As the northern hemisphere moves toward the spring and summer seasons, the NOAA Coral Reef Watch Bleaching Outlook is predicting low levels of coral bleaching thermal stress (Bleaching Watch) for the period of May-August 2013 (Fig. 1), with a potential for higher Pacific-region thermal stress (reaching Bleaching Warnings and Alert Level 1) in and around the Coral Triangle region (Fig. 2). Based on the prediction made on April 30, 2013, this higher stress is expected only during the month of June, followed by cooling: http://coralreefwatch.noaa.gov/satellite/bleachingoutlook_cfs/outlook_cfs.html.

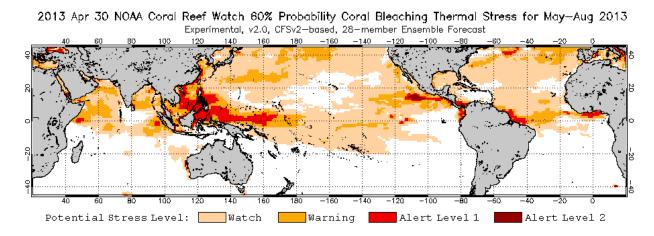


Figure 1. Global Seasonal Coral Bleaching Thermal Stress Outlook

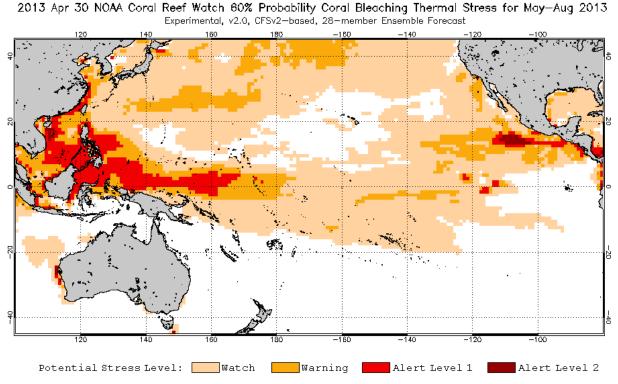


Figure 2. Pacific-wide Seasonal Coral Bleaching Thermal Stress Outlook