CCRI 2005 GRANT

HABITAT MAPPING OF THE WEST COAST OF PUERTO RICO

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Under contract to:
NOAA Fisheries, SEFSC
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NAVIGATION SIGNAL ACQUISITION

TOWED TRANSDUCER

ELECTRO-CONDUCTING WINCH

SIGNAL ACQUISITION

NAVIGATION
Sand ripples

Sand/algal plain

Reef

Patch reef with dark Halophila halo
Habitat Types from Side Scan Sonar

- Mixed/continuous corals
- Coral patch
- Coral limestone
- Gorgonian patch
- Gorgonian plains
- Elevated gorgonians
- Dense grass
- Sparse grass
- Grass and invertebrates
- Dense algae on sand
- Sparse algae on sand
- Algae on silt
- Sand no-ripple
- Sand ripple
- Sand fine
- Mud bare
- Mud with invertebrates
- Mud reef
EL SECO
Area to be Mapped
Cabo Rojo Shelf Area = 193, 1nm$^2$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Swath (m)</th>
<th>nm$^2$/day</th>
<th>Total days</th>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>.8</td>
<td>154</td>
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Status of Main Tasks

• Obtain previously collected SSS data; assess quality for habitat mapping

• Loan or lease SSS
  – Sonars located at NOAA and UNC-Wilmington

• Begin SSS data collection
  – April, 2006 (Weather dependent)
  – Boat and crew identified

• Begin process SSS data to obtain habitat maps