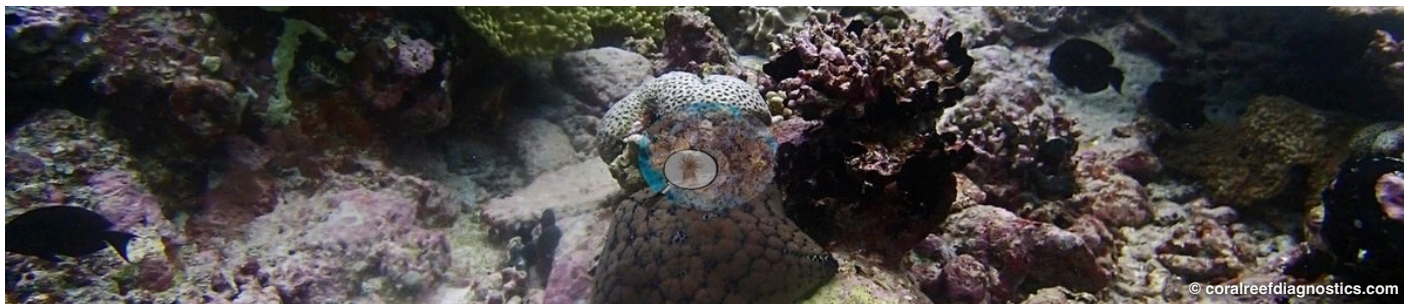


Chagos Archipelago - Great Chagos Bank North (BINI79)

Nelson Island · surveyed 2015-04-20



Coral Health Index: TBD

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. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs, not a second survey.

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

30.9 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

29.8°C

+0.8°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (29.0°C)

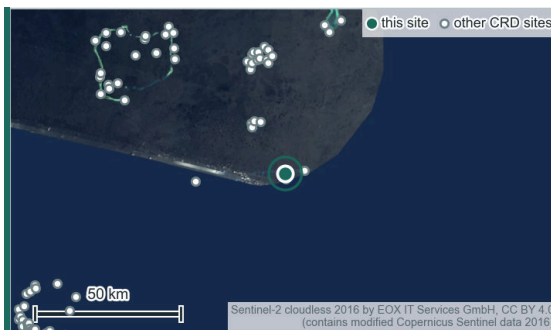
PHOTOGRAPHS

26

on file for this site

POSITION

-5.6890, 72.3225



A submerged bank reef at 23 m inside the Nelson Island lagoon, dominated by *Acropora* with few other genera and heavy fleshy turf, at 32% coral cover. Photos show more stark white and pale colonies than its modest 5% published bleaching figure suggests, and a whitetip reef shark and dogtooth tuna were seen. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 31.5 · [CoralNet](#) 19.4 · In-house DINOv3 21.6 · CoralSCOP edited 21.2 · Claude 17.9

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 26 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-gcb-north-bini79.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.