

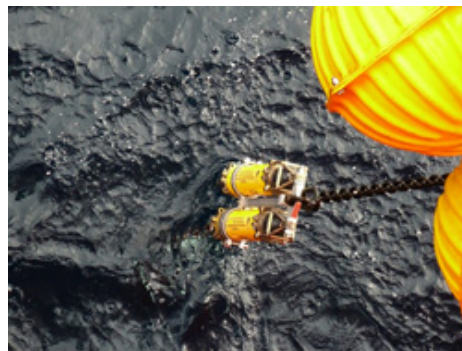
Beaufort Gyre Exploration Project: Dispatch 10: Mooring work

Steve Lambert, WHOI
August 11, 2012

We arrived on station and ready to go after all the preparations made yesterday. The group started working on the forward deck just after breakfast pulling in the 3800 meter long mooring. The first step is to confirm location then we release the unit from the anchor on the sea floor. At the top - about 30 meters below the surface - is a large floatation sphere containing an ADCP and an Upward-Looking Sonar unit which provides the majority of the floatation. At the bottom end is a series of 17" glass spheres housed in plastic shells. These provide additional floatation to ease the mooring recovery. Once the release is actuated the whole unit detaches from the anchor and floats to the surface. We then hook a lifting line to the upper sphere and begin the long process of recovery. We had a bit of snow but all in all the weather really wasn't too bad.

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