

Dive Summary

7/7/2001

Overview of Dive A09-163 at Tortugas Ecological

Francesca Cava piloted this dive at the site known as Tortugas Ecological Reserve (24.44567 / -83.12400) on 7/7/2001 starting at 18:09:00. Total dive time was 2:35:00 and the maximum depth reached was 412 feet. (All times EST)

Dive Objectives. Objectives accomplished during the dive include:

Site Characterization	Primary
Fish Assessment	Primary
Education/Outreach	Primary
Filming	Secondary

Data Collected. Types of data collected during the dive include:

Digital Video Tapes	1
Digital Video Tapes	1
Digital Video Tapes	1
Tracking	

Living Marine Resources Abundance

few 2-10; many 11 - 100; abundant >100

Pelagic Fish	Many	Other Benthic
Bottom Fish	Many	
Crustacean		
Mollusk		
Echinoderm		

Observations and Comments on Living Marine Resources:

General Comments

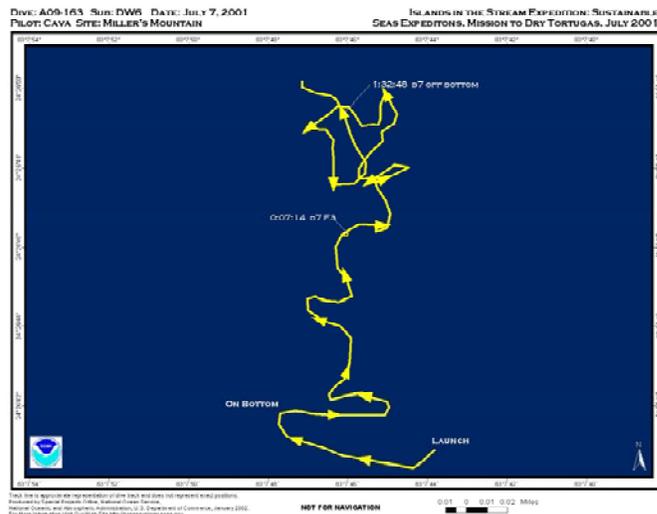
A fantastic dive. More than 30 amberjacks swirled around sub. Encountered and briefly filmed DeepWorker 6 sub. Suggest see Laddie Akin's data for compatible footage and link the two. Fish activity high; visibility limited due to currents and water particulates. Pre-sunset dive or dawn preferred time to dive for maximum results. More abundance and diversity at 275 ft vs. 400 feet



Prepared by :
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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Dive Track Description

Repeat station occupied from 2000, the ridge and wall face of Miller's mountain. The track was comprised of small coral heads and a complex array of corals on the wall face. Also found a big abandoned fish trap near a natural arched area at 275 feet. Wall face rose from 412 feet to a ridge at 275 feet. A arched shape rock formation seemed to attract fishes and provided an excellent area to film and to identify several species of fish. Relief of features observed during the dive ranged from to meters.



Observed Human Activities

Observed Human Impacts

Discarded Gear Large abandoned fish

Overall Dive Site Ratings

1 = low; 10 = high

Uniqueness	9
Health	9
Disturbance	2
Biodiversity	6

Observed Fish Abundance

few 2-10; many 11 - 100; abundant >100

Greater Amberjack	Many
Other Angelfish	Few
Other Damselfish	Few
Other Drums	Few
Other Grouper	Many
Other Wrasses	Few
Reef Butterfly	Few
Roughtongue Bass	Many
Scamp	Few
Short Bigeye	Many