

## HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

### QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. RCV-124

#### MISSION STATUS

**Location:** Auau Channel, Maui

**Mission Date:** 11/24/01

**Maximum Depth:** 111 meters

**Project Title:** Sustainability of the Black Coral Fishery in Hawaii and Impacts on Bottom Fish Habitat

**Principal Investigator:** Richard Grigg

**Address:** Department of Oceanography  
University of Hawaii

**Phone:** 956-7186

**Observer 1:** Hal Richman

**Observer 2:**

**Address:** Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
University of Hawaii

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

This ROV dive was a black coral survey of the westerly boundary of the "keyhole" feature at the top of the Auau channel. As with other ROV deployments, the optimal direction for the transect, based on wind and current conditions, was determined prior to the dive. A two-mile target line was created, which depending on the speed of the ship, would allow for a 2-4 hour survey. After the RCV was deployed, the observer attempted to identify black coral colonies as well as all fish and invertebrates species encountered. *Antipathes dichotoma* colonies were encountered, which were overgrown by the telestacean, *Carijoa riisei*. No correlation between black coral abundance and bottom fish was observed. Examples of fish encountered included *Arothron hispidis*, *Acantherus xanthopterus*, *Caranx sp*, *Lactoria diaphana*, *Mulloidichthys pfluegeri*, and *Sargocentron sp*. Examples of invertebrates included an octopus, *Leptocerus sp.*, *Halimeda sp*, *Nototodarus hawaiiensis*, cidarid urchin, echinothurid urchin, nudibranch, and *Cirrihipathes sp*.

**MISSION EVALUATION:**

**Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:**

None

**Recommendations for corrective action or improvement:**

None

**In your opinion, did the mission essentially achieve its purpose? Compare actual work accomplished with 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 Sustainability of the Black Coral Fishery in Hawaii and Impacts on Bottom Fish Habitat (project title)

held on 11/24/01 (date) in the following way:

- a. CTD data by 11/03 (date)
- b. voice transcripts, video, and still camera film by 11/03 (date)
- c. other 11/03 (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)

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Principal Investigator