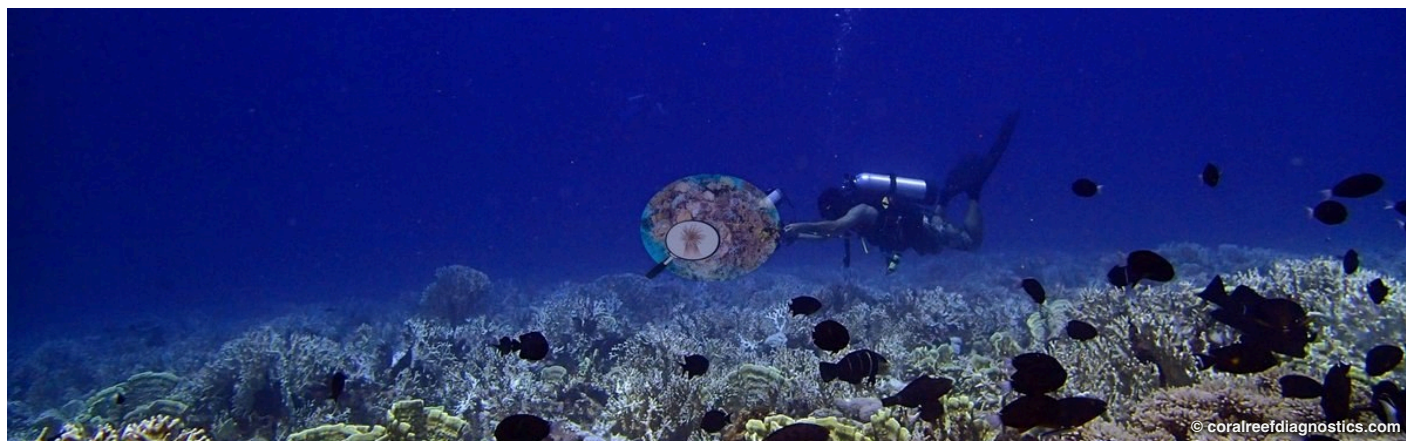


Chagos Archipelago - Victory Bank (BIVB109)

Victory Bank · surveyed 2015-04-30



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

35%

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

16.4 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

30.0°C

+1.0°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (29.0°C)

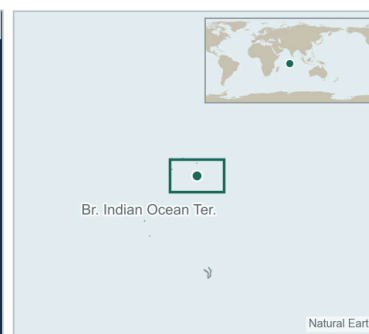
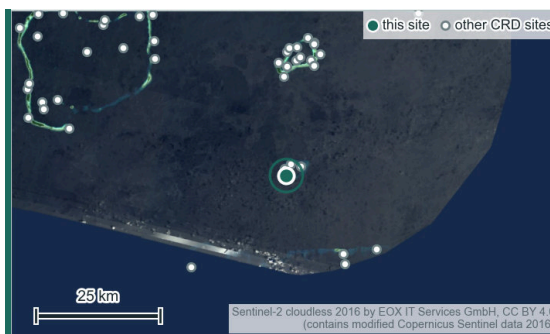
PHOTOGRAPHS

44

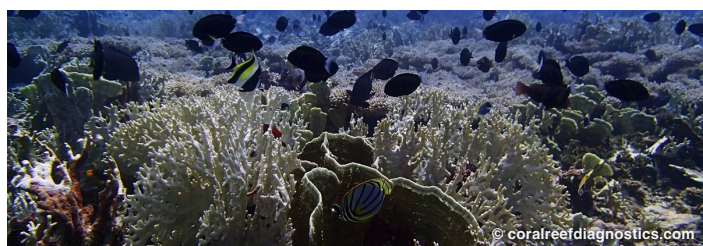
on file for this site

POSITION

-5.5476, 72.2188



A deep forereef (31 m) on isolated Victory Bank, where *Acropora*, *Porites*, and fire coral (*Millepora*) share the coral almost equally over pink coralline pavement. One transect holds almost all the fire coral and 24 of the site's 26 genera, including the endemic *Ctenella chagius*, and whitetip reef sharks were seen three times. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 34.7 · [CoralNet](#) 35.0 · In-house DINOv3 39.0 · CoralSCOP edited 24.9 · Claude 35.0

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 44 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-victory-bank-bivb109.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.