



We are pleased to announce the online Integrated Monitoring Network (IMN) Database and Application is now online at the Coral Health and Monitoring Program (CHAMP) Website, hosted from NOAA/AOML in Miami, Florida. Link: <http://www.coral.noaa.gov/imn/IMNQuery>

IMN provides researchers, Marine Park Area managers, and the public with the ability to access meteorological and oceanographic environmental datasets from various networks of stations located around the world.

This release version of the database contains data from the Florida Institute of Oceanography's (FIO) and NOAA's SEAKEYS project (Sustained Ecological Research Related to the Management of the Florida Keys Seascape), and the NOAA/AOML CREWS (Coral Reef Early Warning System) network of stations.

The SEAKEYS network has been operating and collecting data since 1992 from the Florida Keys, located at Fowey Rocks, Long Key, Molasses Reef, Sombrero Reef, Sand Key, and Dry Tortugas stations. (FIO also operates a station in NW Florida Bay in cooperation with the University of South Florida's COMPS Program.)

The CREWS network has been operating since 2001 with stations located at Lee Stocking Island, Bahamas (Rainbow Gardens) and the Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve (NPS) in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. The CREWS Network is being constructed in response to a US Coral Reef Task Force goal of establishing long-term datasets for all major US coral reef areas.

The multitude of instruments installed to these stations reveals a wide spread of types of data available such as air temperature, wind speed, wind direction, barometric pressure, conductivity, sea temperature, salinity, fluorometry, transmissometry, PAR and UVB values. New instruments being installed at selected locations will measure PAM-fluorometry, pCO₂, current velocity and direction, and other parameters.

The historical datasets described here are available through December 2002. Also available are the usual daily output of hourly raw data from these stations; they can be accessed via the main CHAMP Website at <http://www.coral.noaa.gov> (see left side of Page under "Data").

Data Quality Control Notes: Oceanographic data provided through the IMN database are considered PRELIMINARY and have been screened minimally for accuracy. NOAA cannot be held liable for use of these raw data in a manner other than for perusal of preliminary oceanographic data for scientific research on coral reefs. However, because the monitoring networks have field personnel assigned to maintenance of the stations, we expect the quality to be mostly very good. An additional release version will be announced at the Website. New release versions will contain annotated, final quality controlled data, as well as complete metadata records. All of these data will soon become part of NOAA's Coral Reef Information System (CoRIS: <http://www.coris.noaa.gov/>), which will contain the best available coral reef data that NOAA has to offer.

For additional information on the IMN architecture and data, please contact the IMN Database Administrator, Louis Florit <Louis.Florit@noaa.gov>. For comments or questions concerning the Website front-end, please contact Monika Gurnée <Monika.Gurnee@noaa.gov>.

Cheers,
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Monika Gurnée, Website Admin
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