

HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. RCV-126

MISSION STATUS

Location: Kalohi Channel, Maui

Mission Date: 11/25/01

Maximum Depth: 264 meters

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

Principal Investigator: Richard Grigg

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Observer 1: Richard Grigg

Observer 2: Chris Kelley

Address: Department of Oceanography
University of Hawaii

Address: Hawaii Undersea Research Laboratory
University of Hawaii

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

This ROV dive surveyed a deeper habitat for bottomfish, which is located inside one of the state of Hawaii's Restricted Fishing Areas (RFAs) for the bottomfish fishery. The site was located in the Kalohi Channel between sites previously surveyed for black corals. The targeted feature was a submerged headland or promitory with the tip facing due north. 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, that would begin at one side of the headland, run over its top about 1/3 of its length south of the tip, and subsequently down the other side. After the RCV was deployed, the observers attempted to identify all precious coral colonies as well as all fish and other invertebrates species encountered. *Cirrhopathes spiralis* and *Antipathes intermedia* were the only two species of black corals recorded on the transect. A *Corallium sp* and *C. secundum* were also recorded. Other invertebrates included *Munida hawaiiensis*, *Plesionika sp*, a brown cerianthid, *Pennatula flava*, *Lyrocteis sp*, and sponges. Fish included *Synodus falcatus*, *Aulotrachichthys heptalepis*, *Ophidion muraenolepis*, *Ariosoma marginatum*, and *Pontinus macrocephalus*.

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 11/25/01 (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)

Principal Investigator