HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. RCV-166

MISSION STATUS

Mission Date: 09-10-02

Location (island, bank, seamount, etc): Brooks Bank

Specific Site (NE side, summit, etc): NW Side

Position (start latitude & longitude): 24 00.5520/166 42.6520

Depth range: 347-395 m

Project Title: Impact of Bottomfishing in the NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve

Principal Investigator: Christopher Kelley

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Observer 2: Sean Corson
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Scientific Data Acquired: Prepare an abstract outlining your objectives, techniques, findings, etc.

Materials and Methods

The overall goal of this project is to obtain data on bottomfish populations and their habitat for use in evaluating the impacts of commercial fishing in the NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve. This particular dive was conducted on Brooks Bank, one of two Reserve Preservation Areas (i.e., RPAs) completely closed to bottomfishing. Specific dive objectives were to survey the fish and invertebrate community at a known fishing site. Particular attention was paid to corals and other attached invertebrates that would be vulnerable to damage from anchors and fishing weights. To accomplish this objective, the ROV was deployed along a track running directly through the fishing site. Observers noted all fish, invertebrates, and fishing debris encountered.

Scientific Data Acquired

The primary substrate throughout the dive was carbonate cobbles over sediment. Large carbonate boulders were also encountered at relatively frequent intervals. Fairly typical animals were observed for the depth range of the dive (Table 1). Of particular note were clumps of algae, particularly Pedina sp, some of which appeared to be attached to the substrate. In addition, an unusual scale worm, a red unidentified eel, and a mottled Laemonema rhodochir similar to one observed north of Kahoolawe were also recorded. No fishing debris nor large beds of corals or other sessile organisms were encountered.

Table 1: Biological organisms observed during the dive.

FISHES	ECHINODERMS, CRUSTACEANS, & MOLLUSKS	CORALS, SPONGES, OTHER INVERTEBRATES
Squalid	Neopalimnoplax major?	Unidentified gorgonians
Chrionema chryseres	Paromola sp	Bathypathes patula
Red eel	Homola dickensoni?	Corallimorphus sp
Myctophids	Small red shrimp	Anthomastus fisheri
Polymixia japonica	Unidentified seastar	Corallium niveum?
Scorpaenids	Calliaster pedicellaris	Antipathes sp (red)
Morid		Bathypathes conferta
Etelis carbunculus		Narella sp
Physiculus sterops		Corallium tortuosum
Epigonids		Scale worm
Beryx decadactylus		
Bembradeum roseum		
Laemonema rhodochir		

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 the work that was expected to be accomplished.

Yes, we accomplished our objective.

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

RCV-166 held on 09-10-02.

a. CTD data by 09-10-04

b. video data by 09-10-04

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