

UNH Scientist's Image Appearing in New Godzilla Movie

**Center For Coastal and Ocean Mapping of The Mariana
Trench Appears in The Summer Blockbuster**

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An image of the Mariana Trench has been licensed by Warner Bros. and is being used within a quick-cut-montage sequence in the new Godzilla movie. It was mapped and developed by University of New Hampshire scientist James Gardner.

The licensed image was taken during an underwater survey of the area that took place from August through October of 2010. The scientists from the UNH Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping/Joint Hydrographic Center (CCOM/JHC) used a multibeam echosounder, state-of-the-art equipment for mapping the ocean floor, to map the area of the Mariana Trench. The survey yielded the maps of the seafloor and the most precise estimate to date of the depth of the Challenger Deep, the deepest spot on earth, measuring around 10,984 meters deep (36,028 feet).

“I was very surprised, and then pleased, that one of our images was to appear in the new movie,” said Gardner. “The advanced technology we used during the Mariana

Trench survey allowed us to map the seafloor at a much higher resolution than previous efforts, providing a horizontal spacing of one depth value every 50 meters. The best maps of this area prior to our mapping have a horizontal spacing of depth values separated by 1,850 meters, and the images appear fuzzy when looked at in detail. Our mapping provides a very detailed, clear look at the seafloor.”

The images taken during the 2010 survey have been licensed to other organizations in the past but this is the first time that any of the images appear in a major motion picture.

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