



**NOAA Teacher at Sea**  
**Philip J. Hertzog**  
**Onboard NOAA Ship RAINIER**  
**July 24 - August 13, 2005**

**Log 4**

Day 4: July 28, 2005  
Time: 1600 hours  
Latitude: 55° 53.36' N  
Longitude: 158° 58.4' W  
Visibility: 10 nm  
Wind Direction: light  
Wind Speed: airs  
Sea Wave Height: 0 feet  
Sea Water Temperature: 12.8° C  
Sea Level Pressure: 1013.2 mb  
Cloud Cover: 5, cumulus, altocumulus

**Science and Technology Log**

I awoke to a beautiful sunrise and partly cloudy skies. The waters of Cushman Bay calmly rock the RAINIER gently back and forth. I could see pink salmon jump near the ship and seabirds feeding in the water.

Mike Laird (the other Teacher at Sea) and I stayed on board the RAINIER today to catch up on our log entries and to see what the rest of the crew does. We had a quiet day of writing, talking to the crew, and taking photographs.



At 8:00 am I watched the deck crew lower the launches for the mapping teams. Lowering the launches can be dangerous work and the deck crew does it carefully while wearing hard hats. Two winches move each launch out over the water as shown here (left and right) and then survey crew board the vessel and load gear.



After the survey crew loads the launch, they work with the deck crew to disconnect the cables and hooks from the launch as Ensign Mike Stevenson does here:



The launch then speeds off to start a busy day of mapping the waters of Mitrofanina Bay.



Once the launches left, the deck crew worked on other tasks. I saw crew washing decks and maintaining machinery. Other crew members used a crane to move one of the smaller boats (called skiffs) into the water:



Other crew members went about the ship conducting other tasks such as preparing meals, keeping the engines running, contacting the launches to help solve problems, and conducting bridge watch. In later log entries, I will try to describe the different departments on board the RAINIER.

### **Personal Log**

I had a very quiet day and spent it catching up on paper work and cleaning up my digital photos. After looking at my photos and talking with XO Julia Neander, we decided that our whales from the other day are not fin, but Sei (pronounced “say”) whales. We saw white spots on the whales back and a prominent ridge on the whale’s forehead which are give away signs for Sei.

I spent the evening fishing for salmon off the fan deck (located at the rear of the ship). Several other crew members also fished of the stern, but only Raul, one of our cooks, caught salmon. He pulled in four cohos weighing around 7-8 pounds each. Will he share and surprise us for supper tomorrow night? I can’t wait to find out.

### **Question of the Day**

The RAINIER is like a small community made up of 50 people. What kinds of jobs does this community need in order to sustain it for 3 weeks at sea without any outside help?