

Reef fish communities of Praia do Tofo, Mozambique, and the need for best practice management

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The coral reefs around Praia do Tofo, southern Mozambique, are known for their aggregations of marine megafauna but as yet few studies have comprehensively examined their broader biodiversity. This study is the first to assess the ichthyofaunal diversity of this economically important area. Methodology involved SCUBA and snorkel underwater visual censuses conducted between February and May, 2016, and the use of photographic records from 2015 to capture rare species. A total of 324 species, representing 79 families, were recorded from 16 reefs in the region. The area shows comparable species diversity and notably high family diversity in relation to other areas of the Western Indian Ocean. The trophic structure of the reefs, similar to that recorded in the wider region, suggests the reefs are in good health and fairly resilient to disturbance. This study highlights the area's high biological value beyond its megafauna and lends support to greater management of these ecosystems for the benefit of the associated human population.



1	<u>Title</u>
2	Reef fish communities of Praia do Tofo, Mozambique and the need for best practice marine
3	management.
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26	Abstract
27	The coral reefs around Praia do Tofo, southern Mozambique, are known for their aggregations of
28	marine megafauna but as yet few studies have comprehensively examined their broader
29	biodiversity. This study is the first to assess the ichthyofaunal diversity of this economically
30	important area. Methodology involved SCUBA and snorkel underwater visual censuses
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35	reefs, similar to that recorded in the wider region, suggests the reefs are in good health and fairly
36	resilient to disturbance. This study highlights the area's high biological value beyond its
37	megafauna and lends support to greater management of these ecosystems for the benefit of the
38	associated human population.
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40	<u>Keywords</u>
41	Mozambique; ichthyofaunal diversity; Tofo; visual census
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51	<u>Introduction</u>
52	The region around Praia do Tofo & Praia da Barra in southern Mozambique has a local economy
53	built around marine tourism, with well-established recreational SCUBA diving and fishing
54	industries wholly or partially reliant on tourism. The primary attraction is the opportunity to see
55	and interact with year-round aggregations of whale sharks and manta rays (Pierce et al. 2010;
56	Tibirica et al., 2011); as such a lot of scientific research in the area has focused on these
57	charismatic species (e.g. Pierce et al. 2010; Rohner et al. 2013; 2014). However, as their
58	populations continue to decline (Rohner et al. 2013) it is expected that more value will be placed
59	on the broader marine biodiversity of the region, as has occurred in marine tourism in the
60	Bazaruto Archipelago National Park (BANP; Schleyer & Celliers, 2005). However the species
61	richness of this area has not been previously documented, despite the United Nations & World
62	Heritage Convention (2014) stating that the protected area represented by the BANP be extended
63	south to include this area.
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65	Praia do Tofo & Praia da Barra are bordered by the tropical and sub-tropical latitudes of the
66	Western Indian Ocean (WIO) and so support a number of different reef habitats. The most
67	common are deep offshore patch reefs, characteristic of southern Mozambique, with typically
68	low levels of coral cover (e.g. Pereira, 2000; Motta et al., 2002; Schleyer & Celliers, 2005).
69	Other ecosystem types include mangrove swamps, estuarine reefs and shallow inshore fringing



reefs. This range of habitats suggests a potential for high species richness in the area. But despite 70 a relatively large associated human population of over 250,000 people (Instituto Nacional de 71 Estatística, 2007), there is little to no management in place to safeguard these ecosystems' 72 services (Pierce et al., 2010). 73 74 75 Species richness data is vital for ecosystem management and provides the baseline from which: ecosystem stability and function are assessed (Cleland, 2011); key biological components are 76 identified (Pereira, 2000); and the effects of biodiversity loss on ecosystem provision are 77 predicted (Bellwood & Hughes, 2001; Gillibrand, Harries & Mara, 2007; Maggs et al., 2010). 78 This study provides a baseline assessment of reef fish diversity of the seas surrounding Praia do 79 Tofo & Praia da Barra and highlights the area's biological value beyond its charismatic 80 megafauna species. 81 82 83 Materials & Methods Study Site 84 The bays of Praia do Tofo (23° 51.205' S 35° 32.882' E) and Praia da Barra (23° 47.541' S 35° 85 31.142' E) house a number of shallow fringing reefs. However many of the sites frequented by 86 the local dive industry are in deeper waters to the north and south of these bays. Therefore the 87 recorded diversity is representative of the wider area stretching approximately 40 km south to 88 89 Paindane Bay (site 16; Fig. 1). A total of 16 reef sites (Table 1) were surveyed between February and May, 2016. 90 91 92 Sampling



The primary method was Underwater Visual Censuses (UVCs) by a single observer to minimize 93 bias (as per English, Wilkinson & Baker, 1997). Deeper sites (> 8 m) were surveyed on SCUBA, 94 as part of a dive charter operated by Peri-Peri Divers, whilst shallow sites were assessed by 95 snorkelling. A total of 1577 minutes of surveying was undertaken. UVCs have a tendency to 96 underestimate cryptic species (Fowler, 1987); therefore, despite relatively extensive surveying, 97 98 the final list may still prove to be incomplete. All species seen were recorded on an underwater PVC slate during the survey or a photograph was taken for subsequent identification. The list 99 was supplemented by including any species that had been sighted in the year preceding the 100 survey period, and for which there existed photographic evidence (e.g. Mola mola). This was 101 done in an attempt to represent those rare species that utilise the area seasonally (Table 2). 102 103 Trophic Structure 104 The dietary preference of each species was determined using classifications by Harmelin-Vivien 105 (1979); Hiatt & Strasburg (1960); Hobson (1974); Myers (1999); and FishBase 106 (http://fishbase.org). If information on a species' feeding habit was not available, it was assumed 107 from those of congener species and labelled with a '*'. If this still wasn't possible, they were 108 109 labelled 'unknown'. Eight trophic categories were used, as in Gillibrand, Harries & Mara (2007); Chabanet & Durville (2005); and Durville, Chabanet & Quod, (2003). These were: herbivore; 110 omnivore; browser of sessile invertebrates; diurnal carnivore; nocturnal carnivore; piscivore; 111 112 diurnal planktivore; and nocturnal planktivore. These groups, except for herbivores and omnivores, could then be grouped into general carnivores sensu lato. 113 114



115	To glean the possible number of species missed during the visual census, the Coral Fish
116	Diversity Index (CFDI) developed by Allen & Werner (2002) was calculated. This examines the
117	diversity of six common and easily observable families that can be used as a representative of
118	reef species richness (SR). These are Pomacanthidae, Labridae, Chaetodontidae, Pomacentridae,
119	Acanthuridae & Scaridae. For areas < 2000 km², an estimated SR can be generated using the
120	equation: $SR = 3.39(CFDI) - 20.595$
121	Results
122	A total of 324 species, representing 79 families, were recorded; 302 via UVCs and 22 using past
123	photographic records (Table 2). Of the total number of species recorded, 27 were cartilaginous
124	fish and 297 were bony fish. The CFDI-generated estimated SR was 278. 43% of the overall
125	diversity was represented by nine families: Acanthuridae; Pomacentridae; Labridae; Serranidae;
126	Chaetodontidae; Muraenidae; Lutjanidae; Scorpaenidae; and Tetraodontidae. Nearly half the
127	families recorded (48%) were represented by one species only. Five of these families are
128	monospecific: Rachycentridae; Rhincodontidae; Rhinidae; Stegostomatidae; and Zanclidae.
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130	When examining broader trophic categories, the carnivores comprise the majority of the species
131	composition at 80% of the total species (Fig. 2). 17 of the species' feeding habits were assumed
132	from those of congener species whilst 11 were labelled as 'unknown'.
133	The largest trophic group, the diurnal carnivores representing 26% of the species composition,
134	was composed largely of labrids whilst the most common nocturnal carnivore families were the
135	lutjanids, the muraenids and the serranids. Chaetodontids made up the majority of the browsers
136	of sessile invertebrates, whilst acanthurids and scarids represented most of the herbivores. There
137	were no other notably common families dominating other trophic groups.

Discussion 139 This study represents the first visual assessment of ichthyofaunal diversity for this economically 140 important area of the southern Mozambique. Through the use of UVCs and retrospective data 141 collection, 324 species of fish were recorded. The number of species recorded via UVC only is 142 143 greater than that predicted from Allen & Werner's (2002) Coral Fish Diversity Index. Therefore this list can be seen as near complete, though future surveys may reveal new additions. The 144 diversity of these reefs is similar to others in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) that have used 145 visual censuses as their primary data collection method (Maggs et al., 2010; Chabanet & 146 Durville, 2005; Gillibrand, Harries & Mara, 2007; Durville, Chabanet & Quod, 2003). When 147 authors have chosen to comprehensively include species present in historical records (e.g. 148 McKenna & Allen, 2005) or publicly available collections (e.g. Fricke et al., 2009), species 149 richness increases dramatically (Table 3). 150 151 A notably high diversity of fish families was found when compared to other areas in the WIO 152 (Table 3). For example, 249 species in 40 families were recorded by Maggs et al. (2010) in the 153 154 BANP. Given the higher relative coral cover in the BANP compared to Tofo (Motta et al., 2002) a greater species richness would be expected (e.g. Komyakova, Munday & Jones, 2013). 155 156 Temporal sampling effort can account for this mismatch with surveying time in this study (1577 157 mins; 16 sites) being over double that of Maggs et al. (2010; 720 mins; 8 sites), mirroring the differences in family diversity. Additionally, 38 families in this study were represented by only 158 159 one species whilst the BANP study had the equivalent of 17 families. Similarly, a short sampling 160 time of approximately 330 minutes by Chabanet et al. (2002) yielded the second lowest value for



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the number of recorded families in Table 3. In contrast, the studies of Chabanet & Durville (2005), Durville, Chabanet & Quod, (2003), and Gillibrand, Harries & Mara (2007) used more extensive sampling and observed a higher number of families relative to the number of recorded species. Gotelli & Colwell (2011) showed that as biodiversity sampling time increases, the number of species recorded per unit time decreases. Therefore the value of more time-intensive surveying lies in the detection of less speciose families. Additionally, the present study surveyed a greater depth range with a maximum depth of 32 metres (Table 1) compared to the 20 metres reported in other studies (Maggs et al. 2010; Chabanet & Durville, 2005). Distinct changes in the fish community assemblage along depth gradients have been previously demonstrated (Friedlander & Parrish, 1998; Jankowski, Graham & Jones, 2015) and attributed to decreased niche breadth in deeper waters, driving ecological specialisation (Bridge et al. 2016). This would also help explain the high number of families represented by one species observed in the present study. Equally, some species are restricted to shallower depths, in areas of high wave action (e.g. Acanthurus lineatus; Choat et al. 2012) or different prey types (Bridge et al. 2016). By surveying a greater depth, a wider variety of physical conditions are accounted for as well as the species that are specialised to them. The result of differential sampling effort is evident in comparing the BANP value with that of this study. Despite the total species richness here being greater than that of Maggs et al. (2010), the CFDI value their study is higher (359 vs. 278). Given its protected status and large seagrass meadows boosting diversity on nearby reefs (Dorenbosch et al. 2005; Pereira et al. 2014), you would expect higher diversity in the BANP. On small oceanic islands with low levels of anthropogenic pressure (e.g. Juan da Nova; Chabanet

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& Durville, 2005), a higher species richness would be expected. However in the current study



184	direct evidence of a fishing-driven decline in reef fish diversity is sparse. Fishing pressure can
185	reduce the diversity of target families (Jennings, Grandcourt & Polunin, 1995; Micheli et al.,
186	2014) but is not necessarily detrimental to total species richness (Jennings & Polunin, 1997;
187	Watson et al., 1996; Francisco-Ramos & Arias-González, 2013). Yet it has been demonstrated
188	that protected marine reserves (e.g. Glorieuses Islands) can enhance fish diversity (Cote,
189	Mosqueira & Reynolds, 2001; Friedlander et al., 2003); this could be used as a proxy for the
190	detrimental effects of fishing. In these comparisons however, a more important factor
191	determining fish diversity appears to be the islands' isolation. This would result in lower levels
192	of immigration, higher probabilities of local extinction and overall lower species richness
193	(MacArthur & Wilson, 1967; Sandin, Vermeij & Hurlbert, 2008; Stier et al., 2014).
194	An alternative explanation for the differences in both species and family diversity could be the
195	high amounts of primary productivity supported by consistent coastal upwelling at this point of
196	the continental shelf (Rohner et al. 2014). Near-shore productivity has been positively linked to
197	species richness in a study by Sandin, Vermeij & Hurlbert (2008) on Caribbean coral reefs. High
198	plankton abundance reduces resource limitation for planktivorous species, potentially decreasing
199	competitive exclusion (Abrams, 1995) and/or increasing population size that can reduce local
200	extinction risk and lead to increased species richness on small spatial scales (Evans, Warren &
201	Gatson, 2005). The proportion of planktivore species in the current study was not notably higher
202	than those in others (e.g. Chabanet & Durville, 2005; Maggs et al., 2010). However abundance
203	was not recorded and this is the aspect most likely to change as a result of high primary
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Carnivores, sensu lato, represented the majority of the present fish community, as in other studies in the WIO (Floros et al., 2012; Chabanet & Durville, 2005; Gillibrand, Harries & Mara, 2007). Further comparisons show that the relative proportions of carnivores, omnivores and herbivores are very similar to WIO areas (Table 4); this supports the assertion of Kulbicki (1988) that the trophic structure of reef fish communities is constant throughout a region. In this study, the proportion of carnivores was marginally higher than those with which it was compared (Table 4), likely to due to higher richness in the Dasyatidae (6 sp.) and Muraenidae (14 sp.) families. This suggests that these reefs are in good health according to Harmelin-Vivien's (1979) observation that carnivore levels are usually between 60-80% on healthy reefs. It may also indicate resilience of these reefs to disturbance. Higher species richness of predator populations can reduce the likelihood of top-down trophic cascades through the suppression of herbivore feeding activity; however this is only when they show specialised dietary preferences (Finke & Denno, 2005). This is also supported by Biswas & Mallik (2011) who showed a correlation between overall species richness and functional diversity. When there is a higher number of generalist predators, interspecific competition leads to diminished suppression of herbivore populations and so a decrease in primary productivity (Finke & Denno, 2005). As such a small reduction in predator populations through targeted fishing of, for example, serranids could lead to a reduction in the % cover of turf algae. This is the dominant substrate type on these reefs (Motta et al. 2002); coupled with the fish assemblage's trophic structure, this would suggest that algal-dominance is the ecosystems' healthy state (as in Friedlander et al. 2004). Therefore, a reduction in algal cover is likely to cause a fundamental change in fish community assemblage. This may be driven by alterations to bottom-up trophic energy transfer, as turf algae are important primary producers (Haas et al., 2011; Jantzen et al., 2013). Therefore as an extension



of Harmelin-Vivien's (1979) assertion, high species richness in carnivore/predator populations 229 can be used as an indicator for reef health when the trophic composition of the predators is 230 considered (Finke & Denno, 2005) 231 232 Differences in regional comparisons are likely due to the varied sampling effort employed across 233 234 the studies. A consequence of greater temporal and spatial sampling effort seems to be that it has more value in detecting new families compared new species. Nonetheless, the diversity of the 235 area is higher than we may expect given its level of unregulated anthropogenic exploitation. This 236 may be due to high levels of upwelling causing low local extinction rates. When simultaneously 237 examining trophic structure and species richness, the conclusion may be drawn that these reefs 238 are currently healthy. Their resilience will depend on the functional diversity of the species 239 assemblage; this is a superior measure of the stability of ecosystem function (Cleland, 2011). So 240 while the species richness alone may indicate reef resilience, formal testing of this is needed to 241 understand the susceptibility of these reefs to trophic cascades. 242 243 Acknowledgements 244 The author would like to thank Peri Peri dive centre and the Underwater Africa volunteer 245 program for their support in undertaking both SCUBA and snorkel surveys. I would also like to 246 thank Tracy Ainsworth for her comments on the manuscript. Finally, thank you to all those 247 248 friends and strangers who provided photographic evidence of rare species. 249 References 250

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Figure 1(on next page)

Survey Site Map

Map of the study area and its location along the coast of Mozambique (inset). Sampled reefs are indicated by (•); their broad characteristics are described in Table 1.



Table 1(on next page)

Survey Site Descriptions and Sampling Effort

Names and descriptions of sampled reefs, as well as the amount of time spent surveying each location.



Site Name (Number)	Site Description	Sampling Method	Sampling Effort (mins)
Amazon (1)	Offshore, horseshoe reef with an abundance of azooxanthellate soft corals; 23 – 28 metres.	SCUBA	87
Hospital (2)	Offshore, southward sloping reef with occasional short pinnacles; 24 – 26 metres.	SCUBA	80
The Office (3)	Topographically complex offshore reef with an abundance of overhangs and valleys with many encrusting soft corals; 22 – 26 metres.	SCUBA	139
Reggie's (4)	Tall, offshore reef rising between 4 – 8 metres from the seafloor; reef crests are dominated by large colonies of <i>Tubastrea micranthus</i> ; 22 – 30 metres.	SCUBA	124
Buddies (5)	Shallow, inshore reef subject to persistent swell and fishing pressure; 8 – 10 metres.	SCUBA	57
The Wall (6)	Shallow estuarine reef with daily exposure to strong tidal currents; a combination of seagrass, rocky reef and sand patch microhabitats; 0-4 metres.	Snorkel	70
Mike's Cupboard (7)	Submerged sand dune reef, with many potholes and gullies surrounded by sandy reef flats; $12 - 16$ metres.	SCUBA	66
Salon (8)	Shallow inshore reef composed of multiple large pinnacles surrounded by sandy bottom; subject to high turbidity from wave action; 10-14 metres.	SCUBA	53
Sherwood Forest (9)	Offshore reef just outside of Tofo bay, made of one large and one smaller pinnacle both supporting large populations of <i>Tubastrea micranthus</i> ; 22 – 26 metres	SCUBA	40
Giants Castle (10)	Straight north-south reef with an extensive reef flat and deep reef wall; known within the local dive industry as having the best sighting rate for marine megafauna; 27 – 32 metres.	SCUBA	162
Marble Arch (11)	Inshore reef exposed to minor wave action; large reef flat with a few large potholes and one large rock arch; 14 – 18 metres.	SCUBA	51
Rob's Bottom (12)	Very patchy eastward sloping reef that is often subject to high current with high algal cover; $23 - 27$ metres.	SCUBA	83
Manta Reef (13)	A large offshore reef, with a large central reef flat; peripheries are characterised by short, steep reef slopes with a number of tall pinnacles; 18 – 24 metres	SCUBA	290
Outback (14)	Similar reef shape as Giant's Castle, yet with more small inlets that house a number of deep overhangs and archways; 25 – 30 metres.	SCUBA	40
Coconut Bay (15)	Shallow inshore rocky reef with small patches of encrusting soft coral and larger swathes of seagrass;	Snorkel	53



	4-8 metres.		
Paindane	Small, shallow reef protected from offshore waves	Snorkel	182
Coral	by a barrier rock extending from shore; the most		
Gardens (16)	abundant coral community in this area, dominated		
, ,	by Sinularia spp. soft coral and corymbose		
	acroporids; 1 – 6 metres.		



Table 2(on next page)

Reef Fish Species List

Reef fish species inventory for the Tofo/Barra area of Mozambique, sighted through surveys (S) and photographic records (P).

FAMILIES - Species - Authors	Sighting Record	Trophic Category
ACANTHURIDAE		
Acanthurus dussumieri Cuvier & Valenciennes, 1835	S	Н
Acanthurus leucosternon Bennett, 1833	S	Н
Acanthurus lineatus Linnaeus, 1758	S	Н
Acanthurus nigrofuscus Forsskål, 1775	S	Н
Acanthurus tennentii Günther, 1861	S	Н
Acanthurus triostegus Linnaeus, 1758	S	Н
Acanthurus xanthopterus Valenciennes, 1835	S	Н
Naso brachycentron Valenciennes, 1835	S	Н
Naso brevirostris Cuvier, 1829	S	Н
Paracanthurus hepatus Linné, 1766	S	DPL
Zebrasoma desjardinii Bennett, 1836	S	Н
AMBASSIDAE		
Ambassis natalensis Gilchrist & Thompson, 1908	S	DC
ANTENNARIIDAE		
Antennarius coccineus Lesson, 1831	S	Pi
Antennarius commerson Lacepède, 1798	S	Pi
Antennarius nummifer Cuvier, 1817	P	Pi
APOGONIDAE		
Cheilodipterus quinquelineatus Cuvier, 1828	S	NC
Ostorhinchus angustatus Smith & Radcliffe, 1911	S	BSI
Ostorhinchus fleurieu Lacepède, 1802	S	BSI*
Pristiapogon kallopterus Bleeker, 1856	S	NC
ATHERINIDAE		
Atherinomorus lacunosus Forster, 1801	S	NPL
AULOSTOMIDAE		
Aulostomus chinensis Linnaeus, 1766	S	Pi
BALISTIDAE		
Balistapus undulatus Park, 1797	S	DC
Balistoides conspicillum Bloch & Schneider, 1801	S	DC
Balistoides viridescens Bloch & Schneider, 1801	S	DC
Odonus niger Rüppell, 1836	S	DC
Pseudobalistes fuscus Bloch & Schneider, 1801	S	DC
Rhinecanthus aculeatus Linnaeus, 1758	S	DC
Rhinecanthus rectangulus Bloch & Schneider, 1801	S	O
Sufflamen bursa Bloch & Schneider, 1801	S	DC
Xanthichthys lineopunctatus Hollard, 1854	S	DC*
BLENNIIDAE		
Aspidontus dussumieri Valenciennes, 1836	S	Н
Aspidontus taeniatus Quoy & Gaimard, 1834	S S	DC
Aspidontus tractus Fowler, 1903		DC



FAMILIES - Species - Authors	Sighting Record	Trophic Category
Cirripectes stigmaticus Strasburg & Schultz, 1953 Ecsenius midas Starck, 1969	S S	Н Н
Istiblennius edentulous Forster & Schneider, 1801	S	H
Plagiotremus rhinorhynchos Bleeker, 1852	S	NPL
Plagiotremus tapeinosoma Bleeker, 1857	S	0
Truggion emilia supermosomia Brocker, Too	5	O .
BOTHIDAE		
Bothus mancus Broussonet, 1782	P	DC
Bothus pantherinus Rüppell, 1830	S	NC
CAESIONIDAE		
CAESIONIDAE	C	DDI
Caesio varilineata Carpenter, 1987	S	DPL *
Caesio xanthalytos Holleman, Connell & Carpenter, 2013	S	DPL*
Caesio xanthonata Bleeker, 1853	S S	DPL
Pterocaesio marri Schultz, Herald, Lachner, Welander & Woods, 1052	3	DPL
Woods, 1953 Pharmagagia tila Cunior & Valenciannes, 1830	S	DPL
Pterocaesio tile Cuvier & Valenciennes, 1830	3	DPL
CALLIONMYIDAE		
Neosynchiropus stellatus Smith, 1963	S	DC
2, 2	~	
CARANGIDAE		
Alectis ciliaris Bloch, 1787	P	DC
Alectis indica Rüppell, 1830	P	DC
Caranx bucculentus Alleyne & Macleay, 1877	P	DC
Caranx ignobilis Forsskål, 1775	S	DC
Caranx melampygus Cuvier, 1833	S	DC
Caranx sexfasciatus Quoy & Gaimard, 1825	S	Pi
Gnathanodon speciosus Forsskål, 1775	S	DC
CARCHARIBIDAE		
CARCHARHINIDAE	C	D.
Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos Bleeker, 1856	S	Pi DC
Carcharhinus leucas Müller & Henle, 1839	P	DC
Carcharhinus limbatus Müller & Henle, 1839	S	Pi
Carcharhinus melanopterus Quoy & Gaimard, 1824 Carcharhinus obscurus Lesueur, 1818	S P	Pi DC
	S	DC DC
Triaenodon obesus Rüppell, 1837	3	DC
CENTRISCIDAE		
Aeoliscus strigatus Günther, 1861	P	DC
CHAETODONTIDAE		
Chaetodon auriga Forsskål, 1775	S	BSI
Chaetodon blackburnii Desjardins, 1836	S	BSI
Chaetodon dolosus Ahl, 1923	S	BSI
Chaetodon guttatissimus Bennett, 1833	S	BSI
Chaetodon interruptus Ahl, 1923	S	BSI
Chaetodon kleinii Bloch, 1790	S	BSI
Chaetodon lineolatus Cuvier, 1831	S	BSI
Chaetodon lunula Lacepède, 1802	S	BSI



FAMILIES - Species - Authors	Sighting	Trophic
	Record	Category
Chaetodon madagaskariensis Ahl, 1923	S	BSI
Chaetodon melannotus Bloch & Schneider, 1801	S	BSI
Chaetodon meyeri Bloch & Schneider, 1801	S	BSI
Chaetodon trifascialis Quoy & Gaimard, 1825	S	BSI
Chaetodon xanthurus Bleeker, 1857	S	BSI
Forcipiger flavissimus Jordan & McGregor, 1898	S	BSI
Hemitaurichthys zoster Bennett, 1831	S	DPL
Heniochus acuminatus Linnaeus, 1758	S	BSI
Heniochus diphreutes Jordan, 1903	S	DPL
Heniochus monoceros Cuvier, 1831	S	BSI
CIRRHITIDAE		
Cirrhitichthys oxycephalus Bleeker, 1855	S	DC
Cyprinocirrhites polyactis Bleeker, 1874	S	DPL
Oxycirrhites typus Bleeker, 1857	P	DPL
Paracirrhites arcatus Cuvier, 1829	S	DC
Paracirrhites forsteri Schneider, 1801	S	DC
CLINIDAE		
Clinus venustris Gilchrist & Thompson, 1908	S	U
Pavoclinus laurentii Gilchrist & Thompson, 1908	Š	Ü
CLUPEIDAE	2	C
Gilchristella aestuaria Gilchrist, 1913	S	DPL
CONGRIDAE		
Heteroconger hassi Klausewitz & Eibl-Eibesfeldt, 1959	S	NC
DACTYLOPTERIDAE		
Dactyloptena orientalis Cuvier, 1829	S	NC
DASYATIDAE A LI 1000	C	NICIΨ
Dasyatis microps Annandale, 1908	S	NC*
Himantura jenkinsii Annandale, 1909	S	NC NC
Himantura uarnak Gmelin, 1789	S	NC NC
Neotrygon kuhlii Müller & Henle, 1841	S P	NC NC
Taeniura lymma Forsskål, 1775		NC NC
Taeniura meyeni Müller & Henle, 1841	S	NC
DIODONTIDAE		
Diodon holocanthus Linnaeus, 1758	S	NC
Diodon hystrix Linnaeus, 1758	S	NC
Diodon liturosus Shaw, 1804	S	NC
ECHENEIDAE		
Echeneis naucrates Linnaeus, 1758	S	NC
·	-	-
ENGRAULIDAE	_	
Thryssa vitrirostris Gilchrist & Thompson, 1908	S	DPL
EPHIPPIDAE		



FAMILIES - Species - Authors	Sighting Record	Trophic Category
Platax teira Forsskål, 1775	S	0
FISTULARIIDAE Fistularia commersonii Rüppell, 1838	S	Pi
GERREIDAE Gerres longirostris Lacepède, 1801	S	DC
GINGLYMOSTOMATIDAE Nebrius ferrugineus Lesson, 1831	P	NC
GOBIIDAE Amblyeleotris steinitzi Klausewitz, 1974 Amblyeleotris wheeleri Polunin & Lubbock, 1977 Caffrogobius saldanha Barnard, 1927 Valenciennea strigata Broussonet, 1782	S S S	DC DC* U DC
HAEMULIDAE Diagramma pictum Thunberg, 1792 Plectorhinchus flavomaculatus Cuvier, 1830 Plectorhinchus gaterinus Forsskål, 1775 Plectorhinchus playfairi Pellegrin, 1914 Plectorhinchus vittatus Linnaeus, 1758	S S S S	DC NC NC DC NC
HEMIRAMPHIDAE Hyporhamphus affinis Günther, 1866	S	O
HOLOCENTRIDAE Myripristis adusta Bleeker, 1853 Myripristis berndti Jordan & Evermann, 1903 Myripristis botche Cuvier, 1829 Myripristis murdjan Forsskål, 1775 Neoniphon samara Forsskål, 1775 Pagellus natalensis Steindachner, 1903 Sargocentron caudimaculatum Rüppell, 1838 Sargocentron diadema Lacepède, 1802 Sargocentron spiniferum Forsskål, 1775	S S S S S S S	NPL NC NC NPL NC O NC NC
ISTIOPHORIDAE Istiompax indica Cuvier, 1832 Istiophorus platypterus Shaw, 1792 Makaira nigricans Lacepède, 1802	S P P	Pi Pi Pi
KYPHOSIDAE Kyphosus vaigiensis Quoy & Gaimard, 1825	S	Н
LABRIDAE Anampses meleagrides Valenciennes, 1840 Bodianus anthioides Bennett, 1832 Bodianus axillaris Bennett, 1832 Bodianus diana Lacepède, 1801	S S S S	DC DC DC DC



FAMILIES - Species - Authors	Sighting Record	Trophic Category
Bodianus trilineatus Fowler, 1934	S	DC*
Cheilinus trilobatus Lacepède, 1801	S	DC
Cheilinus undulates Rüppell, 1835	S	DC
Cheilio inermis Forsskål, 1775	S	DC
Coris caudimacula Quoy & Gaimard, 1834	S	DC
Coris formosa Bennett, 1830	S	DC
Gomphosus caeruleus Lacepède, 1801	S	DC
Gomphosus varius Lacepède, 1801	S	DC
Halichoeres cosmetus Randall & Smith, 1982	S	DC
Halichoeres iridis Randall & Smith, 1982	S	DC
Halichoeres nebulosus Valenciennes, 1839	S	DC
Halichoeres scapularis Bennett, 1832	S	DC
Halichoeres zeylonicus Bennett, 1833	S	DC
Labroides bicolor Fowler & Bean, 1928	S	DC
Labroides dimidiatus Valenciennes, 1839	S	DC
Macropharyngodon bipartitus Smith, 1957	S	DC
Macropharyngodon cyanoguttatus Randall, 1978	S	DC*
Novaculichthys taeniourus Lacepède, 1801	S	DC
Thalassoma amblycephalum Bleeker, 1856	S	DC
Thalassoma hebraicum Lacepède, 1801	S	DC
Thalassoma lunare Linnaeus, 1758	S	DC
LUTJANIDAE		
Aprion virescens Valenciennes, 1830	S	Pi
Lutjanus ehrenbergii Peters, 1869	S	NC
Lutjanus fulviflamma Forsskål, 1775	S	NC
Lutjanus gibbus Forsskål, 1775	S	NC
Lutjanus kasmira Forsskål, 1775	S	NC
Lutjanus lutjanus Bloch, 1790	S	NC
Lutjanus monostigma Cuvier, 1828	S	NC
Lutjanus notatus Cuvier, 1828	S	NC
Lutjanus rivulatus Cuvier, 1828	S	NC
Lutjanus sebae Cuvier, 1816	S	NC
Macolor niger Forsskål, 1775	S	NC
Paracaesio sordida Abe & Shinohara, 1962	S	DPL
MALACANTHIDAE		
Malacanthus brevirostris Guichenot, 1848	S	DC
MICRODESMIDAE		
Nemateleotris magnifica Fowler, 1938	S	NPL
Ptereleotris evides Jordan & Hubbs, 1925	S	NPL
Ptereleotris heteroptera Bleeker, 1855	S	DP
MOLIDAE Mola mola Linnaeus, 1758	P	DC
MONACANTHIDAE		
Cantherhines fronticinctus Günther, 1867	S	BSI
Acreichthys tomentosus Linnaeus, 1758	S S	DC
Torescamys somemosus Linnacus, 1/30	S	DC



FAMILIES - Species - Authors	Sighting Record	Trophic Category	
Aluterus scriptus Osbeck, 1765 Stephanolepis auratus Castelnau, 1861	S S	O U	
MONOCENTRIDAE Cleidopus gloriamaris De Vis, 1882	P	U	
MONODACTYLIDAE Monodactylus argenteus Linnaeus, 1758	S	DPL	
MULLIDAE Mulloidichthys ayliffe Uiblein, 2011 Mulloidichthys flavolineatus Lacepède, 1801 Mulloidichthys vanicolensis Valenciennes, 1831 Parupeneus barberinus Lacepède, 1801 Parupeneus indicus Shaw, 1803	S S S S S	NC NC NC DC DC	
Parupeneus macronemus Lacepède, 1801 MURAENIDAE Echidna nebulosa Ahl, 1789	s s	DC NC	
Enchelycore pardalis Temminck & Schlegel, 1846 Gymnomuraena zebra Shaw, 1797	S S S	Pi NC NC	
Gymnothorax breedeni McCosker & Randall, 1977 Gymnothorax eurostus Abbott, 1860 Gymnothorax favagineus Bloch & Schneider, 1801 Gymnothorax flavimarginatus Rüppell, 1830	S S S	NC NC NC Pi	
Gymnothorax griseus Lacepède, 1803 Gymnothorax javanicus Bleeker, 1859 Gymnothorax meleagris Shaw, 1795	S S S	NC* NC DC	
Gymnothorax miliaris Kaup, 1856 Gymnothorax nudivomer Günther, 1867 Gymnothorax undulates Lacepède, 1803	S S S	DC NC* NC	
Rhinomuraena quaesita Garman, 1888 MYLIOBATIDAE	P	Pi	
Aetobatus narinari Euphrasen, 1790 Manta alfredi Krefft, 1868 Manta birostris Walbaum, 1792 Mobula japonica Müller & Henle, 1841	P S S S	DC DPL DPL DPL	
ODONTASIPSIDAE Carcharias taurus Rafinesque, 1810	S	DC	
OPHICHTHIDAE Myrichthys colubrinus Boddaert, 1781 Myrichthys maculosus Cuvier, 1816 Pisodonophis cancrivorus Richardson, 1848	S S P	NC NC NC	
OPLEGNATHIDAE Oplegnathus robinsoni Regan, 1916	S	O	
OSTRACIIDAE			



FAMILIES - Species - Authors	Sighting Record	Trophic Category
Lactoria fornasini Bianconi, 1846 Lactoria cornuta Linnaeus, 1758 Ostracion cubicus Linnaeus, 1758 Ostracion meleagris Shaw, 1796	S S S S	BSI* BSI BSI BSI
PEGASIDAE Eurypegasus draconis Linnaeus, 1766	S	BSI
PEMPHERIDAE Parapriacanthus ransonneti Steindachner, 1870 Pempheris schwenkii Bleeker, 1855	S S	NPL NPL
PINGUIPEDIDAE Parapercis schauinslandii Steindachner, 1900	S	DC
PLATYCEPHALIDAE Papilloculiceps longiceps Cuvier, 1829	S	DC
PLOTOSIDAE Plotosus lineatus Thunberg, 1787	S	NC
POMACANTHIDAE Apolemichthys trimaculatus Cuvier, 1831 Centropyge acanthops Norman, 1922 Centropyge bispinosa Günther, 1860 Centropyge multispinis Playfair, 1867 Pomacanthus chrysurus Cuvier, 1831 Pomacanthus imperator Bloch, 1787 Pomacanthus rhomboides Gilchrist & Thompson, 1908 Pomacanthus semicirculatus Cuvier, 1831 Pygoplites diacanthus Boddaert, 1772	S S S S S S S	O O O O O O* BSI BSI
POMACENTRIDAE Abudefduf natalensis Hensley & Randall, 1983 Abudefduf sexfasciatus Lacepède, 1801 Abudefduf vaigiensis Quoy & Gaimard, 1825 Amphiprion allardi Klausewitz, 1970 Amphiprion perideraion Bleeker, 1855 Chromis fieldi Randall & DiBattista, 2013 Chromis nigrura Smith, 1960 Chromis viridis Cuvier, 1830 Chromis weberi Fowler & Bean, 1928 Chrysiptera unimaculata Cuvier, 1830 Dascyllus aruanus Linnaeus, 1758 Dascyllus carneus Fischer, 1885 Dascyllus trimaculatus Rüppell, 1829 Neopomacentrus cyanomos Bleeker, 1856 Plectroglyphidodon dickii Liénard, 1839 Pomacentrus caeruleus Quoy & Gaimard, 1825 Pomacentrus pavo Bloch, 1787	S S S S S S S S S S S	O O O O O O * DPL DPL O DPL O DPL O DPL O O O O O O



FAMILIES - Species - Authors	Sighting Record	Trophic Category
Stegastes fasciolatus Ogilby, 1889 Stegastes pelicieri Allen & Emery, 1985	S S	H H
PRIACANTHIDAE Priacanthus hamrur Forsskål, 1775	S	NC
PSEUDOCHROMIDAE Pseudochromis dutoiti Smith, 1955	S	DC
RACHYCENTRIDAE Rachycentron canadum Linnaeus, 1766	S	DC
RHINCODONTIDAE Rhincodon typus Smith, 1828	S	DPL
RHINIDAE Rhina ancylostoma Bloch & Schneider, 1801	P	NC
RHINOBATIDAE Rhinobatus annulatus Müller & Henle, 1841 Rhinobatus leucospilus Norman, 1926 Rhynchobatus djiddensis Forsskål, 1775	P S S	NC NC NC
SCARIDAE Chlorurus cyanescens Valenciennes, 1840 Chlorurus sordidus Forsskål, 1775 Scarus ghobban Forsskål, 1775 Scarus rubroviolaceus Bleeker, 1847 Scarus scaber Valenciennes, 1840 Scarus tricolor Bleeker, 1847	S S S S S	H H H H H
SCOMBRIDAE Euthynnus affinis Cantor, 1849 Gymnosarda unicolor Rüppell, 1836 Katsuwonus pelamis Linnaeus, 1758 Scomberomorus commerson Lacepède, 1801 Scomberomorus plurilineatus Fourmanoir, 1966 Thunnus albacares Bonnaterre, 1788	S S S P S	DC Pi DC Pi Pi DC
SCORPAENIDAE Dendrochirus brachypterus Cuvier, 1829 Dendrochirus zebra Cuvier, 1829 Parascorpaena mossambica Peters, 1855 Pterois antennata Bloch, 1787 Pterois miles Bennett, 1828 Rhinopias eschmeyeri Condé, 1977 Rhinopias frondosa Günther, 1892 Scorpaenopsis diabolus Cuvier, 1829 Scorpaenopsis oxycephala Bleeker, 1849 Scorpaenopsis venosa Cuvier, 1829 Taenianotus triacanthus Lacepède, 1802	S S S S P P P S S S	NC NC U DC Pi Pi* Pi Pi DC DC



FAMILIES - Species - Authors	Sighting Record	Trophic Category
SERRANIDAE		
Cephalopholis argus Schneider, 1801	S	Pi
Cephalopholis miniata Forsskål, 1775	S	NC
Cephalopholis sonnerati Valenciennees, 1828	S	NC
Epinephelus chlorostigma Valenciennes, 1828	S	NC
Epinephelus fasciatus Forsskål, 1775	S	NC
Epinephelus flavocaeruleus Lacepède, 1802	P	Pi
Epinephelus lanceolatus Bloch, 1790	P	NC
Epinephelus macrospilos Bleeker, 1855	S	DC
Epinephelus malabaricus Bloch & Schneider, 1801	S	NC
Epinephelus merra Bloch, 1793	S	Pi
Epinephelus rivulatus Valenciennes, 1830	S	Pi
Epinephelus tauvina Forsskål, 1775	S	Pi
Epinephelus tukula Morgans, 1959	S	NC
Grammistes sexlineatus Thunberg, 1792	S	NC
Nemanthias carberryi Smith, 1954	S	DPL
Plectropomus punctatus Quoy & Gaimard, 1824	S	Pi
Pogonoperca punctate Valenciennes, 1830	S	NC*
Pseudanthias evansi Smith, 1954	S	DPL
Pseudanthias squamipinnus Peters, 1855	S	DPL
SIGANIDAE Siganus luridus Rüppell, 1829	S	Н
SOLEIDAE Solea turbynei Gilchrist, 1904	S	U
•		
SPARIDAE	9	D.C.
Chrysoblephus puniceus Gilchrist & Thompson, 1908	S	DC
Diplodus hottentotus Smith, 1844	S	DC
SPHRYNIDAE		
Sphyrna lewini Griffith & Smith, 1834	S	DC
SPHYRAENIDAE		
Sphyraena putnamae Jordan & Seale, 1905	S	NC
CTE COCTO MATIDA E		
STEGOSTOMATIDAE	C	NC
Stegostoma fasciatum Hermann, 1783	S	NC
SYNANCEIIDAE		
Synanceia verrucosa Bloch & Schneider, 1801	S	Pi
CVAICNATHIDAE		
SYNGNATHIDAE Counth of althous intestinalis Romany, 1881	n	DC
Corythoichthys intestinalis Ramsay, 1881	P	DC DPL
Doryrhamphus dactyliophorus Bleeker, 1853 Hippocampus borboniensis Duméril, 1870	S S	DPL*
Hippocampus camelopardalis Bianconi, 1854	P	DPL*
Hippocampus histrix Kaup, 1856	S	DPL
Hippocampus kuda Bleeker, 1852	S	DPL
Trippocumpus muna Biochot, 1032	5	DIL



FAMILIES - Species - Authors	Sighting Record	Trophic Category
Solenostomus cyanopterus Bleeker, 1854	S	DC
Trachyrhamphus bicoarctatus Bleeker, 1857	S	U
SYNODONTIDAE		
Synodus dermatogenys Fowler, 1912	S	Pi
Synodus jaculum Russell & Cressey, 1979	S	Pi
TETRAODONTIDAE		
Arothron hispidus Linnaeus, 1758	S	NC
Arothron meleagris Anonymous, 1798	S	NC
Arothron nigropunctatus Bloch & Schneider, 1801	S	NC
Arothron stellatus Anonymous, 1798	S	NC
Canthigaster amboinensis Bleeker, 1864	S	Н
Canthigaster bennetti Bleeker, 1854	S	O
Canthigaster janthinoptera Bleeker, 1855	S	O
Canthigaster smithae Allen & Randall, 1977	S	O*
Canthigaster solandri Richardson, 1845	S	O
Canthigaster valentine Bleeker, 1853	S	О
TETRAROGIDAE		
Ablabys binotatus Peters, 1855	S	U
Ablabys macracanthus Bleeker, 1852	S	U
TORPEDINIDAE		
Torpedo marmorata Risso, 1810	S	Pi
Torpedo spp.	S	Pi
ZANCLIDAE		
Zanclus cornutus Linnaeus, 1758	S	DC

Trophic Categories: Herbivore (H); Omnivore (O); Browser of Sessile Invertebrates (BSI); Diurnal Carnivore (DC); Nocturnal Carnivore (NC); Piscivore (Pi); Diurnal Planktivore (DPL); Nocturnal Planktivore (NPL); Unknown (U)





Figure 2(on next page)

Trophic Structure of Tofo Reef Fish Communities

The trophic structure of the recorded reef fish community.

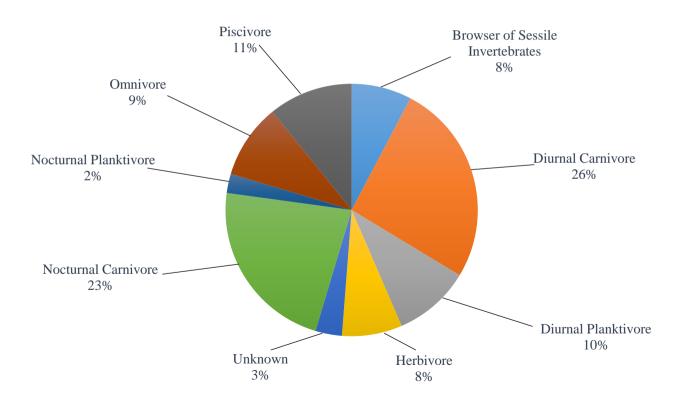




Table 3(on next page)

Species and Family Diversity in the Western Indian Ocean.

Comparison of species and family diversity in other areas of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO).



Location	Reference	No. of Species	No. of Families	Species to Family Ratio (2 d. p.)
BANP	Maggs et al. (2010)	249	40	6.23:1
Tofo/Barra	This study	324	79	4.16:1
Juan de Nova	Chabanet & Durville, (2005)	299	55	5.44:1
Andavadoaka	Gillibrand et al. (2007)	334	58	5.76:1
Mayotte	Wickel et al. (2014)	759	118	6.43:1
Glorieuses Islands	Durville et al. (2003)	332	57	5.82:1
Geyser & Zelee Banks	Chabanet et al. (2002)	294	43	6.84:1
Maputaland & Ponta Malongane	Floros et al. (2012)	284	50	5.68:1
Bassas da India	Van der Elst & Everett (2015)	311	50	6.22:1
Northwestern Madagascar	McKenna & Allen (2005)	788	91	8.66:1
Mafia Island	Garpe & Ohman, (2003)	394	56	7.04:1
Watamu Marine Park	Cowburn et al., (2013)	354	56	6.32:1
La Réunion	Fricke et al., (2009)	965	160	6.03:1



Table 4(on next page)

Trophic Structure across the Western Indian Ocean

Trophic structure of reef fish communities (expressed as % of total species recorded) in other areas of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO).

Location	Reference	Carnivores (% of total)	Herbivores (% of total)	Omnivores (% of total)
BANP	Maggs et al., 2010	76	12	12
Tofo/Barra	This study	80	8	9
Juan de Nova	Chabanet & Durville, 2005	73	16	11
Andavadoaka	Gillibrand et al., 2007	76	13	11
Mayotte	Wickel et al., 2014	78	8	13
Glorieuses Islands	Durville et al., 2003	73	15	12
Geyser & Zelee Banks	Chabanet et al., 2002	72	16	12
Maputaland & Ponta Malongane	Floros et al., 2012	78	11	11