

Changes in Reef Coral Coverage at Kahe Point, Oahu, Hawaii During 19 Years of Monitoring.

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Coral coverage on 10 quadrats at each of four stations near Kahe Point, leeward Oahu was measured yearly from 1981 through 1999 by re-photographing marked areas on the reef. This 19-year period included the occurrences of two major hurricanes, which impacted the area in 1982 and 1992, and other periods of high wave turbulence. Repeated measures ANOVA indicates significant differences among stations, time and station-time interaction that correspond to different periods of ocean turbulence at three of the stations. By contrast, no significant change in coverage with time occurred at the station closest to the thermal outfall of the Kahe Power Station. Hurricane-related decreases in coral coverage are indicated which extended well after the times of the storms. Lag time for the onset of recovery in coral coverage after a major disturbance was two to five years.

Coles SL and Brown E (2000) Changes in reef coral coverage at Kahe Point, Oahu, Hawai'i during 19 years of monitoring. 9th International Coral Reef Symposium. October 23-27, 2000. Bali, Indonesia.