

HAWAI'I UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT DIVE: PV- 522

MISSION STATUS

Location: Bank 8

Latitude: 26 13.428 N

Longitude: 174 31.016 W

Mission Date: 5 October 2003

Duration:

Maximum Depth: 583 m

Project Title: Reproductive Biology and Population Genetics of Hawaiian Precious Corals

Principal Investigator: Amy Baco-Taylor

Address: Biology Department
MS#33 , 214 Redfield
Woods Hole, MA 02543

Phone: (508) 289-2331

Observer 1: Amy Baco-Taylor

Observer 2:

Address: Biology Department
MS#33, 214 Redfield
Woods Hole, MA 02543

Address:

Pilot 1: Terry Kerby

Pilot 2: Max Cremer

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

Objectives:

The objectives of this dive were to locate precious corals and to collect samples of those precious corals for reproductive biology and population genetics.

Observations, findings, etc:

Pisces V landed on a shelf on a vertical wall. The entire dive was spent in a small area of the wall collecting precious corals. Trees were abundant. There were many small gold corals, very few red corals, and very few large gold corals. Other octocorals and antipatharians were also observed. The terrain was completely vertical with overhangs. At the end of the dive, the submersible moved up the wall to find the depth range of corals. Precious corals were typically found at depths greater than 500 m. There was also a large area of chrysogorgids seen. White puff balls were seen on the wall at a depth of a few hundred meters. A monk seal also came directly up to the view ports on the submersible at a depth of about 534 m. Another monk seal was seen swimming up the carbonate wall at about 430 m.

Species list:

Please mark whether S-single; F-Few (2-10); M-Many (11-100); A-Abundant (>100)
(e.g., *Symphysanodon maunaloae*-M)

- add rows as needed

Gerardia sp. - A	Monk Seal – 2 (“A12” and one unmarked)
C. secundum - M	Morids _ F
C. regale - F	White puff balls -A
Chrysogorgids - A	Histocidaris variabilis- S
Gorgonocephalids - F	Brissingids- F
Decorator crab - F	Bathypathes conferta- S
Mediaster ornatus- S	Lepidisis olapa- S
Leiopathes glaberrima- S	

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

It was difficult for us to sample because corals were distributed on vertical walls.

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

List specimens or samples collected on the mission.

Gold corals – 16
Pink corals – 12
Red corals – 3
Stylasterids - 5

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

(project title)

held on__ 5 October 2003 _____(date) in the following way:

- a. CTD data by____ 10/05 /2005 _____(date)
- b. voice transcripts, video, and still camera film by_10/05 /2005_(date)
- c. other_10/05 /2005 _____(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