

Chagos Archipelago - Speakers Bank (BISP100)

Speaker's Bank · surveyed 2015-04-28



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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

54%

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

15.7 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

30.0°C

+0.8°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (29.2°C)

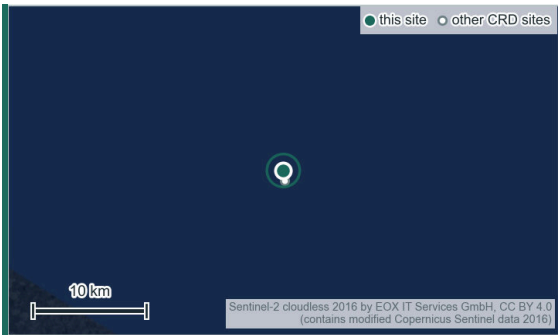
PHOTOGRAPHS

7

on file for this site

POSITION

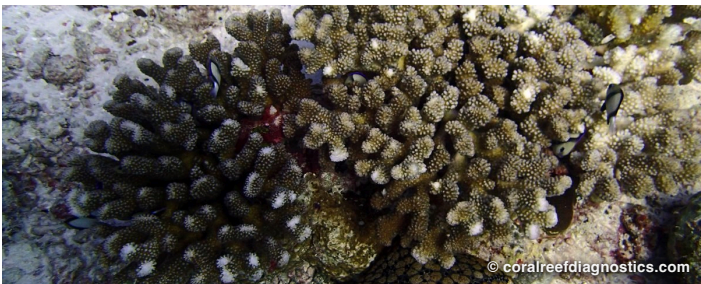
-4.7843, 72.3445



A high-cover but patchy Speakers Bank forereef (53.9% coral, among the least algal of all Chagos sites), dominated by *Acropora* tables. Cover doubles with depth, reaching 72% on the deepest transect, where the reef narrows to a near-monoculture of *Acropora*. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



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CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 53.9 · [CoralNet](#) 21.7 · In-house DINOv3 34.8 · CoralSCOP edited 27.0 · Claude 31.9

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 7 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-speakers-bank-bisp100.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.