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| **Supplementary Table S1.** Detailed characteristics of each studied site and transect. NNE = North Northeast, PL = Plantagenet Bank, SP = Spittal, TIG = Tiger, DIV = Divers, SUB = Submersibles. |
| **Transect** | **Site** | **Depth (m)** | **Assigned Depth (m)** | **Lat (°N)** | **Long (°W)**  | **Date** | **Sampling method** |
| SP\_60m\_D1\_T2\_22\_07\_2016 | SP | 60.96 | 60 | 32.3202 | 64.6597 | 22.07.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_60m\_D2\_T2\_23\_07\_2016 | NNE | 60 | 60 | 32.5036 | 64.6212 | 23.07.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_60m\_D2\_T3\_23\_07\_2016 | NNE | 60 | 60 | 32.5035 | 64.6214 | 23.07.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_60m\_D2\_T4\_23\_07\_2016 | NNE | 60 | 60 | 32.5035 | 64.6214 | 23.07.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_30m\_D2\_T5\_23\_07\_2016 | NNE | 30.7 | 30 | 32.5011 | 64.6306 | 23.07.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_30m\_D2\_T6\_23\_07\_2016 | NNE | 30.7 | 30 | 32.5011 | 64.6306 | 23.07.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_15m\_D2\_T7\_23\_07\_2016 | NNE | 18.4-20.3 | 15 | 32.4969 | 64.6306 | 23.07.2016 | DIV |
| PL\_90m\_D4\_T1\_25\_07\_2016 | PL | 91.7-93.5 | 90 | 31.9449 | 65.1569 | 25.07.2016 | DIV |
| PL\_90m\_D4\_T2\_25\_07\_2016 | PL | 90-91.3 | 90 | 31.9449 | 65.1569 | 25.07.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_90m\_D5\_T1\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 90.2 | 90 | 32.3189 | 64.6537 | 26.07.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_30m\_D5\_T3\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 28-28.7 | 30 | 32.3189 | 64.6537 | 26.07.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_30m\_D5\_T4\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 28.9-30 | 30 | 32.3189 | 64.6537 | 26.07.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_15m\_D5\_T5\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 15.1-15.6 | 15 | 32.3189 | 64.6537 | 26.07.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_15m\_D5\_T6\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 15.4 | 15 | 32.3189 | 64.6537 | 26.07.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_90m\_D6\_T1\_27\_07\_2016 | SP | 90.7-90.8 | 90 | 32.3197 | 64.6580 | 27.07.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_90m\_D6\_T2\_27\_07\_2016 | SP | 90.8-91 | 90 | 32.3197 | 64.6580 | 27.07.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_30m\_D6\_T3\_27\_07\_2016 | SP | 30.8-30.9 | 30 | 32.3220 | 64.6625 | 27.07.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_15m\_D6\_T5\_27\_07\_2016 | SP | 15.1-16 | 15 | 32.3255 | 64.6668 | 27.07.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_30m\_D7\_T2\_28\_07\_2016 | NNE | 29.9 | 30 | 32.4604 | 64.6113 | 28.07.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_15m\_D9\_T1\_30\_07\_2016 | NNE | 19.5-19.8 | 15 | 32.4604 | 64.6112 | 30.07.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_15m\_D9\_T2\_30\_07\_2016 | NNE | 19.8 | 15 | 32.4604 | 64.6112 | 30.07.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_90m\_D10\_T2\_31\_07\_2016 | NNE | 91.7-93.2 | 90 | 32.4819 | 64.5847 | 31.07.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_60m\_D11\_T1\_01\_08\_2016 | TIG | 60.7-62.8 | 60 | 32.1925 | 64.9685 | 01.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_60m\_D11\_T2\_01\_08\_2016 | TIG | 61-62 | 60 | 32.1925 | 64.9685 | 01.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_60m\_D11\_T4\_01\_08\_2016 | TIG | 62 | 60 | 32.1925 | 64.9685 | 01.08.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_60m\_D13\_T1\_03\_08\_2016 | SP | 57.9 | 60 | 32.3201 | 64.6580 | 03.08.2016 | DIV |
| SP\_60m\_D13\_T2\_03\_08\_2016 | SP | 62.8 | 60 | 32.3201 | 64.6580 | 03.08.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_90m\_D14\_T1\_04\_08\_2016 | NNE | 91.1 | 90 | 32.4782 | 64.5791 | 04.08.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_90m\_D14\_T2\_04\_08\_2016 | NNE | 91.1 | 90 | 32.4782 | 64.5791 | 04.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_90m\_D15\_T1\_05\_08\_2016 | TIG | 89.6 | 90 | 32.1936 | 64.9673 | 05.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_90m\_D15\_T2\_05\_08\_2016 | TIG | 92.7 | 90 | 32.1936 | 64.9673 | 05.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_30m\_D15\_T3\_05\_08\_2016 | TIG | 30.2 | 30 | 32.2067 | 64.9569 | 05.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_30m\_D15\_T4\_05\_08\_2016 | TIG | 31.4 | 30 | 32.2067 | 64.9569 | 05.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_15m\_D15\_T5\_05\_08\_2016 | TIG | 17 | 15 | 32.1991 | 64.9676 | 05.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_15m\_D15\_T6\_05\_08\_2016 | TIG | 17 | 15 | 32.1991 | 65.9676 | 05.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_90m\_D17\_T1\_07\_08\_2016 | TIG | 90.2 | 90 | 32.2036 | 64.9491 | 07.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_30m\_D17\_T3\_07\_08\_2016 | TIG | 28-28.7 | 30 | 32.2036 | 64.9491 | 07.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_30m\_D17\_T4\_07\_08\_2016 | TIG | 28.9-30 | 30 | 32.2036 | 64.9491 | 07.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_15m\_D17\_T5\_07\_08\_2016 | TIG | 15.1-15.6 | 15 | 32.2036 | 64.9491 | 07.08.2016 | DIV |
| TIG\_15m\_D17\_T6\_07\_08\_2016 | TIG | 15.4 | 15 | 32.2036 | 64.9491 | 07.08.2016 | DIV |
| PL\_60m\_D20\_T1\_12\_08\_2016 | PL | 55.18 | 60 | 31.9499 | 65.1776 | 12.08.2016 | DIV |
| PL\_60m\_D20\_T3\_12\_08\_2016 | PL | 55.18 | 60 | 31.9499 | 65.1776 | 12.08.2016 | DIV |
| PL\_60m\_D20\_T4\_12\_08\_2016 | PL | 56 | 60 | 31.9499 | 65.1776 | 12.08.2016 | DIV |
| NNE\_150m\_D3\_T1\_23\_07\_2016 | NNE | 145-146 | 150 | 32.5024 | 64.6168 | 23.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_150m\_D3\_T2\_23\_07\_2016 | NNE | 137-139 | 150 | 32.5000 | 64.6139 | 23.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_150m\_D3\_T3\_23\_07\_2016 | NNE | 136-139 | 150 | 32.4973 | 64.6104 | 23.07.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_200m\_D4\_T1\_24\_07\_2016 | PL | 186-187 | 200 | 31.9424 | 65.1564 | 24.07.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_300m\_D5\_T1\_25\_07\_2016 | PL | 297-302 | 300 | 31.9395 | 65.1570 | 25.07.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_300m\_D5\_T2\_25\_07\_2016 | PL | 303 | 300 | 31.9375 | 65.1618 | 25.07.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_300m\_D5\_T3\_25\_07\_2016 | PL | 303 | 300 | 31.9355 | 65.1643 | 25.07.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_150m\_D6\_T1\_25\_07\_2016 | PL | 137 | 150 | 31.9453 | 65.1575 | 25.07.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_300m\_D7\_T1\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 300 | 300 | 32.3165 | 64.6561 | 26.07.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_300m\_D7\_T2\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 297-300 | 300 | 32.3160 | 64.6531 | 26.07.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_300m\_D7\_T3\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 300-301 | 300 | 32.3113 | 64.6569 | 26.07.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_200m\_D8\_T1\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 200 | 200 | 32.3202 | 64.6552 | 26.07.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_200m\_D8\_T2\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 200-202 | 200 | 32.3173 | 64.6554 | 26.07.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_200m\_D8\_T3\_26\_07\_2016 | SP | 199-200 | 200 | 32.3142 | 64.6582 | 26.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_300m\_D10\_T1\_28\_07\_2016 | NNE | 299-303 | 300 | 32.4851 | 64.5864 | 28.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_300m\_D10\_T2\_28\_07\_2016 | NNE | 300-301 | 300 | 32.4841 | 64.5859 | 28.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_300m\_D10\_T3\_28\_07\_2016 | NNE | 299-301 | 300 | 32.4842 | 64.5808 | 28.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D11\_T1\_28\_07\_2016 | NNE | 200 | 200 | 32.4830 | 64.5809 | 28.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D11\_T2\_28\_07\_2016 | NNE | 200 | 200 | 32.4804 | 64.5793 | 28.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D11\_T3\_28\_07\_2016 | NNE | 199 | 200 | 32.4783 | 64.5772 | 28.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_250m\_D12\_T1\_29\_07\_2016 | NNE | 249-252 | 250 | 32.4861 | 64.5835 | 29.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_250m\_D12\_T2\_29\_07\_2016 | NNE | 250 | 250 | 32.4816 | 64.5802 | 29.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_250m\_D12\_T3\_29\_07\_2016 | NNE | 250 | 250 | 32.4792 | 64.5775 | 29.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D13\_T1\_31\_07\_2016 | NNE | 200 | 200 | 32.4840 | 64.5823 | 31.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D13\_T2\_31\_07\_2016 | NNE | 200 | 200 | 32.4797 | 64.5789 | 31.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D13\_T3\_31\_07\_2016 | NNE | 200 | 200 | 32.4766 | 64.5758 | 31.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D14\_T1\_31\_07\_2016 | NNE | 200 | 200 | 32.4782 | 64.5767 | 31.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D14\_T2\_31\_07\_2016 | NNE | 199-200 | 200 | 32.4750 | 64.5750 | 31.07.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D14\_T3\_31\_07\_2016 | NNE | 196-200 | 200 | 32.4755 | 64.5726 | 31.07.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_200m\_D15\_T1\_01\_08\_2016 | TIG | 200 | 200 | 32.1909 | 64.9684 | 01.08.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_200m\_D15\_T2\_01\_08\_2016 | TIG | 200 | 200 | 32.1936 | 64.9684 | 01.08.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_200m\_D15\_T3\_01\_08\_2016 | TIG | 199 | 200 | 32.1897 | 64.9699 | 01.08.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_150m\_D15\_T4\_01\_08\_2016 | TIG | 137-141 | 150 | 32.1881 | 64.9702 | 01.08.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_150m\_D15\_T5\_01\_08\_2016 | TIG | 137-142 | 150 | 32.1867 | 64.9705 | 01.08.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_150m\_D15\_T6\_01\_08\_2016 | TIG | 140-142 | 150 | 32.1859 | 64.9717 | 01.08.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_150m\_D18\_T1\_04\_08\_2016 | SP | 149-150 | 150 | 32.3221 | 64.6563 | 04.08.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_150m\_D18\_T2\_04\_08\_2016 | SP | 148-149 | 150 | 32.3153 | 64.6594 | 04.08.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_150m\_D18\_T3\_04\_08\_2016 | SP | 149-150 | 150 | 32.3130 | 64.6597 | 04.08.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_250m\_D19\_T1\_04\_08\_2016 | SP | 250 | 250 | 32.3204 | 64.6547 | 04.08.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_250m\_D19\_T2\_04\_08\_2016 | SP | 248-251 | 250 | 32.3209 | 64.6523 | 04.08.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_250m\_D19\_T3\_04\_08\_2016 | SP | 249-250 | 250 | 32.3137 | 64.6511 | 04.08.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_150m\_D19\_T4\_04\_08\_2016 | SP | 143-148 | 150 | 32.3153 | 64.6598 | 04.08.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_250m\_D20\_T1\_05\_08\_2016 | TIG | 241 | 250 | 32.1920 | 64.9669 | 05.08.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_250m\_D20\_T2\_05\_08\_2016 | TIG | 243 | 250 | 32.1912 | 64.9696 | 05.08.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D21\_T1\_06\_08\_2016 | NNE | 195-200 | 200 | 32.4765 | 64.5744 | 06.08.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D21\_T2\_06\_08\_2016 | NNE | 198-200 | 200 | 32.4743 | 64.5759 | 06.08.2016 | SUB |
| NNE\_200m\_D21\_T3\_06\_08\_2016 | NNE | 147-151 | 200 | 32.4730 | 64.5749 | 06.08.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_150m\_D22\_T1\_07\_08\_2016 | SP | 148-153 | 150 | 32.3157 | 64.6568 | 07.08.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_150m\_D22\_T2\_07\_08\_2016 | SP | 148-150 | 150 | 32.3164 | 64.6581 | 07.08.2016 | SUB |
| SP\_150m\_D22\_T3\_07\_08\_2016 | SP | 147-151 | 150 | 32.3166 | 64.6584 | 07.08.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_200m\_D26\_T4\_12\_08\_2016 | TIG | 198-200 | 200 | 32.1791 | 64.9865 | 12.08.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_200m\_D27\_T1\_12\_08\_2016 | TIG | 200 | 200 | 32.1802 | 64.9812 | 12.08.2016 | SUB |
| TIG\_200m\_D27\_T2\_12\_08\_2016 | TIG | 200 | 200 | 32.1811 | 64.9837 | 12.08.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_250m\_D28\_T1\_13\_08\_2016 | PL | 249 | 250 | 31.9424 | 65.1549 | 13.08.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_250m\_D28\_T2\_13\_08\_2016 | PL | 250 | 250 | 31.9400 | 65.1590 | 13.08.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_250m\_D28\_T3\_13\_08\_2016 | PL | 249 | 250 | 31.9404 | 65.1628 | 13.08.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_200m\_D28\_T4\_13\_08\_2016 | PL | 198-199 | 200 | 31.9387 | 65.1648 | 13.08.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_200m\_D29\_T1\_13\_08\_2016 | PL | 200-202 | 200 | 31.9424 | 65.1549 | 13.08.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_200m\_D29\_T2\_13\_08\_2016 | PL | 197-199 | 200 | 31.9400 | 65.1590 | 13.08.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_150m\_D29\_T3\_13\_08\_2016 | PL | 148-150 | 150 | 31.9404 | 65.1628 | 13.08.2016 | SUB |
| PL\_150m\_D29\_T4\_13\_08\_2016 | PL | 146-151 | 150 | 31.9387 | 65.1648 | 13.08.2016 | SUB |