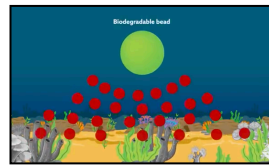


Announcement

**BLEACHING ALERT
LEVEL 2 ISSUED FOR
THE CARIBBEAN IN 5-8
WEEKS. SOME
PARTIALLY AND FULLY
BLEACHED COLONIES
REPORTED IN
BARBADOS.**



**REPORT CORAL
BLEACHING
OBSERVATIONS**



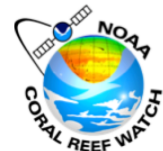
**SOPPING UP SUNBLOCK
FROM OCEANS TO SAVE
CORAL REEFS**



**MODERN GENETIC
SEQUENCING TOOLS GIVE
CLEARER PICTURE OF HOW
CORALS ARE RELATED**

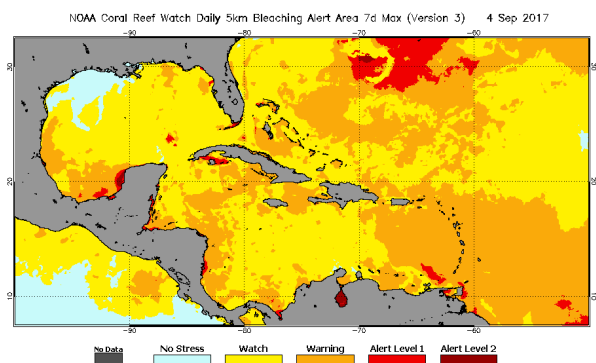


CARIBBEAN CORAL REEF WATCH



Notable Observations

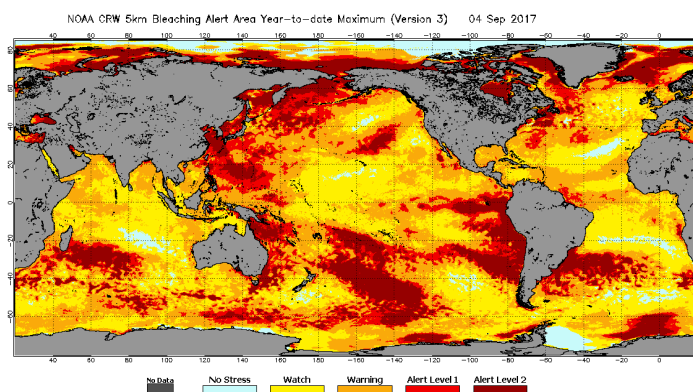
- ▶ Increased SSTs observed throughout the Caribbean. Few bleached colonies reported in Barbados.
- ▶ Bleaching warnings issued across the Caribbean with Alert Level 1 issued for SW. Cuba, Trinidad and Tobago, Belize, Mexico and Columbia Atlantic.
- ▶ Recent strong hurricane activity, including Irma, providing some cooling to the northern Caribbean along with physical damage to reefs (and property!)



[Click here to track current conditions](#)

Current Global Conditions

- ▶ Guam and Northern Mariana Islands at Alert Level 2, with bleaching reported.
- ▶ Alert Level 2 issued for Eastern Philippines, N. Ryukyu Islands, and Southern Japan.
- ▶ Western Persian Gulf and Bahrain also under Alert Level 2.



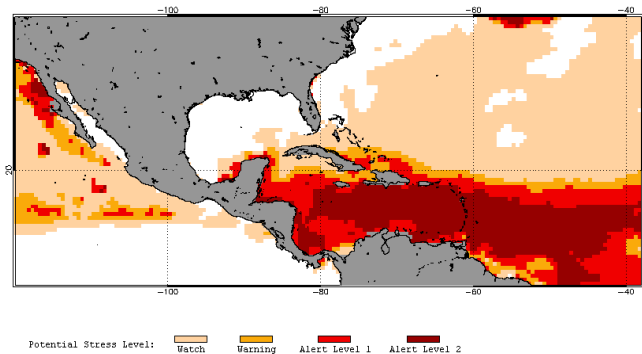
Alert Level Guide

Alert Level	Interpretation
No Stress	No Thermal Stress
Watch	Low-level thermal stress
Warning	Thermal stress is accumulating
Alert level 1	Bleaching expected
Alert level 2	Widespread bleaching and some mortality expected

Current Outlook (August–November 2017)

- 4-Month Outlook indicates that Bleaching Thermal Stress will be at Alert Level 2 in 5–8 weeks (Oct).

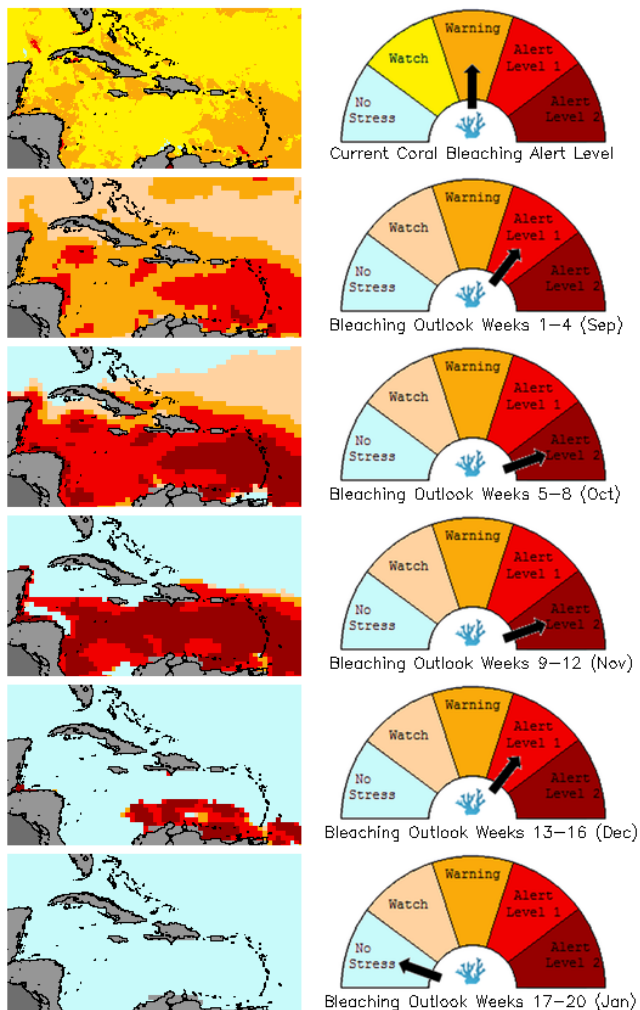
2017 Sep 5 NOAA 60% Probability Coral Bleaching Thermal Stress for Sep–Dec 2017
Experimental, v4.0, CFSv2–based, 28 to 112 Ensemble Members



[Click here to track the 4-month bleaching outlook](#)

Bleaching Alert Area and Outlook

Caribbean Satellite Bleaching Alert Area and Outlook
2017–08–31

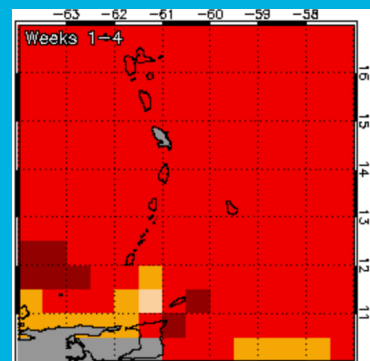


Caribbean Bleaching Outlook

A bleaching Alert Level 1 has been issued for the Caribbean in 1–4 weeks.

Bleaching Outlook raises major concerns for potential severe bleaching this season from the southern Leeward Islands, south to the South American coast.

5-km Regional Virtual Stations



[Alert level 1 issued for the Windward Islands in 1–4 weeks \(September\)](#)

[Click here for more information about the NOAA Coral Reef Watch methodology](#)

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