

94016

PACIFIC MARINE GEOLOGY - POST CRUISE SUMMARY
 AMG SHIP/SERIAL# - PCES 94018

Converted to time format with year at start.

PMG Field ID (if unknown, leave blank) --- E294NC

Program theme (resources, environment, hazards) ---

Project name ---

Study region ---

Chief scientist(s) --- Herman Karl

Name of vessel (if used) --- Pacific Escort

Non-PMG Field ID used (if any) ---

Date field activity started ---

Date field activity ended ---

List of equipment used to gather data ---

1994 Scientific purpose/goals ---

Summary of the activity and data gathered ---

Anticipated date of data input into PMG data base ---

Note #1 --- After starting out in 20 foot seas with 30 knots of wind, Herman/Chin and Co. have settled into a coring routine. As of yesterday afternoon the winds were still around 25 to 30 knots but the seas were down to 5-6 feet. They have not done any sidescan or camera work as of yet. I receive updates twice a day, once around 9 am and then again around 4 pm.

Note #2 --- Update as of 11/02/94 0800 hrs: wind 30 kts gusts to 40, seas 10-14 feet, unable to conduct testing, except for profiling, due to adverse weather conditions. Waiting for break in weather pattern. Should break no later than tomorrow.

Note #3 --- 11/02/94 1615 hours, 37 degrees 25.6 min north 123 degrees 14.7 min west wind 35-40 knots from the nw seas 20 plus feet skys are clear and 1994 visibility good. Continuing with profiling. Weather continues to be a problem for testing. Still waiting for a break in weather pattern.

Note #4 --- 11/04/94 0800 hours Just passed under Golden Gate bridge. Testing has been completed. ETA Redwood City 1030-1100 hours this morning.

Note #5 --- All of you have been following the cruise of the Pacific Escort through Steve Wallace's e-mail accounts -- well we made it back safe and sound! The purpose of the cruise was to characterize a reference site as part of the EPA deep-ocean dumpsite project. Yes we experienced 40 knot winds and 20 foot seas. Thank goodness the cruise was only scheduled for 6 days and not a month! You know, for the past several years I have sat in duck blinds during this time of the year and experienced nothing but blue skies. The first season I'm not duck hunting and what happens! I think that Kaye Kinoshita was the only non-green person on board as she calmly navigated us through the worst of it (personally I was wishing that a rogue wave would put me out of my misery that first day out). We did manage, however, to get a fair share of our very ambitious workload done. We collected 7 excellent cores using Mike Bothnar's Slow Corer. This is a hydraulically dampened corer that preserves the

water-sediment interface. This is the first time the apparatus has been used in the deep ocean (in the past Mike only used in Boston Harbor/Mass Bay). Mike learned alot about improving the core for such open ocean work. (Mike actually told me that he's glad that he came on the cruise and enjoyed working with all of us! I guess it must be worse working in the Altantic in February!). Anyhow, the Slow Corer worked beautifully. We occupied several other sampling sites and had no recovery. This didn't surprise us as sediment cover was very thin to unresolvable on the acoustic records. We covered the study area and got good representative samples -- this was the priority task of the cruise for EPA. We also collected some sidescan data with the EG&G system. We had planned a mosaic but weather didn't leave us the time. We did run representative lines across the study area. The new cage that we had built for the EG&G fish worked very well. Unfortunately, the SeaMac winch couldn't handle the cage in the heavy sea states and we had to use the "naked" fish with a resultant decrease in the data quality. We have plenty of high-resolution subbottom data using the ODEC system and will be able to acoustically characterize the study site very well. We weren't able to deploy the camera sled (as we concentrated our time on sampling and sidescan in the weather windows available to us) although Hank was ready when needed (we do have a camera transect through the area from a previous cruise). Ironically, the camera sled was first on the agenda and ready to go when we reached the study area, but weather didn't permit us to launch it. All-in-all, we came away with a good data set for our EPA client/partner.

The GIS whiz-kids -- Norm Maher and Mike Hamer -- produced a set of labor-intensive maps at sea that are ready to go in the report. We also used the new digital camera to good effect.

My thanks to our scientific and support crew. Everyone worked hard (at times above and beyond the call of duty) through a very difficult cruise. Spirits remained high throughout the cruise and everyone pulled together to make the cruise a success. The freezer full of Hagen Daas ice cream didn't seem to hurt team morale one bit either!

This was the first real scientific cruise for the Pacific Escort (sister ship of the Lee). The captain and ship's crew were extremely cooperative and wanted very much to make it a successful cruise. Everything was done with a smile.

MarFac did yeoman work in mobilizing and demobing for this cruise. My thanks to everyone involved!

This hard work by everyone has resulted in building a high degree of trust with the other agencies.