DIVE NUMBER: JSLI-4697

STUDY AREA: Cape Fear Lophelia

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STATION OVERVIEW			
Project	Life on the Edge 2004		
Principal investigators	SW Ross ¹		
	KJ Sulak, MS Nizinski, E Baird		
PI Contact Info ¹	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 educational outreach		
Vessel	R/V Seward Johnson, Johnson Sea Link I Submersible		
Science Divers	SW Ross (bow), AM Quattrini (stern)		
External Video Tapes	2 mini DVs		
Internal Video Tapes	3 mini DVs		
Digital Still Photos	0		
Positioning System	dGPS		
CTD File			
Specimens Collected			
Other	No stern audio log		
Acknowledgements	NOAA-OE, NOAA Fisheries, USGS, UNCW, NC Museum of Natural Sciences		
SEADESC Analyst	AM Necaise, ML Partyka		
Date Compiled	11/16/2006		







DIVE DATA

Date	17-Jun-04
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	394
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	411
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	16:42
End Bottom End (EDT)	18:24
Starting Latitude (N)	33° 34.570'
Starting Longitude (W)	76° 27.835'
Ending Latitude (N)	33° 34.589'
Ending Longitude (W)	76° 27.773'
Surface Current (Kts)	
Bottom Current (Kts)	0.7

Image A: Hard Coral 33° 34.560' N, 76° 27.798' W



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IMAGE GALLERY

Image B: Hard Coral 33° 34.554' N, 76° 27.792' W * indicates image position is approximated

Image C: Hard Coral 33° 34.560' N, 76° 27.798' W Image D: Hard Coral 33º 33.566' N, 76º 27.786' W



RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED EEZ-SCAN 87 Scientific Staff (1991) Reed and Ross (2005) Ross and Nizinski (in press)

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

Brittle stars, *Echinus* spp., *Eumunida picta*, anemones, and hexactinellid sponges were abundant invertebrates observed in this *Lophelia pertusa* habitat. Fishes were uncommon; however, *Polyprion americanus* was most abundant. Other fishes observed included scorpaenids, *Laemonema barbatulum*, and *Chaunax stigmaeus*.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The habitat observed during this dive was very similar to dive JSLI-4696. Overall, the habitat was standing dense, dead hard coral (*Lophelia pertusa*) matrix, mixed with patches of coral rubble and coarse sand. Small standing twigs and bushes of live *Lophelia pertusa* were also observed. Attached fauna were common and included small, pink anemones, fly trap anemones, and hexactinellid sponges. A strong current was apparent during this dive.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

This dive was captured on 2 mini DVs and saved to 2 DVDs for archiving. At times, transects were underlit, there were long stretches of closely zoomed data, and there was interference from the video feed. The sub also frequently left the bottom, making habitat classifications difficult.