Orion shipwreck (Key Biscayne)

Florida Keys / South Florida · surveyed 2022-04-16



0 — 5

Coral Health Index: TBD

What was done. No diver transect was run at this site. The figure is a blind Claude computer-vision point classification of 65 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 (79 of the 88 frames on file) and of the author's dive notes, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

4.2%

Claude computer vision (65 edited photos) · median 0.0%

MOST RECENT HEAT LOAD RECORD

28.6°C **9.6°C-weeks**

26 Oct 2026 · +0.5°C vs the past-365-day mean (28.1°C) · NOAA alert that day: no stress (water now below the bleaching threshold; 9.6°C-weeks built up over the last 12 weeks)

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

9.4°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 8–12°C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

29.3 m

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

26.1°C

-1.5°C vs the 2022 mean sea temperature (27.6°C)

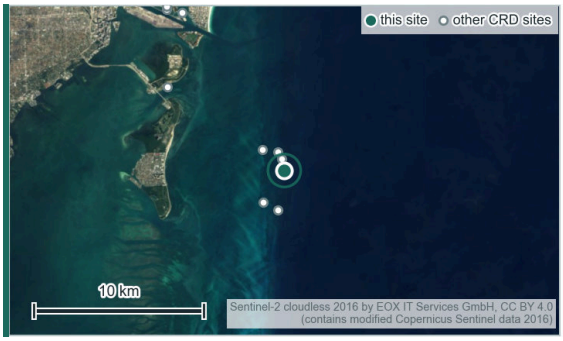
PHOTOGRAPHS

61 in the gallery · 88 on file

POSITION

25.6910, -80.0863

Recorded site position.





The *Orion* is a steel shipwreck sitting upright on sand off Key Biscayne, its superstructure still intact enough to swim through and its rails fringed with thick hedges of sea rods and sea plumes. Stony corals are only small scattered recruits on the plating; the real show is the dense schools of grunts and snapper packed around the hull. Dive operators and press reports describe the wreck: the *Orion*, a steel-hulled tug scuttled off Key Biscayne in 1981 as an artificial reef. On a wreck, low coral cover is expected.





CV model comparison (hard coral cover, %): CoralSCOP edited 14.6 · **Claude (edited photos) 4.2** CoralSCOP (edited photos) reads 14.6%, 10.4 pp above Claude's blind point count (4.2%); 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; 61 in the gallery · 88 on file; watermarked · Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/orion-shipwreck-key-biscayne.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 (Southeast Florida) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.