

**MS Project**  
**Department of Environmental Science and Policy**  
**College of Science**  
**George Mason University**

**Candidate:** Breanna Hart

**Defense Date and Time:** December 1, 2023

**Defense Location:** Virtual

**Title:** Manuscript on the Treatment of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease on Reefs of Roatán, Honduras

**Thesis Director:** Dr. Esther Peters

**Committee:** Dr. Jennifer Salerno, Dr. Vivek Prasad

**ABSTRACT**

Since 2014, stony coral tissue loss disease has caused death in more than 20 species of hard corals on reefs of Florida and the Caribbean Sea. After a study was performed in Roatán, Honduras, the data were sent to GMU Master's student Breanna Hart for review, analysis, and writing of a manuscript. Missing and incorrect data were identified, corrected, and analyzed; hundreds of pictures of corals were examined to add missing data and to ensure accuracy; GIS maps were created to visually aid the manuscript; and correspondence with the data collectors from Roatán Marine Park occurred during the entire process.