

Why are coral reef ecosystems important?



- Human well-being depends on the wide range of important services provided by natural ecosystems.
- Healthy coral reef ecosystems provide food (5-10 tons fish/km²/year), generate income (global \$29.8 billion/year) and protection (buffer 97% wave energy).
- This bundle of ecosystems services from coral reefs has an estimated value of \$ 2.1 million/ha/year, including provision of raw materials, maintaining genetic diversity, protection from natural hazards, as well as recreation /economic opportunities and aesthetic enjoyment through sustainable tourism.

Parametric insurance for nature

Insurance provides pre-agreed amounts of pay-outs based on the occurrence and intensity of a hazard event, which serve as proxies for impact and loss, rather than indemnifying against actual loss (which is the traditional insurance approach)

In Quintana Roo, Mexico:

The insurance will pay out 40 percent of the total when wind speeds reach 100 to 110 knots within the designated area, and in full when the wind speeds reach 160 knots. A fund was set up as the beneficiary for the insurance, with the requirement to only use the pay-out funds for the restoration and rehabilitation of the reef (50 percent of pay-out) and coastal ecosystems restoration (50 percent).

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition

Today, history more than makes up for the clear, chilly, low 32. Tomorrow, clearly sunny, chilly, high 45. Weather map appears on Page 24.

VOL. CLXX ... No. 58,899

© 2020 The New York Times Company

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

\$6.00

Record Turnout Hints at Future of Vote in U.S.

Barriers Fall as States Adapt to Pandemic

By Nick Corasaniti and Jim Hirschberg

Nearly 60 million Americans voted in the 2020 elections, by far the most to history and a level of turnout not seen in over a century, representing an extraordinary milestone of civic engagement in a year marred by a devastating pandemic. Record unemployment of political systems having completed their final count, and next week's deadline for final certification of the results approaching, the sheer volume of Americans who actually voted in November was eye-opening to political scientists. ...



Covid-19 killed hundreds in the communities of Corona, East Elmhurst, Elmhurst, Jackson Heights and Woodside.

SUDDENLY, THE EPICENTER

As winter turned to spring this year, the coronavirus spread to a corner of New York that is one of the most ethnically diverse places in the world. Thousands fell ill. Hundreds died. Doctors walked around the clock in what became one of the nation's first epicenters of the pandemic. Among those struggling was an entertainer, a doctor, an Uber driver, a student, a chef, a mother. They were born all over the world, but their paths converged in Queens. Some survived. Others did not. A story of love, faith, hard work, grief and resilience in a crisis for which no special was prepared.

By Dan Barry and Annie Correal • Photographs by Todd Heissler • A SPECIAL SECTION



Last Act of the Trump Drama: Rage, Denial and Retribution

Over the past weeks, Mr. Trump has been portrayed as a man who is angry, angry, angry. ...

Megachurch's Celebrity Pastor Fell Into Temptations of Fame

In the summer of 2017, the singing Justin Bieber abruptly called the remainder of a concert tour that had been scheduled to conclude in 16 months. ...



To Save a Mexican Reef, They Insured It. A team known as 'The Brigade' worked to repair a devastated coral reef, piece by piece. PAGE 16.

The Broken Senate

Two new legislative bills — friends and proven legislators from opposite parties — agree that the dysfunctional system needs fixing but disagree on how to do it. PAGE 18

Anxiety Remains for Dreamers

Even after a federal judge ordered the reinstatement of DACA, undocumented young adults are living with a precariously status and they are hoping for permanent protections. PAGE 20

Sunday Review

Nicholas Kristof PAGE 4

How to Fix America

If you could do one thing right now — large or small — to help repair the nation, what would it be. Experts. PAGE 3

Letting My Heart Break

Michelle Obama, one of the world's richest people, has sounded the alarm on infectious diseases for decades. PAGE 3

Singapore's Cruises to Nowhere

A lifeline to a struggling industry in the Covid era means masks, contact tracing and hand sanitizer at the slots. PAGE 3

OFFICIALS AGONIZE OVER ALLOTMENT OF FIRST VACCINES

A WRENCHING DILEMMA Protecting Older People vs. Workers at Risk of Exposure to Virus

By Abby Goodnough and Jan Hoffman

With the coronavirus pandemic surging and initial vaccine supplies limited, the United States faces a hard choice: Should the country's immunization program focus on the early months on the most vulnerable, who are dying at an essential workers, an expansive category encompassing Americans who have been the greatest risk of infection. ...

Sales Pile Up, But Deliveries Face a Logjam

By Michael Corbrey and Sarpin Maheshwari

E-commerce became a lifeline for many retailers as coronavirus pandemic, but the holiday season, online shopping will strain the industry as before. ...

Financing Agencies



Practitioners



National Governments



Local Governments



