Fiji - Lau Islands: Vanua Balavu

Lau Is. · 6 visits, 2013-06-21 – 2013-06-26

0 5

Coral Health Index: TBD

What was done. CRD ran no benthic survey here and has no cover measurement of its own for this site. The written account of the site is from the author's dive notes, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

—

not measured at this site

MOST RECENT HEAT LOAD RECORD

25.8°C 0.0°C-weeks

26 Oct 2026 · -1.9°C vs the past-365-day mean (27.7°C) · NOAA No heat stress

HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW)

8.9°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 8–12°C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

31.7 m

deepest of 15 logged dives

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

26.6–27.3°C

in situ, range of all logged dives

PHOTOGRAPHS

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none on file

POSITION

-17.2000, -178.9700

Approximate position.





Vanua Balavu is the main island of Fiji's remote northern Lau group; this is an island-level marker, not a survey of a specific reef. A 2013 Global Reef Expedition survey found live coral cover ranging 2.5-47% across 19 stations here, a pre-cyclone baseline predating both Severe Tropical Cyclone Winston (2016) and today's regional heat exposure, which now averages 8.9 DHW — above the severe-bleaching threshold.

Vosa Vakaviti. Ko Vanua Balavu na yanuyanu levu ena yatu Lau i vualiku, e yawa sara i Viti; oqo e dua ga na ivakatakilakila ni yanuyanu, e sega ni vakadidike ni dua na cakau. Ena 2013, e dua na vakadidike ni Global Reef Expedition e kunea ni ubi ni lase bula (live coral cover) e veitalia mai na 2.5-47% ena 19 na vanua ni vakadidike eke, e dua na ivakatagedegede taumada ni bera ni yaco na Cagilaba Bibi o Winston (Severe Tropical Cyclone Winston, 2016) kei na katakata ni wasawasa ena yasana oqo nikua, e 8.9 DHW na kena ivakatagedegede — e sivia na iyalayala ni vulavula bibi ni lase. *AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative. (low confidence)*

Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/fiji-lau-islands-vanua-balavu.html · Heat stress is the mean of the latest five annual maxima of NOAA Coral Reef Watch degree-heating weeks for this reef's NOAA CRW virtual station (Fiji) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.