Tonga - Ha'apai (TOHA20)

surveyed 2013-09-17

0 — 5

Coral Health Index: TBD

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 5 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

26%

Benthic transects+photo-quadrats

MOST RECENT HEAT LOAD RECORD

24.3°C **0.0°C-weeks**

26 Oct 2026 · -2.5°C vs the past-365-day mean (26.8°C) · NOAA No heat stress

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

8.1°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 8–12°C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH (TEAM DIVE LOG)

14.6 m

expedition team log maximum (not Anderson's own dive)

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

24.5°C

CTD-cast midpoint of 24.3–24.7°C

-2.0°C vs the 2013 mean sea temperature (26.5°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS

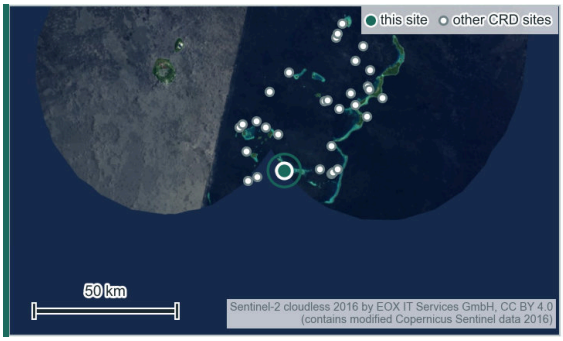
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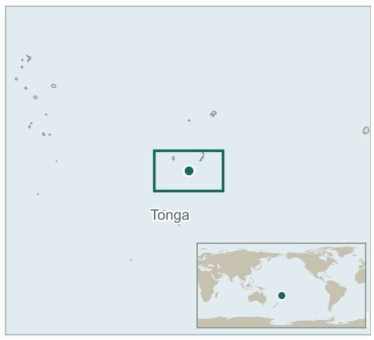
none on file

POSITION

-20.0623, -174.6646

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





Anderson did not dive this site; the survey team describes a lagoon reef, side-on to the trade winds by its position, whose shallows were 60% covered by large leathery soft corals, with snail damage and white syndrome on staghorn. By 10-15 m the bottom was mostly sand, with 30-40% dead coral and only 5.0-10% live. Surveyed on the Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition.

lea faka-Tonga. Na‘e ‘ikai uku ‘a Anderson ‘i he potu ni; ‘oku fakamatala‘i ‘e he timi savea ha hakau ‘i he namo, ‘oku ‘i he tafa‘aki ki he matangi tokelau-hahake (trade winds) ‘o fakatatau ki hono tu‘u‘anga, na‘e ‘ufi‘ufi hono feitu‘u mamaha ‘aki ‘a e 60% ‘e he feo molū fakakili lalahi (leathery soft corals), mo e maumau ‘a e ‘elele (snail damage) mo e mahaki white syndrome ‘i he feo staghorn. ‘I he 10-15 m, ko e lahi taha ‘o e takele tahi ko e ‘one‘one, mo e feo mate ‘o e 30-40% pea ko e feo mo‘ui pē ‘o e 5.0-10%. *AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative. (low confidence)*

Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-tonga-ha-apai-toha20.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 (Southern Tonga) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.