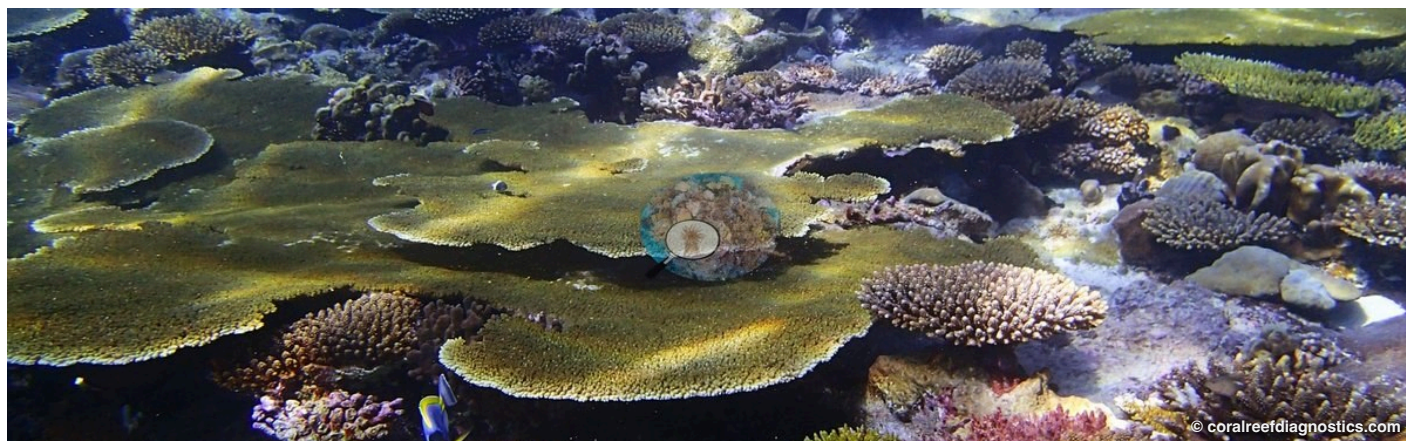


Chagos Archipelago - Great Chagos Bank West (BITB37)

South Brother · surveyed 2015-03-20



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

39%

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

30.2 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

29.6°C

+0.7°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (28.9°C)

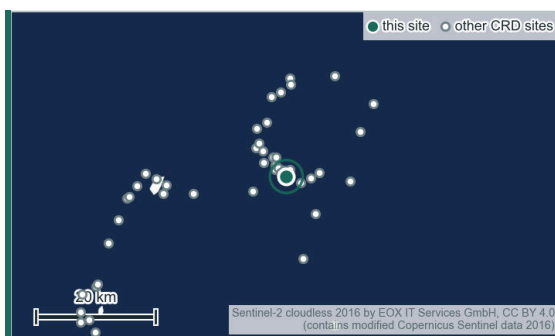
PHOTOGRAPHS

52

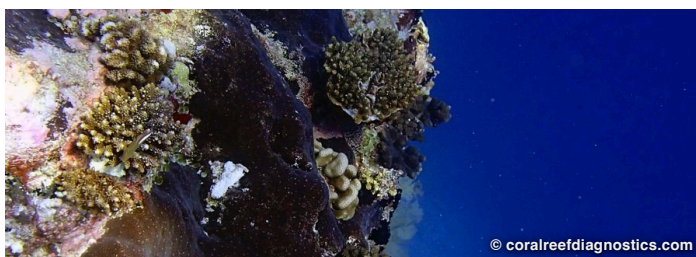
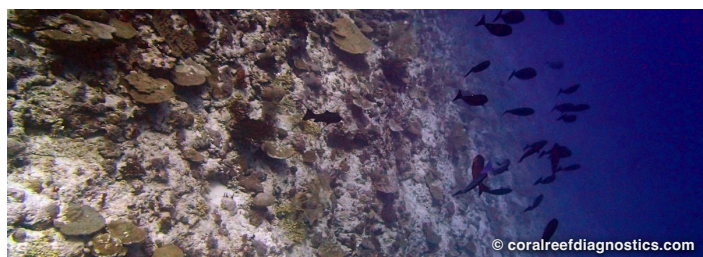
on file for this site

POSITION

-6.1770, 71.5440



A 38.8%-cover Great Chagos Bank reef with a sharp change in character with depth: *Acropora*-dominated shallows (one transect hit 79% coral) give way to a more open, silty, *Porites*-led deeper zone where *Acropora* nearly disappears. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 38.8 · [CoralNet](#) 37.3 · In-house DINOv3 29.6 · CoralSCOP edited 42.4 · Claude 29.0

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 52 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-gcb-west-bitb37.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.