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Purpose of the Dive

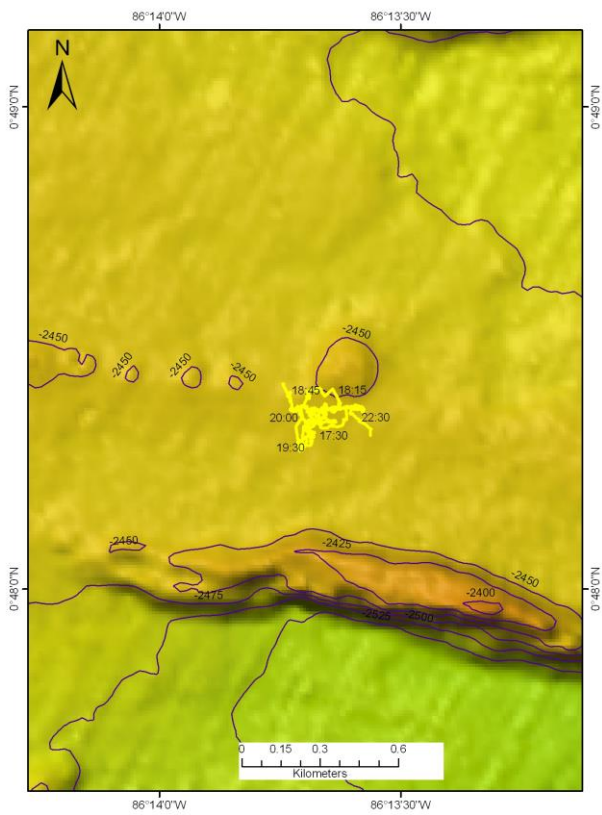
To locate an area that hosts the Rosebud hydrothermal vent site at 2450m for further exploration of the Rift in this region, which will likely be along east -west trending fissures just north of the field. Rosebud has not been visited since 2005, when Riftia tubeworms and bathymodiolid mussels dominated vent openings. The field was 60m x 40m with white seafloor markers, "A" and "B" on the eastern side, "F" and "L" centrally located, and "C" on the western side.

Description of the Dive:

On this descent, we saw an abundance of squid- down to at least 500m as well as what appear to be larvaceans/ctenophores. Once on the seafloor, we observed collapsed margins and traversed over a North-south running unsedimented lobate lava flow. Little Hercules continued to follow along collapsed features, over pillow lavas with multiple dandelion siphonophores but no sites of active hydrothermal venting were found during this dive. The lack of biota and presence of vitreous sheet flows suggests that this site may have experienced an eruption subsequent to the last previous dive at the site in 2005.

Overall Map of ROV Dive Area

Close-up Map of Main Dive Site



Representative Photos of the Dive

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