

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	1
INTRODUCTION	3
METHODS	4
Study Reefs	4
Site Selection	6
Benthic Cover Surveys	6
Species Diversity and Size Frequencies	6
Other Criteria	6
Done Biodiversity Value	7
Done Bioconstruction Value	7
RESULTS	9
Physical Characteristics of the Reefs	9
Cover of Benthic Organisms	9
Biodiversity	12
Bioconstruction	13
Rating of Overall Reef Value	15
DISCUSSION	17
Implications for Management	20
REFERENCES	21
APPENDICES	23
Appendix 1. Summary of abundance of benthic organisms from the survey reefs	23
Appendix 2. Shoalwater Bay fringing reef hard coral species list	25
Appendix 3. Colour scenes from the Shoalwater Bay fringing reefs	27
TABLES	
1. List of study reefs	4
2. Anova table for patterns of total coral cover among the survey reefs	12
3. Groupings of reefs with similar coral cover	12
4. Biodiversity values for the Shoalwater Bay locations	13
5. Bioconstruction values of the survey reefs	14
6. Relative value of the Shoalwater Bay reefs	16
7. Summary of hard coral cover on Great Barrier Reef fringing reefs	17
FIGURES	
1. Map of the Shoalwater Bay area showing reef positions	5
2. Abundance of benthic groups on the survey reefs	10
3. Distribution of <i>Montipora</i> spp. and <i>Acropora</i> spp. on the survey reefs	13
4. Suggested five point scale for reef value showing ranking of the Shoalwater Bay reefs	15