

Presentation of MAR-ECO Students

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Degree: MS Fisheries Science

Working title of project: Deep-Pelagic Fish Assemblage Structure Over the Northern Mid-Atlantic Ridge in the Area of the Charlie-Gibbs Fracture Zone

Supervisors: Tracey Sutton

Summary of Project: I am looking at the vertical distribution and fish assemblage structure of the midwater fishes collected from the Mid-Atlantic Ridge in the summer of 2009 aboard the NOAA ship *Henry B. Bigelow* in the area of the Charlie-Gibbs Fracture Zone. The vertical distribution of pelagic nekton biomass will be analyzed, as this area seems to differ from that of the open ocean. This expedition allowed for day and night sampling, so diel vertical migration in this deep-pelagic community will be investigated in detail. I will also be looking at the possible causes for the captures of putative bathypelagic fauna (including fish, squid, and shrimp) in the top 200 m of the water column in this area.