

How would you vote:coral reef

[Science](#), [Biology](#)



Coral Reef Coral reefs are important to the balance of the ecosystem in the ocean. Fish and other marine species rely on the reefs for food and shelter. Humans benefit from coral reefs too because it protects the coastlines from the hazardous effects of storms and prevents coastal erosion. It also supports the fishing industry and provides attractions for tourists.

The Global Reef Monitoring Network has reported in 2000 that the world has already lost approximately 27 percent of its coral reefs (CNN , par. 1).

According to the report, the majority of the damaged reefs were found in the Persian Gulf, Indian Ocean, Southeast and East Asia, and the Caribbean/Atlantic.

Yes, the United States should participate in the preservation effort of coral reefs. In fact, all nations should help in the preservation of coral reefs, whether one uses a large or small amount of oil in the Persian Gulf. The Persian Gulf nations also have a responsibility to preserve the reef ecosystem because they are the ones who greatly " profit" from it, being the largest producers of oil. Oil drilling in the gulf has resulted in the damage to these reefs.

Preservation of coral reefs should be a worldwide effort. Countries must unite to save these diverse and productive ecosystems. Nations should bond together to formulate strategies and policies on how to protect and conserve the coral reefs. The funding for the preservation should come from all nations which benefit from the use of oil from the Persian Gulf.

Works Cited

CNN. " Report: Many of the worlds coral reefs permanently lost." 11 December 2000. articles. cnn. com. 15 September 2011 .