North Dry Rocks (Key Largo)

Florida Keys / South Florida · surveyed 2023-04-15



0 — 5

Coral Health Index: 1.00/5

What was done. No diver transect was run at this site. The figure is a blind Claude computer-vision point classification of 113 photographs by the author, read without sight of any other method's result; other computer-vision methods are compared on the site page. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs (118 of the 134 frames on file) and of the author's dive notes, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

20%

Claude computer vision (113 edited photos) · median 15%

MOST RECENT HEAT LOAD RECORD

28.5°C **13.7°C-weeks**

26 Oct 2026 · +0.4°C vs the past-365-day mean (28.1°C) · NOAA alert that day: no stress (water now below the bleaching threshold; 13.7°C-weeks built up over the last 12 weeks)

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

12.5°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 12–16°C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

8.5 m

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

26.9°C

-0.9°C vs the 2023 mean sea temperature (27.8°C)

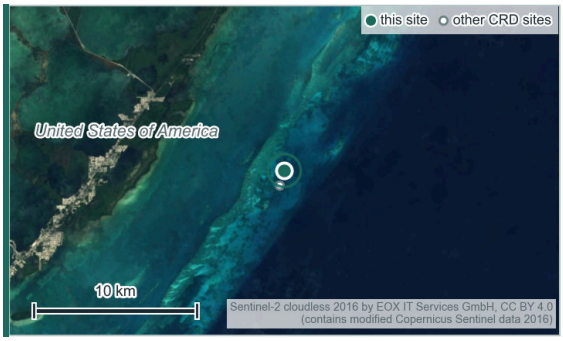
PHOTOGRAPHS

101 in the gallery · 134 on file

POSITION

25.1307, -80.2943

Approximate position.





A shallow spur-and-groove reef in John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park whose headline feature is standing *Acropora*: large, intact, meter-scale elkhorn colonies as well as dense staghorn thickets, both now rare in the Keys. Some elkhorn show pale or partly bare patches at their bases and blade edges, and octocorals fill the pavement between.





CV model comparison (hard coral cover, %): CoralSCOP edited 26.9 · **Claude (edited photos) 19.6** · Reef Check 1997 (same site, mean of 2 same-day surveys) 10.9 CoralSCOP (edited photos) reads 26.9%, 7.3 pp above Claude's blind point count (19.6%); the headline stays Claude's blind point count because no transect or manual count exists here.

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 on this card; 101 in the gallery · 134 on file; watermarked · Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/north-dry-rocks-key-largo.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 (Florida Keys) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.