



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE/NOAA FISHERIES

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CRUISE REPORT¹

VESSEL: *Oscar Elton Sette*, Cruise 06-06 (OES-42)

CRUISE PERIOD: May 8–23, 2006

AREA OF OPERATION: Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) (Fig. 1)

TYPE OF OPERATION: Protected Species Division monk seal field camp deployment

ITINERARY:

8 May Embarked D. Johnson, J. Baker, C. Yoshinaga, B. Harting, B. Vanderlip, H. Finn, J. Lopez, M. McKinzie, A. Gutierrez, K. Reuland, C. Vanderlip, H. Eijzenga, J. Eijzenga, E. Leung, S. Canja, D. Padula and K. Kauinana. Departed Snug Harbor, Honolulu, at 1000 to conduct cetacean survey training track between Kaena Point and Honolulu Harbor.

Disembarked Baker and Johnson to Keehi Harbor, Sand Island via small boat at 1600. Departed Oahu en route to French Frigate Shoals (FFS) (2 days, 1 hour). Conducted three conductivity-temperature-depth (CTD) casts and expendable bathythermograph (XBT) deployments in transit.

9 May Conducted cetacean survey from 0600 to 1800 during transit to FFS.

10 May Conducted cetacean survey from 0600 to 1800 during transit to FFS.

11 May Arrived FFS at 0800. Disembarked McKinzie, Leung, and Canja. Off-loaded equipment and supplies including one 17-ft Boston Whaler boat. Departed FFS 1600 en route to Laysan Island (1 day, 9 hours).

12 May Conducted cetacean survey from 0600 to 1800 during transit to Laysan Island.



¹ PIFSC Cruise Report CR-06-017
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- 13 May Arrived Laysan Island at 0800. Off-loaded equipment and supplies. Filled 60 water jugs for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Departed Laysan Island 1600 en route to Lisianski Island (12 hours).
- 14 May Arrived Lisianski Island at 0800. Off-loaded equipment and supplies. Departed Lisianski at 1300 en route to Midway Atoll (24 hours). Conducted cetacean surveys from 1400 to 1800.
- 15 May Arrived Midway Atoll at 1300. Off-loaded equipment and supplies, including one 30-hp outboard engine, one 55-gal drum gasoline, and one air compressor. Disembarked Harting. Embarked T. Wurth.
- 16 May Departed Midway Atoll at 0700 en route to Kure Atoll (6 hours).
- 16 May Arrived Kure Atoll at 1300. Began off-loading equipment and supplies including three 55-gal drum of unleaded gasoline, one 13-ft Boston Whaler boat, one 17-ft Twin Vee boat, and one inflatable boat. Filled three 55-gal drums with gasoline before off-loading. Disembarked Wurth, Gutierrez, Vanderlip, Vanderlip, Eijzenga, and Eijzenga.
- 17 May Continued off-loading supplies and equipment. Departed Kure Atoll at 1500 en route to Pearl and Hermes Reef (16 hours).
- 18 May Arrived Pearl and Hermes Reef at 0800. Off-loaded equipment and supplies including one 18-ft Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat, one 15-ft EdgeWater boat and five 55-gal drums unleaded gasoline. Disembarked Finn, Lopez, and Reuland. Departed Pearl and Hermes Reef at 1400 en route to Honolulu (5 days).
- 23 May Arrived Honolulu at 0800. Off-loaded all supplies, equipment, trash, and recyclables. Disembarked Yoshinaga, Padula, and Kauinana. End of cruise.

MISSIONS AND RESULTS:

- a. Establish field camps at Pearl and Hermes Atoll, Midway Atoll, and Kure Atoll. Transport all equipment, supplies, and personnel.
- All field camps deployed successfully.
- b. Resupply existing National Marine Fisheries Service field camps at Laysan Island, Lisianski Island, and French Frigate Shoals.
- Resupplying field camps were conducted successfully. All items and personnel were transported to the camps.

- c. Resupply existing USFWS field camps at Laysan Island. Transport equipment, supplies, and personnel.

Resupplying field camps were conducted successfully. All items and personnel were transported to the camps.

- d. Establish Division of Fish and Wildlife (DOFAW) field camp at Kure Atoll.

DOFAW camp deployed successfully.

- e. Conduct cetacean surveys opportunistically.

Cetacean surveys were conducted on transit days from 0600 to approximately 1800 (see itinerary). Additional surveys were conducted when departing islands.

- f. Conduct CTD casts and XBT deployments

Ten CTD casts were conducted and water samples were filtered and stored. XBT deployments were conducted three times daily on transit days.

**SCIENTIFIC
PERSONNEL:**

Chad Yoshinaga, Program Manager, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC),
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Suzanne Canja, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms
Megan McKinzie, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms
Elaine Leung, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms
Hugh Finn, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms
Jessica Lopez, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms
Kenady Reuland, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms
Albert Harting, Cooperating Scientist, NMFS
Tracy Wurth, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms
Antonette Gutierrez, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms
Brad Vanderlip, Cooperating Scientist, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DOFAW)
Jaap Eijzenga, Cooperating Scientist, DOFAW
Heather Eijzenga, Cooperating Scientist, DOFAW
Cynthia Vanderlip, Cooperating Scientist, DOFAW
Kazu Kauinana, Teacher-at-sea, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Darren Padula, Cooperating Scientist, Joint Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Research
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