

SITE S200

A very variable site. In March 1995, an area of coarse sand furrows (crests aligned North-South, separated by 40cm approx.) was noted, overlying gravel. In other areas and at other times, beds of pebbles and cobbles 20–100 mm, and (rarely) boulders (maximum diameter 400 mm), and of turbulence-etched sand-drifts were seen. Few biota are evident; most are anchored to large gravel. Fifty-four photographs were taken at this site, 25 in March 1995, and 29 in August 1996.

Reference No: **II/37/1/7**:

Site: S200
Cruise: Charles Darwin CD91B
Position: 56° 26.89' N
09° 01.73' W
Depth: 152 m approx.
Date: 31st March 1995.
Time: 22:45 GMT

Coarse-sand ridges are aligned N - S; crest separation is 50 cm approx. The crests of the ridges are being re-worked by northward-flowing currents, producing small ripples. The ridges overlie a pebble-gravel pavement: bivalves and other carbonate debris form a significant component of the pebble-fraction. The view looks towards the SE.



Reference No: **II/37/1/11**:

Site: S200
Cruise: Charles Darwin CD91B
Position: 56° 26.89' N approx.
09° 01.73' W approx.
Depth: 152 m approx.
Date: 31st March 1995.
Time: 22:45 GMT approx.

Coarse sand has been formed into ridges (aligned NNW - SSE, separation 50 cm approx.) over a pebble-gravel pavement. The upper hemisphere of the large cobble (approx. diameter 250 mm) is covered in sessile invertebrates, indicating that it has been exposed for a considerable period. The view looks towards the ENE.



Reference No: **II/38/2/7**:

Site: S200
Cruise: Challenger CH121A
Position: 56° 26.88' N approx.
09° 02.73' W approx.
Depth: 185 m
Date: 13th August 1995.
Time: 08:14 GMT approx.

A thin layer of turbulence-etched sand overlies gravel. A scour-pattern indicating NE-flowing near-bottom currents surrounds the boulder (220 mm approx.) in the top-right background. In the foreground, broken ripple crests separated by pebbly gravel are aligned approximately NW - SE, consistent with sediment advection to the NE or NNE. The view looks towards the ENE.



Reference No: **II/38/4/22:**

Site: S200
Cruise: Challenger CH121A
Position: 56° 26.70' N approx.
09° 02.60' W approx.
Depth: 181 m
Date: 13th August 1995.
Time: 08:40:55 GMT

This shows a stable gravel bed, with sizes ranging from pebbles to boulders (20-50 mm approx., but maximum 380 mm), with coarse interstitial sand and granular gravel. There is a thin, even growth of encrusting invertebrates with feathery growths of hydroids or bryozoans visible on the two large boulders near the centre. The view looks towards the South.



Reference No: **II/38/6/31**:

Site: S200
Cruise: Challenger CH121A
Position: 56° 26.71' N approx.
09° 02.53' W approx.
Depth: 176 m
Date: 13th August 1995.
Time: 08:59:38 GMT

This picture shows a layer of sand and some gravel, with larger cobbles (size to 100 mm approx.). Shallow scour patterns around the larger gravel indicate sand advection towards the North, the seabed having been eroded down to pebble and granule gravel at the forward edge of the cobbles. All the cobbles carry encrusting invertebrates, visible as white spots. The light coloured branched growth near the boulder left of centre may be a sponge. The short grooves visible in the sand just to the left of the compass probably have been made by motile epifauna. The view looks towards the WNW.



Reference No: **II/37/1/11** (part-frame enlargement):

Site: S200
Cruise: Charles Darwin CD91B
Position: 56° 26.89' N approx.
09° 01.73' W approx.
Depth: 152 m approx.
Date: 31st March 1995.
Time: 22:45 GMT approx.

A large cobble (possibly a drop-stone) approx. 250 mm in diameter is covered in encrusting biota. Northward flowing currents move from right to left (compare with photograph **II/37/1/11**). The biota on the lee side of the cobble consist mainly of calcareous tubes of polychaete worms, while those on the upstream side include branched feathery growths of colonial invertebrates such as hydroids. This possibly reflects a response to currents flowing in a constant direction. A 'tide-line' on the boulder near the sand surface may reflect its occasional partial burial. There are dark-coloured mineral granules concentrated around the upstream face of the cobble.



Reference No: **II/38/3/16** (part-frame enlargement):

Site: S200
Cruise: Challenger CH121A
Position: 56° 26.69' N approx.
09° 02.63' W approx.
Depth: 185 m
Date: 13th August 1995.
Time: 08:28:00 GMT

A pale cup-shaped organism, possibly with a granular upper surface (diameter 15 mm approx.) is growing on gravel which otherwise carries various encrusting epifauna.

