

SCTLD: Monitoring & Progression

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2020-09-15

Atlantic and Gulf Rapid Reef Assessment

Thanks for support:

ORE

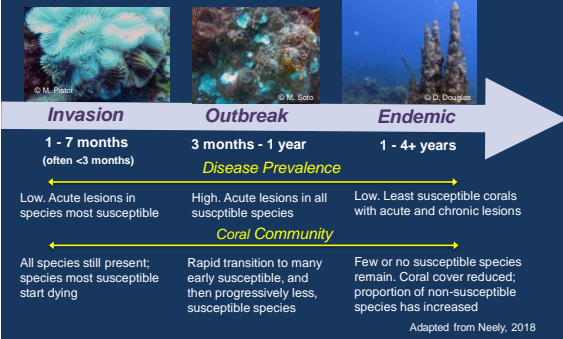
MPACConnect

Countless generous colleagues



1

Exposure categories for coral reefs that are, or may be, affected by SCTLD.



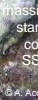
2

SCTLD: Invasion Stage

Any pillar, maze, or perhaps some brain, corals will start to die...



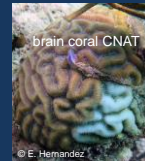
...any massive starlet corals may also be dying—or they may not!



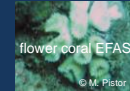
3

SCTLD: Invasion₂/Outbreak may Start

Most brain corals also start to die.



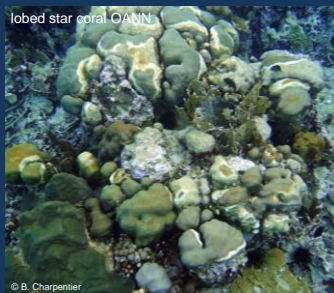
Lettuce corals and smooth flower corals may die—or may not yet die.



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SCTLD: Invasion₃/Outbreak started

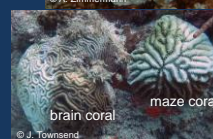
Any star and great star corals start to die; if more susceptible corals are present, many will be dying



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SCTLD: Confirm Outbreak

Photo/Video: at close-up to scenery scales (needs camera)

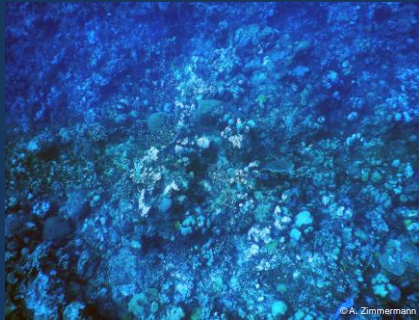


Report: to AGRRA at www.agrra.org/coral-disease-outbreak and to your local reporting networks.

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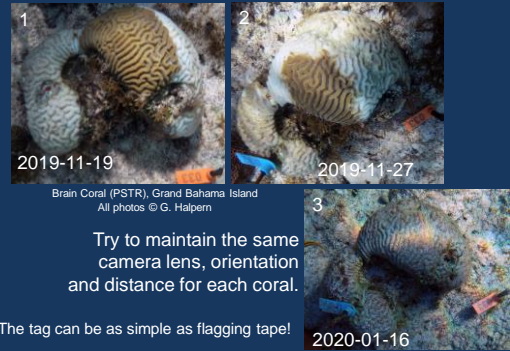
Photography

High-resolution landscape-scale images that capture details of individual corals when enlarged can provide useful SCTLD data.



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SCTLD: Tag* and Track Progression within Susceptible Corals with Repeat Photography



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SCTLD: Assess Spatial Extent₁

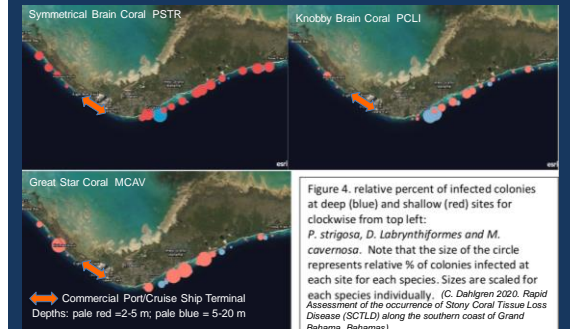
Use available knowledge: ask local divers if corals are dying. On linear reefs, can conduct spot checks, or manta tows if time allows, at intervals away from discovery site (red below), or away from areas of particular concern.



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SCTLD: Assess Spatial Extent₂

On patchy reefs, can conduct spot checks, or roving diver surveys if time allows, away from discovery site or an area of concern (→).



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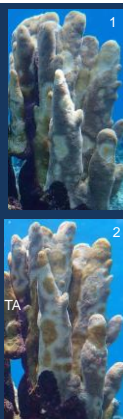
SCTLD: Assess Spatial Extent₃

Use local knowledge of the locations of :
 • particularly susceptible corals, especially if naturally rare and/or iconic;
 • most important reef framework builders; and
 • MPAs and other areas of value (e.g., as natural breakwaters, for tourism or recreation).

Also use any surveys or reports with species-level coral data (e.g., AGRRA, CARICOMP, GCRMN).

Chose further sites in which to conduct spot checks or, if time allows, roving diver surveys.

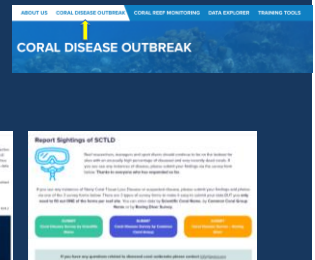
Pillar coral (DCYL) with SCTLD on (1) Aug. 4 and (2) Aug. 11, 2020. Note large increase in white = newly dead areas and in yellowish algal turfs (TA) on the previously dead skeleton in just 7 days. Photos © by T. Warrender.



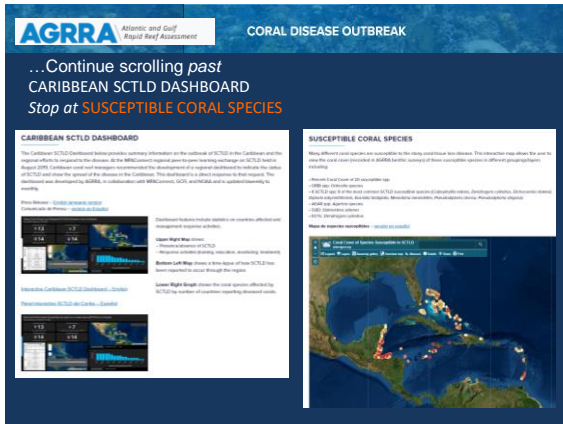
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If AGRRA data for an area, go to www.agrra.org. Click on CORAL DISEASE OUTBREAK in the pull-down menu

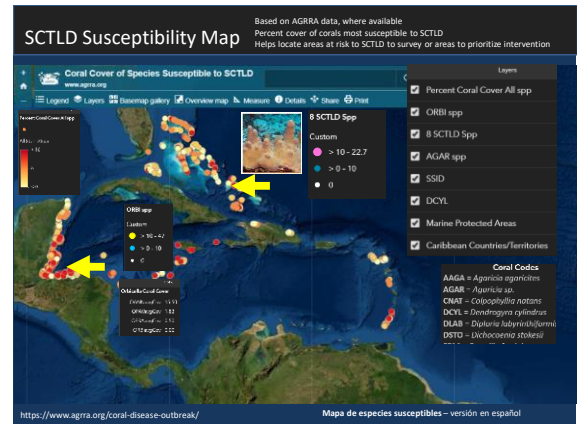
In CORAL DISEASE OUTBREAK page, scroll past Stony coral tissue loss disease Tracking the Disease and map Report sightings of SCTLD...



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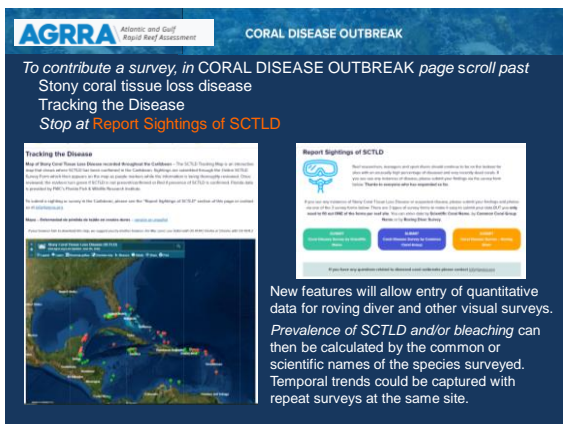
14



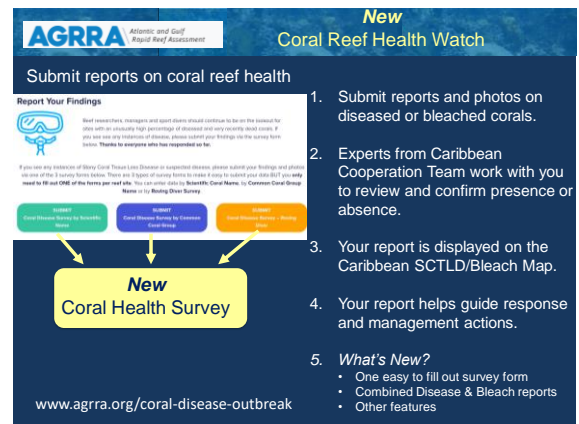
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Step 1. Observer Information **Step 2. Site information** **Step 3. Coral health data**

What's New?

Add photos & Submit Your report

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Step 3a. Observations
Counts or presence/absence

Observation Data*
Select the type of observation data you are able to supply, decreasing specificity.

☒ Coral count by species name or code

☐ Presence/absence by species name or code

☐ Presence/absence by coral shape

Select one option

Step 3b. Select species you saw

Species Monitored*
Select the species that were considered

Drop down menu

4 selected

☒ Colpophylla natans: CNAT (Boulder Brain)

☒ Dendrogya cylindrus: DCYL (Pillar)

☐ Dichocoenia stokesii f. stellaris: DSTE ()

Step 3c. Were your corals healthy?

Click arrow for drop down menu

We will post suggestions for useful survey equipment, data cards, swimming instructions, survey times and sample sizes.

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DCYL ← **Pillar coral example**

Healthier

SCTLD Only

SCTLD + Any Bleached

Fully Bleached Only

Partially Bleached Only

Pale Only

Recently Fully Dead

Other Disease

Closer look –
Step 3c. Were your corals healthy?

For each species enter the number of corals that are:

- Healthy
- SCTLD Only
- SCTLD and Any Bleach
- Fully Bleached Only
- Partly Bleached Only
- Pale Only
- Recently Fully Dead
- Other Diseases

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Many thanks also to Patricia Kramer for her efforts to continually improve the range of AGRRA's online offerings, in both English and Spanish,

&

for noticing that I had reversed slides 14 and 22 (shown here) when adding them to my MPA Connect webinar presentation for September 15, 2020.

These two images are now correctly located in this pdf.



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