HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. P4-044

MISSION STATUS

Location: **Kahoolawe Island Reserve**

Mission Date: September 02, 2002

Maximum Depth: 451 meters

Project Title: Survey of Bottomfish Habitat in the Kahoolawe Island Reserve

Principal Investigator: Christopher Kelley
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Observer 2: Eric Conklin
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Scientific Data Acquired : Prepare an abstract outlining your objectives, techniques, findings, etc.

The objective of this dive was to assess the abundance of bottomfish in a reserve area off the south coast of Kahoolawe and characterize the associated benthic community. To accomplish this, a set of four thirty minute transects and two thirty minute bait stations were planned to cover the depth range of 200-350 meters. The four transects were conducted at 350, 300, 250, and 200 meters. The two bait stations were conducted at 300 and 250 meters. The dive area was a steep south facing slope on a finger extending from the island. Deeper depths were largely silty with scattered pebbles and a few calcareous outcroppings. Further up the slope the bottom was dominated by calcareous outcroppings with sediment channels between in a spur and groove fashion. At the deeper depths the sessile fauna was dominated by Antipathes strap, Narella sp (probably megalepis, some of which were overgrown with parazoanthids), a small Regadrella-like sponge, Eguchipsammia fistula and Javania sp. Other species present included Anthomastus fisheri, Munida plexaura, Grammatonotus laysanus, Symphysanodon maunaloae, Homola dickensonii, Randallia distincta, Dynomene devaneyi and a few snappers, both Etelis coruscans and Etelis carbunculus. On the shallower two transects the predominant sessile fauna was Corallium niveum and Corallium tortuosum with some scattered C. secundum and Cirrhipathes spiralis. S. maunaloae and Grammatonotus laysanus were more abundant at these depths. Other species encountered included Munida brucei, Holanthias elizabethae, Grammatonotus sp 1, Epigonus sp, Antigonia eos, Caprodon schlegeli, Roa excelsa, Pontinus macrocephalus, Tamaria triseriata, Stylocidaris calacantha, S. rufa, Acanthocidaris hastigera, Symphysanodon typus, Gymnothorax berndti, and G. nuttingi. For the bottomfish, Etelis carbunculus and E. coruscans were abundant and kahala, and Pristipomoides filamentosus, P. sieboldii, and P. zonatus were also present. The 300 m bait station attracted a few Etelis carbunculus and E. coruscans and a large Conger

oligoporus. The 250 m bait station was a great success attracting 40-50 E. coruscans, 7 E. carbunculus, 3 Holanthias elizabethae, Gymnothorax berndti, and G. nuttingi.

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

The dive went very smoothly. Our one problem was with the ROS camera, which has chronic problems at depth.

Recommendations for corrective action or improvement:

None.

In your opinion, did the mission essentially achieve its purpose? Compare actual work accomplished with the work that was expected to be accomplished.

The mission was very successful. We completed all intended tasks.

List specimens or samples collected on the mission.

Javania lamprotichum

DATA RELEASE

Data may be retained by the project leader for up to 2 years after the mission date with the following exception. NOAA may request to use photos for publication or publicity purposes at any time.

Fill in the appropriate statement below and sign this form.

I hereby release the data archived by HURL for public consumption following mission

_____(project title) held on 09-02-02 in the following way:

a. CTD data by 09-02-04

b. voice transcripts, video, and still camera film by 09-02-04

c. other_____(date)

d. I will give my written consent to individuals wishing to use these data prior to the above dates depending on the nature of the request(s).

_____Principal Investigator