

Beaufort Gyre Exploration Project: Dispatch 3: Stormy Weather, Stormy Seas

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Inclement weather and 6-foot swells foiled this morning's plan to deploy a Conductivity, Temperature, and Depth monitor (CTD) and plankton net equipment. Captain McNeill and Chief Scientist Sarah Zimmerman decided to wait for better conditions, as the first CTD deployment is always a



Stormy seas encumber the *Louis*.

The weather also changed the conditions of daily life aboard the ship. It's become a rocky ride. Since late last night, the ship has been rolling fro

The ship's pendular movement can be attributed to the external forces of the weather, but also to its architecture. As the *Louis* moves forward th to allow for transit, rather than cutting directly through it. Although the design optimizes the ship's ability to move through polar environments, it n efxfectively push aside all the ice cubes it encounters, but when an external force like wind or waves interrupts its path, the ball will wobble, rotat movement disrupts their daily ant life and ant walking. We are those ants.

While waiting for the weather to calm, scientists continued to prepare for future deployments, recoveries, and sample collections. Individuals whc Fun fact about the chopper: its antenna transmits a signal so forceful that it can burn human skin.



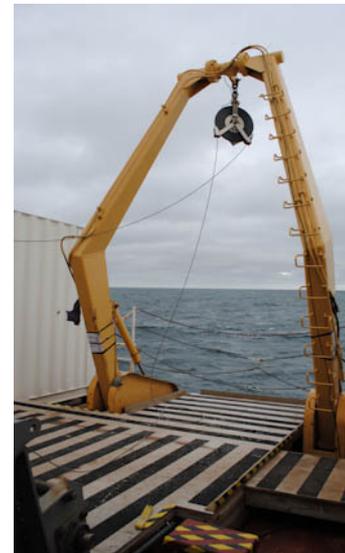
Kristina Brown of the University of British Columbia prepares a reagent to react with ammonium in Arctic seawater. OPA, the reagent's active ingredient, binds to the ammonium and fluoresces. The measured intensity of the fluorescence then indicates the concentration of



Helicopter pilot Jim explains proper helicopter behavior.

ammonium in the water. Ammonium is deposited in Beaufort seawater principally through organic matter that decays on the floor of the Canadian continental shelf. By determining the path of ammonium throughout the Beaufort Sea, Kristina and her team are contributing to a larger effort to understand how water moves around the Canadian Basin.

After waiting for weather to calm, we deployed instruments a few miles west of our intended site in the Amundsen Gulf, AG-5. Though not exact,



Today Rick and his crew moved two ITPs to the deck. For the next week, the ITPs will transmit a signal to the WHOI labs to verify their functionality before deployment.

An industrial-strength A-frame crane required to lower CTDs and other equipment into the sea.



Crew members prepare an Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) to be lowered into the sea. ADCPs use sound waves to determine current patterns throughout a wide underwater area. Though the ADCP was fully prepared to be deployed, sea conditions proved too rough and the mission was aborted.

Due to wind and a rocking boat, the rosette swung through back to the ship.

Crew members and scientists relaxed at night by discussing the next day's deployments and watching the Texas-Texas Tech football game, pre-expected on this expedition.

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