

CREIOS Mapping & Monitoring

Water Quality | Land Based Sources of Pollution

Kathy Chaston

NOAA Ocean Service | Coral Reef Conservation Program | Pacific Services Center

Bernardo Vargas-Angel

NOAA Fisheries Service | Coral Reef Ecosystem Division

Gerry Davis

NOAA Fisheries Service | Pacific Islands Regional Office

John Christensen

NOAA Ocean Service | Center for Coastal Monitoring and Assessment

Background & Definitions

Water Quality | Land Based Sources of Pollution

LAND BASED SOURCES of POLLUTION *(source: NOAA CRCP)*

Pollution from land-based sources such as development and construction activities, sewage treatment, agriculture, storm water, chemical and oil spills etc.



*Tanker traffic and lightering off
Hawai'i*



*Coastal development in Tumon
Bay, Guam*

Points of Intersection

Water Quality | Land Based Sources of Pollution

CORE CAPABILITIES & REQUIREMENTS



Monitoring and Assessment: Chemical, Nutrient, and Pathogen Contamination, Bioavailability, Ecotoxicology, Biological Effects, Disease



Ocean Remote Sensing: Temperature, Ocean Color, Turbidity, Currents, Waves, Rainfall, Frontal Boundaries, Climatological Anomalies



Watershed Modeling and Assessment: Source, Fate, and Transport; Management Impacts, watershed management strategies



Review, Mitigation and Restoration: Essential Fish Habitat, Clean Water Act, Executive Order 13089, Ship Groundings, Habitat Equivalency



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- ➔ 280 sites nationwide monitored annually for 120 contaminants
- ➔ Nation's longest running coastal contaminant monitoring program
- ➔ Comprehensive assessments of environmental contamination, toxicity, & biological community condition in coastal, estuarine, and coral reef ecosystems



Map depicting NS&T monitoring and assessment locations. Orange denotes annual "Mussel Watch" contaminant monitoring, and Yellow denotes biological effects assessment sites



ANALYTICAL STANDARDS

- ➔ Heavy Metals
- ➔ Organics (PCBs, PAHs, DDT)
- ➔ Antifouling Agents
- ➔ Flame Retardants
- ➔ Energetic Compounds
- ➔ Radioactive Compounds
- ➔ Contemporary Pesticides
- ➔ *Clostridium prefringens* (pathogens)
- ➔ Shellfish pathologies
- ➔ Nutrients

(nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, urea, total nitrogen, orthophosphate, total phosphorus, silica)



NS&T scientists assess contamination associated with military activities in Vieques Puerto Rico



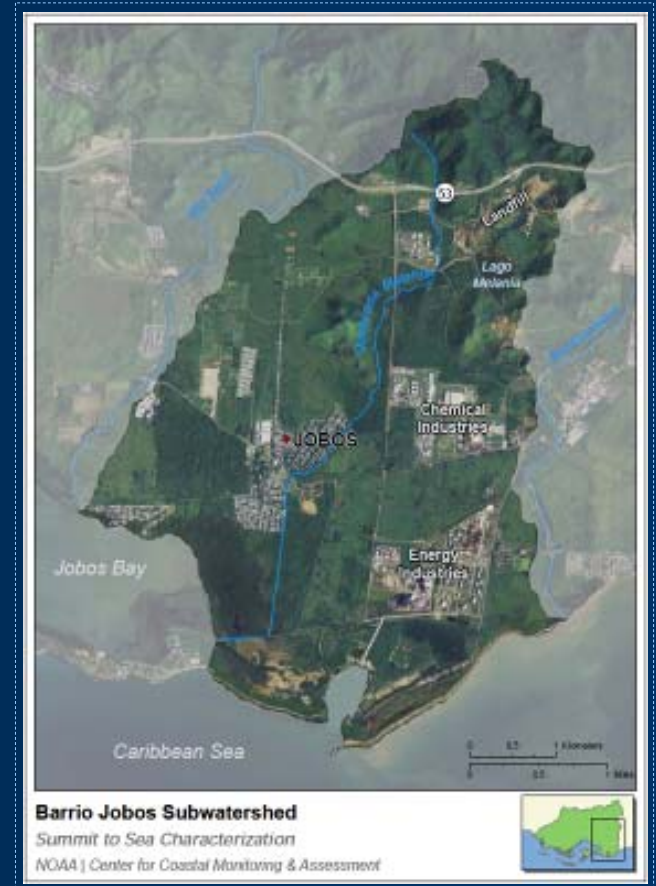
CASE STUDY

Conservation Effectiveness Assessment Project

(NOAA | USDA | Puerto Rico)

Goal is to evaluate the effectiveness of Best Management Practices (BMPs) in an agricultural watershed, and to construct quantitative models for use by coastal managers

Partners are integrating sediment and water contamination (nutrients and agro-chemicals) with biological indicators of coral reef ecosystem health to determine impacts



NS&T scientists collaborate with NOAA CRCP, USDA, and Puerto Rico to evaluate watershed management BMPs



NOS | CSC | Pacific Services Center

- ➔ Impervious surface data for MHI and Guam (American Samoa available spring 2009)
- ➔ Land cover change data and maps for MHI (Guam available summer 2009)
- ➔ Decision support tools for prioritizing conservation areas and modeling nonpoint source pollution and erosion

 www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast



High-resolution impervious surface data of Andersen Air Force Base on Guam



High-resolution land cover data illustrating coastal development, pineapple cultivation, and Kapalua Golf Resort on Maui

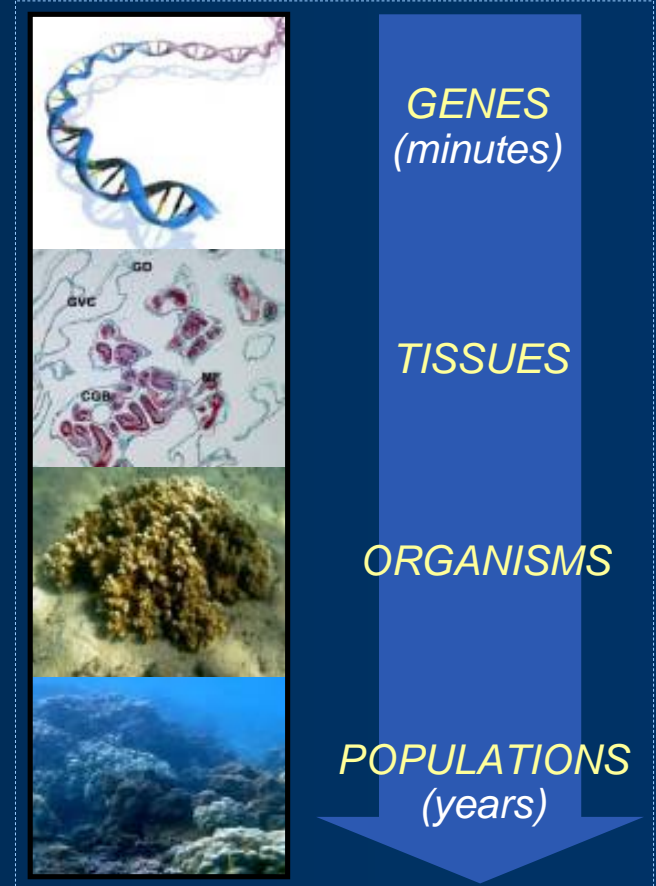


CASE STUDY

Developing tools for assessing land-based pollutant impacts in corals (Hawai'i)

(NOAA | HIMB | State of Hawai'i)

Goal is to assess pollution impacts using an array of indicators ranging from molecular expressions of compromise to population-level effects observed through traditional monitoring techniques

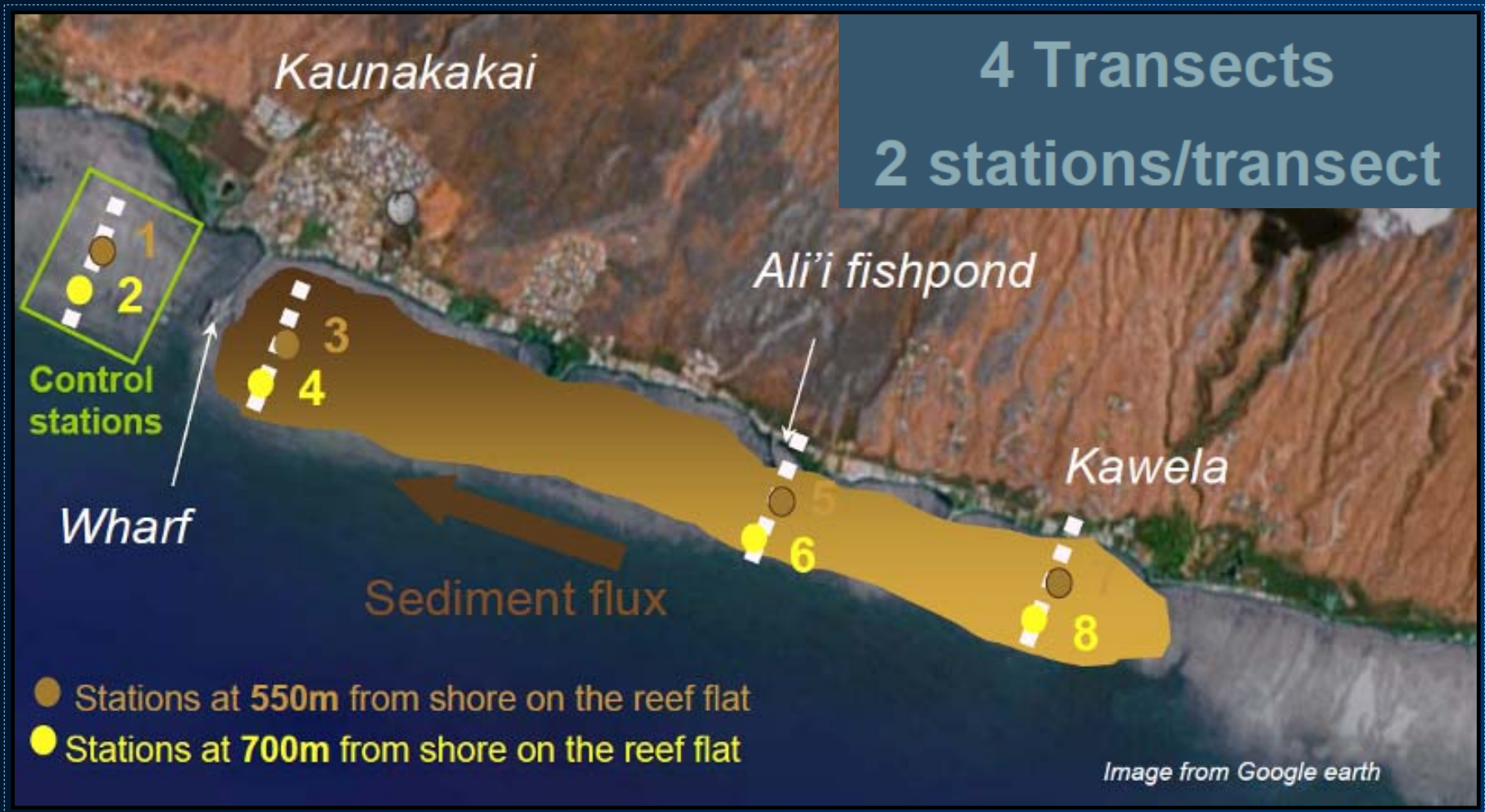


Time scales of pollution impacts, ranging from minutes to years



CASE STUDY

Impacts to Fringing Reefs in Molokai, Hawai'i



CORAL DISEASE AS AN INDICATOR of LBSP

“Nothing within any of our experiences prepared us for the increase we've seen in coral disease. We saw a 300% increase in the number of stations afflicted.”

(Dr. Jim Porter, CBS News 2002; EPA Coral Reef Monitoring Program)

“Sedimentation, pollution and nutrient enrichment are associated with elevated severity of coral diseases”

(Bruno *et al.*, 2003; Francini-Filho 2008)



GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- ➔ Assess and monitor the abundance and distribution coral of disease across the US-affiliated Pacific territories
- ➔ Evaluate the spatio-temporal patterns of disease prevalence
- ➔ Assess potential linkages with natural and anthropogenic impacts
- ➔ Contribute to development of standardized nomenclature; facilitate field identification and reporting
- ➔ Build capacity and partnerships



CRED – Coral Disease Program

CASE STUDY

Disease Prevalence in the Pacific Basin: American Samoa *(NOAA | Territory of American Samoa)*

