

⑥ The life of an islet...

Just like living beings, islets are born, grow and sometimes die!

It's all about balance between sediment supply and erosion. Let's discover together the main stages of an islet's life.

(Report EMIL, 2017)

Step 1



Creation (or nucleation)

A sandbar forms as a result of a meteorological event (cyclone) or the establishment of a coral reef.

Step 2



Growth

The sediment accumulates on the initial sandbar and vegetation colonizes these new areas as they grow.

Step 3



Maturity, Stabilization

A balance has been established between erosion and sediment supply. This is the stabilization phase.

During this period, depending on the currents, the morphology of the subsoil, the weather conditions and the presence of vegetation, the shape of the islet can evolve.

The lot Maître is currently in stage 3, « MATURITY ». Its morphology varies, depending on the currents.

To be continued

Possessing feathers, they can be auspicious... or not!
They are waiting for you at the next sign.



Vegetation, an effective tool to preserve islets!

- ▶ Its functions as a windbreaker and soil retainer make vegetation an effective means to fight against erosion and thus a tool to preserve islets.
- ▶ To conserve our islets, it is therefore important to avoid trampling on creeping plants and not to cut down coastal trees.

Étape 6



Disappearance

All that remains of the islet are residual sandbar.

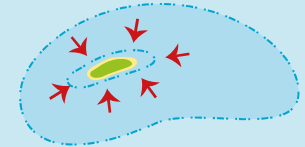
Step 5



Relic

The surface of the islet has decreased a lot, its shape has nothing to do with the one that it had in its mature phase. Some tree stumps are present in the sea where the former islet used to be.

Step 4



Decrease

If erosion becomes more significant than sediment supply or if coral reef disappear, the islet may lose its surface.

A trail for all, under everyone's responsibility.



Support us, make a donation!



Photo: CFCAC - Tahiti Tourisme