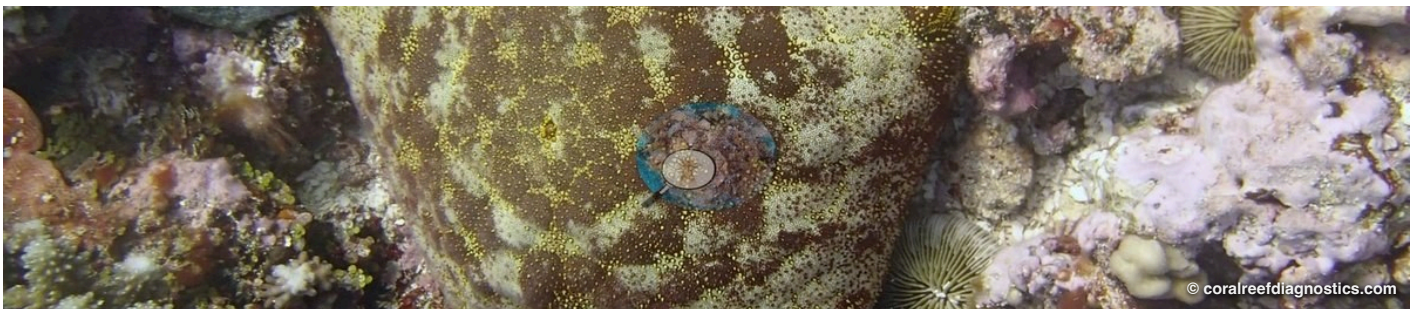
Tonga - Vava'u (TOVA45)

surveyed 2013-09-26



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 6 transects — a diver measurement, not an estimate read off photographs. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs and of the author's dive notes, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

38%

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

29.6 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

26.4°C

CTD-cast midpoint; the cast read 26.4°C throughout

-0.7°C vs the 2013 mean sea temperature (27.1°C)

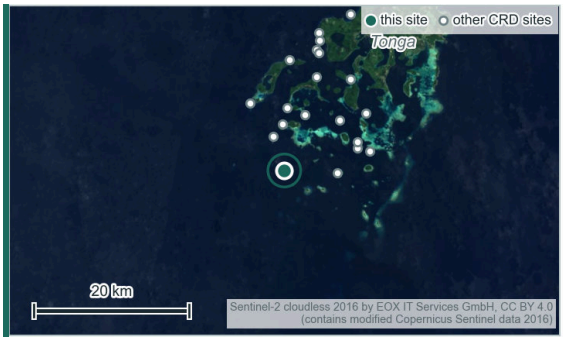
PHOTOGRAPHS

2 in the gallery · 2 on file

POSITION

-18.7966, -174.1095

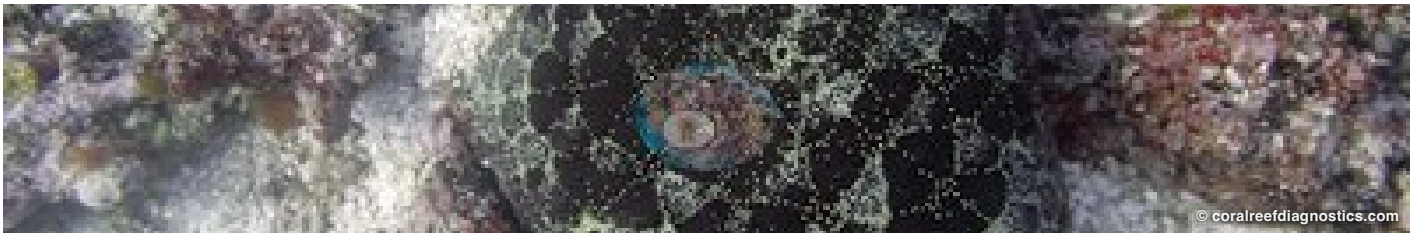
Coordinate from the supporting data of Mayfield et al. (2017, PLoS ONE).





A leeward fringing reef off a small southwestern island in Vava'u, where coral peaks at 30-50% around 5 m among small branching and table corals, then thins with depth into rubble and scattered staghorn stands. Patches of *Halimeda* and *Caulerpa* algae and about 10% cyanobacteria (a by-eye estimate; the transects recorded 3.0%) cover parts of the reef. Surveyed on the Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition.

lea faka-Tonga. Ko ha hakau matafonua (fringing reef) ʻi he tafaʻaki maluʻi mei he matangi (leeward) ʻi ha kiʻi motu ʻi he tonga hihifo ʻo Vavaʻu, ʻoku māʻolunga taha ai ʻa e feo ʻi he 30-50% ʻi he meimei 5 m ʻi he lotolotonga ʻo e kiʻi feo fakavaʻava'a mo fakatēpile (table), pea ʻoku siʻi ange ʻi he loloto ange ki he maka momoa (rubble) mo e ngaahi vao staghorn mavahevahe. ʻOku ʻufiʻufi ha ngaahi konga ʻo e hakau ʻe he ngaahi konga ʻo e limu *Halimeda* mo e *Caulerpa* pea mo e meimei 10% ʻo e cyanobacteria (ko ha fakafuofua ʻaki e mata; naʻe lēkooti ʻe he ngaahi transect ʻa e 3.0%). *AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative. (low confidence)*



Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 2 on this card; 2 in the gallery · 2 on file; watermarked · Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-tonga-vava-u-tova45.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.