

Chagos Archipelago - Egmont (BIEG02)

Egmont · surveyed 2015-03-10



What was done. Coral cover here was measured on in-situ benthic transects run by divers on the [Living Oceans Foundation Global Reef Expedition](#) — a diver measurement, not an estimate read off photographs.

HARD CORAL COVER

32%

Benthic surveys

TODAY'S HEAT LOAD

28.9°C

0.0°C-weeks

16 Sep 2026 · -0.1°C vs the annual mean (29.0 °C)
· NOAA No heat stress

HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW)

4.4°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 4–8 °C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

30.3 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

28.9°C

+0.1°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (28.8°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS

25

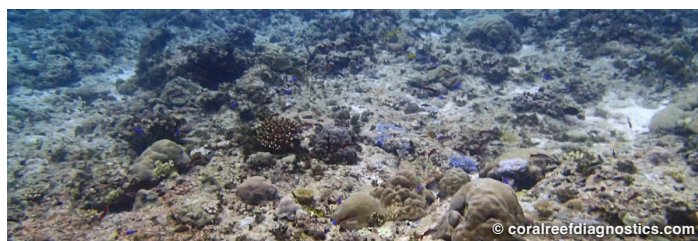
on file for this site

POSITION

-6.6671, 71.3909



BIEG02, at Egmont, was dived in early March 2015 before the bleaching event had fully developed, and its 3.6% bleaching figure shows up as a tight cluster of a few fully white *Acropora* colonies rather than diffuse whitening, plus one large dead, algae-covered *Porites*. The dive also documents two coral predators at once - a crown-of-thorns starfish photographed beside a collection tool, and two *Culcita* cushion stars - alongside gray reef sharks and dense fish schools. Published cover is 32%. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 31.8 · In-house DINOv3 23.7 · CoralSCOP edited 23.7 · Claude 18.2

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 25 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-egmont-bieg02.html> · Heat stress is the mean of the latest five annual maxima of NOAA Coral Reef Watch degree-heating weeks for this reef's NOAA CRW virtual station (Chagos) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.