



Mote Marine Laboratory / Florida Keys Marine Sanctuary
Florida Keys BleachWatch Program



Report Form Instruction Sheet

Thank you for participating in the BleachWatch Observer program. Your time and efforts as part of the BleachWatch Team are greatly appreciated. Regular reports from your site are essential, **whether you are seeing coral bleaching or not**. Using the visual aids to help make observations during your dive or snorkel, the Report Form should be filled out when back on the vessel, as follows:

A. OBSERVER DETAILS

Please be sure to fill out date and time of your visit. If you have previously sent in a report for 2006 season, only necessary to fill in date, time and name.

B. SITE INFORMATION

Fill out the information (latitude and longitude being the most important) about the site you observed for every submission, whether bleaching occurred or not. If you do not know the maximum depth, please estimate. The following is a breakdown of types of reef habitat at your site, please circle the closest relation.

Type of Reef Zone?

Hardbottom - Close to shore and mostly soft corals.

Patch Reef- Patch of reef surrounded by sand (10-20')

Mid-Channel Patch Reef- Patch Reef found in a Channel (ex. Hawks Channel)

Deep Reef- Deep water reef (60'+)

Bank Reef- Spur and Groove formations

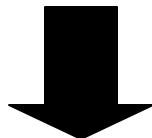
Environmental Conditions

Please fill this section out to the best of your knowledge. The weather details are important because it leads to understanding what conditions lead to bleaching at this particular site. We use your environmental conditions in combination with thermal thresholds to monitor and predict the likelihood of coral bleaching.

Have you observed coral bleaching during your visit?

If NO, please check “No” and you are Finished.

IF YES, please check “Yes” and continue to section C.





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C. BASIC BLEACHING OBSERVATIONS

- **Severity of bleaching?**
 Please indicate the overall severity of the coral bleaching event. This should be what bleaching stage most of the “bleaching” corals are going through of the entire site.
- **Types of Corals Bleached?**
 Please indicate types of corals bleached by ticking all relevant categories (Table 1). Some species are more resistant to bleaching than others. This will enable us to monitor the progress and severity at this site.
- **Percentage of bleached coral?**
 Indicate the percentage of live coral that is bleached. By using Table 2 as reference, first determine live coral cover, and then take the percentage of bleaching coral from the total live coral. For example, if there was only 11-30% of live coral cover at your site and all of it was bleached, then the percent bleached would be 76-100%.
- **Depth range of bleaching?**
 Note the depth range of bleaching, minimum being the shallowest depth and maximum being the deepest sight of bleaching.
- **Fire Coral, Palythoa, Gorgonia bleaching?**
 These are not stony corals but good indicators of a coral bleaching event. Please circle if you observed bleaching on any of these species.

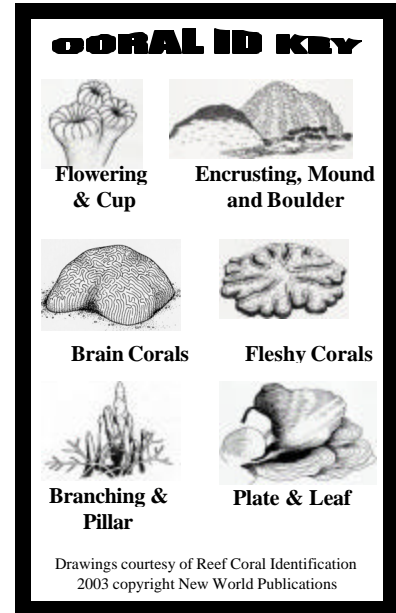


TABLE 1. Coral ID Key for types of coral identification.

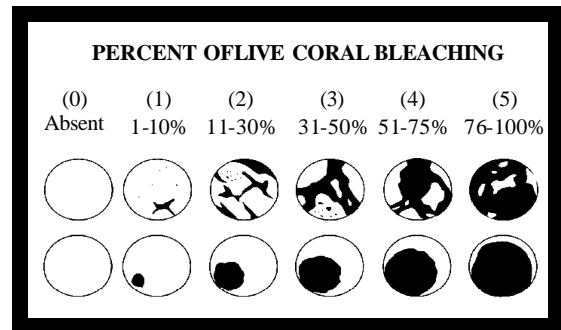


TABLE 2. Percentage of live coral cover or bleaching. The black shading stands for either live coral or bleaching coverage

D. NOTES

Please note any coral disease, mortality, or unusual sighting in this section. Also, if you know common or scientific names of bleached corals, please note it here.

Thanks again for your time. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Program Coordinator, Cory Walter. Once you have completed the form please send it to us by the following:

Return To:

Cory Walter
 Mote Marine Laboratory
 24244 Overseas Hwy
 Summerland Key, FL 33042

Fax: (305) 745-2730
 Ph: (305) 745-2729 x301
 Cell: (305) 395-8730
 Email: cwalter@mote.org

Submit Online Forms at:

<http://www.mote.org/Keys/bleaching.phtml>