

**HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY**

**QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. RCV-168**

**MISSION STATUS**

**Mission Date:** 09-11-02

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

**Specific Site (NE side, summit, etc):** Summit (SE)

**Position (start latitude & longitude):** 23° 57.453 N/ 166° 41.755 W

**Depth range:** 55-92m

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

**Principal Investigator:** Christopher Kelley

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

Materials & 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 through the coordinates provided for the site. Observers noted all fish, invertebrates, and fishing debris encountered.

Scientific data acquired:

Habitat characteristics and biota were observed and recorded along the top of the SE portion of Brooks Bank. The ROV began recording on the bottom at 19:18 in 92 m of water. The ROV traveled upslope over carbonate substrate that was covered with red algae and occasional boulders. The top of the bank was reached at 19:33 in 73m of water. The remainder of the dive was spent traversing the top of the bank. This area was covered with rhodoliths and small gravel for the first half of the dive. This substrate gave way to flat sand partially covered by algae. The depth ranged between 73m and 55m in an even manner throughout the dive, with the exception of a wall that was encountered five minutes prior to the end of the dive.

Table 1 provides a list of organisms seen on this dive, which were evenly distributed across the bank. The fish assemblages were a bit more concentrated around corals or rocks, as would be expected. No large or distinctive patches of organisms were recorded.

**Table 1: Biological organisms observed during the dive.**

<b>FISHES</b>	<b>ECHINODERMS, CRUSTACEANS, &amp; MOLLUSKS</b>	<b>CORALS, SPONGES, &amp; OTHER INVERTS</b>
Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos	<b>Mollusca:</b>	Dark encrusting sponge
Carcharhinus galapagensis	Conus species	<b>Cnidaria:</b>
Myctophidae	Octopus species	Antipathes grandis? W/anemones
Luzonichthys earlei	<b>Crustacea:</b>	Cirripathes anguina
Apogon kallopterus	Pagurid crab	Diaseris distorta
Apogon species	Scyllarides squammosus	Leptoseris sp
Caranx melampyus	<b>Echinodermata:</b>	Pocillopora meandrina
Aprion virescens	unidentified test	Porites lobata
Chaetodon miliaris	Actinopyga obesa	Anemone, dark grey
Parapercis schauinslandi		Anemone, brown
Acanthurus sp		Cerianthid long brown
Naso hexacanthus		Hydrozoans
Sufflamen fraenatus?		
Canthigaster coronata		
Canthigaster rivulata		

MISSION EVALUATION:

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

No

**Recommendations for corrective action or improvement:**

No

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

Yes

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 bottom survey** held on 09-xx-02.

- a. CTD data by 09-xx-04
- b. video data by 09-xx-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