Geophysical Research Abstracts, Vol. 7, 09041, 2005
SRef-ID: 1607-7962/gra/EGU05-A-09041


# Rockall Bank Mass Flow: Evidence for mass wasting episodes, west of Ireland

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The disruption of the Feni Drift by large debris flows from the Rockall Bank has been previously document by Flood et al (1979). This remobilised region, covering an area in excess of 11,000 km 2 of the eastern margin and slope of the Rockall Bank, offshore Ireland is called the Rockall Bank Mass Flow (Unnithan et al. 2001). Faugeres et al (1981) initially described the numerous debris and turbidity flow deposits in core and advocate episodes of slumping during the entire last Glacial period as a possible causal mechanism.

This poster presents an overview of the Rockall Bank Mass Flow in terms of morphology and sedimentology. The age and triggering mechanisms of the flows will be highlighted and discussed based on variety of data types including recent GLORIA and TOBI sidescan sonar, echosounder, seismic, multibeam bathymetry and shallow cores. The latter revealed a muddy stratigraphy which is interpreted to be the result of hemipelagic settling of clay from weak bottom currents. During the last glaciation this deposition was interrupted by turbidity currents and episodes of sliding. Dating of these cores based on limited radiometric 14C data, support a last glacial age for the flow events. Some of the possible triggers for the flows might have been due to increased influx of sedimentation during last glacial period or increased wave activity during lowstand and/ or overburdened and oversteepened slopes during the late glacial maximum.