

Coral reef was untouched by tsunami

23 February 2006

Scientists say they've discovered a large coral reef off Thailand that was apparently undisturbed by the catastrophic December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

Scientists had feared the Asian tsunami had inflicted substantial damage across Thailand's network of coral reefs. But they told the BBC the discovery near Thailand's Phang-nga Province underlines the extraordinary resilience of coral reefs, despite being swept by one of the most powerful forces of nature.

Divers from the World Wildlife Fund for Nature using information from local fisherman discovered the unspoiled reef in January and subsequently identified 112 species of fish and 30 genera of corals along the reef's 667 acres.

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APA citation: Coral reef was untouched by tsunami (2006, February 23) retrieved 25 January 2022 from <https://phys.org/news/2006-02-coral-reef-untouched-tsunami.html>

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