

HAWAII UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

QUICK LOOK REPORT MISSION NO. RCV-211

MISSION STATUS

Mission Date: 11-23-02

Location (island, bank, seamount, etc): Big Island

Specific Site (NE side, summit, etc): South Point

Position (start latitude & longitude): 18° 50.615/157° 41.809

Depth range: 324-436 m

Project Title: Black and Pink Coral Resource Assessment

Principal Investigator: Richard Grigg

Address: Department of Oceanography, UH
1000 Pope Rd, Honolulu, HI 96822

Phone: 956-7186

Observer 1: Richard Grigg

Address: same as above

Observer 2: Sam Kahng

Address: same as above

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

Materials & Methods:

The objective of this dive was to survey the top of the South Point rift zone for precious corals. This was accomplished by conducting a video-transect using the RCV-150 ROV. The ROV was deployed at a depth of 436 m and recovered at 324 m, which essentially spanned the normal depth range for both pink (i.e., *Corallium spp*) and gold (i.e., *Gerardia spp*) corals. During the survey, invertebrates other than corals as well as any fish encountered were also recorded.

Scientific data acquired:

The substrate during the survey varied from sediment with carbonate pebbles to sediment dunes and finally a sediment covered hard pavement. None of these substrates are optimal for either pink or gold corals and consequently, none were observed. However, three non-commercial gorgonian corals were present, although not in any abundance, and included a *Paragorgia sp*, a *Callogorgia sp*, and a paramuricid. Few fish or other invertebrates were observed which was surprising given the location of this dive site. A complete listing of all animals recorded on the dive is provided below in Table 1.

Table 1: Biological organisms observed during the dive.

FISHES	ECHINODERMS, CRUSTACEANS, & MOLLUSKS	CORALS, SPONGES & OTHER INVERTS
Polymixia berndti	Mediaster ornatus	Paramuricid gold
Macrourid bronze	Plinthaster ceramoides	Paragorgia sp
Chironema chryseres	Astroceramus sp 1	Callogorgia sp
Chlorophthalmus japonicus		Anemone banded
Ophichthid		Pennatula sp 1
Satyrichthys engyceros		Lyrocteis sp

Specimens Collected:

None

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

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-211** held on 11-23-02.

- a. CTD data by 11-23-04
- b. video data by 11-23-04
- 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).

Richard W. Briggs Principal Investigator