

# CoRIS

## NOAA'S CORAL REEF INFORMATION SYSTEM

<http://coris.noaa.gov>

NOAA'S CORAL REEF INFORMATION SYSTEM (CoRIS) IS A SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS TO NOAA'S CORAL REEF INFORMATION AND DATA, PARTICULARLY THOSE DERIVED FROM NOAA'S CORAL REEF CONSERVATION PROGRAM.

### WHAT CoRIS OFFERS...

#### Discover NOAA's Data

CoRIS data discovery tools provide access to metadata, data, and information from the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program and other coral reef projects. CoRIS includes coral reef mapping and monitoring data and products, coral bleaching nowcasts, environmental sensitivity index maps, aerial photography, and much more. Users can search for data and information in three different ways: an interactive map that allows users to locate available data by region, a text-based keyword search, and a series of browsable lists of data arranged by keywords.

#### About Coral Reefs

CoRIS offers original essays that describe coral biology and physiology, reef structure, and types of reefs. Other essays in the 'About Coral Reefs' section discuss natural and human threats to corals and coral diseases, as well as characterizing regional coral reef ecosystems and deep-water coral communities.

#### Professional Exchanges

CoRIS Professional Exchanges capture the lively debates of experts on contemporary coral reef issues. Exchanges are derived from discussions on NOAA's Coral Health and Monitoring Program (CHAMP) "Coral-list" listserv, which includes hundreds of participants worldwide.

#### The Library

The CoRIS Library enables searching and browsing through a growing collection of NOAA's coral ecosystems-related publications, reports, Web sites, educational materials, and digital images.

#### NOAA's Coral Reef Activities

Over thirty-five offices across NOAA carry out the work of NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program. This section summarizes NOAA's coral reef activities and the work of participating offices and provides direct access to major reports produced by the Coral Reef Conservation Program and its NOAA partners.

#### The Glossary

Can you define dactylozoid? One of the most popular features of CoRIS, the Glossary, defines thousands of technical and scientific terms used in coral reef science and management. Many definitions are accompanied by colorful illustrations. The Glossary is regularly updated and continually expanding.

#### CoRIS and METADATA

CoRIS search engines rely on *metadata* that describe and document NOAA's coral reef data sets and data products. Metadata include the 'who, what, when, where, why, and how' of each data set or product. The CoRIS Web site offers helpful guidance for creating good descriptive metadata, informative tools such as an acronym list, a taxonomic list of species, and much more.



*CoRIS provides access to the wealth of coral reef data and information collected by NOAA worldwide, with emphasis on the U.S. states, territories, and remote island areas. These include Hawai'i, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Freely Associated States in the Pacific Ocean and Florida, Texas, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands in the Atlantic Ocean. NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program supports effective management and sound science to preserve, sustain, and restore valuable coral reef ecosystems.*