Coastal and Marine Habitats

Diverse Habitats Preserve Biodiversity

Marine habitats that support high numbers of species are important for food provision and for a region’s ecological and economic health. Coral reefs, for example, are home to one-third of all marine fish species and tens of thousands of other species. Coral reefs are also important because they support coastal communities that rely on the resources they provide.

The Coral Triangle has the highest diversity of corals, fish and other reef species found anywhere in the world. It is also host to extensive areas of mangroves and seagrasses.

Many of these habitats are at risk due to a variety of stressors such as overfishing, destructive fishing, coastal development, land/water-based pollution, rising ocean temperatures, and ocean acidification.

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- **3000 Known Species of Fish**
- **500+ Types of Coral**
- **25% of coral reefs worldwide have been destroyed or significantly degraded and it is estimated that by 2020 up to 70% might be permanently lost.**

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- **75% of the World’s Reefs Are Under Immediate and Direct Threat from One or More Local Sources.**
- **27% of the World’s Coral Reefs Are Currently in Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).**