

Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center and the National Coral Reef Monitoring Program

This spring and summer you may see a large white ship sailing around the islands. This ship will be launching small orange boats carrying teams of scientific divers who will be conducting underwater surveys close to shore.

Questions? Please email pifsc.info@noaa.gov

Photo Credit: NOAA Fisheries

NOAA Surveys Coral Reefs and Ocean Conditions Around the Mariana Islands March – June 2025



What's Happening?

Scientists will measure and count reef fish, assess coral health, and collect ocean condition and temperature data. They will record fish and habitat data and collect images of the ocean floor.

These surveys take place every three years. These surveys do not involve taking any marine life.





Why?

This information helps evaluate potential changes in coral reef health and structure. It complements local agencies' monitoring efforts, and informs scientists, managers, and communities.

Over time, we can see how coral reefs and ocean conditions have changed, which is an important part of managing and conserving coral reef ecosystems.



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