

# How big are the cockles/pipi?

## 2a) Cockle/Pipi Size Class Worksheet

It is useful to find out the size of the shellfish that are present. Use your results to fill in the below table. Then you will use these to create a histogram.

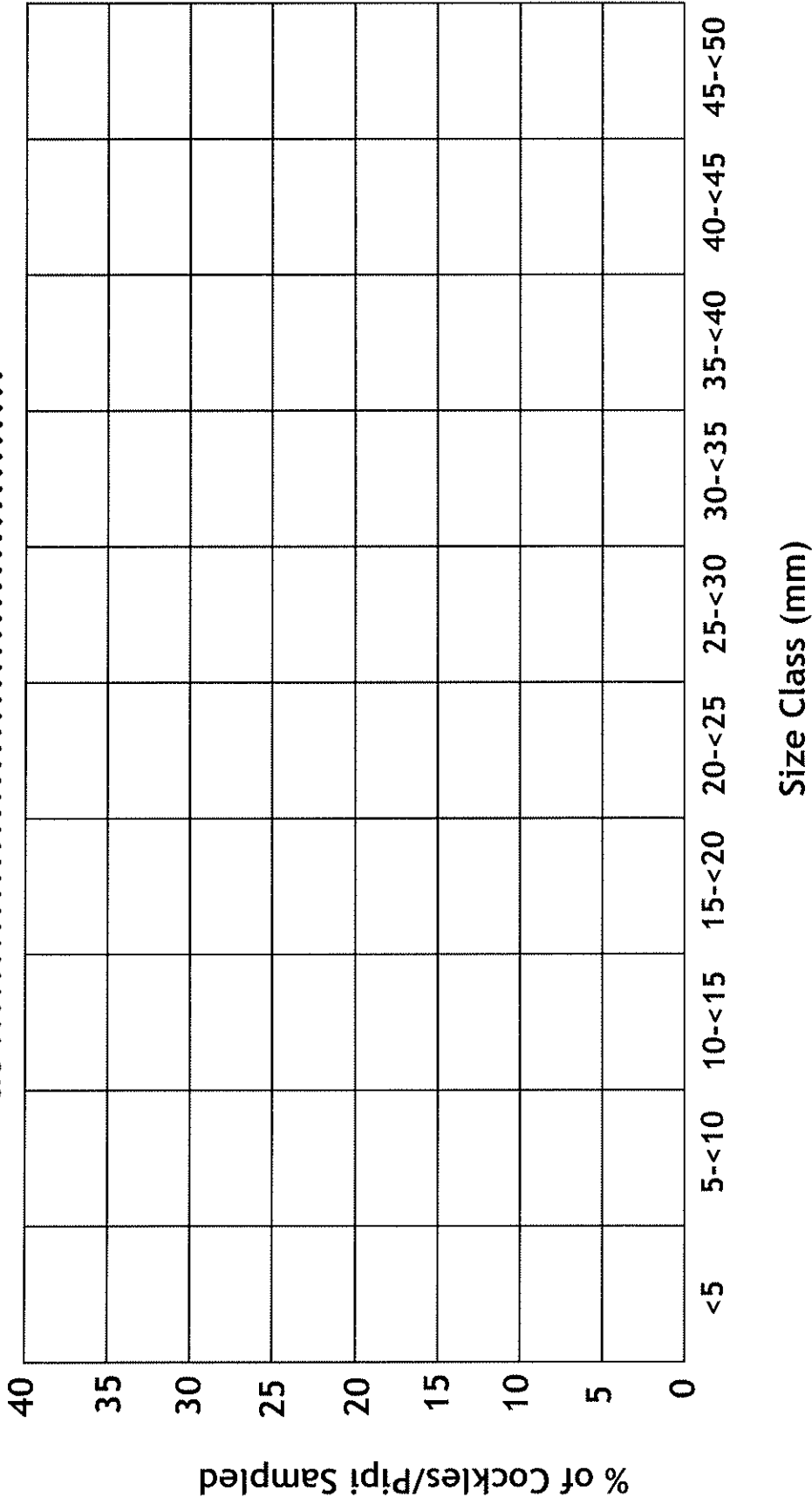
<b>Transect Name:</b>											
Name of sample station (e.g. A50)	Cockle/Pipi Size Class (mm): Use your tally size class totals for cockles/pipi from each station to fill in numbers below.										
	<5	5-<10	10-<15	15-<20	20-<25	25-<30	30-<35	35-<40	40-<45	45-<50	Total for each sample: add each row
<b>Total: add each column</b>											
<b>Percentage: Column total divided by last total, x 100</b>											

## How big are the cockles/pipi? 2b) Cockle/Pipi Size Histogram

Use the table of cockle/pipi sizes from your previous 'cockle/pipi size class' worksheet to draw a histogram of your results. Histograms don't have spaces between the bars.

Title: Cockle/pipi size at transect ....

at .....



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## 2c) Cockle/Pipi Size Histogram Interpretation

**NOTE:** A 'size class' is a grouping of near-sized shellfish (eg. 20-<25mm). This is used to make recording and interpretation of data easier.

**Part One:** Use your histogram to answer the following questions.

- 1) Which size class had the largest percentage?
- 2) Which size class had the lowest percentage?
- 3) 'Harvestable' shellfish are shellfish that are considered 'big' by humans. Decide what size you think would be big enough to be eaten by humans. Calculate the percentage of 'big' or 'harvestable' shellfish along your transect. (Clue: you may need to add several numbers)

**Part Two:** If you have previous years graphed data, compare the graphs and answer the following questions.

- 1) What differences can you see?
- 2) Have the percentage of numbers in the largest size classes (those that people like to eat) declined from previous years?
- 3) If so, what could this be due to?

**Part Three:** General Questions

- 1) What could the presence of large numbers of very small cockles/pipi indicate?
- 2) What could the presence of large numbers of larger shellfish indicate?