



NOAA Deep-Sea Coral Data Portal

What are Deep-Sea Corals?

Deep-sea corals can live for hundreds or thousands of years, creating complex communities at ocean depths where the light is dim down to more than 10,000 feet deep. They provide vital habitat for numerous fish and invertebrate species, including commercially important grouper, snapper, sea bass, rockfish, shrimp, and crab.

Most deep-sea corals grow extremely slowly. Once damaged, the corals and the communities they support may take centuries to recover, if they recover at all. Deep-sea corals are vulnerable to disturbance caused by fishing gears and energy exploration and development.

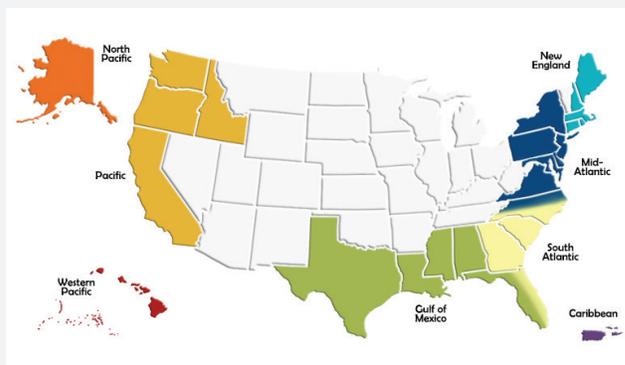
Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program

Born from the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the Deep-Sea Coral Research and Technology Program was developed in consultation with the regional fishery management councils. Its mission is to provide scientific information needed to conserve and manage deep-sea coral and sponge ecosystems.

Run by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, the Deep-Sea Coral Research and Technology Program (DSCRTP) has a continuing partnership with NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) and NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS).



Trawling for fish can accidentally clear cut ancient corals. Credit: Greenpeace/Malcom Pullman/Marine Photobank

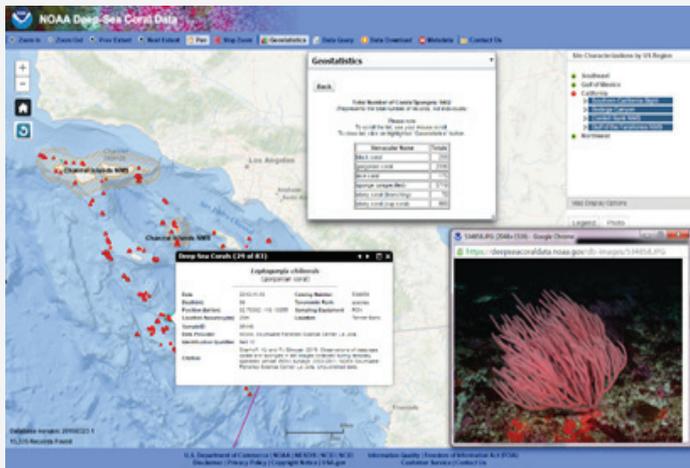


DSCRTP manages research across seven Regional Fisheries Management Councils.

Deep-Sea Coral Data Portal

NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information built the Deep-Sea Coral Data Portal for the Deep-Sea Coral Research and Technology Program. The portal can be found at deepseacoraldata.noaa.gov. The portal provides public access to information and images designed to educate and inspire people about deep-sea corals and sponges.

The Deep-Sea Coral Data Portal supports new research and curates existing information into a comprehensive deep-sea coral resource. Researchers can login to the portal, keep their project information up-to-date, and link completed project information to their archived data at NCEI. The portal also has a library for deep-sea scientists to post their articles and papers, allowing better collaboration between researchers.

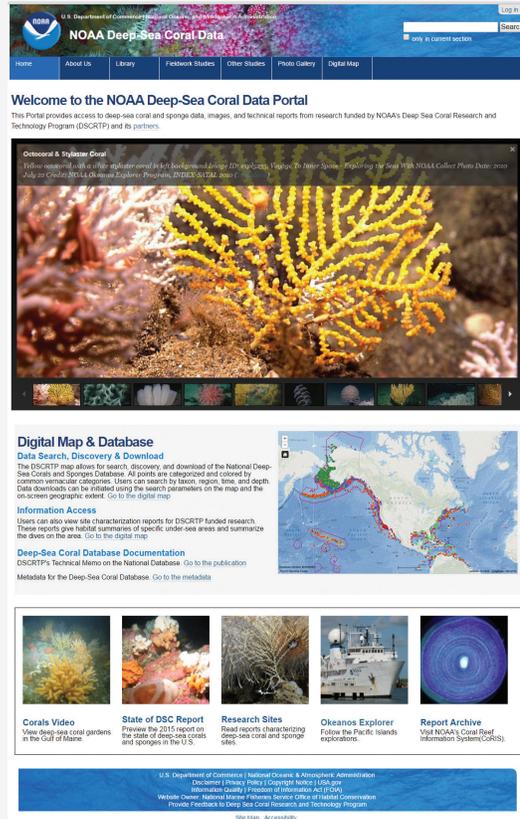


Deep Sea Corals Map

Accessing Deep-Sea Coral and Sponge Data

The data that researchers collect resides in the National Database for Deep-Sea Corals and Sponges, which is a collaboration between NCEI, NMFS, and NCCOS. The database contains data from 32 data providers, and 350,000 records and counting.

The Deep-Sea Corals Map, a part of the Deep-Sea Coral Data Portal, lets users query the national database based on Taxonomy, Region, Year, and Depth. Users can initiate data downloads using the search parameters on the map and the on-screen geographic extent. The Customized Download feature will direct a user to the ERDDAP page, where the user will have greater control of the data, fields, and file formats.



Data Portal Front Page



ERDDAP > tabledap > Data Access Form

Dataset Title: **deep_sea_corals**

Institution: deep_sea_corals_institution (Dataset ID: deep_sea_corals)

Information: [Summary](#) | [EGDC](#) | [ISO 19115](#) | [Metadata](#) | [Background](#) | [Make a graph](#)

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Data Download Tool

