



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
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CR0102-1.JDB

### CRUISE REPORT<sup>1</sup>

**VESSEL:** *Townsend Cromwell* Cruise TC-01-02, TC-265

**CRUISE PERIOD:** 4-18 March 2001

**AREA OF OPERATION:** Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (Fig. 1)

**TYPE OF OPERATION:** Support field camps and transport personnel of the Protected Species Investigations (PSI), Marine Mammal Research Program (MMRP), Honolulu Laboratory (HL), Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), NOAA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

**ITINERARY:**

4 March Embarked Jason Baker, Chad Yoshinaga, Dorothy Dick, Alison Roberts, Jennifer Stephenson, Jacqueline Pearson, Erin McCarthy, Erin Moreland, Alex Wegmann, Joseph Wiggins, and Carolyn Cornish. Departed Snug Harbor, Honolulu, 1000 for French Frigate Shoals (FFS).

5-6 March Transited to FFS.

6 March Arrived FFS at 1600. Off-loaded equipment, supplies. Disembarked Yoshinaga and Cornish. Embarked Mike Potterfield. Departed 1900 for Laysan Island.

7 March Transited to Laysan.

8 March Arrived Laysan Island at 0800. Launched small boats to reconnoiter beach landing site. Large and building swells prevented landing. Departed for Lisianski 1030.

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<sup>1</sup>This is a combined cruise and narrative report.



- 9 March Arrived Lisianski Island 0800. Off-loaded equipment and supplies. Disembarked Pearson, McCarthy, and Moreland. Departed 1800 for Laysan Island.
- 10 March Arrived Laysan Island 0830. Off-load precluded due to 14-foot swell; Laysan channel closed out. Transited to conduct CTD at predetermined location.
- 11 March Arrived Laysan Island 0730. Off-load precluded due to 12-14-foot swell; Laysan channel closed out.
- 12 March Arrived Laysan Island 0730. Off-load precluded due to 12-14-foot swell; Laysan channel closed out.
- 13 March Arrived Laysan Island 0730. Off-loaded equipment and supplies. Onloaded recyclables, garbage, empty propane tanks, and water jugs. Onloaded four pallet tubs of accumulated marine debris. Disembarked Dick, Roberts, Stephenson, Wegmann, and Wiggins. Potterfield conducted several hours of GPS survey of island during off-load. Embarked Chris Depkin and Eric Lund. Departed 1600 for FFS.
- 14 March Transited to FFS.
- 15 March Arrived FFS at 0700. Off-loaded remaining equipment and supplies. Onloaded 2 outboard engines, 1 Boston Whaler hull. Embarked Yoshinaga and Cornish. Departed 1200 for Honolulu.
- 16-17 March Transited to Honolulu.
- 18 March Arrived Snug Harbor, Honolulu at 0700. Off-loaded equipment, supplies, recyclables, and garbage. Disembarked Baker, Depkin, Lund, Cornish, Potterfield, and Yoshinaga. End of Cruise.

**MISSIONS AND RESULTS:**

- A. Transport fuel, equipment, and supplies for PSI and USFWS to the field station at Tern Island, FFS and transport equipment, recyclables, rubbish, and marine debris from the same field station at Tern Island.

All items were successfully transported to FFS. Rubbish and marine debris were not completely off-loaded due to time constraints.

- B. Transport PSI personnel, equipment, and supplies to Laysan and Lisianski Islands to establish PSI field camps for Hawaiian monk seal studies.

PSI field camps were successfully established at Laysan and Lisianski Islands, but the cruise ended two sea days late due to high surf which precluded landing at Laysan.

- C. Resupply and transport personnel for the USFWS field camp at Laysan Island. Also, support USFWS-sponsored GPS survey of Laysan Island.

The USFWS field camp was resupplied and personnel exchanged. GPS survey was partially accomplished, but was abbreviated due to high surf which precluded landing at Laysan.

- D. Collect and transport to Honolulu accumulated marine debris on Laysan Island.

Debris was successfully removed and transported from Laysan Island.

- E. Conduct 7 CTD casts at predetermined stations.

Only 1 CTD cast could be conducted due to delays related to regulations requiring ship's sewage be pumped overboard outside the NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve.

- F. Conduct videographic operations to assess the quality of monk seal foraging habitat at Laysan Island.

Videographic operations were cut from schedule in order to allow time for compliance with sewage dumping regulations as mentioned above.

**SCIENTIFIC  
PERSONNEL:**

Jason Baker, Chief Scientist, Zoologist, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC), Honolulu Laboratory (HL)

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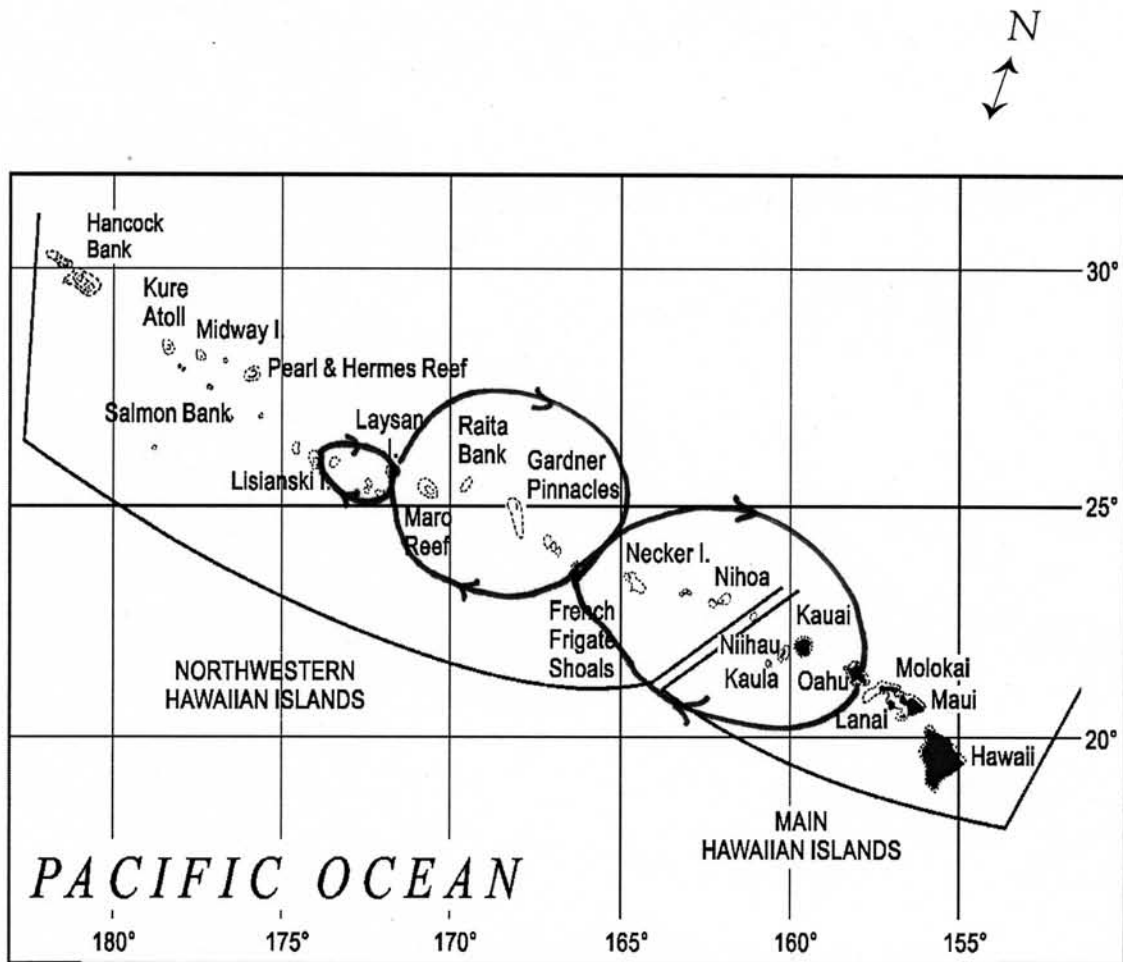
Joseph Wiggins, Cooperating Scientist, USFWS

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Submitted by:   
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Chief Scientist

Approved by:   
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### The Hawaiian Archipelago

Figure 1.—Track of NOAA Ship *Townsend Cromwell* cruise TC-01-02 (TC-265),  
 March 4–18, 2001.