

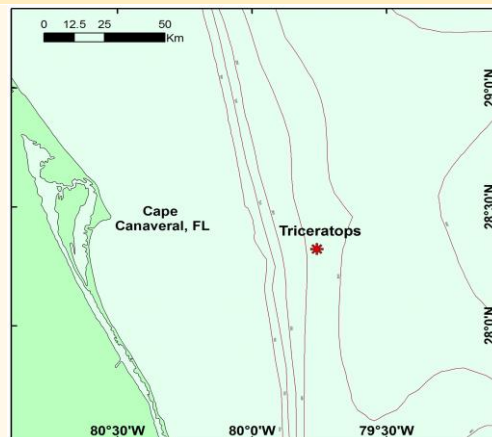
**DIVE NUMBER: JSLII-3708**

**STUDY AREA: *Triceratops***

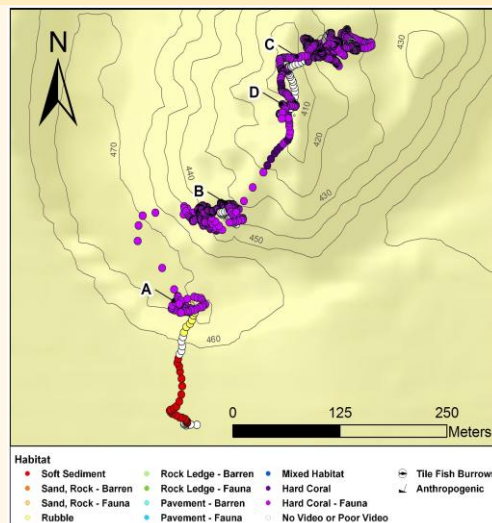
**STATION OVERVIEW**

<b>Project</b>	Deep-sea Coral Research
<b>Principal investigators</b>	SW Ross <sup>1</sup>
<b>PI Contact Info<sup>1</sup></b>	Center for Marine Science, 5600 Marvin Moss Ln., Wilmington, NC 28409
<b>Purpose</b>	Exploration of Deep-water Coral Ecosystems off Cape Canaveral, Florida
<b>Vessel</b>	R/V Seward Johnson, Johnson Sea Link II Submersible
<b>Science Divers</b>	A Howard (bow), T Casazza (stern)
<b>External Video Tapes</b>	External Hard Drive
<b>Internal Video Tapes</b>	2 mini DVs
<b>Digital Still Photos</b>	Yes
<b>Positioning System</b>	dGPS
<b>CTD File</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Specimens Collected</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	NOAA, USGS, SAFMC, OIMB, NC Museum of Natural Sciences
<b>SEADESC Analyst</b>	M Watts
<b>Date Compiled</b>	1/12/2012
<b>PI Station Number</b>	JSLII-09-Atl-3708

**GENERAL LOCATION**



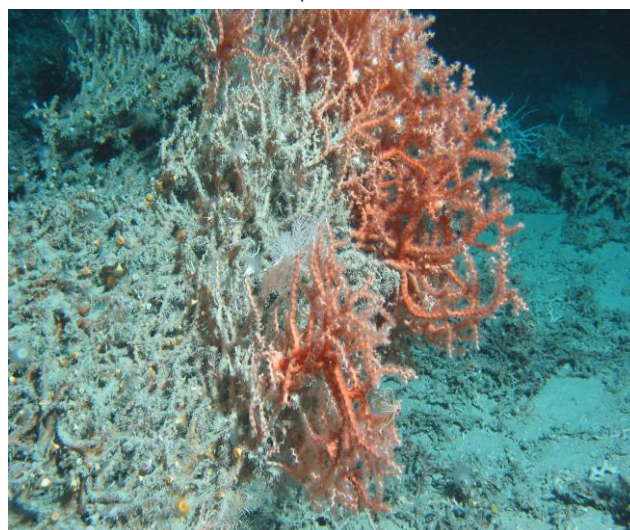
**Dive Track:**



**DIVE DATA**

Date	10-Aug-09
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	398
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	453
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	17:16
End Bottom End (EDT)	20:05
Starting Latitude (N)	28° 19.102'
Starting Longitude (W)	79° 45.155'
Ending Latitude (N)	28° 19.289'
Ending Longitude (W)	79° 45.097'
Surface Current (Kts)	
Bottom Current (Kts)	

**Image A: Hard Coral - with Attached Fauna**  
28° 19.180' N, 79° 45.186' W



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## STUDY AREA: *Triceratops*

### IMAGE GALLERY

\* indicates image position is approximated

Image B: Hard Coral -  
with Attached Fauna

28° 19.238' N, 79° 45.138' W



Image C: Hard Coral -  
with Attached Fauna

28° 19.324' N, 79° 45.078' W

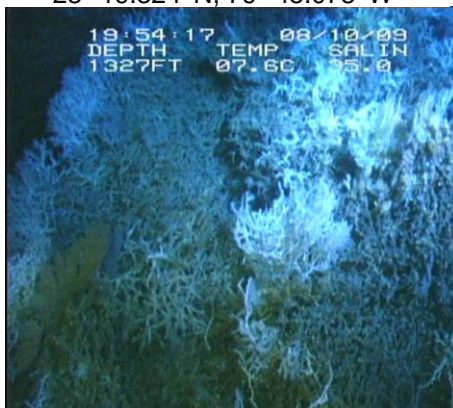
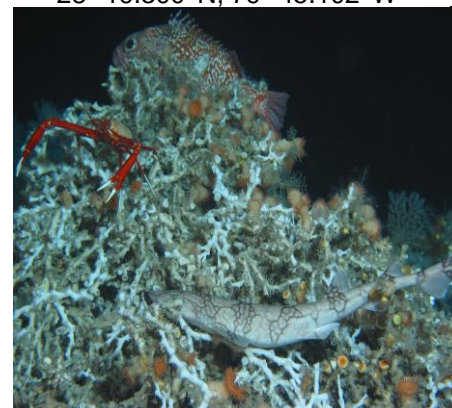


Image D: Hard Coral -  
with Attached Fauna

28° 19.300' N, 79° 45.102' 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)

Ross and Quattrini (2007, 2009)

Ross et al. (2012)

### BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

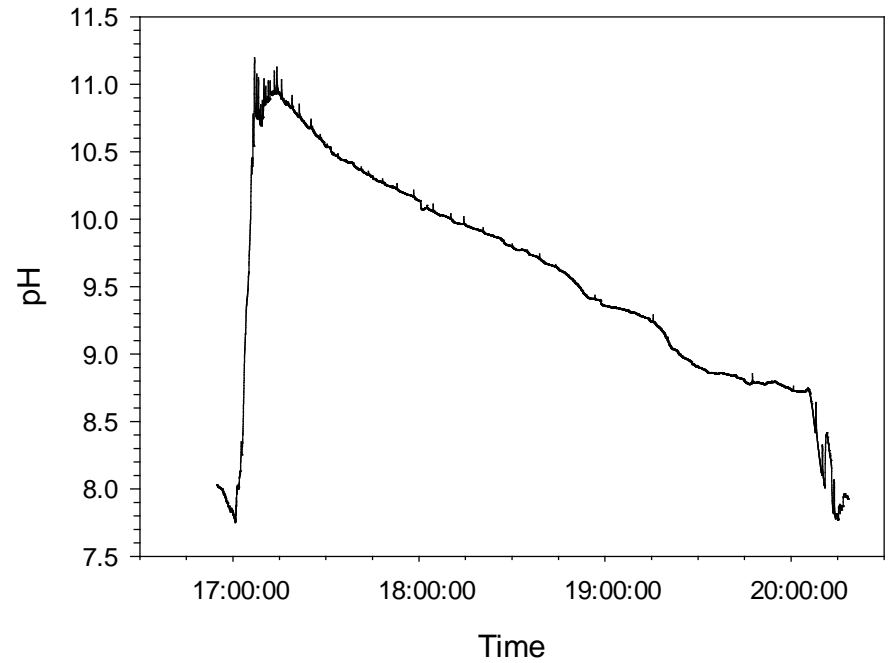
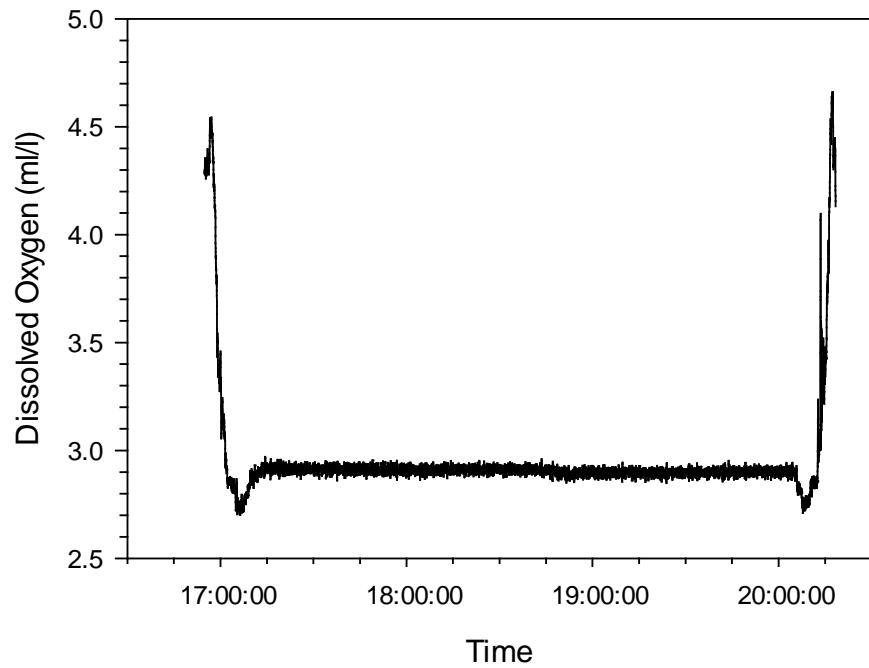
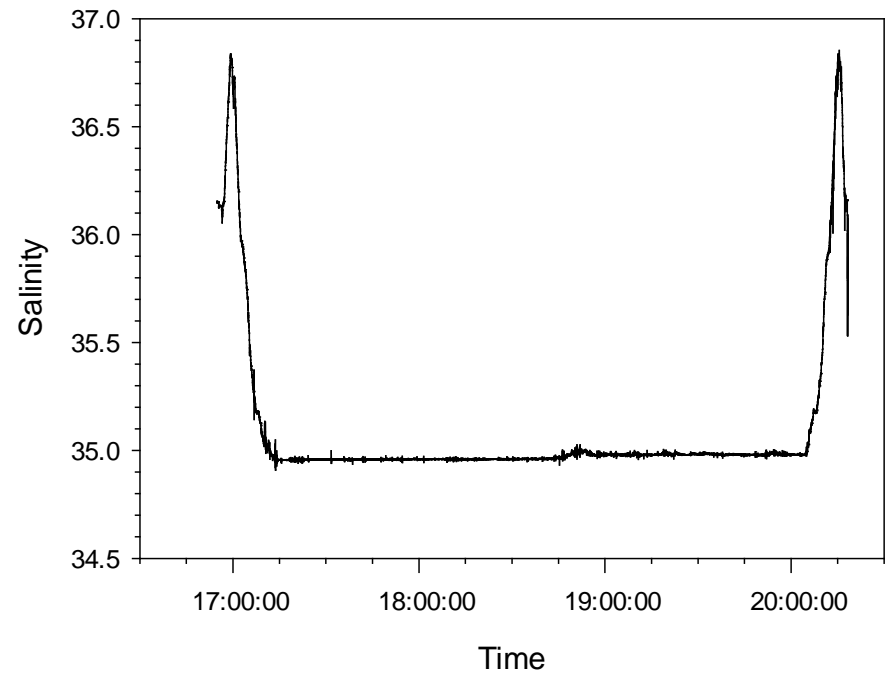
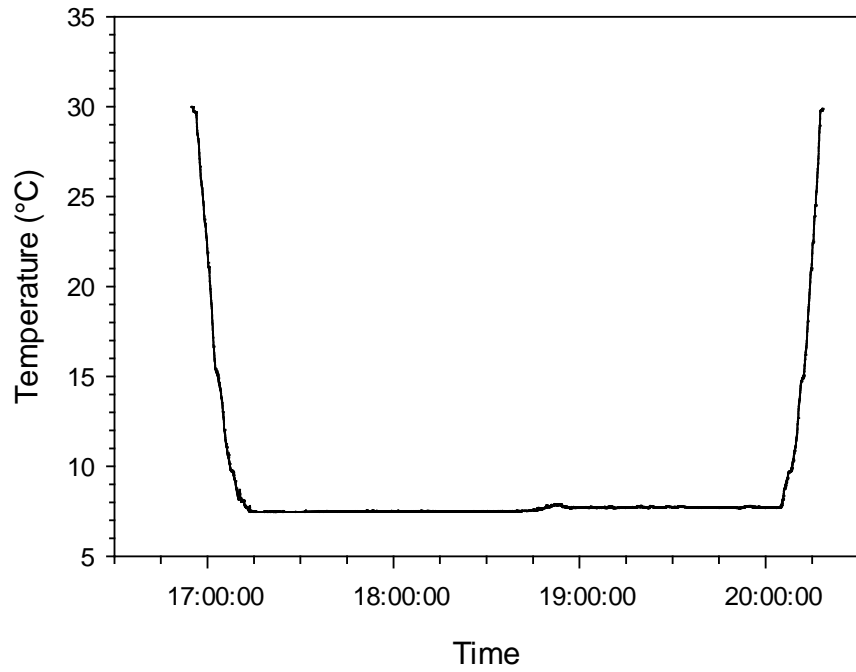
This dive traversed the central and largest *Lophelia pertusa* bioherm of the coral bioherms of "Triceratops" off Cape Canaveral. The bioherm was comprised of dense, high relief live *L. pertusa* on a dead coral matrix. The hard coral rubble and matrix habitats supported abundant attached fauna such as cup corals, anemones, gorgonians (e.g. *Plumarella* sp.), hydroids, a diversity of hexactinellid sponges (e.g. *Aphrocallistes* sp. and *Hertwigia* sp.), and patches of the hard coral *Madrepora oculata*. Mobile fauna included echinoid and cidaroid urchins, a seastar, crinoids, golden and galatheid crabs, blackbelly rosefish, rattail fish, coral hakes, and catsharks.

### PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

This dive began south of the central *L. pertusa* bioherm, requiring a northerly traverse over soft sediment, then coral rubble. At the base of the bioherm the slope increased and was dominated by hard coral habitat with and without abundant attached fauna. The bioherm consisted of a series of high relief coral ridges separated by narrow valleys of low relief coral patches interspersed with soft sediment. Almost the entire pinnacle consisted of hard coral habitat with attached fauna, and was comprised of high relief, 10-90% live *L. pertusa* on a dead coral matrix.

### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Original dives are on mini DVs that were transferred to digital and stored on an external hard drive. Video quality was clear with only brief sections of unusable footage. Suction samples and punch cores for sediment were taken at the base of corals along with collections of live and dead *L. pertusa*, *M. oculata*, *Plumarella* sp., galatheid crabs, a golden crab, a cidaroid urchin, and a seastar. Also, a baited trap was briefly deployed and nothing was caught before it was retrieved.



Plots of CTD data recorded during submersible dive JSL-2009-Atl-3708 (10 Aug 2009) off Cape Canaveral, FL.