

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

CRUISE REPORT 74-KB-1  
LOBSTER INVESTIGATIONS

Prepared by Robert A. Hardy

Vessel: R/V KELP BASS

Dates: January 12-16, 1974

Locality: Santa Catalina Island

Purpose: 1. To collect spiny lobster, *Panulirus interruptus*.  
2. To obtain blood samples and bacteriological swabs for spiny lobster.

Procedure: Trapping for lobster was conducted in areas of suitable lobster habitat in the vicinity of Isthmus Cove utilizing both commercial traps (2 ft x 4 inch mesh) and small mesh (1 inch x 1 inch) traps. Traps were fished at depths ranging from 20 to 70 ft. Additional lobster were captured by hand during night dives. All lobster caught were measured and sexed and all those between 48 mm and 111 mm were marked with coded tail punches corresponding to 3 mm carapace length (C.L.) size groupings.

Blood samples and bacteriological swabs were taken from approximately 100 lobster.

Results: Four nights of trapping yielded 337 spiny lobster and night diving accounted for an additional 26. A total of 293 new lobster were in our marking size range along with 52 recaptures. These were tail punched and all were released in the general area of capture.

Recapture rates for the four sets ranged between 13.4% and 21.8%. None of the recaptured lobster had moulted since being marked.

Mating had just begun as only 5% of the captured females were plastered.

Personnel: Marco Mazarovich, Vessel Captain  
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