



Site M0109¹

Contents

- [1 Operations](#)
- [2 Lithostratigraphy](#)
- [3 Physical properties](#)
- [4 Geochemistry](#)
- [4 Paleomagnetism](#)
- [4 Geochronology](#)
- [4 References](#)

Keywords

International Ocean Discovery Program, IODP, Expedition 389, MMA *Valour*, Hawaiian Drowned Reefs, Earth climate system, Earth system feedbacks, Earth history tipping points, Site M0109, coral reef, volcanics, sea level, paleoclimate, central Pacific, reef health, Hawaiian geology, basalt, lava, carbonates, Mahukona

Core descriptions

Supplementary material

References (RIS)

MS 389-116

Published 26 February 2025

Funded by ECORD, JAMSTEC, and
NSF OCE1326927

J.M. Webster, A.C. Ravelo, H.L.J. Grant, M. Rydzy, M. Stewart, N. Allison, R. Asami, B. Boston, J.C. Braga, L. Brenner, X. Chen, P. Chutcharavan, A. Dutton, T. Felis, N. Fukuyo, E. Gischler, S. Greve, A. Hagen, Y. Hamon, E. Hathorne, M. Humblet, S. Jorry, P. Khanna, E. Le Ber, H. McGregor, R. Mortlock, T. Nohl, D. Potts, A. Prohaska, N. Prouty, W. Renema, K.H. Rubin, H. Westphal, and Y. Yokoyama²

¹ Webster, J.M., Ravelo, A.C., Grant, H.L.J., Rydzy, M., Stewart, M., Allison, N., Asami, R., Boston, B., Braga, J.C., Brenner, L., Chen, X., Chutcharavan, P., Dutton, A., Felis, T., Fukuyo, N., Gischler, E., Greve, S., Hagen, A., Hamon, Y., Hathorne, E., Humblet, M., Jorry, S., Khanna, P., Le Ber, E., McGregor, H., Mortlock, R., Nohl, T., Potts, D., Prohaska, A., Prouty, N., Renema, W., Rubin, K.H., Westphal, H., and Yokoyama, Y., 2025. Site M0109. In Webster, J.M., Ravelo, A.C., Grant, H.L.J., and the Expedition 389 Scientists, Hawaiian Drowned Reefs. *Proceedings of the International Ocean Discovery Program, 389*: College Station, TX (International Ocean Discovery Program). <https://doi.org/10.14379/iodp.proc.389.116.2025>

² [Expedition 389 Scientists' affiliations](#).

1. Operations

The multipurpose vessel *MMA Valour* was used as the drilling platform throughout Expedition 389. At all Expedition 389 sites, dynamic positioning was used to provide accurate positions throughout operations and water depth was established using a Sound Velocity Profiler (SVP) placed on the top of the PROD5 drilling system. For more detail on acquisition methods, see [Introduction](#) in the Expedition 389 methods chapter (Webster et al., 2025a).

Summary operational information for Site M0109 is provided in Table [T1](#). All times stated are in Hawaiian Standard Time (HST).

1.1. Hole M0109A

The *MMA Valour* arrived on location at Site M0109 at 2320 h on 26 October 2023. PROD5 was deployed at 0457 h on 27 October at a water depth of 1241.8 m. Rotary coring and casing in Hole M0109A commenced at 0624 h and continued to 4.62 meters below seafloor (mbsf). The hole was terminated at 1635 h on 27 October due to a total hydraulic failure. Recovery of PROD5 and maneuvering onto the launch and recovery system proved difficult because there was no power, and it required multiple maneuvers from the vessel to turn PROD5 to the correct orientation and untwist the umbilical. PROD5 was recovered to deck at 1740 h on 27 October with all core barrels and casing. On-deck operations commenced, core barrels were extracted for curation, and repairs were undertaken. At 2130 h on 27 October, PROD5 was launched to a water depth of 1100 m for wet tests and to release any torsion in the umbilical. PROD5 was recovered at 0132 h on 28 October, and transit commenced to Site M0110.

A total of 12 cores were recovered from Hole M0109A from a total cored length of 4.62 m. The total core recovery length was 4.21 m (91.13% recovery).

Table T1. Hole summary, Site M0109. R = rotary coring mode. LAT = Lowest Astronomical Tide. [Download table in CSV format](#).

Hole	Water depth (mbsf)	Date started (2023)	Date finished (2023)	Latitude	Longitude	Coring method	Total drilled depth (m)	Recovered length (m)	Core recovery (%)	Cores (N)	Notes
389-M0109A	1241.8	27 Oct	27 Oct	20.065169°	-156.266938°	R	4.62	4.21	91	12	LAT water depth: 1241.3 m. Borehole abandoned due to technical issues. Casing recovered with PROD5.

2. Lithostratigraphy

Hole M0109A, spanning 0.00 to 4.75 mbsf, is located off shore from Mahakona at 1241.8 meters below sea level (mbsl). Below a thin interval of unconsolidated bi detrital sediment, recovered material from Hole M0109A consists of highly disturbed coralal boundstone comprised mostly of branching and columnar *Porites* with thin coralline algal crusts.

2.1. Hole M0109A

From 0.00 to 0.44 mbsf in Hole M0109A, the cored material consists of unconsolidated bi detrital sediment (Figure F1) composed of up to cobble-sized fragments of branching *Porites*, laminar corals, coralline algae, bivalves, gastropods, and echinoid spines (Figure F2). Following a gap in recovery, the material from 0.90 mbsf to the base of the hole at 4.75 mbsf is characterized by highly disturbed and fragmented coralal boundstone composed of predominantly branching, columnar, and rare laminar *Porites* with thin crustose coralline algal (CCA) crusts. A bi detrital coarse sediment, with fragments of coral, CCA, mollusks, and echinoid spines, occurs locally among the boundstone fragments (Figure F3).

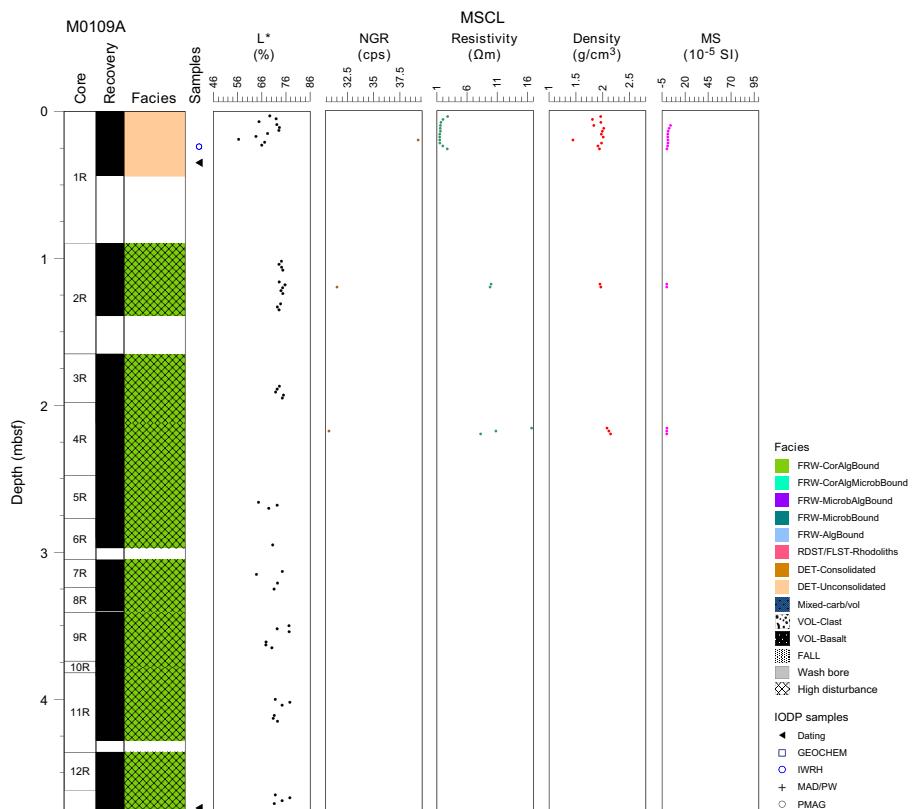


Figure F1. Lithostratigraphy and MSCL, Hole M0109A. cps = counts per second, NGR = natural gamma radiation, MS = magnetic susceptibility.

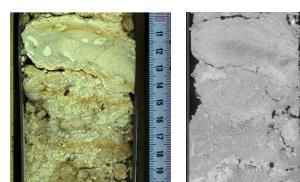


Figure F2. Lithologies, Hole M0109A. Unconsolidated bi detrital sediment with up to cobble-sized fragments of branching *Porites* with CCA crust (1R-1, 9.8–20.0 cm). Left: high-resolution linescan image. Right: X-ray computed tomography scan image (orthogonal view 0°).



Figure F3. Lithology, Hole M0109A. Columnar (top) and branching *Porites* with CCA crusts and a biotrital coarse sediment (3R-1, 18.5–35.0 cm).

3. Physical properties

Physical properties data for Site M0109 are shown in Table **T2** in the Site M0096 chapter (Webster et al., 2025b).

3.1. Hole M0109A

A total of 2.69 m of core from Hole M0109A was scanned with the multisensor core logger (MSCL), and because the core exhibited major drilling-induced disturbance, only 15% of the acquired data passed QA/QC (see Table **T10** in the Expedition 389 methods chapter [Webster et al., 2025a]). Because of the poor core quality, no discrete sample was taken for *P*-wave velocity and MAD measurements. Digital linescans, color reflectance, and hyperspectral imaging were acquired for all cores.

3.1.1. Density and porosity

Data for density and porosity measurements are presented in Figure **F1**. MSCL bulk density values range 1.44–2.15 g/cm³. Drilling-induced disturbance and short core lengths compromised data quality (see **Physical properties** in the Expedition 389 methods chapter [Webster et al., 2025a]), and no sampling was undertaken.

3.1.2. *P*-wave velocity

MSCL *P*-wave velocity measurements yielded no data. Core quality limited sample collection. No discrete samples were taken for *P*-wave velocity measurements.

3.1.3. Thermal conductivity

No thermal conductivity data were collected.

3.1.4. Magnetic susceptibility

MSCL magnetic susceptibility data range 0.06×10^{-5} to 4.17×10^{-5} SI (Figure **F1**), and the majority of magnetic susceptibility values are close to 1.11×10^{-5} SI. There are no apparent downhole trends.

3.1.5. Electrical resistivity

MSCL noncontact resistivity measurements range 1.47–16.69 Ωm (Figure **F1**). There are no apparent downhole trends or notable features.

3.1.6. Natural gamma radiation

MSCL natural gamma radiation values range 31–39 counts/s (Figure **F1**) and show no apparent downhole trends.

3.1.7. Digital linescans, color reflectance, and hyperspectral imaging

All cores were digitally scanned, measured for color reflectance (where appropriate), and imaged with the hyperspectral scanner (see HYPERSPECTRAL in **Supplementary material**). Color reflectance L* values vary between 56% and 78% (Figure **F1**), a* varies between 0.53 and 2.58, b* varies between 9.46 and 22.24, and a*/b* varies between 0.04 and 0.15.

4. Geochemistry

4.1. Interstitial water

One interstitial water sample was collected from Hole M0109A at 0.24 mbsf (1R-1, 23.5–23.5 cm). The interstitial water potassium concentration was lower compared to seawater (see Tables **T15** and **T16** in the Expedition 389 methods chapter [Webster et al., 2025a]). Manganese concentration was low but measurable compared to other interstitial water samples from Expedition 389. Major ion concentrations in this sample are within a range similar to that of other Expedition 389 interstitial samples.

4.2. Surface seawater

One surface seawater sample was collected from Site M0109 using a Niskin bottle deployed from the side of the vessel (see Figure **F22** in the Expedition 389 methods chapter [Webster et al., 2025a]). The salinity, pH, alkalinity, and concentrations of ammonium were analyzed off shore, and major cations and anions were measured during the Onshore Science Party. The salinity, pH, alkalinity, ammonium, and major element chemistry measured for the Site M0109 seawater sample are consistent with the other surface seawater samples taken during Expedition 389 and align with the expected values for conservative elements in seawater (see Tables **T15** and **T17** in the Expedition 389 methods chapter [Webster et al., 2025a]).

4.3. Bulk sediment

Because of the short length of the core, no bulk sediment samples were taken from Site M0109.

5. Paleomagnetism

Because the recovered core lithologies were not suitable for sampling, no samples were analyzed for paleomagnetic properties for Site M0109.

6. Geochronology

Two U-Th dates were obtained from Hole M0109A (see Tables **T21** and **T22** in the Expedition 389 methods chapter [Webster et al., 2025a]). Dates from both samples (1R-1, 35–36 cm, and 12R-1, 38–39 cm) are rejected based on anomalous $\delta^{234}\text{U}$ initial values (below 130‰ or above 160‰). The date from Sample 1R-1, 35–36 cm, is also rejected based on a very high uncertainty due to being near secular equilibrium. Therefore, there are no reliable dates obtained from this site.

References

Webster, J.M., Ravelo, A.C., Grant, H.L.J., and the Expedition 389 Scientists, 2025. Supplementary material, <https://doi.org/10.14379/iodp.proc.389supp.2025>. In Webster, J.M., Ravelo, A.C., Grant, H.L.J., and the Expedition 389 Scientists, Hawaiian Drowned Reefs. Proceedings of the International Ocean Discovery Program, 389: College Station, TX (International Ocean Discovery Program).

Webster, J.M., Ravelo, A.C., Grant, H.L.J., Rydzy, M., Stewart, M., Allison, N., Asami, R., Boston, B., Braga, J.C., Brenner, L., Chen, X., Chutcharavan, P., Dutton, A., Felis, T., Fukuyo, N., Gischler, E., Greve, S., Hagen, A., Hamon, Y., Hathorne, E., Humblet, M., Jorry, S., Khanna, P., Le Ber, E., McGregor, H., Mortlock, R., Nohl, T., Potts, D., Prohaska, A., Prouty, N., Renema, W., Rubin, K.H., Westphal, H., and Yokoyama, Y., 2025a. Expedition 389 methods. In Webster, J.M., Ravelo, A.C., Grant, H.L.J., and the Expedition 389 Scientists, Hawaiian Drowned Reefs. Proceedings of the International Ocean Discovery Program, 389: College Station, TX (International Ocean Discovery Program). <https://doi.org/10.14379/iodp.proc.389.102.2025>

Webster, J.M., Ravelo, A.C., Grant, H.L.J., Rydzy, M., Stewart, M., Allison, N., Asami, R., Boston, B., Braga, J.C., Brenner, L., Chen, X., Chutcharavan, P., Dutton, A., Felis, T., Fukuyo, N., Gischler, E., Greve, S., Hagen, A., Hamon, Y., Hathorne, E., Humblet, M., Jorry, S., Khanna, P., Le Ber, E., McGregor, H., Mortlock, R., Nohl, T., Potts, D., Prohaska, A., Prouty, N., Renema, W., Rubin, K.H., Westphal, H., and Yokoyama, Y., 2025b. Site M0096. In Webster, J.M., Ravelo, A.C., Grant, H.L.J., and the Expedition 389 Scientists, Hawaiian Drowned Reefs. Proceedings of the International Ocean Discovery Program, 389: College Station, TX (International Ocean Discovery Program). <https://doi.org/10.14379/iodp.proc.389.103.2025>