

DRAFT 2013 BSCZSF SURVEY REPORT

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IMAS
INSTITUTE FOR MARINE AND
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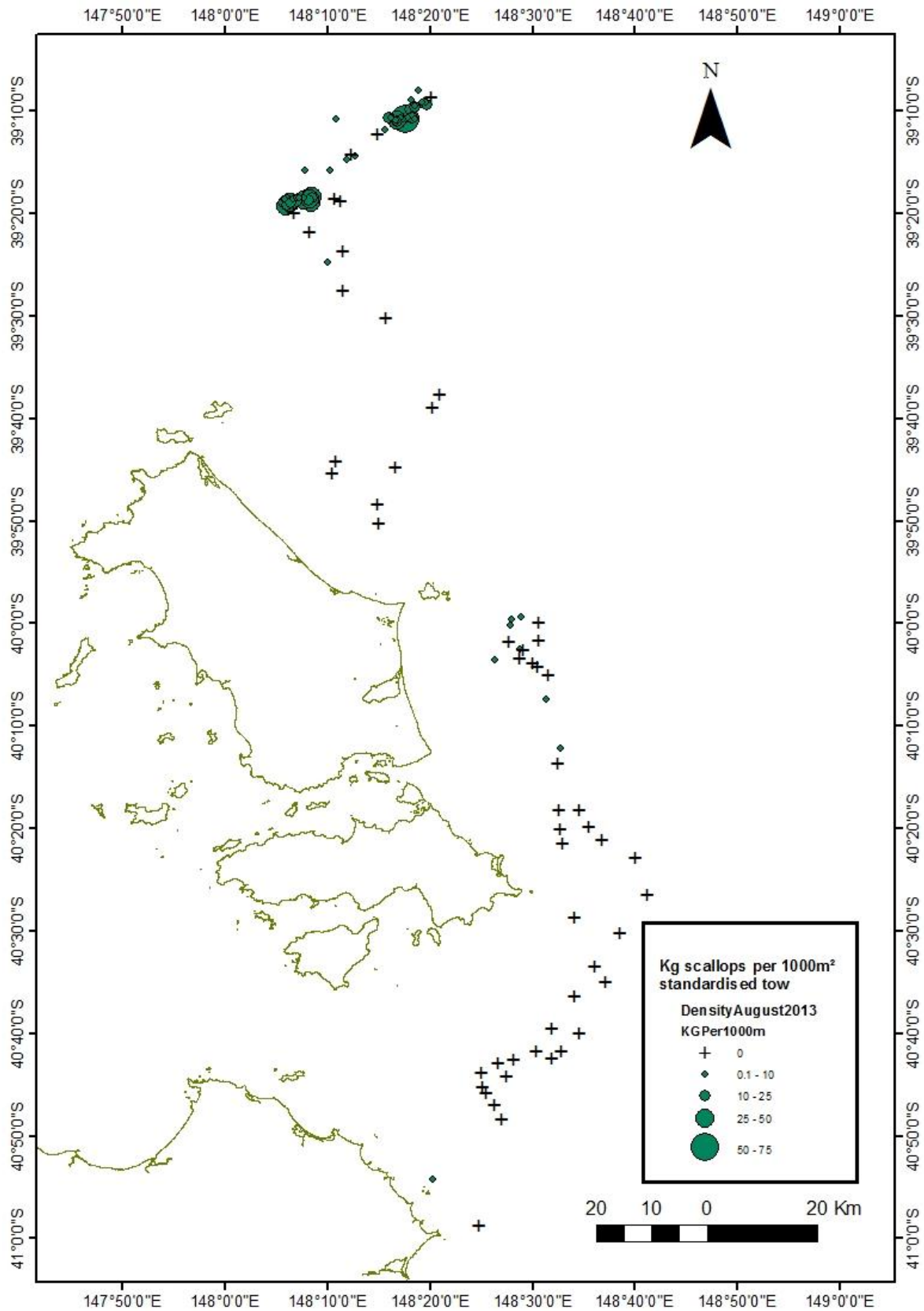


Figure 1. Overall densities of the survey tows conducted in the BSCZSF between 24th of July and 2nd of August 2013 by the Insta-Gator, Shandara and Anne B.

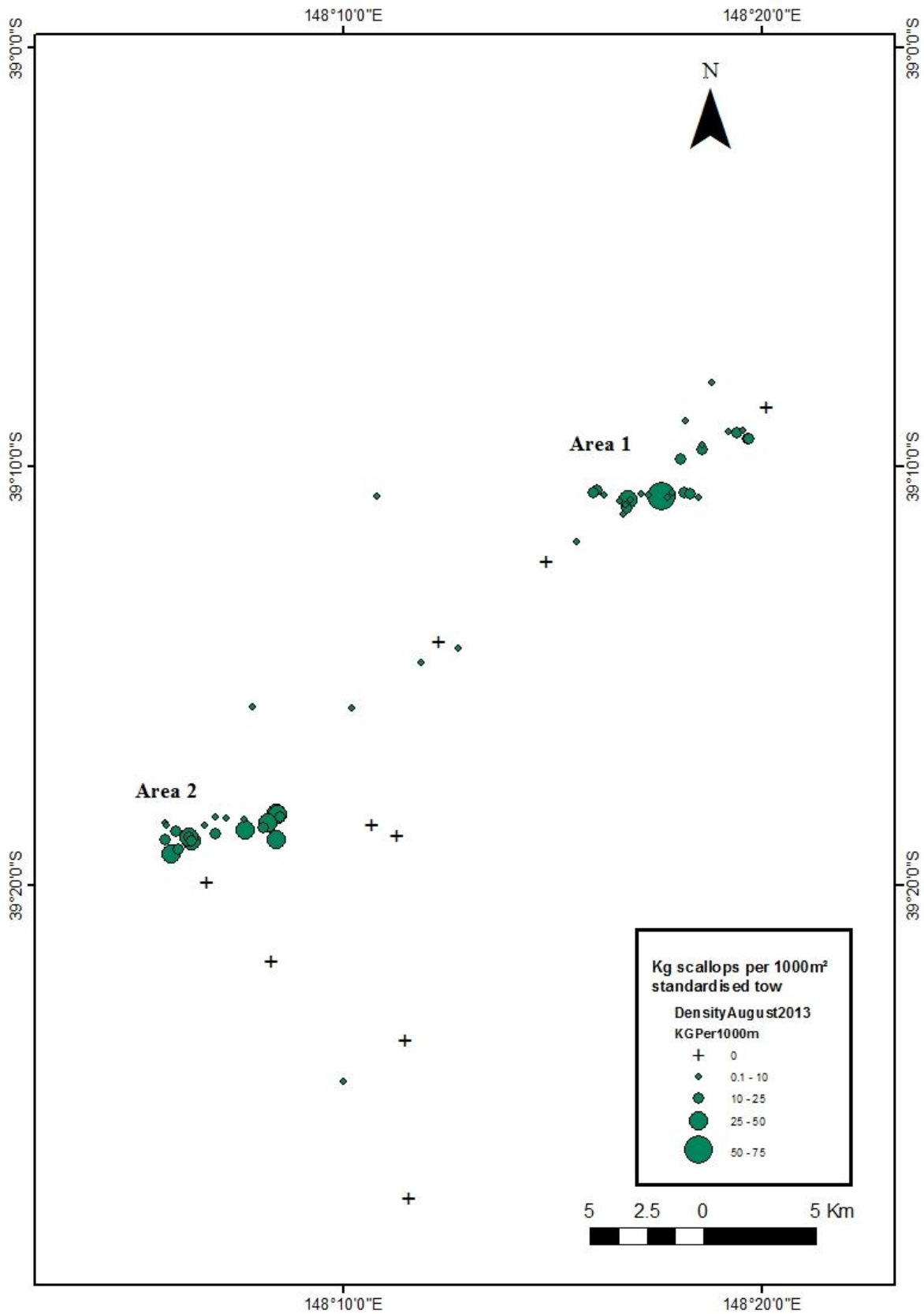


Figure 2. Densities in kg per 1000 m² of the tows conducted in the northernmost (Area 1) and westernmost (Area 2) parts of the survey area. Length frequencies from Areas 1 and 2 were analysed separately.

Length frequency distributions of scallop populations

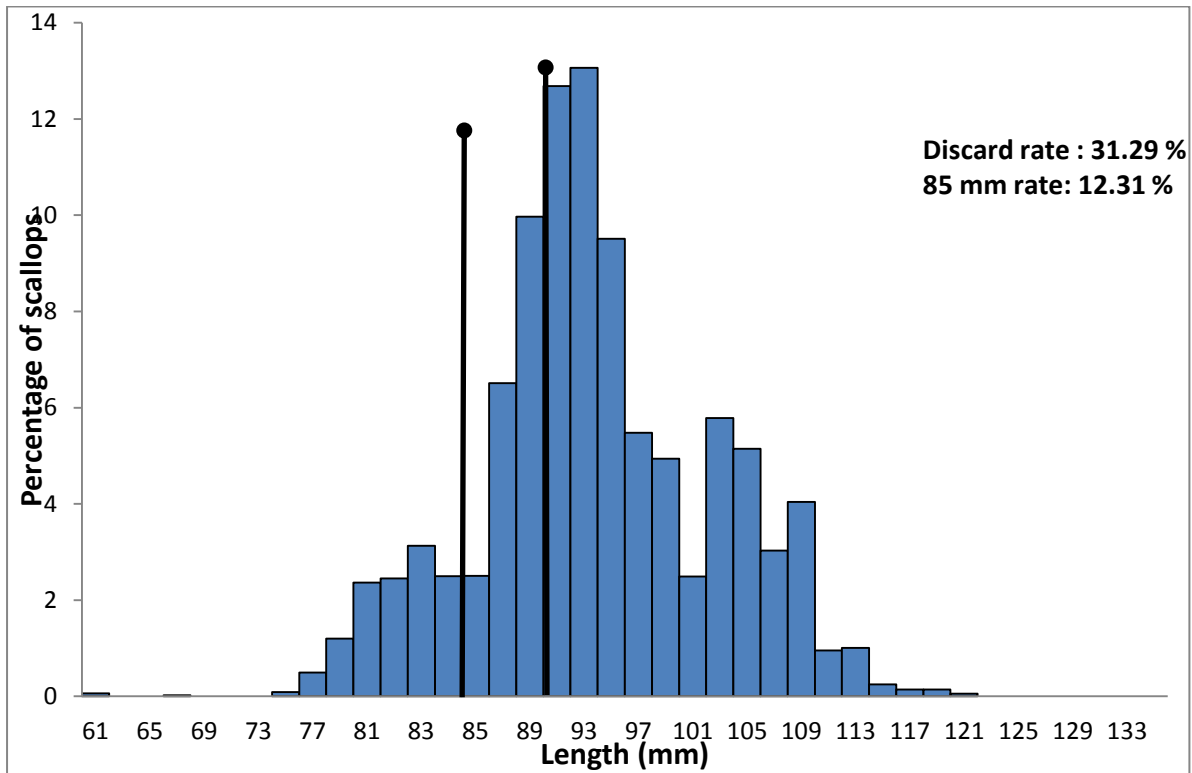


Figure 3. Standardised length frequency distribution for catch in Area 1. There was a discard rate of 31.3 % from 724 scallops measured in 20 tows. Mean size \pm se: 92.72 \pm 8.62 mm.

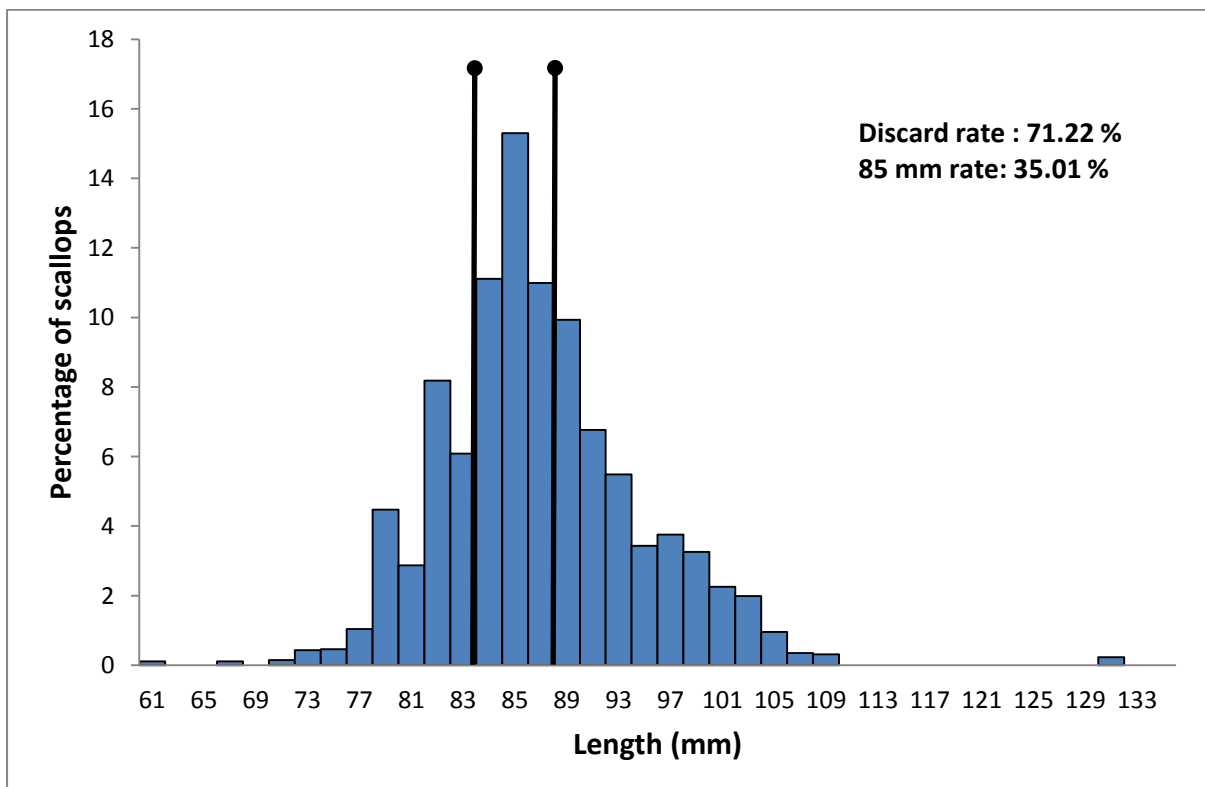


Figure 4. Standardised length frequency distribution for catch in Area 2. There was a discard rate of 71.22 % from 549 scallops measured in 20 tows. Mean size \pm se: 90.54 \pm 7.81 mm.

Notes and observations from the survey

- 1) Although a large area was surveyed there were only two areas (Areas 1 and 2, Fig 2) that had both a significant density and adequate scallop measurements per shot to warrant further examination. These two areas were considered independent areas for analysis purposes.
- 2) Discard rate at 90 mm minimum length were high at 31 and 71 % respectively for Areas 1 and 2. Even at 85 mm, the discard rate was still significantly above 20 % for Area 2 at ~ 35 %.
- 3) There was a significant difference in scallop density between the two focused areas, with Areas 1 and 2 having average densities of 8.9 and 16.9 kg per 1000 m² respectively, both of which are considered low.
- 4) The observed density in survey tows was used to estimate potential commercial catch rates of 107 and 203 kg per hour for Areas 1 and 2 respectively.