



**NOAA Teacher at Sea
Carolyn Bielser
Onboard NOAA Ship DELAWARE II
May 23 - 30, 2005**

Sunday, May 29/ Monday, May 30 2005

Day 7/8
(Monday evening)

Cloud cover 50-60%
Weather – partly cloudy
Wave height – 0
Swell height – 0
Latitude- 3815.93 N
Longitude – 07423.00W
Air Temperature 16.6
Barometer – 1013.9
Salinity – 031.34
Wind speed –n4.89
Flurovalue – 325.5

Scientific Log

The seas have been clam and the temperatures warmer. We have been making our way south, now along the coast of Delaware. The clamming has been going better with the better weather and less breakdowns. We did have the power cable to the pump catch on fire, briefly. Earlier the power cable jumped a winch and got caught on a chain and damaged. They must have missed a small hole when fixing it and it ended up burning the outer cover. We had to stop and take out the damaged portion of the cable and rewire the pump.

We are now moving east and north to conduct some setup depletion sites and the DE II depletion site. After that, we will try to finish up a major portion of the stations left in the mid-Atlantic bight.

Sensor package, trackpoint dredge tracking system and the FSCS are all working well.

We attached a video camera to the top of the dredge in order to observe the pump kicking on and the water jets working properly. The jets shoot water down in front of the dredge and loosen up the sand so the dredge can be pulled through more easily. The resulting video showed this to be working well. It was neat to see the dredge in action underwater.

Many of the tows result in few clams and lots of shells, rocks or periodically a ton of clay. We have seen a few interesting fish – a monkfish, a stargazer and a sea robin. I think the fish surveys would be very interesting because they trawl with nets and you would see a lot more variety of fish.

Personal Log

At the very least, I have gained a respect for the people that do this kind of fieldwork. Without them, this information would not be collected and little would be known about the conditions of the ocean environment and the life in it.