DIVE NUMBER: J2-545

STUDY AREA: Jacksonville

STATION OVERVIEW

Project Extreme Corals 2010
Principal investigators SW Ross¹, SD Brooke

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 NOAA Ship Ronald H. Brown, Jason 2 ROV

Science Divers M Nizinski, A David, K Coykendall

External Video Tapes External Hard Drive

Internal Video Tapes

Digital Still Photos Yes

Positioning System dGPS

CTD File ✓

Specimens Collected

Other Hard copy of observation log. Virtual van logs.

Acknowledgements NOAA- DSCRT, NOAA-OER, NOAA Fisheries,

USGS, UNCW, NC Museum of Natural Sciences

SEADESC Analyst A Zilg

Date Compiled 7/21/2011

PI Station Number ROV-2010-RB-545

GENERAL LOCATION



Dive Track:

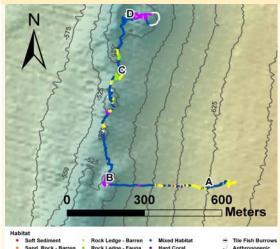
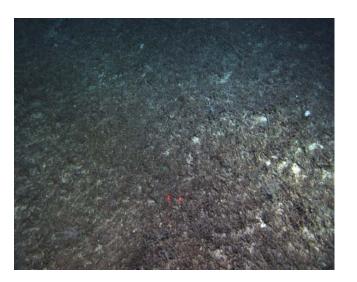


Image A: Rubble 30° 43.445' N, 79° 39.558' W

DIVE DATA

Date	15-Nov-10
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	471
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	633
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	9:39
End Bottom End (EDT)	19:37
Starting Latitude (N)	30° 41.850′
Starting Longitude (W)	79° 40.677'
Ending Latitude (N)	30° 43.826′
Ending Longitude (W)	79° 39.679'
Surface Current (Kts)	
Bottom Current (Kts)	



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IMAGE GALLERY

* indicates image position is approximated

Image B: Hard Coral with Attached Fauna 30° 43.457' N, 79° 39.798' W

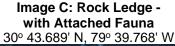
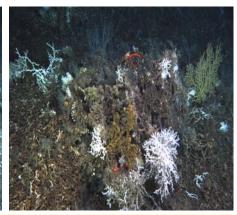


Image D: Mixed Habitat 30° 43.811′ N, 79° 39.744′ W







RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED

Ayers and Pilkey (1981) EEZ-SCAN 87 Scientific Staff (1991) Paull et al. (2000) Reed (2002) Reed and Ross (2005) Williams et al. (2007) Reed et al. (2006) Ross and Nizinski (2007) Ross and Quattrini (2007, 2009) Ross et al. (unpubl. cruise data)

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

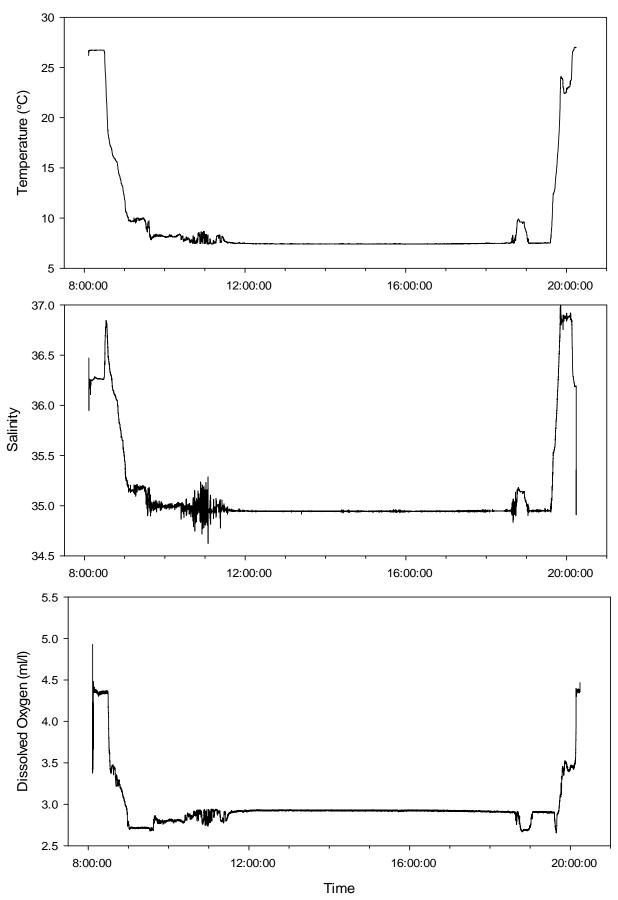
Fishes observed on this dive were infrequent for the amount of time and distance covered. The two most common fishes were *Laemonema melanurum* and *Nezumia* sp. Other individuals observed were *Beryx decadactylus*, *Eptatretus lopheliae*, *Trachyscorpia cristulata*, and *Scyliorhinus retifer*. Rubble habitat had sparse fauna including isidids, gorgonians, *Bathynectes* crabs, sponges, and comatulids. All other habitat types had abundant attached fauna. Both hexactinellid sponges and dermosponges were abundant. Individual corals were also abundant and included *Chrysogorgia* sp., *Plumarella* sp., *Bathypathes* sp., *Leiopathes* sp., *Stylaster* sp., *Lophelia*, *pertusa*, *Madrepora oculata*, *Enallopsammia profunda*, *Anthomastus* sp., isidids, cup corals, and other octocorals. Hard coral areas were dominated by *L. pertusa*; colonies of *M. oculata* and *E. profunda* were common as well as numerous *Aphrocallistes* spp. sponges. Few motile invertebrates were observed such as *Rochinia* sp., galatheids, pancake urchins, octopus, and a holothurian.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Four habitat types were observed during this dive: 1) rubble, 2) mixed habitat, 3) hard corals with attached fauna, and 4) rock ledge with attached fauna. Leading up to the ridge, very fine rubble was encountered with sparse attached fauna. Some areas under the rubble appeared to be rock or pavement bottom. Mixed habitat varied in composition, but occured mostly on rubble bottom (high coverage ~ 90%), and was low profile. Hard coral habitat was patchy and of moderate to high profile with *L. pertusa* matrices, live coral varied from 10-50%. Hard coral areas had 100% bottom coverage. Rock ledges were infrequently encountered, were low to moderate profile, and had attached fauna.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Video is stored on a Mac-formatted external hard drive. Video time in GMT. Video quality was extremely clear, with very few sections of unusable footage. Good footage of *Emunida picta* catching and eating a *Nezumia* sp. At times, currents made collections difficult.



Plots of CTD data recorded during ROV dive ROV-2010-RB-545 (15 Nov 2010) off Jacksonville, FL.