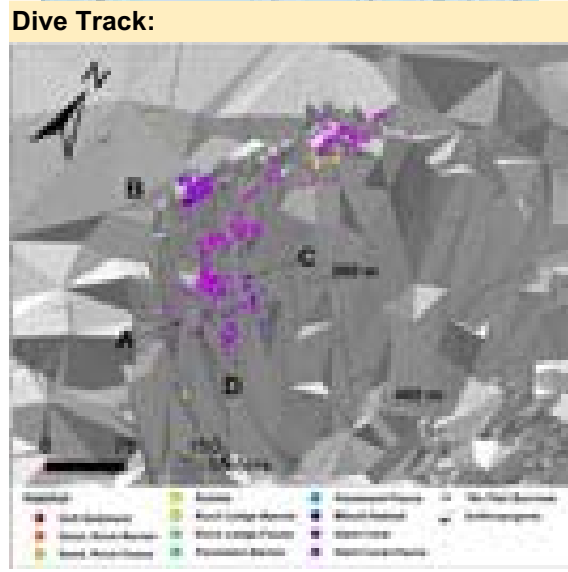
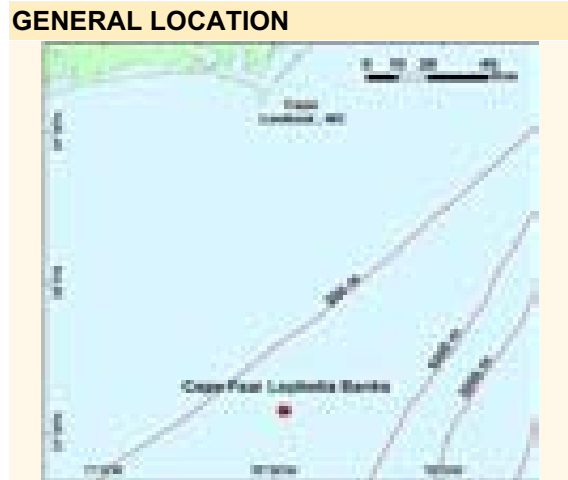


DIVE NUMBER: JSLII-3425

STUDY AREA: Cape Fear Lophelia

STATION OVERVIEW	
Project	Life on the Edge 2003
Principal investigators	SW Ross ¹ KJ Sulak, MS Nizinski, E Baird
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 educational outreach
Vessel	R/V Seward Johnson, Johnson Sea Link II Submersible
Science Divers	M Nizinski (bow), J Berg (stern)
External Video Tapes	3 mini DVs
Internal Video Tapes	1 mini DV
Digital Still Photos	0
Positioning System	dGPS
CTD File	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Specimens Collected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	Hard copies of bow and stern audio logs
Acknowledgements	NOAA-OE, NOAA Fisheries, USGS, UNCW, NC Museum of Natural Sciences
SEADESC Analyst	AM Quattrini, ML Partyka
Date Compiled	11/16/2006



DIVE DATA

Date	21-Aug-03
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	369
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	394
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	8:21
End Bottom End (EDT)	10:47
Starting Latitude (N)	33° 34.380'
Starting Longitude (W)	76° 27.930'
Ending Latitude (N)	33° 34.465'
Ending Longitude (W)	76° 27.866'
Surface Current (Kts)	
Bottom Current (Kts)	0.5

Image A: Hard Coral
33° 34.314' N, 76° 27.900' W



DIVE NUMBER: JSLII-3425

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IMAGE GALLERY

* indicates image position is approximated

Image B: Hard Coral-Fauna
33° 34.374' N, 76° 27.924' W

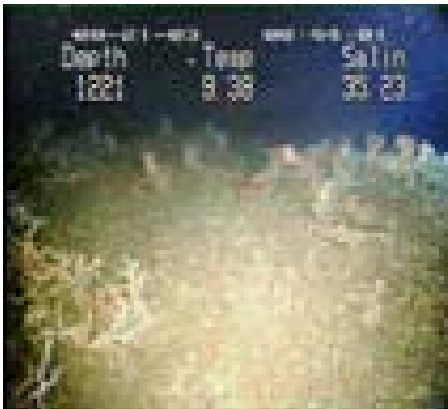
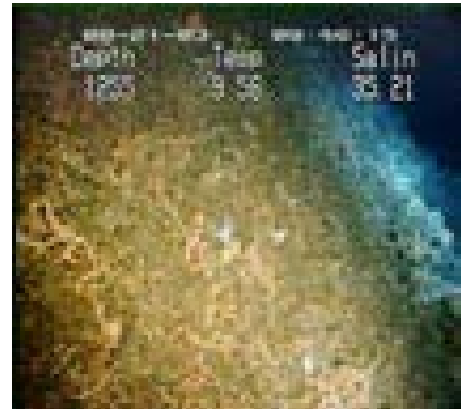


Image C: Hard Coral-Fauna
33° 34.350' N, 76° 27.882' W



Image D: Hard Coral
33° 34.314' N, 76° 27.888' W



RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED

EEZ-SCAN 87 Scientific Staff (1991)
Reed and Ross (2005)
Ross and Nizinski (in press)

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

A number of fish species were observed during this dive; the most common were *Polyprion americanus*, *Maurollicus weitzmani* and *Beryx decadactylus*. *Laemonema barbatulum*, *L. melanurum* and *Pontinus rathbuni* were also observed in low numbers. Mobile invertebrates were common throughout the dive. Brittle stars, pencil urchins, orange and flytrap anemones, and *Eumunida picta* were the most common. *Rochinia crassa*, basket stars and crinoids were also seen in moderate numbers in addition to a single, small octopus. *Lophelia pertusa* was the only hard coral observed in the area.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The dive followed a series of steep slopes (~50°) covered in dense *Lophelia* and also crossed flat plateaus dominated by low-relief rubble. The hard coral habitats in this area generally varied between dense dead coral rubble matrices, to moderate-relief *Lophelia* bushes without attached fauna, to higher relief *Lophelia* bushes covered in dense anemone colonies. Many of the *Lophelia* growths formed intricate thickets of branching coral with large interstices.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

This dive was recorded on 3 mini DVs and archived on 3 DVDs. Condensation on the inner lens of the camera blurred the center of the view. Frequent overlighting of close footage, underlighting of wide-angle views, moderate amounts of marine snow and periodic static interference in the feed interfered with the quality of this video. There is, however, good footage of several different wreckfish, *Polyprion americanus*.