

Day 4 – 29.11.22

I'll start today's blog of with the rest of yesterday's work. From about 9pm we watched the drop down camera go down, it went down to about 700m+.

If you've ever dived or snorkelled in our shallow waters you will know that it's quite barren and lacks "pretty" corals, but at 700m, there were corals! I have to say that there wasn't a lot of full corals, but the framework or skeletons were left behind, so you can assume that there was once a huge reef right below us and we would never have known.

To start my morning (on the 29th) was once again the drop down camera work. We practically saw the same things; hard corals, soft corals and the frameworks of dead corals. The whole transect took roughly an hour and a half.

After breakfast we watched the BRUV's being deployed. I did help to add the way points into the GPS and time dropped onto a data sheet.

At about 10am we recovered the scavenger pots, which is a benthic biodiversity survey. With our luck though, the pots got stuck! They were left for 3 hours and to make matters worse, we didn't catch anything. Better luck next time hopefully.

When the pots were finally up, we collected the BRUV's. The last time we did the BRUVs, we didn't see anything besides some jellies, this time however, we saw some small fish! Very exciting. Hopefully when we go out to the seamounts we'll find a lot more.

Lastly, we picked up the bait fish for the bait acoustoc work (i wasn't involved with this, this time) in James Bay, and started our journey out to the seamount.

Stay posted to our page for more on my DISCO adventures.

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