

Activity Summary

CrsID

GOMEX2003

CrsProjID

PRJ0014

West Flower Garden Bank (Site 1a)

9/27/2003

Gulf of Mexico Deep Habitats

Overview of Remotely Operated Vehicle Dive Sonsub Dive 39 (GOMEX2003_ACT0071) at West Flower

| Activity Vitals | | | Participants | Overall Dive Site Ratings | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Dates/Times/Depth | Bndg Coordinates | System(s) | No participants recorded. | | 1 = low; 10 = high | |
| Start 9/27/2003 19:30:00 | North 27.8691 | Innovator | | | Uniqueness | 5 |
| End 9/27/2003 23:42:00 | South 27.8665 | | | | Health | 10 |
| Time zone CST UTC -06 | East -93.8637 | Data Collected | | | Disturbance | 1 |
| MaxDepth (m): 0.0 | West -93.8593 | Samples Multimedia Data | | | Biodiversity | 5 |
| | | | | | Relief Variation (meters): | 1 |

Objectives

Obtain sponge, invertebrate, and algae for identification and cataloging.

Dive Track Description

The dive started on silty substrate with scattered Madracis outcroppings moved into highly eroded drowned reef habitats - cirripantes, crinoids abundant. Moved up slope to algae nodule habitat (rhodoliths) providing habitat for red and green leafy algae. Sponges interspersed in algal nodule habitat. Worked across mound feature dominated by algal nodules.

Thirty-nine digital still photographs taken, 4 Mini-Dv tapes recorded, and 26 samples collected.

| Living Habitat Structure | | Sediments | | Geomorphology | | Anthropogenics |
|--------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|------------------------|---------|------------------|
| Type | % Cover | Type | % Cover | Type | % Cover | Type/Description |
| Stony Corals | 2 | other | 100 | drowned reefs | 5 | Discarded Gear |
| Octocorals | 1 | | | low-relief hard bottom | 75 | longline |
| Other | 1 | | | Other | 20 | |
| Other | 46 | | | | | |
| Algae | 50 | | | | | |

Living Marine Resources Abundance

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

| | | | |
|---------------------|------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Pelagic Fish | Many | Other Benthic | none |
| Bottom Fish | Many | | Nothing recorded. |
| Crustacean | None | | |
| Mollusk | Few | | |
| Echinoderm | None | | |

Observations and Comments on Living Marine Resources:

No other comments.

Unique or Rare Invertebrates **Unique or Rare Vertebrates**

Nothing recorded. Nothing recorded.

Fish Observation and Abundance

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

rougtongue bass-many, reef butterfly fish-single, threadnose bass-few, cherub fish-many, squirrel fish-single, grey triggerfish-single, scorpion fish-single, creole fish-many, scad-few, red snapper-few, barracuda-single, yellowtail reef fish-single, longsnout butterfly fish-few, green blotch parrotfish-single, cardinal fish-single

Other Comments/Notes

NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration



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