

Life in the Atacama Field Journal

August 22, 2005

Salar Grande, Chile

Agenda

- Finalize camp location
- Receive cargo
- Set up camp
- Visit Mina Punta de Lobos

Status and Progress

• Established camp. This year we will investigate south of Salar Grande with Zoë, about a 50 minute drive beyond the paved road. The road in was graded long ago but now the straight sections are washboarded and the rest serpentine through dry washes or climbs ridgelines. For the Atacama it's a good road but it requires care in driving. As noted all of this region is foggy and damp for most of the day right now, so we sent a team ahead in the morning to look for a sunny spot while the other half of the group met the cargo at the airport. We met on the road, conferred, and decided to use the well-established location north of the salar which offers sun, open test areas, and easy access but the disadvantage of a long drive to the investigation area.

• Received cargo and set up camp. Once again, everything arrived from BAX Global intact and on schedule. We unloaded a packed panel van at camp and immediately began opening crates. By evening the camp was set up and secured against the wind.



- Visited Mina Punta de Lobos. And once again, Sociedad Punta de Lobos, has prepared everything for our arrival. Details of food and fuel are arranged and Enrique arrives tomorrow. The support of SPL has been invaluable to the success of this research.

Upcoming

- Assemble Zoë
- Set up satellite connection

Weather

Morning: Overcast, 16C, 60% RH (Iquique)

Afternoon: Clear, breeze, 10-15 KPH, 22C, 30%RH

Night: Fog (dusk) then clear, still, 14C, 80%RH

Quote of the Day

“It’s stronger than nylon. A message brought to you by the Mesh Council.”

