



The ReefBase Newsletter provides registered users with updates on new additions to the ReefBase database and website. You have received this newsletter as you are a registered user of ReefBase and indicated that you wanted to receive our electronic newsletters.

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Announcements

1. 11th ICRS ReefBase Involvement



Yet again, this is the year for the 11th International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS) after its previous one in Okinawa, Japan in 2004. Held every four years since 1969 in India, the 11th ICRS will take place in Fort Lauderdale, Florida this July 7th -11th and will be anticipating about 2000 participants in what is claimed to be the world's major coral reef meeting.

The ReefBase team will be participating in several presentations which include an exhibition booth, a poster presentations and a plenary session about coral reef management. Below are further details of the presentations:

Lessons Learned and Best Practices in the Management of Coral Reefs

Tuesday July 8, 2008 6:30-9:30 PM

Mark Tupper (m.tupper@cgiar.org) (By Invitation or Contact Only)

ReefBase: Information Systems Focused on Coral Reef Resources & Management

Thursday, July 10, 2008 12:00-12:30PM, as part of that day's program, "Coral Reef Conservation"
Moi Khim Tan and Pip Cohen
Venue: Education Center

Exhibition booth at Education Center

Booth no: E1

The exhibit will display brochures, posters, and database products (CD and DVD formats) from four information systems (ReefBase, GEF Lessons Learned, ReefBase Pacific and FishBase) as well as general information on the activities of WorldFish Center relating to tropical based, small-scale fisheries.

Poster presentation (ReefBase: Information Systems Focused on Coral Reef Resources & Management)

Category: 23. Reef management

2. Knowledgebase for Lessons Learned and Best Practices in the Management of Coral Reefs (GEF Lessons Learned) Mailing List



The GEF Lessons Learned and Best Practices Toolkit (GEF LL Toolkit) is a place to find information about how to design and implement coral reef management strategies. The tools provided on this website are also available through an interactive CD-ROM. This toolkit is a "living knowledgebase" - as our knowledge of the issues surrounding coral reef management and how best to approach them improves, revisions of this information can be anticipated.

The GEF LL Toolkit is available on-line at <http://gefll.reefbase.org>, and updates will be provided on a quarterly basis to provide the latest information available on coral reef management issues. Also available online are an mailing list and a blog space for coral reef managers and scientists to discuss their ideas and experiences. I would grateful if you would subscribe to the mailing list and add your input, particularly in terms of commentary on the information contained in the toolkit. Feel free to suggest any changes or additions you feel would be valuable. Please note that the Lessons Learned listserver is not intended to compete with this Coral list. Instead it is meant to be a supplemental list where coral managers and researchers can discuss their experiences with management issues.

Project Leader,
Dr. Mark Tupper

<http://lists.reefbase.org/mailman/listinfo/lessons.learned>

3. Launching of the ReefBase Pacific DVD Version 1.0



The ReefBase team is pleased to announce the launch of the ReefBase Pacific DVD Version 1.0. This is the first of many information products of the ReefBase Pacific project that will improve quality and accessibility of data and information for reef fisheries and coral reef research, management, conservation, and education in the Pacific region.

ReefBase Pacific DVD version 1.0 contains a large collection of reef resource information relating to the Pacific. The major content of the current database are outlined below. A variety of search options allow the user to easily identify, locate and access this information. The current database includes:

2507 Publications (2163 English, 308 French, 1212 in full text PDFs)

1232 Images

694 Monitoring Sites

77 Project Details

176 People

85 Organizations

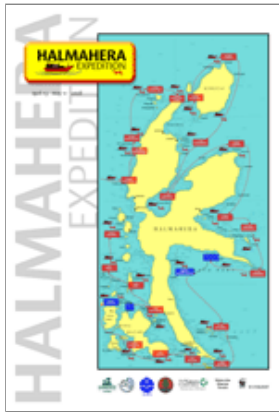
2021 Species Profiles

22 Country profiles

For more information, visit ReefBase Pacific project page.

http://www.reefbase.org/projects_partners/projects.aspx?projectid=3

4. Halmahera Expedition



A team of top marine scientists is embarking on a month-long journey to uncharted waters on the outer edge of the Coral Triangle, a region renowned for its incredible marine biodiversity. Reefs here harbor an astounding 76 percent of the world's coral species. The expedition will be leaving aboard the *Seven Seas* on April 12th 2008, returning a month later, on May 12th after circumnavigating the main island and adjoining islets.

What they will find during this expedition may well be the richest treasure trove of marine life on Earth. "We call the Coral Triangle the 'epicenter of coral reef diversity'," says Dr. Rod Salm, director of the Conservancy's Tropical Marine Conservation Program in the Asia Pacific Region. "This could be the epicenter of the epicenter."

The expedition, which is co-sponsored by The Nature Conservancy and Conservation International (CI), includes 16 experts from these organizations as well as Indonesian partners and the World Wildlife Fund. These web pages contain information and discoveries from the expedition, and allow you to follow the team as it explores this paradise on Earth. Select "Blog" to read the exciting notes from the expedition members.

Follow the live update of the exciting expedition on their website:

<http://www.reefbase.org/halmahera>

New additions to the ReefBase Publication database

1. A Reef in Time - J.E.N. Veron

- Veron, J.E.N. 2008. A reef in time: the Great Barrier Reef from beginning to end. The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts. London, England. 289pp. (ID: 26441)

The Great Barrier Reef, Nature's pinnacle of achievement in the ocean realm, is the embodiment of wilderness, of remoteness – a place of endless beauty that has endured when so many other places on Earth, cherished by generations past, no longer engender strong emotions or else have been altered beyond all recognition. A truly cohesive account of how the Great Barrier Reef has changed in the geological past and will change in the human-controlled future must embrace concepts of time, the linking of disparate scientific disciplines, and the human takeover of climate control. As we turn from past to future in this book, we delve into scientific advances that are still in their infancy and that often go unappreciated because they are viewed in isolation rather than as a part of a bigger picture.

http://www.reefbase.org/resource_center/publication/main.aspx?refid=26441

2. Clive Wilkinson's – A Bad Year for Caribbean Corals

- Wilkinson, C., D. Souter. 2008. A Bad Year for Caribbean Corals. A World of SCIENCE, Vol. 6, No. 2. April – June 2008. 20p. (ID: 26456)

The years 1998 and 2005 were the two most damaging years for coral reefs in recorded history. They were also the world's hottest years since records began in 1880. About 16% of the world's reefs were lost to coral bleaching in the Indian Ocean and Western Pacific in 1998. Seven years on, unusually warm waters caused even worse coral bleaching, this time in the Caribbean where it was also a record year for hurricanes. Some of these hurricanes nevertheless had a silver lining: although they caused extensive damage, they also helped to save many corals by 'taking the heat off them'.

http://www.reefbase.org/resource_center/publication/main.aspx?refid=26456

3. Developing Resilient Fishery-dependent Communities in the Coral Triangle – The WorldFish Center

- Tupper, M., A. Tewfik. 2008. Developing Resilient Fishery-dependent Communities in the Coral Triangle. The WorldFish Center Publications. (ID: 26371)

Over 150 million people live within the Coral Triangle (Green and Mous 2006), of which over 2.6 million are fishers who are dependent on marine resources for their livelihoods. Current reef fishery management focuses primarily on threats arising from within the fishery, such as overfishing and destructive gears. However, land use practices (logging, mining, urbanization and coastal development) lead to increases in sedimentation, nutrient input, and habitat destruction. These external impacts can reduce biodiversity through species loss and exacerbate overfishing by limiting the amount of suitable habitat. Climate change and population growth are other key external threats to biodiversity, fisheries, and livelihoods and must be viewed as a fundamental threat to human security in countries already vulnerable to social and economic dislocation and conflict.

http://www.reefbase.org/resource_center/publication/main.aspx?refid=26371

4. Snorkel the Web: ReefBase brings a sea change in access to information about coral reefs – The WorldFish Center

- The WorldFish Center. 2007. Snorkel the Web. Factsheet No. 1713. (ID: 26387)

ReefBase is a sophisticated online information system that facilitates the global monitoring and management of coral reefs and thereby supports efforts to protect them. After the Indian Ocean tsunami of December 2004, for example, scientists and organizations around the world relied on ReefBase for assessments of damage to coral reefs in Southeast Asia and of how coastal communities were affected. Teams organized by ReefBase partner institutions conducted post-tsunami field observations, and their findings formed the basis for a comprehensive status report prepared by the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network.

http://www.reefbase.org/resource_center/publication/main.aspx?refid=26387

5. Lessons learned and best practices in the management of coral reefs – The WorldFish Center

- Tupper, M., J. Oliver, R. Kenchington, T. McClanahan, N. Muthiga, D. Gill, D. Burnham, S. Campbell, N. Andrew, R. Mahon and D. Walfoort. 2008. Lessons Learned and Best Practices in the Management of Coral Reefs. Lessons Learned No. 1804. The WorldFish Center Publications. (ID: 26386)

This brief presents a review of lessons learned and best practices in the management of coral reefs based on the analysis of 30 projects funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) related to coral reefs and associated tropical marine ecosystems and 26 non-GEF funded projects. The key lessons learned and recommendations are grouped according to eight priority issues in coral reef management.

http://www.reefbase.org/resource_center/publication/main.aspx?refid=26386

6. Decadal trends in a coral community and evidence of changed disturbance regime

- M. Wakeford, T. J. Done, C. R. Johnson. 2008. Decadal trends in a coral community and evidence of changed disturbance regime. *Coral Reefs* (2008) 27:1–13. (ID: 26457)

A 23 year data set (1981–2003 inclusive) and the spatially explicit individual-based model "Compete" were used to investigate the implications of changing disturbance frequency on cover and taxonomic composition of a shallow coral community at Lizard Island, Australia. Near-vertical in situ stereo-photography was used to estimate rates of coral growth, mortality, recruitment and outcomes of pair-wise competitive interactions for 17 physiognomic groups of hard and soft corals. These data were used to parameterise the model, and to quantify impacts of three acute disturbance events that caused significant coral mortality: 1982—a combination of coral bleaching and Crown-of-Thorns starfish; 1990—cyclone waves; and 1996—Crown-of-Thorns starfish.

http://www.reefbase.org/resource_center/publication/main.aspx?refid=26457

7. The State of Deep Coral Ecosystems of the United States: 2007

- Lumsden S.E., T.F. Hourigan, A.W. Bruckner, G. Dorr (eds.). 2007. The State of Deep Coral Ecosystems of the United States. NOAA Technical Memorandum CRCP-3. Silver Spring MD. 365 pp. (ID: 26458)

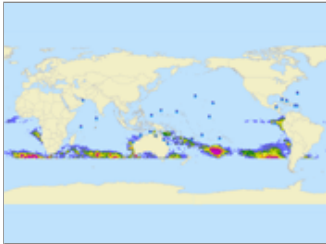
This report represents the first effort by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with other federal, academic and non-governmental partners, to bring together available information on the abundance and distribution of structure-forming corals that occur in U.S. waters at depths

greater than 50 m. It consists of an introduction, National Overview and seven regional chapters describing deep coral communities in U.S. waters off Alaska, the U.S. West Coast, Hawai'i and the U.S. Insular Pacific, the Northeastern U.S., Southeastern U.S., Gulf of Mexico, and U.S. Caribbean. This report reflects the tremendous increase in awareness of these communities that has evolved over the last few years as the result of increasing exploration and research to understand deeper regions of the oceans. In the U.S., NOAA is proud to serve as a leading partner in much of this work.

http://www.reefbase.org/resource_center/publication/main.aspx?refid=26458

Online GIS

April 2008 NOAA Coral Reef Watch's Satellite Monitoring Products



This map shows the global observations of coral bleaching occurrences combined with NOAA Coral Reef Watch's satellite monitoring products including Sea Surface Temperature, Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly, Bleaching HotSpot and Degree Heating Weeks. These datasets are added into ReefBase Online GIS each month.

To view the latest April 2008 maps, click here.

<http://reefgis.reefbase.org/redirect.aspx?urlid=2463>

ReefBase::A Global Information System For Coral Reefs

Website: <http://www.reefbase.org>

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