



## **EXPEDITION PROFILE**

**July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 aboard DISCOVERY Yacht Phantom**

The International SeaKeepers Society assisted the UM Rosenstiel School's Coral Futures Lab to conduct field research just offshore of Key Biscayne, FL aboard DISCOVERY Yacht Phantom. Researchers Daisy Claire Buzzoni, Richard Karp, and Corrine Allen collected tissue samples of coral colonies at Emerald Reef (Miami), before the onset of a coral bleaching event, which is looking very likely this summer. They have been monitoring these coral colonies for several years, and needed to take samples from them quickly so that they can assess any changes caused by the upcoming bleaching.

This project involves monitoring the algal symbiont communities within coral colonies. These symbionts affect many aspects of coral health and survivorship. Improving our knowledge of the coral-algal symbiosis helps better inform conservation and restoration efforts on local Florida reefs.

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