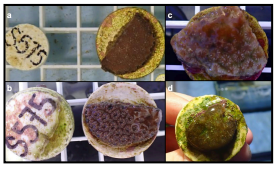
Announcement

AS OF AUGUST 11, SIGNIFICANT HEAT STRESS (ALERT LEVEL 1 AND ABOVE) HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN FLORIDA, THE BAHAMAS, CUBA, AND SOME STRETCHES OF WESTERN AND SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN. IT MAY IMPACT OTHER CARIBBEAN REGIONS IN THE COMING MONTHS.

REPORT CORAL BLEACHING OBSERVATIONS



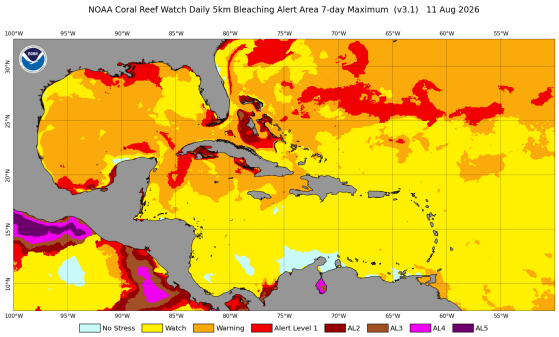
RESTORATION STOCKS OF A CARIBBEAN CORAL SPECIES CONTAIN LOW LEVELS OF INHERENT STONY CORAL TISSUE LOSS DISEASE RESISTANCE

FIRST-EVER STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR CORAL BLEACHING MONITORING LAUNCHED.

CARIBBEAN CORAL REEF WATCH

Notable Observations (As of Aug 11)

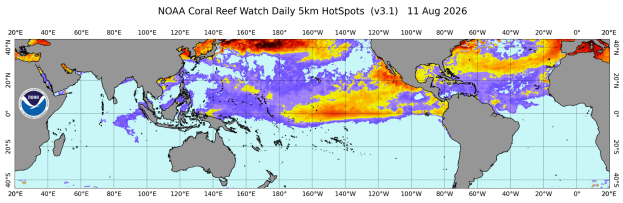
- The Bahamas, Florida and Cuba are currently experiencing Alert Level 1 and 2 heat stress, along with some limited stretches along the western and southern Caribbean coastlines. Most waters throughout the Caribbean are under Bleaching Watch conditions, with areas in the northern Caribbean, and northwestern Atlantic under Bleaching Warning conditions.
- ENSO Alert System Status: El Niño Advisory! El Niño conditions are present and expected to strengthen through the end of the year, with a 97% chance of conditions persisting through early spring 2027. Read more…

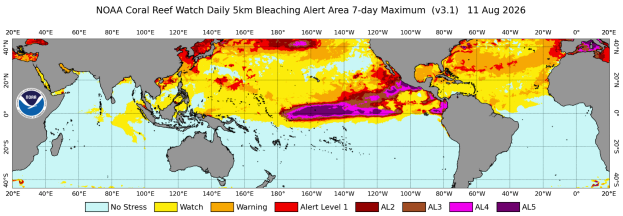


Click here to track current conditions

Current Global Conditions (As of Aug 11)

- High instantaneous heat stress (Hotspot values of 1°C or higher), is most active across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, eastern and northwestern North Pacific Ocean, and present in some regions of the northern Atlantic Ocean.
- Alert Levels 1-5 heat stress are present in the following regions (based on NOAA CRW Regional Virtual Stations): Bahamas, Florida stations, Veracruz, Yucatan Peninsula, 24% of Caribbean stations, ~86% of stations in Eastern Pacific, Line Islands, ~36% of Micronesia stations, 70% of East Asia stations, Ogasawara Islands, Malacca Strait and Sabah (Malaysia), and Gulf of Oman.



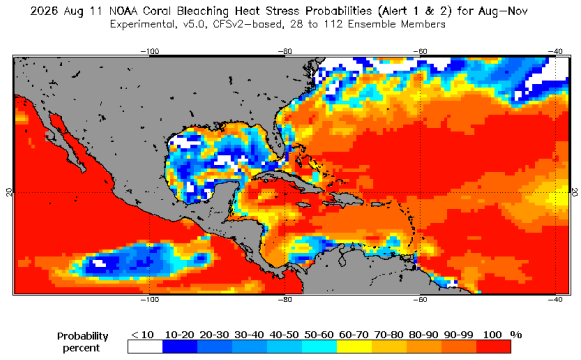


Alert Level Guide

Stress Level	Interpretation
No Stress	No Bleaching
Watch	
Warning	Risk of Possible Bleaching
Alert Level 1	Risk of Reef-Wide Bleaching
Alert Level 2	Risk of Reef-Wide Bleaching with Mortality of Heat-Sensitive Corals
Alert Level 3	Risk of Multi-Species Mortality
Alert Level 4	Risk of Severe, Multi-Species Mortality (> 50% of corals)
Alert Level 5	Risk of Near Complete Mortality (> 80% of corals)

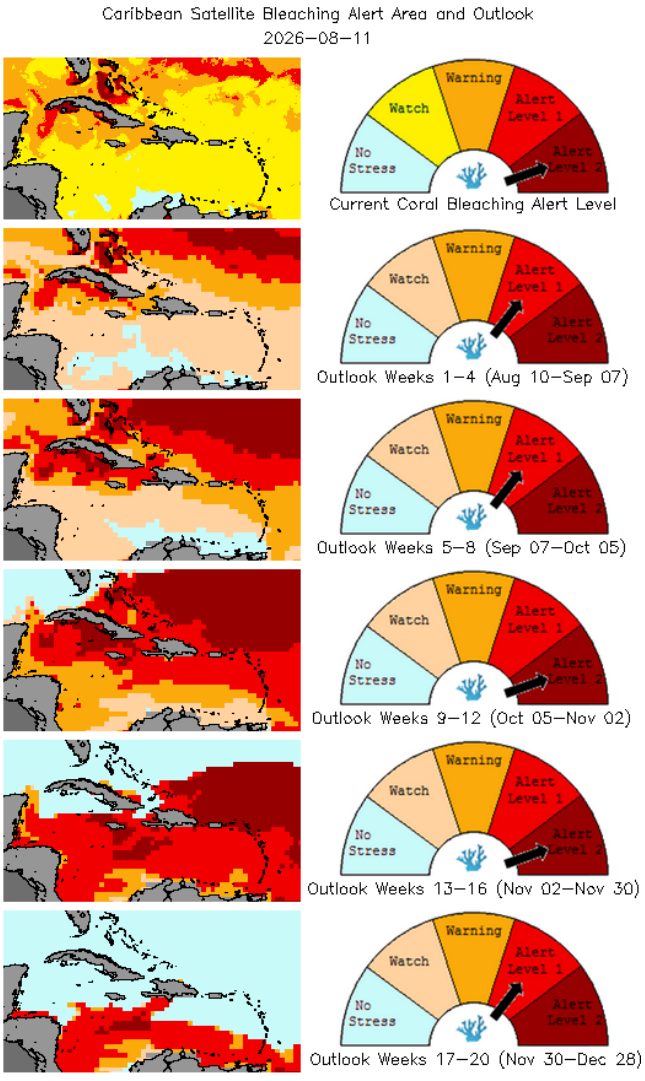
Caribbean Outlook (August-November 2026)

- Based on the 4-Month Probabilistic Outlook of August 11, there are high probabilities (> 70%)most of the Caribbean basin will experience Alert Level 1 heat stress sequentially from north to south by the end of October and early November, following the seasonal cycle.



Click here to track the 4-month probabilistic bleaching outlook

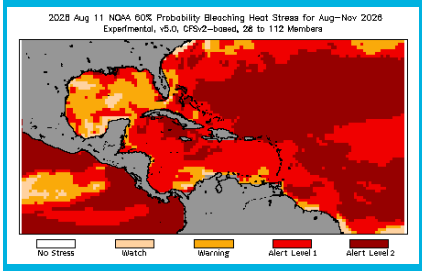
Bleaching Alert Area and Outlook



Caribbean Bleaching Outlook

As of August 11, 2026, NOAA CRW's 4-Month Coral Bleaching Outlook (60% probability) predicts Bleaching Alert level 1 and 2 conditions to continue affecting northern and central reefs of The Bahamas through August and spreading to the entire Bahamas and most of Cuba in September. Alert level 1 conditions are predicted to impact Turks and Caicos, the Cayman Islands, Jamaica, the Leeward Islands, and most of the Windward Islands in late September through to November.

View all 5-km NOAA CRW Regional Virtual Stations



4-month Coral Bleaching Outlook (60% probability)

4-month Coral Bleaching Outlook (90% probability)

Click here for more information about the NOAA Coral Reef Watch methodology

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