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Revisions and additions to stratification schemes used during research vessel surveys in NAFO Subareas 2 and 3.

by

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Introduction

Most research vessel groundfish surveys conducted in the northwest Atlantic use a stratified-random method of set selection. This method has been used since the early 1970's in Subarea 3 (3L, 3N, 3O, 3Ps) and since the late 1970's in Div. 3K, 3M and Subarea 2. This paper describes the revisions and/or additions that have been made to existing stratification charts.

Background

Stratification schemes developed were based on depth contours using available navigational charts. The originally developed stratification schemes for the Northwest Atlantic are described in ICNAF Summ. Doc. 79/VI/24. Since that time additional stratification charts have been developed (2G and 2H) and corrections and/or additions to existing charts. Corrections to some existing charts have been necessary because of the many discrepancies observed during early surveys with respect to depth in the original navigational charts and the subsequent availability of more accurate charts. Other changes were introduced because they were considered to be improvements in design reflective of stock distributions.

The new charts are Natural Resource Maps produced by the Canadian Hydrographic Service (Figures 1 and 2). These Maps proved to be very accurate and indicated a significant different bottom configuration than that shown on navigational charts, particularly with respect to Divisions 2J and 3K.

Additions to existing stratification charts have been mainly that of depth zones up to 800 fath.

Results

The stratification chart revisions by NAFO Div. are described as follows:

2GH

A stratification scheme designed primarily to focus on deepwater species was described by Bowering (1987). At that time only the strata boundaries were defined (Figs. 3 and 4). Additions to the stratification since that time include the development of units for individual strata (Tables 1 and 2). The most recent (autumn 1991) groundfish survey conducted in this area successfully employed this stratified scheme.

2J

The stratification scheme used in this area was first used by Canada in 1977. The two charts used for this stratification as well as that for part of Div. 3K were nautical charts designated; 1) Cape Harrison to St. Michael Bay (L/C 8048) and 2) St. Michael Bay to Grey Islands (L/C 8049). These were found to have many inaccuracies with respect to depth at position which were only reconciled with the acquisition of more accurate charts. These new charts indicated substantial differences in the bottom contour configuration in Div. 2J as well as the northern part of 3K. Consequently, a revision of the stratification chart was necessary.

Where possible, the revised stratification followed that previously developed with reference to area and numbering scheme. Revisions to the 2J stratification scheme was the most extensive of all the Divisional changes as it was in this area that the new charts were at largest variance with the old. A comparison of the old and new schemes is shown in Table 3 and Figs. 5 and 6. Four new strata were added (237-240). These additions were mainly the result of realignment of old strata based on knowledge of fish distribution. A description of major changes is as follows:

- 1) New stratum - 237: Previously inshore part of 205.
- 2) - 238: - 201.
- 3) - 239: Depth zone (501-750) not indicated on old charts.
- 4) - 240: Previously part of 227.
- 5) Strata 205 and 206 were divided on east-west basis (54 N.lat.line) rather than north-south (55 W.long.line).

Other strata changed with respect to area in varying degrees. Changes in shape of strata were also substantial on the slope areas in deeper water. The change in total area covered by the new stratification was less than 1% relative to the old.

3K

Similar to that for Div. 2J, the stratification for Div. 3K was first used by Canada in 1978. A large portion of the original stratification for Div. 3K has been based on new charts and required no revision. The stratification for the northern portion of Div. 3K was based on the St. Michael Bay to Grey Island (L/C 8049) chart. The new charts indicated substantial changes to the bottom topography and consequently the stratification scheme was revised. A comparison of the old and new schemes is shown in Table 4 and Figures 7 and 8. The major changes in the stratification were as follows:

- 1) New stratum 617: previously the northern part of 623.
- 2) Stratum 624 now includes Stratum 632 as well as parts of 625, 630 and 631.
- 3) Stratum 632 has been deleted.

As well, Strata 640 to 644 (long narrow strata in the slope area were divided on a north-south basis to permit more adequate survey coverage. The northern portion remains as previously numbered 640-644 while the southern portion includes strata numbered 650-654.

3L, 3M, and 3N

The original stratification schemes extended to depths of 400 fath. and the new scheme adds strata to depths of 800 fath. (Tables 5 to 7; Fig. 9). The new strata by Div. are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 3L - 737 \text{ to } 751; \text{ total new area} &= 4420 \text{ mi.}^2 \\ 3M - 520 \text{ to } 539; &= 6496 \text{ mi.}^2 \\ 3N - 752 \text{ to } 763; &= 2069 \text{ mi.}^2 \end{aligned}$$

3O

Stratification was also extended to cover depths from 400 to 800 fath. (Table 8; Fig. 9). The additional strata were no's 764 to 775 adding an area of 1624 mi.². As well, four original strata along the slope of the Bank (333, 334, 717, and 718) were revised as more accurate charts had become available.

3P

Stratification was extended to cover depths from 400 to 800 fath. (Tables 9 and 10; Fig. 10) as well as an inshore area (part of Placentia Bay). These additional strata were no's 710, 776-773 which added an area of 2434 mi. Other changes included the combination of strata 709 and 710 as new stratum 709. The new stratum 710 delineates a new stratum in the next deepest (400-500 fath.) depth zone.

A summary of stratification schemes used in Subareas 2 + 3 is shown in Table 11. Surveys have been conducted successfully using the revised stratification but only in strata in depths up to 500 fathoms in Div. 3N, 3O and 3Ps.

Reference

Bowering, W. R. 1987. A newly developed stratification scheme for NAFO Divisions 2G and 2H. NAFO SCR Doc., No. 23, Serial No. N1306. 6 p.

Table 1: Area , depth and number of units in survey strata.

NAFO Div.	Strata No.	Depth (metres)	Range (fathoms)	Area (sq. miles)	Number of Units
2G	901	201-300	110-164	1090	390
	902	301-400	164-219	120	40
	903	401-500	219-273	80	30
	904	501-750	274-410	153	50
	905	751-1000	410-546	164	60
	906	1001-1250	546-683	229	80
	907	1251-1500	684-820	360	140
	908	201-300	110-164	585	210
	909	<=200	<=109	2773	1050
	910	<=200	<=109	2339	930
	911	201-300	110-164	692	270
	912	301-400	164-219	73	30
	913	401-500	219-273	62	20
	914	501-750	274-410	113	40
	915	751-1000	410-546	96	30
	916	1001-1250	546-683	146	50
	917	1251-1500	684-820	165	60
	918	1251-1500	684-820	515	220
	919	1001-1250	546-683	316	130
	920	751-1000	410-546	172	70
	921	501-750	274-410	142	50
	922	401-500	219-273	186	70
	923	301-400	164-219	232	90
	924	201-300	110-164	756	320
	925	<=200	<=109	1804	780
	926	201-300	110-164	433	170
	927	301-400	164-219	832	340
	928	401-500	219-273	783	320
	929	501-750	274-410	1261	530
	Total			16672	6570

Table 2: Area , depth and number of units in survey strata.

NAFO Div.	Strata No.	Depth (metres)	Range (fathoms)	Area (sq. miles)	Number of Units
2H	930	<=200	<=109	1028	380
	931	201-300	110-164	276	100
	932	301-400	164-219	55	20
	933	401-500	219-273	50	20
	934	501-750	274-410	78	30
	935	751-1000	410-546	96	30
	936	1001-1250	546-683	78	30
	937	1251-1500	684-820	94	30
	938	1251-1500	684-820	191	70
	939	1001-1250	546-683	130	40
	940	751-1000	410-546	97	30
	941	501-750	274-410	89	30
	942	401-500	219-273	55	20
	943	201-300	110-164	354	130
	944	301-400	164-219	860	300
	945	401-500	219-273	461	160
	946	501-750	274-410	721	290
	947	501-750	274-410	227	80
	948	401-500	219-273	246	70
	949	301-400	164-219	206	70
	950	201-300	110-164	261	90
	951	401-500	219-273	234	80
	952	301-400	164-219	177	60
	953	201-300	110-164	291	100
	954	<=200	<=109	971	360
	955	201-300	110-164	389	140
	956	<=200	<=109	1059	370
	957	<=200	<=109	1371	490
	958	201-300	110-164	294	100
	959	301-400	164-219	178	60
	960	401-500	219-273	107	30
	961	501-750	274-410	211	70
	962	751-1000	410-546	242	80
	963	1001-1250	546-683	265	90
	964	1251-1500	684-820	342	120
	Total			11784	4170

Table 3. List of strata, depth zones, and stratum areas for NAFO Division 2J.

Strata	Depth Range (m)	New		Old	
		Area (mi ²)	Units	Area (mi ²)	Units
201	101-200	633	200	1427	480
202	201-300	621	190	440	150
203	301-400	487	150	480	160
204	401-500	288	90	354	120
205	101-200	1594	510	1823	580
206	101-200	1870	600	2582	860
207	101-200	2264	700	2246	750
208	301-400	588	190	448	150
209	201-300	680	200	1608	540
210	201-300	1035	320	774	260
211	301-400	251	80	330	110
212	501-750	557	190	664	220
213	201-300	1583	510	1725	570
214	201-300	1341	440	1171	390
215	201-300	1302	400	1270	420
216	301-400	360	100	384	130
217	401-500	241	70	268	90
218	501-750	362	110	420	140
219	751-1000	283	90	213	70
220	1001-1250	303	90	324	110
221	1251-1500	330	100	268	90
222	301-400	450	140	441	150
223	201-300	158	50	180	60
224	501-750	228	70	270	90
225	1001-1250	195	60	177	60
226	1251-1500	201	60	180	60
227	401-500	598	190	686	230
228	201-300	2196	740	1428	480
229	301-400	536	160	567	190
230	501-750	185	50	237	80
231	751-1000	186	50	182	60
232	1001-1250	228	70	236	80
233	1251-1500	237	70	180	60
234	201-300	530	160	508	170
235	401-500	414	130	420	140
236	751-1000	193	60	122	40
237	101-200	733	220	-	-
238	101-200	778	240	-	-
239	501-750	120	40	-	-
240	401-500	133	40	-	-
Total		25272		25033	

Table 4. List of strata, depth zones, and stratum areas for NAFO Division 3K.

Strata	Depth Range (m)	New		Old	
		Area (mi ²)	Units	Area (mi ²)	Units
617	301-400	593	190	-	-
618	101-200	1347	420	1455	420
619	101-200	1753	550	1588	480
620	201-300	2545	780	2709	860
621	201-300	2736	830	2859	900
622	401-500	691	220	632	200
623	301-400	494	150	1027	320
624	201-300	1105	350	668	210
625	301-400	888	270	850	270
626	301-400	1113	340	919	290
627	401-500	1255	390	1194	380
628	301-400	1085	340	1085	340
629	301-400	495	160	495	160
630	301-400	332	100	544	170
631	401-500	1321	420	1202	380
632	201-300	-	-	447	140
633	301-400	2067	660	2179	690
634	201-300	1555	500	1618	510
635	201-300	1274	400	1274	400
636	201-300	1455	460	1455	460
637	201-300	1132	360	1132	360
638	301-400	2059	650	2059	650
639	301-400	1463	460	1463	460
640	401-500	69	20	198	60
641	501-750	230	70	584	180
642	751-1000	418	130	931	290
643	1001-1250	733	230	1266	400
644	1251-1500	474	150	954	300
645	401-500	216	70	204	60
646	501-750	325	100	333	110
647	751-1000	360	110	409	130
648	1001-1250	228	70	232	70
649	1251-1500	212	60	263	80
650	401-500	134	40		
651	501-750	359	110		
652	751-1000	516	160		
653	1001-1250	531	170		
654	1251-1500	479	150		
Total		34042		34228	

Table 5: Area , depth and number of units in survey strata.

NAFO Div.	Strata No.	Depth (metres)	Range (fathoms)	Area (sq. miles)	Number of Units
3L	328	93-183	51-100	1519	380
	341	93-183	51-100	1574	440
	342	93-183	51-100	585	170
	343	93-183	51-100	525	150
	344	184-274	101-150	1494	450
	345	275-366	151-200	1432	430
	346	275-366	151-200	865	260
	347	184-274	101-150	983	300
	348	93-183	51-100	2120	630
	349	93-183	51-100	2114	610
	350	57-91	31-50	2071	610
	363	57-91	31-50	1780	520
	364	93-183	51-100	2817	820
	365	93-183	51-100	1041	310
	366	184-274	101-150	1394	410
	368	275-366	151-200	334	100
	369	184-274	101-150	961	290
	370	93-183	51-100	1320	400
	371	57-91	31-50	1121	320
	372	57-91	31-50	2460	720
	384	57-91	31-50	1120	320
	385	93-183	51-100	2356	660
	386	185-274	101-150	983	290
	387	275-366	151-200	718	210
	388	275-366	151-200	361	100
	389	185-274	101-150	821	230
	390	93-183	51-100	1481	420
	391	185-274	101-150	282	80
	392	275-366	151-200	145	40
	729	367-549	201-300	186	60
	730	550-731	301-400	170	50
	731	367-549	201-300	216	60
	732	550-731	301-400	231	60
	733	367-549	201-300	468	130
	734	550-731	301-400	228	60
	735	367-549	201-300	272	80
	736	550-731	301-400	175	50
	737	732-914	401-500	227	70
	738	915-1097	501-600	221	70
	739	1098-1280	601-700	254	80
	740	1281-1463	701-800	264	80
	741	732-914	401-500	223	70
	742	915-1097	501-600	206	60
	743	1098-1280	601-700	211	70
	744	1281-1463	701-800	280	90
	745	732-914	401-500	348	110
	746	915-1097	501-600	392	120
	747	1098-1280	601-700	724	220
	748	732-914	401-500	159	50
	749	915-1097	501-600	126	40
	750	1098-1280	601-700	556	170
	751	1281-1463	701-800	229	70
	Total			43143	12590

Table 6: Area , depth and number of units in survey strata.

NAFO Div.	Strata No.	Depth (metres)	Range (fathoms)	Area (sq. miles)	Number of Units
3M	501	128-146	70-80	342	100
	502	147-183	81-100	838	250
	503	185-256	101-140	628	180
	504	185-256	101-140	348	100
	505	185-256	101-140	703	200
	506	185-256	101-140	496	150
	507	258-366	141-200	822	240
	508	258-366	141-200	646	190
	509	258-366	141-200	314	90
	510	258-366	141-200	951	280
	511	258-366	141-200	808	240
	512	367-549	201-300	670	200
	513	367-549	201-300	249	70
	514	367-549	201-300	602	170
	515	367-549	201-300	666	200
	516	550-731	301-400	634	190
	517	550-731	301-400	216	60
	518	550-731	301-400	210	60
	519	550-731	301-400	414	120
	520	732-914	401-500	525	160
	521	915-1097	501-600	517	160
	522	1098-1280	601-700	533	160
	523	1281-1463	701-800	284	90
	524	732-914	401-500	253	80
	525	915-1097	501-600	226	70
	526	1098-1280	601-700	177	50
	527	1281-1463	701-800	171	50
	528	732-914	401-500	530	160
	529	915-1097	501-600	488	150
	530	1098-1280	601-700	1134	350
	531	1281-1463	701-800	203	60
	532	915-1097	501-600	238	70
	533	732-914	401-500	98	30
	534	915-1097	501-600	486	150
	535	1098-1280	601-700	92	30
	536	1281-1463	701-800	112	30
	537	367-549	201-300	102	30
	538	550-731	301-400	194	60
	539	732-914	401-500	133	40
	Total			17051	5070

Table 7: Area , depth and number of units in survey strata.

NAFO Div.	Strata No.	Depth (metres)	Range (fathoms)	Area (sq. miles)	Number of Units
3N	357	275-366	151-200	164	40
	358	185-274	101-150	225	50
	359	93-183	51-100	421	110
	360	57-91	31-50	2992	810
	361	57-91	31-50	1853	480
	362	57-91	31-50	2520	720
	373	57-91	31-50	2520	720
	374	57-91	31-50	931	240
	375	<56	<30	1593	420
	376	<56	<30	1499	400
	377	93-183	51-100	100	30
	378	185-274	101-150	139	40
	379	275-366	151-200	106	30
	380	275-366	151-200	116	30
	381	185-274	101-150	182	50
	382	93-183	51-100	647	180
	383	57-91	31-50	674	190
	723	367-549	201-300	155	50
	724	550-731	301-400	124	40
	725	367-549	201-300	105	30
	726	550-731	301-400	72	20
	727	367-549	201-300	160	50
	728	550-731	301-400	156	40
	752	732-914	401-500	134	40
	753	915-1097	501-600	138	40
	754	1098-1280	601-700	180	50
	755	1281-1463	701-800	385	110
	756	732-914	401-500	106	30
	757	915-1097	501-600	102	30
	758	1098-1280	601-700	99	30
	759	1281-1463	701-800	127	40
	760	732-914	401-500	154	40
	761	915-1097	501-600	171	50
	762	1098-1280	601-700	212	60
	763	1281-1463	701-800	261	70
	Total			19523	5360

Table 8: Area , depth and number of units in survey strata.

NAFO Div.	Strata No.	Depth (metres)	Range (fathoms)	Area (sq. miles)	Number of Units
3O	329	93-183	51-100	1721	450
	330	57-91	31-50	2089	540
	331	57-91	31-50	456	120
	332	93-183	51-100	1047	280
	333	185-274	101-150	147	40
	334	275-366	151-200	96	30
	335	275-366	151-200	58	20
	336	185-274	101-150	121	30
	337	93-183	51-100	948	250
	338	57-91	31-50	1898	500
	339	93-183	51-100	585	170
	340	57-91	31-50	1716	500
	351	57-91	31-50	2520	720
	352	57-91	31-50	2580	720
	353	57-91	31-50	1282	340
	354	93-183	51-100	474	130
	355	185-274	101-150	103	30
	356	275-366	151-200	61	20
	717	367-549	201-300	166	50
	718	550-731	301-400	134	40
	719	367-549	201-300	76	20
	720	550-731	301-400	105	30
	721	367-549	201-300	76	20
	722	550-731	301-400	93	30
	764	732-914	401-500	105	30
	765	915-1097	501-600	124	30
	766	1098-1280	601-700	144	40
	767	1281-1463	701-800	158	40
	768	732-914	401-500	99	30
	769	915-1097	501-600	138	40
	770	1098-1280	601-700	128	30
	771	1281-1463	701-800	175	50
	772	732-914	401-500	135	40
	773	915-1097	501-600	128	30
	774	1098-1280	601-700	135	40
	775	1281-1463	701-800	155	40
	Total			20176	5520

Table 9: Area , depth and number of units in survey strata.

NAFO Div.	Strata No.	Depth (metres)	Range (fathoms)	Area (sq. miles)	Number of Units
3Pn	301	93-183	51-100	77	20
	302	93-183	51-100	281	80
	303	185-274	101-150	496	140
	304	275-366	151-200	141	40
	305	367+	201+	713	210
	Total				480

Table 10: Area , depth and number of units in survey strata.

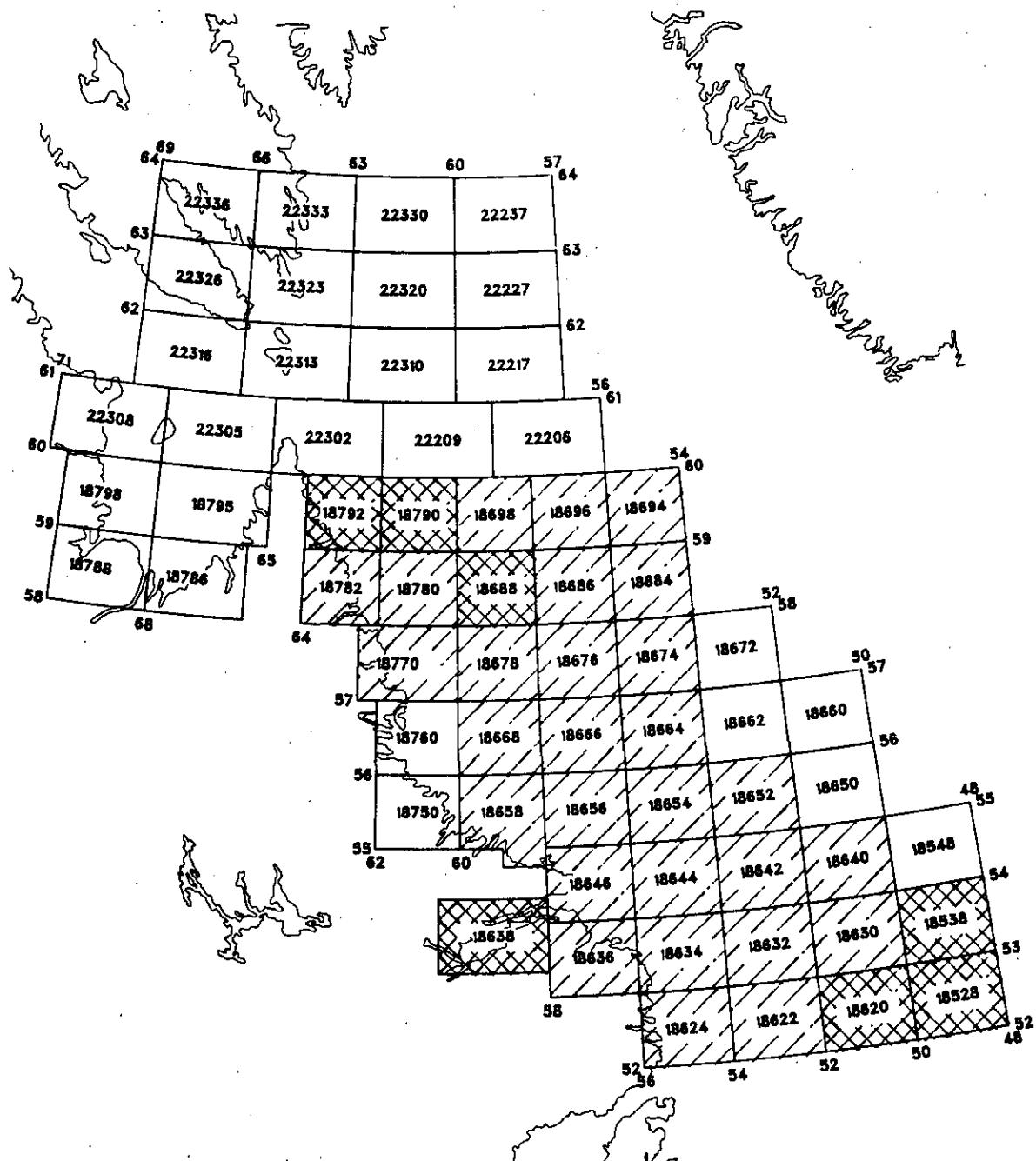
NAFO Div.	Strata No.	Depth (metres)	Range (fathoms)	Area (sq. miles)	Number of Units
3Ps	306	185-274	101-150	419	120
	307	93-183	51-100	395	110
	308	57-91	31-50	112	30
	309	185-274	101-150	296	80
	310	185-274	101-150	170	50
	311	93-183	51-100	317	90
	312	57-91	31-50	272	80
	313	185-274	101-150	165	50
	314	0-56	0-30	974	280
	315	57-91	31-50	827	240
	316	185-274	101-150	189	50
	317	93-183	51-100	193	50
	318	185-274	101-150	129	40
	319	93-183	51-100	984	280
	320	0-56	0-30	1320	390
	321	57-91	31-50	1189	340
	322	93-183	51-100	1567	450
	323	93-183	51-100	696	200
	324	93-183	51-100	494	140
	325	57-91	31-50	944	280
	326	57-91	31-50	166	50
	705	275-366	151-200	195	50
	706	275-366	151-200	476	140
	707	275-366	151-200	74	20
	708	367-549	201-300	126	40
	709	550-731	301-400	158	40
	710	732-914	401-500	176	40
	711	367-549	201-300	961	260
	712	367-549	210-300	973	270
	713	367-549	201-300	950	250
	714	367-549	201-300	1195	340
	715	275-366	151-200	132	40
	716	275-366	151-200	539	150
	776	915-1097	501-600	173	50
	777	1098-1280	601-700	208	60
	778	1281-1463	701-800	194	50
	779	184-274	101-150	422	130
	780	184-274	101-150	403	120
	781	93-183	51-100	446	130
	782	93-183	51-100	183	50
	783	57-91	31-50	229	70
	Total			21739	6680

Table 11: Summary of the stratification system used for groundfish surveys.

NAFO Div.	Depth Range (metres)	Depth Range (fathoms)	No. of Strata	Area (sq. miles)	No. of Units
2G	<200-1500	<109-820	29	16672	6570
2H	<200-1500	<109-820	35	11784	4170
2J	101-1500	55-820	40	25272	7930
3K	101-1500	55-820	37	34042	10640
3L	57-1463	31-800	52	43143	12590
3M	128-1463	70-800	39	17051	5070
3N	<56-1463	<30-800	35	19523	5360
3O	57-1463	31-800	36	20176	5520
3P	57-1463	31-800	41	20031	5700
3Pn	93-367+	51-201+	5	1708	490
Totals			349	209402	64040

**BATHYMETRY INDEX BATHYMÉTRIE
NATURAL RESOURCE MAPS
CARTES DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES**

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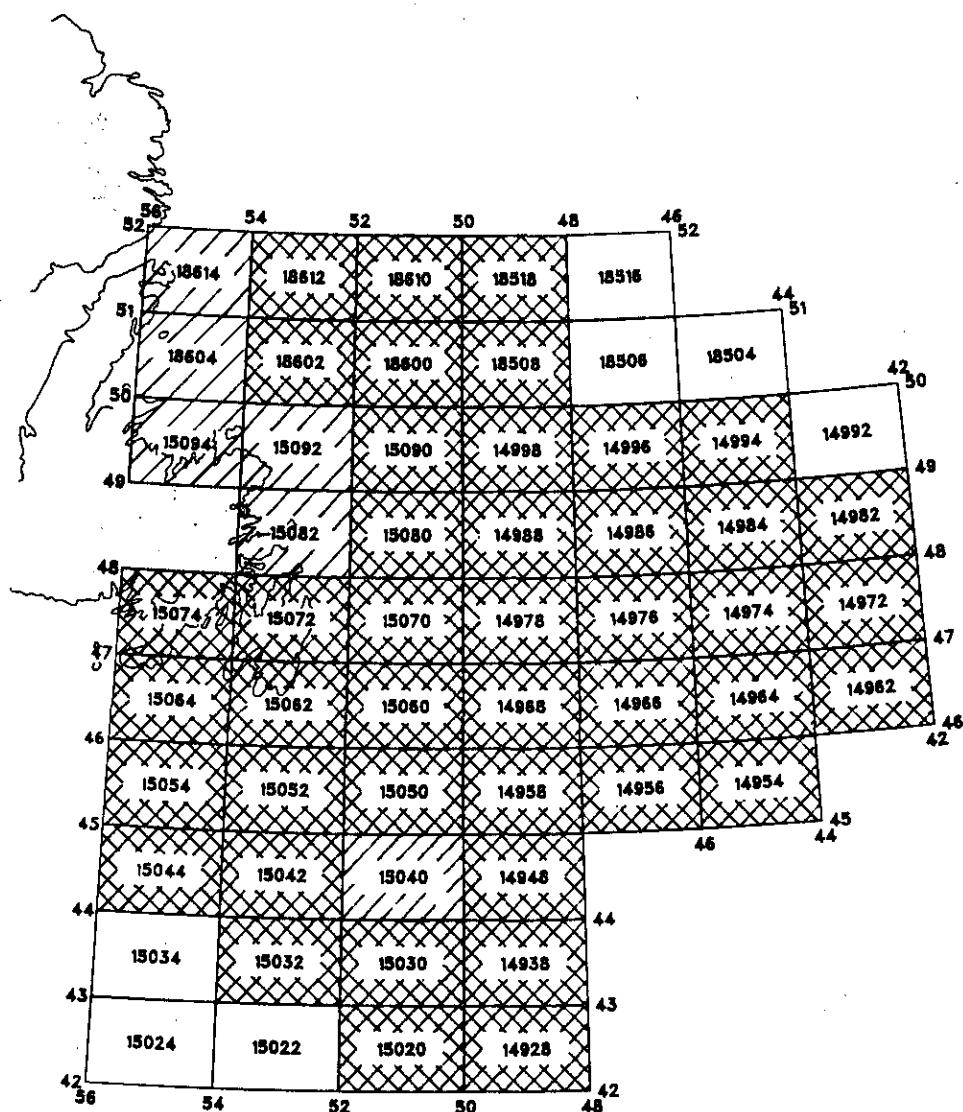


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Figure 2. List of bathymetric maps used for revised stratification scheme in Div. 3K.

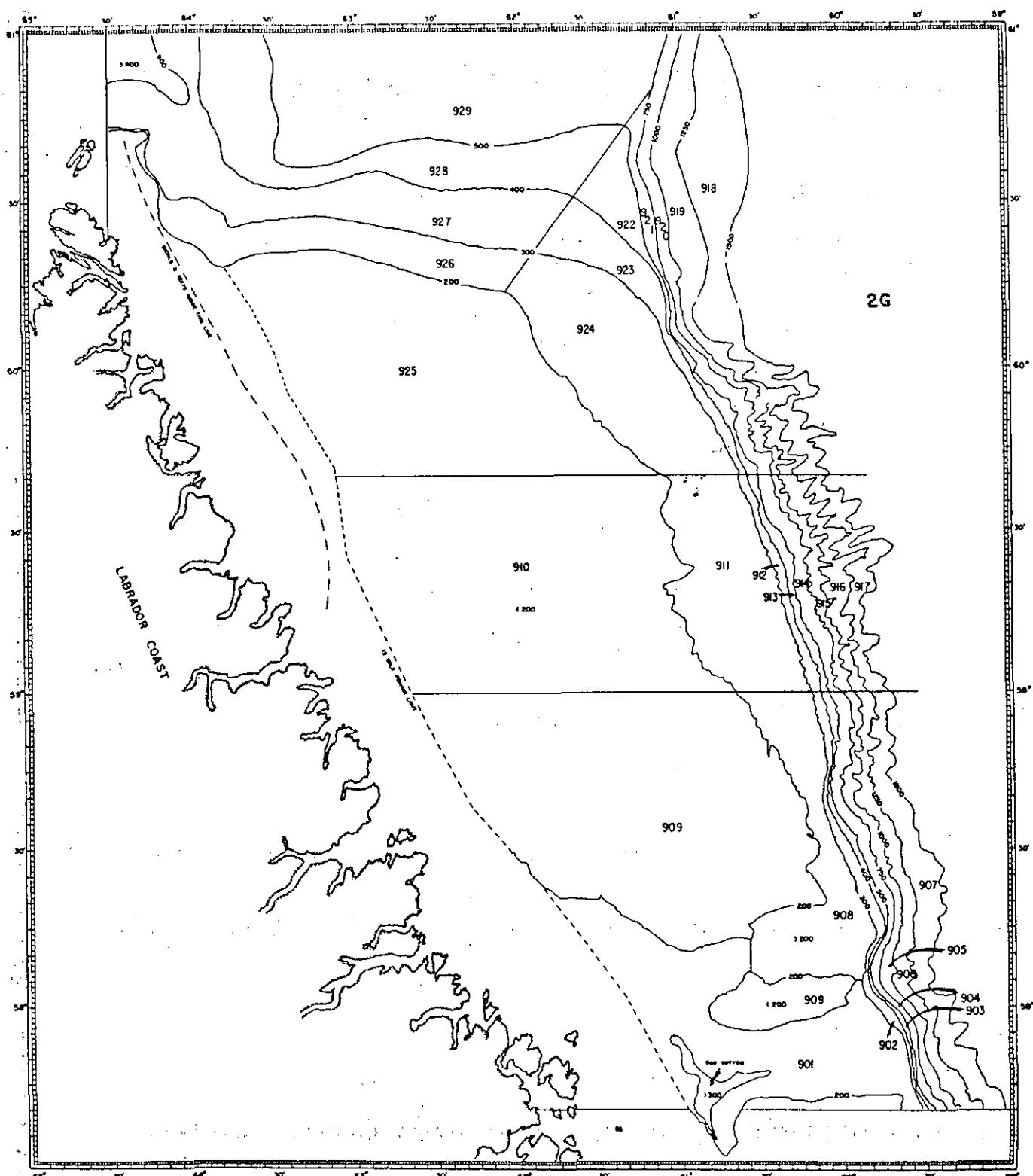


Figure 3. Stratification scheme used in stratified-random groundfish surveys in Div. 2G.

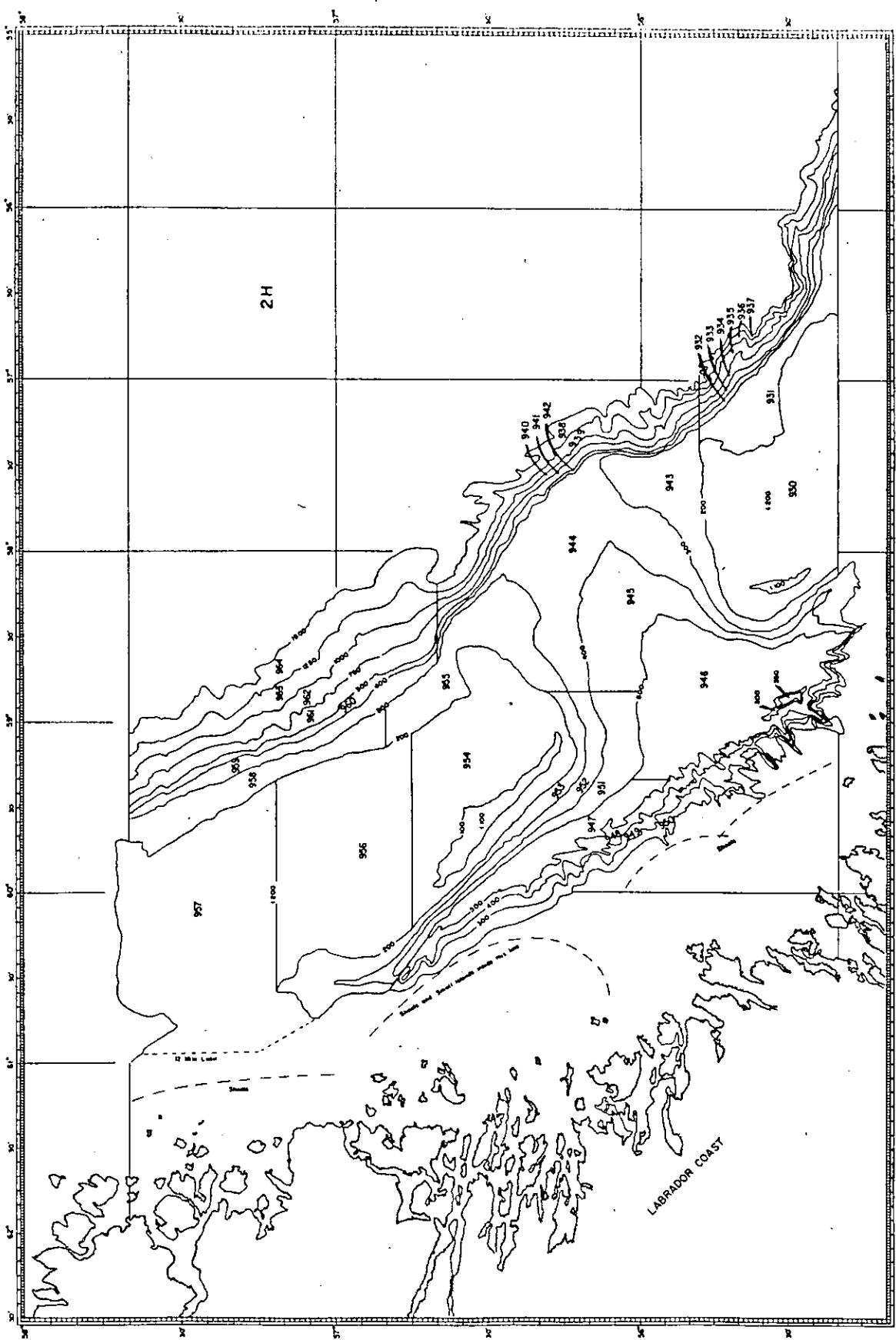


Figure 4. Stratification scheme used in stratified-random groundfish surveys in Div. 2H.

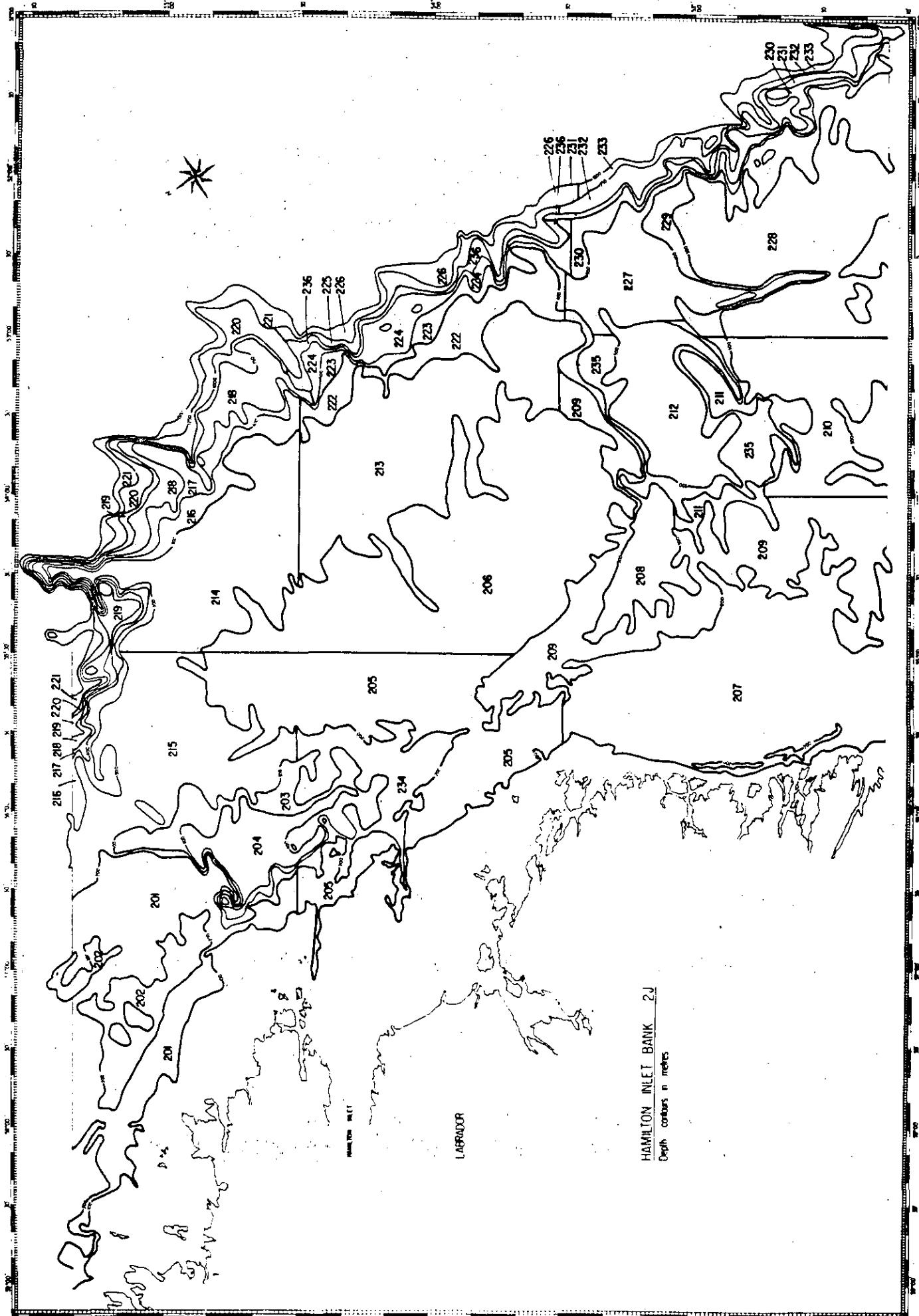


Figure 5. Stratification scheme used in stratified-random groundfish surveys in Div. 2J.

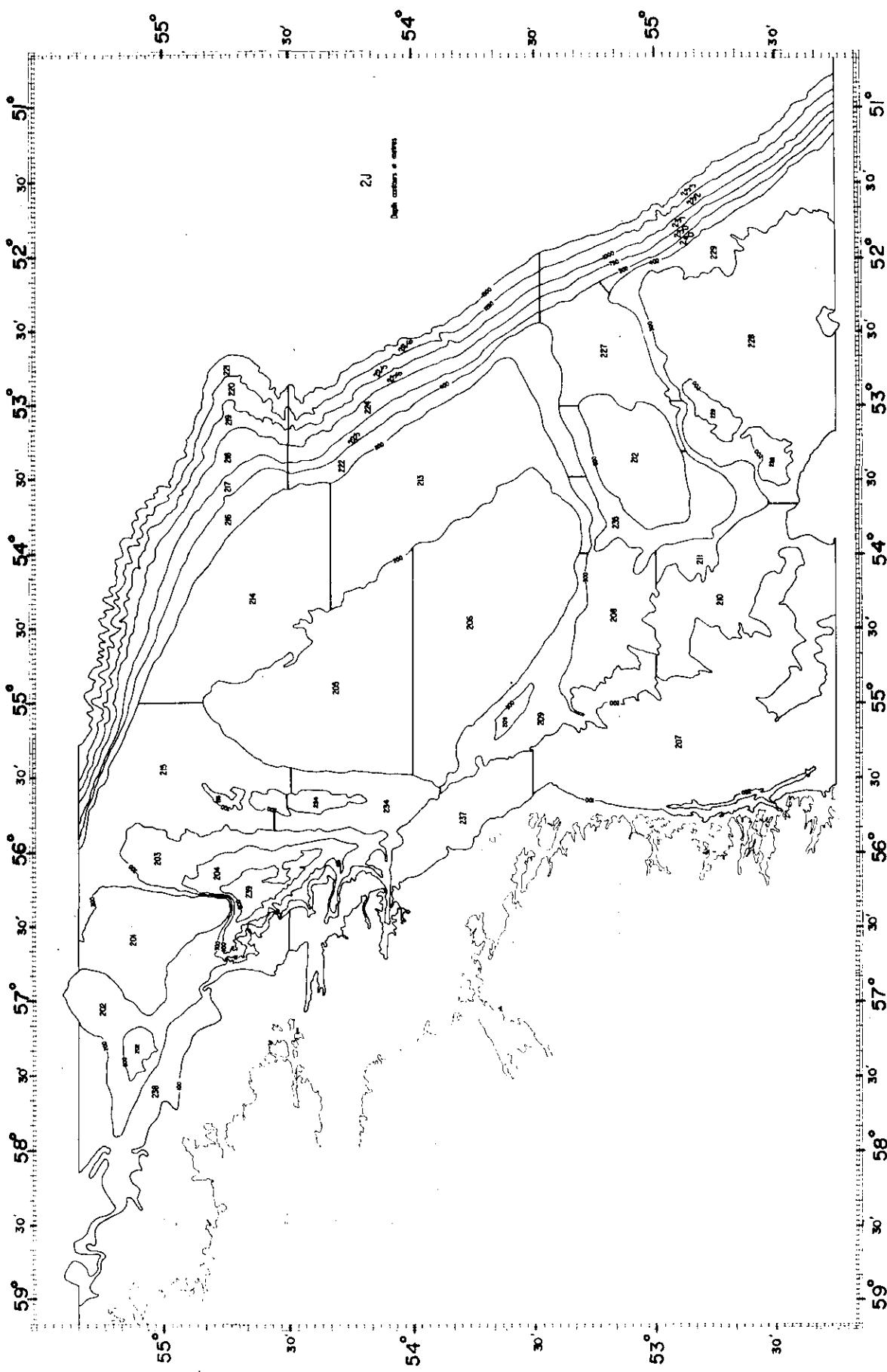


Figure 6. Revised stratification scheme for stratified-random groundfish surveys in Div. 2J.

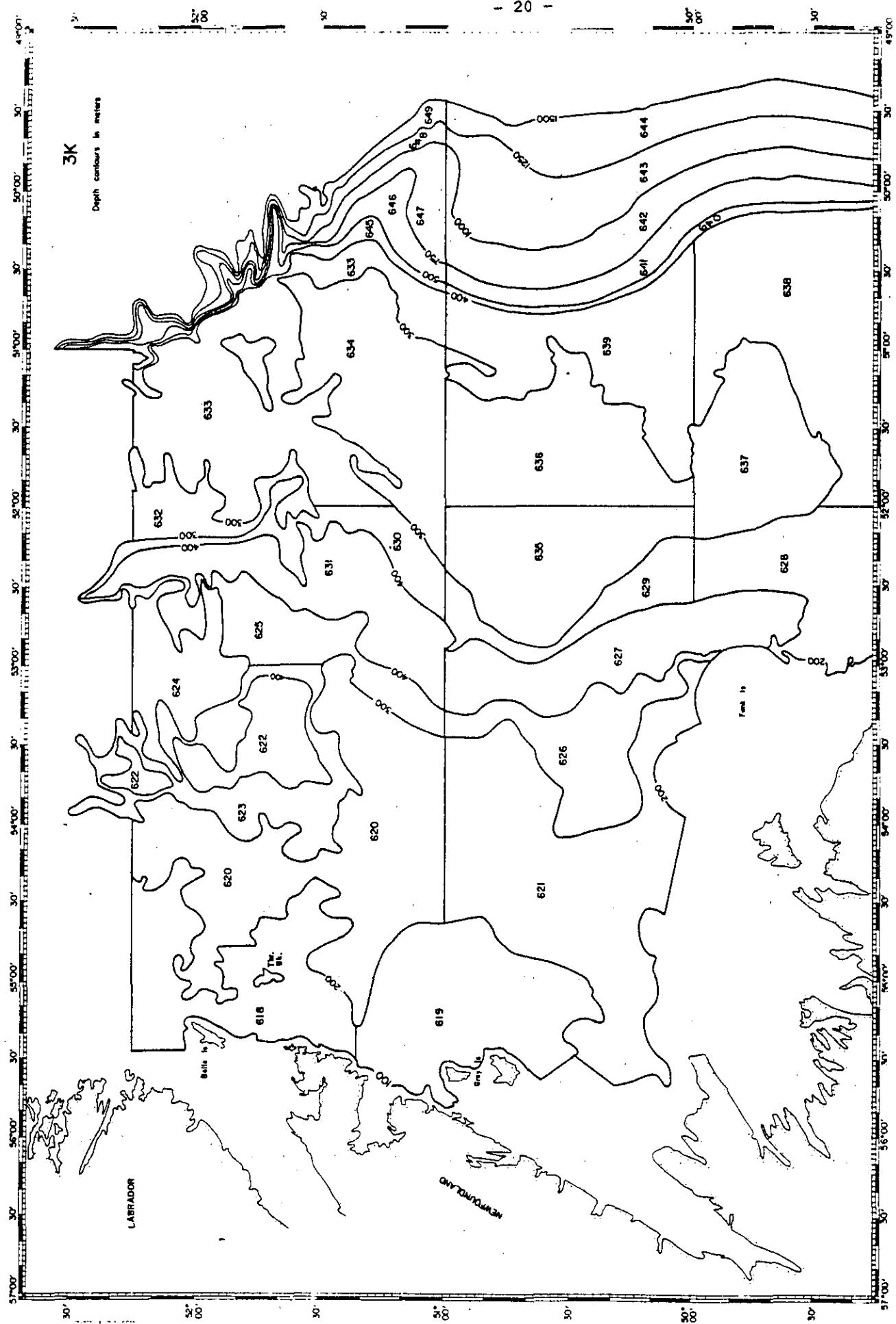


Figure 7. Stratification scheme used in stratified-random groundfish surveys in Div. 3K.

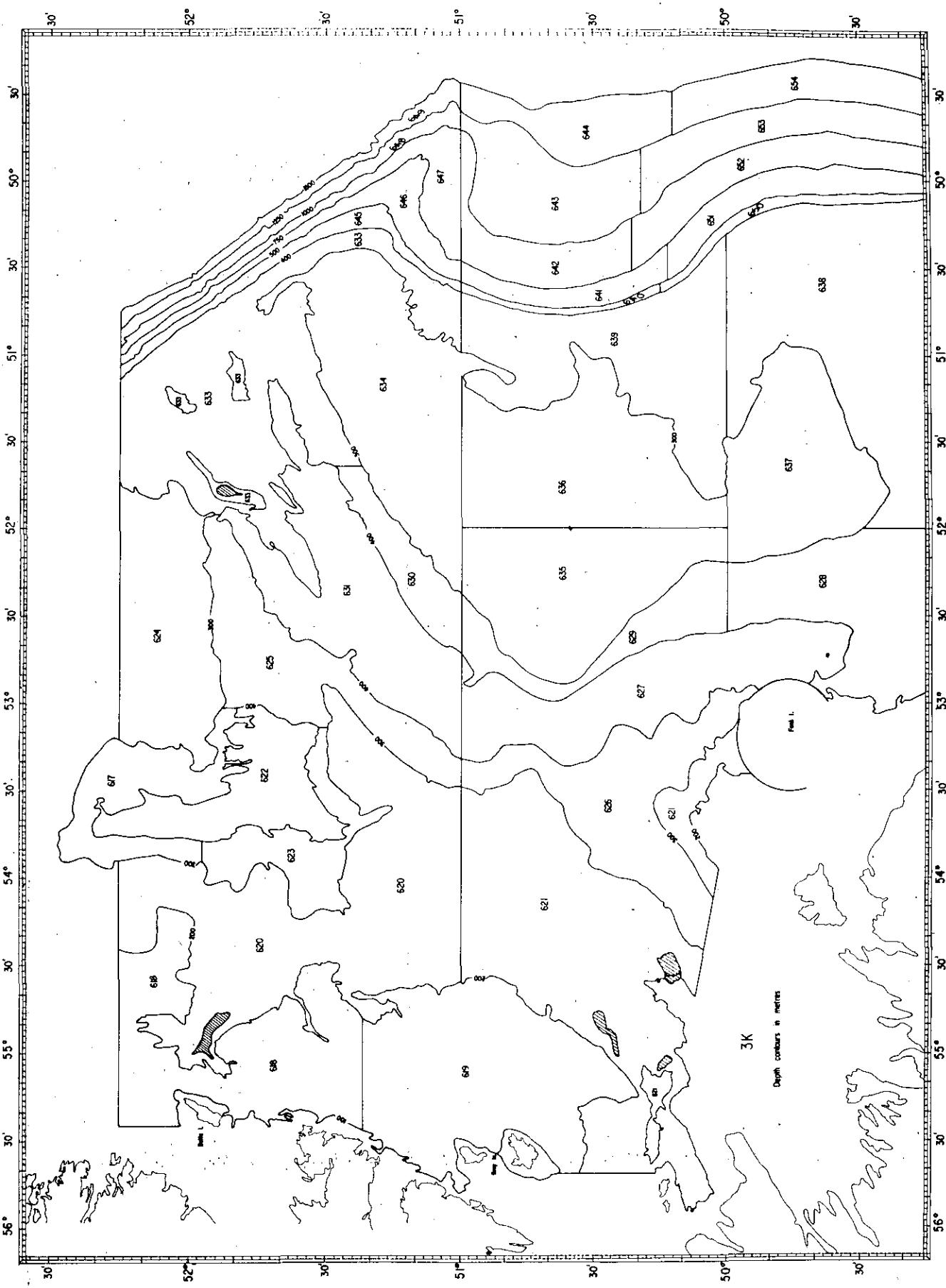


Figure 8. Revised stratification scheme for stratified-random groundfish surveys in Div. 3K.

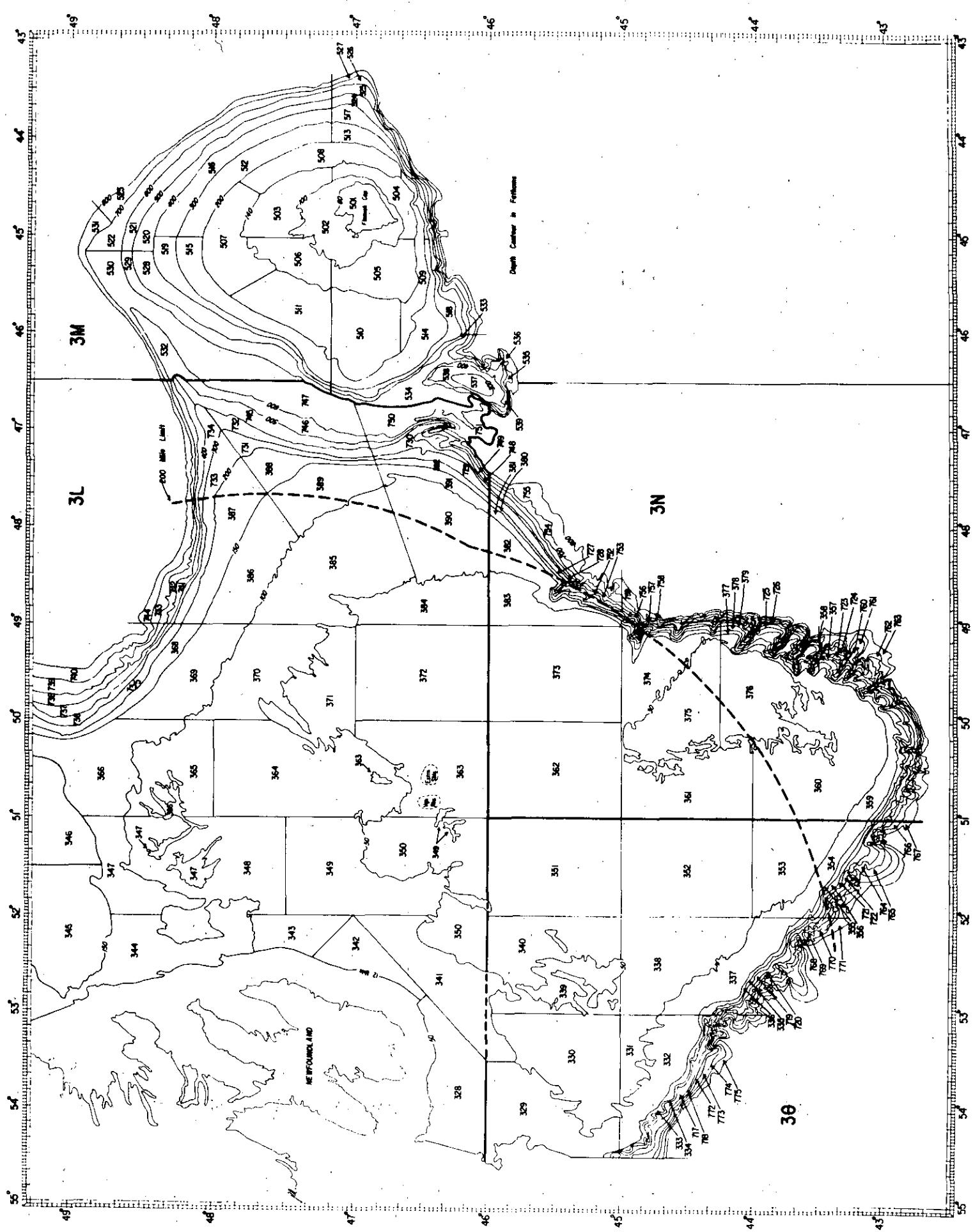


Figure 9. Revised stratification schemes for stratified-random groundfish surveys in Div. 3L, 3M, 3N and 3O.

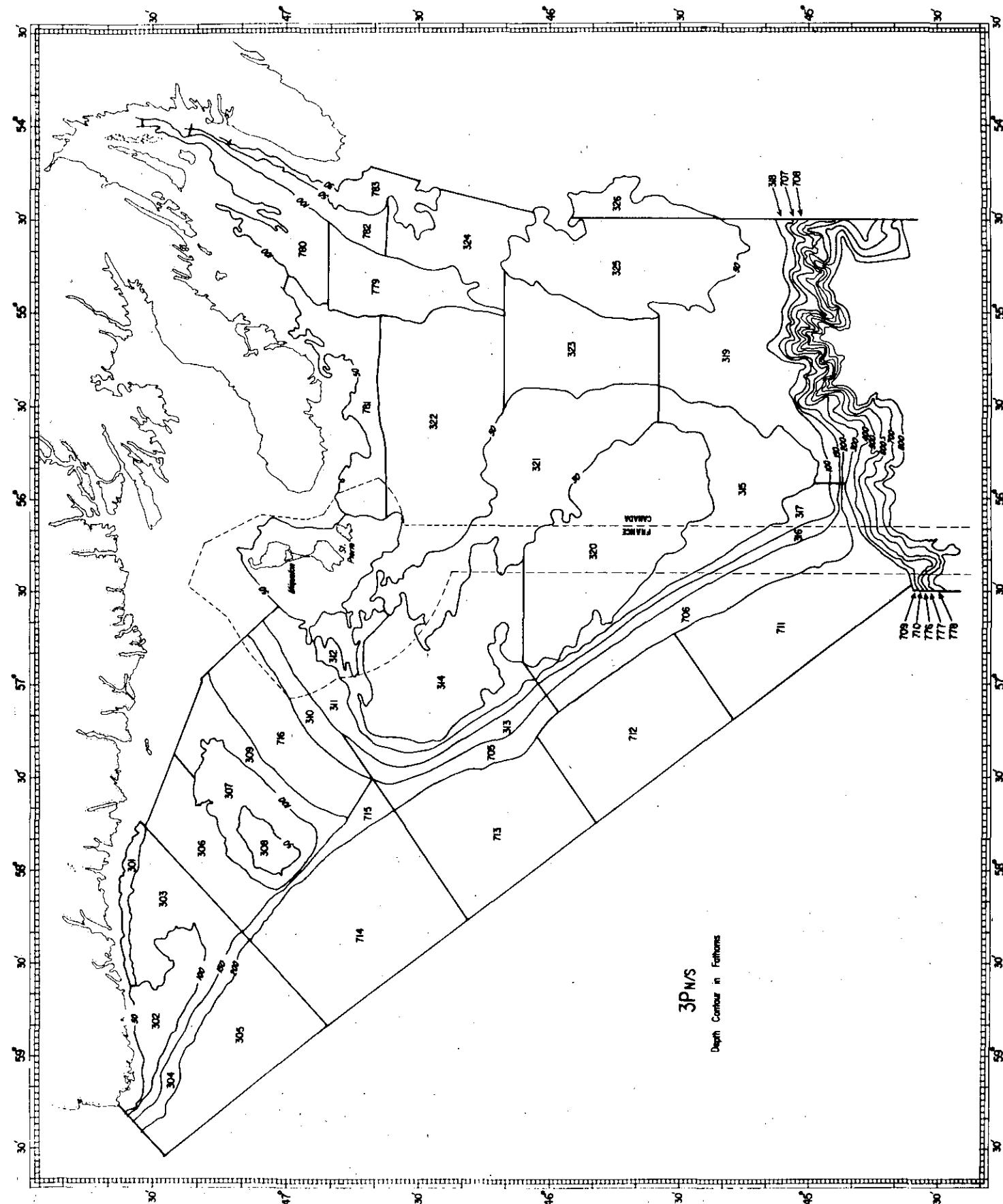


Figure 10. Revised stratification scheme for stratified-random groundfish surveys in Subdiv. 3Ps.