

NOAA Teacher at Sea Susan Just Onboard NOAA Ship OREGON II June 14 – June 30, 2006

NOAA Teacher at Sea: Susan Just

NOAA Ship Oregon II

Mission: Summer Groundfish Survey

Day 3, Saturday, June 17, 2006

Weather Data from Bridge

Visibility: 8-10 nautical miles (nm)

Wind direction: 356° Wind speed: 11.1 Sea wave height: 0-1 Swell wave height:1-2 Seawater temperature: 28.2 Sea level pressure: 1016.7

Cloud cover: 5/8 Cumulus, Altocumulus

Science and Technology Log

This watch began, again, with fish waiting on the deck. We processed that catch just as we had all the others. While we were processing, another catch of fish were being collected. A CTD was also performed.

When the fish catch has been processed, it is necessary to return the processed organisms to the sea. There is a shoot in the wetlab designed for this purpose. The shoot has not been working properly so far on this cruise. During our watch it backed up completely. Water was rising up through the drain in the floor. Clearing the blockage took several hours.

The catch was sitting on the deck and we had no reason to believe that we would get the shoot clear any time soon. The Watch Leader elected to process the catch "dry" so we separated and identified the species without the benefit of water to clean the organisms.

Following this catch, the shoot was cleared and the lab was cleaned. We are now making our way south to assess the Texas Gulf Coast shrimp prior to the beginning of their season.

Personal Log

What a mess! Each organism had to be dipped into water just so that we could be sure it was identified properly. We found hundreds of little shrimp that are not even harvested for food purposes.

Question of the Day

Where do the shrimp live?

Answer: In the mud on the bottom of the sea.