

Activity Summary

CrsID

LifeEdge2005

CrsProjID

OE_2005_083

Savannah Lithoherms

10/26/2005

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

Overview of Human Occupied Vehicle Dive JSL1-2005-4902 (LifeEdge2005_ACT0080) at Savannah

Activity Vitals

Dates/Times/Depth	Bndg Coordinates	System(s)
Start 10/26/2005 16:11:00	North 31.6981	Johnson-Sea-Link I Suction Sampler
End 10/26/2005 19:16:00	South 31.7087	
Time zone EDT UTC -04	East -79.1153	Data Collected Samples Multimedia Data
MaxDepth (m): -1780.0	West -79.1429	

Participants

Tara Casazza, Forward Observer
Melissa Partyka, Aft Observer

Overall Dive Site Ratings

1 = low; 10 = high	
Uniqueness	3
Health	10
Disturbance	1
Biodiversity	3
Relief Variation (meters):	4

Objectives

Explore an area suspected of supporting deep coral communities; collect coral specimens for genetic analyses; collect fishes and invertebrates for Conduct video transects and collect coral specimens, fishes and invertebrates for genetic and stable isotope analyses.

Dive Track Description

Dive started on a flat sandy bottom. Changed to sand and rubble mix (dead coral species). many small sponges and small soft corals present but widely spaced apart. A few larger black corals were observed at beginning of dive, but were not present on the target peak. A few small bushes of hard corals were also present throughout dive. We climbed a small slope (10-15 degrees) to reach our target peak. No large habitats were observed. Worked up and down target peak, making collections of hard corals, invertebrates, and fishes. Smaller sharks were the most abundant fish observed, but we were unable to collect any. There was one area (near the end of the dive) that was disturbed and we could see hard bottom under the sand/rubble mix.

Living Habitat Structure

Type	% Cover
Sponges	
Stony Corals	
Octocorals	
Bryozoans	
Hydroids, bryozoans	

Sediments

Type	% Cover
Medium Sand (.25mm -	
Fine Sand (.06mm -	
Coral Rubble	

Geomorphology

Type	% Cover
sand	
low-relief hard bottom	
coral rubble	

Anthropogenics

Type/Description
Anchor Damage
Disturbed area - Possible anchor
Garbage

Living Marine Resources Abundance

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

Pelagic Fish	Many	Other Benthic
Bottom Fish	Many	Nothing recorded.
Crustacean	Many	
Mollusk	Single	
Echinoderm	Few	

Observations and Comments on Living Marine Resources:

No other comments.

Unique or Rare Invertebrates	Unique or Rare Vertebrates
Octopus	Nothing recorded.

Fish Observation and Abundance

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

Small sharks-many, Nezumia-many, Scorpionfishes-few, Midwaterfishes-few, Eel-single

Other Comments/Notes

NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration



Generated on 2/21/2006