

www.ldeo.columbia.edu/bleachpatrol

www.worldsurfleague.com/coral-bleach-patrol

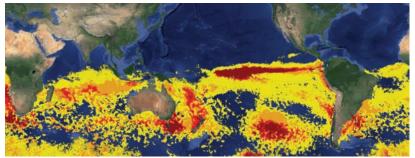
The coral reefs of the world are threatened by the increased frequency of wide-spread bleaching events. Corals that experience thermal stress sometimes "bleach," turning white as they expel the symbiotic algea. In order to better understand coral bleaching, we need to know when and where corals are bleached and where reefs appear stressed. The **"Bleach Patrol"** are a corp of citizen scientists, surfers, divers, and general enthusiasts, working together to map out the extent of global coral bleaching. *Anyone with a smartphone or internet access and enthusiasm for being part of a global scientific campaign can help!* The project is a collaboration between the **World Surf League**, the social networking app **goFlow**, and scientists at the **Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University.** Our goal is to compile a global, constantly updated dataset of coral bleaching and reef health.



Bleached coral in Honolulu. Bleached corals are easy to identify, even for non-experts.

You are the "Bleach Patrol"

After you go out in the water and observe the reef status, **use the goFlow app or our website to upload a report.** We want to know whether you see healthy corals, bleached corals, and where you are on the reef. Include photos, if you can.



Above: Thermal stress map, showing where corals could be bleaching (February 2016) (Source http://coralreefwatch.noaa.gov/)

