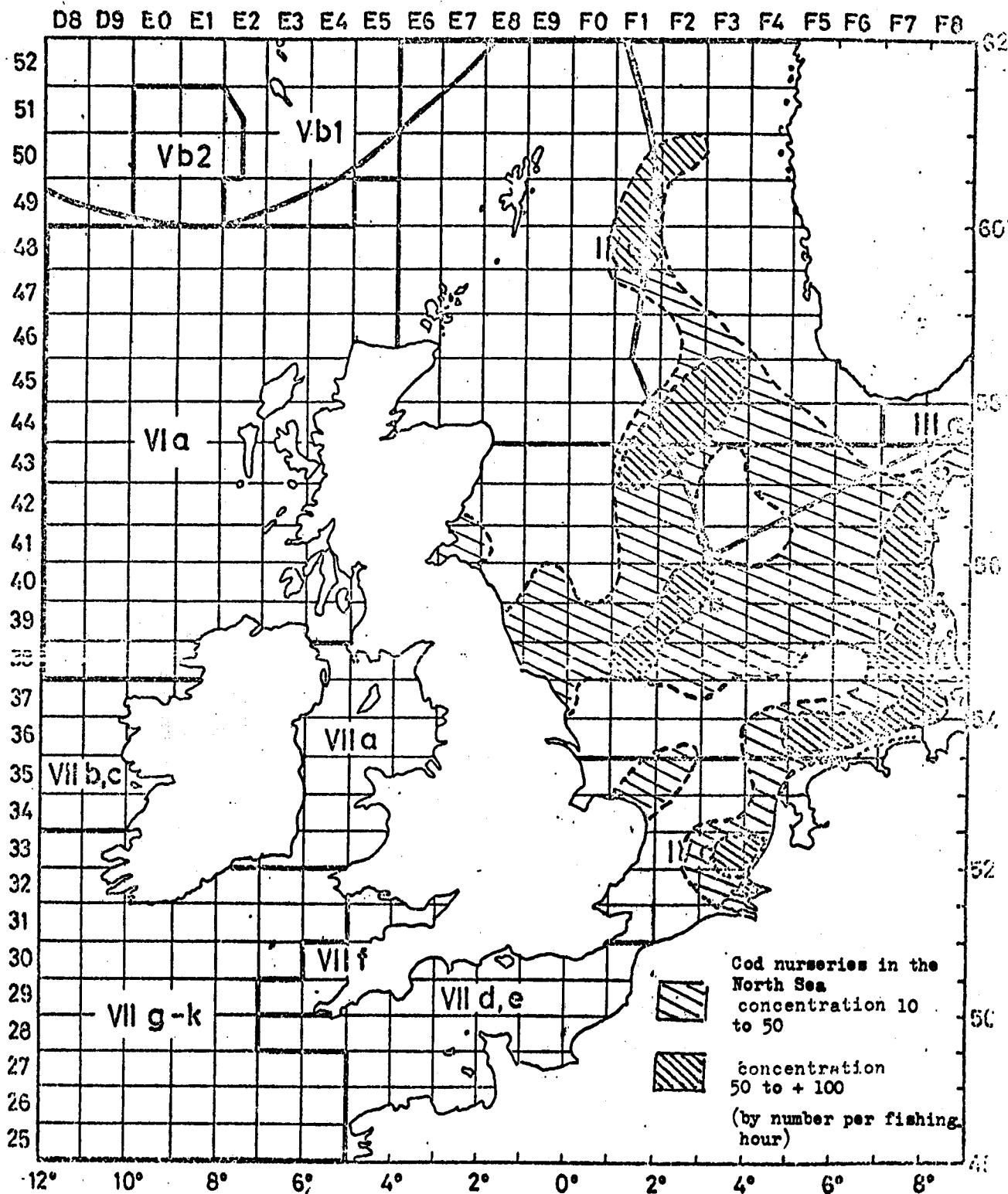


Fig. 11 : Cod (nurseries)

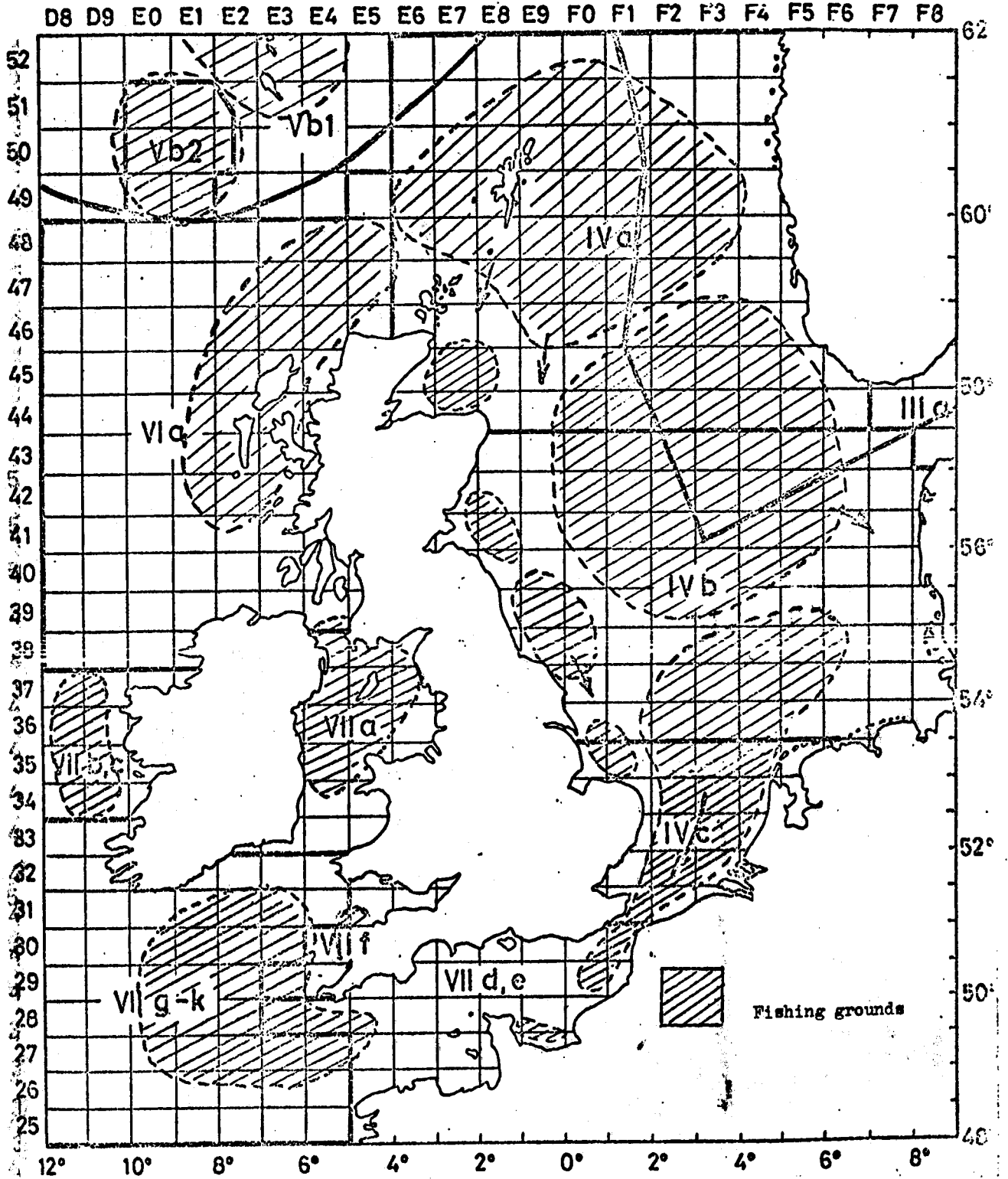


Fig. 12 Cod (fishing grounds)



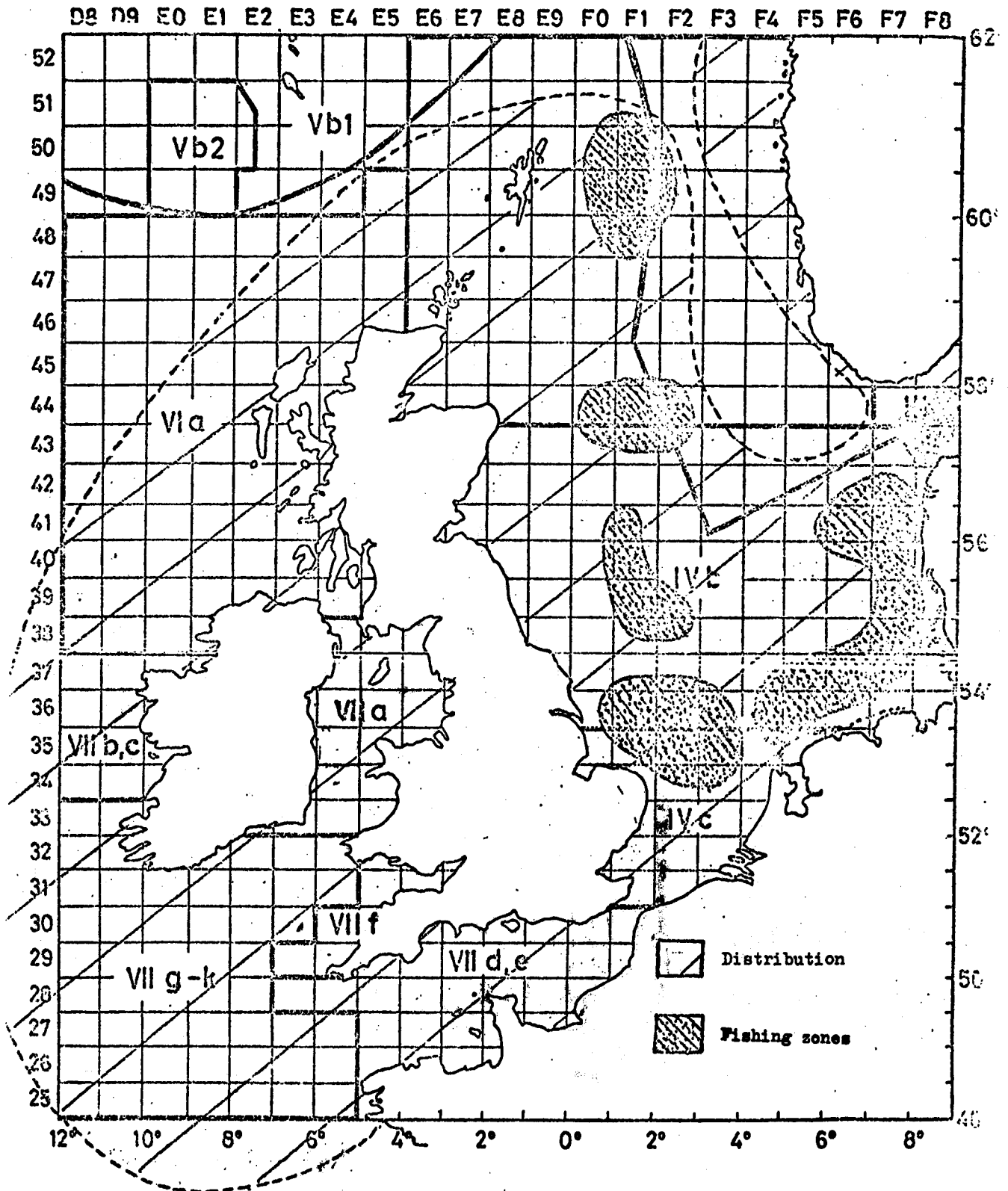


Fig. 13 Lesser sand eel

Article 1

In order to ensure the protection of fishing grounds and fish stocks and the balanced exploitation of fishery resources, there is hereby established a Community system for the conservation and management of fishery resources.

This system shall include :

- conservation measures, which may include restrictions on fishing,
- rules for the use of fishery resources,
- special provisions for inshore fishing,
- structural measures.

Article 2

1. The Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, shall adopt the conservation measures necessary to achieve the aims set forth in Article 1. These measures shall be formulated in the light of the report prepared by the Scientific and Technical Committee for Fisheries provided for in Article 13 and of any other relevant information available.
  
2. The measures referred to in paragraph 1 may in particular include, for each species or group of species :
  - a) the establishment of zones where fishing is prohibited or restricted to certain periods, certain types of vessels or certain fishing tackle;
  - b) the setting of standards as regards the mesh size of fishing nets;
  - c) the setting of a minimum size or weight;
  - d) the restriction of fishing, in particular by limits on catches.

Article 3

Where, in the case of one species or a group of related species, it becomes necessary to limit the catch, the Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, shall fix a total allowable catch for each stock or group of stocks.

Article 4

1. Where, in accordance with Article 3, a total allowable catch is fixed, each year the Council shall establish the overall catch that may be taken by the Member States.

This catch shall be equal to the total allowable catch in waters under the sovereignty or within the jurisdiction of Member States:

- minus the total of any catches allocated to non-member states
- plus the total catch from waters not under the sovereignty or within the jurisdiction of Member States.

2. For each of the main species a Community reserve shall be established, the amount of which shall be determined by reference to the vital needs of fishermen in Ireland and the northern regions of the United Kingdom and to the size of the reduction in catch compared with previous activity.

In allocating this reserve priority shall be given to the fishermen referred to in the previous subparagraph who have traditionally fished the stocks of the species concerned.

Each year for the species concerned the Council shall fix and apportion the amount of the Community reserve.

3. The overall catch, less the Community reserve, if any, shall be apportioned by the Council among the Member States in the light of their fishing performance over a reference period.
4. All decisions by the Council in pursuance of the foregoing paragraphs shall be taken by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission. The Council shall adopt general rules for the implementation of this Article in accordance with the same procedure.
5. This Article shall apply until 31 December 1982. The Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 43 (2) of the Treaty, shall adopt the provisions to be applied after that date in the light of experience and of the results of the conservation policy.

Article 5

1. Member States which jointly so request may be authorized to exchange all or part of the quotas in respect of a species or group of species allocated to them under Article 4 for an equivalent quota of another species or group of species.
2. Detailed rules for the application of this Article and decisions according to the authorization referred to in paragraph 1 shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 15.

Article 6

1. Notwithstanding Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 101/76 and without prejudice to the application of Articles 100 and 101 of the Act of Accession, the Member States are authorized to restrict fishing in waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction situated within a limit of twelve nautical miles, calculated from the base lines of the coastal Member State, to vessels which fish traditionally in those waters and which operate from ports in the local coastal area.
2. The provisions of the previous paragraph shall be without prejudice to any special fishing rights which a Member State enjoys at the date of entry into force of this Regulation in relation to one or more other Member States. Such special rights, and any rights of Member States under Article 100(2) of the Act of Accession, shall be exercised in accordance with the conservation measures established under Article 2 of this Regulation.
3. The provisions of this Article shall remain in force for as long as the arrangements established by Articles 100 and 101 of the Act of Accession, as applied in accordance with Article 7 hereof, are in force.

Article 7

The application of the arrangements established by Articles 100 and 101 of the Act of Accession shall be extended beyond 31 December 1982, subject to any decisions which the Council may take before that date, on a proposal from the Commission and in the light of the results of the review of the provisions of this Article and of Article 6 which it will carry out on the basis of a report from the Commission.



Article 8

1. There shall be progressively established a system of permits for all fishing carried on by way of trade.
2. The granting of permits shall be conditional upon:
  - the systematic registration of :
    - (a) vessels engaged in fishing carried on by way of trade,
    - (b) fishing skippers in command of the aforesaid vessels and responsible for fishing operations;
  - the undertaking of an obligation to comply with conservation measures and in particular with the quotas allocated following apportionment among the Member States in accordance with Article 4 and, where appropriate, of an obligation to keep to authorized fishing areas.
3. The Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, shall adopt general rules for the application of this Article.
4. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 15.

Article 9

1. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the information necessary for the implementation of this Regulation. To this end they shall twice a year present to the Commission a report on the operation of the conservation measures and of the quotas allocated to them.

They shall also communicate to the Commission all relevant information concerning the operation of the system of permits referred to in Article 8.

2. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 15.

Article 10

The Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, shall adopt measures to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Regulation and with the measures adopted in implementation thereof.

Article 11

The Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 43(2) of the Treaty, shall establish a system of sanctions applicable to natural or legal persons in the event of an infringement of the provisions of this Regulation or of the measures adopted in implementation thereof.

Article 12

There shall be adopted by way of common measures within the meaning of Article 6(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 of 21 April 1970 on the financing of the common agricultural policy, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2788/72, short-term economic measures designed to facilitate in particular the following :

- (a) the definitive withdrawal from operation of obsolete and uneconomic deep-sea fishing vessels;
- (b) the temporary withdrawal from operation of deep-sea fishing vessels;
- (c) the reduction, under fishing plans prepared by recognized producers' organizations, of the duration of the fishing activities of vessels belonging to their members;
- (d) the intensification of research with a view to fishing for new species or in new grounds;
- (e) the intensification of research to evolve techniques for exploiting and improving the marketing of species of fish at present not used or under-used for human consumption;
- (f) the phased conversion of certain plants producing significant quantities of fish meal and fish oil.

Article 13

1. The Commission shall set up under its ~~auspices~~ a Scientific and Technical Committee for Fisheries. The Committee shall be consulted periodically and shall prepare an annual report on the situation as regards fish resources and on ways and means of conserving fishing grounds and stocks.

Article 14

1. There is hereby established a Management Committee for Fishery Resources, hereinafter called "the Committee", consisting of representatives of the Member States under the chairmanship of a representative of the Commission.
  
2. Within the Committee the votes of the Member States shall be weighted in accordance with Article 148(2) of the Treaty.  
The Chairman shall not vote.

Article 15

1. Where the procedure laid down in this Article is to be followed, the Chairman shall refer the matter to the Committee either on his own initiative or at the request of the representative of a Member State.
2. The representative of the Commission shall submit a draft of the measures to be taken. The Committee shall deliver its Opinion on such measures within a time limit to be set by the Chairman according to the urgency of the questions under consideration. An Opinion shall be adopted by a majority of forty-one votes.
3. The Commission shall adopt measures which shall apply immediately. However, if these measures are not in accordance with the Opinion of the Committee, they shall forthwith be communicated by the Commission to the Council. In that event the Commission may defer application of the measures which it has adopted for not more than one month from the date of such communication.

The Council, acting by a qualified majority, may take a different decision within one month.



Article 16

The Committee may consider any other question referred to it by its Chairman either on his own initiative or at the request of the representative of a Member State.

Article 17

This Regulation shall enter into force on

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council,  
The President.