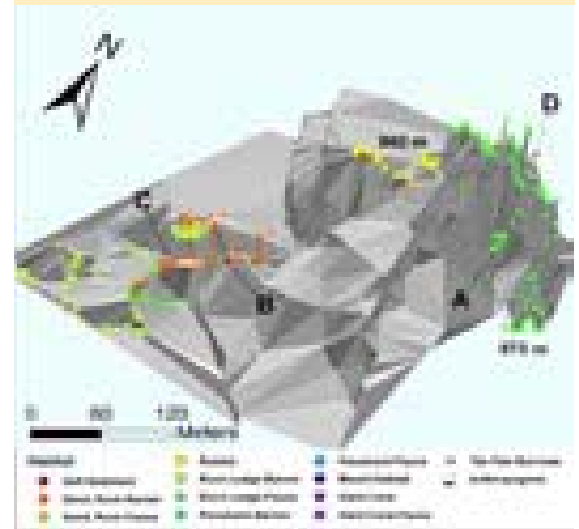


DIVE NUMBER: JSLII-3470**STUDY AREA: Cutthroat Cliff****STATION OVERVIEW**

Project	Estuary to the Abyss 2004
Principal investigators	GR Sedberry ¹
PI Contact Info¹	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	GR Sedberry (bow), R King (stern)
External Video Tapes	2 mini DVs
Internal Video Tapes	
Digital Still Photos	
Positioning System	dGPS
CTD File	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Specimens Collected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	
Acknowledgements	NOAA-OE
SEADESC Analyst	ML Partyka
Date Compiled	11/16/2006

GENERAL LOCATION**Dive Track:****DIVE DATA**

Date	30-Aug-04
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	857
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	874
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	8:38
End Bottom End (EDT)	10:29
Starting Latitude (N)	30° 17.052'
Starting Longitude (W)	79° 20.255'
Ending Latitude (N)	30° 17.124'
Ending Longitude (W)	79° 20.154'
Surface Current (Kts)	
Bottom Current (Kts)	0.2

Image A: Rock Ledge-Fauna
30° 17.106' N, 79° 20.148' W



DIVE NUMBER: JSLII-3470**STUDY AREA: Cutthroat Cliff****IMAGE GALLERY**

* indicates image position is approximated

Image B: Sand/Rubble/Rock-Barren
30° 17.034' N, 79° 20.226' W**Image C: Rock Ledge-Fauna**
30° 17.142' N, 79° 20.154' W**Image D: Rock Ledge-Barren**
30° 17.154' N, 79° 20.160' W**RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED**

Harasewych and Sedberry (2006)

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

Few species of fishes or mobile invertebrates were observed during the course of this dive. The eel *Synaphobranchus affinis* was common and seen regularly throughout the course of this dive. Other species such as *Laemonema barbatulum* and an unidentified cusk eel were only seen occasionally. Pancake urchins were the most common mobile marine invertebrates observed in the area, although one rocky outcrop was covered in small gastropods. The macrofaunal community was relatively depauperate during most of the dive with a few species of sponge and small stands of *Enallopsammia* coral. The rock ledge habitat at the end of the dive had a more diverse population of attached fauna including large *Keratoisis* bamboo corals, *Parantipathes* and *Bathypathes* black corals, stalked crinoids and various sponges.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

This dive began in a sand/rubble/rock habitat with very little slope and/or relief with some large rocks. This habitat gave way to an expanded area of exposed rock substrate with and without attached macrofauna. Though the rock surface was jagged and of moderate-relief, there were very few actual rock ledges. There was also a large flat plain covered in dense coral and stone rubble mixed with fine sediments. The dive concluded at the edge of a steep slope (~45°) covered in soft sediment with areas of exposed bedrock jutting out as ledges. The attached macrofauna of this habitat was dominated by large *Keratoisis* bamboo corals and small growths of *Enallopsammia* hard corals.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

This dive was recorded on 2 mini DVs. There was condensation on the inner lens of the camera and the video feed was very grainy. The lighting and focus, however, were adequate for both habitat and species identifications. Sand, a sponge, snails, coral, a crinoid and fishes were collected.