



Belize Fund For A Sustainable Future



The Nature Conservancy Belize



BELIZE SUSTAINABLE OCEAN PLAN

31st Core Team Meeting

February 16th, 2024

Duration of meeting: 9:10 am – 11:00 am

Location: Belize Fisheries Department Conference Room & Zoom Virtually

Minutes

Meeting Objectives:

1. To provide an update on the Ocean Use Survey
2. To provide an update on Milestone 4
3. To provide an update on the Monitoring and Evaluation Consultancy
4. Any other Matters

Present:

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

Chad Bowman - MSP Science Lead, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

Shari Banner- Gentle - Communications & Public Relations Officer, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

Chantalle Samuels - CEO, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

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

Jamani Balderamos – Marine Spatial Plan Specialist, The Nature Conservancy

Wendy Casasola – Conservation Program Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy

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

Beverly Wade – Directory, Blue Bond & Finance Permanence Unit

Alicia Eck-Nunez – Fisheries Officer, The Belize Fisheries Department

Carlie Gillett – Blue Economy Officer, Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation

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 9:00 am.	
1.2	The agenda was presented, the meeting objectives reviewed and accepted. Annex I	
Science and Technical Update: Ocean Use Survey (OUS)		
2.1	<p>The MSP Science Lead provided an update on participatory mapping via the OUS, noting that 40% of communities have been completed. Sectors were overviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fisheries: Hot spots include managed access areas six (6) and seven (7), with representation of 270 commercial fishers, 151 sport fishers, and 22 non-commercial fishers. - Maritime Administration: Areas are used for security, transportation, and services. - Marine and Coastal Ecosystems: Areas are used for protection, research, and restoration. - Tourism: Key areas include managed access areas six (6) and seven (7) and along Ambergris Caye to Bacalar Chico. - Marine and Coastal Development: Limited representation, with only 9 sectors covered. - General Use: Majority usage near the shoreline, with 216 representations. <p>Overall OUS statistics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 259 surveys conducted - 946 participants represented - 321 sectors covered 	
2.2	<p>Upcoming communities to be surveyed:</p> <p>February 15th-19th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Riversdale - Seine Bight - Placencia - Maya Beach - Independence/ Mango Creek <p>February 20th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monkey River - Punta Negra <p>February 21st:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barranco <p>February 22nd-25th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Punta Gorda, Forest Home & Cattle Landing 	<p>Clarification request by member of the Core Team (CT):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On the Marine and Coastal Ecosystems layer, to understand the specific information being presented. - Sought clarification on whether the layer simply shows where research is conducted or if it displays the significance of those areas and organizes the information systematically. - Inquired about the methodology used to determine sample sizes per community, aiming to

		<p>understand the level of confidence in surveying an adequate number of individuals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raised the question of how communities with low participation rates would be addressed to increase the numbers. - Discussed the potential integration of this new development into the existing workplan.
<p>2.3</p>	<p>The MSP Science Lead, MSP Process Lead and MSP Specialist responded to the questions asked accordingly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicating that the M&C Ecosystems layer shows areas/polygons where works are being done to protect species or restoration works are done. - For the reporting, there area series of question that was asked to the respondent regarding the type of works being done, that gives more depth to the polygons displayed. - Regarding the sample size, the mythology used was prescribed by the University of Santa Barbra for the OUS that was previously used. It gives a limit to municipal contributions to the OUS and sector specific areas. - With regards to the village of Chunox, more work is needed to be done. Grouping of the villages of Chunox and Copper Bank and utilise Sarteneja Alliance for Conservation and Development (SACD) to assist with the surveys to reach the targets. - A sample size formula that accounts for a margin of error and a level of certainty at 95% confidence level and 10% margin of error. When using the community population, a significantly smaller sample size was calculated that the community targets displayed. The same formula was used to calculate sample size for the individual sectors. Sum of the targets calculated using the formula for the individual sectors. - Regarding the assistance of comanagers and other organizations to assist with carrying out surveys is already in the survey dates. - Targeted individuals can do the surveys online. 	
<p>Communications Updates</p>		
<p>3.1</p>	<p>The MSP Communications and Public Relations Officer provided an update on changes made to the BSOP to accommodate the OUS link and appointment platform. This is to accommodate persons who like to make an appointment with a facilitator or for those who would like to do it independently. There is also a demo video that provides details</p>	

	on how to do the survey. Innumerators that have been participating in the process so far can assist with conducting the facilitated survey.	
Milestone 4 Updates		
4.1	<p>The MSP Process Lead provided an update on key decision were made during several meeting between CZMAI and Belize Fisheries Department (BFD).</p> <p>January 11th, 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forgo establishment of a biodiversity protection zone (BPZ) technical committee. - To streamline activities through CZMAI and BFD and the MSP/BSOP established governance structure. - Meeting with co-managers and other NGOs to understand historical analysis that has been done. - Pending is the handing over of existing medium PBZ validation. <p>February 5th, 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refine draft workplan identifying challenges and barriers. 	
	<p>The MSP Process Lead expressed the key requirements of Milestone 4 workplan, highlighting the reporting requirements of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zone objectives, - Description of the area - Biodiversity representation - Existing maritime zones - Threats or pressures - With optional parts of possible future usage and climate change considerations. <p>A workplan was developed, with joint efforts identifying eleven (11) major activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participatory mapping using SeaSketch Tool - Application of Marxan Tool - Hiring of project assistant/facilitator - Identification of potential areas for BPZs - Development of a compatibility matrix - Determining zoning design and framework - Stakeholder Engagement - Legal drafting and ratification of SI - Submission to BBFP Unit - Submission to BBIC - Delivery of Milestone 4 	
Other Matters		
5.1	The MSP Process Lead and MSP Specialist provided an update on the M&E Consultancy. Indicated that consultants identified that the current goals and objectives, are outdated and need to be refocused.	

	<p>This is to be discussed with the Steering Committee as the goals and objectives were developed at that level.</p> <p>To address the Blue Economy Goals and Objectives, as it needs to be reframed to create the environment for Blue Economy growth.</p> <p>What is the right approach to adjusting the existing goals and conditions, question posed to the CT and SC.</p>		
Closing of Meeting			
6.1	<p>Next Core Team meeting tentative date on Thursday February 29th, 2024. Occurring every two (2) weeks up until the delivery of Milestone 4 in November.</p> <p>MSP Process Lead ended the meeting at 10:10 am.</p>		
Action Items			
<i>Item #</i>	<i>Next Steps</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Date</i>
1	To have workplan update leading up to the delivery of milestone 4.	Continuous	02/2024
2	To send to the CT the workplan to receive feedback	Completed	29/02/2024
3	To have agenda sent CT five (5) days in advance to be reviewed by CT members.	Continuous	26/02/2024
4	Spanish version of the OUS guideline video	In process	29/02/2024
5	To finalise the grouping of the TWGs sectors.	Completed	22/02/2024
6	To circulate the Project Assistant/Faciliatory Terms of Reference for review by CT	Pending	

Minutes submitted by:

Janel McNab, MSP Coordinator of CZMAI

Approved



Mr. Samir Rosado
Marine Spatial Plan Process Lead,
CZMAI

26 February 2024

Date

Annex 1: Meeting Agenda




31st BSOP Core Team Meeting
Agenda

Date	Thursday February 16 th , 2024		
Time	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (BZE local time)		
Format	Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83185777108?pwd=wrbUx1hxSpSQVaWbJCEogppqxJleSuz.1		
Recorded	Yes		
Format	Presentation and discussions		
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide an update on Ocean Use Survey 2. To provide and update on Milestone 4 3. To provide and update on the Monitoring and Evaluation Consultancy 4. Other Matters 		
AGENDA			
#	Time	Topic	Presenter(s)
1	9:00 – 9:05	Welcome & Meeting Called to Order	S. Rosado
2	9:05 – 9:10	Update on action items from 30 th Core Team Meeting, January 11 th .	S. Rosado
3	9:10 – 9:30	Science & Technical: OUS Update	C. Bowman
4	9:30 – 9:40	Communication Updates	S. Gentle
5	9:40 – 10:30	Milestone 4 Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update on Potential Areas for BPZs - Workplan - Technical Working Groups Rationalization 	S. Rosado
6	10:30 - 10:40	Other Matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - M&E Consultancy 	ALL
7	11:00	Close of Meeting	S. Rosado