



**Figure 1: Cruise track (white line) and hydrographic stations (white dot) occupied during the SHIPPO expedition. Dark incubation experiments were conducted at the locations marked by red circles, and CDOM absorbance was measured at the locations marked by green circles. The white arrows on the map designate surface mean currents in July 2012, as taken from OSCAR (Ocean Surface Current Analysis Real-time) database. The red square in the inset indicates the study area.**