

Assessing the effects of changes in Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning plans on southern mid-shelf shoals using Baited Remote Underwater Video Stations (BRUVS) (TM) (MTRF Project 4.8.2)



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Title	Assessing the effects of changes in Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning plans on southern mid-shelf shoals using Baited Remote Underwater Video Stations (BRUVS) (TM) (MTRF Project 4.8.2)
Date	2006-07-12
Date type	Creation

Abstract	<p>Surveys were undertaken in February/March and August/September 2007 (Autumn and Spring) and October 2009 (Spring) on two pairs of discrete deepwater shoals in the mid-shelf section of the southern Great Barrier Reef - East and West Warregos; Karamea and Barcoo Banks. Within each pair, one shoal was from a 'Green' (closed to all fishing) and the other from a 'Blue' (open to fishing) zone, based on the rezoning carried out in 2004. The demersal vertebrate communities were sampled using non-extractive Baited Remote Underwater Video Stations (BRUVS), which revealed a diverse (c250 species) fauna of fish, sharks, rays and seasnakes.</p> <p>Variables recorded: Habitat composition of underlying substratum (sand, rubble, consolidated outcrop or reef), and epibenthic community (hard coral, soft coral, sponge, macroalgae, whips and gorgonians, encrusting organisms, bare substratum) - estimated from BRUVS field of view as percentage cover of each component, to nearest 10%. Zone (Green, G; or Blue, B); Reef name; Habitat class (coral - coral dominated reef; garden - gorgonian and seawhip garden; rubble - low relief rubble field; sand - open sandy seabed); Depth (m; or shallow, deep); Latitude and longitude (ship's GPS position at deployment); Trip (1 - February, autumn; 2 - August/September, spring). In some (stereo) BRUVs the size of fishes was recorded (mm).</p> <p>Fish species were placed in categories depending on the likelihood of being caught and retained by line fishers: (a) 'Highly sought after reef dwelling species' - the most desirable reef dwelling species based on eating qualities and size, as well as their reef dwelling habits. (b) 'Sought after reef dwelling and pelagic species' - as in (a) plus pelagic and semi-pelagic species, and smaller, acceptable food fishes. (c) 'All species considered likely to be caught by line fishers including by-catch' - as in (b) plus the undesirable fishes that form by-catch. (d) 'Species considered unlikely to be caught by line fishers' - all species unlikely to be hooked because of their dietary preferences or small size.</p>
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Metadata language	eng
Character set	UTF8
Hierarchy level	Dataset

OnLine resource

Linkage	https://eatlas.org.au/data/uuid/6c3302ea-4955-470a-9922-ae5207f02f63
Protocol	WWW:LINK-1.0-http--metadata-URL
Linkage	http://www.rrrc.org.au/mtsrf/theme_4/project_4_8_2.html
Protocol	WWW:LINK-1.0-http--link

Point of contact

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Organisation name	Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS)
Position name	Experimental Scientist
Role	Point of contact
Topic category	Oceans
Topic category	Biota
Topic category	Environment

Keyword

Keyword	Oceans - Coastal Processes - Shoals
Keyword	Biosphere - Aquatic Ecosystems - Benthic Habitat
Keyword	Biosphere - Ecological Dynamics - Community Dynamics , Community Structure
Keyword	Biological Classification - Animals/Vertebrates - Fish , Sharks/Rays/Chimaeras
Keyword	Biological Classification - Animals/Vertebrates - Fish , Ray-finned Fishes
Keyword	Human Dimensions - Environmental Impacts - Environmental Assessments
Type	Theme
Keyword	Marine Protected Areas
Keyword	Representative Areas Program
Keyword	Marine Park zoning
Type	Theme

Extent

Geographic bounding box

West bound	151.5351
East bound	152.5025
South bound	-24.1237
North bound	-22.6379

Lineage

Statement	Fish, sharks, rays and seasnakes were included as 'fish'. There was a lack of data on spatial and temporal variation in fishing effort around the shoal habitats.
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Resource constraints

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