

NORTH LUCONIA SHOALS

5°40'38.21"N, 112°29'5.98"E

Geographic area

North Luconia Shoals is a collection of coral reef platforms located in the southernmost part of the Spratlys, over 20NM north of South Luconia Shoal. Based on the global bathymetry database FTP SRTM 15 PLUS, this shoal is located on the edge of the Sunda Shelf (the same continental shelf as the island of Borneo) rather than in the deep sea basin of the South China Sea like most of the geographic formations in the Spratlys. North Luconia Shoal is composed of several large and submerged atoll rings connected through deep (mostly more than 10m) and discontinuous ribbon-like reef systems. The feature extends over 56km (30NM) along its north-south axis and reaches a maximum of 15km along its west-east axis. The overall surface area of the atoll is 495.05km² (including the lagoons, being the water body located within the coral rings).

Land area above water

North Luconia Shoals is mostly submerged at all time. The shallowest part is Seahorse Breaker, located in the southeastern part of the shoal. There is one 60m by 60m above-water sand bank in the 28 October 2014 satellite image taken at a moderate low tide and it is estimated that it would be fully submerged at high tide (sea level increase of 1.1m) unless the sand bank has an unexpectedly high elevation (information that cannot be derived from the satellite data acquired for the project). There are also some above-water slivers of sand in the 28 October 2014 satellite image (see the Description Sheet of Seahorse Breaker), but they are expected to be submerged at high tide.

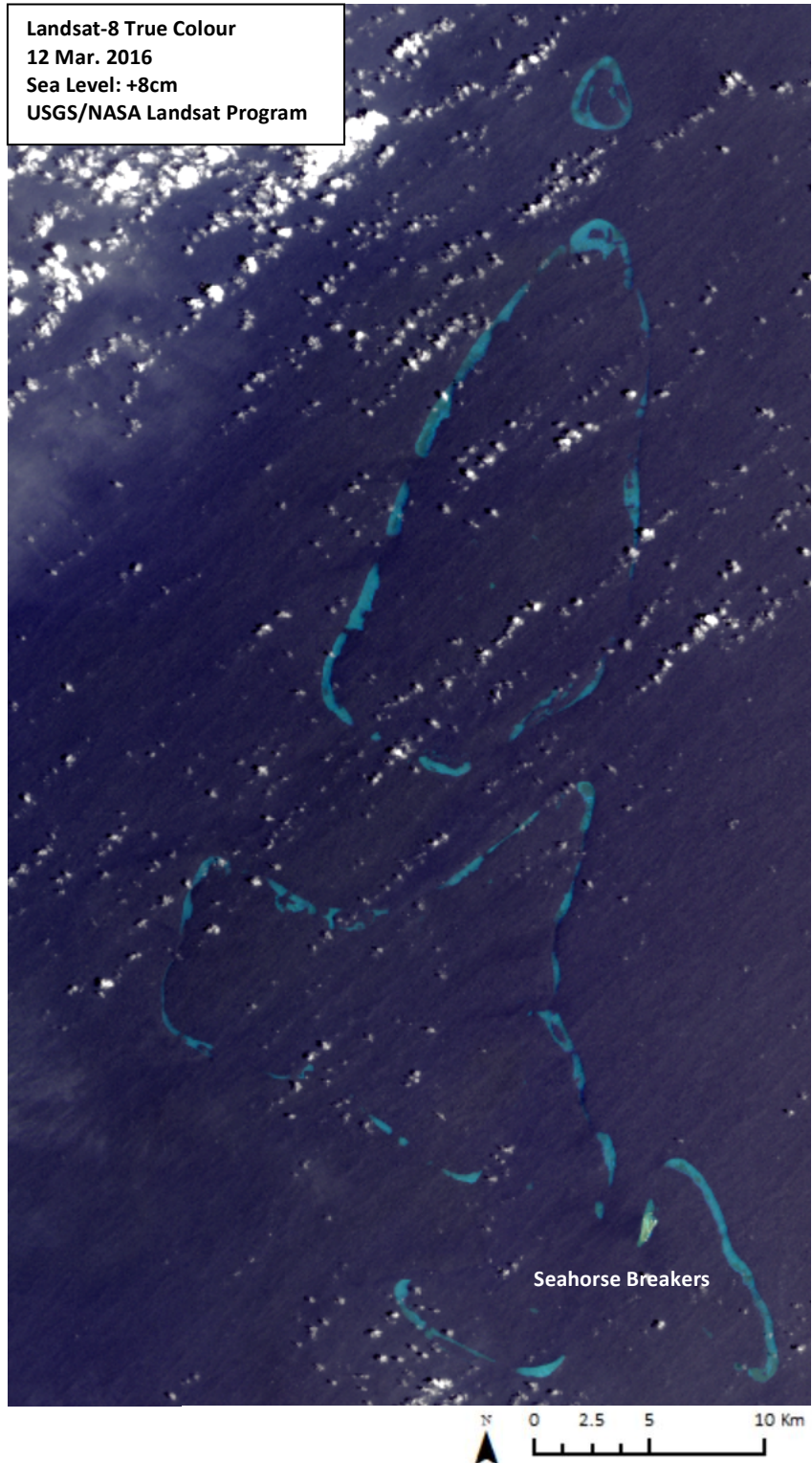
Human infrastructure

There are no man-made structures on this shoal as at 28 October 2014.

Intertidal and submerged area

Seahorse Breakers is the only part of North Luconia Shoal that is partly exposed at low tide. The rest of the coral system is fully submerged at all times and characterised by visible spurs and grooves.

No dredging marks or traces of human activity are visible in the 28 October 2014 satellite image.



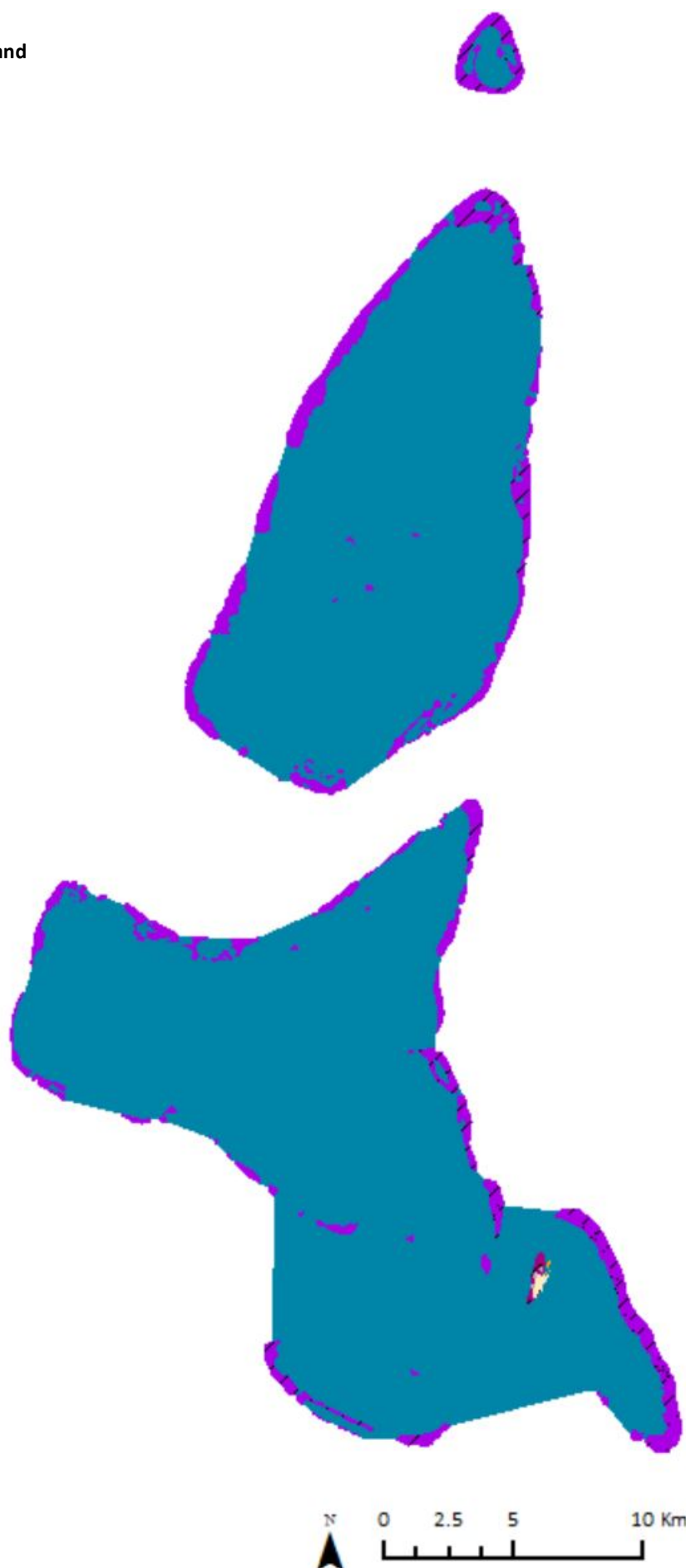
NORTH LUCONIA SHOAL

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Derived from WorldView-2 and Landsat-8 satellite data captured on 28 October 2014 and 12 March 2016

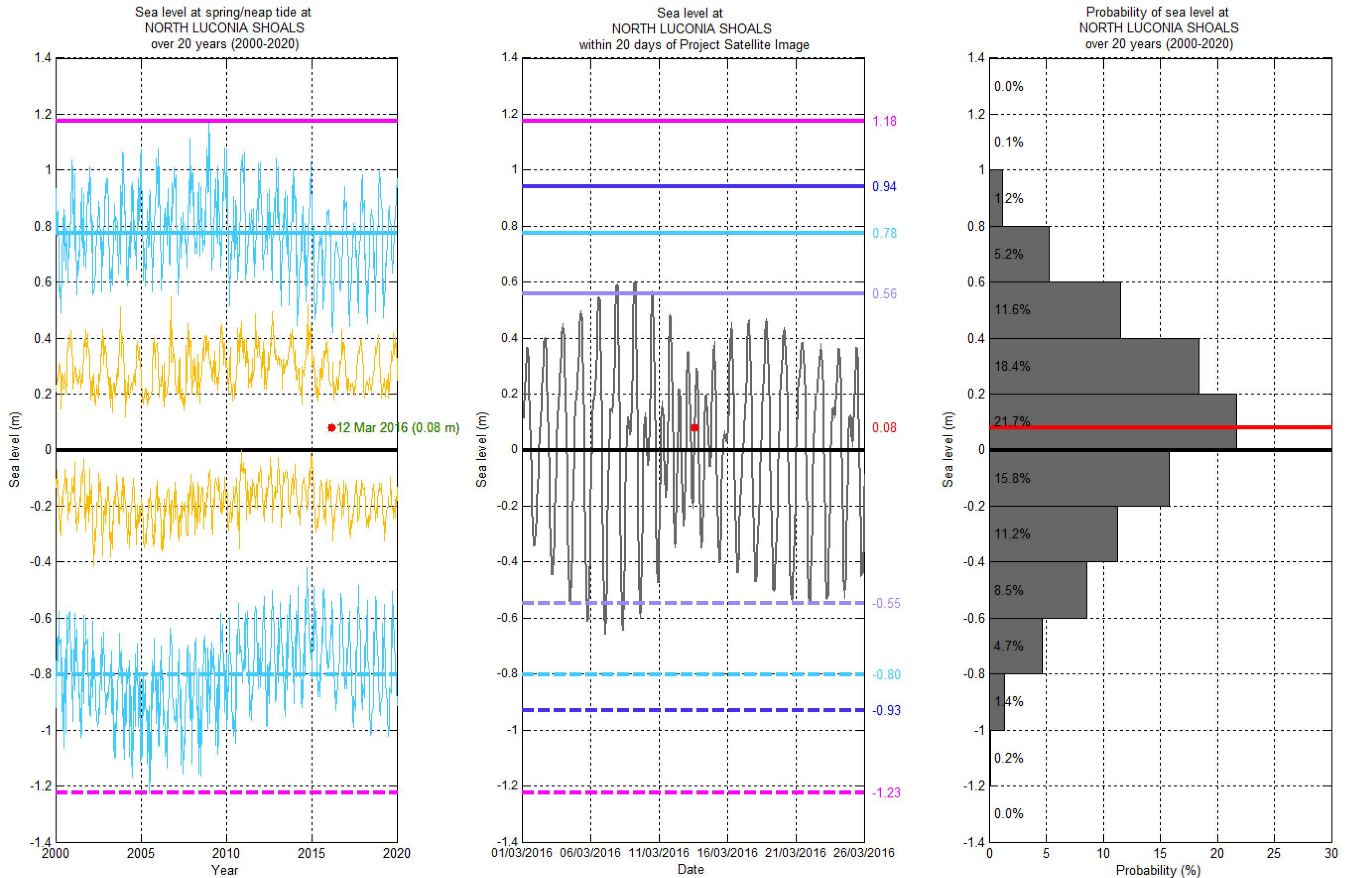
[Sea Level: -33cm, +8cm]

Habitat Classification and Land Cover Map



Sea level (SL) at NORTH LUCONIA SHOALS

[5°40'38.21"N, 112°29'05.98"E]



Hourly sea level SL at spring tide SL at Mean High Water Spring SL at highest tide of the year SL at Mean Higher High Water SL at Highest Astronomical Tide Project Satellite Image
Mean Sea Level SL at neap tide SL at Mean Low Water Spring SL at lowest tide of the year SL at Mean Lower Low Water SL at Lowest Astronomical Tide Google Earth and Landsat satellite images