

Movements of Salmon in the Sea around Ireland (From Co. Mayo)

by

C. I. Moriarty



Digitalization sponsored
by Thünen-Institut

A study of the migrations of salmon in the open sea by tagging and releasing fish caught in drift nets was commenced on 26th June, 1962. On six nights between then and 4th July, 156 fish were tagged with Lea hydrostatic tags. Because of the mesh size used all the fish tagged were grilse. The nets were generally set in a north-south direction and during the operation no fish were caught on the west side of the net.

Up to 12th August 1962 the recovery of 23 (14.7%) tags had been reported. Of these, as shown in Figure 1 few had moved northwards from the tagging station. The majority of the recaptures were made within 50 kms of the tagging station and within 15 days of release. Few fish had speeds in excess of 15 km per day. Details of the recaptures are given in Tables 1 to 3. The most striking recapture was from southern Sweden near Angleholm.

Table 1. Number of days absence for recaptured fish

No. of days absence	Number	Percentage
1-5	8	34.9
6-10	7	30.4
11-15	4	17.4
16-20	-	-
21-25	1	4.3
26-30	3	13.0

Table 2. Minimum distances (in kms) travelled by recaptured fish

Minimum distance travelled in kms	Number	Percentage
1-50	12	52.3
51-100	3	13.0
101-200	2	8.7
201-300	2	8.7
301-400	2	8.7
1750	1	4.3
not known	1	4.3

Table 3. Apparent speeds in kms per day

Speed (km)	Number	Percentage
1-5	8	34.9
6-10	5	21.8
11-15	4	17.4
16-20	2	8.7
21-30	1	4.3
31-40	1	4.3
41-50	-	-
51-60	1	4.3
Not known	1	4.3

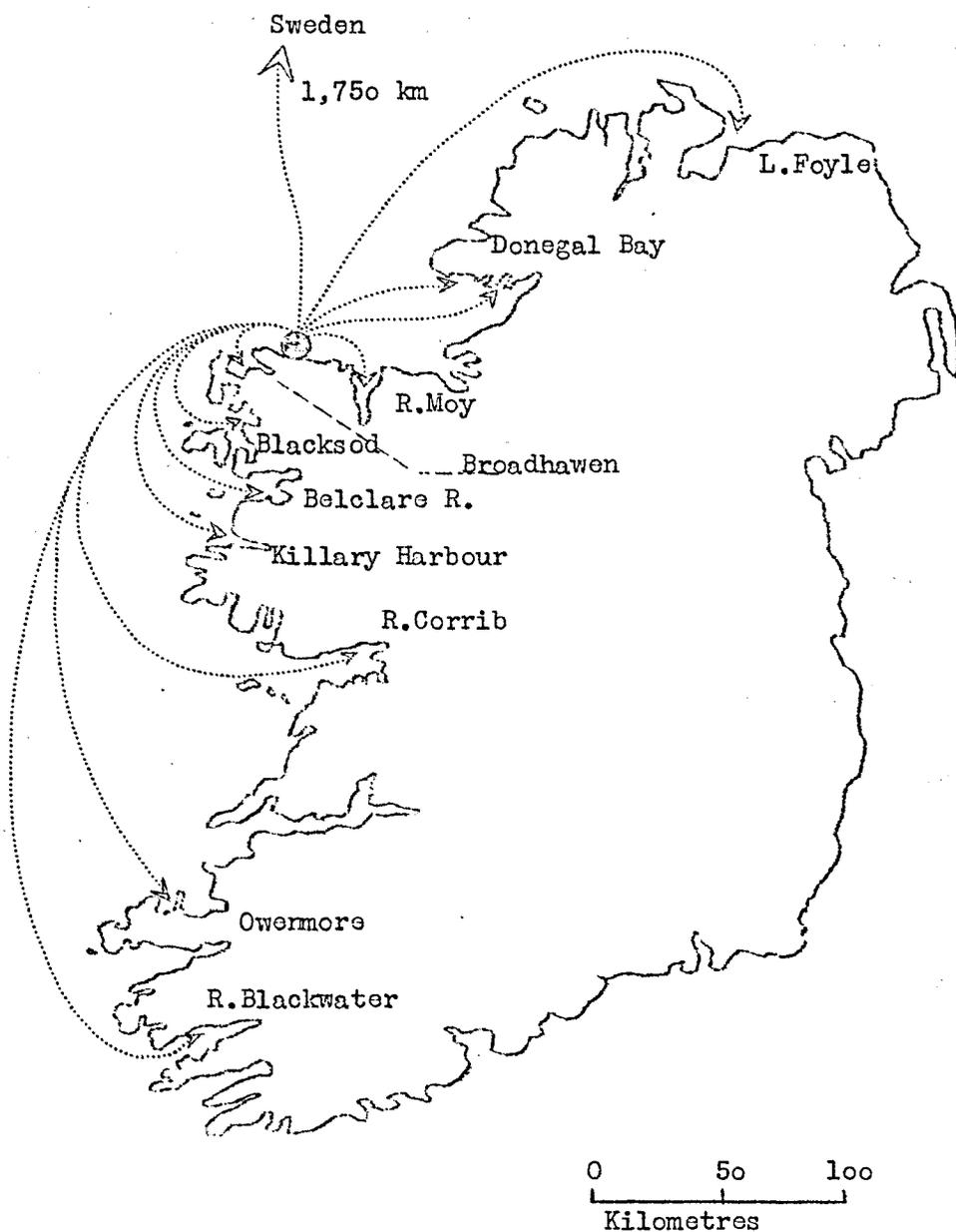


Figure 1.