

DIVE NUMBER: JSLII-3463

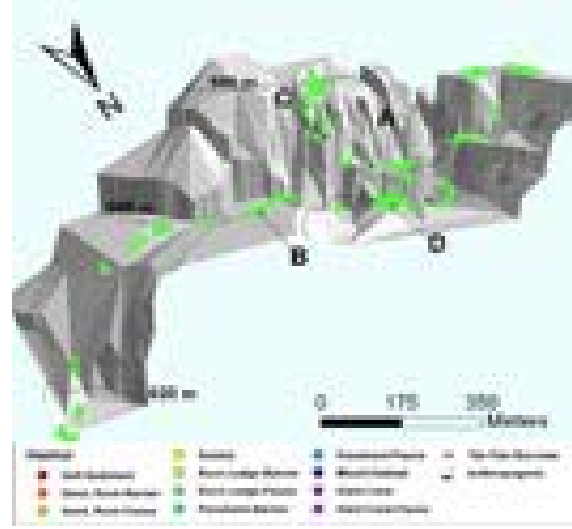
STUDY AREA: Barrelfish Cliff

STATION OVERVIEW	
Project	Estuary to the Abyss 2004
Principal investigators	GR Sedberry ¹
PI Contact Info ¹	Marine Resources Research Institute, SCDNR P.O. Box 12559 Charleston SC 29422-2559
Purpose	To map, explore and describe habitats along portions of an offshore transect, while characterizing changes in biota relative to distance from shore.
Vessel	R/V Seward Johnson 2, Johnson Sea Link II Submersible
Science Divers	JD Dubick (bow), K Filer (stern)
External Video Tapes	3 mini DVs
Internal Video Tapes	
Digital Still Photos	
Positioning System	dGPS
CTD File	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Specimens Collected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	Collected sponges, seastars.
Acknowledgements	NOAA-OE
SEADESC Analyst	ML Partyka
Date Compiled	11/16/2006

GENERAL LOCATION



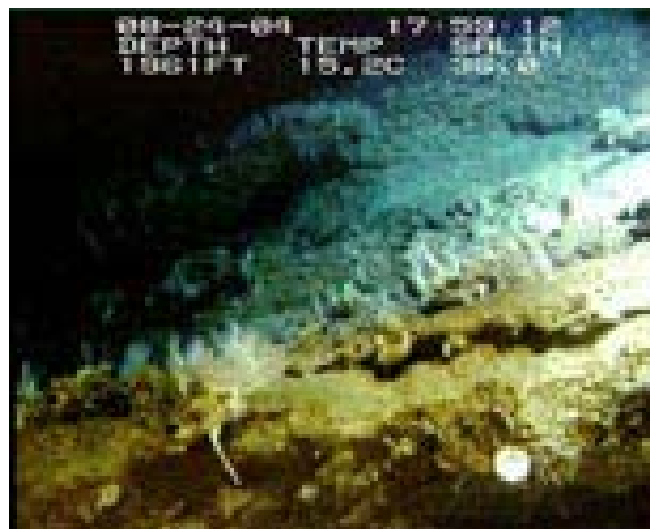
Dive Track:



DIVE DATA

Date	24-Aug-04
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	550
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	623
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	16:53
End Bottom End (EDT)	19:13
Starting Latitude (N)	31° 23.226'
Starting Longitude (W)	78° 35.780'
Ending Latitude (N)	31° 23.130'
Ending Longitude (W)	78° 36.382'
Surface Current (Kts)	
Bottom Current (Kts)	0.5

Image A: Rock Ledge-Fauna
31° 23.142' N, 78° 36.156' W



DIVE NUMBER: JSLII-3463**STUDY AREA: Barrelfish Cliff****IMAGE GALLERY**

* indicates image position is approximated

Image B: Rock Ledge-Fauna
31° 23.166' N, 78° 35.994' W**Image C: Rock Ledge-Fauna**
31° 23.148' N, 78° 36.096' W**Image D: Rock Ledge-Fauna**
31° 23.148' N, 78° 36.162' W**RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED****BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT**

Few fishes were observed during this dive, the majority of which were encountered during the second half of the dive. *Beryx decadactylus* were the most common, followed by *Polyprion americanus* and *Chaunax* spp. A single species of sea star was the only mobile marine invertebrate captured on this video. The sessile invertebrate community, however, was both diverse and densely populated. The most common macrofauna were cup-shaped sponges, fan-shaped sponges, *Stylaster* and numerous hydrozoans.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

This dive took place along an extensive, high-relief, rocky scarp. The surface of the scarp varied from moderately sloped (~40°) jagged exposures of rock to sheer-faced walls with few overhangs to enormous slabs of rock with deep caverns and large overhangs. The entire area was covered by a dense cover of attached macrofauna that varied little in composition throughout the course of the dive. Dense piles of coralline rubble and coarse sands were present at the base of some ledges while other areas appeared to be scoured clean.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

This dive was recorded on 3 mini DVs. The footage for this dive was of fair-to-mediocre quality owing to the fact that there was dried material on the inner camera lens, frequent video interference and static and the camera was often left out of focus during the long transects. However, the video was adequate to view and classify the available habitat throughout the dive. Sponges and seastars were collected.