

BELIZE SUSTAINABLE OCEAN PLAN

22nd Core Team Meeting

March 23rd, 2023

Duration of meeting: 9:00 am – 10:23 am (1 hour 23 minutes)

Location: Fisheries Department Conference Room & Zoom

Minutes

Meeting Objectives:

1. Technical Working Group ToR Update
2. Workplan Update
3. Website Development Update
4. Public Sensitization
5. Any other Matters

Present:

In person:

Samir Rosado – MSP Process Lead, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

Janel McNab – MSP Coordinator, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

Delwin Guevara – GIS Mapping & Spatial Analyst, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

Andria Rosado – GIS Data Manager, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

Alicia Eck Nunez - Fisheries Officer, The Belize Fisheries Department

Nidia Chacon – Stakeholder Engagement Specialist – The Nature Conservancy

Jamani Balderamos – MSP Specialist – The Nature Conservancy

Deeriann Buckley-Wade – Blue Economy Officer, Blue Economy Unit, Ministry of Blue Economy & Civil Aviation

Virtually:

Arlene Young – Director, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

Juliet Neal – Conservation Finance & Policy Officer, World Wildlife Fund

Beverly Wade – Director, Blue Bond & Finance for Permanence Unit

Safira Vasquez - Senior Technical Officer, Blue Bond & Finance for Permanence Unit

Wendy Casasola – Operations Program Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy

Kate Longley-Wood – Marine Spatial Planning Science Manager, The Nature Conservancy

Chantal Collier - Senior Associate, Ocean Planning and Mapping

Observers:

Hanna St. Luce-Martinez – Conservation Director, The Nature Conservancy

James Foley – Oceans Manager, The Nature Conservancy

Minutes :

Agenda Item Number	Notes/Comments/Advice	Proposed Action & Response
Welcome & Meeting Called to Order		
1.1	The MSP Process Lead welcomed the Core Team (CT) members and called the meeting to order at 9:07am.	
1.2	The agenda was presented, the meeting objectives reviewed and accepted. Annex I	
CZMAI-BSOP Technical Capacity Update		
2.1	The MSP Process Lead introduced and welcomed Delwin Guevara to the Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan (BSOP) team, as the GIS Mapping and Spatial Analyst.	
2.2	Other technical capacity update: An offer was extended for the post of Communications and Public Relations Post, was extended and awaiting a response. For the Science Lead, interviews will be held next week.	
Technical Working Group Update		
3.1	Invites have been sent to prospected agencies/ organisations identified through the stakeholder mapping exercise to serve on a relevant TWG. Follow ups will be done the following week. The draft agenda for the inaugural TWGs meeting was presented to the CT members. Annex 2 Core Team members provided no feedback against the proposed agenda.	
Update on Workplan		
4.1	Update was given on activities for the reminder of the month and for the upcoming month of April were indicated. - Remaining activities: Three community meetings: Punta Gorda, Placencia, and Belize City (Annex 3), and Technical Working Groups Inaugural meeting end of March. All activities are on track to being completed. April main activities: - <i>Process Governance Goal</i> : keep meeting schedules on track, focus on public sensitisation meetings in the northern regions, feedback mechanism, M&E framework, draft legislative framework, and website launch. - <i>Marine Conservation Goals</i> : creating a baseline data, and stakeholder mapping to analyse existing conditions. <i>Blue economy Goals</i> : Blue Carbon Ecosystems spatial data compilation.	
Website Development Update		
5.1	The mock website was shown to the CT for their general feedback on feel and appearance. <ul style="list-style-type: none">CT members present commended the draft website design and are looking forward to seeing the final product.	
Public Sensitization		

<p>6.1</p>	<p>The upcoming public meeting flyers were showed to the CT, indicated the dates of the meeting. Punta Gorda March Thursday 23rd Placencia March Friday 24th, and Belize City March Wednesday 29th (to be live streamed on Facebook). Annex 3</p> <p>Recommendations from CT Spell out MSP, BSOP and other acronyms fully the first time they appear in any document – especially any that will be used to engage the public in the MSP process so that they can become familiar with the relevant terms and names.</p> <p>Share all documents with the Stakeholder Engagement/Communications subgroup to obtain feedback and ensure agreement before they are disseminated to the public.</p> <p>An overview of the Public Sensitization agenda for communities was shared with the CT. The presentation will be delivered jointly by CZMAI and TNC.</p> <p>Questions from CT</p> <p>Will there be the option for anonymous feedback from stakeholders and the general public during stakeholder engagement meetings, on the website, and through other channels in addition to the conflict/grievance mechanism?</p>	<p>MSP coordinator made recommended changes on the flyer.</p> <p>Conflict/Grievance mechanism will provide for anonymous feedback.</p>
<p>Other matters</p>		
<p>7.1</p>	<p>Updates from the CEO Executive Committee on key pending matters: -Approval for the CEO of the Ministry of National Defence and Border Security to join the CEO Executive Committee (as mentioned in last month’s meeting).</p> <p>-Approval of final BSOP vision, goals and objectives: The Overarching Goal was approved, with word change from the previous version of this goal, “<i>To sign into law and Gazette the enact and publish</i> legalisation required to legally enforce the Marine Spatial Plan that guides sustainable development and designates up to 30% of Belize’s Biodiversity Protection Zones” to “<i>To enact and publish legalisation required to legally enforce the Marine Spatial Plan that guides sustainable development and designates up to 30% of Belize’s Biodiversity Protection Zones.</i>”</p> <p>-Goal one - Process Governance Goal, “To design and implement a science-based, data-driven, participatory, equitable, and inclusive MSP process which delivers on Belize’s MSP-related commitments under</p>	

	<p>the Blue Loan Agreement and Conservation Funding Agreement, in conformance with the guiding principles for decision making”, was accepted and approved, as is, with no changes.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1- By November 2022, initiate the process of developing a Marine Spatial Plan for Belize’s ocean. • Objective 2- Develop and implement the necessary mechanisms, processes, and procedures to ensure that the MSP process is functional, effective, and in accordance with the governance framework. • Objective 3- Following the MSP Process Launch, implement an MSP communications strategy and plan to foster public understanding and support for the MSP process by publicizing its progress and outputs. <p>-Goal two - Marine Conservation Goal, “To legally protect up to 30% of Belize’s Oceans as Biodiversity Protection Zones”, was accepted and approved as is. Except for objective number four, where an alternate phrase was chosen to replace “complete, sign into law and Gazette” with “complete enact and publish legalisation(s) to legally enforce”, with this change in words to be consistent with the overarching goal.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1 - Design Biodiversity Protection Zones to protect priority habitats, areas, and species identified through the MSP process, integrating climate resilient safeguards. • Objective 2 - Strengthen the Marine Protected Area (MPA) network in conformance with national governance frameworks and ecological, economic, social, and cultural criteria set forth by the IUCN. • Objective 3 - By November 3rd, 2024, sign into law and Gazette Biodiversity Protection Zones covering a total of 25% of Belize’s Ocean. • Objective 4 - By November 3rd, 2026, complete, enact and publish legislation(s) to legally enforce the Marine Spatial Plan. • Objective 5 - By November 3rd, 2026, sign into law and Gazette Biodiversity Protection Zones covering up to a total of 30% of Belize’s Ocean. • Objective 6 - By November 3rd, 2029, develop legally enforceable Management Plans for Belize’s Biodiversity Protection Zones as described in the MSP. • Objective 7 - Within one year of Cabinet’s endorsement, commence implementation of legally enforceable management plans for Belize’s Biodiversity Protection Zones. 	
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	<p>-Goal three - Blue Economy Goal, was accepted with minor word change, from “To support the sustainable growth and development of Belize’s blue economy in alignment with national legislative, policy, and planning frameworks.” to <i>“To support the sustainable growth and development of Belize’s blue economy in alignment with legislation, policy, and planning frameworks.”</i></p> <p>For Goal three objective one, an alternate phrase was selected to replace “Identify and evaluate ocean spaces for spatial and temporal adequacy that supports projected sustainable expansion and management of traditional, existing, and emerging economic uses” with, <i>“Identify and evaluate ocean spaces for their functional suitability to support projected sustainable expansion and management of traditional, existing and emerging economic uses.”</i></p> <p>For Goal three objective three, “Identify capacity needs to support national participation in investment and development of Belize’s blue economy”, there was a concern that this objective goes beyond the scope of the MSP Process, so it was removed.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1 - Identify and evaluate ocean spaces for their functional suitability to support projected sustainable expansion and management of traditional, existing and emerging economic uses. • Objective 2 - Mapping, measuring, and monitoring of blue carbon ecosystems to meet conservation targets and leverage conservation financing opportunities. <p>-Goal four - Equity, “To ensure fair and equitable access for all Belizeans to benefits derived from marine resources and spaces, with respect for traditional social, environmental, cultural and economic uses”, was accepted and approved as is with no changes.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1 - Between August 2022 and November 2026, implement a stakeholder engagement plan ensuring that 75% of quarterly targets for engaging with key multi-sectoral interest groups are met. • Objective 2 - Identify cultural, indigenous, social, and economic uses, through stakeholder engagement, to determine the allocation of ocean spaces to safeguard community traditions, livelihoods, and participation in emerging sustainable economic activities. 	
7.2	Reef Week feedback:	

	Reef Week was held on the 10 th of March 2023, at the central park in San Pedro, Ambergris Caye. A fair amount of people visited the booth, ranging from community members to foreign visitors to fishermen. Connections were also made with representatives from other associations/groups who were present at the fair, including Chunox Fishermen Association, and Blue Ventures.		
Closing of Meeting			
8.1	No Core Team meeting date was decided at this time. CT members recommended launching a doodle poll to determine the next CT meeting date. The MSP Process Lead ended the meeting at 10:23 am		
Action Items			
<i>Item #</i>	<i>Next Steps</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Date</i>
1	Update TWG invite list.	Completed	23/03/2023
2	Re-share CT shared folder link.	Completed	23/03/2023
3	Update flyer wording, from MSP to Marine Spatial Plan.	Completed	23/03/2023
4	Create poll with dates for next Core Team meeting.	Completed	31/03/2023

Minutes submitted by:

Janel McNab, MSP Coordinator of CZMAI

Approved



Mr. Samir Rosado
Marine Spatial Plan Process Lead,
CZMAI

26 April 2023

Date

Annex 1: Meeting Agenda

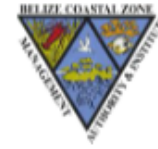


22nd BSOP Core Team Meeting Agenda

Date	Thursday March 23rd, 2023
Time	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (BZE local time)
Format	<u>Hybrid Participation:</u> Belize Fisheries Department Conference Room Zoom link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87224356843?pwd=VmNTalBaYlBDUXhoWU52bUtjOU1wdz09
Recorded	Yes
Format	Presentations and discussions
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Technical Working Group ToR Update 2. Workplan Update 3. Website Development Update 4. Public Sensitization 5. Any other Matters

AGENDA			
#	Time	Topic	Presenter(s)
1	9:00 - 9:05	Welcome & Meeting Called to Order	S. Rosado
2	9:05 – 9:10	CZMAI-BSOP Technical Capacity Update	S. Rosado
2	9:10 - 9:25	Technical Working Group Update	S. Rosado
3	9:25 - 9:45	Update on Workplan	S. Rosado
4	9:45 – 10:00	Website Development Update	J. McNab
5	10:00 – 10:20	Public Sensitization	S. Rosado & J. McNab
6	10:20- 10:30	Other matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadlines and scheduling feedback 	J. McNab
7	10:35-10:40	Close of Meeting	S. Rosado

Annex II: Draft Technical Working Group Meeting Agenda



**INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BELIZE SUSTAINABLE OCEAN PLAN
(BSOP) TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS**

Best Western Plus Belize Biltmore Plaza, River Hall
Thursday, March 30th, 2023
9:00 am to 11:45 am

Meeting Objectives:

- i. Provide an overview of the Blue Bond Agreement and Conservation Commitments.
- ii. Provide an overview and update on the Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan.
- iii. Review the Technical Working Group Terms of Reference
- iv. Discussion on Next Steps

AGENDA

Time	Item	Presenter
9:00 – 9:05 AM	Welcome Address	Mrs. Arlene Young, <i>Director, CZMAI</i>
9:05 – 9:10 AM	Review of Agenda	Mr. Samir Rosado, <i>MSP Process Lead, CZMAI</i>
9:10 – 9:20 AM	Overview of the Blue Bond Agreement <i>(Q&A- 5 mins.)</i>	Mr. Belizario Carballo, <i>Technical Officer, Blue Bond & Finance Permanence Unit</i>
9:20 – 9:50 AM	Overview of Marine Spatial Planning and Conservation Commitments <i>(Q&A- 5 mins.)</i>	Mr. Samir Rosado, <i>MSP Process Lead, CZMAI</i>
9:50 – 10:15 AM	Update on Progress with the Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan (BSOP) <i>(Q&A- 5 mins.)</i>	Ms. Janel McNab <i>MSP Coordinator, CZMAI</i>
10:15 – 10:30 AM	BREAK	
10:30 – 11:30 AM	Review of Technical Working Groups Terms of Reference <i>(Q&A- 5 mins.)</i>	Mr. Samir Rosado, <i>MSP Process Lead, CZMAI</i>
11:30 – 11:40 AM	Discussion on Next Steps	Mr. Samir Rosado, <i>MSP Process Lead, CZMAI</i>
11:40 – 11:45 PM	Closing Statement	Mr. Samir Rosado, <i>MSP Process Lead, CZMAI</i>
11:45 AM	ADJOURNMENT	



Belize Fund For A Sustainable Future



The Nature Conservancy Belize



Annex III: Flyers for Community Outreach Meeting: Punta Gorda, Placencia and Belize City.



PUNTA GORDA LET'S TALK MSP

Thursday 23rd March 2023

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Social Security Board Meeting Room



Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan



Come out and learn about the Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan and how you can be involved!

Email us at bsop@coastalzonebelize.org for more info



PLACENCIA LET'S TALK MSP

Friday 24th March 2023

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Placencia Community Center



Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan



Come out and learn about the Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan and how you can be involved!

Email us at bsop@coastalzonebelize.org for more info



BELIZE CITY LET'S TALK MSP

Wednesday 29th March 2023

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

**ITVET – Dining Room
Freetown Road Belize City**



Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan



Come out and learn about the Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan and how you can be involved!

Email us at bsop@coastalzonebelize.org for more info

Annex VI: Community Outreach Meeting Agenda.

CONTENT

1. Blue Bonds context
2. Belize MSP Milestones
3. What is a Marine Spatial Planning
4. Who is leading the MSP
5. Why is an MSP important
6. MSP efforts to date
7. Governance and Process Framework
8. ICZM Plan and MSP Scope
9. Complementary Efforts- PFP
10. Stakeholder Engagement in MSP Process
11. MSP Characteristics and Process
12. Engagement Road Map
13. Engagement Phase 1
14. Launch of BSOP
15. Feedback on preferred methods of engagement for the MSP process

