

## Day 59, Voyage 2, August 6, 2011

Our first day of filming was quite the change of pace. Had to learn how to position our bodies, keep relatively still and keep quiet. Not an easy task for this lot. But, adjust we did and we have some really nice video of a number of aspects of life on the boat. I won't dwell on them because at this time it is raw footage, but we were able to capture a biopsy in action from above in the midlevel platform and from the sea in the dinghy. Really cool stuff.

We only got near the one whale and took the one biopsy. That's whale seemed to enjoy the film attention as it posed quite well during the biopsy and even remained at the surface floating at Johnny's feet after the biopsy. When it did dive, it was only briefly and went and resurfaced near the dinghy!

The water was remarkably still today, a real plus for filming. It was a mirror water day making for some nice images. I have attached a couple here. One is of Johnny and Cathy on the whale boom with their reflections on the water in the evening sun. The second is a reflection of me and the boat in the water.

We did sail through a crude oil spill with lots of orange oil. Picture of some of it attached. Looks like dispersants had recently been sprayed on it, based on the white flecks of material on it and in it. It broke up rather quickly.

Sunset had brilliant streaks of color through the sky. Picture attached.

John

P.S. We are in the Gulf. Our current location is 29 degrees 05.1 minutes North and 88 degrees 02.5 minutes West, for those who want to track us as we go. For Google maps (not Google Earth - but maps) or Bing maps use (include letters and comma): 29.051 N, 88.025 W

For those of you who are new to this email diary - the previous days can be found at: <https://cms.usm.maine.edu/toxicology/dr-wises-voyage-leg-summaries-2011>







