

the >20cm size group than in the >10 – 20cm size range, in 2001 this occurred at 4 out of the 8 survey sites. In 2002, only at Site 8 were there more fish in the >20cm category.

In 2001 a significant correlation was found between the number of species counted and the east/west position of the survey sites. It was not apparent in 1999 nor in 2002.

Significant links are being found, as in previous years, between the density or number of species in certain families, and habitat complexity as measured by the percentage live coral or live and dead coral combined. This year such correlations have been seen within the Serranids, Pomacentrids and Chaetodontids, but not within the Labrids.

It is hoped that additional analyses, combined with several more years of data collection at Aldabra will reveal meaningful trends in the reef fish populations at the permanent survey sites. Meanwhile, based on the limited time period and analysis, there does not appear to be any cause for concern with the overall status and health of the Aldabra outer reef fish population.

At Assomption, Astove and St. Pierre, two points are of note. First, the species richness at each location is about half that recorded at Aldabra. Given this fact, the fish density is high, but there is a *Lepidozygus tapeinosoma* effect. With counts of that species removed, the average densities are reduced to 1,513; 1,516; and 1,920 fish per 100m<sup>2</sup> for each island, respectively, which is higher than the 962 fish per 100m<sup>2</sup> average (*L. tapeinosoma* excluded) for all sites at Aldabra.



*Chaetodon melannotus*.

## Echinoderm Community

Following on from the urchin surveys conducted at Aldabra Atoll (Callow *et al.* 2001), it was considered that comparative urchin surveys of Astove, Assomption and St. Pierre would benefit our understanding of the coral reef recovery process in the southern Seychelles islands group. With urchins believed to play a leading role in the success of coral recolonisation (Sammarco 1980, 1982), estimation of their abundance is essential if the threats posed to the recovery of corals are to be reliably assessed. As with Aldabra Atoll, the islands of Astove, Assomption and St. Pierre are free from major anthropogenic disturbances (although to a lesser extent than Aldabra Atoll) and, as such, offer value as study sites for investigating reef recovery processes following on from the bleaching induced mortality event of 1997/1998.

Callow *et al.* (2001) concluded that the impact of urchins on coral recruit survivorship at Aldabra Atoll is negligible. When comparing the species observed at all the study sites there are few noticeable differences. A total of seven urchin species (three families) were observed at Aldabra, compared with six species (three families) at Astove, Assomption and St. Pierre. *A. radiata* and *T. gratilla* were not seen during the AMP Phase III survey but a new species, *E. metularia*, was noted at Assomption.

When considering urchin abundance, the surveys conducted at Aldabra, Astove, Assomption and St. Pierre, indicate similar population densities. Phase III AMP surveys showed *E. molaris* to be the most abundant species at Astove, and, to a much lesser extent, at St. Pierre. *Echinostrephus molaris* was also the most abundant species at Aldabra (Callow *et al.* 2001). It is worth noting that Astove possesses by far the highest density of *E. molaris* observed at all sites. Assomption exhibited a higher density of *D. setosum*. As per the AMP Phase II surveys of Aldabra, the ‘target’ species *D. setosum* and *E. mathaei* were observed only in low densities at the new island sites.

Spatially, urchin densities at Astove, Assomption and St. Pierre showed a similar pattern to that observed at Aldabra, particularly with *E. molaris*. Astove was the only site surveyed on the more exposed northeast coast during 2002 and, as with the exposed sites at Aldabra, *E. molaris* density was high. These strong surge-current environments are preferred by *E. molaris* (Barnes 1987). Assomption and St. Pierre were surveyed on the more sheltered western coasts and, as per the sheltered Aldabran sites, *E. molaris* abundance was

correspondingly low. Other urchin species did not reveal any strong geographical preferences. This was also the case at Aldabra.

As concluded for Aldabra, it is suggested that the impact of ‘target’ urchins on coral recruit survivorship at Astove, Assomption and St. Pierre islands is negligible, primarily owing to similar low ‘target’ urchin population densities. In comparison, a maximum of 250 ‘target’ urchins per 125m<sup>2</sup> have been recorded around the inner granitic Seychelles Islands (Englehardt 2001). This conclusion is reinforced by the evaluation that the BSU index value of ‘3’ (the critical threshold) is never exceeded for the target species on the southern islands. Including the moderately ‘bio-erosive’ *E. molaris* into the density counts for Astove, Assomption and St. Pierre raises only Astove (343 ‘bio-eroders’ per 125m<sup>2</sup>) above the critical density threshold (BSU of 5). As *E. molaris* feeds primarily on endolithic and encrusting algae from the wall of its burrow, as well as on algal fragments and other organic debris that are washed into the burrow (Barnes 1987), it is suggested that the presence of *E. molaris* does not have a strong influence on the post-settlement survival of coral recruits. This was also reported to be the case for Aldabra (Callow *et al.* 2001).

No *A. planci* were observed during AMP Phase III, though two specimens were seen during a later visit to Aldabra in March 2002. . Callow *et al.* (2001) also reported that only 3 *A. Planci* were seen at Aldabra in that year. Low numbers of this coral feeder at all sites suggests no present threat to the reefs by *A. Planci* plagues

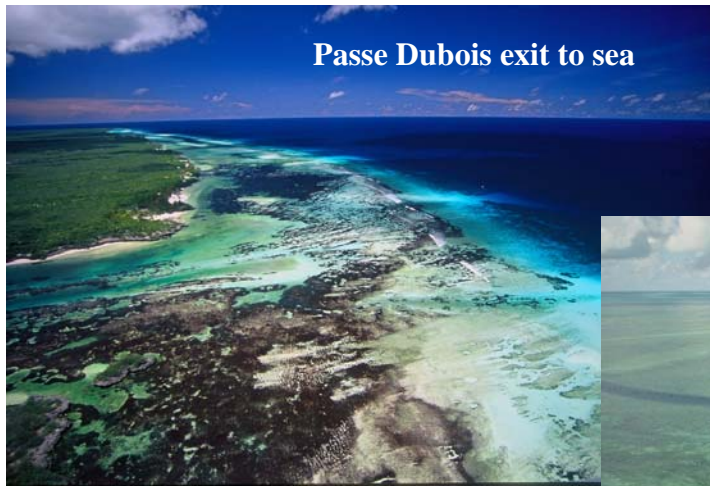
## **Temperature Data Loggers**

Onset Computer Corporation was informed that 80% of the Optic StowAway Temp loggers had flooded, but they could not provide any explanation without examination of the loggers. They reported that they could recover data from a failed logger. However, upon examination of the temperature record data subsequently recovered from the eight failed loggers, they noted that the recorded temperatures began to “drift”, presumably with the onset of moisture contamination. Furthermore, the error falsely increased the recorded temperature and there was no way to determine when the erroneous temperature recordings started. This explained the falsely high temperatures recorded by the Site 1 logger when it was still operating. As there was no way to tell when the erroneous temperature readings began, the recovered temperature records cannot be used.

The purpose of a long-term temperature recording system in the marine environment at Aldabra was to accurately record the *in-situ* water temperatures associated with any future high sea surface temperature (SST) events, and to provide accurate temperature information vital to assessments of damage and recovery in the coral and reef fish communities of the atoll. An SST event can be caused by temperatures a few degrees above average for an extended period. When the temperature loggers began to fail they recorded incorrect temperatures within the SST range for the Indian Ocean. This is a tremendous loss of information for the AMP. Temperature records have been lost for one year due to the failed loggers. The same is likely for the second year as, due to failure of loggers, it was not possible to locate them where planned and the loggers deployed in 2002 are faulty and are also likely to fail. Upon examination of the returned loggers, Onset Computer Corporation reported that this model logger flooded because the welds sealing the plastic case failed after more than three months exposure to temperatures  $>28^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This temperature and period are well within the temperature recording range of  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+75^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and the 10-year battery life, given as the specifications for this logger.

## **Aerial Surveys**

The AMP has conducted the first trial aerial surveys of Aldabra. The use of an inflatable flying boat (IFB) for such work is feasible, and just a few hours flight highlighted the potential the IFB has for further research at Aldabra. The shallow nature of the lagoon makes surveys from boats difficult and many areas are inaccessible most of the time. The IFB allows large areas of lagoon to be surveyed in a short period of time with minimum tidal constraints. Within minutes of starting flights we were able to locate a *Dugong*, and it was clear that the shark, ray and turtle populations are very large. This is the fifth sighting of a *Dugong* in a year, four other sightings have been made by station staff in 2001 (on one of these occasions two dugongs were sighted). This species has not been sighted in the Seychelles for many years and its presence in the lagoon at Aldabra merits further research.



## **The Aldabra Marine Programme: Short Term and Long Term**

The AMP has increased its research base in 2002 by:

- Surveying a new site at the exposed southeastern tip of Aldabra;
- Establishing three new permanent monitoring sites at Assumption, Atove and St. Pierre, all east of Aldabra;
- Conducting echinoderm surveys at Assumption, Astove and St. Pierre;
- Conducting the first preliminary aerial surveys of the lagoon at Aldabra;
- Tagging new recruit corals at Aldabra to follow their survival and growth;
- Tagging large *Acropora* corals at Astove to monitor their progress.

All of the goals of the AMP Phase III 2002 expedition were met with two exceptions:

Firstly, the AMP is committed to training Seychellois rangers in marine survey techniques and intended to do so during Phase III. However, due to funding difficulties the expedition was not confirmed in time to find suitable candidates and arrange for their participation in the expedition. It is hoped that timing of future expeditions will allow training of rangers to continue. The prospects for Aldabra Research Station staff to conduct marine surveys were improved in March 2002 thanks to the donation of diving equipment by an Italian film crew. An AMP member was able to train Station staff in the operation of the air compressor and procedures for filling diving cylinders.

Secondly, the temperature data loggers were not deployed as planned due to a serious logger design fault. New loggers will be deployed in future expeditions.

The AMP has continued to operate a long term marine programme at Aldabra, and has expanded its work eastward to include Assumption, Astove and St. Pierre. Inclusion of new sites progressively further from Aldabra, and with increasing anthropogenic influence, will provide valuable long term comparative data. The study will be increased in 2003 with the establishment of a new lagoon site at Aldabra at a location of exceptional coral cover located in March 2002. It is also hoped that a study of “coralliths” will be initiated within the lagoon and there are plans to conduct regular aerial surveys of the lagoon to initiate habitat mapping and species counts for this unique ecosystem.

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Underwater observations are difficult to record at the best of times. This has proved to be much easier with the use of ICI Imagedata's 'permanent paper' (2EP169). We would like to thank ICI Imagedata, and particularly Godfrey Moore, who kindly arranged for this to be donated to AMP.

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# Appendix

Appendix 1. Species of fish counted in the transects and sighted off transect during the Aldabra Marine Programme surveys in February 2002, February 2001 and November 1999.

FAMILY/Genus species	2002	2002	2001	2001	1999	1999
	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-7	SITES 1-7
	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect
<b>MYLIOBATIDAE</b>						
<i>Aetobatis narinari</i>		X				X
<b>MURAENIDAE</b>						
<i>Gymnothorax breedeni</i>					1	
<i>Gymnothorax flavimarginatus</i>			1		2	
<i>Gymnothorax favagineus</i>		X				
<b>HETEROCONGRIDAE</b>						
<i>Heteroconger hassi</i>						X
<b>CHANIDAE</b>						
<i>Chanos chanos</i>	2			X		X
<b>BELONIDAE</b>						
<i>Tylosurus crocodilus</i>			1			
<b>SYNODONTIDAE</b>						
<i>Synodus jaculum</i>					3	
<i>Synodus variegatus</i>	8				9	
<b>HOLOCENTRIDAE</b>						
<i>Myripristis adusta</i>	22		12		6	
<i>Myripristis berndti</i>	220		297		72	
<i>Myripristis murdjan</i>			36		98	
<i>Myripristis vittata</i>					52	
<i>Neoniphon sammara</i>	7		7		19	
<i>Sargocentron caudimaculatum</i>	34		92		106	
<i>Sargocentron diadema</i>	3		13			X
<i>Sargocentron spiniferum</i>	2		2		14	
<b>SERRANIDAE</b>						
<i>Aethaloperca rogaa</i>	41		552		1	
<i>Cephalopholis argus</i>	23		21		2	
<i>Cephalopholis leoparda</i>			4		1	
<i>Cephalopholis miniata</i>	31		20		58	
<i>Cephalopholis spiloparaea</i>			27			X
<i>Cephalopholis urodeta</i>		X	16		176	
<i>Dermatolepis striolatus</i>			1			X
<i>Epinephelus fasciatus</i>	2		27		60	
<i>Epinephelus fuscoguttatus</i>			1			X

## Appendix 1 Aldabra (continued)

FAMILY/Genus species	2002	2002	2001	2001	1999	1999
	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-7	SITES 1-7
	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect
<i>Epinephelus multinotatus</i>	3					X
<i>Epinephelus polyphekadion</i>			4		2	
<i>Epinephelus spilotoceps</i>	8		4		19	
<i>Epinephelus tukula</i>	1				2	
<i>Gracilia albomarginata</i>	16		10		7	
<i>Plectropomus laevis</i>	1		1		1	
<i>Plectropomus punctatus</i>		X				X
<i>Variola louti</i>	10		3		2	
<i>Nemanthias carberryi</i>			1			X
<i>Pseudanthias cooperi</i>	4		17		1975	
<i>Pseudanthias evansi</i>	172		381		91	
<i>Pseudanthias squamipinnis</i>	2747		2027		18679	
<i>Plectropomus areolatus</i>	3		6			X
<i>Cephalopholis nigripinnis</i>	100		64			
<i>Pseudanthias ignitis</i>		X	6			
<i>Anyperodon leucogrammicus</i>			1			
<i>Epinephelus lanceolatus</i>		X				
<b>APOGONIDAE</b>						
<i>Apogon angustatus</i>		X				X
<i>Apogon apogonoides</i>	3937		2237		13285	
<i>Apogon fraenatus</i>	2				6	
<i>Apogon nigrofaciatus</i>	2				10	
<i>Cheilodipterus artus (lachneri)</i>						X
<i>Cheilodipterus macrodon</i>	1		1		3	
<i>Cheilodipterus quinquelineatus</i>	6					
<b>HAEMULIDAE</b>						
<i>Plectorhinchus gaterinus</i>		X	7			X
<i>Plectorhinchus obscurus</i>	1		7		2	
<i>Plectorhinchus orientalis</i>	2		4		1	
<i>Plectorhinchus paulayi</i>		X				X
<i>Plectorhinchus plagiodesmus</i>	2				2	
<b>LUTJANIDAE</b>						
<i>Aphareus furca</i>	17		17		17	
<i>Aprion virescens</i>			3		1	
<i>Lutjanus bengalensis</i>		X	1		5	
<i>Lutjanus bohar</i>	20		43		23	
<i>Lutjanus fulvus</i>						X
<i>Lutjanus gibbus</i>		X	6		1	
<i>Lutjanus kasmira</i>	149		715		166	
<i>Lutjanus monostigma</i>	1		14		37	
<i>Lutjanus obscurus</i>						X
<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>				X		
<i>Lutjanus fulviflamma</i>		X				

## Appendix 1 Aldabra (continued)

FAMILY/Genus species	2002	2002	2001	2001	1999	1999
	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-7	SITES 1-7
	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect
<b>CAESIONIDAE</b>						
<i>Caesio teres</i>					275	
<i>Caesio xanthonota</i>		X	94		21	
<i>Pterocaesio lativittata</i>	8		75			X
<i>Pterocaesio marri</i>						X
<i>Pterocaesio tile</i>	23		3201		4438	
<b>MULLIDAE</b>						
<i>Parupeneus barbarensis</i>	64		2		3	
<i>Parupeneus bifasciatus</i>	18		20		17	
<i>Parupeneus cyclostomus</i>	15		10		5	
<i>Parupeneus macronema</i>	71		219		82	
<i>Parupeneus pleurostigma</i>	1		4		5	
<i>Mulloidichthys vanicolensis</i>		X	550			
<i>Parupeneus rubescens</i>			1			
<b>PEMPHERIDAE</b>						
<i>Pempheris vanicolensis</i>	1				1	
<b>CHAETODONTIDAE</b>						
<i>Chaetodon auriga</i>	12		30		26	
<i>Chaetodon bennetti</i>	13		6			X
<i>Chaetodon falcula</i>	14		14		11	
<i>Chaetodon guttatissimus</i>	33		40		26	
<i>Chaetodon kleinii</i>	39		20		33	
<i>Chaetodon lineolatus</i>	2		2		4	
<i>Chaetodon lunula</i>	14		10		15	
<i>Chaetodon melannotus</i>	11				3	
<i>Chaetodon meyeri</i>	19		7		12	
<i>Chaetodon paucifasciatus</i>					2	
<i>Chaetodon trifasciatus</i>	16		12		17	
<i>Chaetodon unimaculatus</i>	1					X
<i>Chaetodon xanthocephalus</i>			9		2	
<i>Chaetodon zanzibariensis</i>	2		5		2	
<i>Forcipiger flavissimus</i>	24		42		5	
<i>Forcipiger longirostris</i>	1				9	
<i>Hemitaenichthys zoster</i>	54		19		8	
<i>Heniochus acuminatus</i>	1		1			X
<i>Heniochus diphreutes</i>					3	
<i>Heniochus monoceros</i>		X	1		2	
<i>Chaetodon interruptus</i>	2		2			
<i>Chaetodon madagaskariensis</i>	2		8			
<i>Chaetodon vagabundus</i>	1		2			
<i>Heniochus singularius</i>			2			
<b>LETHRINIDAE</b>						
<i>Gnathodentex aureolineatus</i>						X
<i>Lethrinus nebulosus</i>		X	3			X

## Appendix 1 Aldabra (continued)

FAMILY/Genus species	2002	2002	2001	2001	1999	1999
	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-7	SITES 1-7
	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect
<i>Monotaxis grandoculis</i>	35		59		40	
<i>Lethrinus xanthurus</i>		X		X		
<i>Lethrinus obsoletus</i>				X		
<i>Lethrinus microdon</i>		X				
<b>EPHIPPIDAE</b>						
<i>Platax orbicularis</i>	2		8			X
<i>Platax teira</i>						X
<b>MALACANTHIDAE</b>						
<i>Malacanthus brevirostris</i>	1				5	
<i>Malacanthus latovittatus</i>	2		1		1	
<b>PINGUIPEDIDAE</b>						
<i>Parapercis hexophthalma</i>			8			
<i>Parapercis millipunctata</i>			5			
<i>Parapercis punctulata</i>	62					
<i>Parapercis signata</i>			6			
<b>POMACANTHIDAE</b>						
<i>Apolemichthys trimaculatus</i>	3		12		19	
<i>Centropyge acanthops</i>	168		45		79	
<i>Centropyge multispinis</i>	231		100		226	
<i>Pomacanthus chrysurus</i>					2	
<i>Pomacanthus imperator</i>	5				6	
<i>Pygoplites diacanthus</i>	3		7		4	
<i>Centropyge bispinosa</i>	1		4			
<i>Centropyge debelius</i>			6			
<i>Pomacanthus semicirculatus</i>	1					
<b>POMACENTRIDAE</b>						
<i>Amphiprion chrysogaster</i>	2		2		5	
<i>Amphiprion clarkii</i>	10		1			X
<i>Chromis dimidiata</i>	2267		1710		3289	
<i>Chromis lepidolepis</i>					310	
<i>Chromis nigrura</i>	3438		303		2219	
<i>Chromis ternatensis</i>	926		729		1796	
<i>Chromis weberi</i>	511		431		2205	
<i>Chromis xanthura</i>	3				43	
<i>Dascyllus aruanus</i>			12			X
<i>Dascyllus carneus</i>	90		63		55	
<i>Dascyllus trimaculatus</i>	68		15		18	
<i>Lepidozygus tapeinosoma</i>	48910		15985		7139	
<i>Plectroglyphidodon dickii</i>	11		24		1	
<i>Plectroglyphidodon johnstonianus</i>	58		53		33	
<i>Plectroglyphidodon lacrymatus</i>	129		104		59	
<i>Pomacentrus caeruleus</i>	118		69		101	
<i>Pomacentrus sulfureus</i>	3		1			X

## Appendix 1 Aldabra (continued)

FAMILY/Genus species	2002	2002	2001	2001	1999	1999
	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-7	SITES 1-7
	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect
<i>Chromis xutha</i>	36		107		16	
<i>Chromis opercularis</i>	13					
<i>Abudefduf sexfasciatus</i>			2			
<i>Abudefduf vaigiensis</i>				X		
<i>Amphiprion allardi</i>			5			
<i>Chromis atripectoralis</i>			1			
<i>Pomacentrus chrysurus</i>			1			
<i>Pomacentrus philippinus</i>	12		1			
<b>LABRIDAE</b>						
<i>Anampses lineatus</i>	6				2	
<i>Anampses meleagrides</i>	15		16		4	
<i>Anampses twistii</i>					3	
<i>Bodianus axillaris</i>	19		14		13	
<i>Bodianus bilunulatus</i>	2		3			X
<i>Bodianus diana</i>	26		20		63	
<i>Cheilinus undulatus</i>					1	
<i>Cirrhilabrus exquiritus</i>	1898		754		555	
<i>Coris cuvieri</i>	12		2		3	
<i>Coris aygula</i>	2					X
<i>Coris frerei</i>	8		7		16	
<i>Epibulus insidiator</i>	1		1		1	
<i>Gomphosus caeruleus</i>	67		54		61	
<i>Halichoeres cosmetus</i>	256		198		258	
<i>Halichoeres hortulanus</i>	35		19		47	
<i>Halichoeres marginatus</i>					4	
<i>Halichoeres vrolikii</i>			6		2	
<i>Hemigymnus fasciatus</i>	13		2		5	
<i>Hemigymnus melapterus</i>	1				1	
<i>Hologymnosus doliatus</i>	19		3		1	
<i>Labroides bicolor</i>	21		18		24	
<i>Labroides dimidiatus</i>	395		214		305	
<i>Labrobsis xanthonata</i>	5		8		1	
<i>Macropharingodon bipartitus</i>	14		13		11	
<i>Pseudocheilinus evanidus</i>	317		155		306	
<i>Pseudocheilinus hexataenia</i>	483		221		254	
<i>Pseudocheilinus octotaenia</i>	54		42		92	
<i>Pseudodax molucanus</i>	30		2		17	
<i>Thalassoma amblycephalum</i>	629		41		624	
<i>Thalassoma hardwicke</i>	13		4		6	
<i>Thalassoma herbraicum</i>	43		66		103	
<i>Thalassoma janseni</i>	14				7	
<i>Thalassoma lunare</i>	34		26		14	
<i>Cheilinus fasciatus</i>	1					
<i>Macropharingodon ornatus</i>	1					
<i>Anampses caeruleopunctatus</i>			1			
<i>Bodianus anthioides</i>	6		4		1	
<i>Bodianus mesothorax</i>			1			

## Appendix 1 Aldabra (continued)

FAMILY/Genus species	2002	2002	2001	2001	1999	1999
	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-7	SITES 1-7
	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect
<i>Coris batuensis</i>			37			
<i>Coris caudimacula</i>	93				99	
<i>Hologymnosus annulatus</i>			1			
<i>Novaculichthys taeniourus</i>		X	6			
<i>Pseudojuloides kaleidas</i>	10		14			
<i>Stethojulis albobittata</i>	27		11			
<i>Cheilinus trilobatus</i>	3					
<b>CIRRHITIDAE</b>						
<i>Cirrhitichthys oxycephalus</i>	22		21		14	
<i>Oxycirrhites typus</i>		X				
<i>Paracirrhites arcatus</i>	35		39		50	
<i>Paracirrhites forsteri</i>	38		18		25	
<b>SCARIDAE</b>						
<i>Bolbometopon muricatum</i>	22			X		X
<i>Scarus sordidus</i>	272		117		106	
<i>Scarus rubroviolatus</i>	1		1		1	
<i>Scarus frenatus</i>			3			
<i>Scarus strongylocephalus</i>			8			
<i>Scarus tricolor</i>	33					
<i>Scarus scaber</i>		X				
<b>CARANGIDAE</b>						
<i>Caranx ignobilis</i>		X	25			X
<i>Caranx melampygus</i>	159		50		29	
<i>Caranx sexfasciatus</i>	10		515			X
<i>Elagatis bipinnulata</i>		X	2			X
<i>Trachinotus blochii</i>						X
<i>Scomberoides lysan</i>	10			X		
<i>Carangoides fulvoguttatus</i>	21					
<i>Gnathanodon speciosus</i>	2					
<b>SPHYRAENIDAE</b>						
<i>Sphyræna barracuda</i>		X		X	1	
<i>Sphyræna quenie</i>						X
<b>BLENNIIDAE</b>						
<i>Aspidontus taeniatus</i>	4		15		11	
<i>Ecsenius midas</i>	16		4		9	
<i>Plagiotremus rhinorhynchus</i>	55		1		11	
<i>Plagiotremus tapeinosoma</i>	53		9		47	
<i>Ecsenius minutus</i>	11					
<i>Cirripectes castaneus</i>	15		17			
<b>GOBIIDAE</b>						
<i>Amblyeleotris periphthalmus</i>		X			1	
<i>Gunnellichthys curiosus</i>					1	

## Appendix 1 Aldabra (continued)

FAMILY/Genus species	2002	2002	2001	2001	1999	1999
	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-7	SITES 1-7
	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect
<i>Valenciennea helsdingeni</i>		X	2		6	
<i>Valenciennea puellaris</i>					1	
<i>Valenciennea strigata</i>	10		4		8	
<b>ACANTHURIDAE</b>						
<i>Acanthurus auranticavus</i>		X	2		1	
<i>Acanthurus leucocheilus</i>	3		21		4	
<i>Acanthurus leucosternon</i>	113		93		74	
<i>Acanthurus mata</i>						X
<i>Acanthurus thompsoni</i>	91		88		116	
<i>Acanthurus triostegus</i>		X				X
<i>Acanthurus tristis</i>		X			5	
<i>Acanthurus xanthopterus</i>		X			16	
<i>Ctenochaetus binotatus</i>	19				14	
<i>Ctenochaetus striatus</i>	174		128		54	
<i>Ctenochaetus strigosus</i>	423		373		325	
<i>Naso brevirostris</i>	62		57		17	
<i>Naso hexacanthus</i>	1				1	
<i>Naso lituratus</i>	9		4		4	
<i>Naso unicornis</i>						X
<i>Zebrasoma scopas</i>	68		55		155	
<i>Acanthurus lineatus</i>	5		5			
<i>Acanthusus nigricauda</i>	7		4			
<i>Acanthurus temmenti</i>	12		1			
<i>Naso vlamingii</i>	144		14			
<i>Zebrasoma desjardini</i>		X	2			
<i>Paracanthurus hepatus</i>	3					
<b>ZANCLIDAE</b>						
<i>Zanclus cornutus</i>	11		11		19	
<b>BALISTIDAE</b>						
<i>Balistapus undulatus</i>	3		5		5	
<i>Balistoides conspicillum</i>	1					X
<i>Balistoides viridescens</i>		X	1			X
<i>Melichthys indicus</i>	42		72		22	
<i>Melichthys niger</i>	10					X
<i>Odonus niger</i>	25		10		13	
<i>Rhinecanthus aculeatus</i>						X
<i>Sufflamen bursa</i>	7		4		6	
<i>Sufflamen chrysopterus</i>	6		14		15	
<i>Sufflamen albicaudatus</i>		X				
<b>OSTRACIIDAE</b>						
<i>Ostracion meleagris</i>			2			X
<b>TETRAODONTIDAE</b>						
<i>Arothron meleagris</i>	1		3		1	

## Appendix 1 Aldabra (continued)

FAMILY/Genus species	2002	2002	2001	2001	1999	1999
	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-8	SITES 1-7	SITES 1-7
	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect	Number in transects	Sighted off transect
<i>Arothron nigropunctatus</i>	7		6		13	
<i>Canthigaster valentini</i>	4		7		4	
<i>Canthigaster amboinensis</i>					1	
<i>Canthigaster coronata</i>		X	1			
<i>Canthigaster smithae</i>	5					
<b>SCOMBRIDAE</b>						
<i>Gymnosarda unicolor</i>	8			X	5	
<b>SCORPAENIDAE</b>						
<i>Pterois antennata</i>		X				
<i>Scorpaenopsis diabola</i>			1			
<i>Taenianotus triacanthus</i>		X				
<i>Pterois miles</i>		X				
<b>SIGANIDAE</b>						
<i>Siganus argenteus</i>	7					X
<i>Siganus stellatus</i>	2		2			
<b>GINGLYMOSTOMATIDAE</b>						
<i>Nebrius ferrugineus</i>		X		X		
<b>CARCHARHINIDAE</b>						
<i>Carcharhinus melanopterus</i>		X				
<i>Negaprion acutidens</i>		X				
<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>		X				
<b>DASYATIDIDAE</b>						
<i>Himantura granulata</i>		X		X		
<b>KYPHOSIDAE</b>						
<i>Kyphosus vaigiensis</i>				X		
<b>MOBULIDAE</b>						
<i>Manta briostriis</i>			1			
<b>OPHICHTHIDAE</b>						
<i>Myrichthys maculosus</i>				X		
<b>MICRODESMIDAE</b>						
<i>Nemateleotris magnifica</i>	181		68		108	
<i>Ptereleotris evides</i>	2		5			
<b>MONACANTHIDAE</b>						
<i>Amanes scopas</i>			4			
<i>Cantherinus pardalis</i>			1			
<i>Paraluteres prionurus</i>					1	