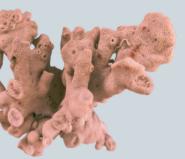
LET'S RESTORE THE COLOR OF OUR OCEANS





CORAL REEFS

Coral reefs are vital marine ecosystems, rich in biodiversity. They provide essential ecosystem services and support livelihoods.

What's killing our reefs?

- · Climate Change Impacts:
 - Rising ocean temperatures
 - E.g Marine heat waves

• Disease Outbreaks:

- Unprecedented disease outbreaks
- E.g: Stony coral tissue loss disease

· Pollution and Runoff:

- Land-dwelling sources of pollution
- E.g: pollution from coastal development in urban areas (baja california)
- Overfishing and Unsustainable Practices:
 - Overfishing and destructive practices
 - E.g: blast fishing and cyanide fishing

Ocean Acidification:

- Fact: Increased carbon dioxide in atmosphere lead to ocean acidification,
- E.g: hard corals, struggle to maintain their structures in acidic waters.



A few conservation strategies:

- Adaptive fishing strategies:
 - Local divers and community members monitor marine ecosystems, adapting fishing strategies based on scientific data.
- Community-led Disease Monitoring
 and Treatment:
 - Communities actively monitor coral diseases, identify affected corals, and implement treatment measures.

Coral Nurseries:

 Fragments of healthy corals are cultivated in underwater nurseries, and transplanted back into depleted reefs, aiding in their restoration.

Marine reserves:

- Communities establish voluntary marine reserves to protect coral reefs so they can thrive undisturbed.
- Selective Fishing Practices:
 - Targeting specific species and sizes and avoiding non-target species, reducing bycatch and preserving coral reefs.

Informative video: https://www.youtube.com/watch? app=desktop&v=3WdgYxloqKk (Fabiola River Irizarry and Fiorenza Micheli)

10 WAYS TO PROTECT CORAL REEFS

Reduce Plastic Use
 Conserve Water
 Dispose of Waste Properly
 Choose Sustainable Seafood
 Practice Responsible Boating
 Reduce your carbon footprint
 Participate in Beach Clean-ups
 Don't buy coral as presents
 Support Conservation Organizations
 Raise Awareness



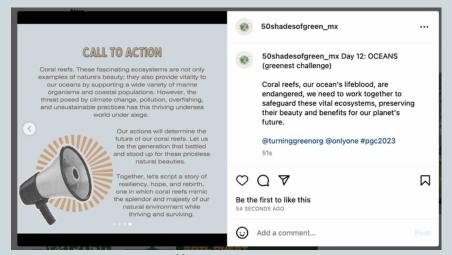
CALL TO ACTION

Coral reefs. These fascinating ecosystems are not only examples of nature's beauty; they also provide vitality to our oceans by supporting a wide variety of marine organisms and coastal populations. However, the threat posed by climate change, pollution, overfishing, and unsustainable practices has this thriving undersea world under siege.

> Our actions will determine the future of our coral reefs. Let us be the generation that battled and stood up for these priceless natural beauties.

> Together, let's script a story of resiliency, hope, and rebirth, one in which coral reefs mimic the splendor and majesty of our natural environment while thriving and surviving.

<u>Instagram post</u>



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