

# REEF HEALTH INDICATORS



#### MACROALGAE COVER

Algae competes with coral for space and unlike coral, thrives under changing ocean







Healthy

Unhealthy

## FISH BIODIVERSITY

increases Biodiversity coral reef resiliency and combats the impacts of climate change







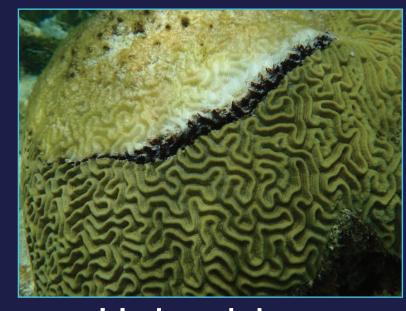
Healthy

Unhealthy

### **CORAL DISEASE**

Changing ocean environments make coral more susceptible to disease, which can be spread naturally or by human contact



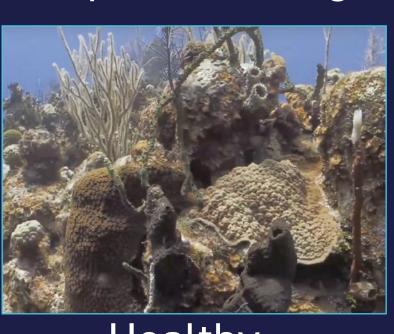






**REEF COMPLEXITY** 

Complex reefs provide homes for fish and protection against storms







Unhealthy

**BLEACHING** 

Bleaching is a sign of a coral reef in distress due to less than ideal conditions







HOW YOU CAN HELP

Minimize carbon footprint



Clean dive/snorkel equipment properly



Follow local fishing laws



Support sustainable development



Continue learning about coral reefs



Assist with restoration efforts



Avoid touching the reef

Spread the word



\*Photo courtesy: Cayman Islands Department of Environment

### FISH ABUNDANCE

Abundant fisheries are essential to global economy and food chains







WE CAN SAVE CORAL REEFS, IF WE ACT NOW















