# OKEANOS EXPLORER ROV DIVE SUMMARY

Site Name	Karin Ridge Top			a for		C. K	
ROV Lead/Expeditio n Coordinator	Karl Mcletchie/ Brian RC Kennedy				1	Karin Ridge Top	
Science Team Leads	Scott France and Mackenzie Gerringer				*	C Variati	
General Area Descriptor	Johnston Atoll Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument						
ROV Dive	ROV Dive Cruise Season		Leg		_	Dive Number	
Name EX1504			4		DIVE11		
Equipment	ROV:			Deep Discoverer			erer
Deployed	Camera Platform:		Seir		rios		
	$\square$ D2 CTD			Depth			Altitude
ROV	Scanning Sonar		USBL Position				Heading
Measurements	Pitch		$\square$ Roll				HD Camera I
	Temperature Probe		$\square$ ROV HD 2 $\square$ D2 D0 Sensor			Seirios DO sensor	
Equipment Malfunctions	VSAT continues to underperform						
ROV Dive Summary (From processed ROV data)	Dive Summary: In Water: Out Water: Off Bottom: On Bottom: Dive duration: Bottom Time: Max. depth:	EX1504L4_DIVE11 2015-09-24T18:11:30.906000 17°, 29.956' N ; 168°, 44.685' W 2015-09-25T02:29:22.890000 17°, 30.357' N ; 168°, 44.238' W 2015-09-25T01:21:52.468000 17°, 30.296' N ; 168°, 44.666' W 2015-09-24T19:29:46.703000 17°, 29.933' N ; 168°, 44.448' W 8:17:51 5:52:5 2173.0 m					
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### Purpose of the Dive

To explore the bathyal community of a hard bottom on crest of a ridge extending south from the same seamount feature as did the ridge explored on dive 3 in the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument

### Description of the Dive:

Upon arrival on bottom, there was considerable rubble over the visible seafloor. Along the dive transect the bottom alternated from fields of small rubble in the saddle features, to several large pillow lava flows with towering boulders. There was also a stretch of sediment that had a light thin layer of manganese crusting. When this was disturbed by the ROV skis, it was apparent that there was a fine-grain sediment below. This appeared to stretch over a considerable area. It appeared that more manganese encrustation was present at the latter portion of the dive. Two rocks were collected, from 2168 m and 2106 m.

As with previous dive sites, the community was extremely patchy. Sponge diversity changed dramatically as we followed along the ridge. As seen on the 3000+ m depth dive about 8 nautical miles northeast of this dive site, we saw an abundance of hexactinellid sponges. These were the most abundant metazoa seen throughout the dive by far. There were many large sponges, likely *Poliopogon* and *Semperella* where we started the dive. Interspersed along the transect were a fair number of stalked sponges – *Caulophacus* and *Bolosoma*. An impressive field of *?Monorhaphis* sponges was imaged, with hundreds of individuals at around 2077 m depth. A bit further up the ridge,

the flabellate branched-sponges collected on Dive 9 were in highest abundance. An unknown hexactinellid sponge was sampled from 2084 m. The high abundance of sponges may also explain the presence of a known sponge predator, the asteroid seastar *Pteraster reticulatus*.

At about 2130 m, there was another community transition, with more corals present. At the peak of the local summit on the ridge, coral densities were low. But just below the summit on the southwest slope were many coral colonies. This may suggest long-term current flows moving up the SW slope of the feature. Octocorals observed here included Isididae (?*Eknomisis, Keratoisis, Isidella trichotoma,* and a *Lepidisis*-like [unbranched] colony), Primnoidae (?*Calytrophora angularis, Narella macrocalyx,*?*Candidella gigantea*), and Chrysogorgiidae (*Chrysogorgia chryseis, Chrysogorgia averta, Iridigorgia magnispiralis*). Two bamboo corals were sampled, a *Lepidisis*-like colony from 2064 m, and an *Eknomisis*-like colony from 2062 m. Although the first collection fell out of the manipulator arm claw onto the deck and could not be recovered on the bottom, it was collected by the ROV team during ascent of the vehicle.

A notably high abundance of anemones was seen on this dive (Actinostolidae, *Exocoelactis*). As seen on previous dives, hydroid colonies were in relatively high abundance on many of the larger rocks. Several galatheid crabs were imaged, as were many acorn barnacles, and chirostylid squat lobsters (*Uroptychus*) associated with *Chrysogorgia* coral colonies. A few fish were seen, including one cutthroat eel (Synaphobranchidae), two *Coryphaenoides longicirrhus*, and two *Kumba hebetate*. Two of the macrourids had, as seen before, very large isopod parasites.

### Other Metazoa observed

Echinoderms: Crinoids, Lophaster, Pteraster reticulatus

Cnidarians: "Dandelion" siphonophore (?Thermopalia), cup coral (Scleractinia)

Crustaceans: Nematocarcinus shrimp, amphipods, shrimp (Plesiopenaeus armatus)

Sponges: Poecilastra, Tretopleura, Farrea nr. Occa errecta, small cladorhizid, unknown Pheronematidae

Other: polychaete fan worm, arboreal foraminifera, snail

# Overall Map of ROV Dive Area Close-up Map of Main Dive Site Image: Close-up Map of Main Div

Sample ID	EX1504L4_20150924T194238_D2_DIVE11_SPEC 01GEO	
Date (UTC)	20150924	
Time (UTC)	194238	
Depth (m)	2168.45	
Temperat ure (°C)	1.88	
Field ID(s)	Mn-encrusted basalt	
Comment s		
Sample ID	EX1504L4_20150924T214653_D2_DIVE11_SPEC 02GEO	
Date (UTC)	20150924	
Time (UTC)	214653	
Depth (m)	2106.37	

## Samples Collected







Temperat ure (°C)	2.11		
Field ID(s)	Basalt		
Comment s			
Sample ID	EX1504L4_20150924T222851_D2_DIVE11_SPEC 03BIO		
Date (UTC)	20150924		
Time (UTC)	222851		
Depth (m)	2084.21		
Temperat ure (°C)	2.05		
Field ID(s)	Hexactinellida		
Comment s	Another sponge growing on specimen.		
Sample ID	EX1504L4_20150925T010032_D2_DIVE11_SPEC 04BIO		
Date (UTC)	20150925		
Time (UTC)	010032		
Depth (m)	2063.74		
Temperat ure (°C)	1.98		
Field ID(s)	Lepidisis sp.		
Comment s			
Sample ID	EX1504L4_20150925T012012_D2_DIVE11_SPEC 05BIO	A start	
Date (UTC)	20150925		
Time (UTC)	012012		
Depth (m)	2061.54		
Temperat ure (°C)	1.95		
Field ID(s)	Eknomisis sp.	and the fill of the second	
Comment s			
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