

B.R.E.A.M: Protecting Bermuda's coral reefs since 2004!



Photo by Chris Burville

Mission:

To collect and provide high-quality information for the best conservation and management of Bermuda's marine biodiversity



**BREAM
PROGRAMME**

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Coral reefs worldwide are threatened by a range of human disturbances.

Overfishing, pollution, and climate change are just some of the causes of coral reef degradation. With so many reefs in the Caribbean degenerating over the past three decades, Bermuda could soon be a regional stronghold of healthy coral reefs. To better understand our reefs, what is impacting them, and how to conserve them, we first must determine how healthy our coral reefs truly are.

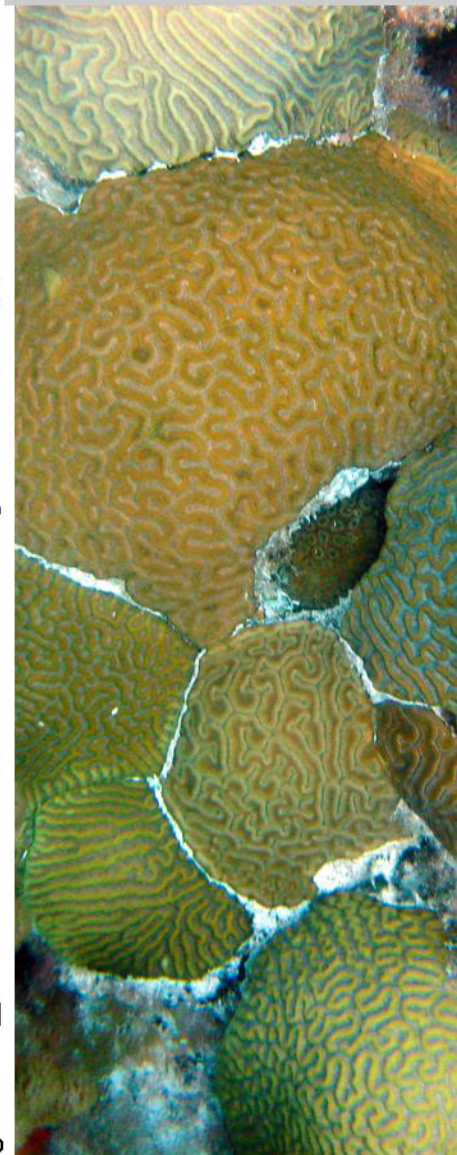
Since 2004, B.R.E.A.M. has surveyed over 200 coral reef sites across Bermuda, from shallow water to 90 ft depth.

At each site, information such as size, species, disease, and coral bleaching are recorded for each coral surveyed. The abundance of juvenile corals (recruits) is also recorded, because a population cannot be considered healthy if it is not reproducing and growing.

B.R.E.A.M. have found that Bermuda's reefs are healthier than many reefs worldwide, but are also very vulnerable.

There are "hotspots" of coral diversity across Bermuda, but there is little spatial protection of coral reefs. The data B.R.E.A.M. collects is crucial to creating a plan to protect and manage Bermuda's coral reefs and related animals and plants better, so that they can benefit Bermudians for generations to come.

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GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA

Ministry of Public Works
Department of Conservation Services