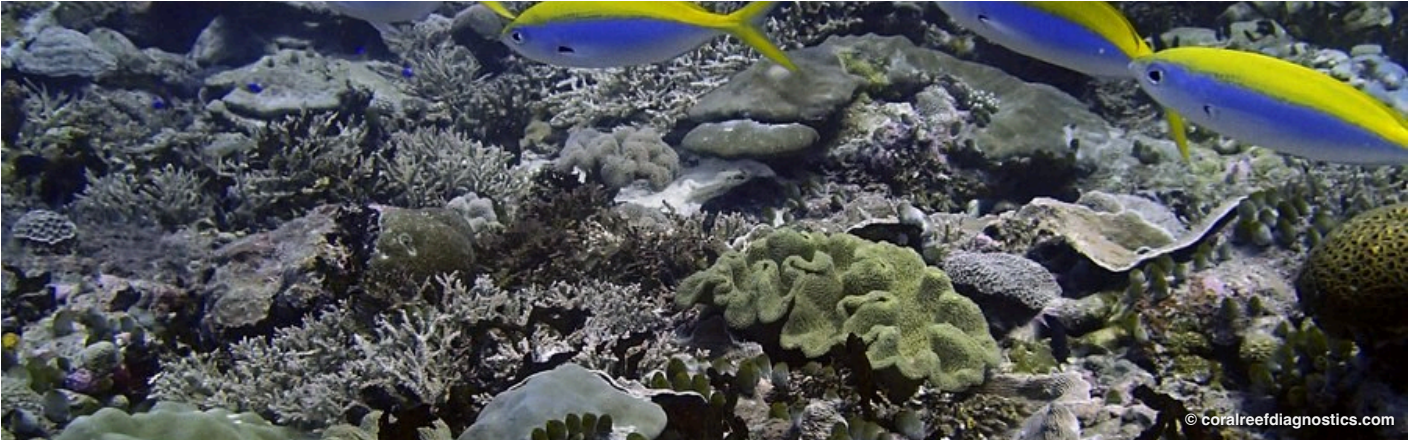


Chagos Archipelago - Great Chagos Bank West (BITB58)

Middle Brother · surveyed 2015-03-28



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. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

67%

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

23.7 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

—

not logged

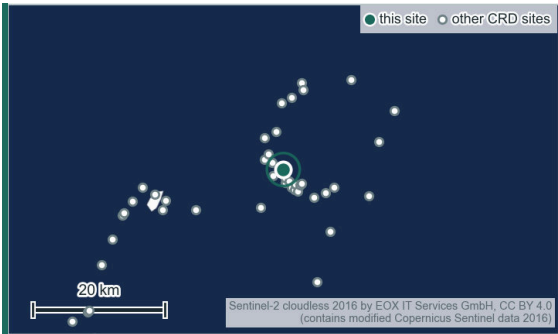
PHOTOGRAPHS

29

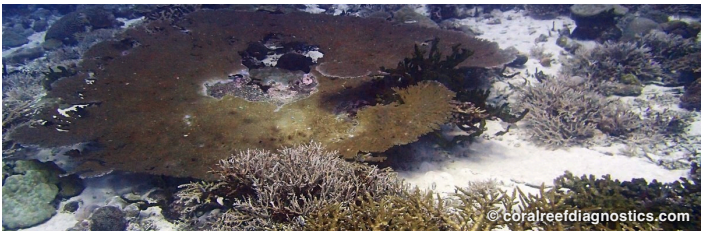
on file for this site

POSITION

-6.1479, 71.5241



The fourth-highest-cover site in Chagos (67%), with extreme zoning: one depth band is 93% blue coral (*Heliopora*), recalled as blue coral "as far as the eye could see," and the next is 80% *Acropora*. The low channel bottom is covered in enormous, overlapping table corals. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 67.0 · [CoralNet](#) 31.0 · In-house DINOv3 40.0 · CoralSCOP edited 29.9 · Claude 31.0

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 29 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-gcb-west-bitb58.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.