

Cruise Report

**R/V Dana**

**Cruise 08/2016**

**"DK IBTS 3Q 2016"**



Vessel: R/V DANA  
Cruise number: 08/15

Cruise dates (planned): 2/8 – 19/8 2016  
Cruise name: Danish IBTS 3Q 2016

<b>Port of departure:</b>	Hirtshals	<b>Date:</b>	2 August
<b>Port of return:</b>	Hirtshals	<b>Date:</b>	19 August
<b>Other ports:</b>	Esbjerg	<b>Date and justification:</b>	11 August Scheduled exchange of scientific staff and crew

## Participants

<b>Leg 1: Hirtshals – Esbjerg</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Institute and Department</b>	<b>Function and main tasks</b>
Kai Wieland	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Hirtshals	Cruise leader, Fish lab
Helle Rasmussen	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Hirtshals	Technician, Fish lab
Stina B. Hansen	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Charlottenlund	Technician, Fish lab
Maria Jarnum	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Hirtshals	Technician, Fish lab
Per Christensen	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Hirtshals	Technician, Fish lab
Ronny Sørensen	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Hirtshals	Technician, CTD, Maintenance

<b>Leg 2: Esbjerg – Hirtshals</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Institute and Department</b>	<b>Function and main tasks</b>
Helle Rasmussen	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Hirtshals	Cruise leader, Fish lab
Jens Holm	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Charlottenlund	Technician, Fish lab
Lise Sindahl	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Hirtshals	Technician, Fish Lab
Jane Gudmandsen	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Charlottenlund	Technician, Fish lab
Farivar Azour	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Charlottenlund	Technician, Fish lab
Ronny Sørensen	DTU Aqua, Monitoring and Data Hirtshals	Technician, CTD, Maintenance

## **Objectives**

The survey is part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter International Bottom Trawl Survey (IBTS) in the North Sea, which is coordinated by the ICES International Bottom Trawl Survey Working Group and has been conducted with standard fishing gear in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter since 1991.

The IBTS aims to provide ICES assessment and science groups with consistent and standardised data for examining spatial and temporal changes in (a) the distribution and relative abundance of fish and fish assemblages; and (b) of the biological parameters of commercial fish species for stock assessment purposes. The main objectives in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter IBTS are to:

- To determine the distribution and relative abundance of pre-recruits of the main commercial species (cod, haddock, whiting, Norway pout, saithe, herring, sprat, and mackerel) with a view of deriving recruitment indices;
- To monitor changes in the stocks of commercial fish species independently of commercial fisheries data;
- To monitor the distribution and relative abundance of all fish species and selected invertebrates;
- To collect data for the determination of biological parameters for selected species;
- To collect hydrographical and environmental information.
- To collect information of the amount and distribution of marine litter

The area to be covered by Denmark with RV Dana in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2015 was allocated during the IBTS Working Group meeting in March/April 2015. Technical details are described in the current version of the survey manual (ICES 2015. Manual for the International Bottom Trawl Surveys. Series of ICES Survey Protocols. SISP 10-IBTS IX. 86 pp.).

## **Itinerary**

R/V Dana left Hirtshals on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 12:30 local time, and the field work started in the afternoon in the western Skagerrak (Fig. 1). The vessel stayed in the port of Esbjerg on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August from 6:30 to 13:00 for the scheduled exchange of scientific staff and crew. R/V Dana returned to Hirtshals on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August at 07:00 local time.

## **Achievements**

The main working area consisted of 47 ICES statistical rectangles located in IBTS North Sea roundfish areas 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 with two stations in rectangles 42F7, 41F7, 41F6, 33F3, 33F2 and 35F1, and 5 additional rectangles in the western part of roundfish area 8 in the Skagerrak (Fig. 1). The following activities were carried out:

59 valid trawl hauls with GOV 36/47 (chalut à Grande Overture Verticale) all with standard groundgear A and 60 m sweep length (see IBTS Manual for specifications). Tow durations were as planned prior to the survey by the IBTS WG;

59 CTD profiles on valid trawl positions.

During the 1<sup>st</sup> leg, periods with moderate to strong westerly wind occurred whereas favorable weather condition prevailed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> leg of the survey periods (Fig. 2).

## **Results**

The trawl parameters (Net opening and door spread) as monitoring with a ScanMar system were in the range or close to the suggested limits specified in the IBTS manual in most cases (Fig. 3). The remaining deviations from the theoretical values for door spread and in particular net opening are likely due to the high sensibility of the GOV to current effects. The actual facilities on DANA, however, do not allow to measure adequately current strength and direction in the near bottom layer. Operational sensors for wing spread were not available for this cruise.

About 70 different species of fish and selected invertebrates were found (Tab. 1). Length measurements were made for all of the listed species. Sharks, skates and rays and the listed shellfish species were measured separately by sex (length composition and weight).

Relative high amounts and wide distributions of sardine, anchovy and striped red mullet indicate a continuing expansion of southern species. Compared to last year large quantities of small young of the year) individuals for herring, sprat and in particular horse mackerel were caught.

Single fish data (length, weight, sex and, for a few species also maturity) and otoliths were collected for the main commercial species (cod, haddock, whiting, Norway pout, saithe, herring, sprat, mackerel and plaice) as well as for monkfish, hake, turbot, brill, witch flounder, sole and dab (Tab. 2). For these species, a maximum of one individual per cm length group were taken from a single haul except for herring and sprat for which two individuals per semi-centimeter group per haul were collected. The collection of individual fish data for the IBTS target species herring and sprat commenced when the maximum number of 8 per length group and roundfish area had been achieved and the maximum number of single fish data for dab was set to 100. Collection of age samples of herring and sprat from the Skagerrak had not been requested for Denmark since this area is extensively covered by Sweden.

According to a decision of the IBTS WG, preliminary abundance indices for the main commercial species (Tab. 3) are no longer reported to the coordinator of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter IBTS. The indices for small cod, however, appear to be low but a representative estimate of cod recruitment can first be given when the information from all the other countries have been combined. On the other hand, plaice was recorded in all hauls.

Marine litter was recorded in each GOV catch using four main categories: plastic, glass, metals and miscellaneous, which were subdivided in several minor categories as specified in the IBTS manual.

## **Others**

A cruise summary report has been delivered online to

[http://seadata.bsh.de/csr/online/V1\\_index.html](http://seadata.bsh.de/csr/online/V1_index.html).

Deadline for data submission to DATRAS for all IBTS target species including the corresponding age readings is 23/9-2015 whereas the corrected CTD profiles and the Marine litter data can be submitted to ICES at a later time this year.

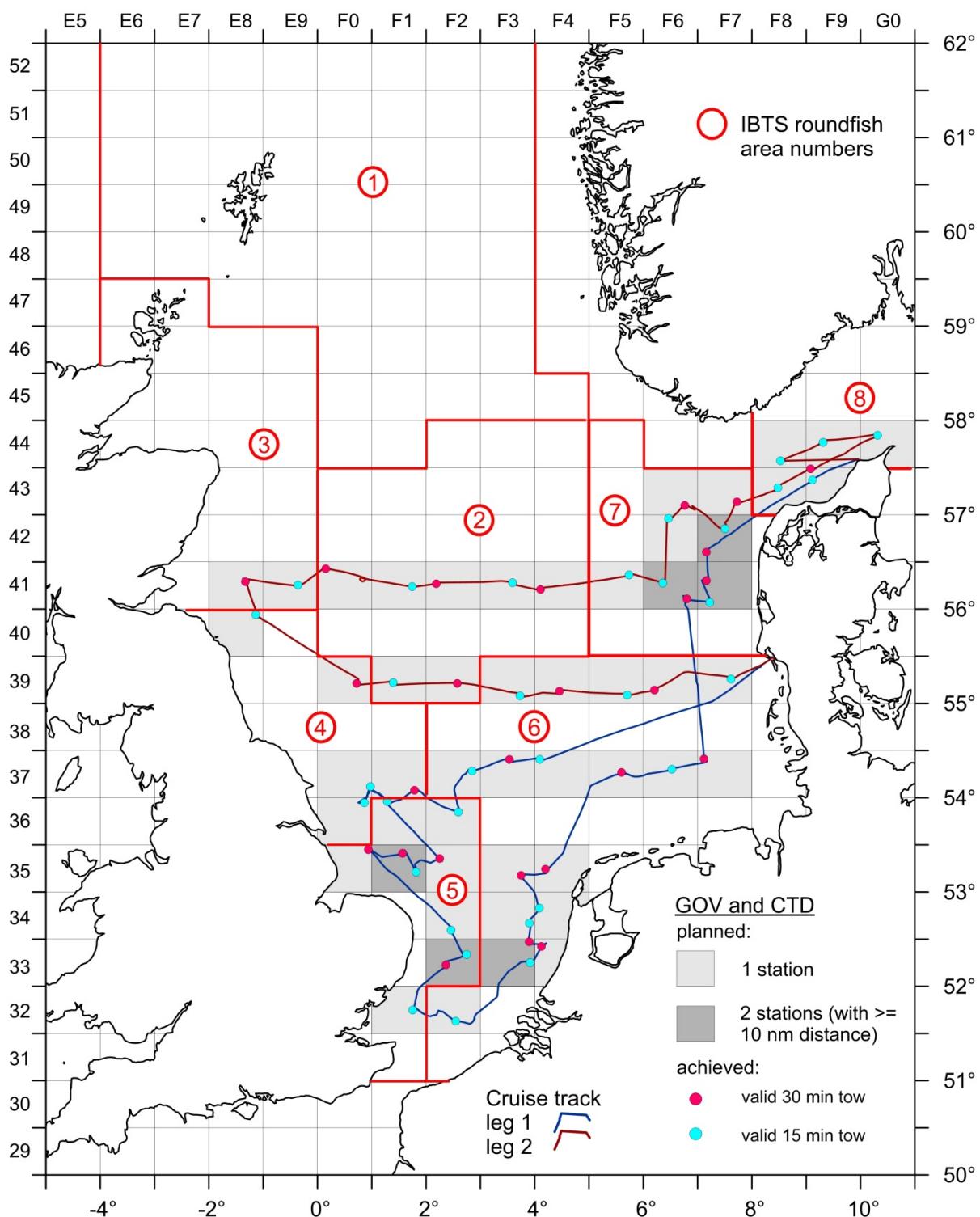


Fig. 1: Survey map with cruise track and sampling locations, Dana 3Q IBTS 2016.

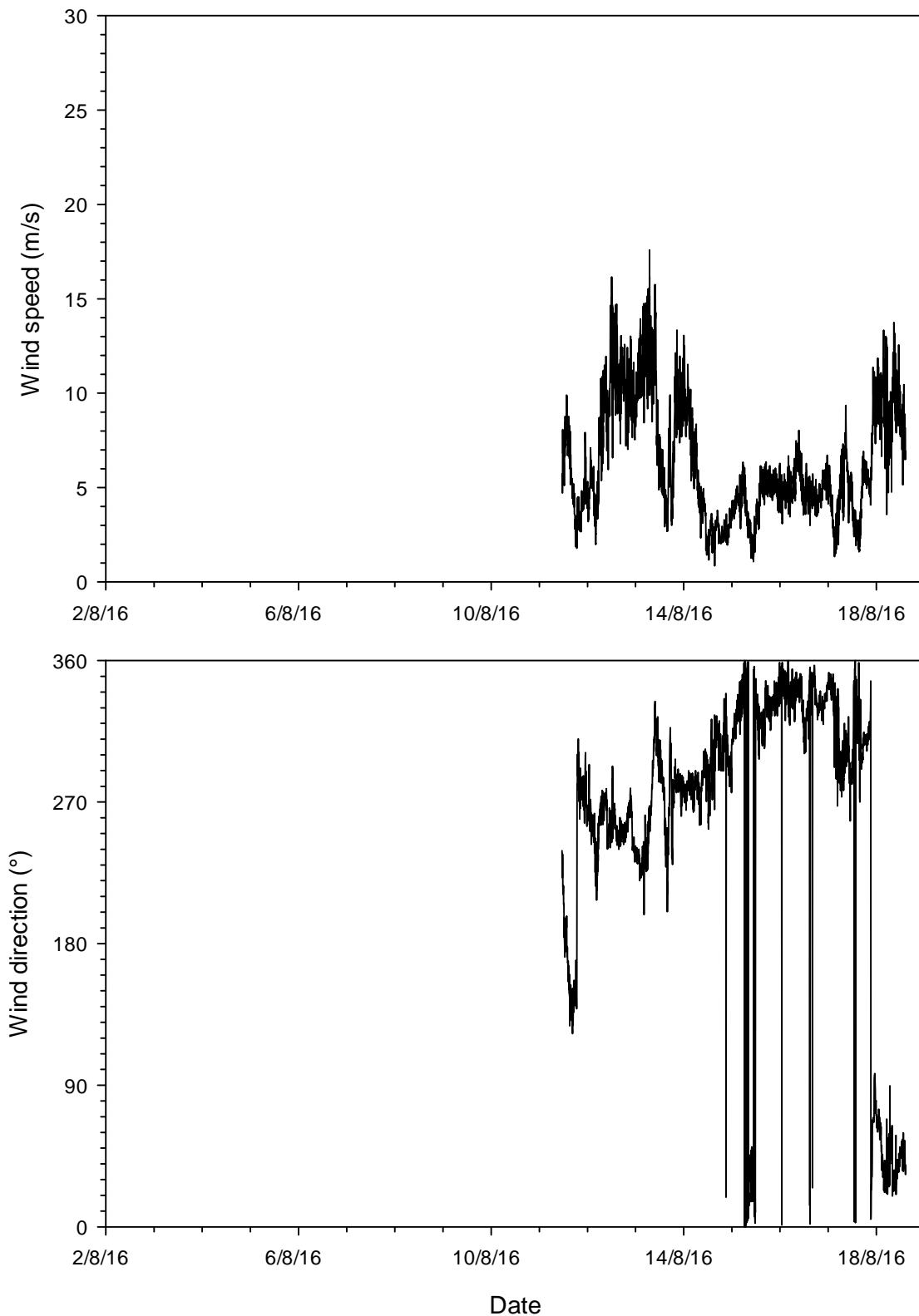


Fig. 2: Wind speed (m/s) and direction recorded along the cruise track, Dana 3Q IBTS 2016 (no correct data recorded during the 1<sup>st</sup> leg due to technical reasons).

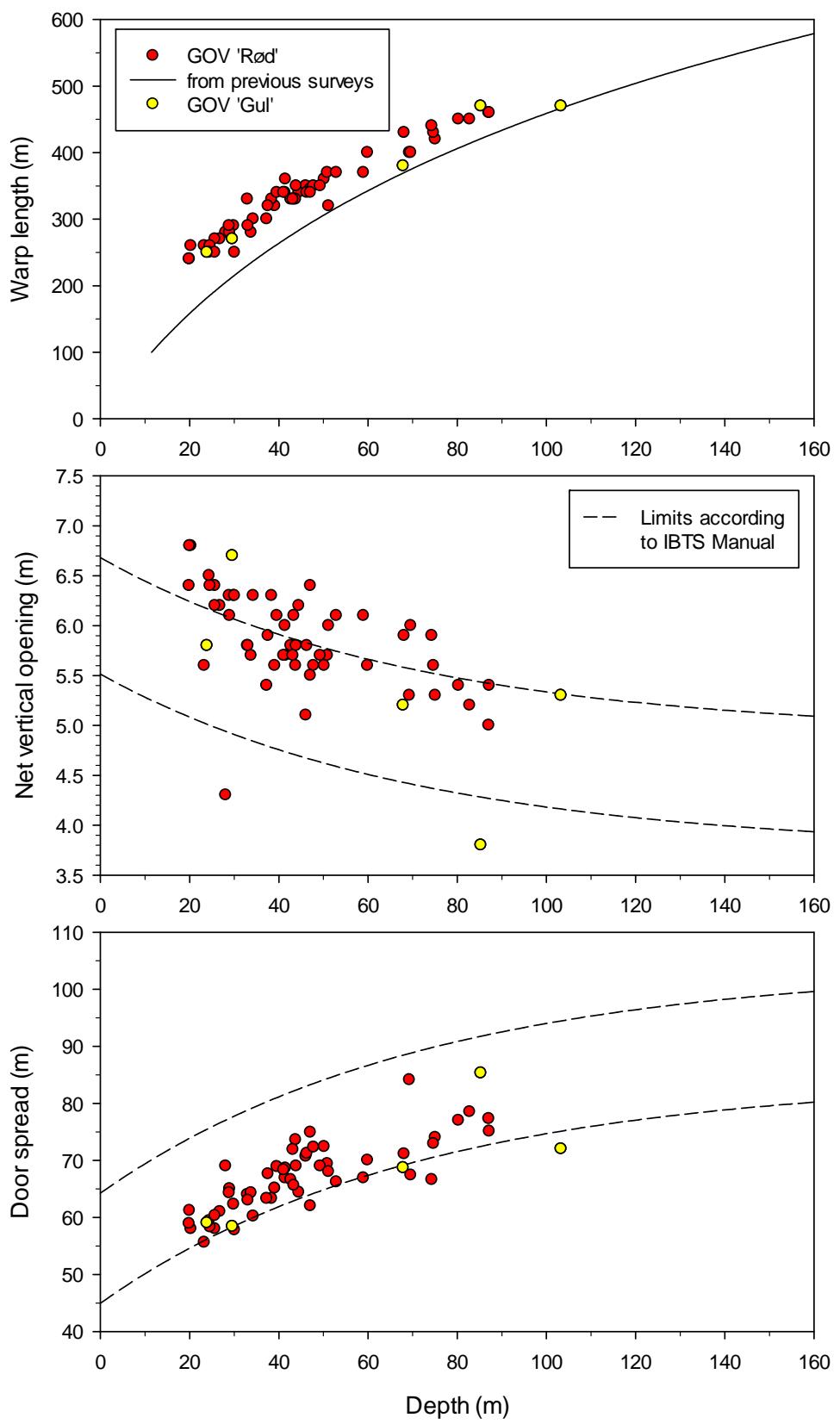


Fig. 3: Warp length, net opening and door spread in relation to depth, Dana 3Q IBTS 2016.

Tab. 1: Species list with total number and weight in the catch, Dana 3Q 2016.

Latin name	English name	Danish name	Number	Weight (kg)	Type of registration		
<i>Aequipecten opercularis</i>	Queen scallop	Jomfrøsters		0.10	-	:-	not measured
<i>Agonus cataphractus</i>	Pogge	Panser ulk	10	0.12	*	*:	length
<i>Alloteuthis subulata</i>	European common squid	Dværgblæksprutte	694	4.72	*	**:	length by sex
<i>Alosa fallax</i>	Twaite shad	Stavslid	1	0.50	*	***:	single fish data
<i>Amblyraja radiata</i>	Starry ray	Tærbe	13	6.78	**	(length, weight, sex, age)	
<i>Ammodytes marinus</i>	Sandeel	Tobis-hav	14320	100.08	*	***+:	also maturity
<i>Argentina sphyraena</i>	Lesser silver smelt	Strømsild	2	0.04	*		
<i>Arnoglossus laterna</i>	Scaldfish	Tungehvarre	5	0.06	*		
<i>Bathyraja brachyurops</i>	Blonde ray	Blond rokke	6	4.57	**		
<i>Buglossidium luteum</i>	Solenette	Glastunge	37	0.36	*		
<i>Callionymus lyra</i>	Common dragonet	Stribet fløfisk	34	1.11	*		
<i>Callionymus maculatus</i>	Spotted dragonet	Plettet fløfisk	2	0.01	*		
<i>Cancer pagurus</i>	Edible crab	Taskekrabbe	117	57.46	**		
<i>Chelidonichthys cuculus</i>	Red gurnard	Tværstribet knurhane	3	0.36	*		
<i>Chelidonichthys lucerna</i>	Tub gurnard	Rød knurhane	48	14.94	*		
<i>Chelon labrosus</i>	Thick lipped mullet	Tylkæbet multe	3	3.89	*		
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Sild	226718	10889.61	***		
<i>Echiichthys vipera</i>	Lesser weever	Fjæsing lille	1230	25.47	*		
<i>Enchelyopus cimbrius</i>	Four-bearded rockling	Firetrådet havkvabbe	29	1.02	*		
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Anchovy	Ansjos	112	4.28	*		
<i>Entelurus aequoreus</i>	Snake pipefish	Snippe	1	0.01	*		
<i>Eutrigla gurnardus</i>	Grey gurnard	Grå knurhane	6335	640.52	*		
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Torsk	253	161.36	***		
<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>	Tope	Gråhaj	4	50.70	**		
<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Witch	Skærising	16	4.55	***		
<i>Gymnammodytes semisquamatus</i>	Smoothed sandeel	Tobis-nøgen	493	6.80	*		
<i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i>	American plaice	Häsing	3096	156.39	*		
<i>Homarus gammarus</i>	Lobster	Almindelig hummer	14	7.36	**		
<i>Hyperoplus lanceolatus</i>	Greater sandeel	Tobiskonge	12047	261.63	*		
<i>Illex coindetii</i>	Southern shortfin squid	Illex coindetii	16	1.78	*		
<i>Leucoraja naevus</i>	Cuckoo ray	Pletrokke	2	0.59	**		
<i>Limanda limanda</i>	Common dab	Ising	25729	1673.46	***+		
<i>Lithodes maja</i>	Norway king crab	Troldkrabbe	38	11.45	**		
<i>Loliginidae (L. forbesii, L. vulgaris)</i>			2676	14.83	*		
<i>Loligo forbesii</i>	Northern squid	Loligo forbesii	1041	16.52	*		
<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>	Monk	Havtaske	7	12.58	***		
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Kuller	4160	456.98	***		
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Hvilling	41158	2940.21	***		
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Kulmule	117	199.16	***+		
<i>Microstomus kitt</i>	Lemon sole	Rødtunge	632	86.64	*		
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lange	1	3.41	*		
<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>	Striped red mullet	Stribet (rød) Mulle	72	7.05	*		
<i>Mustelus asterias</i>	Starry smooth hound	Stjernehaj	23	13.54	**		
<i>Mustelus mustelus</i>	Smooth hound	Glatthaj	20	38.80	**		
<i>Myoxocephalus scorpius</i>	Sculpin	Ulk	17	1.42	*		
<i>Myxine glutinosa</i>	Hagfish	Slimål		0.04	-		
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Jomfruhummer	199	8.98	**		
<i>Pecten maximus</i>	Scallop	Stor kamsulling		0.48	-		
<i>Pholis gunnellus</i>	Butter fish	Tangspræl	2	0.04	*		
<i>Phrynorhombus norvegicus</i>	Norwegian topnot	Småhvarre	1	0.04	*		
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Rødspætte	2157	454.29	***		
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Sej	11	5.87	***		
<i>Raja clavata</i>	Thornback ray	Sømrokke	137	91.20	**		
<i>Raja montagui</i>	Spotted Ray	Storplette Rokke	11	10.31	**		
<i>Rossia macrosoma</i>	Stout bobtail squid	Ross's blæksprutte		0.06	-		
<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Pilchard	Sardin	150	18.35	*		
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Makrel	5200	1232.63	***		
<i>Scophthalmus maximus</i>	Turbot	Pighvarre	17	20.08	***		
<i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i>	Brill	Slethvarre	3	3.83	***		
<i>Scyliorhinus canicula</i>	Lesser spotted dogfish	Småplette rødhaj	310	160.88	**		
<i>Solea solea</i>	Sole	Tunge	63	8.59	***		
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat	Brisling	75028	879.54	***		
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Picked dogfish	Pighaj	14	20.42	**		
<i>Todaropsis eblanae</i>	Lesser flying squid	Todaropsis eblanae	10	1.15	*		
<i>Trachinus draco</i>	Greater weever fish	Fjæsing	128	29.51	*		
<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>	Horsemackerel	Hestemakrel	161085	982.55	*		
<i>Trisopterus esmarkii</i>	Norway pout	Sperling	4628	33.36	***		
<i>Trisopterus luscus</i>	Whiting pout	Skægtorsk	2	0.15	*		
<i>Trisopterus minutus</i>	Poor-cod	Glyse	39	1.14	*		
<i>Zeus faber</i>	John dory	Sct. peter fisk	1	0.21	*		

Tab. 2: List of species for which single fish data (length, weight and sex; maturity for selected species only see, Tab. 1) were recorded and number of samples collected for ageing (-: not caught or below size limit above which sampling is required according to the IBTS manual), Dana 3Q 2016.

Species	IBTS roundfish area							Total
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )	155	92	54	90	126	132	not	649
Sprat ( <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> )	38	20	53	102	164	63	requested	440
Cod ( <i>Gadus morhua</i> )								27
Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> )								134
Whiting ( <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> )								510
Norway pout ( <i>Trisopterus ermarkii</i> )								8
Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )								277
Saithe ( <i>Pollachius virens</i> )								1
Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )								610
Monkfish ( <i>Lophius piscatorius</i> )								7
Hake ( <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> )								53
Turbot ( <i>Scophthalmus maximus</i> )								16
Brill ( <i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i> )								3
Witch flounder ( <i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i> )								7
Sole ( <i>Solea solea</i> )								33
Dab ( <i>Limanda limanda</i> )								104
							Sum:	2879

Tab. 3: Preliminary abundance indices (number per hour trawling) for commercial IBTS target species, Dana 3Q 2016.