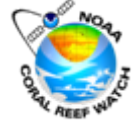




NOAA Coral Reef Watch and the World Bank Targeted Research Project



The NOAA Coral Reef Watch (CRW) satellite program produces near-real-time, web-accessible Sea Surface Temperature (SST) products that monitor for conditions conducive to coral bleaching around the globe. The World Bank's Coral Reef Targeted Research and Capacity Building for Management project establishes a network of coral reef scientists to address knowledge gaps, reducing uncertainty in reef management. CRW is part of a working group that is making remote sensing data more accessible and useful for coral reef managers.

The CRTR project was established to address fundamental gaps in our understanding of coral reef ecosystems, to strengthen management options and policy interventions. The research of six Working Groups is focused on four Centres of Excellence.

Targeted Research Working Groups



Bleaching and Local Ecological Effects



Connectivity and Large-Scale Ecological Processes



Coral Disease



Restoration and Remediation



Remote Sensing



Modeling and Decision Support Tools

Centres of Excellence

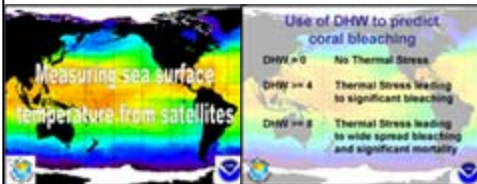
Puerto Morelos, Mexico
Zanzibar, Tanzania
Bolinao, Philippines
Heron Island, Australia



Coral Reef Watch activities fit under the Remote Sensing working group. We train reef managers in using our data, customize our own products to meet managers' needs, and organize online remote sensing resources for managers.

Hands-On Satellite Data Training

CRW developed a 2-day workshop that trains reef managers so that they can incorporate satellite remote sensing tools and information into their local management protocols.



Workshops since October 2005:
Mexico Philippines
Palau US Virgin Islands



Expanding CRW data resources

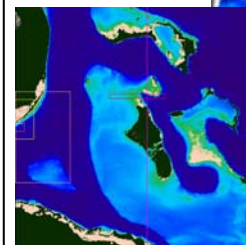
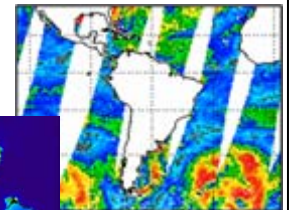
The CRW Bleaching Indices webpage gives current conditions for 24 global reefs, and automatic e-mails alert managers when there is a bleaching risk. With funding from the World Bank, this will be expanded to 24 reefs around each Center of Excellence.



The current Caribbean Bleaching Indices sites are shown in red; proposed expansion sites are black.

Satellite Data for Reef Managers

QuikScat Winds
(NOAA/NESDIS)



Bathymetry
(NASA/SeaWiFS)

One Remote Sensing Working Group goal is to organize a variety of remote sensing products for coral reef and coastal management. As a first step, CRW is designing a webpage linking to on-line data that are already available. The long-term plan is to integrate these data into a GIS-like ocean atlas.