HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LAB
QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. P4-081

MISSION STATUS

Location: Kailua-Kona (19-37.642 N 156-02.159 W)

Mission Date: 21 November 2002

Maximum Depth: 580 m

Project Title: Ecological Role and Faunal Associates of Abundant Hexactinellid Sponges on the Hawaiian Slope

Principal Investigator: Adele J. Pile

Address:

Phone (561) 465 2400 EXT 303

Observer 1: Adele J. Pile

Address: The University of Sydney
School of Biological Sciences (A08)
Sydney, NSW 2006
Australia

Observer 2: Melanie Bishop

Address: The University of Sydney
School of Biological Sciences (A08)
Sydney, NSW 2006
Australia

Scientific Data Acquired: Prepare an abstract outlining your objectives, techniques, findings, etc.

There were 2 major objectives to this dive. We were to visit all three study sites to first check the transplant experiments from the previous year and then to establish a settlement experiment at each marker. Marker 4 is the deepest at 480 m (N 19 37.759 W 156 02.128) and believe it or not there were still transplanted sponges living there. Of the 10 that were transplanted from marker 14 a year ago 4 were alive and looking fabulous while one had a very small shrunken head (50% survival). Of the ones that died the stalks were standing in their positions and had barnacles on them. We then set up the settlement stakes (dead stalks cleaned of all epiphytes and soaked for 12 h in fresh water). Unfortunately one broke so only 9 were positioned down slope and to the left of the marker as you look up slope. We then went up to marker 14 where 6 of the 10 transplanted sponges were looking healthy. Just as at marker 4 the stalks were still standing from the ones that had died. We set up the settlement experiment, 10 stalks, near the marker. We then conducted two 20 min transects at 400 (to south) and 360 (to north) m before moving to marker 41. At marker 41 there were no live sponges. Only one sponge stalk was still standing and the others were strewn across the bottom. We position 9 sponge stalks as the tenth was out of reach of the arm. We returned to marker 14 to collect 10 *Sericolophus hawaiicus* and the current meter before heading to the surface.

Dive_____**P4-081**_

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

There were no limitations, failures or operational problems

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 achieved all it's goals

List specimens or samples collected on the mission.

10 *Sericolophus hawaiicus* with associated fauna

Dive_____**P4-080**_

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

Ecological Role and Faunal Associates of Abundant Hexactinellid Sponges on the Hawaiian Slope (project title)

held on November 21 2002 in the following way:

a. CTD data by _____ (date)

b. voice transcripts, video, and still camera film by 21/11/04 (date)

c. other 21/11/04 (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