

HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. P5-373

MISSION STATUS

Location: Mokolua Pinnacle off Lanikai

Mission Date: Sept. 2, 1998

Maximum Depth: 490 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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2570 Dole Street
Honolulu, HI 96822

Phone: 983-5373

Observer 1: Christopher Kelley

Observer 2: Chuck Holloway

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

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

The objectives for this dive were to conduct 5 transects (400, 350, 300, 250, and 200 m depths) and 3 bait stations (400, 300, and 200 m) similar to the previous 6 dives in order to assess the number of onaga and ehu present at this site. At the beginning and end of the 400 m transect, large gold coral trees were observed and videotaped. The substrate was barren carbonate rock with sand filled pockets. Very few fish were observed, only morids and a few zeiforms. The 400m bait station likewise attracted only a Squalus mitsukurii and an epigonid. The 350m transect was not much different. Several Chaunax umbrinus, several Satyrichthys engyceros, a few S. maunaloae and only 2 ehu (E. carbunculus). An extra 15 minute segment of this transect was performed to survey completely around the point. The 300 m transect was more interesting. Approximately 15-20 ehu were observed as well as 1 onaga (E. coruscans). Numerous S. maunaloae, scorpaenids and unidentified fish, possibly a callanthiid, were also observed. This transect was along the top edge of the formation. The 300m bait station was also more interesting, attracting 16 onaga and a number of kahala. We then set out across the top of the formation and found a number of very small carbonate formations surrounded by sand each of which having one or more juvenile ehu or onaga.

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

None except observer 1 forgot to change digital tape at a bait station.

Recommendations for corrective action or improvement:

Observer 1 be required to have a lobotomy.

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

Yes.

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 Sept. 2, 1998 (date) in the following way:

- a. CTD data by 9/2/2000 (date)
- b. voice transcripts, video, and still camera film by 9/2/2000 (date)
- c. other 9/2/2000 (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