

Study of Coral Reefs Health Status in Kharg and Khargo Islands

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Abstract

In this study, the status of coral coverage and coral reef health were investigated in Kharg and Kharko islands. The line Intercept Transect (LIT) method was used to estimate the coral coverage. The coral health status was assessed by condition and development index. The human activities, including fishing and coastal construction, were also studied. The result showed that the coral coverage in Kharg Island (64%-77%) was better than Kharko (48%-62%) and also coral health index in Kharg Island were better than Kharko Island, but more human activities were recorded. Also, the dominance of resistant species in Kharg Island showed that in this Island, coral reefs were exposed to more human threats which can destroy corals.

Keywords: *Coral coverage percentage, Human threats, Condition index, Development index.*
