

Chagos Archipelago - Great Chagos Bank West (BIDI09)

Danger Island · surveyed 2015-03-12



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.

HARD CORAL COVER

38%

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

29.6 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

29.2°C

+0.3°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (28.9°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS

34

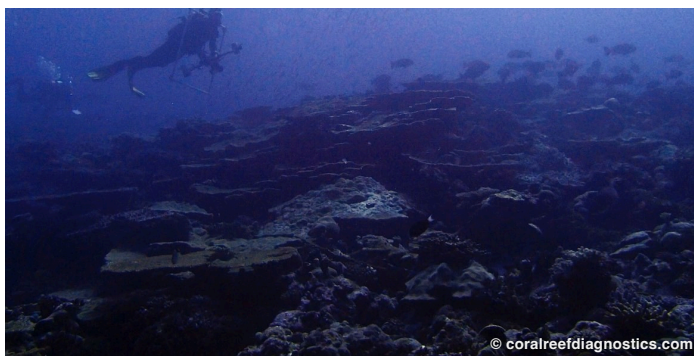
on file for this site

POSITION

-6.3793, 71.2336



BIDI09, at Danger Island, has 38% coral cover and is defined by sheer planktivore biomass - fusilier schools numbering in the hundreds, blue-striped snapper, and multiple large predators, exactly what an unfished remote atoll should look like. Bleaching was minimal, and the site's benthos mixes meandroid brain corals, *Pocillopora*, and purple digitate *Acropora*. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 37.7 · [CoralNet](#) 38.0 · In-house DINOv3 23.6 · CoralSCOP edited 32.2 · Claude 33.6

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 34 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-gcb-west-bidi09.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.