

### Impacts

#### Political and economic:

The governments of China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei are constantly fighting for ownership over the island. Over \$5 trillion of trade pass each year.

#### Political and social:

The Pentagon has increased the US's military movements in the South China sea.

#### Environmental:

Coral reefs are being destroyed because China's artificial islands are built on top of them.

### Location



### Extra information

The Fiery Cross Reef took roughly 2 years to build, the method and the company are unknown. The project started at May 31, 2014 and finished at May 1, 2016. However, China constantly 'upgrades' this island, with the latest addition being a basketball court. This island is 665 acres (2.7 square kilometers)

### The "Final Product" of the Fiery Cross Reef



### Why did this Project Occur?

China says that the purpose of this project is to mainly improve the living and working conditions of those stationed on the outposts, safety of navigation, and research. However most analysts outside of China believe that it's attempting to fortify its military. To further prove this, the Fiery Cross Reef contains a 3 km runway that can accommodate military jets (Circled in the image above)

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