Announcement

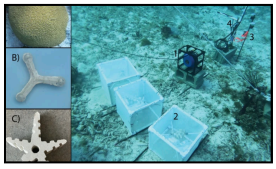
AS OF OCTOBER 15, SIGNIFICANT HEAT STRESS (ALERT LEVEL 1 AND ABOVE) HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN BAHAMAS, TURKS AND CAICOS, THE EASTERN GREATER ANTILLES, THE LEEWARD ISLANDS, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, PARTS OF THE WINDWARD ISLANDS, MOST OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COAST, AND SOME STRETCHES OF SOUTH AMERICA. THERE IS A HIGH PROBABILITY IT MAY CONTINUE TO IMPACT EASTERN AND SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN REGIONS THROUGH NOVEMBER.



REPORT CORAL BLEACHING OBSERVATIONS



THE SUPER EL NIÑO IS COOKING CORAL REEFS — CAN LULLABIES AND PROBIOTICS SAVE THEM?

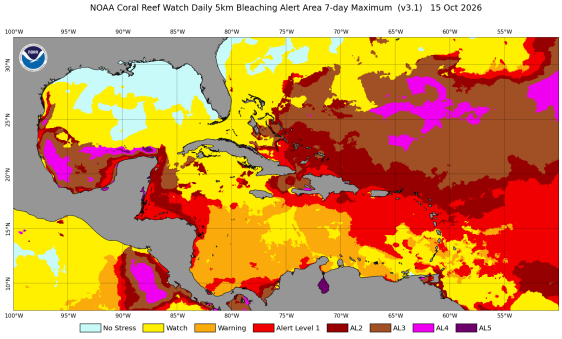


EFFECTS OF ACOUSTIC ENRICHMENT ON SETTLEMENT OF A CRITICALLY ENDANGERED BROADCAST SPAWNING CORAL

CARIBBEAN CORAL REEF WATCH

Notable Observations (As of Oct 15)

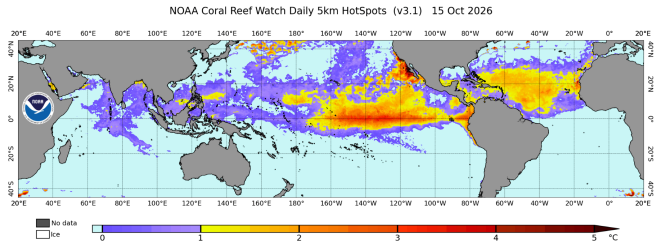
- Most of the central and southern Bahamas, Turks and Caicos, eastern Cuba, Hispaniola, the Leewards Islands, and Trinidad and Tobago continue experiencing Alert Levels 1-3 heat stress, with some areas experiencing Alert Level 4, while most of the central and southern Caribbean basin remains at Bleaching Watch or Warning.
- ENSO Alert System Status: El Niño Advisory! El Niño continues to strengthen, with a strong-to-very strong El Niño likely through January-March 2027 (remaining greater than an 83% chance). Read more…

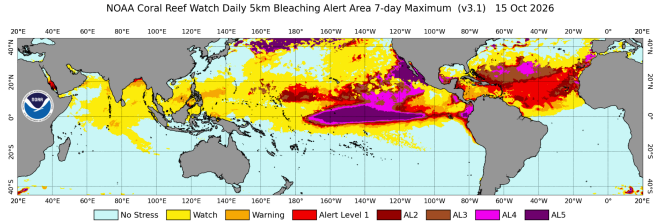


Click here to track current conditions

Current Global Conditions (As of Oct 13)

- High instantaneous heat stress (Hotspot values of 1°C or higher), is most active across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, eastern North Pacific Ocean, and across the equatorial Atlantic Ocean between 0°N and 40°N Latitude.
- Alert Levels 1-5 heat stress are present in the following regions (based on NOAA CRW Regional Virtual Stations): Central Bahamas, Turks and Caicos, Cape Verde Islands, Veracruz (Mexico), Yucatan Peninsula, 80% of Caribbean stations, ~57% of stations in Eastern Pacific, Line Islands, Phoenix Islands (Kiribati), Sabah (Malaysia), and ~32% of Middle Eastern stations.



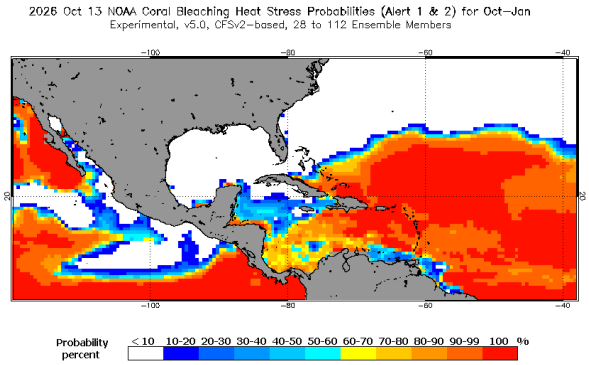


Alert Level Guide

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)

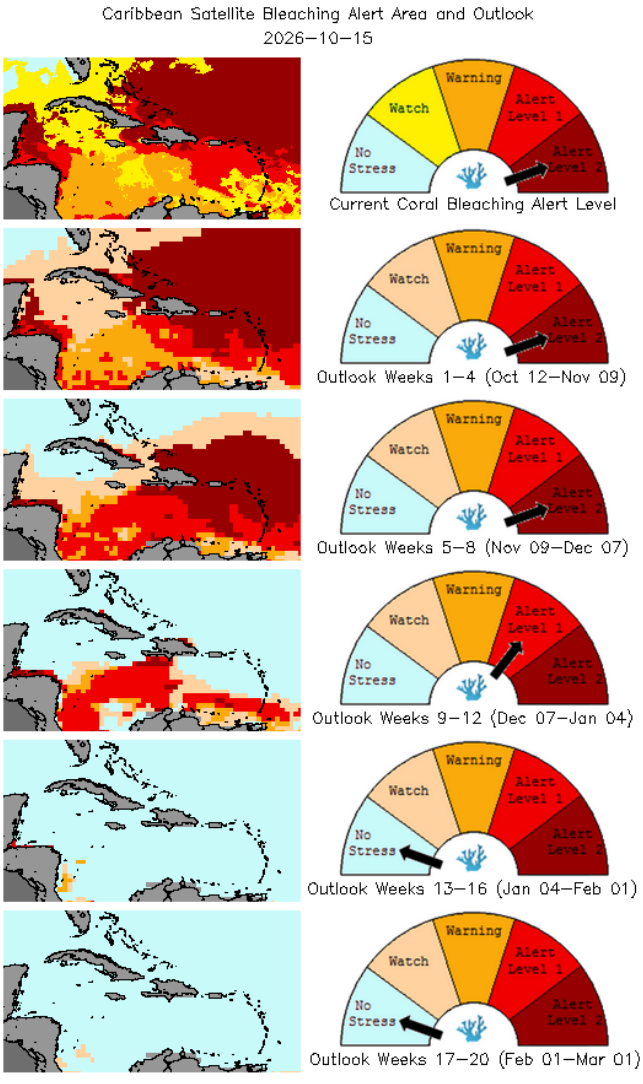
Caribbean Outlook (Oct. ’26-Jan. ’27)

- Based on the 4-Month Probabilistic Outlook of October 13, there are very high probabilities (> 90%) most of the southern and eastern Caribbean basin will continue to experience Alert Level 1 or 2 heat stress through late November and possibly early December.



Click here to track the 4-month probabilistic bleaching outlook

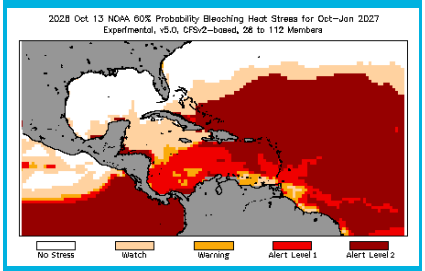
Bleaching Alert Area and Outlook



Caribbean Bleaching Outlook

As of October 13, 2026, NOAA CRW’s 4-Month Coral Bleaching Outlook (60% probability) predicts Bleaching Alert level 1 and 2 conditions will continue to affect the central and southern Bahamas, Turks and Caicos, the eastern Greater Antilles, and most of the western Caribbean coast until late October. Alert level 2 conditions are predicted to spread southeast into 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



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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