

HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. P5-368

MISSION STATUS

Location: 2nd Finger Penguin Bank

Mission Date: Aug. 26, 1998

Maximum Depth: 400 m.

Project Title: Evaluation of non-lethal methods for assessment of overfished deep water snapper resources.

Principal Investigator: Robert B. Moffitt

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Observer 1: Robert B. Moffitt

Observer 2: Walter Ikehara

Address: as above

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

Our objectives for this mission were to conduct a 30 minute transect at each of five depths: 200m, 250m, 300m, 350m, 400m. We planned to conduct 3 bait stations, one each at 200m, 300m, and 400m; each bait station was to be 30 min. long. The purpose of the transects and bait stations was to assess the number of commercially important snappers at this site to compare with abundance in newly formed snapper refugia. We conducted all five transects as planned. We observed no snappers on the 400m transect. The 350m transect had 2 ehu about 12" in length. The 300m transect included several ehu and Erythrocles all about 12-15". We observed 10-12 onaga 12-24" on the 250m transect and several ehu and gindai on the 200m transect. We conducted bait stations at 400m, 250m, and 200m, moving the scheduled 300m station to 250m to place on more productive bottom habitat. We attracted 1-2 14" ehu to the bait at 400m, 6 onaga, 1 ehu, and 1 hapuupuu at 250m, and about 20 kalekale, 4 ehu, 2 gindai, and 1 kahala at 200m. We stopped the 200m bait station after 15 min. because all the bait was consumed.

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

None.

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.

Yes!!! we planned 5 transects and 3 bait stations. All transects and bait stations were completed successfully. We went down planning bait stations at 400m, 300m, and 200m. The 400m station was on sand and drew no fish. The location for the 300m station was similar so we postponed this station and set it on the eastern end of the 250m transect where the bottom was a coraline cliff.

List specimens or samples collected on the mission.

None.

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

Evaluation of non-lethal methods for assessment of overfished deep water snapper resources (project title)

held on Aug. 26, 1998 (date) in the following way:

- a. CTD data by Aug. 26, 2000 (date)
- b. voice transcripts, video, and still camera film by Aug. 26, 2000 (date)
- c. other Aug. 26, 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