

SITE S140

A site with an overall energetic hydrodynamic environment. Coarse sand is commonly moulded into a form-roughness comprising ridges, streaks and ripples, with no evidence for fine sediment. In other places, the seabed is mainly gravely in which grain-roughness corresponds to the areas of continuous sediment transport, little sediment deposition, and the strongest near-bottom currents. Few biota are seen except as attached sessile fauna growing on the surface of the cobbles. Twenty-five photographs were taken at this site, all in February 1996.

Reference No: **II/44/3/15A:**

Site: S140
Cruise: Challenger CH125B
Position: 56° 27.40' N approx.
08° 59.42' W approx.
Depth: 148 m
Date: 14th February 1996.
Time: 11:55:52 GMT

Sandy gravel predominates, with sand, granules and pebbles interstitial to cobbles. Sand immerses some gravel, but is not organised into coherent bedforms. There are considerable numbers of sessile organisms growing on the cobbles. The view looks towards the WNW.



Reference No: **II/44/4/17A:**

Site: S140
Cruise: Challenger CH125B
Position: 56° 27.40' N approx.
08° 59.42' W approx.
Depth: 150 m
Date: 14th February 1996.
Time: 11:58:57 GMT

This shot shows coarse sand furrows aligned N-S which are fairways for sand transport concentrated at the seabed - note the faintly rippled appearance of the ridge to the right of the centre of the picture. Gravel, (predominantly cobbles), 100 - 150 mm in diameter, is drowned in the very coarse sand which contains a considerable proportion of dark-coloured minerals. There are two starfish; that on the right is about 8 cm in diameter; that at the top of the picture (probably the large, voracious species *Luidia ciliaris*) is about 20 cm across overall. The view looks towards the NNW.



Reference No: **II/44/7/28A**:

Site: S140
Cruise: Challenger CH125B
Position: 56° 27.39' N approx.
08° 59.49' W approx.
Depth: 148 m
Date: 14th February 1996.
Time: 12:17:19 GMT

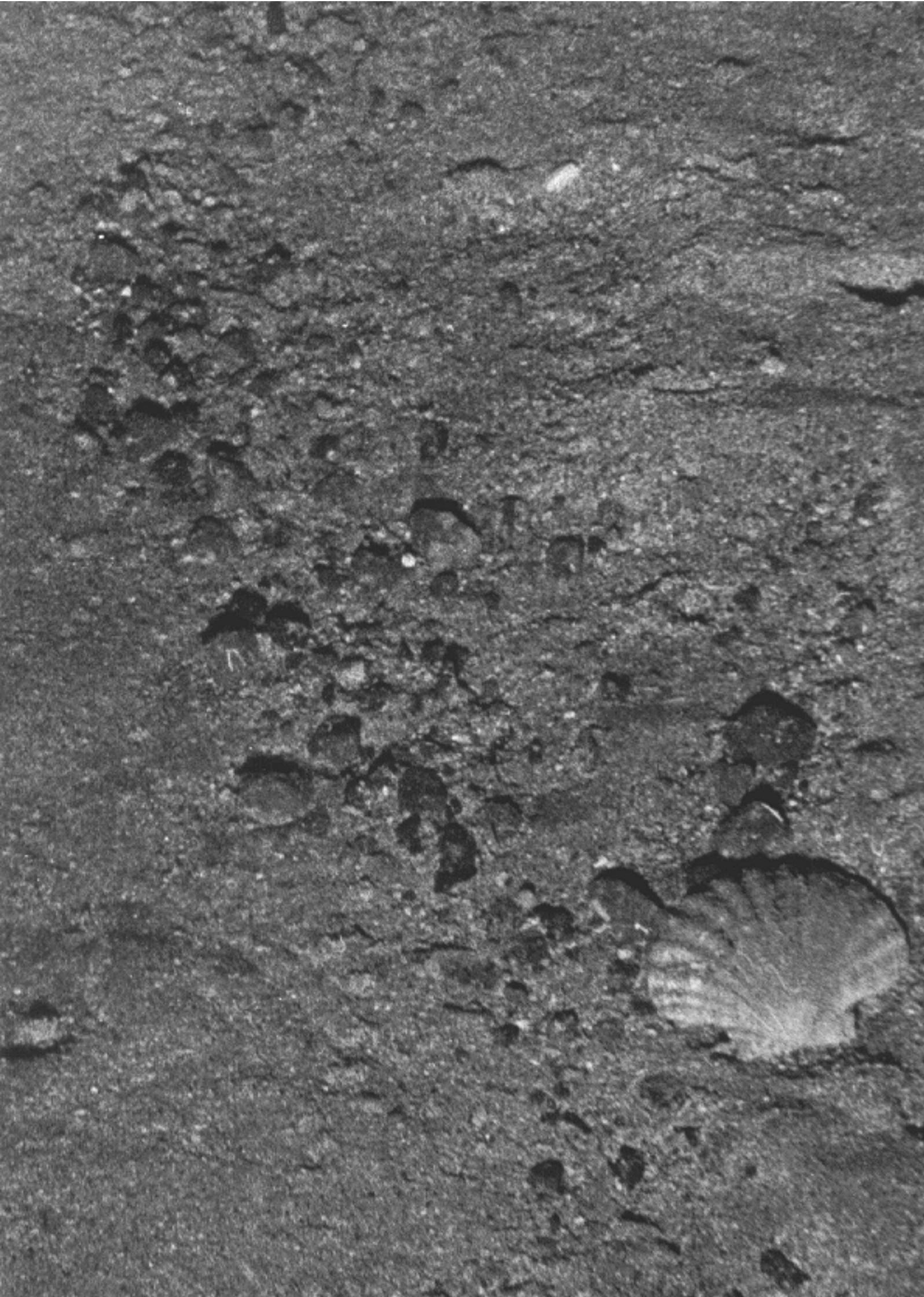
This photograph shows a uniform sand-field, the surface of which has been etched by turbulent benthic currents. At the left of the image, the appearance is of an overall NE-trending alignment of the ripple-crests. The crests are, however, discontinuous; some are broken with forward closures typical of linguoid ripples. Light areas may originate from carbonate accumulation on fore-set laminae. The ripples are not fresh; their surfaces are largely covered in small dimples, very possibly caused by the locomotion of sea-urchins, *Cidaris cidaris*, using their long, thick spines to move over the surface (cf. photograph **II/58/3/11A**). There are a number of tusk shells about 1.5 – 2 cm long on the sandy surface and a recent resting-trace of a sea star near the top left. The view looks towards the North.



Reference No: **II/44/2/8A** (part-frame enlargement):

Site: S140
Cruise: Challenger CH125B
Position: 56° 27.41' N approx.
08° 59.36' W approx.
Depth: 148 m
Date: 14th February 1996.
Time: 11:46:00 GMT

A scallop shell lies among dark-coloured gravel that rests in a shallow trough between drifts of very coarse sand and granules.



Reference No: **II/44/4/18A** (part-frame enlargement):

Site: S140
Cruise: Challenger CH125B
Position: 56° 27.40' N approx.
08° 59.42' W approx.
Depth: 150 m
Date: 14th February 1996.
Time: 12:00:29 GMT

A valve of a dead bivalve mollusc, diameter 15 mm approx., lies among gravel and sand-ripples.

