

# Activity Summary

CrsID

LifeEdge2005

CrsProjID

OE\_2005\_083

## Stetson Banks

10/21/2005

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

### Overview of Human Occupied Vehicle Dive JSL1-2005-4898 (LifeEdge2005\_ACT0058) at Stetson Banks

| Activity Vitals                     |                         |                               | Participants                     |  | Overall Dive Site Ratings  |           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Dates/Times/Depth</b>            | <b>Bndg Coordinates</b> | <b>System(s)</b>              | Murray Roberts, Forward Observer |  | 1 = low; 10 = high         |           |
| <b>Start</b> 10/21/2005 8:02:00     | <b>North</b> 32.2559    | Johnson-Sea-Link I            | Cheryl Morrison, Aft Observer    |  | Uniqueness                 |           |
| <b>End</b> 10/21/2005 11:02:00      | <b>South</b> 32.2696    | Suction Sampler               |                                  |  | Health                     |           |
| <b>Time zone</b> EDT <b>UTC</b> -04 | <b>East</b> -77.4653    | <b>Data Collected</b>         |                                  |  | Disturbance                |           |
| <b>MaxDepth (m):</b> -648.3         | <b>West</b> -77.4804    | Samples<br>Multimedia<br>Data |                                  |  | Biodiversity               |           |
|                                     |                         |                               |                                  |  | Relief Variation (meters): | <b>70</b> |

### Objectives

Complete visual habitat survey of bathymetric highs thought to be coral mounds; Collect live coral samples for genetic study; Collect other coral species, crustaceans, and unusual megafauna.

### Dive Track Description

The dive began on a slope dominated by Lophelia coral framework and rubble with an abundance of live Lophelia. We proceeded towards the target waypoint travelling up the slope. As we approached the summit, coral cover appeared to increase and the largest colonies were seen at the summit. Lophelia, gorgonian, and crustacean samples were collected at intervals of approximately 100 yards. Crustaceans were more abundant towards the summit of mound.

#### Living Habitat Structure

| Type                | % Cover |
|---------------------|---------|
| Stony Corals        |         |
| Octocorals          |         |
| Sponge/Octocorals   | 2%      |
| Hydroids, bryozoans |         |

#### Sediments

| Type              | % Cover |
|-------------------|---------|
| Nothing recorded. |         |

#### Geomorphology

| Type            | % Cover |
|-----------------|---------|
| mounds          |         |
| pinnacles       |         |
| ridges          |         |
| sand            |         |
| coral rubble    |         |
| coral framework |         |

#### Anthropogenics

| Type/Description  |
|-------------------|
| Nothing recorded. |

### 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>  | Few  | Nothing recorded.    |      |
| <b>Crustacean</b>   | Many |                      |      |
| <b>Mollusk</b>      | Few  |                      |      |
| <b>Echinoderm</b>   | Many |                      |      |

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

No other comments.

|                                     |                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Unique or Rare Invertebrates</b> | <b>Unique or Rare Vertebrates</b> |
| Nothing recorded.                   | Nothing recorded.                 |

### Fish Observation and Abundance

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

Nothing recorded.

### Other Comments/Notes

NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration



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