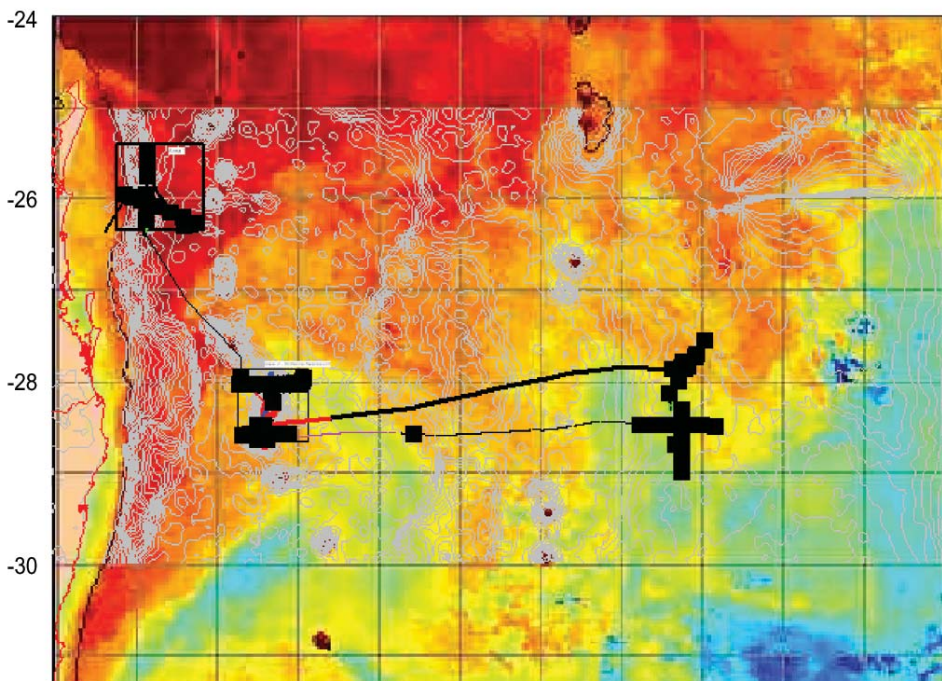


Voyage SS09-2004

Pelagic habitat and community comparisons in the fishing grounds of the tuna and billfish fishery off eastern Australia.

Dr Jock Young (Chief Scientist) and Dr Alistair Hobday, CSIRO

Marine National Facility 2004/2005 Voyages			Environmentally Sustainable Australia					Frontier Technologies	Safeguarding Australia
			1	2	5	6	7	4	2
SS09/2004	Pelagic habitat and community comparisons between three eastern Australia fishing grounds.	CSIRO/FRDC							



> **SS09-2004 voyage track:** Voyage track showing the three areas sampled off eastern Australia.

The potential of the voyage to contribute to Australia's national benefit:

The eastern Australian longline fishery targets mainly swordfish and yellowfin and bigeye tuna. Fishing is usually carried out in relation to oceanographic features or features of the seabed topography, particularly seamounts.

The fishery is presently being evaluated with respect to its ecological risk and ecosystem impacts of this fishery on the oceanic community off eastern Australia. As part of that wider study, RV *Southern Surveyor* was used to describe the physical habitat and primary community characteristics of the pelagic ecosystem in which the fishery operates. This voyage focused on seamounts with a history of fishing.