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What was done. The figure is the author's own manual point count, annotated by hand over 97 photographs. 5 further methods were run on the same frames and are reported on the site page. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs (95 frames), not a second survey. Fieldwork with 3 Degrees South.

HARD CORAL COVER

32%

manual point count (97 photos) · other methods on the site page

TODAY'S HEAT LOAD

26.8°C 0.0°C-weeks

16 Sep 2026 · -1.0°C vs the annual mean (27.8 °C)
· NOAA No heat stress

HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW)

4.9°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 4–8 °C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

11 m

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

31.3°C

+3.3°C vs the 2024 mean sea temperature (28.0°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS

4

on file for this site

POSITION

-3.6092, 39.8913

Sentinel-2 cloudless 2016 by EOX IT Services GmbH, CC BY 4.0 (contains modified Copernicus Sentinel data 2016)

Bofa, in Kilifi, had severe bleaching (88.3% of tissue) that overturned the usual pattern - the most completely bleached colonies here were massive *Porites* domes and brain corals, not the branching *Acropora*, while foliose *Turbinaria* plate corals were the clear survivors. This site's real story is crown-of-thorns predation: at least nine or ten individual starfish were confirmed across the photographs, repeatedly found draped directly onto already-bleached coral. Published cover was 32%.

Kiswahili. Mwamba wa sakafu ngumu na mawe nje ya Bofa, Kilifi, katika maji safi zaidi kuliko Ghuba ya Kilifi iliyo jirani, uliopigwa picha wakati wa tukio la upaukaji mkubwa wa Bahari ya Hindi Magharibi la 2024. Nyota tisa hadi kumi tofauti za bahari zenye miiba zilizhibitishwa katika picha 14, mara kwa mara zikiwa zimetandaa juu ya koloni zilizopauka, na *Porites* makubwa na *Platygyra* yalikuwa... *Tafsiri ya muhtasari huu kwa AI; Kiingereza ndicho kinachotumika rasmi.*

CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Manual (published) 32.4 · CoralNet 34.0 · In-house DINOv3 47.6 · CoralSCOP unedited 26.6

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 1 of 4 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/kenya-bofa-kilifi.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 (Kenya) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.