
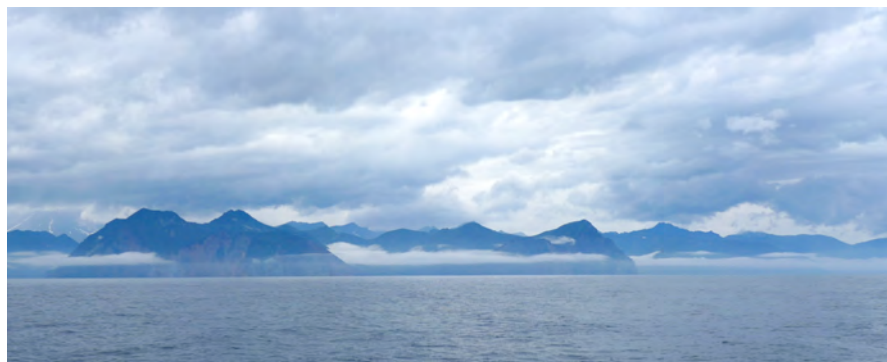
	<p align="center">SO-249 Leg 2 BERING Weekly Report No. 10 (08.08. – 14.08.2016)</p>	 <p align="center">R/V SONNE 42°37'N / 141°37'E</p>
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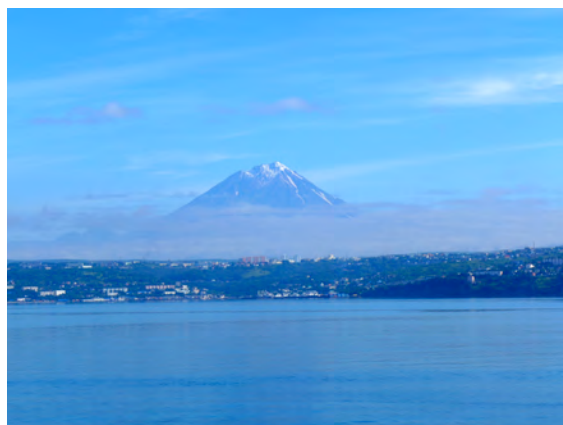
The last week of R/V SONNE cruise SO-249 Leg 2 was characterized by the transit to our final destination Tomakomai on Hokkaido (Japan). En route we entered again the port of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, where we said good by to most of our Russian colleagues. On August 9th, R/V SONNE headed towards Tomakomai. In order to avoid an upcoming typhoon, we had to cross the Kurile Island Arc and sailed into the Sea of Ochotsk. Among others, the transit was used for preliminary studies of the data and samples as well as for cleaning, maintenance, and packing of our equipment. In the evening of August 11th, we celebrated the end of a successful expedition. On Saturday, August 13th we finally reached the port of Tomakomai according to schedule at 08:00 am. Altogether 150 dredge hauls have been carried out on both legs of cruise SO-249, of which 75% were successful in delivering hard rocks. We are quite pleased with this, especially in view that several working areas were largely unknown to date and required extensive and time-consuming bathymetric surveys in order to identify appropriate sampling sites.

The scientists would especially like to thank Captain Mallon and the crew of R/V SONNE. Their hard work, high level of experience, great flexibility and willingness to help, as well as the pleasant working atmosphere on board, contributed directly to the success of the SO-249/2 expedition. We are also grateful to the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research for continuing support of marine research. Lastly I would like to thank “my” team, the SO-249/2 Scientific Party, not only for their excellent work on board but also that they crucially contributed to the good atmosphere on board throughout this expedition.

Reinhard Werner



The coast of the Russian peninsula Kamchatka. The large volcanoes as, for example, Mutnowski (in theory on the left hand side of the picture), are hidden by the clouds (Reinhard Werner).



View of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky with the 3,456 m high Koriaksky volcano in the background (Reinhard Werner).



The port of Tomakomai upon arrival of R/V SONNE at the end of SO-249/2 expedition (Reinhard Werner).