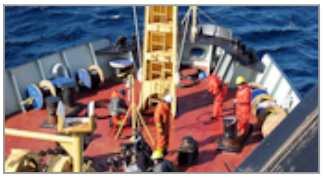
Beaufort Gyre Exploration Project
2003 Dispatches

1: Arrival in Kugluktuk
The final destination of our 2-day flight from Boston was to the very small town of Kugluktuk, where the icebreaker Louis S. St.-Laurent will take us on board for our 30-day expedition to the Beaufort Gyre.

2: Flying to the Ship
Some bad and some good news met us this morning. The weather was bad (rain and strong wind) but our 14 boxes were found.

3: Steaming to the Beaufort Sea
Sea ice and weather conditions were favorable and we moved toward the Beaufort Sea with a speed of about 15 knots.



4: CABOS Mooring is Recovered
With favorable ice conditions, we're getting down to business with our freshwater explorations.

5: Work Underway
We are busy with moorings and water sampling. But we could use a little company. Where are the birds and animals that live in the Arctic?

6: Moorings, Moorings, and Moorings
Our major operations during the past 3 days were mooring recoveries and deployments.

7: Polar Bear Sighting
A polar bear lumbering on the ice near the ship brought almost everyone—and their cameras—to the deck.

8: Searching for the Perfect Ice
To install a buoy with instruments that will send us data from the Arctic for months requires an ice field with just the right thickness.

9: Ice Surface Buoys

Deploying and recovering buoys requires effort and organization, but the information they gather can teach us a lot about the ocean.

10: Beaufort Gyre Freshwater Observing System Is In Place
During several busy days, we established the Beaufort Gyre Freshwater Observing System.

11: Chemistry From the Surface to the Bottom
We take samples to help us identify the source and even the age of water found here. This helps us to understand how the atmosphere and ocean work.

12: Signs of Sea Ice and Another Polar Bear
The air temperature is the coldest we have experienced yet, and we can see the ice form on the sea surface.

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