

Supplementary Material

Table S1. Mean percentage cover of benthic taxa recorded inside and outside *P. wardi* territories on Lizard Island

Benthic component	Taxa	Inside territories Average (SE)	Outside territories Average (SE)
Soft coral	<i>Sinularia</i> spp.	15.7 (2.1)	10.5 (2.1)
	<i>Isis</i> spp.	16.3 (2.1)	12.9 (3.1)
	<i>Sarcophyton</i> spp.	3.7 (1.2)	2.5 (1.2)
Hard coral	Faviidae	3.9 (1.6)	1.3 (0.8)
	Poritiidae	1.1 (0.6)	4.5 (2.0)
	<i>Acropora</i> spp.	3.7(1.8)	1.5 (1.0)
	<i>Montipora</i> spp.	0.9 (0.7)	1.1 (0.9)
	Pocilloporidae	1.7 (0.9)	1 (0.8)
	Fungiidae	0.2 (0.2)	0
	<i>Millepora</i>	0	0.6 (0.6)
Macroalgae (fleshy)	<i>Turbinaria</i> spp.	0.7 (0.7)	0.8 (0.8)
	<i>Dictyota</i> spp.	0	0.2 (0.2)
Macroalgae (corticated)	Rhodophyta	0.1 (0.1)	0.1 (0.1)
Macroalgae (calcified erect)	<i>Amphiroa</i> spp.	0.4 (0.3)	0
	<i>Jania</i> spp.	0	0.2 (0.2)
	<i>Halimeda</i> spp.	1 (0.4)	0.6 (0.3)
Crustose coralline algae	CCA	0.4 (0.4)	0.1 (0.1)
Turf	Thin turf <3mm	42.6 (4.5)	50.6 (6.2)
	Thick turf >3mm	4.7 (1.5)	0
Other	<i>Tridacna</i> spp.	0.4 (0.3)	0
	Porifera	0.1 (0.1)	0.1 (0.1)
	Sand	2.5 (2.0)	12.6 (3.7)