

State of California - The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Marine Resources Region
Long Beach, California

CRUISE REPORT 73-KB-14
SPORTFISH-KELP HABITAT STUDY

Prepared by Peter L. Haaker

Vessel: R/V KELP BASS

Dates: June 11-13 and 18-21, 1973

Locality: Nearshore waters of Catalina Island and Abalone Cove.

Purpose: 1. To transplant kelp (*Macrocystis* sp.) from Catalina Island to Abalone Cove off Palos Verdes Peninsula.

2. To collect specimens of halfmoon (*Medialuna californicus*) and opaleye (*Girella nigricans*) for life history studies.

3. To film transplant operations for a British television information series.

Procedures: Divers collected kelp from various Catalina Island kelp beds. Plants were bagged and brought onboard the KELP BASS. Haptera were strung with nylon lines.

Prepared kelp plants were taken to Abalone Cove where they were secured to floats on chains strung across the bottom.

Spearfishing was used to collect fish specimens.

Results: A total of 287 kelp plants was transplanted during the scheduled two week cruise. Inclement weather and ocean conditions encountered during the first week, resulted in a cancellation of operations on June 14 and 15.

Twenty-eight halfmoon and 38 opaleye were collected.

Personnel from Kerckhoff Laboratories, hoping to assist in Departmental transplant operations, and Jeff Foott and Sue Baxter of Anglia Television Limited, who were to film our operations, were unable to accompany us on the cruise.

Personnel: Marco Mazarovich, Vessel Captain
Ken Wilson, Biologist-in-charge
Pete Haaker, Biologist
Bob McAllister, Biologist (June 18-21)