

# Activity Summary

CrsID

LifeEdge2005

CrsProjID

OE\_2005\_083

## Cape Fear Banks

10/20/2005

*Continental Slope Coral Banks of the Southeastern United States:  
Exploring the distributions. e*

### Overview of Human Occupied Vehicle Dive JSL1-2005-4896 (LifeEdge2005\_ACT0049) at Cape Fear Banks

Activity Vitals			Participants		Overall Dive Site Ratings	
<b>Dates/Times/Depth</b>	<b>Bndg Coordinates</b>	<b>System(s)</b>	Cheryl Morrison, Forward Observer		1 = low; 10 = high	
<b>Start</b> 10/20/2005 8:00:00	<b>North</b> 33.5662	Johnson-Sea-Link I	Tim Birdsong, Aft Observer		Uniqueness	<b>8</b>
<b>End</b> 10/20/2005 11:10:00	<b>South</b> 33.5711	Suction Sampler			Health	<b>7</b>
<b>Time zone</b> EDT <b>UTC</b> -04	<b>East</b> -76.4628	<b>Data Collected</b>			Disturbance	<b>1</b>
<b>MaxDepth (m):</b> -436.5	<b>West</b> -76.4692	Samples			Biodiversity	<b>8</b>
		Multimedia			Relief Variation (meters):	<b>70</b>
		Data				

### Objectives

Explore a large mound located at the Cape Fear Banks deep coral site; conduct video transects to characterize bottom habitats; collect coral specimens for genetic studies; collect fishes and other organisms for deep coral food web studies.

### Dive Track Description

Dive track began at the base of a coral mound. Moved up-slope towards the top. The majority of the coral was dead (rubble) with about 10-15% live lophelia at the base, and increasing live lophelia up-slope. Towards the top of the slope, we came across dead Lophelia covered with orange anemones. There were more octocorals here than we saw further north. We followed the ridge down to a swall and back up. We moved across a deeper sand area with little Lophelia rubble and moved up a steeper vertical slope. Top of this mound was more rugged with higher coverage of live coral.

Living Habitat Structure		Sediments		Geomorphology		Anthropogenics
Type	% Cover	Type	% Cover	Type	% Cover	Type/Description
Sponges	5	Medium Sand (.25mm -	10	mounds	20	Other
Stony Corals	20	Coral Rubble	90	ridges	20	1 Brick
Octocorals	5			walls	50	
Dead Coral w/ encrusting	70			sand	10	

### Living Marine Resources Abundance

None (0) Single (1) Few (2-10) Many (11-100) Abundant (>100)

<b>Pelagic Fish</b>	Few	<b>Other Benthic</b>	none
<b>Bottom Fish</b>	Many		Nothing recorded.
<b>Crustacean</b>	Many		
<b>Mollusk</b>	Few		
<b>Echinoderm</b>	Many		

#### Observations and Comments on Living Marine Resources:

No other comments.

#### Unique or Rare Invertebrates      Unique or Rare Vertebrates

Orange Zoanths that carpet dead coral and orange anemones.      Nothing recorded.

### Fish Observation and Abundance

None (0) Single (1) Few (2-10) Many (11-100) Abundant (>100)

Wreckfish-single, Manta Ray-single, Nezumia-few, Coral hake-few, Conger eel-few, Beryx-few

### Other Comments/Notes

NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration



Generated on 2/21/2006