

CORE PROCESSING

At the Antarctic Research Facility all cores are cut using an adjustable, track-operated, radial power saw (Cassidy and Devore, 1973). The saw is adjusted to cut only through the thickness of the plastic core liner. Cuts are made on opposite sides of the core liner. Once the liner is cut, the core sediments are split by drawing a wire through the middle of the core. Each half section of core is cleaned of plastic debris (which results from cutting the liners) by scraping the sediment perpendicular to the core axis with a stainless steel spatula. Core halves are then measured, labeled every 20 cm (taking into account any bagged sediments), and heat-sealed within polyethylene sleeving to prevent desiccation. Disturbance of the sediment structures resulting from flow-in or sediment washing are recorded immediately after the core is opened.

All cores are stored in a refrigerated store room ($\sim 2^{\circ}\text{C}$) at the Antarctic Research Facility. Bagged samples are placed in labeled plastic bags and are also kept in refrigerated storage.