



**NOAA Teacher at Sea
Mandi Gillespie
Onboard NOAA Ship OREGON II
July 5 – 7, 2007**

NOAA Teacher at Sea: Mandi Gillespie

NOAA Ship OREGON II

Mission: Summer Groundfish Survey

Day: July 6, 2007

Gulf of Mexico

Weather Data from Bridge

Visibility: n/a

Wind direction: 243

Wind speed: 6.7 kts

Sea wave height n/a

Swell wave height: n/a

Seawater temperature: 26.8 C

Sea level pressure: 1016 mb

Cloud cover: n/a

Science and Technology Log

This cruise's mission is two fold; 1) stock assessment of fish and invertebrates and 2) mapping of the hypoxia zone. To assess the fish and invertebrate stock, a 40-foot bottom trawl net collects bottom samples from designated sites. The samples are gathered, identified, measured and weighed by the scientists on board the ship. Data collected is eventually used to set bag limits for fish and shrimp. To measure the hypoxic zone, equipment is deployed from the ship at specific sites. Dissolved oxygen level is collected. This data is used to map the Gulf of Mexico's hypoxic zone.

Personal Log

I arrived onboard the OREGON II on July 4th eager to set sail. However, we have been delayed because the auxiliary emergency generator onboard will not start. Once the generator functions properly, we will be able to set sail.



NOAA ship OREGON II at port waiting to set sail.

My position title is watch stander and am told training for my position is "on the job". I am scheduled on the day shift which is 12:00 to 24:00. I look forward to fulfilling my

duties as a watch stander to better understand how the samples are collected and processed.

Question of the Day

What is a hypoxic zone?