

Contract No.CV/2004/02
Reconstruction of Wong Shek and Ko Lau Wan
Public Piers

Wong Shek Pier Coral Translocation Report

May 2005



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Coral Translocation

Summary

In accordance with the amended Environmental Permit (EP-186/2004/A), the single coral colony was moved on 03rd May 2005 from the works boundary to Point B within the site boundary of Wong Shek Pier (Location Plan).

Since sampans and other boat users frequently use Wong Shek Pier, it was necessary to carry out the coral translocation at around 08.00hrs so as to avoid marine traffic and works from the temporary pier. It was also necessary to avoid the potential of the lifting bag coming into contact with boat propellers as the colony is adjacent to the embarkation point of Wong Shek Pier.

Methodology

From previous dive surveys the *Favia* colony was located approximately 10 meters to the south of Wong Shek Pier, under the proposed temporary pier. The colony (approx 20-30 cm diameter) was growing on a medium sized boulder on a sand/mud seafloor at a depth of -3.6m CD.

From previous dive surveys a new position within the site boundary had been identified, and marked with a buoy.

1. A digital image of the coral colony was taken prior to translocation (Photo A);
2. The condition of the coral and substrate was noted for any partial mortality, bleaching or lesions (Table 1);
3. Comparisons of the colony were made from previous underwater images as taken by CEDD;
4. The coral colony was carefully placed in an oversized cradle and attached to a lifting bag and then moved underwater to Position B;
5. The coral colony was replaced in Position B (-3.5m CD) and photographed (Photo B);
6. The colony was tagged for future monitoring after completion of the reconstruction of the new pier.

Table 1

Species	Tag No.	Size	Class	Translocation	Health
<i>Favia</i> sp.	WSK 01	20-30 cm	Moveable/ w boulder	Yes/cradle	Good

Conclusion

In accordance with the Environmental Permit, at no time was the coral colony exposed above the water surface. The health and condition of the coral was noted prior to and after translocation and appeared to be in a healthy condition.

It is anticipated that site boundary buoys or suspended sediment originating from the works boundary will not disturb the coral colony.

It is recommended that the works barge/tugboat be kept away from the marked coral colony at all times. Since the colony is in close proximity to the loading/unloading area then there is the potential of propeller wash / sediment disturbance affecting the colony.

Wong Shek Coral Colony

Photo A



Photo B

