

# Chagos Archipelago - Great Chagos Bank West (BIEA22)

Eagle Island · surveyed 2015-03-16



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

**22%**

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

**25.2 m**

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

**29.1°C**

+0.2°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (28.9°C)

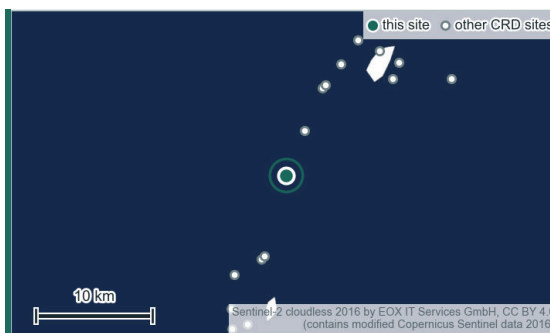
PHOTOGRAPHS

**23**

on file for this site

POSITION

**-6.2766, 71.2763**



BIEA22 is a modest, low-relief reef (22% coral cover) where coral sits as scattered small colonies - laminar *Acropora* plates, corymbose heads, and pale massive *Porites* domes - over pavement and rubble. Two or three requiem sharks and a giant clam were seen over the plain, and much of the site's pale coloring turned out to be naturally light-colored *Porites* and healthy white growth tips rather than actual bleaching. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 21.6 · [CoralNet](#) 49.2 · In-house DINOv3 44.8 · CoralSCOP edited 50.0 · Claude 30.8

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 23 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-gcb-west-biea22.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.