Fiji - Matuku (FJMT10)

surveyed 2013-06-06

0 — 5

Coral Health Index: TBD

Outlier score: 4.44/5 (Matuku, n = 9 corals with an outlier score). The share of those corals whose molecular stress profile was an outlier, rescaled to 0-5 (5 = no outliers); an island-level measure (Mayfield et al. 2017), not a Coral Health Index.

What was done. Coral cover here was measured on in-situ benthic transects run by divers on the Living Oceans Foundation Global Reef Expedition over 6 transects — a diver measurement, not an estimate read off photographs. The written account of the site is drawn from the Global Reef Expedition's survey records and field reports.

HARD CORAL COVER

38%

Benthic transects+photo-quadrats

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

29.0 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

26.9°C

CTD-cast midpoint of 26.8–27.0°C

-0.3°C vs the 2013 mean sea temperature (27.2°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS

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none on file

POSITION

-19.1178, 179.7382

Coordinate from the supporting data of Mayfield et al. (2017, PLoS ONE).





Fore-reef sand flats at the base of a steep slope off Matuku, a volcanic island in Lau Province, surveyed in poor, silty visibility on a dive to 29 m. Plating *Pachyseris* and *Echinopora* are common at the slope base, and the survey team noted coral-eating *Drupella* snails and recent mortality scars on several colonies. Surveyed on the Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition.

Vosa Vakaviti. Na nuku savasava ena yasana i tuba ni cakau (fore reef) ena vu ni baba titobu mai Matuku, e dua na yanuyanu vulikano ena Yasana o Lau (Lau Province), a vakadidiketaki ena rairai ni wai e ca ka veidrukai ena nunu ki na 29 m. E levu na *Pachyseris* kei na *Echinopora* vakaiteba (plating) ena vu ni baba, ka vola na ilawalawa ni vakadidike na *Drupella* (snails) e kania na lase kei na mavoa ni mate vou ena vica na lase. *AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative. (low confidence)*

Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-fiji-matuku-fjmt10.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.