The tropical Indo-Pacific warm pool (IPWP) is a major heat reservoir that influences global atmospheric circulation. The IPWP affects the temperatures in the Wakatobi on an annual basis causing large temperature changes. Reconstructions from Foraminifera cores covering a span of 2000 years suggest that the temperatures at times over those 2000 years may have been even higher than at present. This might be one of the reasons why corals in the Wakatobi appear to be more resilient than in the Great Barrier Reef with much less bleaching occurring. This topic makes use of Hasanuddin University facilities to examine temperature tolerances of reef fish species and more thermal dynamics studies have been published from Hoga Island than anywhere else in the Indo-Pacific. This topic could include: determination of critical thermal limits of field acclimated fishes, acclimation dynamics of fish exposed to different temperature treatments, and thermal acclamatory capacity and plasticity. All studies will involve animal husbandry and feeding, field collections, and laboratory-based experiments but will also involve field work and ecological observations of the study organisms.

**Recommended Reading**


Dabruzzi TF, Bennett WA, Fangue NA (2017) Thermal ecology of red lionfish *Pterois volitans* from southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia, with comparisons to other Scorpaenidae. Aquatic Biology 26: 1-14


