

Chagos Archipelago - Great Chagos Bank West (BIDI15)

Danger Island · surveyed 2015-03-14



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

20%

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

20.9 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

29.2°C

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

PHOTOGRAPHS

10

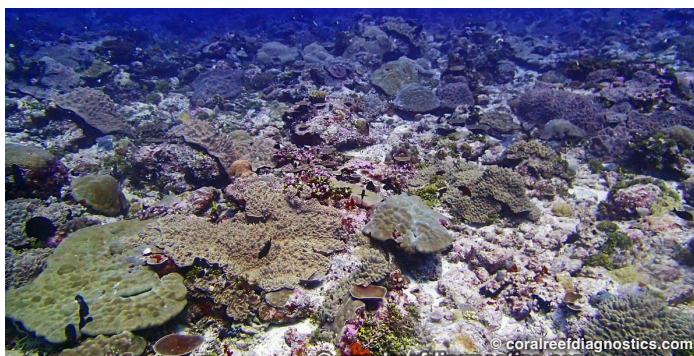
on file for this site

POSITION

-6.3531, 71.2358



BIDI15, at Danger Island, has 20% coral cover and is notable for large gorgonian sea fans on the pavement and some of the finest brain corals photographed in the whole Chagos series, including extreme close-ups resolving individual polyps. A whitetip reef shark was seen cruising the pavement, and the site's published 8.8% bleaching figure could not be confirmed or denied from the limited available photographs. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 20.1 · [CoralNet](#) 24.6 · In-house DINOv3 37.0 · CoralSCOP edited 20.6 · Claude 36.4

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 10 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-gcb-west-bidi15.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.