DIVE NUMBER: JSLII-3585

STUDY AREA: Straits of Florida

STATION OVERVIEW

Project Ocean Exploration Deep Coral Expedition

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Purpose Exploration and characterization of deep sea

coral habitats off the east coast of Florida

Vessel R/V Seward Johnson, Johnson Sea Link II

Submersible

Science Divers C Kellogg (bow), J Reed (stern)

External Video Tapes External Hard Drive

Internal Video Tapes 3 mini DVs

Digital Still Photos

Positioning System dGPS

CTD File

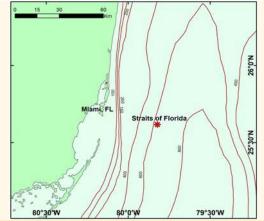
Specimens Collected

Other

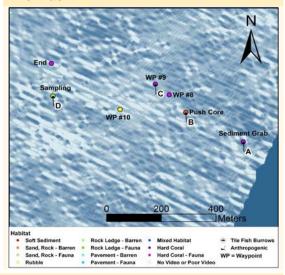
Acknowledgements NOAA-OE

SEADESC Analyst M Watts
Date Compiled 8/18/2011
PI Station Number 29-V-07-2

GENERAL LOCATION



Dive Track:



DIVE DATA

Date	29-May-07
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	700
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	831
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	16:15
End Bottom End (EDT)	19:23
Starting Latitude (N)	25° 37.065′
Starting Longitude (W)	79° 49.176'
Ending Latitude (N)	25° 37.114'
Ending Longitude (W)	79° 49.694'
Surface Current (Kts)	
Bottom Current (Kts)	0.1

Image A: Hard Corals with Attached Fauna 25° 36.953' N, 79° 49.315' W



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IMAGE GALLERY

* indicates image position is approximated

Image B: Sand/Rubble/Rock Barren

25° 37.014' N, 79° 49.429' W



Image C: Hard Corals with Attached Fauna 25° 37.072' N. 79° 49.489' W

05/29 18:22:43 DEPTH TEMP SALIN 2479FT 05.9C 34.9 Image D: Rock Ledge - Barren 25° 37.047' N, 79° 49.691' W



RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED

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

Coral ridges were comprised primarily of low relief 100% dead *Enallopsammia profunda* matrix interspersed with a mix of soft sediment and coral rubble. The dead hard coral rubble and matrix habitats supported attached fauna such as small hydrozoan corals (Stylasteridae), slender whip-like gorgonians and numerous hexactinellid sponges. Mobile fauna included crinoids, golden crabs, rock lobsters, shrimp, eels, a skate, and a dogfish. Soft sediments and rubble surrounding and leading up to the mounds occasionally had stalked hexactinellid sponges and rock lobster holes.

The Straits of Florida site consisted of frequent ridges of 100% dead hard coral covered and interspersed with soft sediment and mixed coral rubble. Major waypoints were reached by traversing flats or valleys of soft sediment and coral rubble with or without fauna that would transition abruptly into steep inclines with dead hard coral habitat with attached fauna interspersed areas of coral rubble and soft sediment. Around waypoint 12, the habitat changed at the base of an incline composed of large rocks and slabs that were mostly barren of fauna.

Original dives are on mini DVs transfered to digital on a mini DV reader and stored on an external hard drive. Video quality was mostly clear. There were very few sections of unusable footage for habitat characterization though the camera rarely focused in to allow more than rudimentary identification of corals and associated invertebrates. CTD and navigation data for this JSL dive are missing. Therefore, only fixes taken during the dive and recorded in dive logs are shown on the dive track map with pictures taken at those fixes. Sediment cores were taken. Collections were taken of dead *E. profuna* rubble and surrounding sediment, sediment punch cores and a rock.