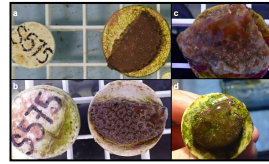


Announcement

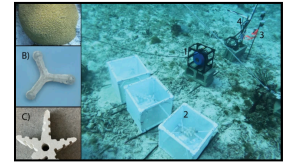
AS OF SEPTEMBER 12, SIGNIFICANT HEAT STRESS (ALERT LEVEL 1 AND ABOVE) HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN FLORIDA, THE BAHAMAS, TURKS AND CAICOS, CUBA, HAITI, CAYMAN ISLANDS, BELIZE, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, AND PARTS OF CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA. THERE IS A HIGH PROBABILITY IT MAY IMPACT OTHER CARIBBEAN REGIONS IN THE COMING MONTHS.



REPORT CORAL BLEACHING OBSERVATIONS



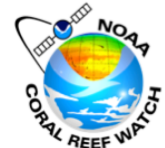
RESTORATION STOCKS OF A CARIBBEAN CORAL SPECIES CONTAIN LOW LEVELS OF INHERENT STONY CORAL TISSUE LOSS DISEASE RESISTANCE



EFFECTS OF ACOUSTIC ENRICHMENT ON SETTLEMENT OF A CRITICALLY ENDANGERED BROADCAST SPAWNING CORAL

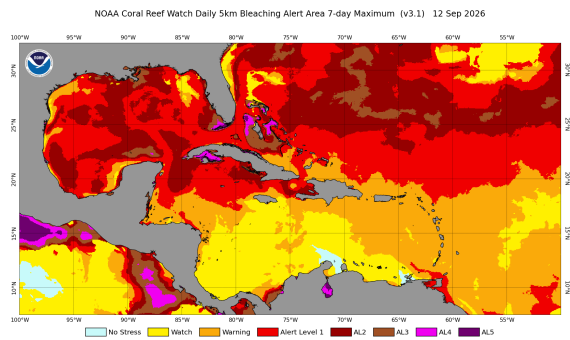


CARIBBEAN CORAL REEF WATCH



Notable Observations (As of Sep 12)

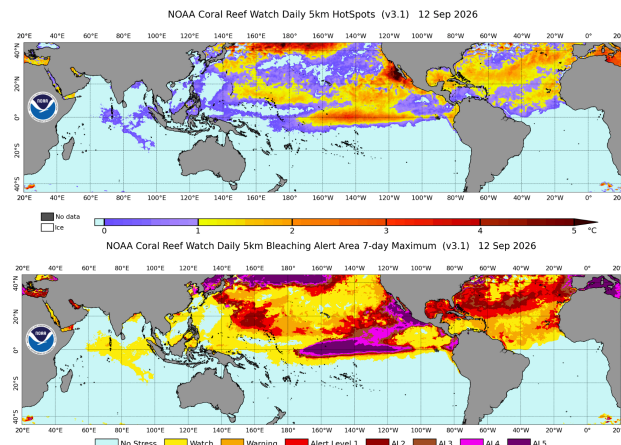
- Most of the Bahamas, Florida and Cuba have been experiencing Alert Levels 1-3 heat stress, with some areas experiencing Alert Levels 4 and 5. The Turks and Caicos, the Cayman Islands, Belize and Trinidad & Tobago are mainly experiencing Alert Level 1 heat stress. The Leeward and Windward Islands are under Bleaching Warning conditions. Most of the central and southern Caribbean basin remains under Bleaching Watch.
- ENSO Alert System Status: **El Niño Advisory!** El Niño is strengthening, with a greater than 90% chance of a very strong event during the Northern Hemisphere fall and winter 2026-27. [Read more...](#)



[Click here to track current conditions](#)

Current Global Conditions (As of Sep 12)

- 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, Gulf of Mexico, eastern Caribbean, most of the northern Atlantic Ocean.
- Alert Levels 1-5 heat stress are present in the following regions (based on NOAA CRW Regional Virtual Stations): 58% of all northern Atlantic Ocean stations, ~71% of stations in Eastern Pacific, Line Islands, Marshall Islands, Phoenix Islands (Kiribati), Hong Kong, Ogasawara Islands, Brunei Darussalam, Northern Borneo and Sabah (Malaysia), and ~63% of Middle Eastern stations.



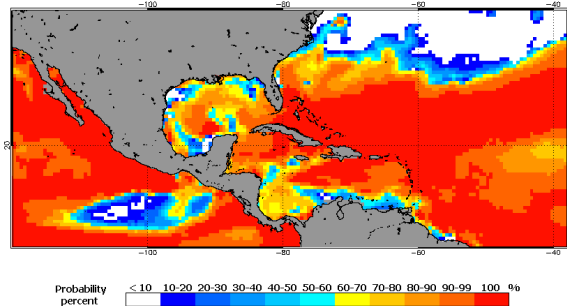
Alert Level Guide

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 (Sep.-Dec. 2026)

- Based on the 4-Month Probabilistic Outlook of September 8, there are high probabilities (> 80%) most of the Caribbean basin will experience Alert Level 1 heat stress sequentially from north to south by the end of December, following the seasonal cycle.

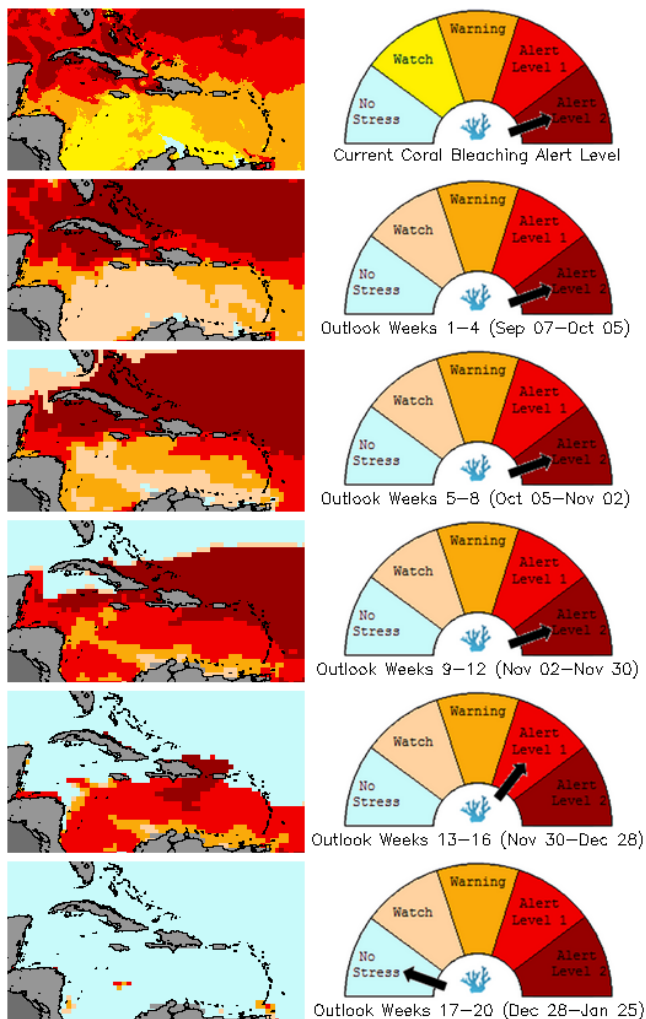
2026 Sep 8 NOAA Coral Bleaching Heat Stress Probabilities (Alert 1 & 2) for Sep-Dec
Experimental, v5.0, CFSv2-based, 28 to 112 Ensemble Members



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

Bleaching Alert Area and Outlook

Caribbean Satellite Bleaching Alert Area and Outlook
2026-09-12

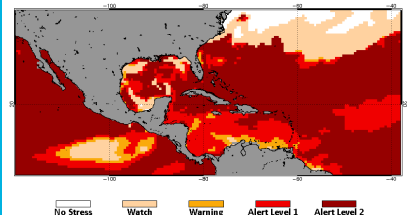


Caribbean Bleaching Outlook

As of September 12, 2026, NOAA CRW's 4-Month Coral Bleaching Outlook (60% probability) predicts Bleaching Alert level 1 and 2 conditions will continue to affect the entire Bahamas, the Turks and Caicos, Cuba, and the Cayman Islands until late October. Alert level 1 and 2 conditions are predicted to spread south into Jamaica, eastern Greater Antilles, and the Leeward Islands in October, and the Windward Islands in late October. Heat stress is predicted to persist into December in the southern Caribbean.

[View all 5-km NOAA CRW Regional Virtual Stations](#)

2026 Sep 8 NOAA 60% Probability Coral Bleaching Heat Stress for Sep-Dec 2026
Experimental, v5.0, CFSv2-based, 28 to 112 Ensemble Members



[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](#)

For more information contact:

Adrian Trotman
atrotman@cimh.edu.bb

Courtney Forde
cforde@cimh.edu.bb

Shontelle Stoute
sstoute@cimh.edu.bb