

Chagos Archipelago - Egmont (BIEG04)

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

29%

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

30.5 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

29.3°C

+0.5°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (28.8°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS

25

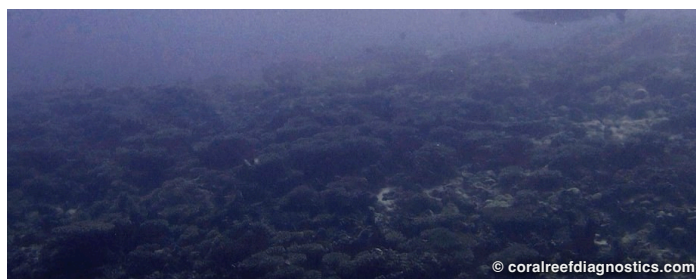
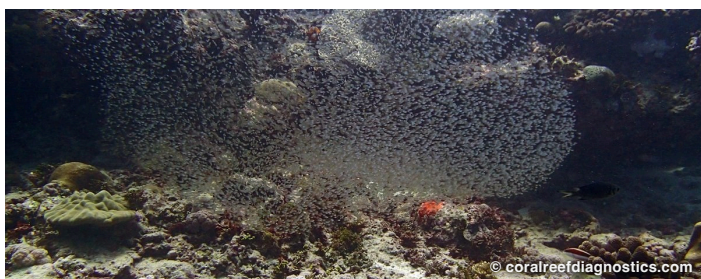
on file for this site

POSITION

-6.6475, 71.3684



BIEG04, at Egmont, is an early-March 2015 dive with bleaching effectively absent (0.5%), serving as a clean pre-event baseline for this atoll - where the reef is alive, it is almost entirely *Acropora*. Silvertip sharks (previously misidentified as whitetips) and a spectacular bait ball of thousands of small silver fish were the fauna highlights, and cover measured 29%. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 29.2 · In-house DINOv3 35.1 · CoralSCOP edited 28.2 · Claude 25.9

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-bieg04.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.