

Maldives - Baa Atoll (Hanifaru)

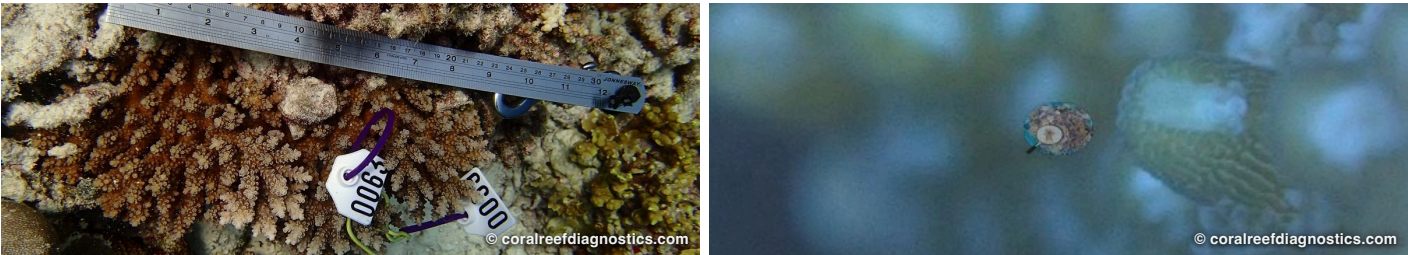
northern atolls · 3 visits, 2016-01-23 – 2016-01-25



What was done. Method: computer vision analysis of images, over 59 photographs. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER 27% Computer vision analysis of images	TODAY'S HEAT LOAD 29.7°C 0.0°C-weeks 16 Sep 2026 · +0.1°C vs the annual mean (29.6 °C) · NOAA Bleaching Watch	HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW) 2.2°C-weeks NOAA annual peaks below 4 °C-weeks, the bleaching threshold
MAX. DEPTH — not logged	WATER TEMP. (SURVEY) — not logged	PHOTOGRAPHS 45 on file for this site
POSITION 5.3000, 73.0500 Approximate position: no GPS fix was logged for this dive.		

These January 2016 Baa Atoll research dives (parked on the coarse atoll pin since the exact reefs couldn't be geocoded) documented tagged monitoring sites ranging from a high-relief *Acropora*- and *Pocillopora*-rich reef front to a gentler field of *Porites* domes and leather corals - with the first hint of trouble already visible as scattered bone-white branch tips, photographed roughly three months before the 2016 El Nino bleaching event that devastated Baa's study reefs. Computer-vision analysis of these frames puts live cover at 27%.



Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 45 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/maldives-baa-atoll-hanifaru.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 (Maldives) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.