

Dispatch from Friday, 4 May 2007

Greetings from Palmer Station:

Yesterday we saw the return of the *L.M. Gould* (see picture) as she returned from a fishing expedition, to obtain samples for research here at Palmer Station. Those fish will keep the fish group busy while the *L.M. Gould* takes the next 10 days to go to Punta Arenas and back as they switch crews and field personnel. We spent the day packing up our personnel gear, cleaning our rooms, moving gear from the station to the ship. The ship was also busy loading on cargo vans to transport material back to Chile and to prepare for the final resupply of Palmer Station that will occur on the next transit (see loading-the-gould).

For the seal team all of us (M. Goebel, D. Costa, M. Fedak, L Huckstadt, D. Shuman) except Gitte McDonald will be heading across the Drake Passage tomorrow. Gitte will be staying here at Palmer Station working on data and completing any sample analysis that can be done while she waits for the next seal team to arrive (see Gitte-working). The next seal team arrives in Punta Arenas on the May 9 the same day we arrive. The new crew will be lead by Dan Crocker and includes Patrick Robinson, Samantha Simmons, Stella Villegas, Tracy Goldstein and for continuity Gitte.

We have a BBQ of sorts here tonight, that will allow us to say thanks and good bye to the great folks here at Palmer Station.

Best from the seal team.



