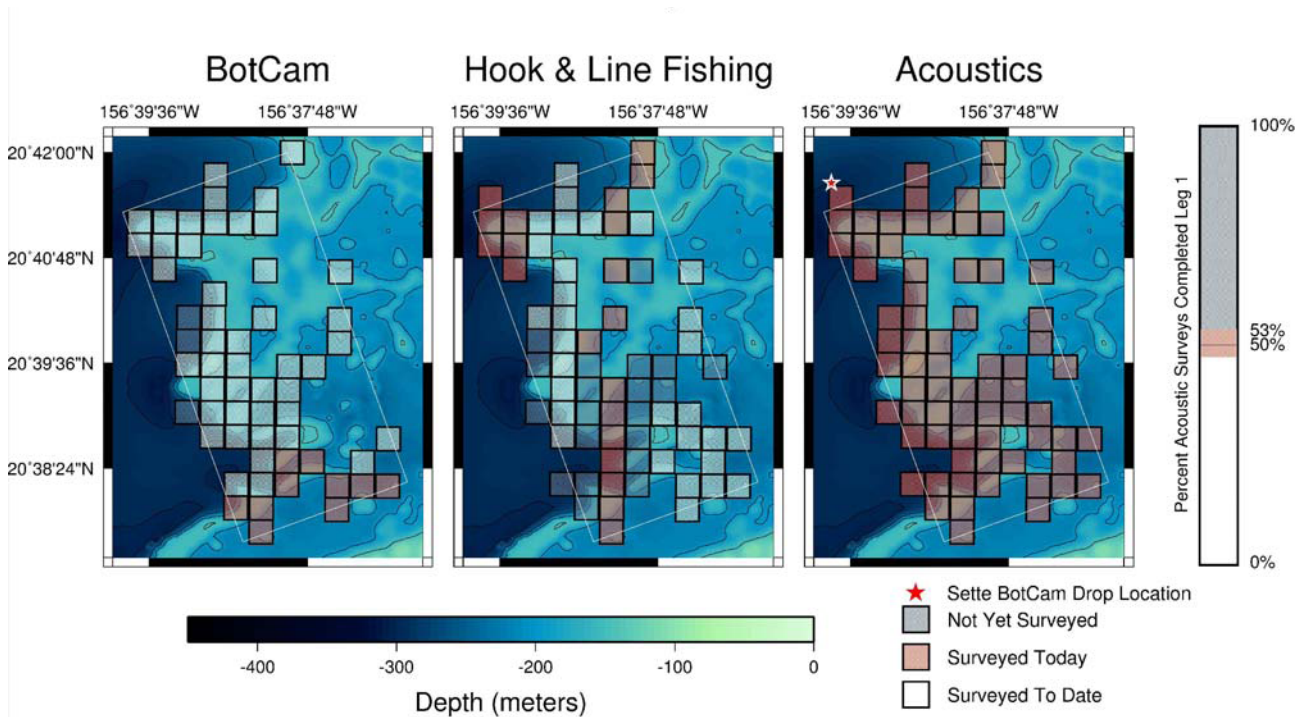
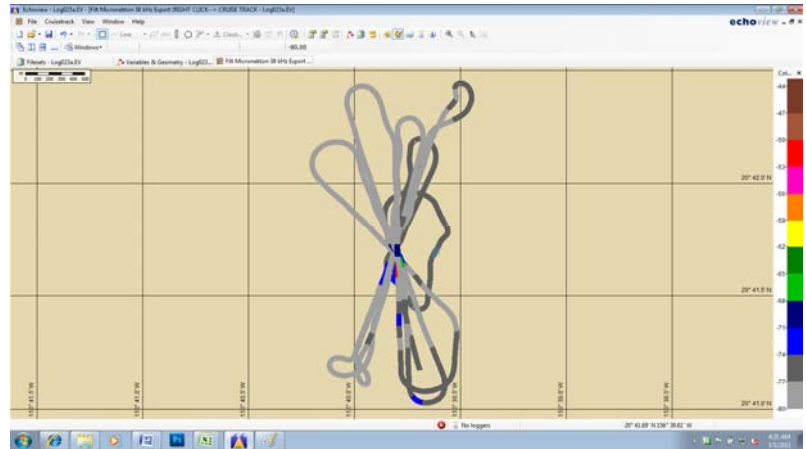


SE-11-02 March 4, 2011 progress report

The *Oscar Elton Sette* conducted nighttime acoustic surveys last night (3/3), and performed a BotCam drop off the NW corner of the survey grid in the daytime with acoustic passes conducted over it. The Hukipono completed 10 BotCam drops over the day, hampered with a malfunctioning BotCam electronics package (deploying 2 units instead of the usual 3). Charter fishing operations were postponed last night and today due to weather (small craft advisories in coastal waters) and need for refueling. Fishing activity is scheduled to resume tomorrow morning with all 3 vessels depending upon the weather. Acoustic surveys were conducted over the Sette BotCam unit (right), which was deployed on March 4 at 12:01PM at latitude 20° 41.652'N and longitude 156° 39.818'W and recovered at approximately 05:00PM via acoustic trigger. Launch and recovery operations were flawless, including the experimental configuration of a longer (~10m) anchor tether line to the BotCam unit. The Sette conducted 13 acoustic transects over the BotCam and was able to identify the unit acoustically on 9 of those passes due to excellent driving by the ship. Unfortunately, the BotCam descended into deeper water than anticipated (305m) and, due to the overcast conditions, rendered a very dark video. There were promising acoustic signals in the area somewhat like the very large near-benthic school seen the previous night. cursory examination of video yielded no sightings but this may require some additional video processing to fully determine. A crew-relief swap with Hukipono is planned for tomorrow.



Today the Huki Pono has surveyed 10 BotCam stations and the fishing fleet surveyed 20 stations. The Sette surveyed all grid locations 2 times, totaling roughly 180 km of acoustics track today. We also covered about 46 km of acoustics track over the Sette BotCam.
 Grids surveyed today: 7%
 Grids surveyed to date: 24%
 Grids remaining: 76%