

Chagos Archipelago - Great Chagos Bank West (BIEA19)

Eagle Island · surveyed 2015-03-15



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

28%

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

25.9 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

28.8°C

-0.1°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (28.9°C)

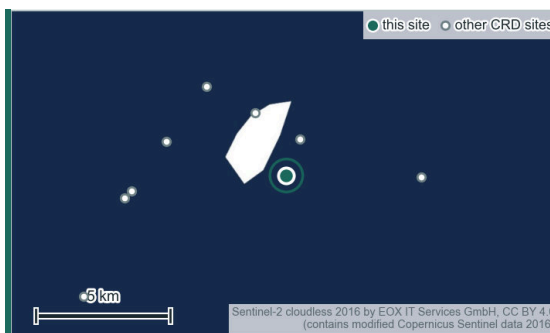
PHOTOGRAPHS

16

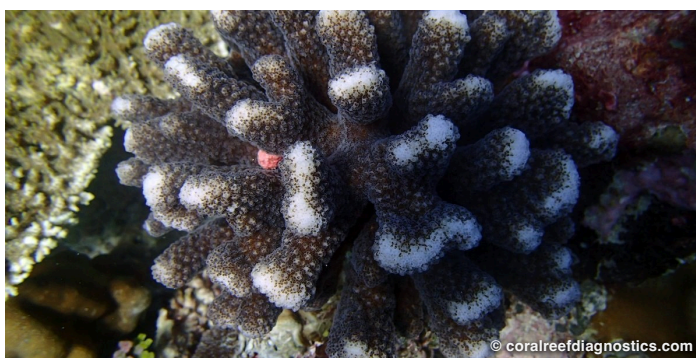
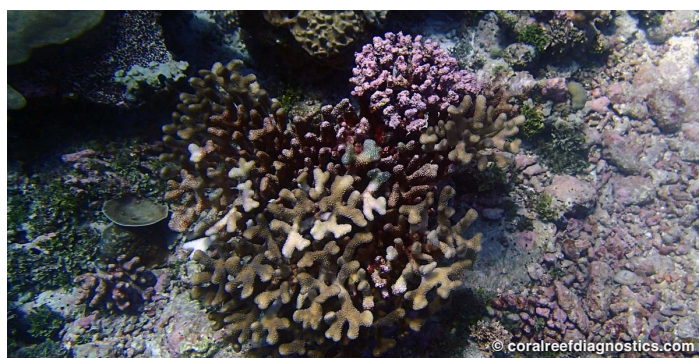
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POSITION

-6.2020, 71.3588



BIEA19 has 28% coral cover and includes one of the clearest images of patchy coral bleaching in the whole Chagos set - a thick-branched *Pocillopora* colony strikingly mottled with bone-white patches interleaved among fully pigmented brown tissue. Dead and dying tabular *Acropora* were also documented nearby, alongside blue-and-yellow fusiliers and a powder-blue surgeonfish. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 27.5 · [CoralNet](#) 27.2 · In-house DINOv3 25.5 · CoralSCOP edited 39.2 · Claude 30.8

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 16 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-gcb-west-biea19.htm> · 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.