HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. P5-423

MISSION STATUS

Location: Penguin Bank "Third Finger"

Mission Date: Sept. 15, 1999

Maximum Depth: 351 m

Project Title: Evaluation of non-lethal methods for assessment of overfished deepwater snapper resources

Principal Investigator: Robert B. Moffitt

Address: National Marine Fisheries Service, Honolulu, Laboratory
2570 Dole St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Phone: 808-983-5373

Observer 1: Walter Ikehara

Address: 1151 Punchbowl St. #330
Honolulu, HI 96813

Observer 2: Greta Aeby

Address: UH Zoology
2538 The Mall
Honolulu, HI 96822

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

With Pisces V submersible: Perform: 4 30 min. transects at depths of 350, 300, 250, and 200 m. Perform 2 bait stations (30 min.) at depths of 300 and 200 m.

1) Upon leaving the surface, the sub reached bottom at 90m, on top of the "Third Finger" observed large numbers of Diaseris sp., Fungiid corals, seastar, black sea cucumber and Parapercis roseoviridis. Collected some Diaseris to confirm identification. Moved south to edge of steep slope , observed large school of Naso hexacanthus and 1 taape.
2) 350 m transect, steep carbonate slope dusted with sand layer steer sand slope. Observed Symphysanodon maunaloae, Synagrops sp., many anemones, Chlorophthalmus sp., golden kale (Erythrocles scintillans), Epigonus, scorpaenid, Heterocarpus ensifer, decorator crab, ghost shrimp, etc. At least 1 ehu.
3) 300 m transect, going west: steep carbonate slope – many outcrops and ledges. Observed very abundant S. maunaloae, Beryx, Synagrops, Pontinus, black coral, white coral (Madracis). Also, 5 ehu and 1 kahala.
4) 300 m bait station: observed 3 ehu and 1 brown moray.
5) 250 m transect: extremely abundant S. maunaloae, Holanthias elizabethae, gindai, hapuupuu, kahala, Pontinus, Owstonia, Dendrophylium, Narella, black coral, sea stars, Chrionema, and sea urchins. And 10 ehu.

6) 200 m transect: observed S. maunaloae, gindai, Chromis struhsakeri, H. elizabethae, 1 ehu, Chrionema, Antigonia, kahala, Laemonema, S. typus, unidentified Shark, Cookeolus japonicus, Madracis white coral, galatheid crabs, Chrionema, etc. 1 malacanthid ?
7) 200 m bait station: 205 m at top of sandy slope under outcrop. Observed 1 gindai and 1 kahala. Returned to surface. Saw Naso hexacanthus school, balistid.

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

Layers not work.

Recommendations for corrective action or improvement:

Fix layers.

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

Yes, transects and bait stations were completed to our satisfaction.

List specimens or samples collected on the mission.

A few samples of a fungiid coral which was identified as Diaseris fragilis.

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 deepwater snapper resources (project title)

held on Sept. 15, 1999 (date) in the following way:

a. CTD data by Sept. 15, 2001 (date)

b. voice transcripts, video, and still camera film by Sept. 15, 2001 (date)

c. other Sept. 15, 2001 (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).

Robert B. Moffitt Principal Investigator