

HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. P5-362

MISSION STATUS

Location: Ewa Beach / Barbers Point

Mission Date: Aug. 18, 1998

Maximum Depth: 270 m.

Project Title: Characterization and Assessment of Two Types of Critical Habitat for Eteline Snappers in the Main Hawaiian Islands

Principal Investigator: Gordon Grau / Chris Kelley

Address: Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Phone: 236-7418

Observer 1: Christopher Kelley

Observer 2: Eric Conklin

Address: as above

Address: Hawaii Coop. Fishery
Research Unit
2538 The Mall
Edmondson Hall 165A
University of Hawaii
Honolulu, HI 96822

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

The objectives for this dive were to survey and conduct bait stations at three sites along the Ewa Beach Dropoff that had been identified during mission P5-360. The sites were located at 120, 216, and 263 meters. Fish and benthic invertebrates were to be videotaped at each site for comparison. On the deepest site, a carbonate wall formation, a number of important fish species were documented including an onaga, ehu, and hapu'u grouper. Other fish species included an emmelichthid, Symphysanodon maunaloae, scorpaenids, eels, and kahala. Benthic fauna included wire corals, slipper lobster, various crabs and shrimp. Due to time constraints, the submerged airplane at the 218 meter site was only briefly videotaped before the sub proceeded to the 120 meter site. A bait station at 120 m. attracted kahala as well as a target species of snapper, the opakapaka. Excellent video images were obtained on these species as well as a number of other species.

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

Upper laser of 3 laser scaler was dim. Sediment clouds from submersible settling prevented good quality video from the 8 mm Panasonic camera from time to time.

A sharp overhang at the deep wall prevented adequate video documentation of some observed species of fish.

Recommendations for corrective action or improvement:

Batteries were changed in the scaler. Recommend that, if possible, camera lights for the Panasonic camera be mounted further from the camera to prevent reflection of suspended particles.

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 essentially completed its purpose. A large portion of the dive was spent on the lower wall site, which was the most important of the three sites. As a result, however, we skipped the bait station at the submerged airplane (since adequate video footage had already been obtained) and spent the remainder of the dive at the upper site. The bait stations here and at the lower wall were successful in attracting fish, and excellent video images of a number of important species was obtained.

List specimens or samples collected on the mission.

1 rock sample from the lower wall.

1 sediment sample from the upper (120 m) site to complete our set of six samples.

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

Characterization and Assessment of Two Types of Critical Habitat for Eteline Snappers in the Main Hawaiian Islands (project title)

held on Aug. 18, 1998 (date) in the following way:

- a. CTD data by Aug. 18, 2000 (date)
- b. voice transcripts, video, and still camera film by Aug. 18, 2000 (date)
- c. other Aug. 18, 2000 (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