Cruise track of R/V Pelican PE14-11 in the Blake Ridge, Cape Fear Diapir, Nov. 2014 (SEEPC project)

Website: https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/542138
Version: 2014-12-09

Project
» Connectivity in western Atlantic seep populations: Oceanographic and life-history processes underlying genetic structure (SEEPC)

Contributors	Affiliation	Role
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Dataset Description

Control point navigation from R2R: http://www.rvdata.us/catalog/PE14-11

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Data Files

File
PE1411_track.csv (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 1.27 KB) MD5:abd64c3686ee2da2a719d94f67ca5531 Primary data file for dataset ID 542138

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Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
ISO_DateTime_UTC	time and date	
lon	longitude; east is positive	decimal degrees
lat	latitude; north is positive	decimal degrees

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Instruments

Dataset-specific Instrument Name	GPS
Generic Instrument Name	Global Positioning System Receiver
Generic Instrument Description	The Global Positioning System (GPS) is a U.S. space-based radionavigation system that provides reliable positioning, navigation, and timing services to civilian users on a continuous worldwide basis. The U.S. Air Force develops, maintains, and operates the space and control segments of the NAVSTAR GPS transmitter system. Ships use a variety of receivers (e.g. Trimble and Ashtech) to interpret the GPS signal and determine accurate latitude and longitude.

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Deployments

PE14-11

Website	https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/521436
Platform	R/V Pelican
Report	http://dmoserv3.whoi.edu/data_docs/SEEPC/PE14-11_cruise_report.pdf
Start Date	2013-11-04
End Date	2013-11-08
Description	SEEPC project cruise. Cruise information and original data are available from the NSF R2R data catalog.

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Project Information

Connectivity in western Atlantic seep populations: Oceanographic and life-history processes underlying genetic structure (SEEPC)

Coverage: Western Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, Intra-American Sea

This project will evaluate connectivity on spatial scales that match those at which vent systems are being studied (3500 km), with a set of nested seeps (within the Barbados system) within which connectivity can be explored at more local spatial scales (30 to 130 km), and with species that span depth (600 m to 3600 m) and geographic ranges (30 km to 3500 km) and that have diverse life-history characteristics. Five deep-sea seep systems in the Intra- American Sea (IAS) are targeted: Blake Ridge, Florida Escarpment, Alaminos Canyon, Brine Pool, Barbados (El Pilar, Orenoque A, Orenoque B). The primary objective is to advance our general knowledge of connectivity in the deep sea. The focus is on species and processes occurring in the IAS, with attention to oceanographic circulation, life histories, and genetics. Questions that apply in shallow-water systems motivate this study:

1. What phylogeographic breaks occur in the system? It is important to distinguish between phylogeographic history and connectivity. A phylogeographic break with no shared alleles between populations implies a long history of isolation or possibly cryptic speciation.

2. Are populations connected by ongoing migration? This is the fundamental question about connectivity and the scale of genetic variation in marine species with planktonic larvae.

3. What biophysical processes underlie observed connectivities? Biological processes (e.g., larval distributions

in the water column, timing of reproduction, and planktonic larval duration) and physical processes of transport and dispersion interact to determine connectivity.

The oceanographic model for the IAS will be improved and coupled to a Lagrangian larval transport model. The field program includes time-series sampling of larvae at seeps with records of current velocities, water column sampling to determine larval distribution potential, shipboard studies of larval biology and behavior, and sampling of benthic target species. Phylogenetic and population genetic tools will be used to explore historical and contemporary gene flow. Iterative interactions among the science teams will advance our understanding of connectivity in the deep sea and to develop effective and best methods for hypothesis testing under the constraints of working in a relatively inaccessible environment. Since their discovery, deep-sea chemosynthetic ecosystems have been novel systems within which to test the generality of paradigms developed for shallow-water species. This study will explore scale-dependent biodiversity and recruitment dynamics in deep-sea seep communities, and will identify key factors underlying population persistence and maintenance of biodiversity in these patchy systems.

Google Earth map showing positions of stations, CTD, XBT, multibeam locations (KMZ file dlownload)

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Funding

Funding Source	Award
NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)	OCE-1031050

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