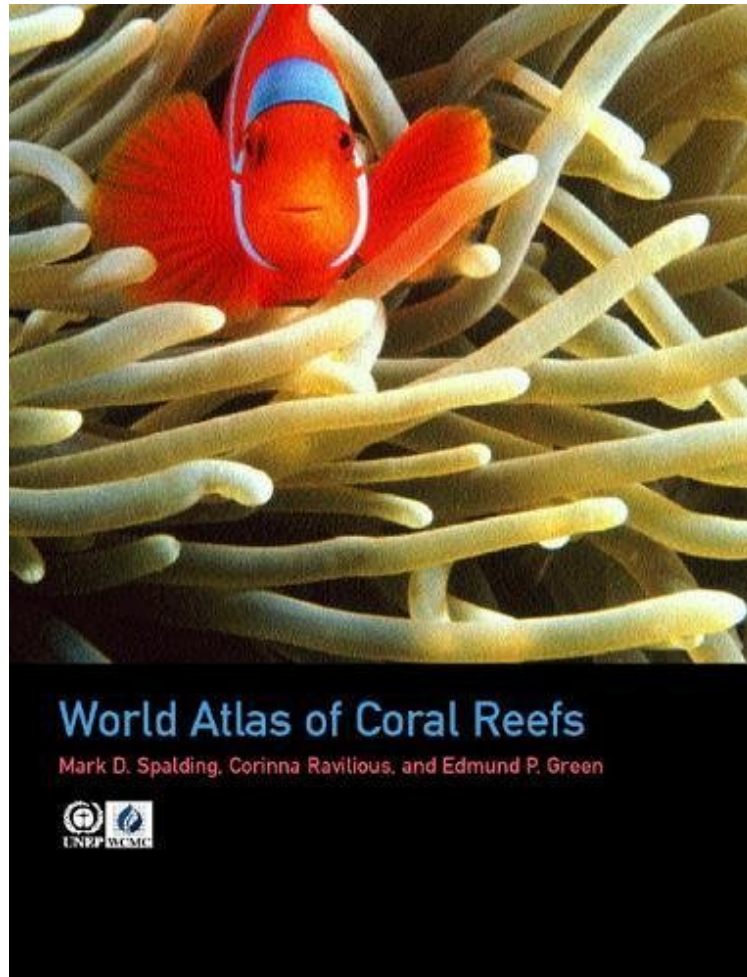


(Download free ebook) World Atlas of Coral Reefs

World Atlas of Coral Reefs

Mark D. Spalding, Edmund P. Green, Corinna Ravilious

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Mark D. Spalding, Edmund P. Green, Corinna Ravilious : World Atlas of Coral Reefs before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised World Atlas of Coral Reefs:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. World Atals of Coral reefsBy CrabladyWhether you teach marine biology or are planning the long-awaited diving trip to a tropical location, this book is the comprehensive guide to coral reefs world-wide. For each area, information is provided on locations of reefs with special reference to threats to their survival. This is not a species identification guide but rather an ecological treatment. The book is most suited to the reader who already has some knowledge of the biology of corals.10 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Very little information about corals!By Rob MartinHaving purchased Green and Short's "World Atlas of Seagrasses", also from California Press, I was quite excited to find this volume. Green and Short describe nearly all of the world's seagrasses, complete with line drawings and species comparisons, and map their distribution. They also include info on preservation, destruction, etc. It is an invaluable resource for anyone needing to identify or locate

seagrasses. I was disappointed, however, when I received "World Atlas of Coral Reefs". The entire text is devoted to describing areas where reefs are found, but rarely mentions anything about the corals themselves! I saw listed more often than any coral genus! If you want to learn about the per capita fish consumption of Mauritius or phosphate mining on the atoll of Nauru, this is the book for you. If, however, you are interested in corals and the reefs that they construct (which is probably why you are reading this) you should move on to another book.⁷ of 12 people found the following review helpful. BeautifulBy ScaperGalA truly beautiful book, although I expected the pictures to be larger. There is not one full page photo in the book unfortunately. It would really enhance the book to have some of those lovely photos blown up full page.

Coral reefs are one of the most biologically diverse habitats in the world, host to an extraordinary variety of marine plants and animals. They are also one of the world's most fragile and endangered ecosystems. The growth of mass tourism, combined with the boom in popularity of scuba diving, has brought these spectacular ecosystems to public attention across the planet. Coral reefs provide essential fish habitat, support endangered and threatened species, and harbor protected marine mammals and turtles. They are a significant source of food, provide income and employment through tourism and marine recreation, and offer countless other benefits to humans, including supplying compounds for pharmaceuticals. Yet coral reefs around the world are rapidly being degraded by a number of human activities, such as overfishing, coastal development, and the introduction of sewage, fertilizer, and sediment. World Atlas of Coral Reefs provides the first detailed and definitive account of the current state of our planet's coral reefs. With its wealth of authoritative and up-to-date information, the finest maps available, and detailed descriptive texts and images by leading experts, this full-color volume will be a critical resource for anyone interested in these vital environments. World Atlas of Coral Reefs contains eighty-four full-page newly researched and drawn color maps, together with more than two hundred color photos illustrating reefs, reef animals, and images taken from space by NASA astronauts during the 2000 and 2001 space shuttle flights. The authors provide a wealth of information on the geography, biodiversity, and human uses of coral reefs, as well as details about the threats to their existence. Prepared at the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre in Cambridge, England--the United Nations office responsible for providing authoritative information on the condition of global biodiversity--the Atlas will be a critical tool for scientists, students, policymakers, and planners at local, national, and international levels alike. Publication of the World Atlas of Coral Reefs is supported by international institutions including the United Nations Environment Programme; The Marine Aquarium Council, The International Coral Reef Initiative; ICLARM--The World Fish Center; the Professional Association of Diving Instructors, and the Aventis Foundation.

From School Library Journal Adult/High School--Unique in scope, this atlas provides cleanly rendered maps, colorful photos, and lots of solid information. Part one is devoted to background material on such topics as coral-reef evolution, species diversity, environmental concerns, and even reef mapping techniques. Content is detailed enough to satisfy adults with a scientific background, yet remains accessible to high school students. The section on types of coral reefs is accompanied by excellent illustrations. Photos liberally sprinkled throughout range from super-macroscopic space views to the microscopic. The bulk of the book looks at each global region. Maps show reefs and the areas surrounding them. Included are natural features such as forests and human constructs such as dive centers, settlements, and protected underwater sites. Instead of making dramatic, emotion-laden speeches for preservation, the book defends the value of this wondrous ecosystem rationally, providing plenty of factual backup and pointing out cases where sensible and sustainable management is possible. This atlas covers all bases, making it a great resource for students and teachers alike. Sheila Shoup, Fairfax County Public Library, VA Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal While coral reefs cover less than two percent of Earth's continental shelf area, they are the most biologically diverse marine habitats in the world. Prepared at the UN Environment Programme (UNEP)-World Conservation Monitoring Center, this reference best described as an "atlas plus" provides a comprehensive and detailed account of all the world's coral reefs. Each area of the world's reefs has its own chapter, with sections for each country; coverage includes location, description, maps, photographs, health assessment, and legal protection status. Also included are several excellent introductory chapters on the definition of coral reefs, biodiversity, ecological threats and responses, and reef mapping. An extensive bibliography is included with each chapter, along with information on the sources for the chapter maps. While this atlas will serve as a valuable reference for scientists (one of our biologists has already recommended it to our library), it is also accessible to lay readers and students interested in ecology, scuba diving, marine biology, geography, or just good photographs. A number of other books treat coral reefs (almost all of them listed in the chapter bibliographies), but none is as comprehensive and as current as this work. Highly recommended for all public, high school, and academic libraries. Margaret Rioux, Woods Hole Oceanographic Inst. Lib., MA Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Booklist This unique atlas, written by a team of experts with support from a variety of organizations, summarizes our present knowledge of the geographic distribution and conservation status of coral reefs. It should be of interest to anyone seeking definitive information on one of the most beautiful, biologically diverse ecosystems on the planet. The outstanding color maps,

based on coral reef mapping from the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre, depict major natural features as well as human factors, such as settlements and dive centers. Two hundred color photographs illustrate reefs and reef organisms. Eighty-five photographs of coral reefs taken by NASA astronauts from space provide another perspective. The atlas is divided into four parts. Part 1 contains general information on coral reefs, such as their diversity and biology and threats to their existence. Also found here is information on reef mapping techniques. Sidebars highlight such topics as the aquarium trade, coral diseases, and astronaut photography of reefs. The other three parts of the volume are arranged geographically and provide a world tour of reefs in "three broad realms": the Atlantic and Eastern Pacific, the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia, and the Pacific. These parts are divided into chapters (e.g., "Northern Caribbean," "Middle Eastern Seas") accompanied by regional maps. The chapters are subdivided into smaller sections ("Florida and the U.S. Gulf of Mexico," "Northern Red Sea: Egypt, Israel, Jordan"), each with an overview, a map, and data tables. Maps here are more detailed than the regional maps and show the location of rivers, forests, mangroves (important because of their close association with reefs), protected areas, and major population centers, as well as the distribution of coral reefs. One type of data table lists protected areas with coral reefs, along with their designation (e.g., national park, World Heritage site), abbreviation, IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) management category, size in square kilometers, and year of designation. The other provides statistical data on human population, reef status and threats, and biodiversity of reef areas. Each chapter ends with a bibliography of scholarly publications and a list of map sources. Though the text is not overly technical, the atlas requires some work on the part of the reader. The map keys are listed just once, and additional help in interpreting the maps and data tables is buried in the "Technical Notes" section at the end of the volume. There is no glossary to define terms like hermatypic. These factors along with the specialized nature of the topic and the scholarly treatment may limit use. However, with its beautiful photographs, excellent maps, and authoritative text, World Atlas of Coral Reefs is highly recommended for academic and large public libraries. Because it is so reasonably priced, high-school libraries may also want to consider it.

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