

Distribution of Large Benthic Foraminifers in one of Majuro's Conservation Areas –Drenmeo Island

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Climate change is having a huge impact on the island formation. In this study, we examined the composition and distribution of large benthic foraminifers (LBF) from 12 chosen sample sites (see map) within and outside of Drenmeo islet, one of the designated conservation areas in Majuro atoll. Samples were collected from the area to further investigate the sand built-up between the conservation area and the adjacent islet. The preliminary findings showed that the area is predominantly composed of two island-building LBF, namely *Calcarina sp.* and *Amphistegina sp.* The final results from this study will help stakeholders to amend the management plan to include the adjacent islet under the current management plan.

Keywords: Drenmeo island, conservation area, large benthic foraminifers, management plan

