

| Name | Surveying Reefs for Resilience |
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| Capability Area: Variability/Changes | - Understanding Climate Variability and Change - Observing Systems, Data Stewardship, Data Services |
| ECV | - Surface (e.g., SST, SSH, salinity, ocean color) |
| Timeframe | - Seasonal (outlook) |
| Status | - Ongoing |
| Focus Area | - Marine and Terrestrial Ecosystems |
| Regions | - South Pacific - American Samoa |
| Description | Using various data collection tools, examining the impacts of various factors affecting the resistance and resilience of coral reefs to mass bleaching. |
| Objectives/Outcomes | The goals of this project are to: 1) Measure shading of reefs by nearby cliffs; 2) Record reef slope depth profiles for a sample of reefs; 3) Measure currents in backreef pools, on reef flats, and in avas where safe; 4) Examine the effect of solar heating on shallow water and the implication on coral bleaching; and 5) Understand the correlations and effect of temperature on coral reef bleaching. The information will be provided to the DMWR no-take MPA program, and will be included in their process of determining which areas are to be chosen as highest priorities for new no-take MPAs. |
| Lead Agencies | Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources |
| Contacts | Doug Fenner, douglasfennertassi@gmail.com |
| Partnering Agencies | Coral Reef Advisory Group (project coordination and interns), American Samoa Community College (coordination and interns), Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary (research coordination and mentorship) |
| Required Resources | Technical and logistical: measuring supplies, transportation, and time to perform project. |
| Projected Timelines | First round of measurements performed in summer of 2012, project expected to continue in summer of 2013. |