

Chagos Archipelago - Great Chagos Bank West (BIEA23)

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

25%

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

29.4 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

29.2°C

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

PHOTOGRAPHS

26

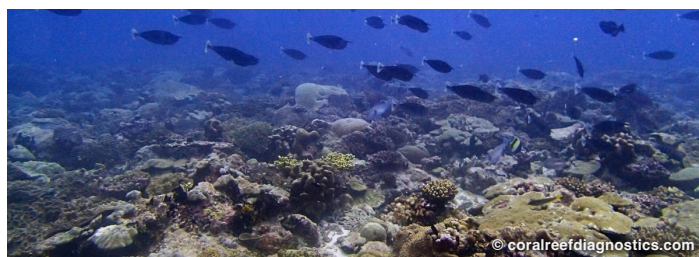
on file for this site

POSITION

-6.2422, 71.2906



BIEA23 is a genuinely good Chagos reef where the camera was actually on it - cream and tan massive *Porites* domes, purple digitate *Acropora*, and clean coral tables, with live cover swinging from 0% to 80% between frames. A whitetip reef shark and a giant clam were recorded, and published cover is 25%. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 24.6 · [CoralNet](#) 35.7 · In-house DINOv3 28.8 · CoralSCOP edited 39.5 · Claude 28.5

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 26 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-gcb-west-biea23.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.