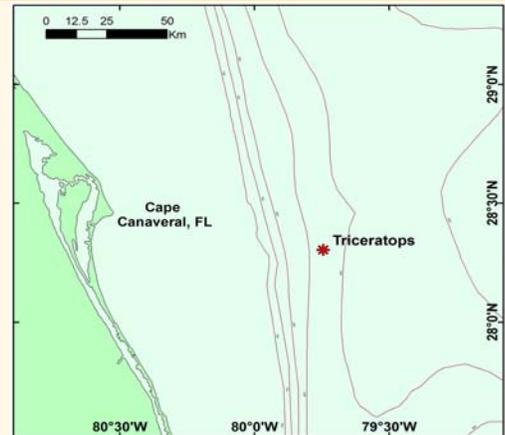
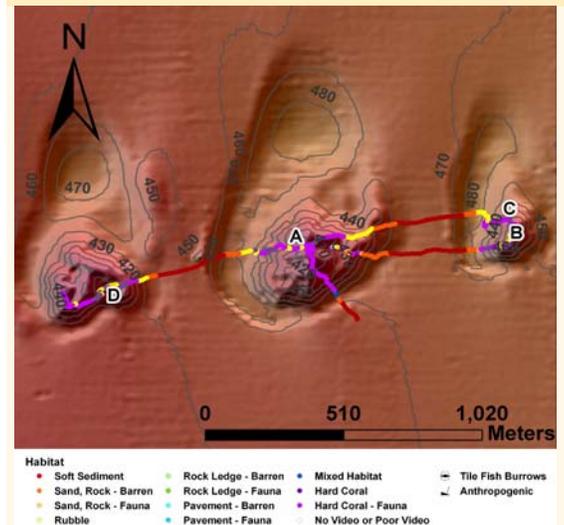


DIVE NUMBER: J2-550**STUDY AREA: Triceratops****STATION OVERVIEW**

Project	Extreme Corals 2010
Principal investigators	SW Ross ¹ , SD Brooke
PI Contact Info¹	Center for Marine Science, 5600 Marvin Moss Ln., Wilmington, NC 28409
Purpose	Mapping of deep coral banks, ecological studies of macroinvertebrates and fishes, paleoclimate studies, coral genetics and education outreach
Vessel	NOAA Ship Ronald H. Brown, Jason 2 ROV
Science Divers	S Brooke, S Ross, J Tomczuk
External Video Tapes	External Hard Drive
Internal Video Tapes	
Digital Still Photos	Yes
Positioning System	dGPS
CTD File	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Specimens Collected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	Hard copy of observation log. Virtual van logs.
Acknowledgements	NOAA- DSCRT, NOAA-OER, NOAA Fisheries, USGS, UNCW, NC Museum of Natural Sciences
SEADESC Analyst	A Zilg, M Wolf
Date Compiled	5/24/2011
PI Station Number	ROV-2010-RB-550

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

Date	22-Nov-10
Minimum Bottom Depth (m)	399
Maximum Bottom Depth (m)	480
Start Bottom Time (EDT)	9:24
End Bottom End (EDT)	19:37
Starting Latitude (N)	28° 19.177'
Starting Longitude (W)	79° 44.988'
Ending Latitude (N)	28° 19.232'
Ending Longitude (W)	79° 45.562'
Surface Current (Kts)	
Bottom Current (Kts)	

**Image A: Hard Corals -
with Attached Fauna**
28° 19.319' N, 79° 45.087' W



DIVE NUMBER: J2-550

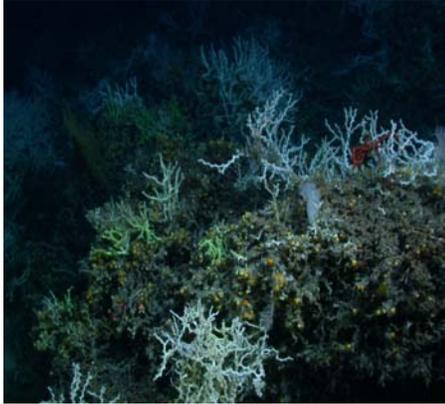
STUDY AREA: Triceratops

IMAGE GALLERY

* indicates image position is approximated

**Image B: Hard Corals -
with Attached Fauna**

28° 19.330' N, 79° 44.691' W



**Image C: Hard Corals -
with Attached Fauna**

28° 19.378' N, 79° 44.704' W



**Image D: Hard Corals -
with Attached Fauna**

28° 19.24' N, 79° 45.490' W



RELEVANT WORK AND/OR LITERATURE CITED

Ayers and Pilkey (1981)

EEZ-SCAN 87 Scientific Staff (1991)

Reed (2002)

Reed and Ross (2005)

Reed et al. (2006)

Ross and Nizinski (2007)

Ross and Quattrini (2007, 2009)

Ross et al. (unpubl. cruise data)

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

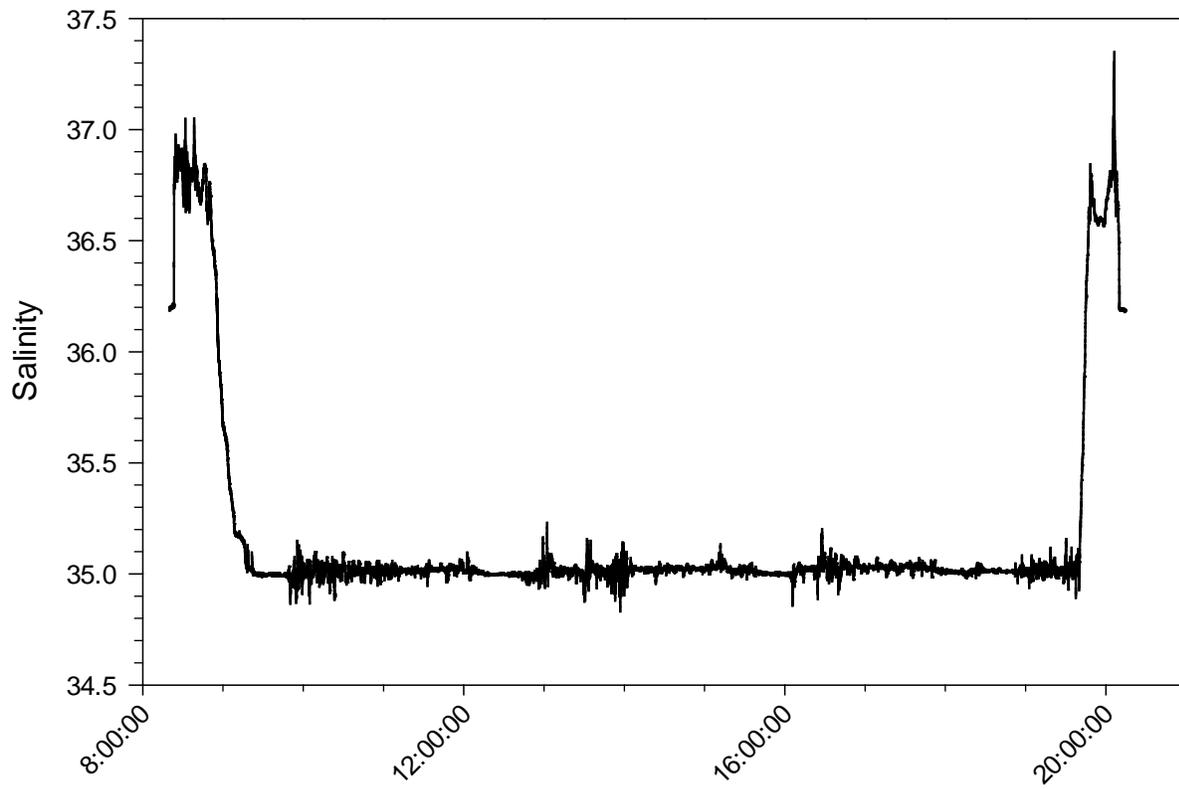
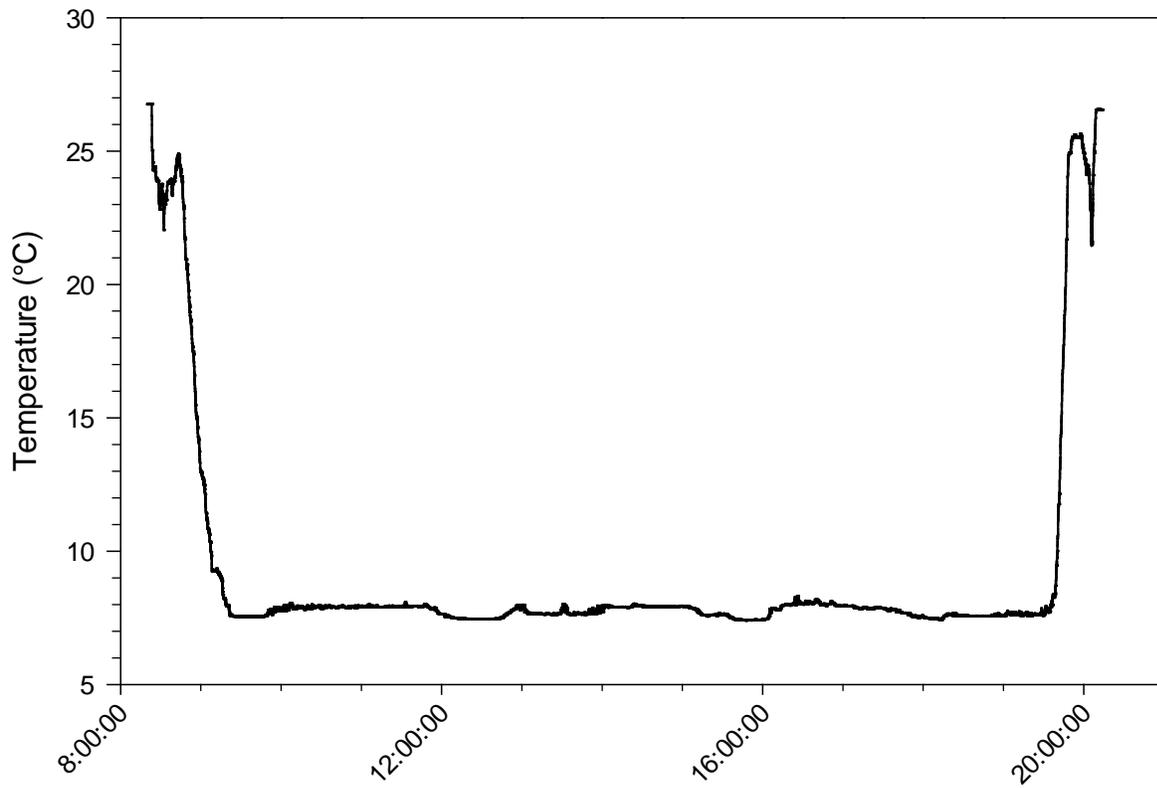
This dive traversed three coral mounds with dense live *Lophelia pertusa* and abundant fauna. The biological community was generally the same for each mound. The top of each mound was covered with a *L. pertusa* matrix with attached fauna on dead *L. pertusa*. Large colonies of *Madrepora oculata* were observed on the south slope of the east mound. *Enallopsammia profunda*, *Plumarella* sp., *Keratoisis* sp., and numerous cup corals were present on all three mounds. Glass sponges and anemones were abundant. Motile fauna were more abundant on the slopes of the mounds and included golden crabs, galatheid crabs, cancer crabs, cidaroid urchins, crinoids, and a few fishes.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

This site is characterized by three *L. pertusa* mounds, hence the name of "Triceratops" for these mounds, with flat, barren, soft substrate surrounding the mounds. The mounds have sections of gentle slope as well as areas of steep slope. The smallest mound lies to the east and the largest is in the middle. Around each mound lies rubble with attached fauna. Slopes and tops of mounds have dense live *L. pertusa* on a dead *L. pertusa* matrix. These areas have abundant attached fauna. Some sections of hard coral on the west slopes have noticeably less attached fauna.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Video is stored on a Mac-formatted external hard drive. Video time in GMT. Quality was extremely clear, with very few sections of unusable footage. Collections were taken of *L. pertusa*, *M. oculata*, *E. profunda*, cup corals, crinoids, and glass sponges.



Temperature and salinity plots from Jason dive J-550 (22 Nov 2010) off Cape Canaveral, FL.