

HAWAI'I UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY

**QUICK LOOK REPORT
ROV: RCV-354**

MISSION STATUS

Location: South Molokai

Latitude: 20° xx.xx' N

Longitude: 156° xx.xx' W

Mission Date: October 22, 2006

Duration: xx hours xx mins

Maximum Depth: 201 m

Project Title: Ecological impact of *Carijoa riisei* on black coral habitat

Principal Investigator: Sam Kahng, University of Hawaii

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Observer 1:

Observer 2:

Address: 1000 Pope Road, Honolulu, HI 96822

Pilot 1: Dan Greeson

Pilot 2: Peter Townsend

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

Objectives:

An investigation of the deep reef habitat was conducted in select locations in the Au'au Channel between the islands of Maui and Lanai in the Hawaiian Archipelago to determine the ecological impact of the *Carijoa riisei* biological invasion on the black coral habitat and the deep reef. This was one of two dives on the Pisces IV submersible and 3 remotely operated vehicle deployments of the RCV-150 conducted October 21-24, 2006.

Observations, findings, etc:

The RCV track was E along an underwater peninsula south of Kanakakai, Molokai.

The bottom 130-200 m either side of the peninsula was predominately soft bottomed and devoid of sessile benthic fauna. Closer to the peninsula, scattered rocks and exposed carbonate was observed. The edge of the peninsula was bordered by steep carbonate walls with high rugosity. Below 130 m the walls were largely devoid of sessile benthic fauna except for wire corals (*Stichopathes* sp.) and encrusting sponges. At the edge of the ridge at 125 m, a patch of *Leptoseris* was observed. The top of the ridge a ~105 m was sandy with a few dense patches of wire corals.

No black corals or *Carijoa riisei* were observed on this transect.

Species list:

Cirripathes sp..

Leptoseris spp.

Halimeda spp.

Ulva sp.

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.

Mission accomplished. The crew did a fine job in helping us meet our scientific objectives.

List specimens or samples collected on the mission.

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 (project title)

held on _____(date) in the following way:

- a. CTD data by _____(date)
- b. video and images by _____(date)
- 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