

Eye on the Reef Visual Aid

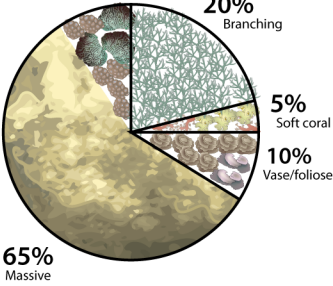
Step 1: Select your site

- Randomly select RHIS site
- Select a memorable centre point
- Swim 5 metres to the north, south, east and west of the centre and select perimeter reference points
- Swim the perimeter between these points, looking towards the centre
- Consider which benthic categories are most and least common

See EotR RHIS Training: Module 4

Step 4: Estimate lifeforms

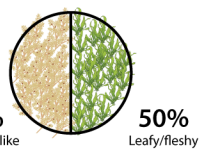
Coral



Tip: see below

See EotR RHIS Training: Modules 4&5

Macroalgae



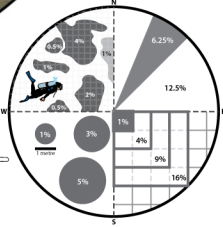
Step 2: Classify the benthos

- Macroalgae
- Live coral
- Recently dead coral
- Live coral rock
- Coral rubble
- Sand

See EotR RHIS Training: Modules 3

Step 3: Estimate % cover

- Start with most and least common
- In this example:
 - Sand = 50%
 - Live coral = 35% (20% coral bommie + 15% other coral)
 - Coral rubble = 0%
- Remember total benthos must equal 100%



Tip: Use the RHIS % cover tool, see www.gbrmpa.gov.au

See EotR RHIS Training: Modules 4

BENTHOS

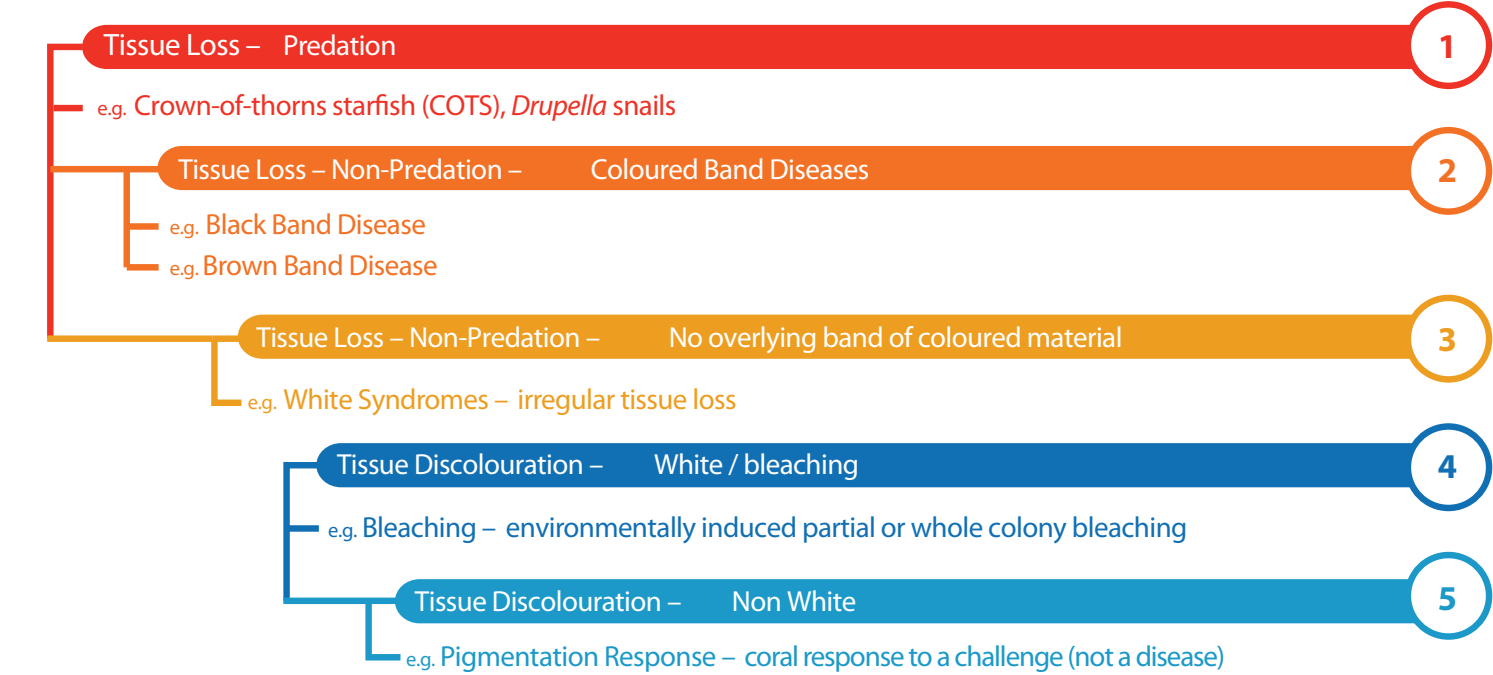
Macroalgae	Live coral	Recently dead coral	Live coral rock	Coral rubble	Sand

MACROALGAE

Slime	Entangled/mat-like	Filamentous	Leafy/fleshy	Tree/bush-like

CORAL LIFEFORM

Soft coral	Branching	Bushy	Plate/table	Vase/foliose	Encrusting	Mushroom	Massive



Estimating percent impact (example)

1) Proportion of coral cover (live and recently dead)
branching = 50% massive = 25% plate = 25% = **100%**

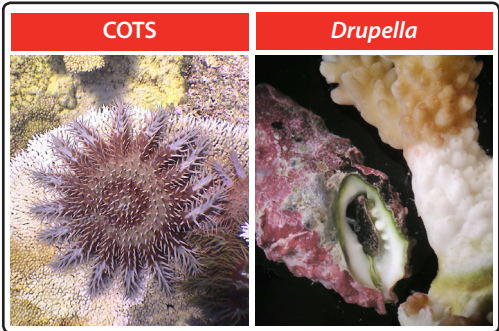
2) Proportion of the corals that are bleached
branching = 50% massive = 0% plate = 33%

Growth Anomalies

Recent Coral Damage

For more information including how to use the above decision tree please refer to R. Beeden et al (2008). *Underwater Cards for Assessing Coral Health on Indo-Pacific Reefs* <<http://gefcoral.org/>>

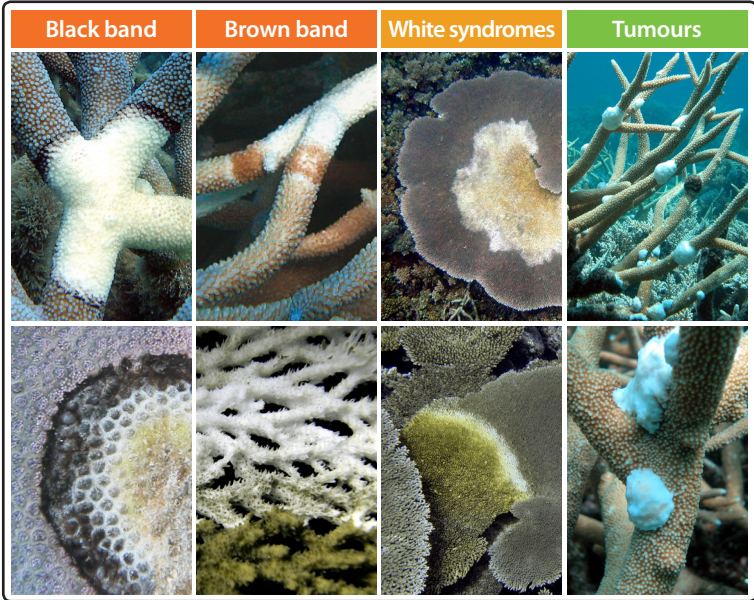
PREDATORS



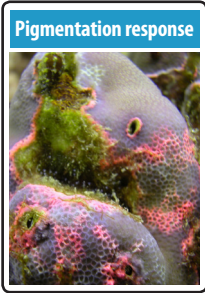
BLEACHING SEVERITY



CORAL DISEASE



DISCOLOURATION



CORAL DAMAGE

