



Okeanos Explorer ROV Dive Summary

Dive Information

General Location Map	
General Area Descriptor	U.S. Southeast, Currituck Landslide
Site Name	Currituck Base
Science Team Leads	Amy Wagner (CSUS) and Alexis Winnig (Temple)
Expedition Coordinator	Kasey Cantwell (NOAA-OER)
ROV Dive Supervisor	Chris Ritter (GFOE)
Mapping Lead	Shannon Hoy (NOAA-OER)

ROV Dive Name

Cruise	EX1903L2
Dive Number	DIVE15

Equipment Deployed

ROV	Deep Discoverer		
Camera Platform	Seirios		
ROV Measurements	✓CTD	✓Depth	✓Altitude
	✓Scanning Sonar	✓USBL Position	✓Heading
	✓Pitch	✓Roll	✓HD Camera 1
	✓HD Camera 2	✓Low Res Cam 1	✓Low Res Cam 2
	✓Low Res Cam 3	✓Low Res Cam 4	✓Low Res Cam 5
Equipment Malfunctions			
ROV Dive Summary Data (from Processed ROV)	<p>Dive Summary:EX1903L2_DIVE15</p> <p>AA</p> <p>In Water: 2019-07-07T14:05:22.187651</p> <p> 36°, 21.125' N ; 74°, 37.561' W</p> <p>On Bottom: 2019-07-07T15:27:17.428251</p> <p> 36°, 21.216' N ; 74°, 37.475' W</p> <p>Off Bottom: 2019-07-07T19:40:48.474575</p> <p> 36°, 21.342' N ; 74°, 37.57' W</p> <p>Out Water: 2019-07-07T20:41:39.258768</p> <p> 36°, 21.144' N ; 74°, 37.668' W</p> <p>Dive duration: 6:36:17</p> <p>Bottom Time: 4:13:31</p> <p>Max. depth: 1645.0 m</p>		
Special Notes	We started our dive a couple of hours delayed due to high winds, waves and currents during the drift test this morning. Fortunately, conditions improved through the morning and we launched the ROV at approximately 10:00 EDT.		

Scientists Involved (provide name, affiliation, email)

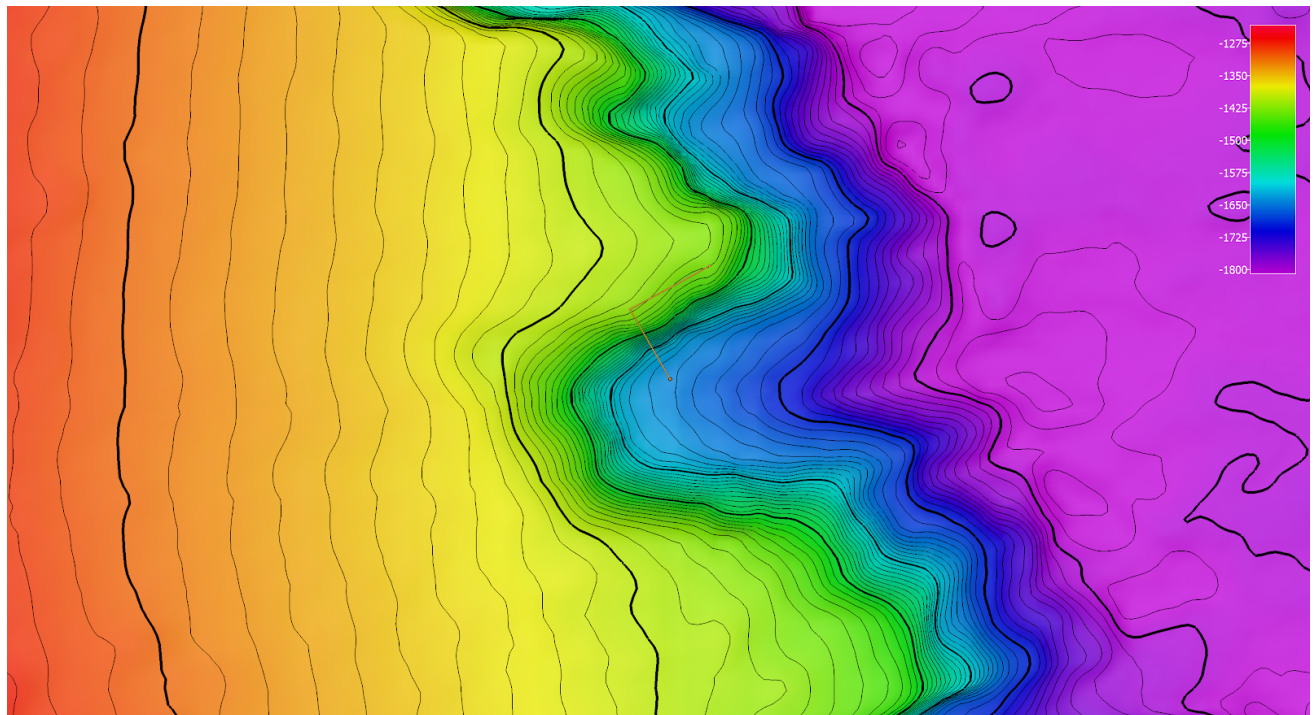
First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Email
Matt	Dornback	matt.dornback@noaa.gov	NOAA/NCEI
Michael	Rhode	rhodemichael@hotmail.com	ECS
Heather	Coleman	heather.coleman@noaa.gov	DSCRTP, NOAA
Jason	Chaytor	jchaytor@usgs.gov	USGS
Upasana	Ganguly	upasana.ganguly1@gmail.com	University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Carolyn	Ruppel	cruppel@usgs.gov	USGS
Lauren	Walling	lauren.walling1@louisiana.edu	University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Jenna	Hill	jhill@usgs.gov	USGS
Ryan	Gasbarro	tuj64508@temple.edu	Temple University
Kenneth	Sulak	jumpingsturgeon@yahoo.com	U.S. Geological Survey (Emeritus)
Megan	McCuller	megan.mcculler@naturalsciences.org	North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences
Christopher	Mah	brisinga@gmail.com	Dept. of Invertebrate Zoology, NMNH Smithsonian
Kevin	Kocot	kmkocot@ua.edu	University of Alabama
Asako	Matsumoto	amatsu@gorgonian.jp	Chiba Institute of Technology
Robert	Carney	rcarne1@lsu.edu	LSU, Oceanography, emeritus
Tara	Harmer Luke	luket@stockton.edu; tara.luke@stockton.edu	Stockton University
Alexis	Weinnig	aweinnig@temple.edu	Temple University
Amy	Wagner	amy.wagner@csus.edu; amywagner98@gmail.com	California State University, Sacramento
Danielle	Power	danielle.l.power@noaa.gov	NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer
J	Dunn	christopher.dunn@noaa.gov	NOAA OER
Kevin	Jerram	kjerram@ccom.unh.edu	UNH
Shannon	Hoy	shannon.hoy@noaa.gov	NOAA OER

Dive Purpose	The primary objective of this dive is to explore and characterize an area with relatively steep slope on the Currituck landslide off the North Carolina coast.
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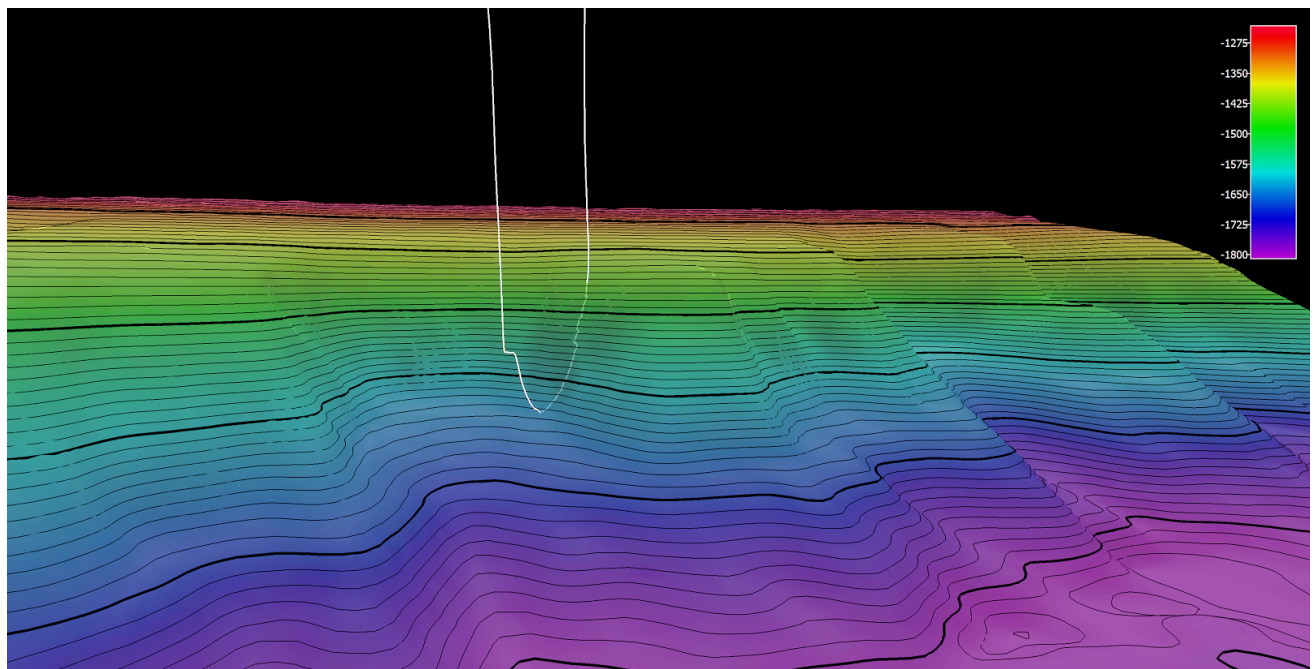


Dive Description	<p>This dive at Currituck landslide was slightly delayed due to weather, a system passed through around 12:00 UTC which delayed launch by approximately an hour. The vehicles launched at 13:55 UTC and reached the bottom at 15:27 UTC at 1,642 meters. The seafloor was comprised of soft, silty sediment with some large chunks of angular rocks dispersed across the seafloor. Among the sedimented seafloor was a relatively high density of ophiuroids (<i>Ophiomusa sp.</i>), a few different genera of sea pens including <i>Umbellula sp.</i> and <i>Kophobelemnion sp.</i>, echinoid urchins, and cup corals (<i>Flabellum alabastrum</i>). The cup corals occur more common as the seafloor became a little more rubbly as we continued up the slope. We also observed a number of fish throughout the dive including halosaurs (<i>Halosaurus macrochir</i>, <i>Aldrovandia affinis</i>), sorcerer eels (<i>Venefica procera</i>), ophioid cusk eels (<i>Dicrolene introgira</i>), macrourids, eelpouts (<i>Lycodes terraevona</i>), At a depth of approximately 1,550 m, the bottom became more steep and rocky. The ROV encountered large rock faces over 10 meters high. A number of brisingid sea stars were seen on the rocky outcrop, in addition to some sponges and anemones and a large (>10 cm) pycnogonida sea spider (<i>Colossendeis sp.</i>). Surprisingly, the rock surface did not have much sessile organism settlement that might be expected in such an area. We did observe two warty octopods (<i>Graneledone sp.</i>) along the sedimentary rock slopes and one bobtail squid. As we continued up the feature, beyond the large rock boulders, the slope decreased and became relatively sedimented again with angular rock chunks dispersed across the seafloor. The dive ended at 19:40 at a depth of 1,469 m. Two biological samples were collected (a <i>Flabellum alabastrum</i> and a benthic ctenophore) and one geological sample was collected.</p>
Notable Observations	Large rock structures over 10 meters high at the steepest point on the dive track
Community Presence/ Absence (community is defined as more than two species)	<p>X Corals and Sponges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Chemosynthetic Community ✓ High biodiversity Community ✓ Active Seep or Vent ✓ Extinct Seep or Vent ✓ Hydrates
Feature Type	Submarine Slide Deposit (Underwater landslide), Submarine Slide Deposit, Scarp/Wall
SeaTube Link (science annotation system)	https://data.oceannetworks.ca/SeaTubeV2?resourceTypeId=1000&resourceId=23621&divId=1483

Overall Map of the ROV Dive Area



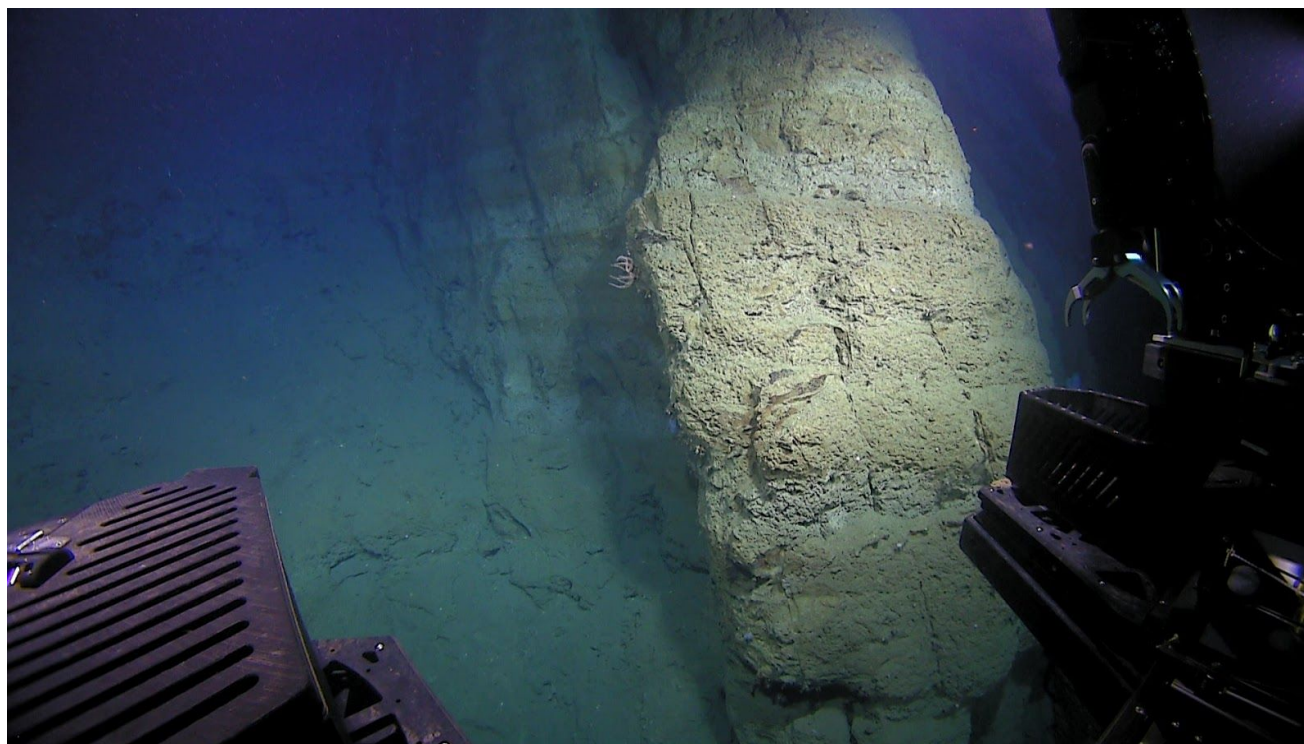
Close-up Map of Main Dive Site



Representative Photos of the Dive



Flabellum alabastrum on the sedimented seafloor



The large boulders observed around 1,550 meters (wide angle camera)





Graneledone sp. on the sedimentary rock slopes

[CAPTION]



**Ocean Exploration
and Research**

Samples Collected



Sample ID	EX1903L2_D15_01B	
Date (UTC)	20190707	
Time (UTC)	163934	
Depth (m)	1611.8	
Temp. (°C)	3.881	
Field ID(s)	<i>Flabellum</i> sp. (rose coral)	
Associates		
	Associates Sample ID	Field Identification
	No associates	
Comments		



Sample ID	EX1903L2_D15_02B	
Date (UTC)	20190707	
Time (UTC)	165923	
Depth (m)	1592.0	
Temp. (°C)	3.925	
Field ID(s)	Platyctenida	
Associates		
	Associates Sample ID	Field Identification
	EX1903L2_D15_02B_A01	Gastropod
Comments		



Sample ID	EX1903L2_D15_03G	
Date (UTC)	20190707	
Time (UTC)	191538	
Depth (m)	1500.7	
Temp. (°C)	4.007	
Field ID(s)	Rock	
Associates		
	Associates Sample ID	Field Identification
	EX1903L2_D15_03G_A01	Unknown
	EX1903L2_D15_03G_A02	Polychaeta
	EX1903L2_D15_03G_A03	Polychaeta
Comments		

Please direct inquiries to:

NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration & Research
1315 East-West Highway (SSMC3 10th Floor)
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 734-1014

