

Metadata Details

Title

Benthic Studies of Kongsfjorden, west coast of Spitsbergen, Svalbard

Science Keywords

Category	Biosphere
Topic	Ecological Dynamics
Expedition Year	2016-2017
ISO Topic	Biota

Summary

Abstract

During the course of the proposed study the following specific tasks shall be addressed. 1. Study the macrobenthic faunal composition at selected locations in the Kongsfjorden Fjord covering a length of ~15 Km from the oceanic end to the glacial end of the Fjord along with representative samples for MPB (microphytobenthos) and meiobenthos. 2. Demonstrate the climate change (environmental parameters) if any on species diversity and distribution patterns of benthos in particular the influence of west Spitsbergen current; high-productive Atlantic and ice-covered Arctic waters. 3. Address potential shifts in macrobenthic species composition likely to take place on the sea floor due to changes (e.g. melting of glaciers, siltation, reduction in salinity) and to integrate the short term objectives of the present proposal with the long term objectives of NCAOR relevant to Benthic life. 4. Find out the principal source of organic materials / food supply (e.g. episodic pulses of organic carbon).

Purpose

During the course of the proposed study the following specific tasks shall be addressed. 1. Study the macrobenthic faunal composition at selected locations in the Kongsfjorden Fjord covering a length of ~15 Km from the oceanic end to the glacial end of the Fjord along with representative samples for MPB (microphytobenthos) and meiobenthos. 2. Demonstrate the climate change (environmental parameters) if any on species diversity and distribution patterns of benthos in particular the influence of west Spitsbergen current; high-productive Atlantic and ice-covered Arctic waters. 3. Address potential shifts in macrobenthic species composition likely to take place on the sea floor due to changes (e.g. melting of glaciers, siltation, reduction in salinity) and to integrate the short term objectives of the present proposal with the long term objectives of NCAOR relevant to Benthic life. 4. Find out the principal source of organic materials / food supply (e.g. episodic pulses of organic carbon).

Data Center