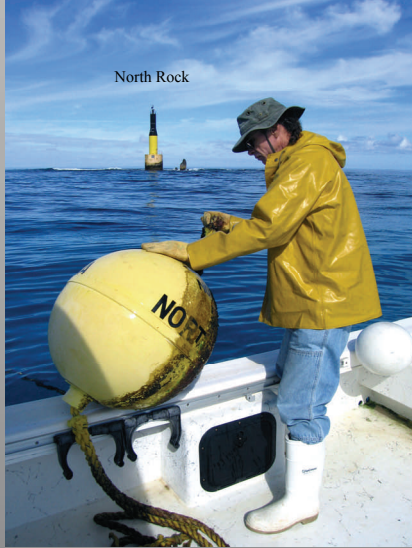


# The Moorings Programme



## Project Objectives:

*To help protect Bermuda's coral reefs from being damaged by anchors.*



## Summary

Bermuda's coral reef ecosystem is an invaluable asset to the island, both from an ecological and economic perspective. The coral reefs support an incredible diversity of marine organisms; buffer our coastlines reducing erosion during winter storms and hurricanes; are a source of food; contribute to our local economy by supporting the local fishing and tourist industries and for many of us they are a part of our recreational activities and thus important to our quality of life.

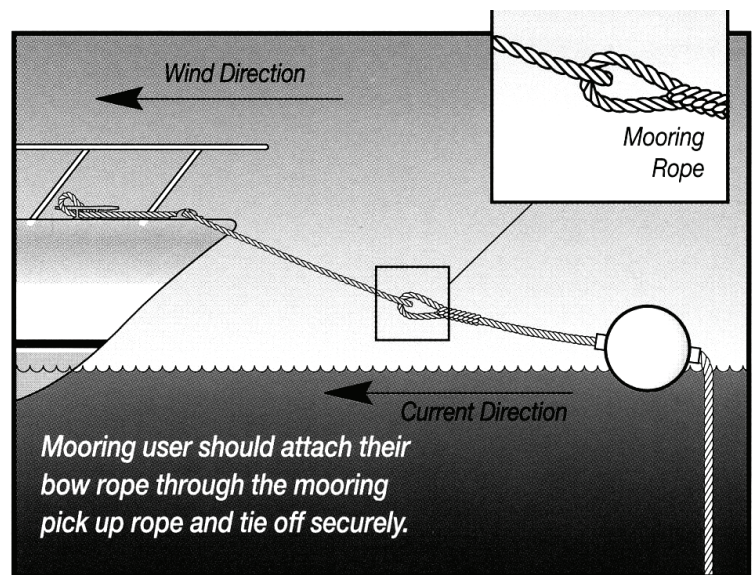
The coral reefs around Bermuda are considered healthy but the balanced ecology is vulnerable to even the slightest of human influence. The direct and indirect threats to our healthy reef ecosystem are numerous.

**Environmentally friendly moorings** have been installed on the reef at a number of popular dive and snorkel sites around Bermuda so that boaters can tie up to these and avoid anchoring on, and possibly damaging, the reefs. The majority of environmentally friendly moorings are

in protected areas (Fisheries (Protected Areas) Order, 1990) and these moorings also identify the areas as "No Fishing" zones.

The Department of Conservation Services is responsible for the maintenance of these environmentally friendly moorings and does this through a marine contractor, in-kind support from commercial dive operators, and financial support from the Bermuda Zoological Society via the Stemple Foundation.

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The Department of Conservation Services  
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## Contacts:

Anson Nash, Marine Ecology Technician

Tel: (441) 293-2727 ext.2173



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA  
Ministry of Public Works  
Department of Conservation Services