Proposed Station Locations from RVIB Nathaniel B. Palmer NBP1005 in the Amundsen Sea, South Pacific Sector of Antarctica, Southern Ocean 73 S 115 W from 2010-2011 (ASPIRE project)

Website: https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/3391
Version: 01 December 2010
Version Date: 2010-12-01

Project
» Amundsen Sea Polynya International Research Expedition (ASPIRE)

Contributors	Affiliation	Role
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Dataset Description

Proposed Station Locations - Station Id, Description, Date/Time, Lat/Lon

Methods & Sampling

Generated from file: ASPIRECruiseTrackCalculator.xls contributed by Paticia Yager

Data Processing Description

Generated from file: ASPIRECruiseTrackCalculator.xls contributed by Paticia Yager

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Data Files

File
Prelim_Stations.csv (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 2.69 KB) MD5:62aa7fd7e1ecf4f28f2cd7c0eea522e7 Primary data file for dataset ID 3391

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Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
Station_Id	Station number	integer
Description	Station type(s)	text
Date_Start	Start date of station	YYYYMMDD
Time_Start	Start time of station	HHMM
Date_End	Start date of station	YYYYMMDD
Time_End	Start time of station	HHMM
lon	Station longitude (West is negative)	decimal degrees
lat	Station latitude (South is negative)	decimal degrees

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Deployments

NBP1005

Website	https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/58154
Platform	RVIB Nathaniel B. Palmer
Start Date	2010-11-26
End Date	2011-01-16
Description	Expedition by the USAP RV Nathaniel B. Palmer during austral summer 2010-11 to sampled the Amundsen Sea Polynya during the Amundsen Sea Polynya International Research Expedition (ASPIRE). Also identified as OSO 2010-11 (Oden Southern Ocean – two vessel operation 2010-11) The US Research Icebreaker Nathaniel B. Palmer was joined by the Swedish Icebreaker Oden for a two-vessel expedition to the Amundsen Sea. Scientists on the Palmer focused on understanding the climate-sensitive dynamics of the open water region, known as a "polynya." Oden scientists investigated the sea ice ecosystem nearby. The aim of both groups was to improve our understanding of how climate change will impact this important ecosystem. Note R2R Link takes user to Marine Geoscience Data System (MGDS): NBP1005 NBP1005A Data at MGDS were available as NBP1005 and NBP1005A. The data are from the same expedition and are combined in BCO-DMO into the one deployment - NBP1005. Nathaniel B. Palmer Systems and Specifications

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Project Information

Amundsen Sea Polynya International Research Expedition (ASPIRE)

Website: http://AntarcticASPIRE.org/

Coverage: Amundsen Sea, South Pacific Sector of Antarctica, Southern Ocean 73 S 115 W

The Amundsen Sea Polynya is areally the most productive Antarctic polynya, exhibits higher chlorophyll levels during peak bloom and greater interannual variability than the better-studied Ross Sea Polynya ecosystem. Polynyas may be the key to understanding the future of polar regions as their extent is expected to increase with anthropogenic warming. The project will examine 1) sources of iron to the Amundsen Sea Polynya as a function of climate forcing, 2) phytoplankton community structure in relation to iron supply and mixed-layer depths, 3) the efficiency of the biological pump of carbon to depth and 4) the net flux of carbon as a function of climate and micronutrient forcing. The research also will compare results for the Amundsen Sea to existing data synthesis and modeling efforts for the Palmer LTER and Ross Sea. The project will 1) build close scientific collaborations between US and Swedish researchers; 2) investigate climate change implications with broad societal relevance; 3) train new researchers; 4) encourage participation in research science by underrepresented groups, and 5) involve broad dissemination of results via scientific literature and public outreach, including close interactions with NSF-supported PolarTrec and COSEE K-12 teachers.

This project brings together experienced US and Swedish investigators (trace metal and carbon chemists, phytoplankton physiologists, microbial and zooplankton ecologists, and physical oceanographers) to investigate climate controls on carbon dioxide uptake by one of the most productive ecosystems in the Antarctic.

The Amundsen Sea Polynya is the most productive Antarctic polynya per square meter, and exhibits higher chlorophyll levels during peak bloom and greater interannual variability than the better-studied Ross Sea polynya ecosystem to the west.

Polynyas, or recurring areas of seasonally open water surrounded by ice, are foci for energy and material transfer between the atmosphere, polar surface ocean and deep sea. Most help take up large amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

These polar ecosystems are characterized by high biological productivity and intense biogeochemical cycling - a bit like an oasis. Polynyas may be the key to understanding the future of polar regions since their extent is expected to increase with anthropogenic warming. On the other hand, if seasonal sea ice disappears completely, the unique nature of polynyas may also be lost.

Regional reductions or growth in sea-ice over the past decade have been extensive and are coupled to climate-sensitive global cycles such as ENSO and the Southern Annular Mode. Without many historical measurements, this regional and interannual variability is our best present-day indication for what controls or “forces” these critical polar ecosystems and their sensitivity to future change.

Variability in the productivity of Antarctic polynyas is high for reasons the science community do not currently understand. The supply of trace metals such as iron is thought to determine phytoplankton community structure and production in the Southern Ocean, particularly in conjunction with mixed-layer depth controls on light limitation. A key question is whether interannual variability is driven by these two climate-sensitive factors, and whether we can expect climate-sensitive shifts in ecosystem function and carbon flux in the future. Understanding critical feedbacks between climate and the marine biosphere becomes increasingly urgent as we project rates of change into the future.

Special ASPIRE journal feature in ELEMENTA

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Funding

Funding Source	Award
NSF Antarctic Sciences (NSF ANT)	ANT-0839069

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