

Kenya - Trumpet Area (Watamu)

Watamu · surveyed 2024-03-29



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Coral Health Index: TBD

What was done. The figure is the author's own manual point count, annotated by hand over 193 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 (205 frames), not a second survey. Fieldwork with Extra Divers.

HARD CORAL COVER
21%
manual point count (193 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
10 m

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)
32.3°C
+4.3°C vs the 2024 mean sea temperature (28.0°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS
4
on file for this site

POSITION
-3.4027, 39.9880



Trumpet Area is a low-relief reef flat off Watamu, named for a dense mid-water aggregation of trumpetfish and cornetfish that drifted over the reef during the survey. Coral sits as scattered colonies rather than continuous framework, and bleaching was severe (85.8% of tissue) across *Acropora*, massive corals, and even the leathery soft corals that form the flat's largest continuous stands - one frame is captioned 'bleached soft coral' by Anderson himself. Published cover was 21%; turtles and a peacock mantis shrimp were also recorded.

Kiswahili. Sakafu ya mwamba yenye mwinuko mdogo nje ya Watamu iliyofanyiwa kazi katika mzamio wa dakika 53, ambapo vishada vikubwa vyenye mikunjo vinasomeka kama matumbawe laini ya ngozi badala ya sahani ngumu za majani. Samaki-tarumbeta, kasa, na kamba-tausi wote wameandikwa; hakuna nyota za bahari zenye miiba wala vidonda vya ugonjwa vinavyoonekana katika picha 205. *Tafsiri ya muhtasari huu kwa AI; Kiingereza ndicho kinachotumika rasmi.*

CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Manual (published) 20.8 · CoralNet 20.8 · In-house DINOv3 35.2 · CoralSCOP unedited 20.7

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 1 of 4 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/kenya-trumpet-area-watamu.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.