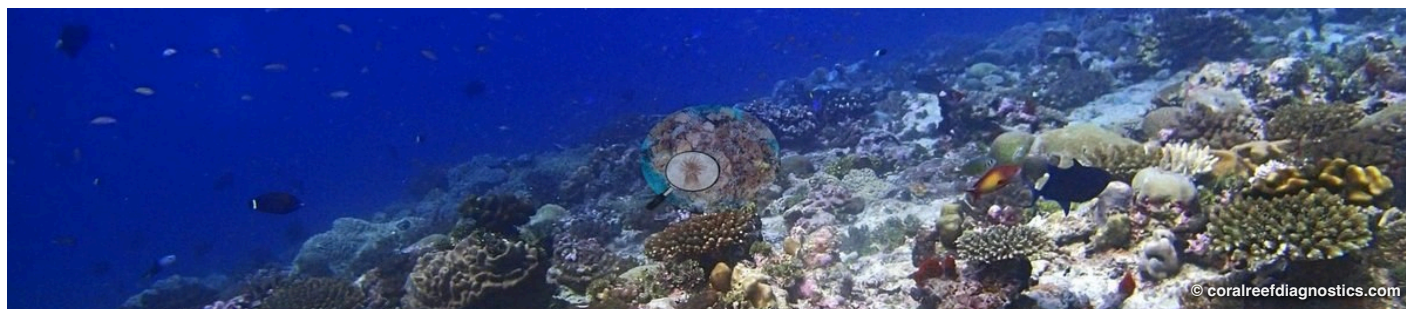


Chagos Archipelago - Great Chagos Bank West (BIEA20)

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

11%

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)

29.2°C

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

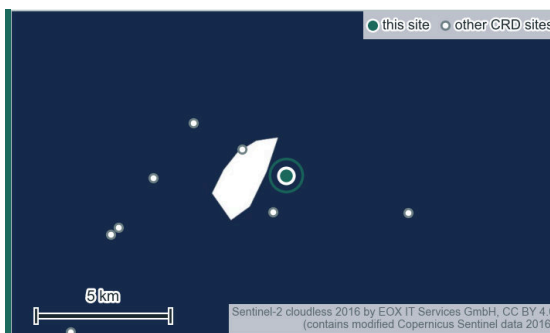
PHOTOGRAPHS

41

on file for this site

POSITION

-6.1899, 71.3633



BIEA20 has 11% coral cover, concentrated in patches of yellow-tan *Porites*, ridged foliose plates, and brain corals, with black coral whips and bushes a recurring feature. This site produced the finest shark photograph in the whole collection - a whitetip reef shark cruising close over white sand - plus a giant clam, an emperor angelfish, and a two-spot red snapper; one branching colony was found chalky white with early algal film, a possible early mortality signal. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 10.8 · [CoralNet](#) 24.6 · In-house DINOv3 16.0 · CoralSCOP edited 27.1 · Claude 22.2

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 41 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-gcb-west-biea20.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.