Fiji - Matuku (FJMT11)

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 4 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

30%

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

18.3 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

27.0°C

CTD-cast midpoint of 27.0–27.1°C

-0.2°C vs the 2013 mean sea temperature (27.2°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS

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none on file

POSITION

-19.1585, 179.7304

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





Silty fore-reef sand flats at the base of Matuku's steep slope, with large branching acroporids and plating corals, at 30% cover. Coral-eating *Drupella* snails on several colonies may explain recent mortality scars, and a Reef Check station 0.53 km away recorded 56% in 1999 (a different method and site, so not a true trend). 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 i Matuku, e veidrukai na wai, e tu kina na acroporid vakatabataba levu kei na lase vakaiteba (plating), ka 30% na ubi ni lase (coral cover). Na vivili (snails) *Drupella* e kania na lase ena vica na lase e rairai vakamacalataka na mavoa ni mate vou, ka e dua na vanua ni Reef Check e 0.53 km na kena yawa e vola na 56% ena 1999 (e duatani na iwalewale kei na vanua, sa sega kina ni ivakatakilakila dina ni veisau). *AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative. (low confidence)*

Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-fiji-matuku-fjmt11.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.