

HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. P5-475

MISSION STATUS

Location: Shipwreck Solution Basin, Station V

Mission Date: 11/26/01

Maximum Depth: 73 meters (240 ft.)

Project Title: Black Coral Fishery and Bottom Fish Study

Principal Investigator: Richard Grigg Co-PI: Chris Kelley

Address: Oceanography Dept.
University of Hawaii

Phone: 956-7186

Observer 1: Richard Grigg

Observer 2: Chris Kelley

Address: UH

Address: HURL

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

The objective of this dive was to survey an area known to be relatively pristine (unharvested). The dive lasted 2 hours and 25 minutes and covered 850 m distance over which 30 colonies between 6 and 9 ft. high were counted. Many dead trees were encountered suggesting this area has not been harvested. While large colonies were encountered most were heavily encrusted and "spindly" in growth form. 5% of the colonies were *A. grandis*, 95% *A. dichotoma*. Two bait stations were conducted; abundance of attracted fish was low. No correlation between bottom fish and black coral was noted. Four hours of video was recorded.

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

None.

Recommendations for corrective action or improvement:

This dive was accomplished in 2.5 hours which allowed two dives to be conducted in one day with **NO** operational problems. HURL can do 2 dives a day easily!

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

Yes, 850 m of virgin habitat was surveyed and 2 bait stations were conducted.

List specimens or samples collected on the mission.

1 large colony of *A. dichotoma*.

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 Black Coral Fishery & Bottom Fish Study (project title)

held on 11/26/01 (date) in the following way:

- a. CTD data by Nov. 03 (date)
- b. voice transcripts, video, and still camera film by Nov. 03 (date)
- c. other Nov. 03 (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