

HAWAI'I UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

**QUICK LOOK REPORT
DIVE: PV-697**

MISSION STATUS

Location: Brook Bank

Latitude: 23° 58.761

Longitude: 166° 44.155

Mission Date: 11-09-2007

Duration: 8 hours

Maximum Depth: 536 m

Project Title: Gold coral growth validation study

Principal Investigator: Frank Parrish

Address:

Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu Hawaii, 96822

Phone: 808-983-5391

Observer 1: Frank Parrish

Observer 2: Tom Guilderson

Address:

Same as above

Address:

University of Santa Cruz

Pilot 1: Terry Kerby

Pilot 2:

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

Objectives:

The objective was to revisit and re-measure gold coral (*Gerardia* sp.) colonies that were located in 1998. This work was conducted as part of a larger series of dives to validate the 6 cm/yr growth rate currently used to calculate the harvest quota in the precious coral fishery. The sub used 1998 positions, depths and landmarks to find the colonies and then used a laser scale projected on the colonies to estimate their size. Estimates will be made by the observer and the pilots without the benefit of knowing what the prior estimates were. A portion of the dive was spent deploying two flower pots to mark some of the colonies. One of the flower pots had a thermograph.

Observations, findings, etc:

The nine coral colonies were relocated and measured.

Species list:

No fauna counts were made on this dive but taxa seen included:

Regadrella sponges
Corallium sp.
Hollardia sp.
Laemonema,
Calligorgia sp.
Paragorgia sp.
Mocrourid
Caelorhynchus tokiensis
Polymixia sp.
Bathypathes conferta
Primnoid
Anthomastus fisheri
Narella sp.
Leiopathes glaberima

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

Strong current but the sub was able to make headway into it.

Recommendations for corrective action or improvement:

NA

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

Yes, 100% success.

List specimens or samples collected on the mission.

Some specimens were collected for the Dunbar radiometric team that shared the cruise.

- Dead Gerardia stump
- Live Gerardia stump from toppled colony
- Dead Leiopathes glaberrim
- Toppled Corallium sp.

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 _____(date) in the following way:

- a. CTD data by _____(date)
- b. video and images by _____(date)
- c. other _____(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