



DECEMBER 7, 2022

Buying Time for Coral Reefs

AUSTRALIAN WATER SCHOOL PRESENTATION

REEF CHECK



AUSTRALIA



We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land and pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in our community today.

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Reef Check Australia

Reef Check Australia is an environmental citizen science organisation. We believe in protecting reefs and oceans by empowering people.

Through hands-on research and education we believe we can better understand, appreciate and protect our marine resources for the future.



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Citizen Science

What?

Citizen science is public participation and collaboration in scientific research

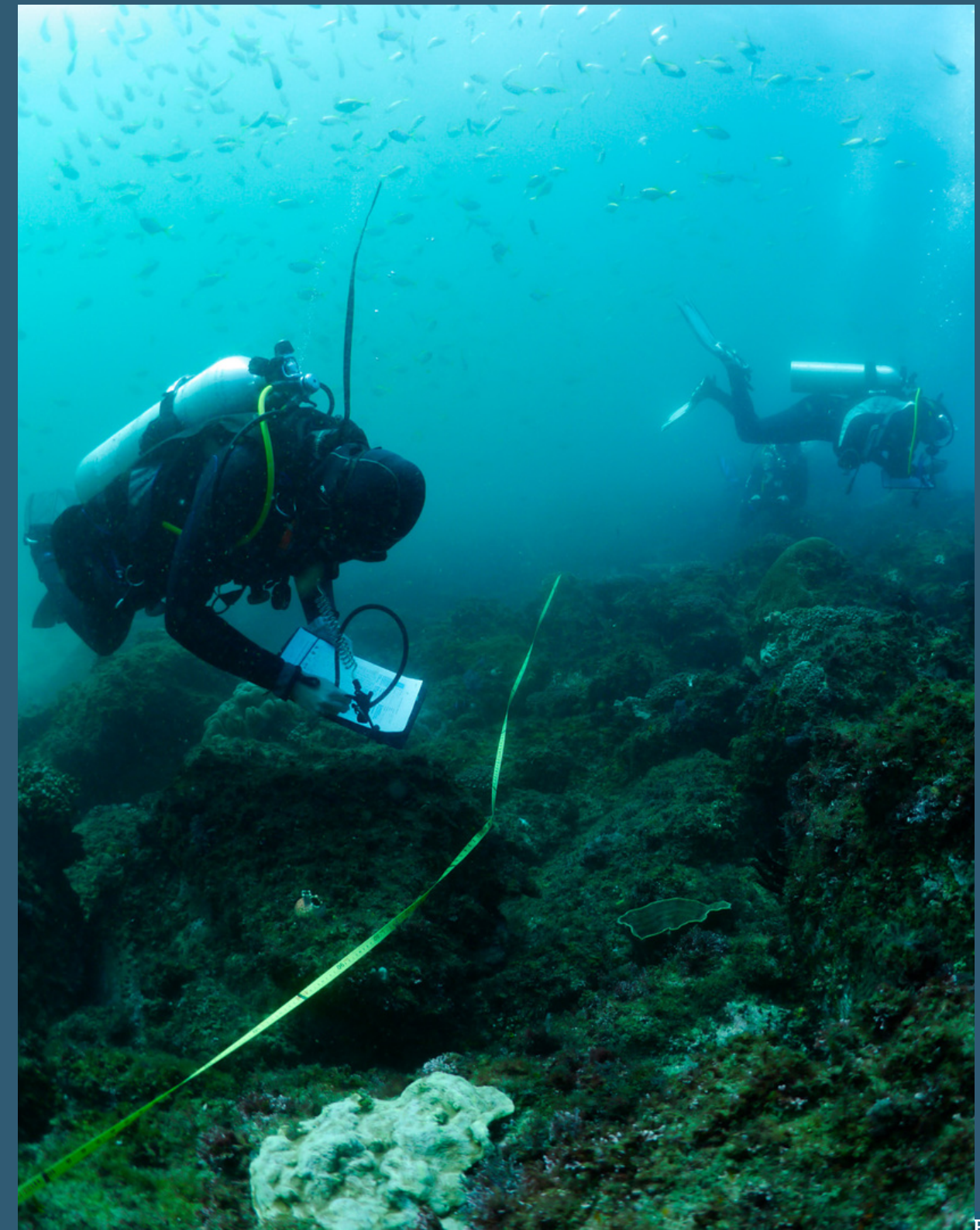
Goal:

Is to collect locally and globally relevant data that can help to build appreciation, understanding and protection for reef habitats.

Importance:

Citizen science can collect information on scales of time and geography that would not otherwise be possible.

We all can, and must, help.

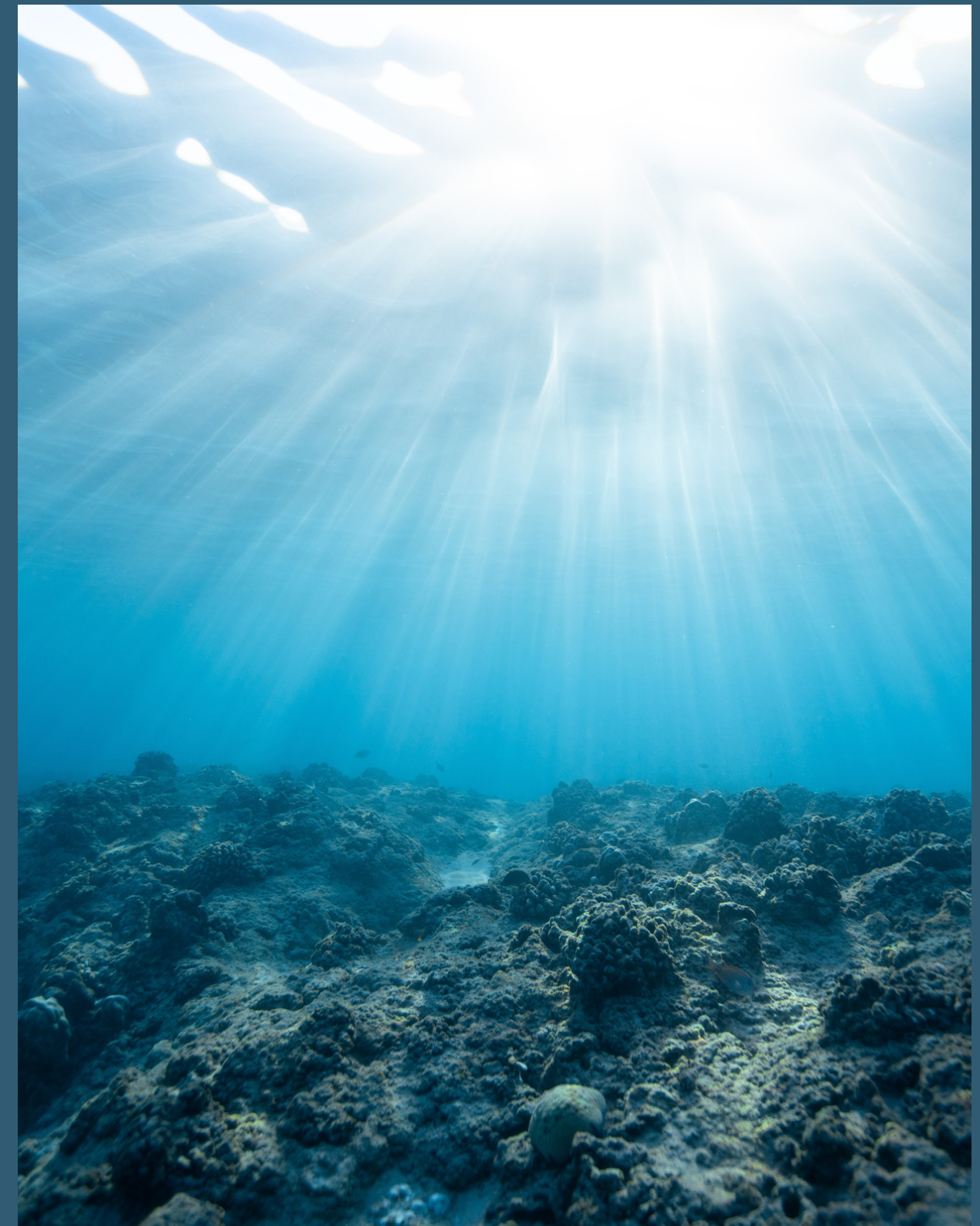


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**The ocean is a
HUGE area to
monitor and
protect**

We need YOUR help!

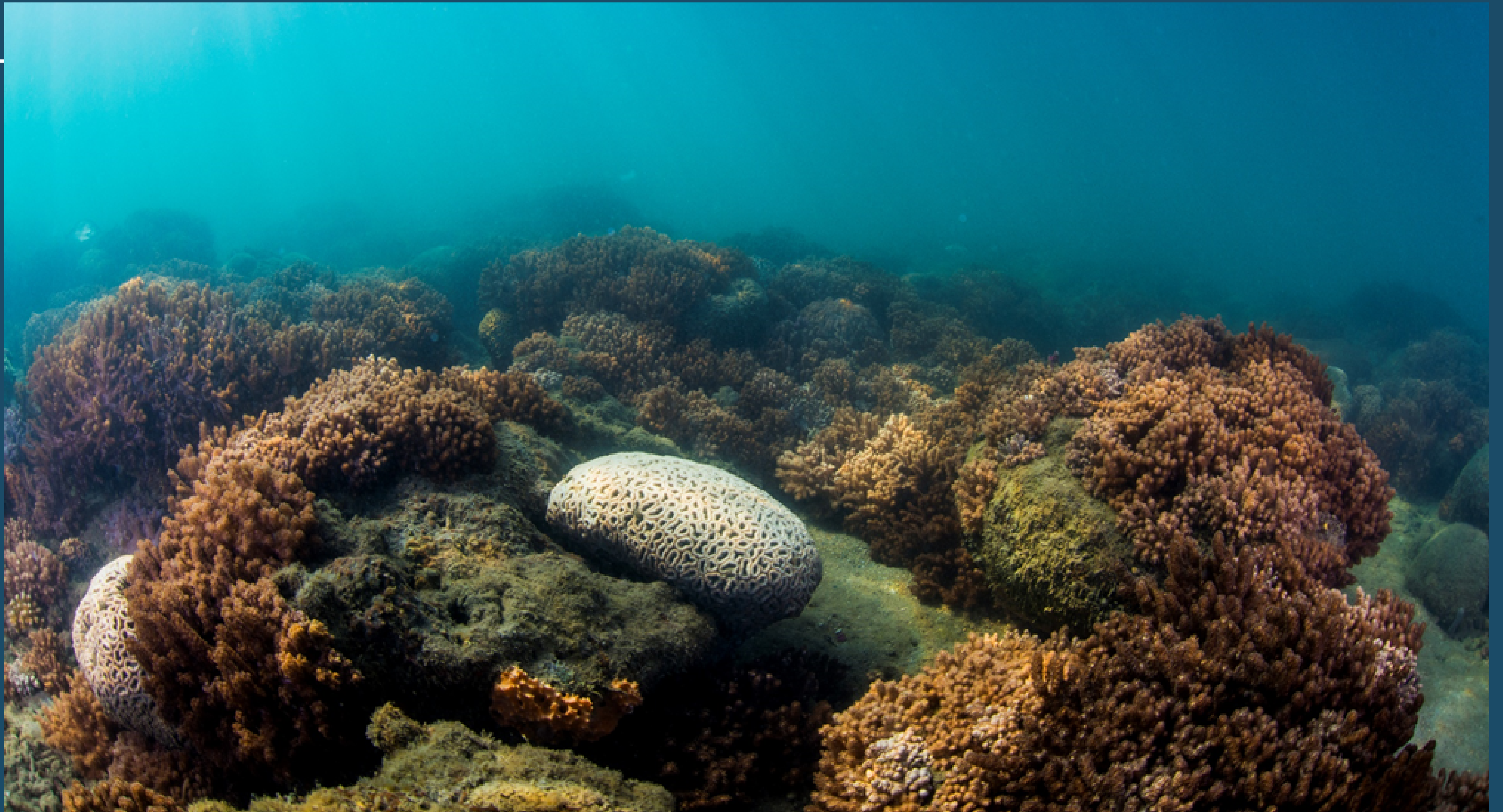


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The challenge

The challenge for reefs comes from both the increased pressure and the effects of multiple stressors.

Reefs are naturally dynamic systems, but they need time in between disturbance events like cyclones or floods in order to recover. With events happening **more regularly** and sometime **multiple pressures acting at once**, then the resilience of the reef is reduced and it can no longer 'bounce back' to its earlier state.

This means that reefs run the risk of shifting from complex and incredibly diverse coral habitats, to degraded algae-dominated reefs that cannot support as much life.

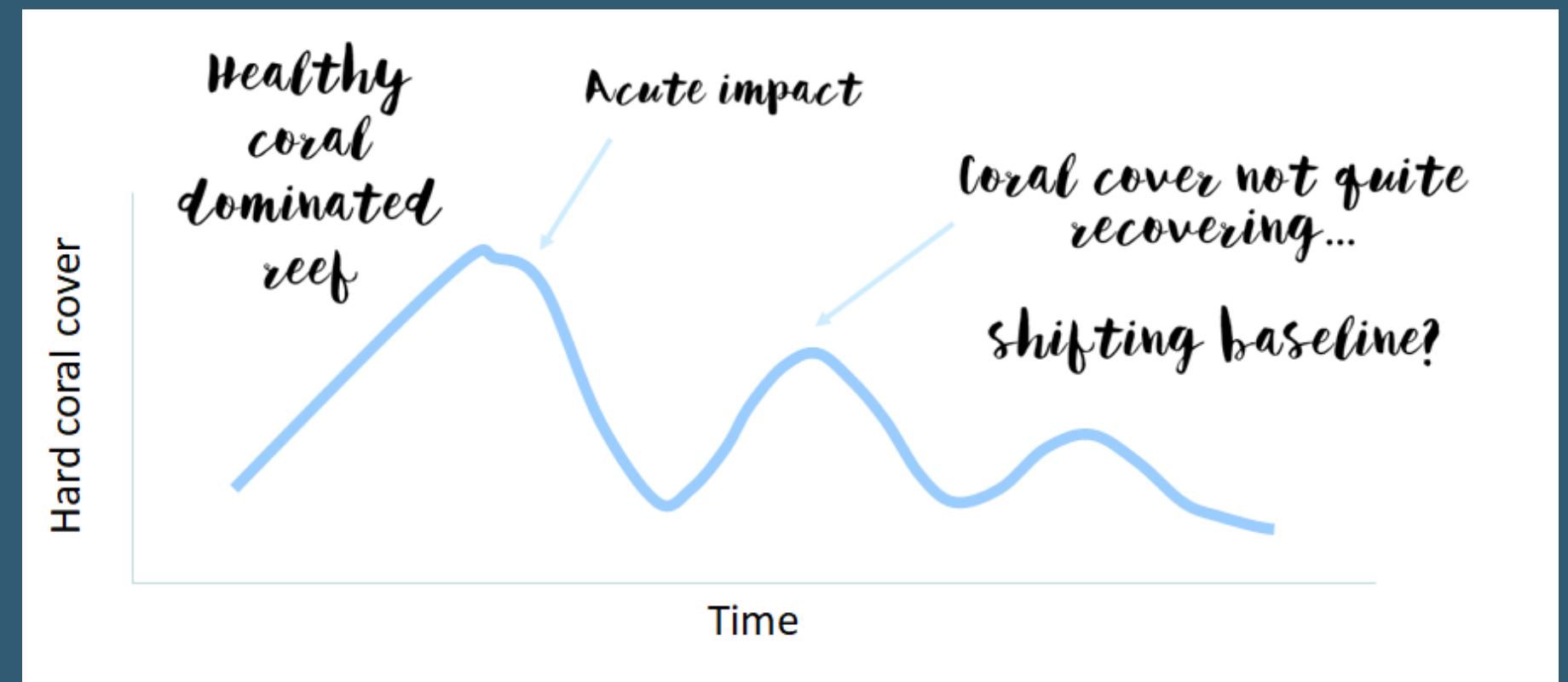


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Shifting baselines concept

Each generation sees the environment with new eyes, which can lead to altered perceptions of ecosystem health. Long-term data can help to establish baselines and document changes over time.

We need long-term data to measure changes and help us to interpret the patterns we see.



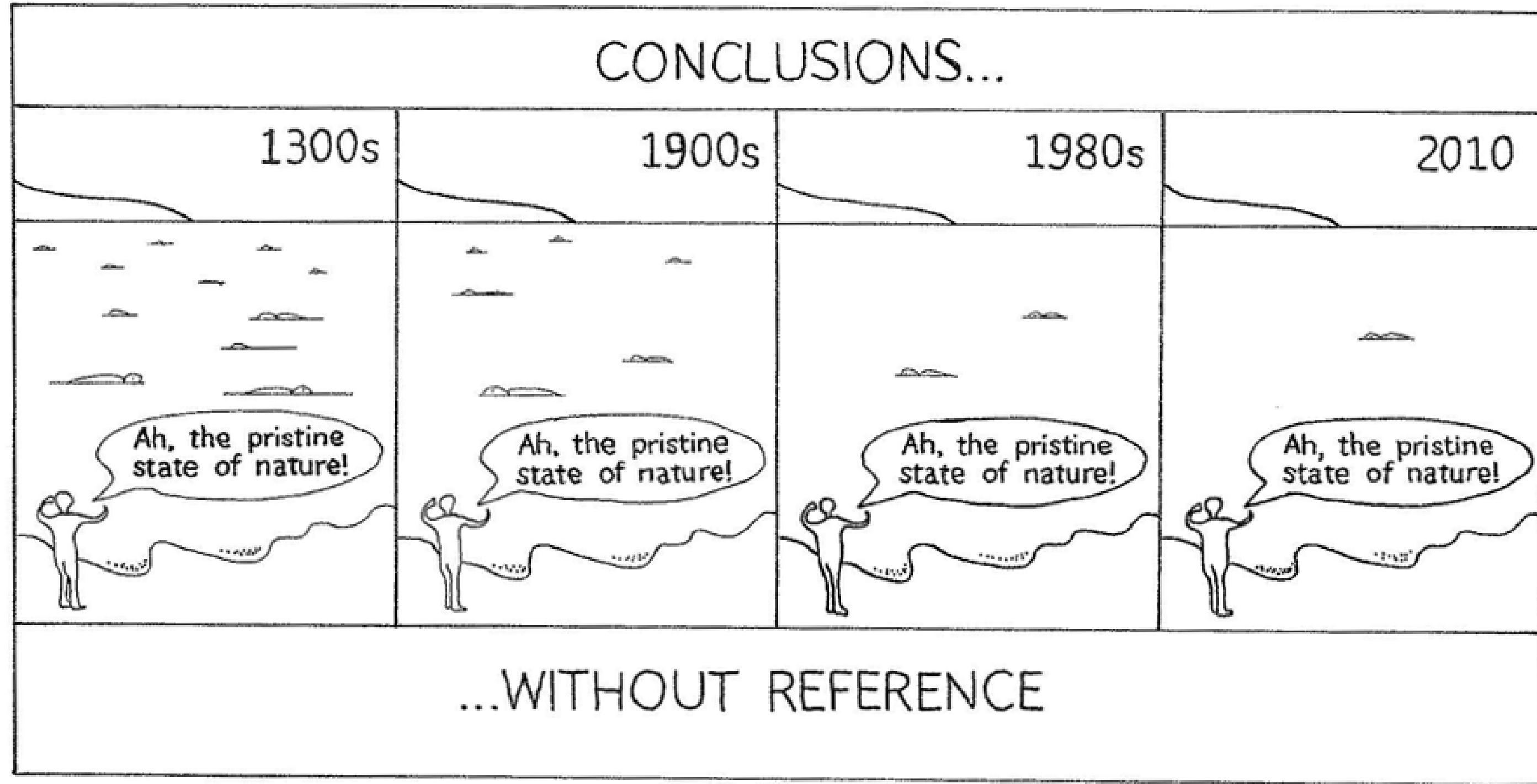
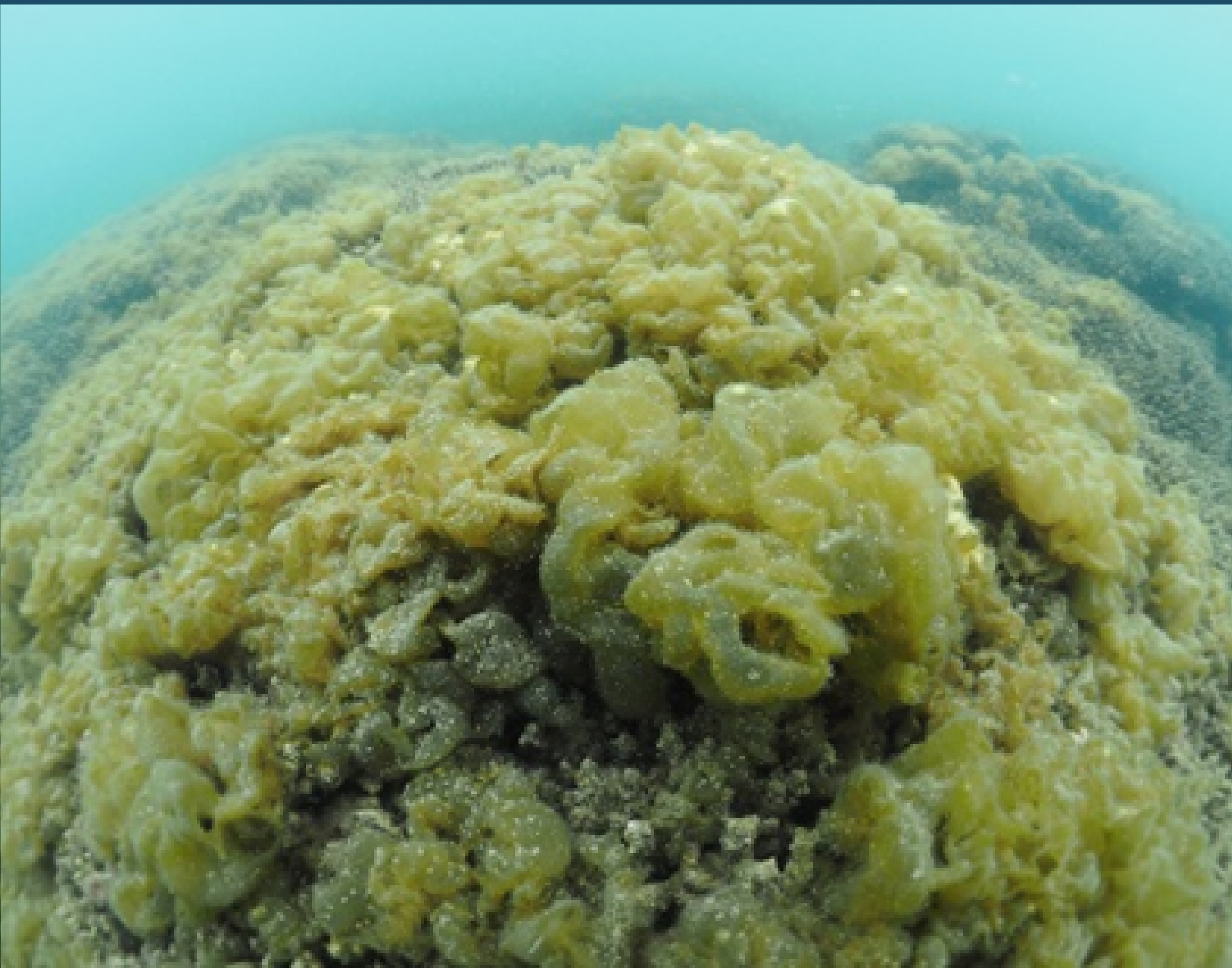


Illustration by Sarah Lowe







**So what can be done to
make sure coral reefs are
still around in the future?**

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Reef Restoration



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What is your carbon footprint?



<https://www.footprintcalculator.org/>.

Head on over to this page to enter your answers: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1J-FbijVnXzmexC6o_xZC01ZF7oJ_a9ILgRFFwubY0NA/edit?usp=sharing

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Get involved: Become a Reef Ambassador



**RCA AMBASSADOR
TRAINING
QUEENSLAND: ONLINE
MAY 2021**

INTERESTED?
SPOTS LIMITED, SO GET IN QUICK.
EMAIL: SEQSURVEYS@REEFCHECKAUSTRALIA.ORG



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Get involved: Become a **Survey Diver**



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**RCA DIVER TRAINING
SOUTH EAST QLD
MARCH 2020**

INTERESTED?
SPOTS LIMITED, SO GET IN QUICK.
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Get involved: Become a **Clean Up Diver**



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Get involved: Adopt a Reef!

ADOPT A REEF AND HELP PROTECT LOCAL REEFS AND OCEANS.

The reef needs you. Reef Check Australia is an environmental charity dedicated to empowering people to protect local reefs and oceans. Adopt a reef- the perfect gift for any special occasion- and support vital reef research along the Sunshine Coast. Want to get hands-on? Applications are now open for our award-winning Reef ambassador program. See website for details.



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SIGN UP AT

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EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO PROTECT OUR REEFS AND OCEANS

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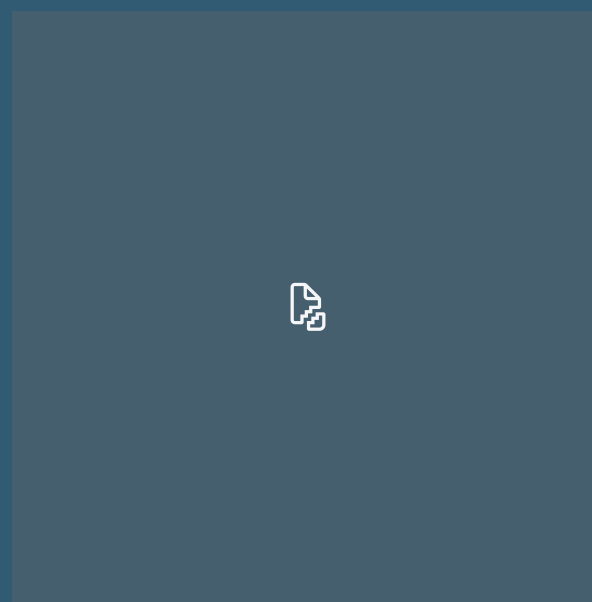
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**Get involved:
Like, Follow, Learn, Share,
Volunteer, Sign Up, Donate!**



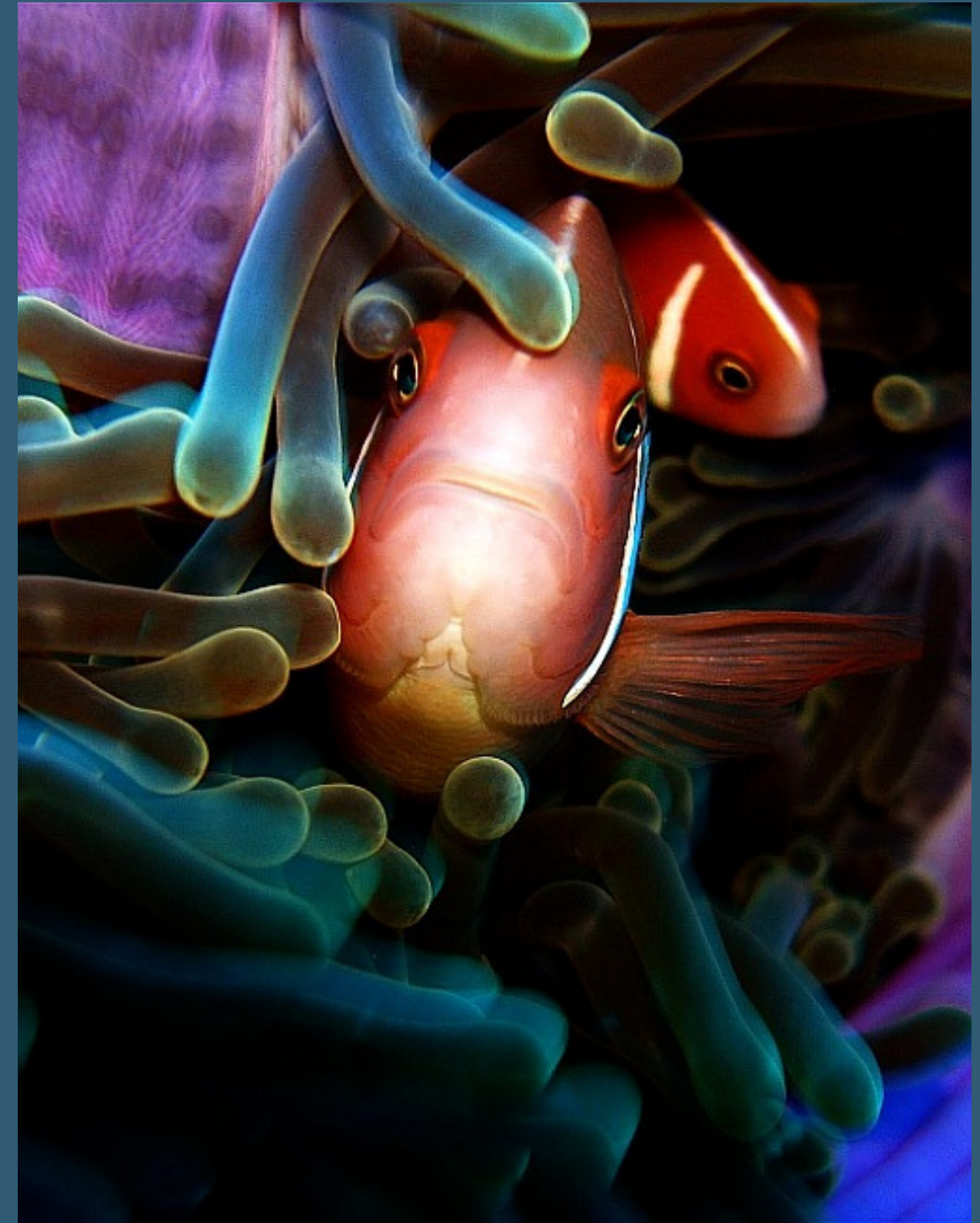
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Thankyou

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