



**HLY0802: March 29-May 6, 2008**

**Chief Scientist's Log**

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## **Chief Scientist's Log | April 6**

### **Smooth Sailing**

Today was an incredibly beautiful day. A high pressure system has moved in over our part of the Bering Sea, bringing clear blue skies and incredible vistas of the snow covered ice. We labored through the night to progress through the ice to our chosen location for a “process” station; one at which we conduct a series of interdisciplinary measurements including rate processes of plankton (primary and new production, zooplankton grazing and reproduction). As dawn approached, it became clear that we would not reach our location in time to collect the seawater using the CTD and rosette at dawn for the primary production measurements. We stopped where we were, short of the location, and commenced our work.

The station work progressed like clockwork. We collected plankton for our experiments without also collecting hundreds of pounds of sea ice in our nets. The ice station was established smoothly and the all of the ice investigators returned with happy smiles. As the day progressed from a chilly start of <10 deg. F to a toasty 36 deg. F on the bow in late afternoon, we reveled in the warmer weather. Now, as the light begins to wane and some snowflakes flutter to the decks, we are completing our final activities at this location and will move on to the next site, through the ice and darkness.