

METEOR Cruise 77/1

Talcahuano (Chile) – Callao (Peru)

Weekly Report No. 5: 17. - 21. 11. 08

Last Report

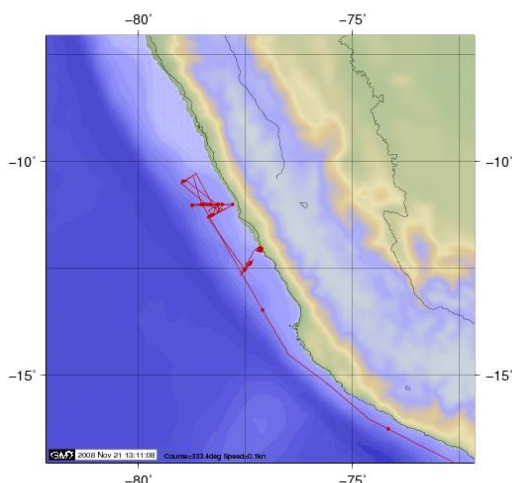


FS METEOR

Olaf Pfannkuche

We worked at the 11°S-transect and its southern addition at 11°20'S until Monday evening (17-11-08). During the night we steamed South to establish another shelf - slope transect line at 12°30'S. This new transect covered a depth gradient from 160m to 1100m extending as far as 25 miles. The area was mapped with multi-beam and Parasound. Station work at the new transect was restricted to CTD/RO casts, OFOS-surveys and multi-corer sampling at key depths within and out site the core of the OMZ. Station work ended on Thursday afternoon (20-11-08) at 16:20h. We arrived at Callao harbour on Friday (21-11-08) at 07:15h. With the disembarkation of 17 scientists in the afternoon leg M77-1 ended. 9 scientists will continue their investigation during M77-2.

Cruise M77-1 was highly successful. We gained a multitude of interesting results some of which



promise to be outstanding. However, most of the groups attending leg 1 will continue in leg 2 enlarging the data basis. Although shorter in time than planned, we more than fulfilled our planned sampling programme. All gear operations went smoothly facilitated by the calm weather conditions. The ship's systems functioned well and in consequence we did not lose any station time by malfunctions. We covered 3860nm and worked with varying intensity at six locations between 18°S to 11°S (Fig. 1). Our main emphasis was clearly on the 11°N-transect. In total we drove 246 Stations with 55 CTD/Rosette casts, 16 lander deployments, 87 TV-multiple casts, 23 gravity corer casts, 34 OFOS surveys and 21 multi-beam/Parasound surveys.

Fig. 1: Track plot Cruise METEOR 77-1.

On Saturday evening (22-11.08) a reception on board METEOR will be given to Peruvian officials from the government, IMARPE, the university and harbour authorities in cooperation with the German Embassy which will be attended by R. Schneider (chief scientist Leg 2) and me.

The success of this expedition was not possible without the dedicated and professional performance of captain Baschek and his crew which is acknowledged gratefully by us.

On behalf of the science party and Meteor crew, our very best regards.

Olaf Pfannkuche