



Voyage ss2010_t03

Next Wave Transit Hobart-Sydney

Ben Harris (Alternate Watch Leader), University of New South Wales

Contribution to Australia's national benefit:

This voyage was part of the Next Wave Program, developed to allow young, aspiring scientists the opportunity to experience hands on the life of practicing marine science at sea. On this voyage there were eleven students from four different institutions at differing stages of their education; of those nine had not been at sea before. Apart from introducing young scientists to life at sea, the Program provided the opportunity for a young PhD student to be a Watch Leader, resulting in seeing the process of organising and running a research voyage. Throughout the voyage we also managed to add instrumentation to the WRCP by deploying Argo Floats on the transit as well as add valuable data to the benthic mapping network through running the ship's swath system throughout the voyage.

As a result of this voyage:

1. We have a better understanding of the biological processes of warm core and cold core eddies. We had the opportunity to sample two adjacent eddies and through analysis will be able to see how this affected the zooplankton community for four PhD students at two universities, and inspired six undergraduates of the possibilities in biological oceanography.
2. We have mapped a vast region of the eastern Australian coast with the use of the ship board swath system with a large section of this being across the slope of the sea floor along the south coast of NSW and across Bass Strait.
3. We have commenced a program of long-term sampling of a warm core eddy on the NSW south coast, from spring and likely into late summer (2011). It was sampled on this voyage, the subsequent voyage and will be sampled again a month later on the return transit, and possibly in 2011.
4. We have contributed to the long term ocean observing by IMOS with the continuous plankton recorder off eastern Australia, which would otherwise have suffered a significant gap in the sampling record.

Itinerary

Departed Hobart

06:00, Friday 17 September 2010

Arrived Sydney

10:00, Tuesday 21 September 2010

> Transit voyage track ss2010_t03

