

**HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY**

**QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. P5-369**

**MISSION STATUS**

**Location:** Penguin Banks (3rd finger)

**Mission Date:** Aug. 29, 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

**Address:** National Marine Fisheries Service  
2570 Dole Street  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**Phone:** 983-5373

**Observer 1:** Robert. B. Moffitt

**Observer 2:** Greta Aeby

**Address:** as above

**Address:** HIMB  
P.O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

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

We planned to conduct 5 30-minute transects, one each at 400, 350, 300, 250, and 200 meter. We also planned 3 30-minute bait stations, one each at the end of the 400m, 300m, and 200m transects. The purpose of these operations was to assess the number of commercially important snappers at this site which is within one of the newly formed Hawaii state bottom fish refugia. We conducted all operations, shortening two of the bait stations to 20 minutes because of the shortened day. We observed snappers on all transects, the majority being smallish ehu about 12" at 250-350m transects. Bait stations gave poor results today. Operationally they went smoothly with bait spread on what appeared to be appropriate grounds. The stations drew few snappers, however, and those passed through showed little interest in the bait.

**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. Operations went smoothly. We completed all planned operations. Transects again today showed promise for ehu density estimation. Bait stations failed to draw fish that we knew were in the vicinity.

**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... (project title)

held on Aug. 29, 1998 (date) in the following way:

- a. CTD data by 8/29/2000 (date)
- b. voice transcripts, video, and still camera film by 8/29/2000 (date)
- c. other 8/29/2000 (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