HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. RCV-171

MISSION STATUS

Mission Date: 09-13-02

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

Specific Site (NE side, summit, etc): SW side
Position (start latitude & longitude): 23 59.344./166° 44.522
Depth range: 560-635 m

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

Principal Investigator: Christopher Kelley

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Observer 1: Chris Kelley/ Rachel Shackelford
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Observer 2: Ray Boland
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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 on this particular dive were somewhat different than other dives. The ROV was deployed to examine the fish and invertebrate community at approximately 600 meters, which is 200 meters below typical bottomfishing depths. Since the RPA boundary around Brooks bank extends out 12 miles from its geographic center, it seemed of value to devote one dive toward its deeper resources. Observers noted all fish, invertebrates, and fishing debris encountered.

Scientific data acquired:

This area was characterized by extensive sponge (Semperella sp 2) fields. The substrate was primarily cobble and sand, with some large carbonate boulders and outcrops, as well as some basaltic boulders.

Table 1: Biological organisms observed during the dive.

FISHES	ECHINODERMS, CRUSTACEANS, & MOLLUSKS	CORALS, SPONGES & OTHER INVERTS
macrourid (several)	Polychelid	Semperella sp2. (fields)
Meadia abyssalis?	scale worm	gorgonian, white
Malacocephalus hawaiiensis	Crinoid	gorgonian, reddish
Caelorinchus tokaiensis	Heterocarpus laevigatus	Paramuricid purple?
	Plesionika sp.?	Corallimorphus sp2
	galatheid crab	Gorgonians
	Histocidaris variabilis	Regadrella sp1
	crinoid, dark brown	Iridogorgia sp.
	Anthomastus red	Enallopsammia rostrata
	Urchin, unidentified	encrusting sponge?
	crab, red	gorgonian, purple
	Stereocidaris hawaiiensis	Acanella sp1
	Henricia sp, white	Hertwigia sp.
		Dendrophyllid

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

There seemed to be an oil leak in the ROV two hours in to the dive. The dive was aborted to reduce any damage.

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, it was a beautiful dive with many close-up images of animals that occur at these depths.

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-171 held on 09-13-02.

a. CTD data by 09-13-04

b. video data by 09-13-04

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