
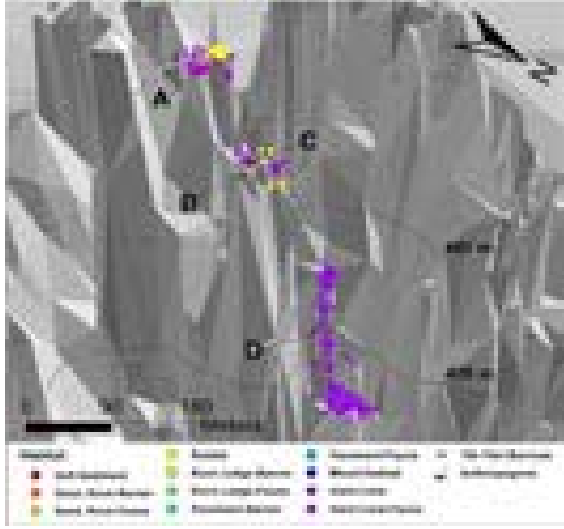


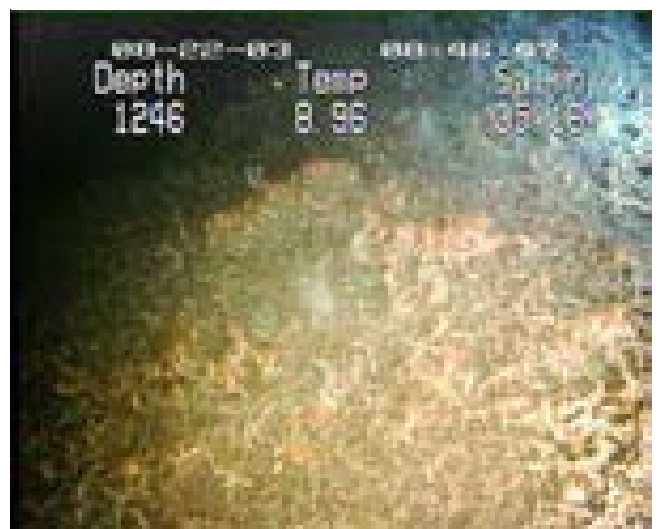
DIVE NUMBER: JSLII-3427**STUDY AREA: Cape Fear Lophelia**

STATION OVERVIEW		GENERAL LOCATION
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	KJ Sulak (bow), D Angell (stern)	
External Video Tapes	3 mini DVs	
Internal Video Tapes	1 mini DVs	
Digital Still Photos	0	
Positioning System	dGPS	
CTD File	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dive Track: 
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	22-Aug-03
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	380
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	431
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	8:33
End Bottom End (EDT)	10:51
Starting Latitude (N)	33° 34.280'
Starting Longitude (W)	76° 27.750'
Ending Latitude (N)	33° 34.477'
Ending Longitude (W)	76° 27.697'
Surface Current (Kts)	
Bottom Current (Kts)	0.9

Image A: Hard Coral-Fauna
33° 34.308' N, 76° 27.744' W

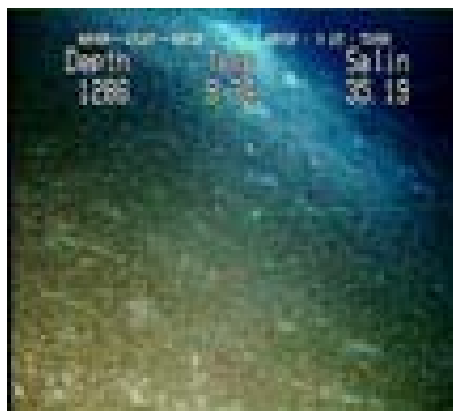


DIVE NUMBER: JSLII-3427**STUDY AREA: Cape Fear Lophelia****IMAGE GALLERY**

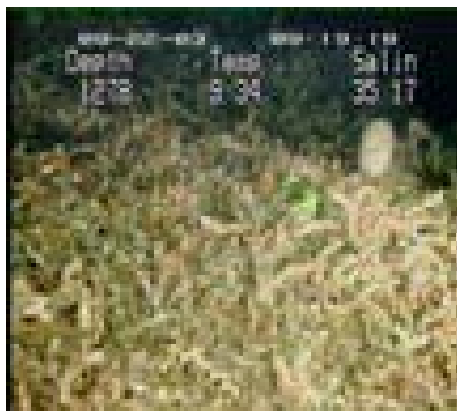
* indicates image position is approximated

Image B: Rubble

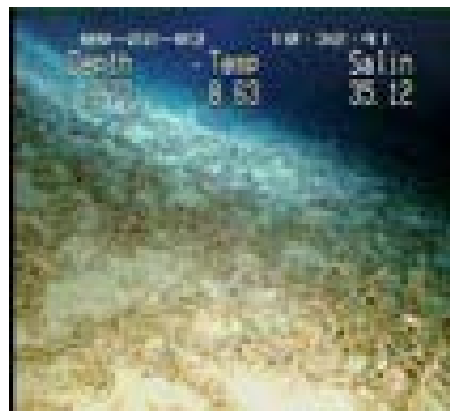
33° 34.362' N, 76° 27.714' W

**Image C: Hard Coral**

33° 34.368' N, 76° 27.708' W

**Image D: Hard Coral**

33° 34.440' N, 76° 27.690' W

**RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED**

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

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

The most abundant species observed during this dive was *Maurolicus weitzmani*, owing to a school of several hundred encountered half-way through the dive. Other common, though more dispersed species, were *Hoplostethus* and *Laemonema barbatulum*. Several other species were represented by only one or two individuals, such as *Helicolenus dactylopterus*, *Scyliorhinus retifer*, and *Polyipnus clarus*. Brittle stars were the most abundant mobile invertebrates observed during the dive. *Eumunida picta*, pencil urchins and spiny urchins were also observed, though in lower numbers. Though this dive took place over predominantly hard coral habitat, there was very little live *Lophelia* present (<10%). Numerous orange anemones covered the coral at the beginning of the dive (Images A & B), but were largely absent during the remainder of the dive.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

This dive took place over the top of this large feature, alternating between steep (~45°) slopes and flat plains. Most of the hard coral habitat in the area was low-to-moderate-relief with little living *Lophelia* (5-10%) and often consisting of dense dead coral matrices rather than bushes. The coral rubble in the rubble habitat had less structure than the dead coral matrices.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

This dive was recorded on 2 mini DVs and archived on 2 DVDs. Most of the footage was of habitat and fishes filmed in close up while the sub was stationary. At times, the view was out of focus, too dark, or blurred from condensation on the inner camera lens.