

## **Clelia 608**

Pilot: Don Liberature

Obs 1: John Reed

Obs 2: McDonough

Date: 08/31/01

Visibility: 10-20'

Depth range: 190-270'

Time: 10:35-13:23

## **Eau Gallie 608**

**Objectives:** Exploration-ground Truthing, Fish assessment-transects, Sampling

**General Habitat:** Eau Gallie consists of large rolling dunes/hills of dead coral rubble. Only a very few isolated live *Oculina* clumps (low relief) were present. Closer to the tops of the slopes more large (1-3') intact dead coral mounds were seen. Some of these mounds had small pieces of live coral possibly on the tips. Sand/shell/dead coral hash was seen at base of many slopes.

- Three transects were completed early in the dive. Then the sub motored around/exploratory.
- **Transect I** (10:54-11:01)-  
Habitat- scattered 1-3' dead in-tack *Oculina* colonies, dense rubble, one 10' across dead in-tack mound
- **Transect II** (11:35-11:44)  
Habitat- dense dead *Oculina* rubble
- **Transect III** (11:59-12:07)  
Habitat- South face of slope/ 45 degree slope; 3-5' diameter dead in-tact *Oculina* colonies; more structure the closer to the top of slope (depth 238'); one live isolated 2' *Oculina* mound/low relief
- **From 12:07-12:50 sub motored around** over a series of coral rubble hills; an occasional 1-2' outcrop; came upon one large 3' high, 8' across mound of rock or condensed *Oculina* at top of a 3 m ridge

## **Invertebrates:**

- Diadematidae (black long spine urchins) and pencil urchins highly abundant- 100+; seen all throughout dive
- Tube anemones (Cerianthids) also abundant; about 1 anemone every 10ft
- About 3 Ophiuroidea ( brittle stars) spotted
- 2 Anomura (hermit crabs)
- 1 large spider crab (*Rochinia* sp?)
- 1 Asteroidea (sea star)
- 3-5 Sponges (1 encrusting)

## **Human Impacts:**

- fishing line on coral seen by sub

**Fish:**

- Fish species aggregated the most around the intact coral while they were very spread out over the rubble during the transects
- Overall fish diversity seemed low

**Commercially Important Species**

- **From 12:07-12:50 the sub motored around** over a series of coral rubble hills; an occasional-2' outcrop; came upon one large 3' high, 8' across mound of rock or condensed *Oculina* at top of a 3 m ridge  
\* During this time **one *Mycteroperca microlepis*** was observed

**Other Species Observed**

	Acanthurus sp.		Equetus lanceolatus		Paralichthys sp.
	Anthiinae		Equetus sp.		Plectranthias garrupellus
	Apogon sp		Equetus umbrosus		Plectrypops retrospinus
	Bodianus pulchellus		Equetus iwamotoi		Pomacetrus sp.
	Centropristis ocyurus		Gymnothorax moringa		Priacanthus arenatus
	Centropristis striata	F	Halichores bathyphilus		Pristigenys alta
	Centropristis fuscula	F	Halichores sp		Rypticus maculatus
M	Chaetodon aya	M	Hemanthias vivanus		Scorpaena
	Chaetodon ocellatus		Holacanthus bermudensis	F	Serranus annularis
F	Chaetodon sedentarias		Holacanthus ciliaris	M	Serranus phoebe
F	Chaetodon sp.	A	Holanthias martinicensis	A	Seriola dumerili
	Chromis cyanea	S	Holocentrus adscensionis	F	Seriola rivoliana
M	Chromis enchrysurus		Holocentrus sp.	F	Synodus sp
	Chromis scotti		Labridae		Callionymidae
	Decodon puellaris		Liopropoma eukrines		Canthigaster urosticta
	Diplectrum formosum		Ogcocephalus sp.		Canthigaster sp

**Good shots**

1. 3 chip-1  
00:43:33 tape time 12:11RT  
Top of large hill/ dead coral rubble with some intact dead coral colonies  
Rough Tongue Bass, Yellowtail Reefish, Orangeback Bass  
608-1.mpg  
608-1.jpg
2. 3chip-1  
00:39:08 tape time 12:03 RT  
small isolated live Oculina head  
608-2.mpg  
608-2.jpg
3. 3chip-1  
00:59:10  
large 3' high, 8' across rock mound on 3m ridge  
Rough Tongue Bass-about 15 associated with it  
608-3.mpg  
608-3.jpg