

Chagos Archipelago - Great Chagos Bank West (BIDI12)

Danger Island · surveyed 2015-03-13



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

4.2%

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

26.4 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

29.3°C

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

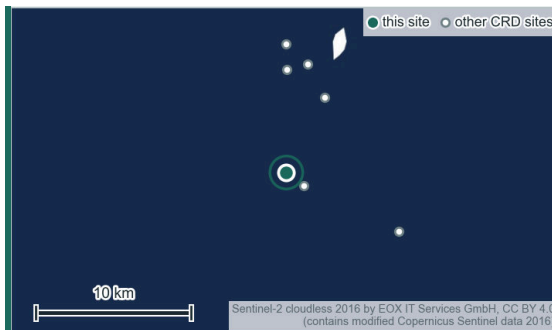
PHOTOGRAPHS

30

on file for this site

POSITION

-6.4534, 71.2337



BIDI12, at Danger Island, is a low-cover reef (4.2%) dominated by fleshy green macroalgal meadow and algal-turf pavement over coralline rubble, with barely any live coral visible in the photographs. Nine separate frames show gray reef sharks cruising low over the algal meadow, and an octopus was also recorded; whether the heavy algae reflects a lasting phase shift or a seasonal bloom isn't resolved. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) **4.2** · [CoralNet](#) 10.4 · In-house DINOV3 11.0 · CoralSCOP edited 17.9 · Claude 2.9

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 30 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-gcb-west-bidi12.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.