



# EYES OF THE REEF NETWORK

## MONITORING NETWORK FOR CORAL BLEACHING & DISEASE, COTS AND MARINE INVASIVE SPECIES



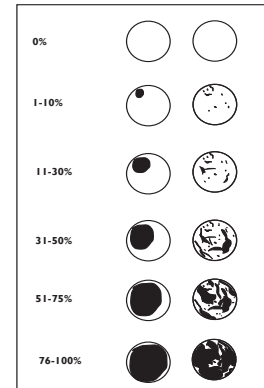
### Report Form Instruction Sheet

Thank you for participating in the Eyes of the Reef Monitoring Network. Your time and efforts as part of the Eyes of the Reef team are greatly appreciated. Your information is an important element of an early warning system for coral bleaching, coral disease, Crown-of-Thorns Sea Stars (COTS) and marine invasive species in Hawai'i.

**A. Observer Information:** Fill out the date and time of your visit and personal information. If you have previously sent in a report, you need not complete the personal information other than your name. Also indicate your status (resident, visitor, etc.) and, if pertinent, vessel and organization.

**B. Site Information:** Fill out the information as completely as possible and to the best of your knowledge. Latitude and longitude are very important, so if possible, please provide GPS coordinates.

- Reef Condition: *How much of the reef bottom is covered with live coral?* Visually estimate percent cover of coral (Table 1). *What is the most common type of coral?* Identify the 3 most abundant coral types by major group (Table 2.) by marking type with 1st, 2nd and 3rd.
- Estimated area: How large of an area is affected? Visually estimate size of area affected.



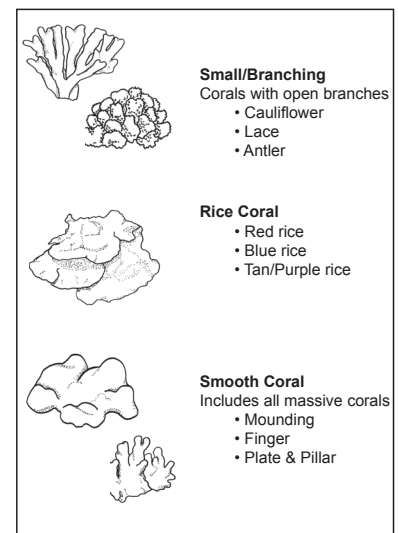
**Table 1: Amount of live coral and/or affected coral.**

This figure is designed to help you in estimating percentage cover. It can be used to estimate the percentage of living coral covering the seafloor (Sec. B: Reef Condition); and to estimate the percentage of living coral that is affected by bleaching, disease, or COTS.

### CORAL BLEACHING & DISEASE REPORTING FORM: Sections C, D and E

#### C. Bleaching Information:

- Types of corals bleached: Please indicate the types of corals bleached by checking off relevant categories, using Table 2 as a reference. Some coral species are more susceptible to bleaching than others so not all types of coral may be bleached in an area.
- Percent of coral bleached: Indicate the proportion of live coral at the site that is bleached using Table 2 as a reference. For example, if there was only 11 - 30% of live coral cover at your site and all of it was bleached, than the percent bleached would be 76 - 100%. This will enable us to monitor the progress and severity of the bleaching at this site.
- Severity of bleaching: How white is the coral? Check the line that best describes the severity of the coral bleaching.
- Depth where bleaching was observed. Give the depth at which you observed the bleaching. Did bleaching only occur in shallow water or did it extend deeper? Bleaching is a result of warmer water temperatures and so water depth can play an important part in the amount of coral bleaching.



**Table 2: Coral ID Key**

This figure is a guide to the main shapes of corals. Coral structure is a good general indicator of the type of coral, although more experienced observers are encouraged to identify coral to higher levels of resolution (i.e. genus or species) where possible.

#### **E. Crown of Thorns Information:**

- Types of corals that are eaten by COTS: Please indicate the types of corals affected by COTS. COTS prefer certain species of corals, but do feed on other coral types. Providing correct coral types provide valuable information for understanding COTS damage to reefs in Hawai'i.
- Percent of coral diseased: Indicate the proportion of live coral that is diseased using Table 2 as a reference. For example, if the affected reef area had only 11 - 30% of live coral cover and half of it was diseased, than the percent diseased would be would be 31-50%. This will enable us to monitor the progress and severity of disease at this site.
- Estimated number of animals. Check the appropriate line.

#### **MARINE INVASIVE: Sections C and D**

##### **C. Alien Species:**

- What Species: Please indicate the invasive species you have found. Refer to your Eyes of the Reef Field Guide for keys to identifying the key invasive algae and invertebrates.
- Percent cover of Area Affected: How much of the bottom is covered with the alien species?
- Depth found: Record the depth at which the invasive species were found. If a large area give a range from shallowest to deepest.
- Description or Comments: Please add any additional comments or descriptions that may help assess the level of threat.

##### **D. Bloom Information**

- What type of organism is blooming: Please check if the invasive organism is algae, invertebrates, or other. Refer to your Eyes of the Reef Field Guide for keys to recognizing a bloom.
- Estimated area: How large of an area is affected? Visually estimate size of area affected.
- Depth found: Record the depth at which the invasive species were found. If a large area give a range from shallowest to deepest
- Describe: Please describe the organism to the best of your ability and add any additional comments that may help assess the level of threat.

### **How to send in your Report Forms**

#### Two Ways:

- Download a copies of the reporting forms at <http://www.reefcheckhawaii.org/eyesofthereef.htm>  
Complete the form, fold and tape it, affix a postage stamp and send to the address on the back.
- Fill out our online reporting form at <http://www.reefcheckhawaii.org/eyesofthereef.htm>

#### Mailing Address:

**Eyes of the Reef Network  
Reef Check Hawai'i  
P.O. Box 621  
4224 Waialae Ave.  
Honolulu, HI 96816**

#### Please direct any questions to:

**Krista Heide**  
Program Coordinator, Reef Check Hawai'i  
Phone: **(808) 953-4044**  
Email: **contact@reefcheckhawaii.org**

**Thank you for joining the Eyes of the Reef Network.**