

InterRidge

Data Management Discussion

Our SSC has not discussed and considered the recommendations of the data management meeting.

GOOS Discussion

InterRidge has up to present not interacted with GOOS, and there are currently no plans to interact with GOOS, although this is probably a result of ignorance about what GOOS might be able to produce which would be of interest to InterRidge. InterRidge has not had a presentation about GOOS at a steering committee meeting

Southern Ocean Research

What activities has your project undertaken or planned for the Southern Ocean? InterRidge had two main focuses in the Southern Ocean: 1) a South-West Indian Ridge working group which completed its work last year, and 2) the Australian-Antarctic Discordance which was drilled together with ODP a few years ago. As the Southern Ocean contains long sections of spreading axes, it is a natural place for InterRidge to be working now and in the future.

Have you coordinated your Southern Ocean research with other projects? Drilling of the AAD with ODP.

Do you have any special plans for the 3rd International Polar Year in 2007? The new InterRidge working group Ultra-slow Spreading Ridges is planning to be heavily involved in the 2007 Polar Year in order to bring mid-ocean ridges into the focus of the polar community. They will put together a proposal as soon as the 6 "core programs" and topics for these for the Polar Year are announced. The criteria for submitting a proposal are 1) Internationality 2) Multidisciplinarity and 3) Bipolarity, and InterRidge has all these.

The InterRidge Working Group "Ultraslow Spreading Ridges" will be taking the lead on IPY activities for IR as the slowest-spreading ridge on Earth crosses the Arctic Ocean. Contact person is the chair of this WG Jon Snow, Max-Planck-Inst für Chemie, Mainz, Germany (jesnow@mpch-mainz.mpg.de).

Time-Series Stations

Will implementation of your project require observations from time-series stations?

It is part of the plan, and implementation will be discussed at the meeting in Spring 2005. Also MOMAR is a possible node of ESONET, and if implemented, it would include a dedicated seafloor observatory and associated instrumentation.

In what locations?

The site of focus to initiate work will be the Lucky Strike hydrothermal vent at 37.5N (the "MoMAR" region). This may be extended to the Rainbow site, in the event of an IODP project taking place (proposal active but needs to be re-submitted - it is in the works)

How will such stations be supported?

As of now there is no direct financial support. Both European and American (Ridge2000) scientists are working on a collaborative project at the MoMAR region. Support may come from the European (Framework 6) ESONET project.

Environmental Assessments

InterRidge was asked for expert advice from the International Seabed Authority on the current 'code of conduct' that InterRidge is working on for research at ocean ridges. The InterRidge chair, Colin Devey, attended a meeting at ISA in Jamaica 6-9 Sept 04 to discuss this.