

Thank you. When discussing coral bleaching recently the assumption defaults to blaming climate change, instead of asking what actually caused it?<sup>1</sup>

Coral bleaching in simple terms is a loss of colour in coral, most often due to symbiosis dysfunction, a severing of the join between the coral polyp and the host tissue, the calcium carbonate that gives coral it's white colour.<sup>2</sup>

Bleaching is a response to environmental stress. It has many causes including changes in salinity, ultraviolet radiation, increased sedimentation, high nutrient levels after flooding or pollution.<sup>3</sup>

Kamenos, University of Glasgow, found evidence of Great Barrier Reef bleaching in the 1600s.<sup>4</sup> His paper has been contested yet not the many citations used to support this paper.

Hendy documented two hiatuses in coral skeleton growth, associated tissue death and subsequent regrowth in 8 multi-century coral cores collected from the central Great Barrier Reef, accurately dated to 1782 and 1817.<sup>5</sup>

This period was before humans were claimed to have influenced the weather.

Dunne recorded bleaching on the reef in 1928.<sup>6</sup>

Woolridge documented the bleaching caused by flood waters carrying nutrient impacting on the reef.<sup>7</sup>

Kenkel, found coral has plasticity, adapting to different environmental conditions and is much more resilient than previously thought.<sup>8</sup>

Maynard found that coral adapts to bleaching by becoming more resilient.<sup>9</sup>

During the past 2.5M years there have been 40 glacial maximums & 40 interglacial periods. 80 times coral has had to rise or fall by up to 140 metres, and our coral reefs are still there. How resilient they are.<sup>10</sup>

Our reefs have been subjected to bleaching for millennia, they always recover, as they did in 2022<sup>11</sup> when the Greens were telling us the reef was dead. And tourists believed them, tourism numbers are below long term average - COVID excluded.<sup>12</sup>

It's time climate carpetbaggers were called out for selective pseudo-science designed to protect their taxpayer funding.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.publish.csiro.au/mf/MF99078>

<sup>2</sup> <https://journals.biologists.com/jeb/article/211/19/3059/18247/Cellular-mechanisms-of-Cnidarian-bleaching-stress>

<sup>3</sup> ibid

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2018.00283/full#B30>

<sup>5</sup> <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00338-003-0304-7>

<sup>6</sup> <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00338-022-02327-7>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0025326X08005857>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41559-016-0014>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-023-40601-6>

<sup>10</sup> <https://x.com/EcoSenseNow/status/1783882372662132893>

<sup>11</sup> <https://e360.yale.edu/digest/great-barrier-reef-coral-cover-2022-record>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www2.gbrmpa.gov.au/help/tourism-visitation-data>