

HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. RCV-187

MISSION STATUS

Mission Date: 09-30-02

Location (island, bank, seamount, etc): East French Frigate Shoals

Specific Site (NE side, summit, etc):

Position (start latitude & longitude): 23° 51.020/165° 47.983

Depth range: 125-137 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
Address: HURL

Observer 2: Rachel Shackelford
Address: HURL

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 East French Frigate Shoals. 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:

The terrain consisted of sand flats interspersed with carbonate rock. Toward the end of the dive we saw a huge school (30+) of *Seriola dumerili* and then a large school (20+) of *Epinephelus quernus*.

Table 1: Biological organisms observed during the dive.

FISHES	ECHINODERMS, CRUSTACEANS, & MOLLUSKS	CORALS, SPONGES & OTHER INVERTS
Priacanthus meeki	Stylocidaris thompsoni ?	gorgonian, yellow bushy
Priacanthus alalaua	Diadematid	Antipathes sp.
Seriola dumerili	Callapid crab	anemone, brown
Parapercis schauinslandi	Diadematid, white	Cirripathes spiralis
Gymnothorax berndti	seastar, yellow & orange, bumpy	Antipathes sp., feathery
Chromis struhsakeri	Stichopus sp.	
Canthigaster arigulata	Cerianthid	
Luzonichthys earlei	Luganum futsiana	
Chaetodon miliaris		
Epinephelus quernus		
Evistrius acuturostirus		
Chilodactylus vittatus		

MISSION EVALUATION:

Limitations, failures, or operational problems noted:

Recommendations for corrective action or improvement:

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

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-1** held on 09--02.

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