STUDY AREA: Savannah Banks West

STATION OVERVIEW

Project Life on the Edge 2005

Principal investigators SW Ross¹

MS Nizinski, E Baird, C Morrison

PI Contact Info¹ Center for Marine Science, 5600 Marvin Moss

Ln., Wilmington, NC 28409

Purpose Mapping of deep coral banks, ecological studies

of macroinvertebrates and fishes, paleoclimate studies, coral genetics and education outreach

Vessel R/V Seward Johnson, Johnson Sea Link I

Submersible

Science Divers B Lubinski (stern)

External Video Tapes 6 mini DVs

Internal Video Tapes 0
Digital Still Photos 0

Positioning System dGPS

CTD File ✓

Specimens Collected

Other Training dive, hard copy stern audio log

Acknowledgements NOAA-OE, NOAA Fisheries, USGS, UNCW, NC

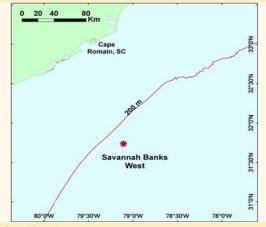
Museum of Natural Sciences

SEADESC Analyst A Zilg

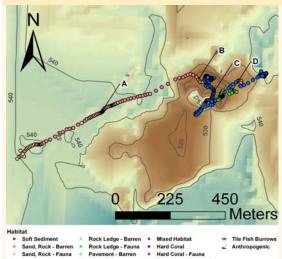
Date Compiled 7/7/2011

PI Station Number JSLI-05-4900

GENERAL LOCATION



Dive Track:



DIVE DATA

Date	22-Oct-05
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	500
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	544
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	17:03
End Bottom End (EDT)	19:17
Starting Latitude (N)	31° 44.358′
Starting Longitude (W)	79° 06.159'
Ending Latitude (N)	31° 44.568′
Ending Longitude (W)	79° 05.526'
Surface Current (Kts)	2
Bottom Current (Kts)	0.2

Image A: Sand/Rubble/Rock with Attached Fauna 31° 44.469' N, 79° 05.942' W



STUDY AREA: Savannah Banks West

IMAGE GALLERY

* indicates image position is approximated

Image B: Sand/Rubble/Rock-Barren

31° 44.570' N, 79° 05.694' W



Image C: Mixed Habitat 31° 44.523' N, 79° 05.652' W



Image D: Rock Ledge with Attached Fauna 31° 44.537' N, 79° 05.626' W



RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED

Milliman et al. (1967) Ayers and Pilkey (1981) EEZ-SCAN 87 Scientific Staff (1991) Reed (2002) Reed and Ross (2005) Reed et al. (2006) Ross and Nizinski (2007) Ross and Quattrini (2007, 2009)

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

Very few fish were observed on this dive and were represented by very few individuals. The most common fish was Laemonema melanurum in all habitats observed. A few Nezumia spp. and squalid sharks were observed on mound. Fenestraja plutonia was observed on the soft substrate rubble mix. In the soft substrate rubble mix Phykalleia spp. was abundant in patches. Mound substrate of rock ledge and rubble was covered with abundant mixed fauna. Hard corals were represented by individuals of Lophelia pertusa, Madrepora oculata, Enallopsammia profunda, and numerous cup corals. Gorgonians were abundant but too small to be properly identified. Samples of Leiopathes sp. and Bathypathes sp. were taken. Sponges were abundant, and numerous dead sponges were observed. Live sponges included Aphrocallistes spp., Hertwigia spp., Phakallia spp., and other hexactinellids. Galatheid crabs and one other crab (unidentified) were the only motile invertebrates observed; both were closer to the top of ridges.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Four habitat types were observed during this dive: 1) mixed coral community, 2) rock ledges with attached fauna, 3) soft substrate with rubble, and 4) soft substrate and rubble with attached fauna. Soft substrate habitats had patchy distributions of sponges and large rubble. The mixed and rock ledge communities consisted of numerous small corals and sponges. Two ridges were traversed; both exhibited slopes of around 40° and were low profile (< 1m). A few *L. pertusa* boulders were present at the top of the first ridge. Currents were magnified at the top of ridges.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The external bow video was captured on 3 mini DVs and archived on 3 DVDs. External stern video was captured on 3 mini DVs and archived on 3 DVDs. This dive was a training dive; the sub often moved inconsistently and video was blurry at times. Good example of mixed habitat on this dive.

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Purpose Mapping of deep coral banks, ecological studies

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Vessel R/V Seward Johnson, Johnson Sea Link I

Submersible

Science Divers T Casazza (bow), M Partyka (stern)

External Video Tapes 1 mini DV
Internal Video Tapes 1 mini DV

Digital Still Photos 0

Positioning System dGPS

CTD File

✓

Specimens Collected
✓

Other Hard copies of bow and stern audio logs

Acknowledgements NOAA-OE, NOAA Fisheries, USGS, UNCW, NC

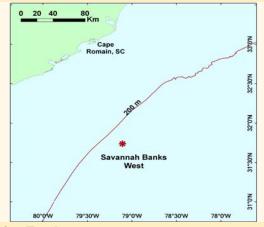
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SEADESC Analyst A Zilg

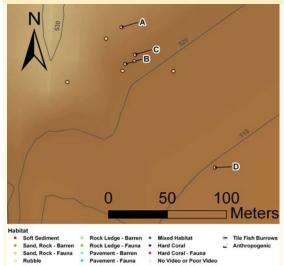
Date Compiled 7/26/2011

PI Station Number JSLI-05-4901

GENERAL LOCATION



Dive Track:



DIVE DATA

Date	23-Oct-05
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	507
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	508
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	8:28
End Bottom End (EDT)	8:35
Starting Latitude (N)	31° 42.360′
Starting Longitude (W)	79° 07.424'
Ending Latitude (N)	31° 42.306′
Ending Longitude (W)	79° 07.390'
Surface Current (Kts)	1.6
Bottom Current (Kts)	0.6

Image A: Sand/Rubble/Rock - with Attached Fauna 31° 42.366' N, 79° 07.416' W *



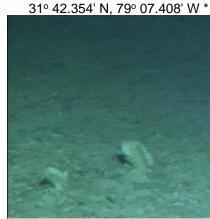
STUDY AREA: Savannah Banks West

IMAGE GALLERY

* indicates image position is approximated

Image B: Sand/Rubble/Rock with Attached Fauna

Image C: Sand/Rubble/Rock -31° 42.349′ N, 79° 07.413′ W *



with Attached Fauna

Image D: Sand/Rubble/Rock with Attached Fauna 31° 42.302′ N, 79° 07.363′ W *



RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED

Milliman et al. (1967) Ayers and Pilkey (1981) EEZ-SCAN 87 Scientific Staff (1991) Reed (2002)

Reed and Ross (2005) Reed et al. (2006) Ross and Nizinski (2007) Ross and Quattrini (2007, 2009)

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

For the short time the sub was on the bottom, a soft rubble habitat with attached fauna was observed. Small scleractinian corals, soft corals, and sponges were attached to rock and rubble. Large Phakellia sp. sponges were present. Fishes observed included Laemonema melanurum, Nezumia sclerorhynchus, Chloropthalmus agassizi, and Squalus cubensis.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

This dive landed in a soft rubble and rock mix with attached fauna. The bottom was low profile and had a gentle slope (~10°). Currents were strong and visibility was cloudy.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The internal bow video was captured on 1 mini DV and archived on 1 DVD. External stern video was captured on 1 mini DV and archived on 1 DVD. A Nezumia sclerorhynchus was collected. The dive was called short due to inclement weather.

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Mapping of deep coral banks, ecological studies **Purpose**

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R/V Seward Johnson, Johnson Sea Link I Vessel

Submersible

Science Divers T Casazza (bow), M Partyka (stern)

6 mini DVs **External Video Tapes Internal Video Tapes** 3 mini DVs

Digital Still Photos 0

Positioning System dGPS

CTD File V Specimens Collected ~

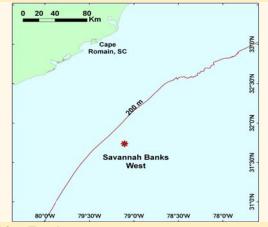
Other Hard copies of bow and stern audio logs

Acknowledgements NOAA-OE, NOAA Fisheries, USGS, UNCW, NC

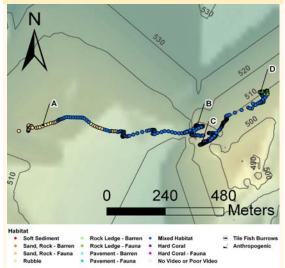
Museum of Natural Sciences

SEADESC Analyst A Zilg **Date Compiled** 8/4/2011 **PI Station Number** JSLI-05-4902

GENERAL LOCATION



Dive Track:



DIVE DATA

Date	26-Oct-05
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	497
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	519
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	16:38
End Bottom End (EDT)	18:57
Starting Latitude (N)	31° 42.258'
Starting Longitude (W)	79° 07.884'
Ending Latitude (N)	31° 42.318'
Ending Longitude (W)	79° 07.310'
Surface Current (Kts)	2.8
Bottom Current (Kts)	0.7

Image A: Sand/Rubble/Rock with Attached Fauna 31° 42.255' N, 79° 07.857' W



STUDY AREA: Savannah Banks West

IMAGE GALLERY

* indicates image position is approximated

Image B: Mixed Habitat 31° 42.272' N, 79° 07.445' W Image C: Mixed Habitat 31° 42.231' N, 79° 07.430' W Image D: Rock Ledge with Attached Fauna 31° 42.354' N, 79° 07.291' W







RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED

Milliman et al. (1967) Ayers and Pilkey (1981) EEZ-SCAN 87 Scientific Staff (1991) Reed (2002) Reed and Ross (2005) Reed et al. (2006) Ross and Nizinski (2007) Ross and Quattrini (2007, 2009)

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

The majority of the dive took place over mixed habitat. Demosponges and gorgonians were abundant, while individual hard corals, cup corals, and hexactinellid sponges were common. *Lophelia pertusa* and *Stylaster* sp. were the most commonly observed corals. Other corals, *Madrepora oculata* and *Leiopathes* spp., were observed rarely and collected. Motile invertebrates were common and included galatheid crabs, cancer crabs, *Rochinia* spp. crabs, urchins, squid, octopus, and a sea star. Fishes were observed throughout the dive. Squalid sharks were observed the entire dive and may have been following the sub. Other than the sharks, the most commonly observed fishes were *Nezumia sclerorhynchus* and *Laemonema melanurum*. Other fishes observed included scorpionfishes and a small eel.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Three habitat types were observed on this dive. The dive started on a soft substrate rock/rubble mix with attached fauna and moved into a mixed habitat on rock/rubble substrate. A rock ledge with attached fauna was observed in an area that appeared to have experienced a disturbance which uncovered the rock ledge. The entire area displayed gentle rolling slopes with low profile habitat. No sections were dominated by hard corals. Currents were around 0.7 - 0.8 kn and there were particulates in the water column.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The external bow video was captured on 3 mini DVs and archived on 3 DVDs. External stern video was captured on 3 mini DVs and archived on 3 DVDs. Internal bow video was captured on 3 mini DVs and archived on 3 DVDs. Some parts of the video were dark and made classification difficult. There were good examples of mixed habitat on this dive.