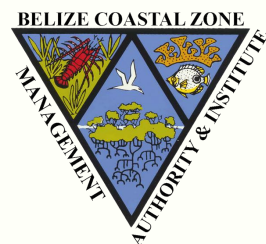




Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

Multi-Stakeholder MSP Workshop 1: Assessments for Planning

May 8 – 10, 2024- Day 1
Belize Biltmore Plaza Hotel, Belize City





Workshop Purpose

- Kickoff participatory spatial planning activities to achieve Milestones 4 and 6 within the scope and goals of the larger BSOP process.
- Define and initiate key assessments to enable spatial planning.



Desired Outcomes

Day 1

- Understanding of key MSP steps and assessments
- Awareness of areas under consideration for new protections
- Current conditions considered
- Possible future scenarios developed

Day 2

- Planning criteria and indicators defined
- Compatible and incompatible uses identified
- Zoning approach defined

Day 3

- Understanding of the Ocean Use Survey (OUS) results
- OUS results verified
- Understanding how Marxan can inform and support the BSOP process

Agenda: Day 1

Time	Topic
9:30	Welcome, introductions, workshop overview
10:15	Setting the scene for planning
10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00	Marine Spatial Planning process overview
11:30	Areas under consideration for new Biodiversity Protection Zones
12:00	<i>Lunch, provided</i>
1:00	Rapid assessment of current conditions/uses
2:00	Future condition scenarios (part I)
3:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
3:15	Future condition scenarios (part II)
4:45	Closing session
5:00	Adjourn Day 1





Introductions

1. On 2 Post-It Notes, and write down:
 - 1 thing you hope to learn in this workshop
 - 1 thing you have to contribute
2. With the people at your table, share:
 - your name
 - the organization or sector you represent
 - 1 thing you wrote down
3. Post your notes on the designated flip charts



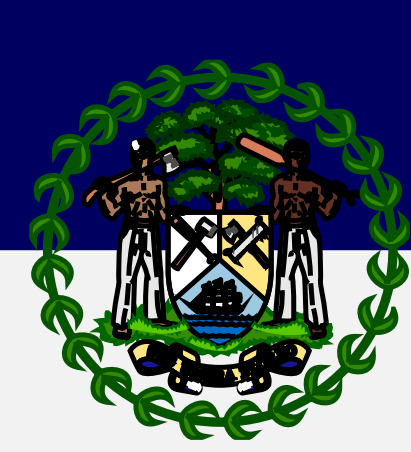
Housekeeping

- Restrooms are located outside of the building on the left.
 - Exit the main doors and turn right to leave the building.
- Breaks, snacks & lunch will be provided
- Wifi network: BSOP Workshop
- Wifi password: WORKSHOP2024



Ground rules for participation

1. Arrive and return from breaks on time.
2. Listen with an open mind. Assume good intent and refrain from side conversations or interrupting.
3. Seek first to understand, then to be understood.
4. Raise your hand to ask clarifying questions.
5. Share relevant information concisely and stay on topic.
6. Focus on interests, not positions.
7. Agree on the meaning of key words.
8. Silence phones. Take calls and check emails during a break.



SETTING THE SCENE FOR PLANNING

Safira Vasquez, Senior Technical Officer
Belizario Carballo, Technical Officer

May 8th 2024

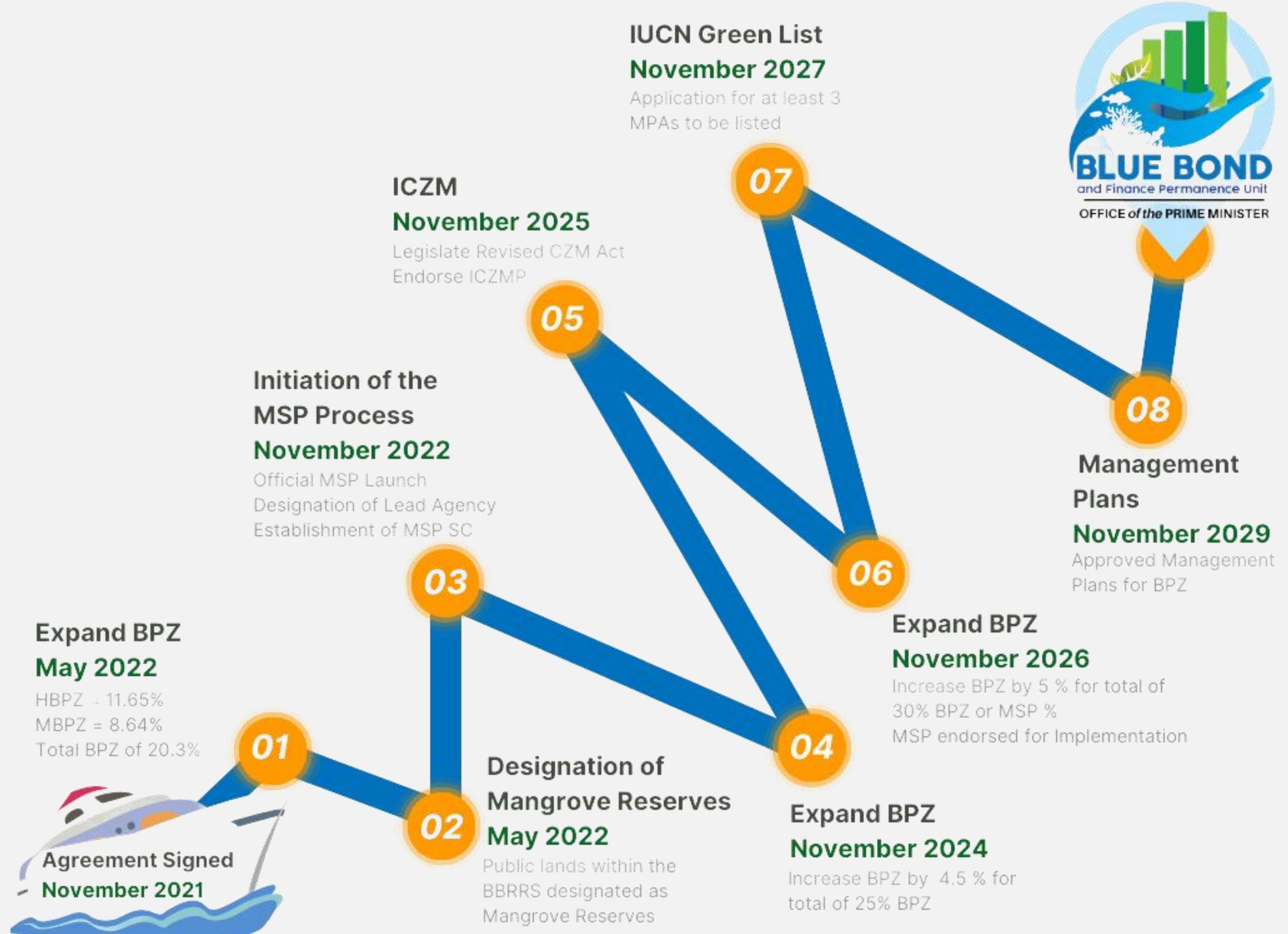


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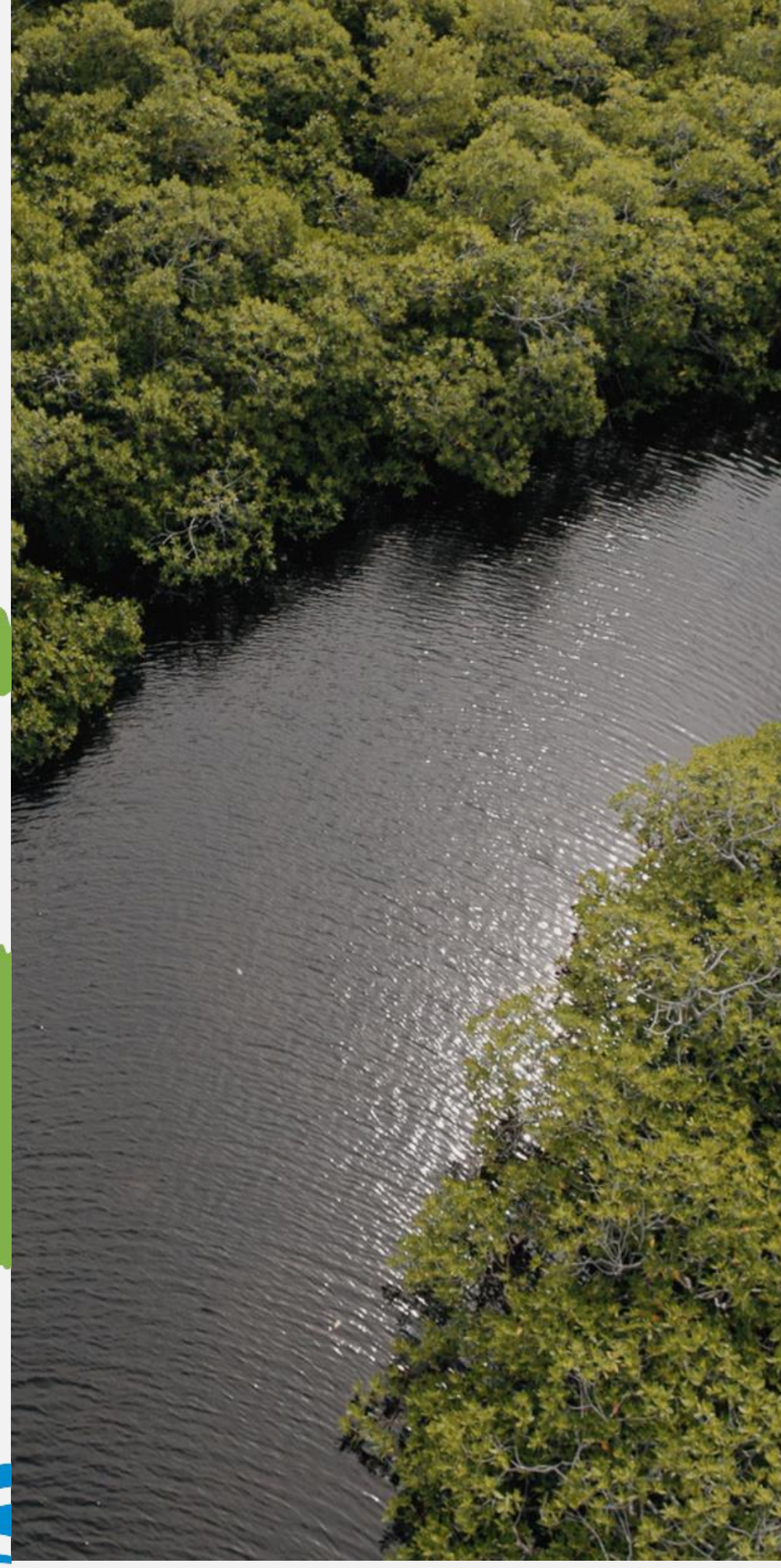
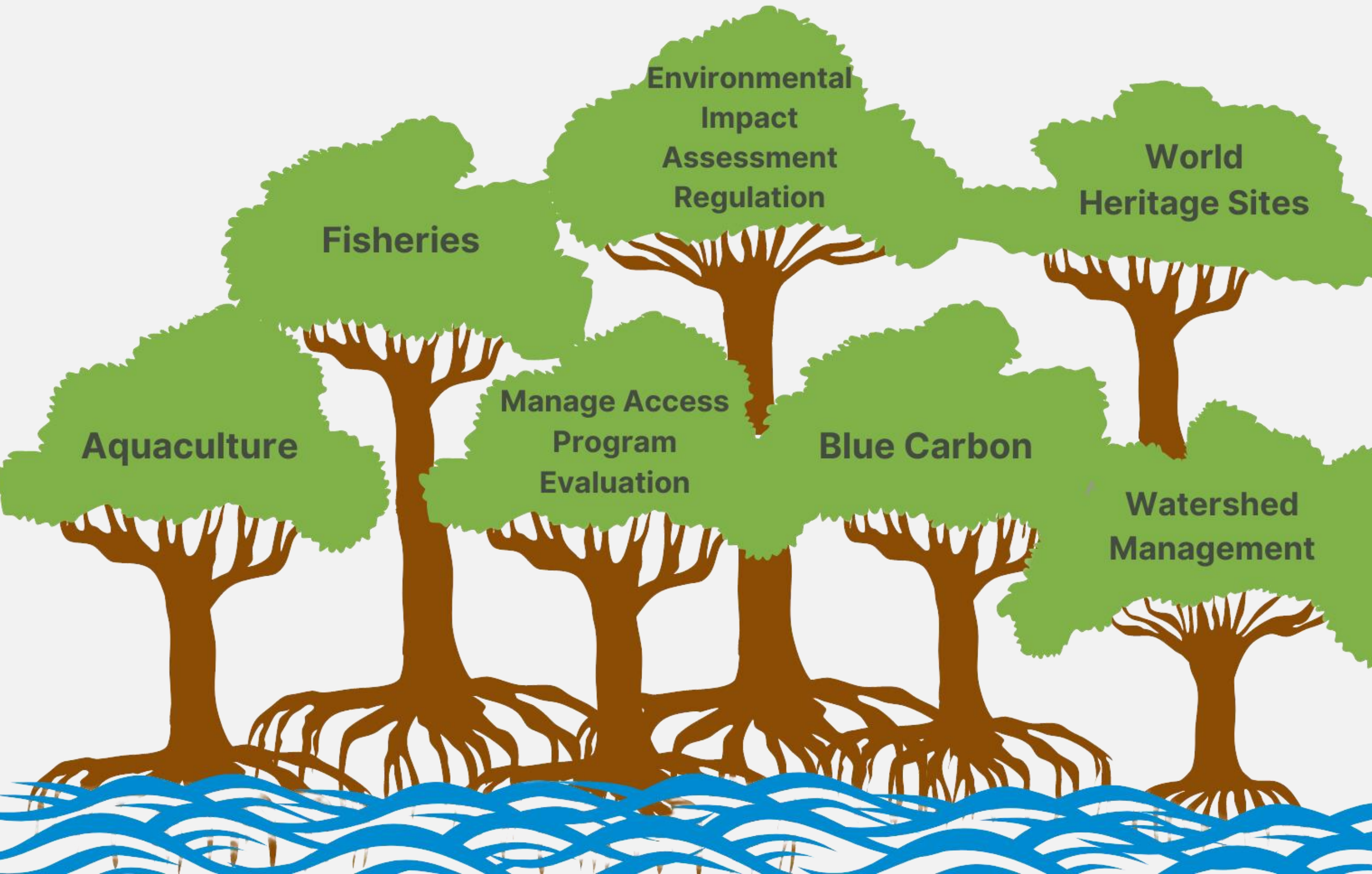
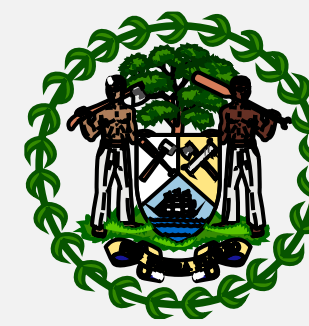
Review of Conservation Commitments and MSP Milestones	-----	01
Revised BSOP Vision, Goals	-----	02
BSOP Governance Framework	-----	03
People-Centric Conservation Agenda	-----	04



Conservation Milestones



Conservation Milestones





Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan

The development, approval, and implementation of a legally enforceable Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) known as the Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan (BSOP) is one of the key deliverables under the Blue Bond Agreement.

The BSOP is central to the realization of Belize's obligations to protect up to 30% of Belize's total ocean space and to a successful National Blue Economy.





BSOP Vision

A healthy, resilient, and equitably shared ocean that supports a thriving national economy and nurtures the culture and well-being of all Belizeans.





BSOP Overarching Goal

To enact and publish legislation required to legally enforce the Marine Spatial Plan that guides sustainable development and designates up to 30% of Belize's ocean as Biodiversity Protection Zones.



Governance Framework for Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan

Executive Management

Government of Belize
MSP Lead Agency: Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute

Executive Committee
Chair: CEO Office of the Prime Minister
Members: Ministry of Blue Economy & Civil Aviation; Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change & Disaster Management; Ministry of Natural Resources; Solicitor General; and the Financial Secretary



Development Level for Decision Making

BSOP Steering Committee (SC)
Chair: Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute
Members: Senior level government officers, non-governmental stakeholders from sectors/areas including fisheries, coastal zone management, tourism, water resources, shipping, environment, finance, academia and energy

BSOP Core Team
Blue Bonds & Finance Permanence Unit, Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute, Fisheries Department, Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation, The Nature Conservancy

Public Input Mechanisms

Stakeholder Engagement

- Community Meetings
- Consultations
- Focus Groups
- Forums
- Open Houses
- Website



Technical Advisory Groups

Technical Working Groups

- Energy
- Finance and Investment
- Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Marine and Coastal Development
- Marine and Coastal Ecosystems
- Maritime Administration
- Tourism



Core Team Working Sub-Groups

- Stakeholder Engagement & Communications**
- Science & Technical**
- Policy & Legislation**



MSP Milestones and Timelines



BPZ EXPANSION MAY 2022

Expansion of HBPZ to 11.65% Belize having MPBZ of 8.64% TOTAL BPZ and MPAs of 20.3%



BPZ EXPANSION NOVEMBER 2024

Expand BPZ to 25% with an increase to Milestone 1 of 4.7%



BPZ MANAGEMENT PLANS NOVEMBER 2029

Approved Management Plans for BPZ

**BLA AND CFA
NOV 2021**
Signing of the Agreement (BLA and CFA)



**MSP PROCESS
NOVEMBER 2022**
Official Launch of the MSP Process (October)



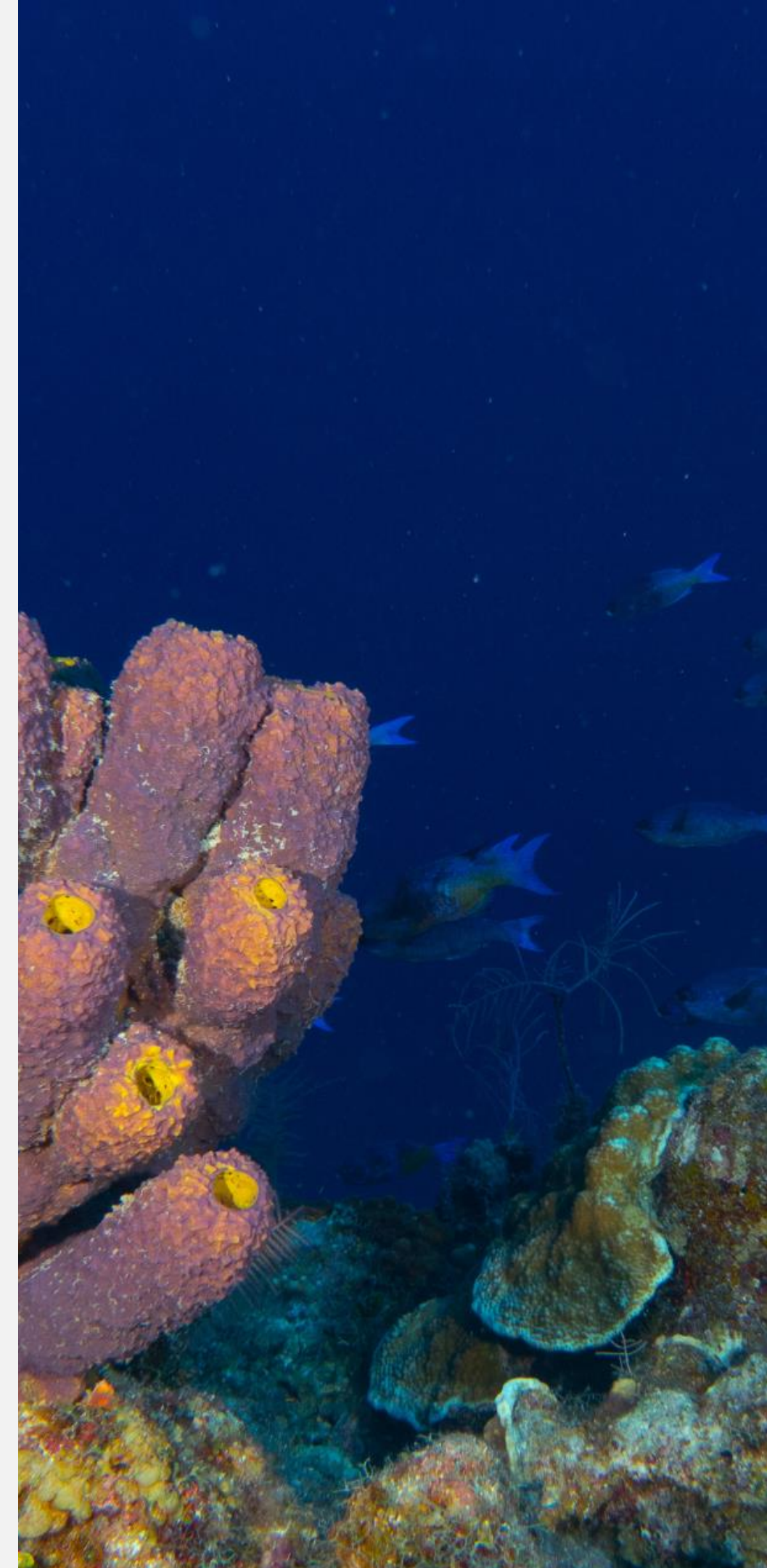
**BPZ EXPANSION
NOVEMBER 2026**
Complete BPZ (additional 5%) for 30% OR MSP%



Designation of Lead Agency (CZMAI)

Establishment of MSP SC

MSP endorsed for implementation





People-Centric Conservation Agenda

In September of 2023, Cabinet Approved “A People-Centric Conservation Agenda (PCCA) for Belize’s Blue Space.”

The PCCA will be implemented through the Resilient Bold Belize (RBB), a Project Finance for Permanence for Belize’s marine and coastal protected areas.





People-Centric Conservation Agenda

This agenda will include a framework consisting of three key commitments for marine and coastal conservation:

- Triple the area of Belizean coral reefs that are under full protection, from the current 7% to 20%, and identify the most advantageous places to increase coral reef protection.



THANK YOU



infobbbfp@opm.gov.bz



**Belize Blue Bonds: Blue Finance
for Nature and People**

<https://2ly.link/1vxUt>



FOLLOW US ON



Blue Bond & Finance
Permanence Unit



@bbfpunit



@BelizeBlueBond





COFFEE BREAK

15 minutes

Blue Bonds for Ocean Conservation

Marine Spatial Planning Process Overview

May 8, 2024

Chantal Collier

The Nature
Conservancy 

What is Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)?

“A public process of analysing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives that are usually specified through a political process.”

- *MSP global, 2021*

- Globally recognised way to manage ocean space
- More than 300 MSP initiatives in 40+ countries
- Ecosystem-based management approach
- Stakeholder participation is a key to success



Why plan? Ocean Health. People.

Marine biodiversity protection and a well-managed ocean

BIODIVERSITY



FISHERIES



ENERGY



TOURISM and RECREATION



CULTURE and VALUES

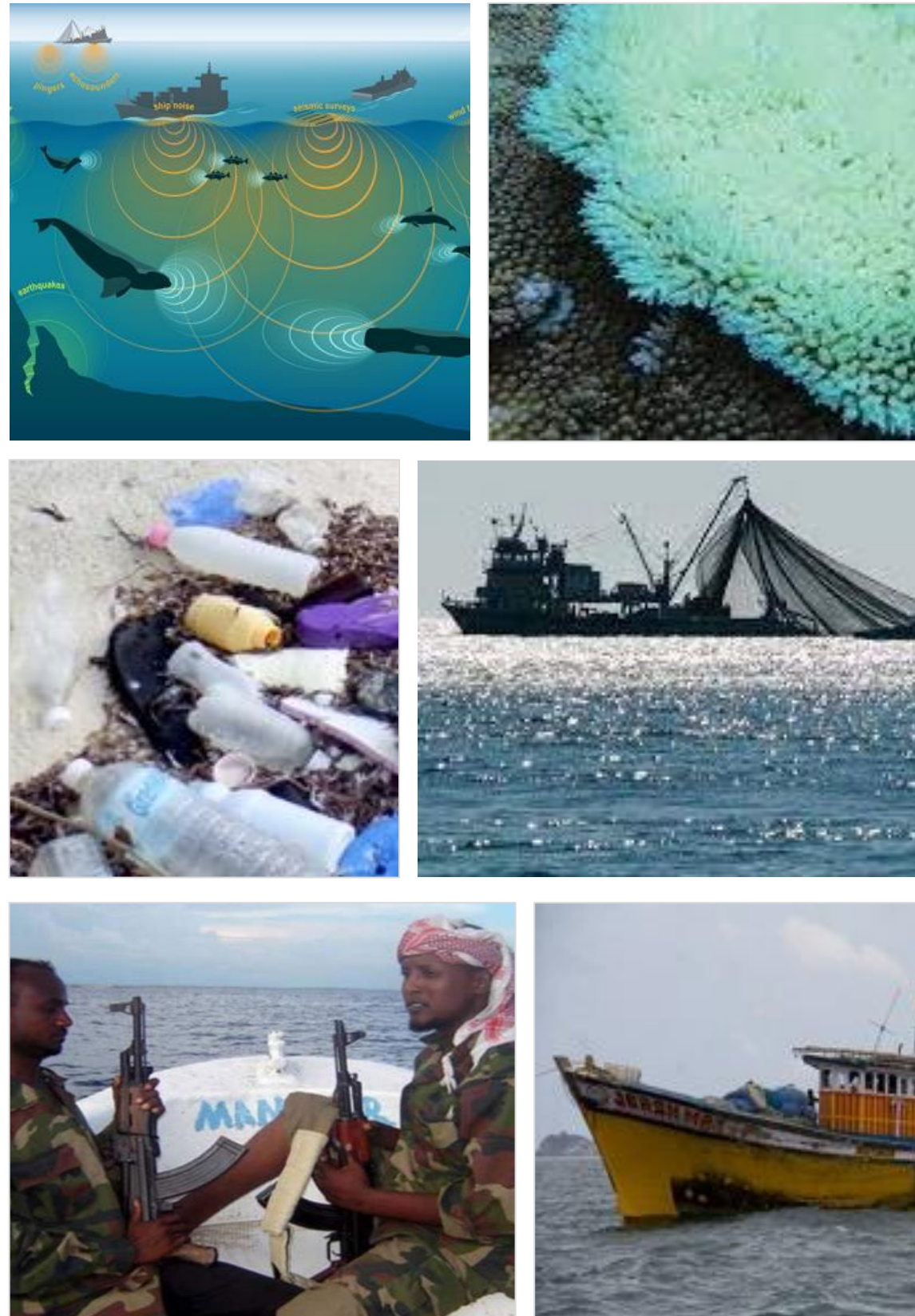


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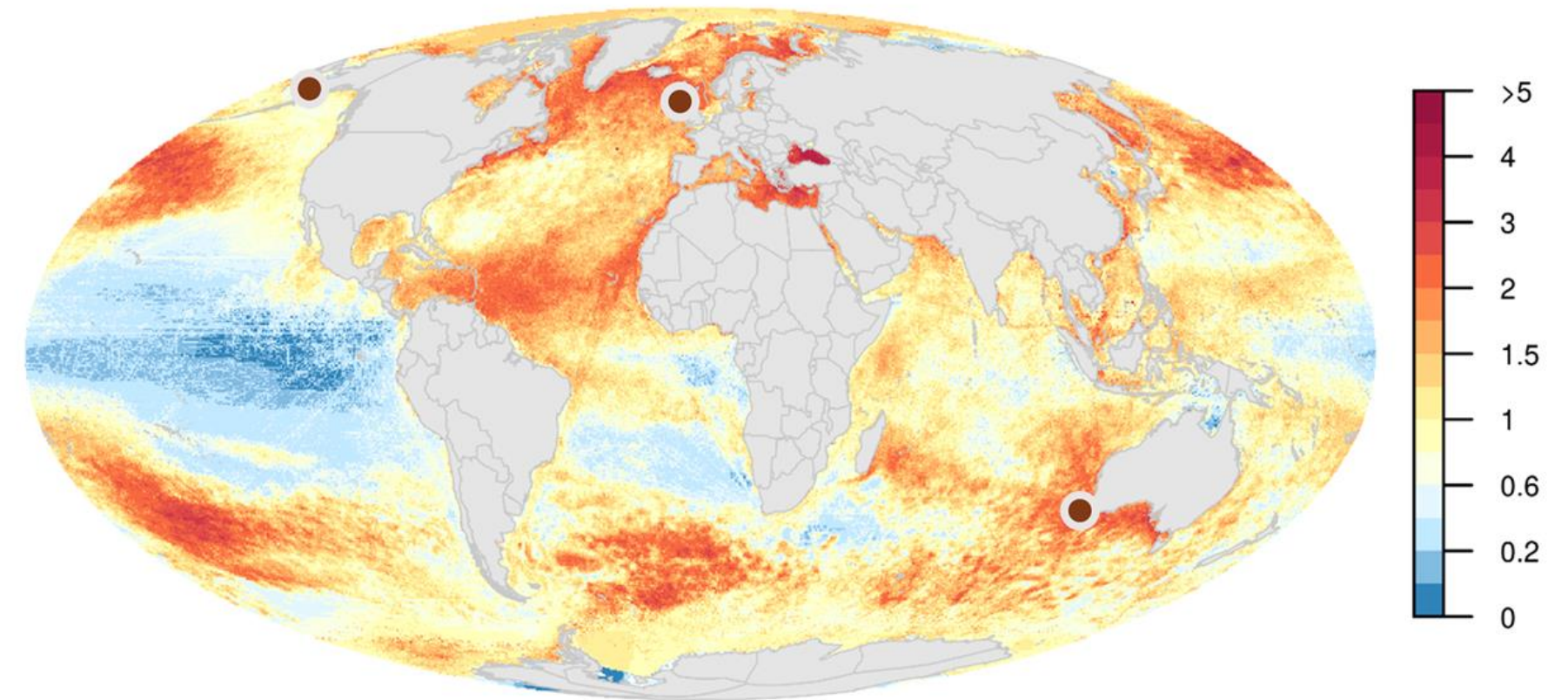
Why plan? Ocean Health. People.

Avoid and Reduce Human Impacts in the Ocean



b

Global cumulative human impact

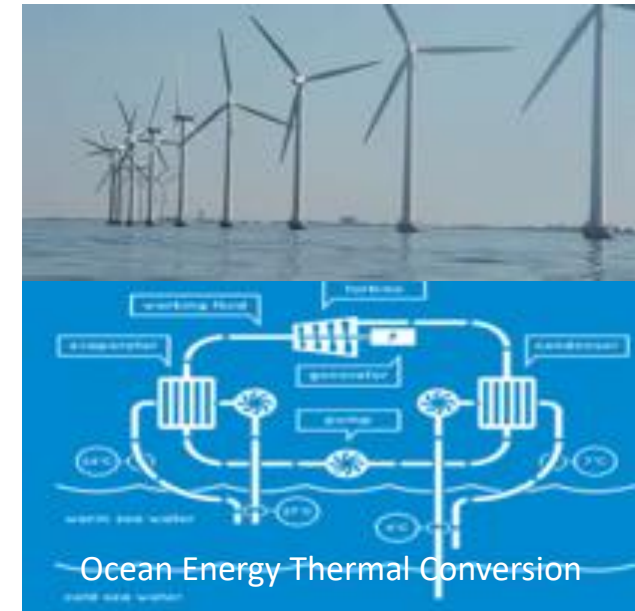
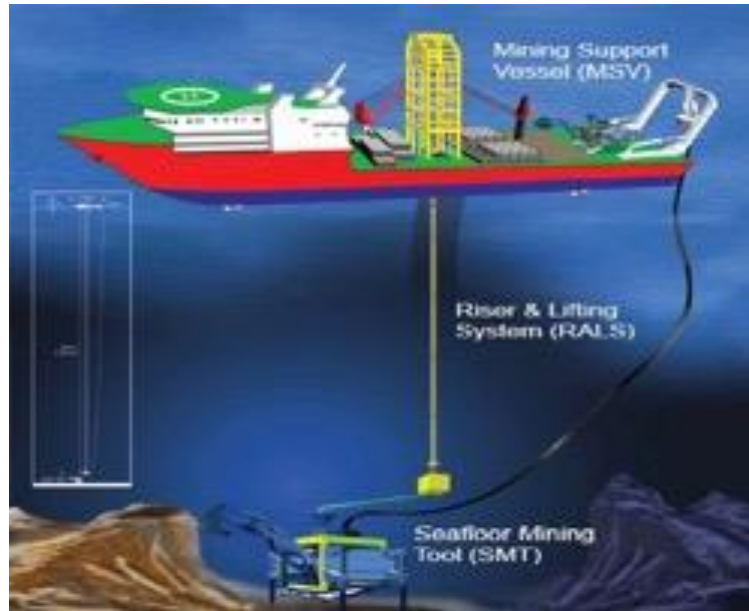


Halpern et al., 2019. Recent pace of change in human impact on world's ocean. Nature.

Figure 1. Global patterns of cumulative human impacts. (a) Annual change in CHI estimated using a linear regression model from 2003 to 2013 for each raster cell (white cells did not have a statistically significant trend, i.e., $p > 0.05$), Scale values reflect min and max raster values (-0.3 and 0.52) and 99.999th quantile values (-0.21 and 0.32). (b) Static map of 2013 CHI.

Why plan? Ocean Health. People.

Future Proof – Plan for Future Uses and Activities



DEEP-SEA
EXPLORATION
& MINING

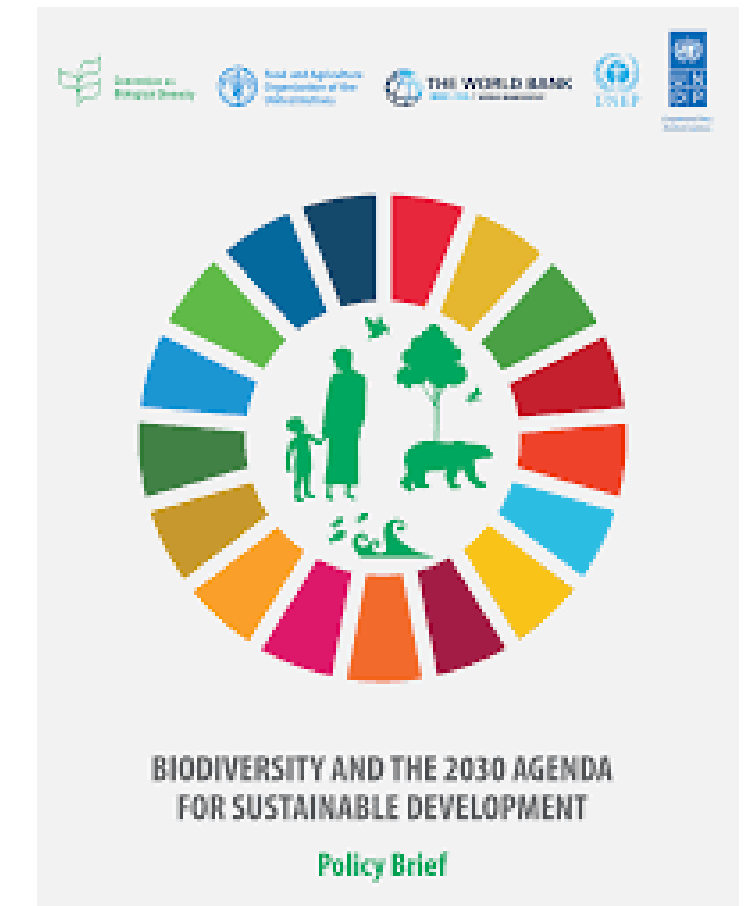
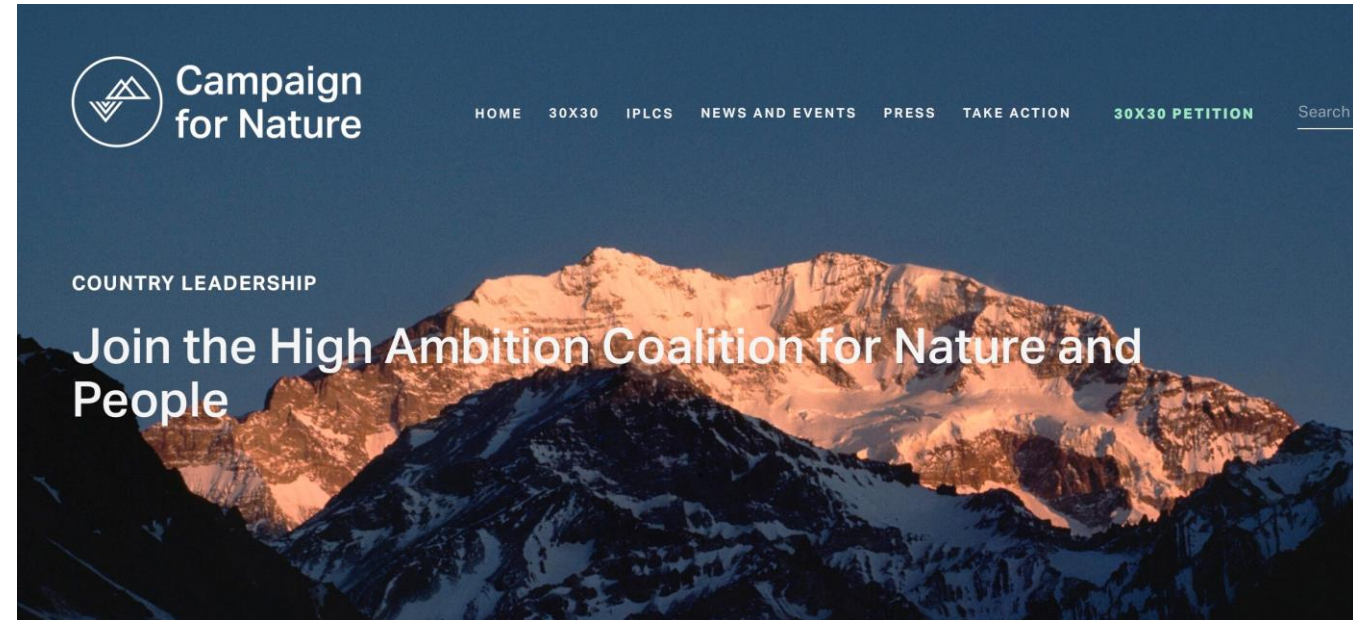
GLOBAL TOURISM
& TRAVEL

MARINE
RENEWABLE
ENERGY

BIO-
PROSPECTING

- ILLUSTRATIVE FUTURE USES -

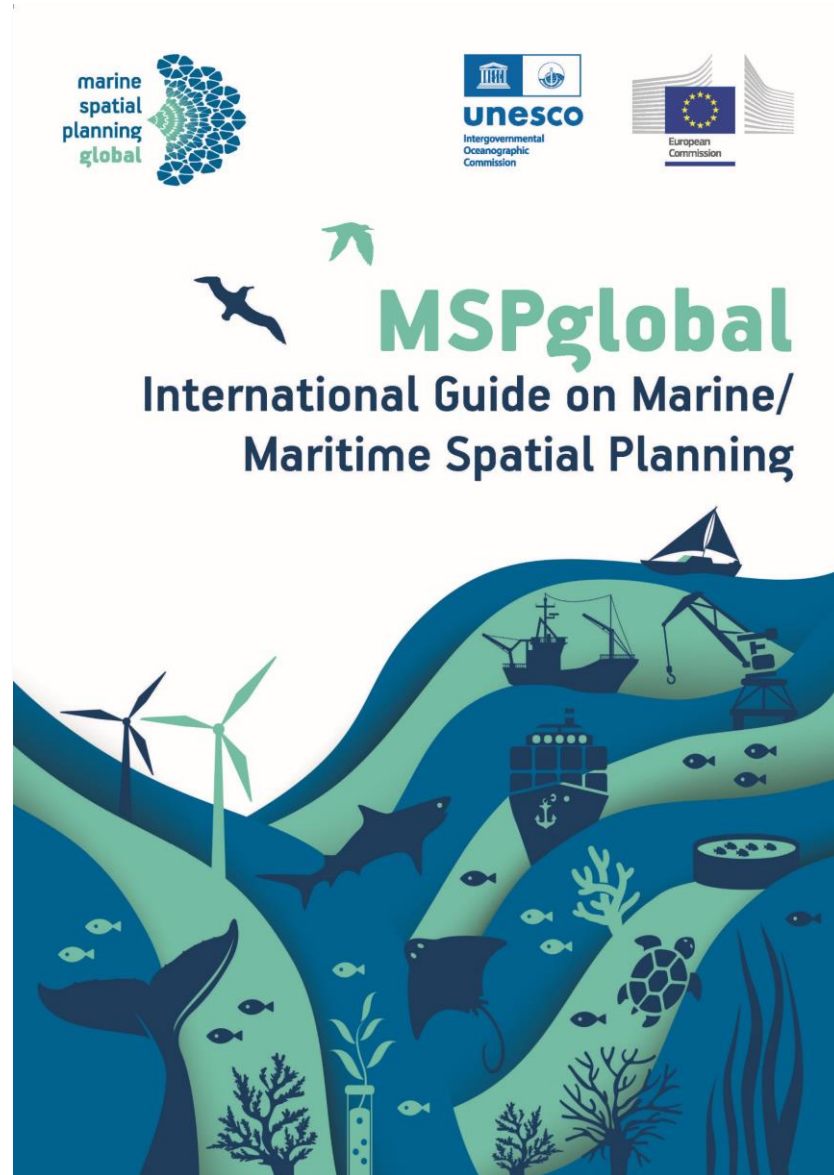
Why plan? Ocean Health. People. *Commitments, Policies, and Targets*



... and many more.

How does MSP work?

- MSP is an iterative process
- International 'best practices' have been compiled and published to support development and implementation of MSP processes worldwide
- IOC-UNESCO guides provide frameworks and guidance on key steps and assessments that are consistent with international best practices for MSP



MARINE **SPATIAL PLANNING**
A Step-by-Step Approach
toward Ecosystem-based Management

Developed with the financial support of

GORDON AND BETTY
MOORE
FOUNDATION

Additional support was provided by WWF-International and the government of Belgium.

The David and Lucile
Packard
FOUNDATION

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

MAB

UNESCO's "Step-by-step Approach for Marine Spatial Planning toward Ecosystem-based Management" offers a 10-step guide on how to get a marine spatial plan started in your region. Explore the guide by choosing steps here.

[Download Guide](#)
(PDF 1.5MB)

STEP 1 Establishing Authority

STEP 2 Obtaining Financial Support

STEP 3 Organizing the MSP Process

STEP 4 Engaging Stakeholders

STEP 5 Analyzing Existing Conditions

STEP 6 Analyzing Future Conditions

STEP 7 Developing the Plan

STEP 8 Implementing the Plan

STEP 9 Evaluating Performance

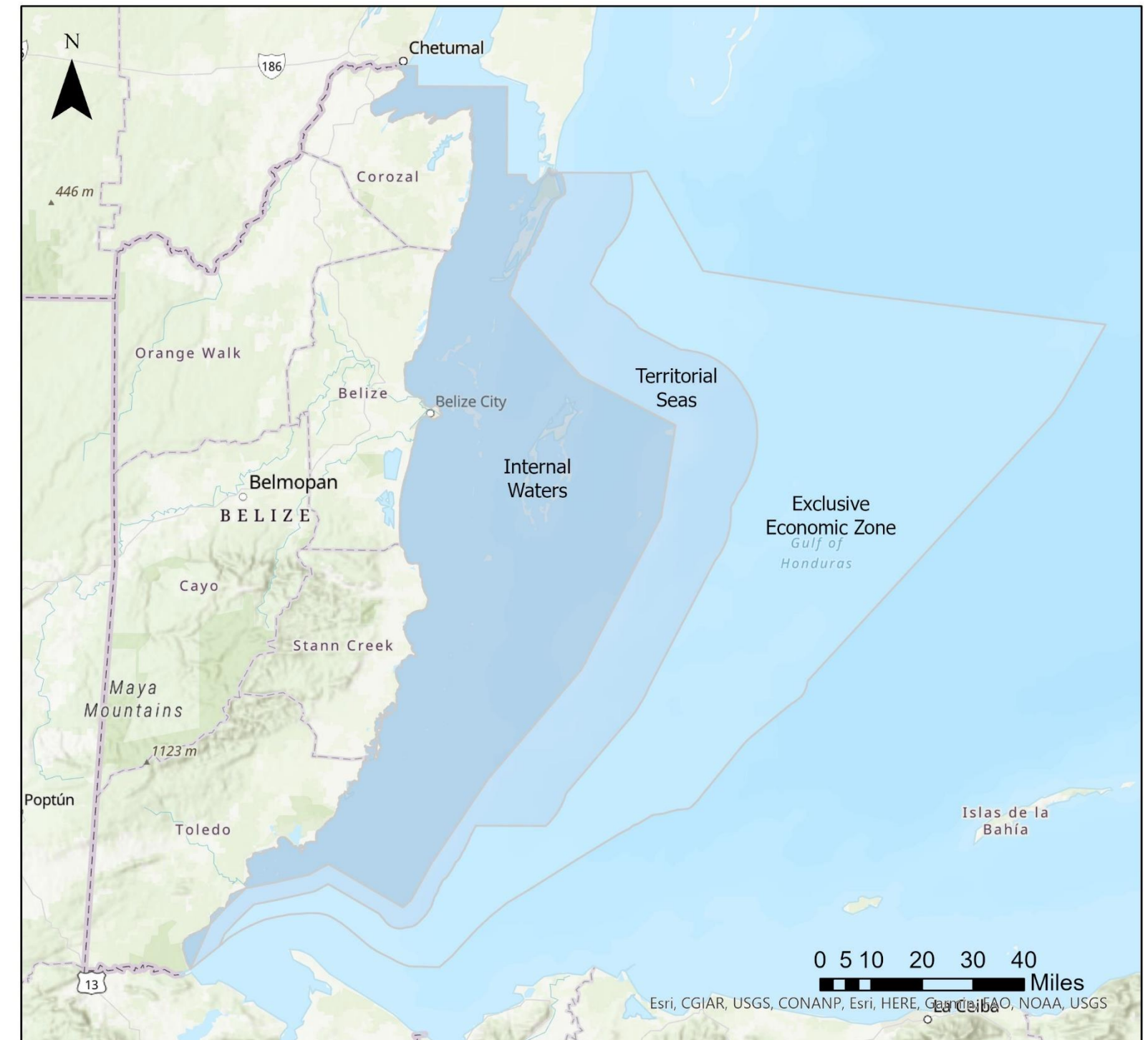
STEP 10 Adapting the Process

Belize's Conservation Commitments

As part of its debt conversion through the Blue Bonds for Ocean Conservation program, Belize committed to:

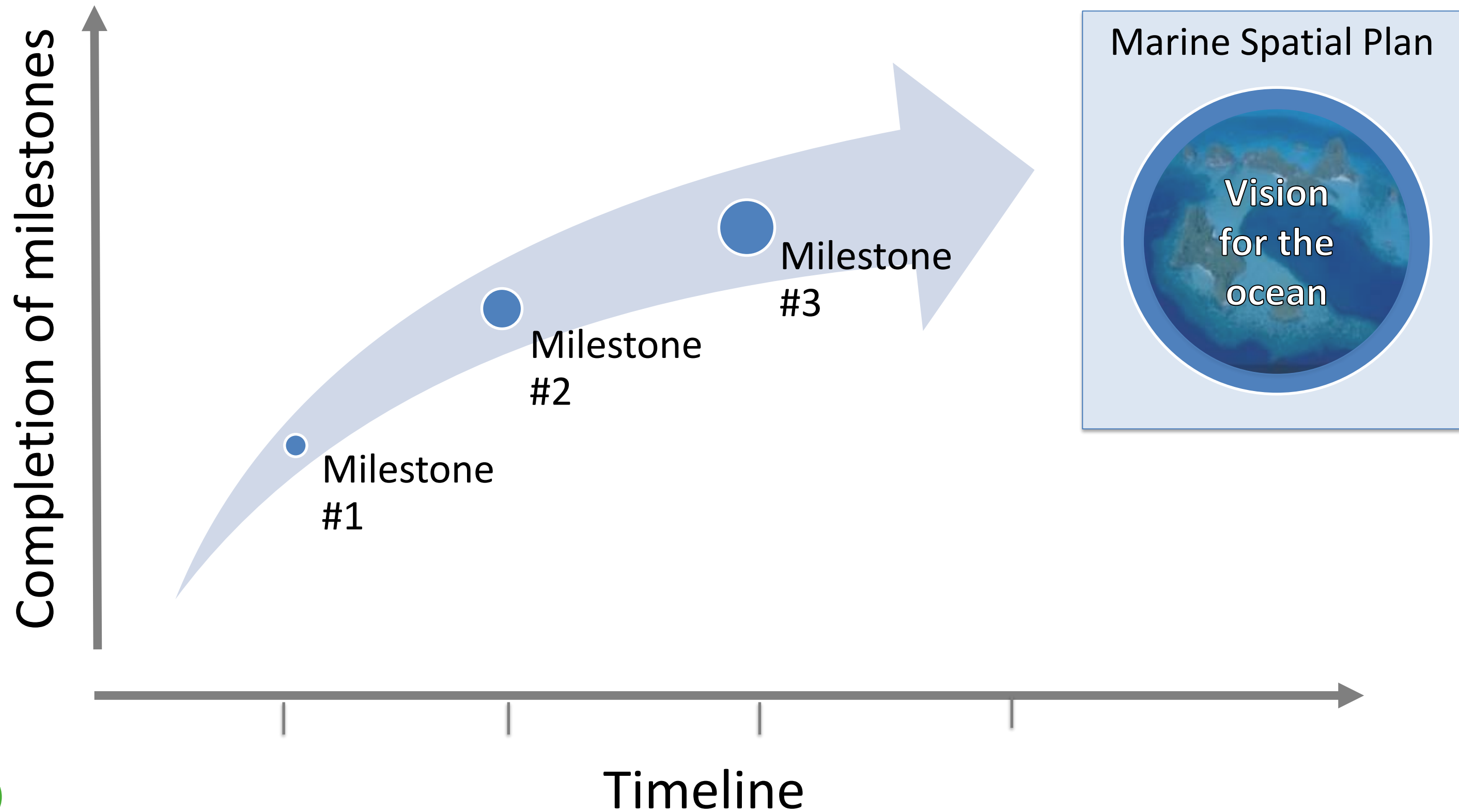
- complete a legally enforceable MSP,
- designate up to 30% of its Ocean in Biodiversity Protection Zones,
- other conservation commitments not addressed by the MSP.

Maritime Areas of Belize



Milestones

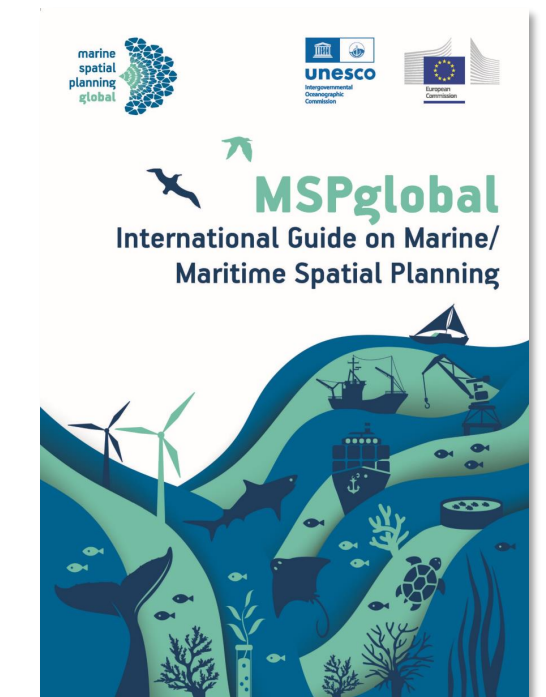
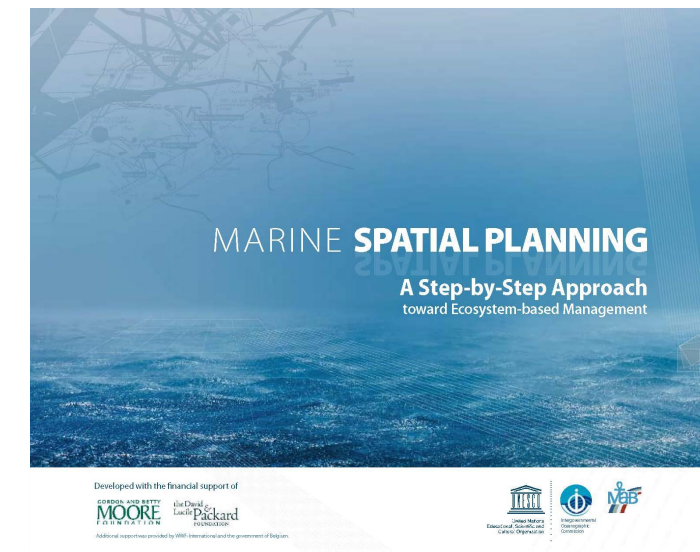
Markers along the road map to the Conservation Commitments



Belize's Conservation Commitments

The Marine Spatial Plan

- The MSP shall include marine conservation outcomes for biodiversity protection and denote, in reasonable detail, the permissible activities that may be lawfully carried on in any part of Belize's Ocean.
- The MSP shall:
 1. expand the percentage of Belize's Ocean in Biodiversity Protection Zones to whichever is the lower of:
 - a. 30% of Belize's Ocean, with at least 15% in High Protection for Biodiversity Zones and 15% in Medium Protection for Biodiversity Zones, or
 - b. The percentage stated in the MSP.
 2. provide that all Biodiversity Protection Zones be Gazetted and submitted to the relevant international authority (e.g., the WDPA, IMO, IHO)
 3. contain an Implementation Plan
 4. be legally enforceable, and
 5. be Implemented.
- The MSP shall be completed consistent with frameworks set forth using international best practices, such as the IOC-UNESCO 2009 Guide, "[Marine Spatial Planning - A Step-by-Step Approach toward Ecosystem-based Management](#)".



[IOC-UNESCO MSPglobal. 2021. International Guide on Marine/Maritime Spatial Planning](#)

Sample Timeline with Key Steps for MSP

Where is Belize now?

BSOP Process
Years 1 - 2

BSOP Process
Years 1 – 5

Critical Steps for
BSOP Process
in 2024 (Year 3)

	Year									
MSP STEPS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
MARINE SPATIAL PLAN PROCESS										
MSP Inception Meeting/Workshop										
Organise the MSP process										
Organise Communications										
Organise Stakeholder Participation										
Define Current and Future Conditions										
Develop Planning Tools										
Science and Technical Work for Zones										
Optional Science and Consultancies										
Prepare Marine Spatial Plan										
IMPLEMENT MARINE SPATIAL PLAN										
Launch Implementation Plan										
Develop Management Plans										
Endorse Management Plans										
Legal Enforcement Starts										
Monitor, Adapt and Revise Marine Spatial Plan								→	→	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	

Key Steps & Assessments for BSOP Process in 2024 (Year 3)

2. Develop planning tools

- Geospatial database
- Web-based data viewer and planning tool(s)
- Compatibility matrix
- Zoning approach & Zoning framework
- MPA network design criteria

Table 5. Draft ocean zone typology for Vanuatu.

	General Use Zone (GUZ)/ Akses Solwota Eria (ASE)	Community Conservation Area (CCA)/ Kastom Manej-men Eria (KME)	Sustainable Use Zone (SUZ)/Garen Solwota Eria (GSE)	Limited Use Zone (LUZ) / Naseri Solwota Eria (NeSE)	No Take ⁶ Zone (NTZ)/ Notek Eria (NE)	Special Zone (SZ) / Spesel Solwota Eria (SSE)
Activities						
Commercial mining, exploration, prospecting (sand, gravel, aggregate, deep sea, oil, gas)*	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Non-commercial sand, gravel and aggregate mining	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	No	No		No
Industrial fishing* ¹	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No
Other non-artisanal fishing* includes take of sea cucumber, trochus, aquarium fish, coral, live rock, reef fish and charter fishing ²	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	No	No	No
Benthic disturbance (trawling/ dredging, weighted lines)*	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	No	Bl	No
Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs)*	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	No	No	tbd per site ⁴
Anchoring (including for cruise ships)	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	No	No	tbd per site ⁴
Walking/standing	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	No	No	tbd per site ⁴
Use of traps	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	No	No	tbd per site ⁴
Gleaning	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	No	No	tbd per site ⁴
Hand spearing	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	No	No	tbd per site ⁴
Netting (3 finger mesh, gill, cast, etc)	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	No	No	tbd per site ⁴
Hand-line fishing	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	Yes	No	tbd per site ⁴
Trolling	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	Yes	No	tbd per site ⁴
Non-extractive uses (diving swimming, snorkelling, kayaking/canoeing, sailing, boating etc) except research	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	Yes	Yes	tbd per site ⁴
Ecosystem restoration e.g. coral re-introduction, stock enhancement ⁸ , dams, removal of crown-of-thorns	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Research*	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mariculture ³	Yes	tbd per site ⁴	Yes	No	No	No
Hull maintenance/cleaning	Yes	tbd per site ⁵	No	No	No	No
Artificial modification* e.g. beach nourishment, restocking ⁵ , artificial reefs	By licence only	tbd per site ⁴	By licence only			
Works* (dredging, reclamation, building, laying of cables)	By licence only	tbd per site ⁵	By licence only	No	No	No
Dumping of solid and liquid waste including sew-age and ballast water from marine vessels beyond 12nm from shore ⁷	Yes	No	No	No	No	No

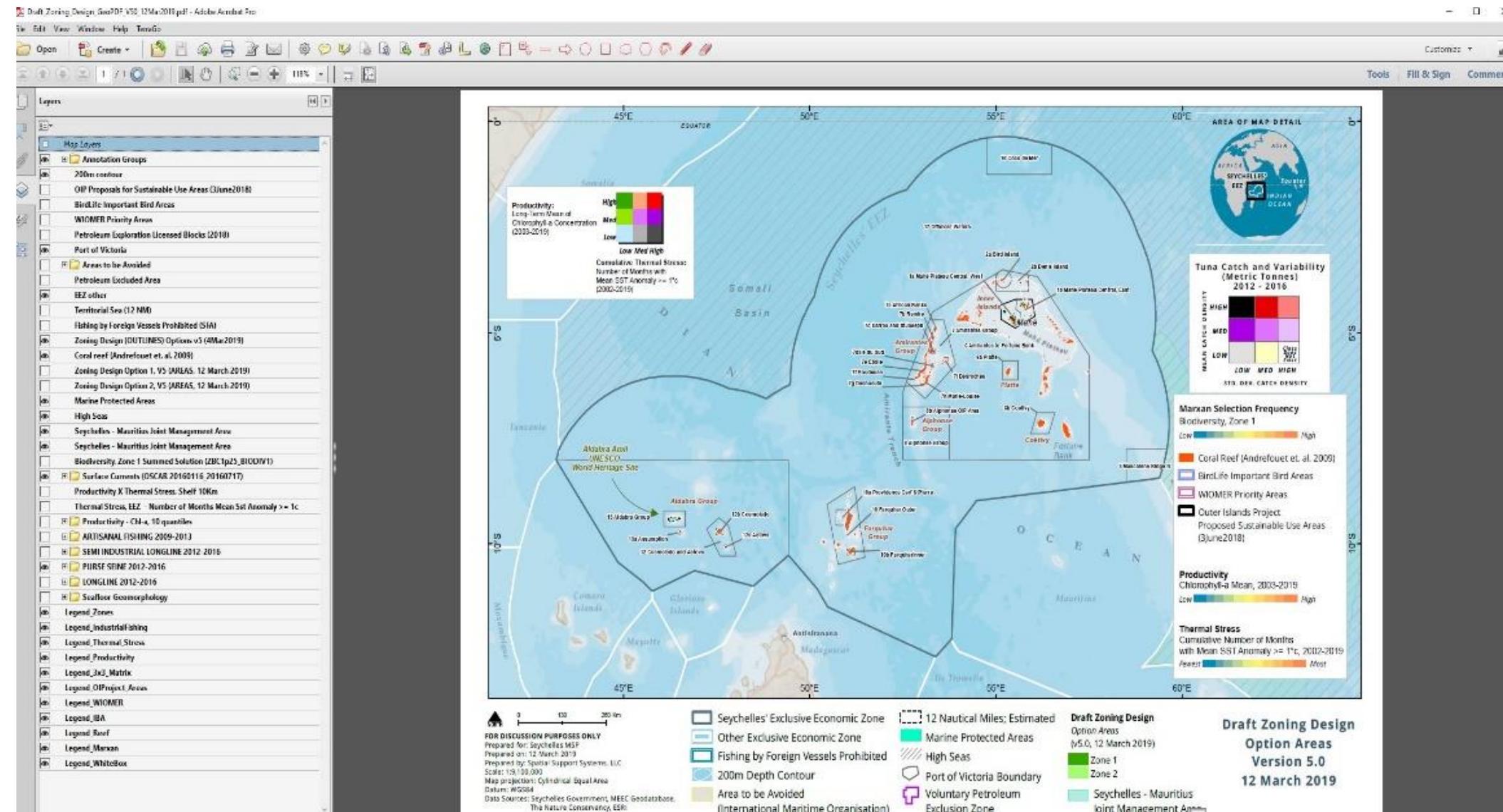
Example:

Draft ocean zone typology for Vanuatu (MACBIO. 2018. Developing a MSP: a toolkit for the Pacific).

Key Steps & Assessments for BSOP Process in 2024 (Year 3)

3. Science and technical work

- Create a resource library for the BSOP Core Team
- Map all habitats
- Map all sectors and uses
- Map all existing maritime zones
- MPA gap analysis
- Develop list of priority conservation features
- Scenarios for high priority areas for biodiversity (and other scenarios, e.g., for blue economy)
- Map stakeholder preferences and spatial priorities
- Develop zoning designs








Example: Draft zoning design for Seychelles (TNC).

Today: Identifying Existing Conditions & Uses in the BSOP Planning Area

BSOP Fact Sheet (CZMAI, 2023)

HOW WILL BSOP IMPROVE CURRENT SECTORS?			
FISHERIES  It aims to ensure that the identification and effective management of productive fisheries habitats or ecosystems are prioritized for the benefit of a thriving fishing industry.	COASTAL DEVELOPMENT  It will take into account coastal activities with the aim of striking a balance between development, conservation and management requirements to sustain the health of coasts and oceans.	TOURISM  It will establish an optimal allocation of tourism activities across the ocean, with the goal of securing the long-term sustainability of the industry while maintaining the healthy ecosystems that serve as its foundation.	SHIPPING AND PORTS  It will consider the location of deep-water channels and shipping lanes, as well as the maneuvering of ships and other navigation concerns to ensure that the shipping and transportation sector can continue to operate efficiently while minimizing negative impacts on the marine environment.

HOW WILL BSOP SUPPORT EMERGING SECTORS?				
MARICULTURE/ AQUACULTURE  It can help to identify best locations for mariculture operations that minimize environmental impacts, promote sustainable practices and support restorative functions.	BIO-PHARMACEUTICALS  It can assist in the identification of opportunities for both bio-pharmaceutical advancements and ecosystem services, while actively avoiding any negative environmental effects.	ECOSYSTEM SERVICES  It can identify areas that can contribute to the long-term prosperity of Belize's coastal communities that depend on the ocean by identifying key ecosystems and recommending best management practices that support economic growth and environmental sustainability.	OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY  It can help to inform Belize's transition towards a low-carbon economy and increase energy security by identifying areas within Belize's ocean space that are suitable for renewable energy development and considers impacts on marine ecosystems and the needs of coastal communities.	DEEP SEA MINERALS  It can help to identify opportunities for deep-sea mineral development while considering possible social and environmental impacts.

Public awareness and participation are critical to the development of the BSOP. You can actively participate by:

- Staying informed by attending public meetings
- Visiting the BSOP website and social media pages to get updates on engagements
- Participating in technical or community consultations and providing your input

For more information contact:



Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute
 Princess Margaret Drive
 Belize City, Belize
bsop@coastalzonebelize.org
 501-223-5739/ 501-223-0719

-  Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan
-  [bsop_bz](https://www.instagram.com/bsop_bz)
-  <https://bsop.coastalzonebelize.org/>

- Compilation, review and evaluation of existing literature, maps and data for coastal and marine ecosystems in the planning area, as well as **expert and local knowledge**
- A broad assessment of existing physical, biological, social, economic, and cultural conditions, including the governance dynamics in the planning area.
 - Status and trends of the marine environment's health
 - Types of human uses and activities occurring in the coastal and marine environment
 - Associated socio-economic factors
 - Prevailing ocean governance systems (includes how communities, societies and organizations choose to organize themselves to make decisions about the use and protection of coastal and marine commons)

Today: Developing Future Scenarios in the BSOP Planning Area






- Projection and assessment of anticipated future developments and trends, accounting for environmental, socio-economic, and climate-related variables
- Identifies challenges, opportunities, and priority issues crucial for guiding the MSP
- Identifies where there are key data and knowledge gaps that may need to be addressed during the MSP process
- Essential for informing spatial zoning designs in the planning area
 - emphasizing the importance of sustainable and effective marine resource management
 - reducing user conflicts
 - enhancing ocean conservation

BSOP Fact Sheet (CZMAI, 2023)

HOW WILL BSOP IMPROVE CURRENT SECTORS?

FISHERIES	COASTAL DEVELOPMENT	TOURISM	SHIPPING AND PORTS
 <p>It aims to ensure that the identification and effective management of productive fisheries habitats or ecosystems are prioritized for the benefit of a thriving fishing industry.</p>	 <p>It will take into account coastal activities with the aim of striking a balance between development, conservation and management requirements to maintain the health of coasts and oceans.</p>	 <p>It will establish an optimal allocation of tourism activities across the ocean, with the goal of securing the long-term sustainability of the industry while maintaining the ecosystems that serve as its foundation.</p>	 <p>It will consider the location of deep-water channels and shipping lanes, as well as the maneuvering of ships and other navigation concerns to ensure that the shipping and transportation sector can continue to operate efficiently while minimizing negative impacts on the marine environment.</p>

HOW WILL BSOP SUPPORT EMERGING SECTORS?

MARICULTURE/AQUACULTURE	BIO-PHARMACEUTICALS	ECOSYSTEM SERVICES	OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY	DEEP SEA MINERALS
 <p>It can help to identify best locations for mariculture operations that minimize environmental impacts, promote sustainable practices and support restorative functions.</p>	 <p>It can assist in the identification of opportunities for both bio-pharmaceutical advancements and ecosystem services, while actively avoiding any negative environmental effects.</p>	 <p>It can identify areas that can contribute to the long-term prosperity of Belize's coastal communities that depend on the ocean by identifying key ecosystems and recommending best management practices that support economic growth and environmental sustainability.</p>	 <p>It can help to inform Belize's transition towards a low-carbon economy and increase energy security by identifying areas within Belize's ocean space that are suitable for renewable energy development and considers impacts on marine ecosystems and the needs of coastal communities.</p>	 <p>It can help to identify opportunities for deep-sea mineral development while considering possible social and environmental impacts.</p>

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 Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan

 [bsop_bz](https://www.instagram.com/bsop_bz)

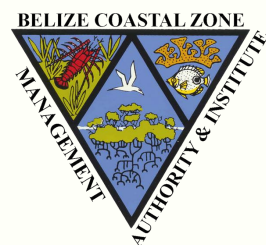
 <https://bsop.coastalzonebelize.org/>



Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

Areas Under Consideration for New Biodiversity Protection Zones

Samir Rosado
MSP Process Lead





CONTENTS

- **CONTEXT**
- **REVIEW OF PROPOSED AREAS**
- **OVERVIEW OF KEY CONSIDERATIONS**
- **FEEDBACK EXERCISE**
- **QUESTION & ANSWERS**



CONTEXT



CONTEXT



Blue Loan Agreement:
Enables Belize to lower its overall sovereign debt through the restructuring of the "super bond"



Conservation Funding Agreement:
Stipulates the use of savings from debt servicing to achieve agreed-upon conservation commitments.

Milestone Number	Milestone Summary Description	Time after signing the Agreement	% of Ocean in High Protection ¹	% of Ocean in Medium Protection ¹	Total % of Ocean in Biodiversity Protection ¹
1	Expand Biodiversity Protection Zones to 11.57% of the Ocean	6 months	Increased to 11.57%	Remains at the current 8.96%	20.53%
2	Designate Public Lands within the BBRRS as Mangrove Reserves	6 months			
3	Belize initiates MSP process	1 year			
4	Expand Biodiversity Protection Zones to 25% of the Ocean	3 years	Add 4.5% more in total across either Medium and/or High zones ¹		25% ¹
5	Implementation of ICZMP	4 years			
6	Complete Biodiversity Protection Zones, MSP signed in to law and Implemented	5 years	Add 5% more in total across either Medium and/or High zones ¹		30% ¹
7	At least 3 IUCN Green List Applications Submitted	6 years			
8	Approved Management Plans	8 years			

¹In all cases, is the lower of the % or the amount specified in the MSP



CONTEXT

Milestone Number	Milestone Summary Description	Time after signing the Agreement	% of Ocean in High Protection ¹	% of Ocean in Medium Protection ¹	Total % of Ocean in Biodiversity Protection ¹
1	Expand Biodiversity Protection Zones to 11.57% of the Ocean	6 months	Increased to 11.57%	Remains at the current 8.96%	20.53%
2	Designate Public Lands within the BBRRS as Mangrove Reserves	6 months			
3	Belize initiates MSP process	1 year			
4	Expand Biodiversity Protection Zones to 25% of the Ocean	3 years	Add 4.5% more in total across either Medium and/or High zones ¹		25% ¹
5	Implementation of ICZMP	4 years			
6	Complete Biodiversity Protection Zones, MSP signed in to law and Implemented	5 years	Add 5% more in total across either Medium and/or High zones ¹		30% ¹
7	At least 3 IUCN Green List Applications Submitted	6 years			
8	Approved Management Plans	8 years			

¹In all cases, is the lower of the % or the amount specified in the MSP

CZMAI TO LEAD

MILESTONE 4

No later than November 4th 2024: Expand Biodiversity Protection Zones to 25% of Belize's Ocean Space

MILESTONE 5

No later than November 4th 2025: Revised Coastal Zone Management Act and Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan, inclusive of chapter on Biodiversity Offsets.

MILESTONE 6

No later than November 4th 2026: Expand Biodiversity Protection Zones to up to 30% of Belize's Ocean Space and completion of the MSP (Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan).

MILESTONE 8

No later than November 4th 2028: Development of management plans for BPZs.



CONTEXT



Environment



Economic



Social

4

MILESTONE

No later than November 4th 2024: Expand Biodiversity Protection Zones to 25% of Belize's Ocean Space.

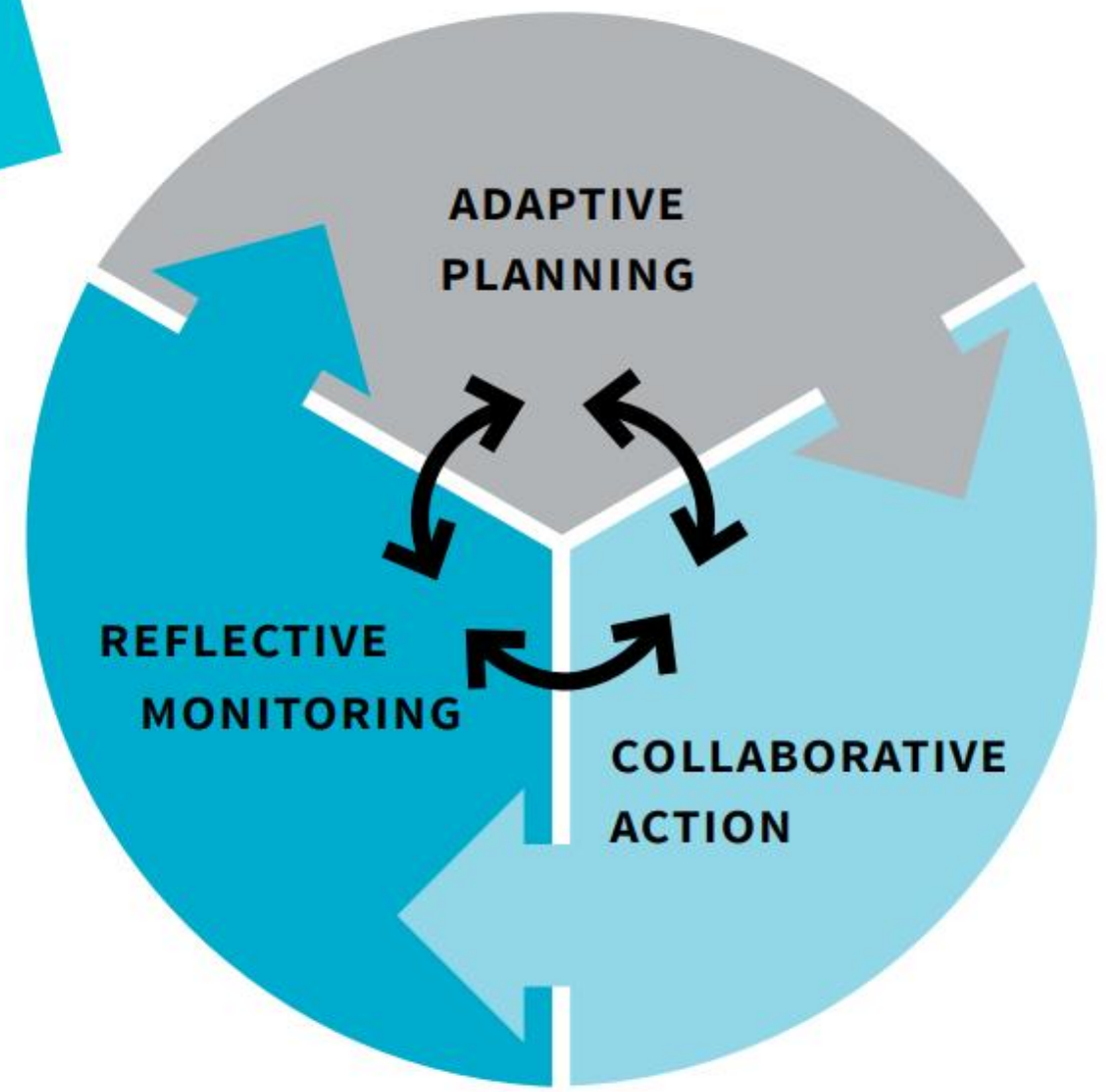
MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING

A public process of allocating and analyzing the spatial temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives that are usually specified through a political process.

-UNESCO

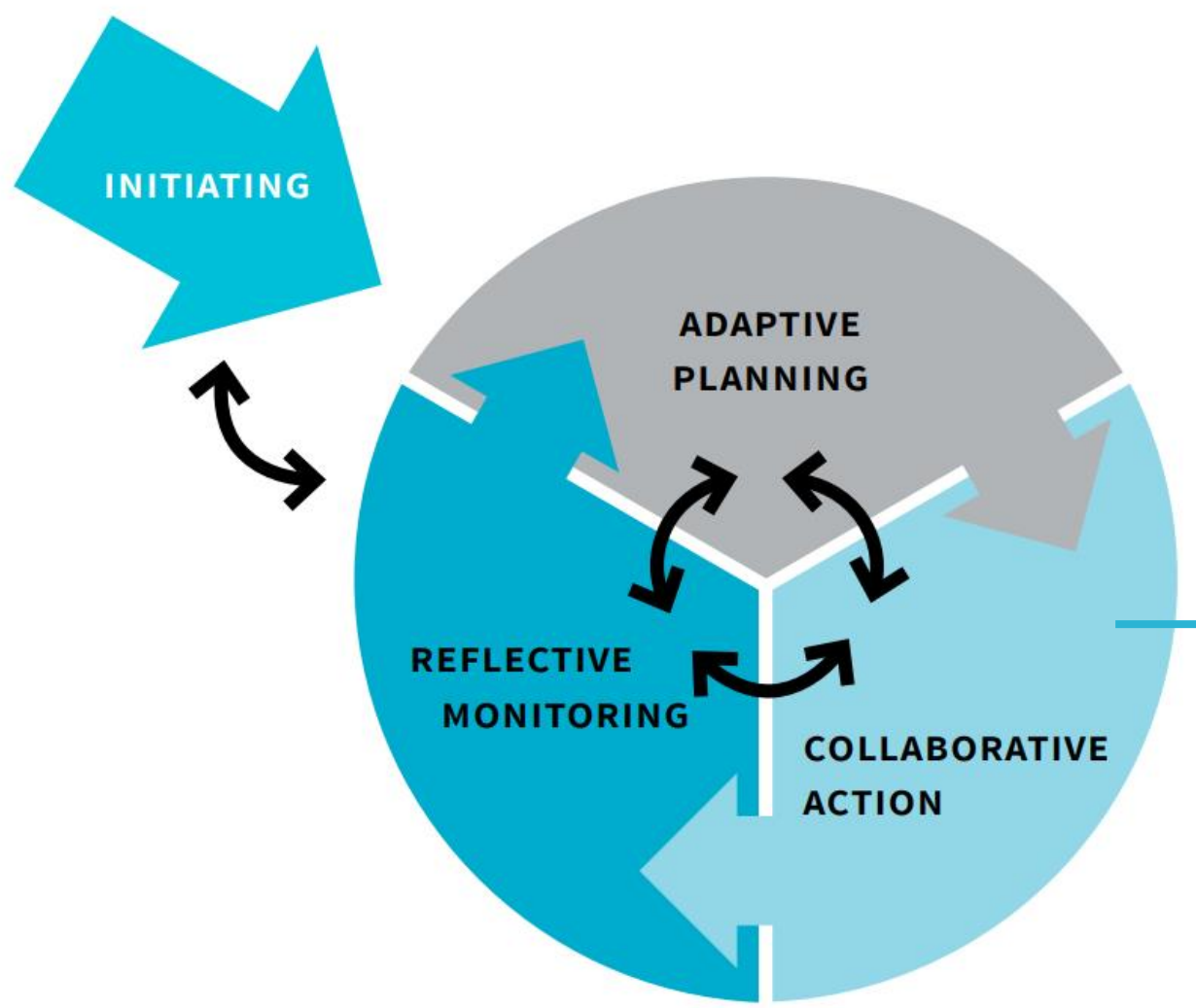


INITIATING





CONTEXT



4

Analysis of Existing Conditions



Spatial Planning Workshop

- SeaSketch (Ocean Use Survey and Ocean Planning Tool)
- Technical Working Groups
- ICZM Process

Identified potential areas for Medium Biodiversity Protection Zones:

- Lighthouse Reef Atoll
- Placencia Lagoon
- Central Region (Goff's Caye Area)
- Cayman Crown (High)

Opportunities:

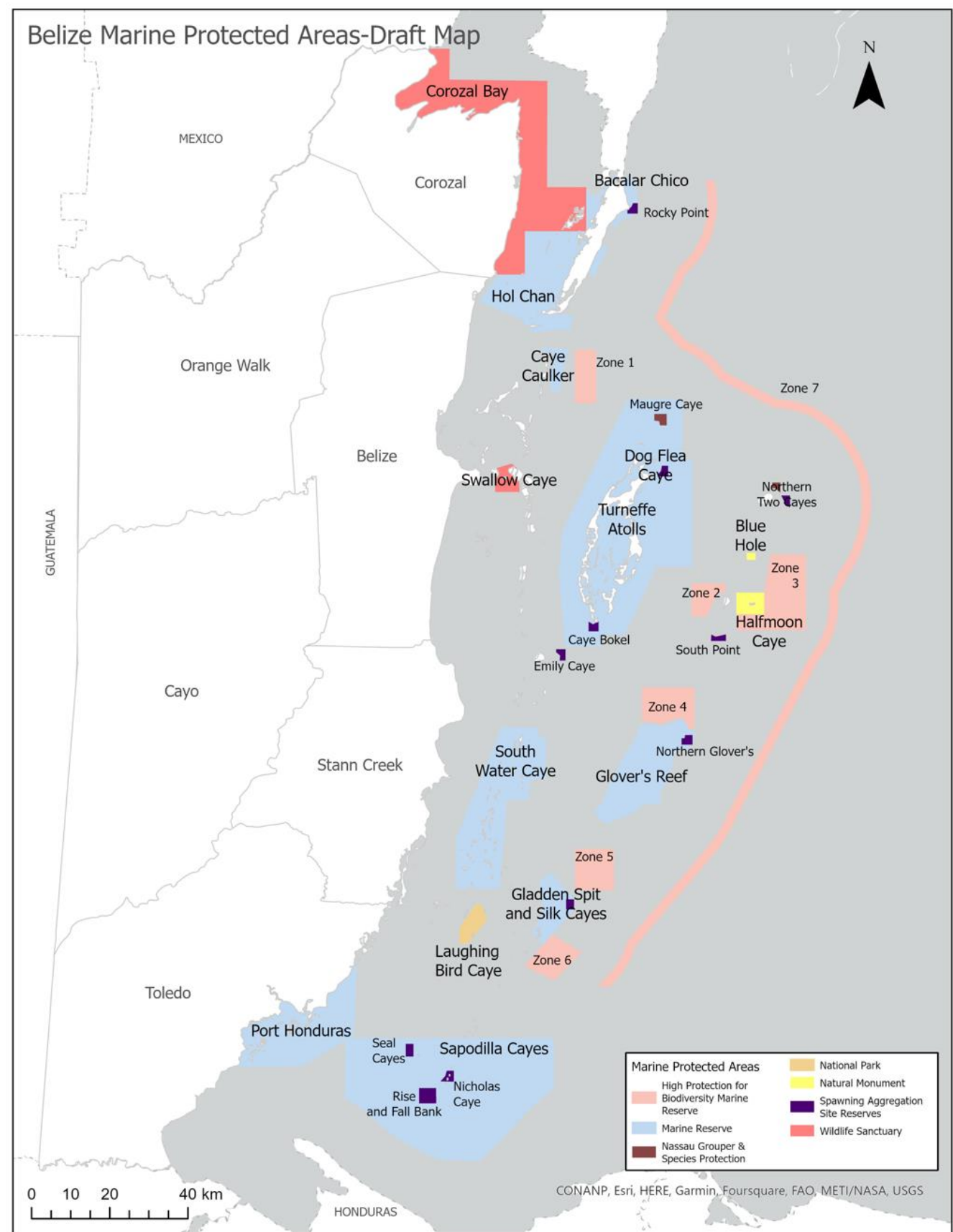
- EEZ – Banco Chinchorro/Bacalar Chico (Transboundary MPA)
- Glover's Reef Atoll (S.I. 128)
- Extended Lighthouse Reef Atoll (S.I. 128)



REVIEW OF PROPOSED AREAS

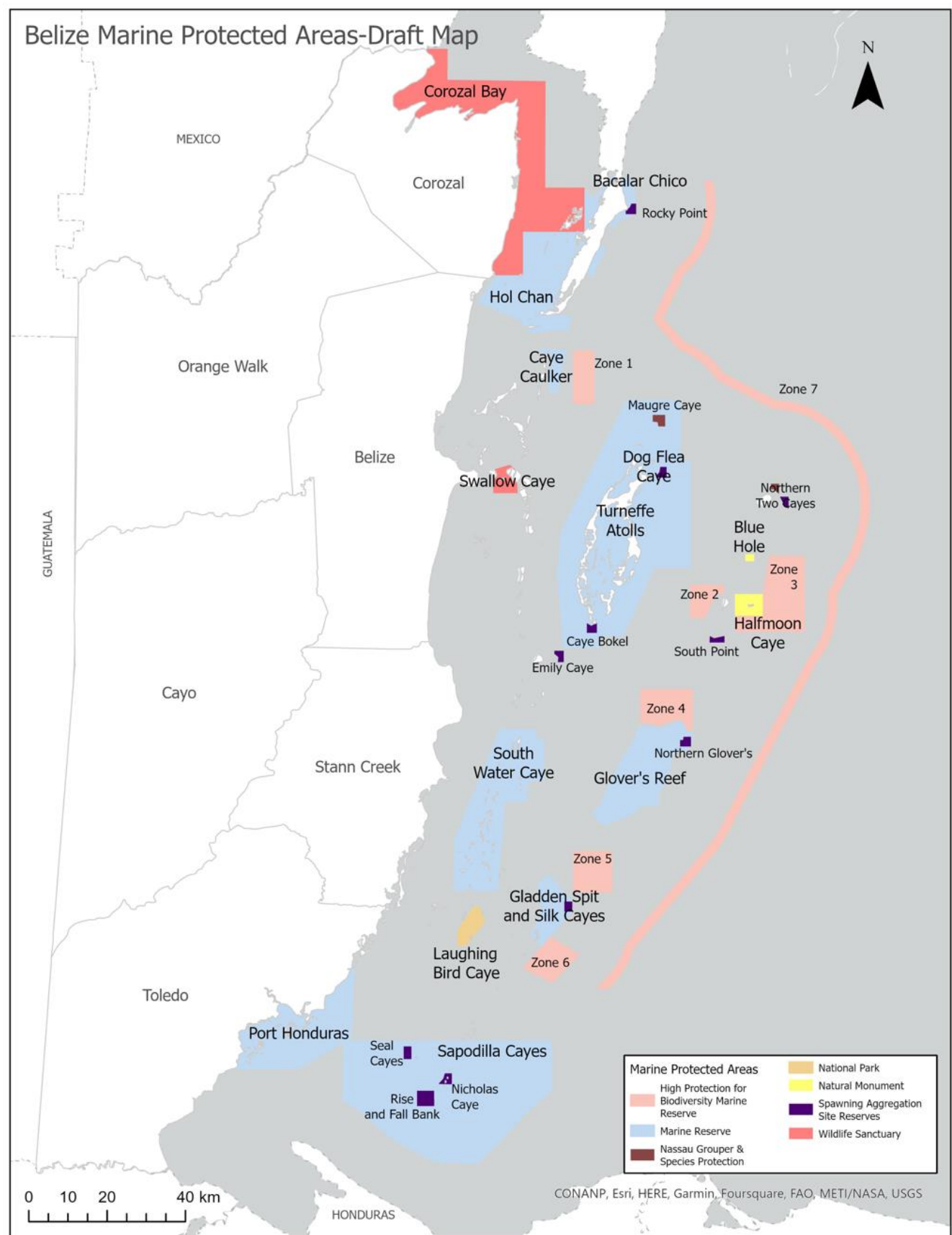
Where We Are

- Total Ocean space **33,706.99km²**
- **6,845.60km²** total area of our oceans under protection
- **20.3%** of ocean space under protection. Which **11.65%** is High Protection
- Milestone 4: **25%** of Belize's ocean space protected by **November 4th, 2024**



Milestone 4:

- Will prioritize medium biodiversity protection zones.
- General Use Zones
- Exception: Cayman Crown
 - High Protection → Fully Protected
- Remaining area to achieve 25% target: 1565.819 km²



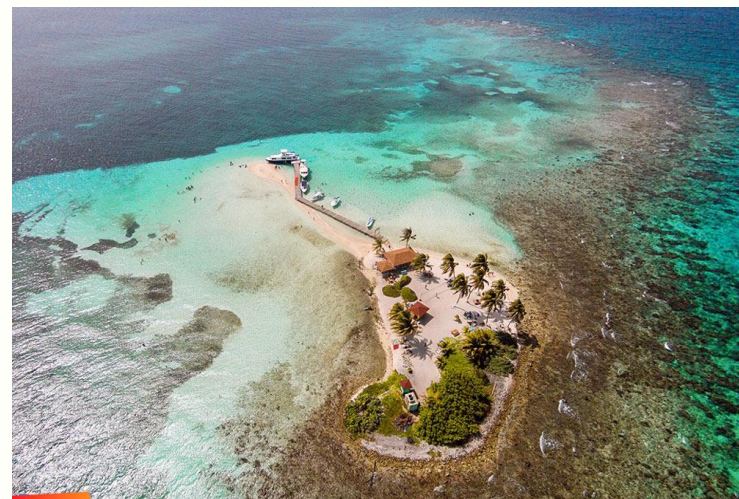


REVIEW OF PROPOSED AREAS

Lighthouse Reef Atoll



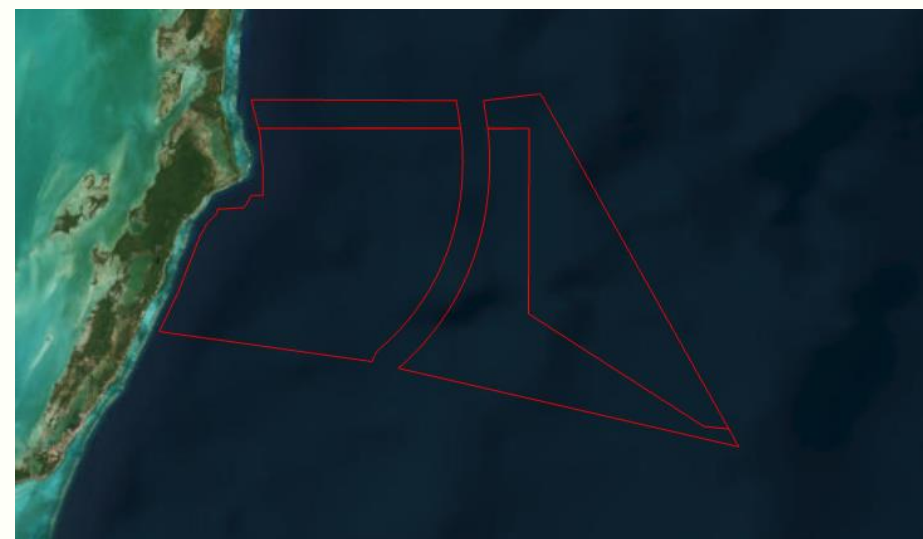
Central Region – Goff's Caye Area



Placencia Lagoon



Banco Chinchorro - Bacalar Chico
Transboundary MPA (EEZ)



S.I 128 of 2021 – Shark Fishing
Regulations



Milestone 4: Lighthouse Reef Atoll



General Information

- Boundary -Managed
Access: **Area 7**
- Area **613.60km²**
- **5 Cayes:**
 - *Northern 2 Cayes*
 - *Hat Caye*
 - *Half Moon Caye*
 - *Sandbore Caye*
 - *Long Caye*

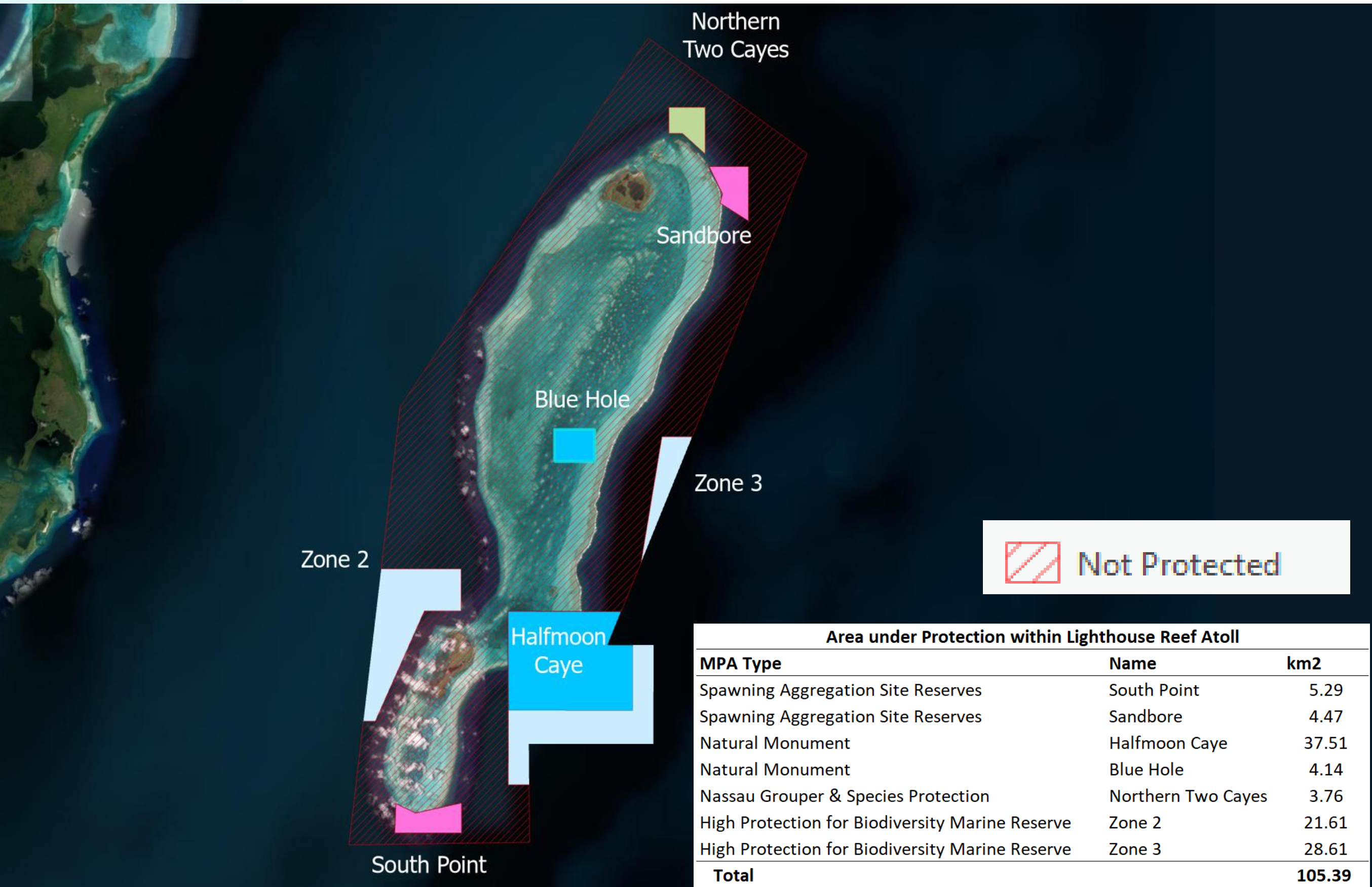
Milestone 4: Lighthouse Reef Atoll



Existing management areas

- Audubon Society and Forestry Department:
 - *Blue Hole Natural Monument*
 - *Halfmoon Caye Natural Monument*
- Fisheries Department:
 - *Spawning aggregation site reserves(2)*
 - *Nassau Grouper & species protection(1)*
 - *High protection for biodiversity marine reserves(2)*

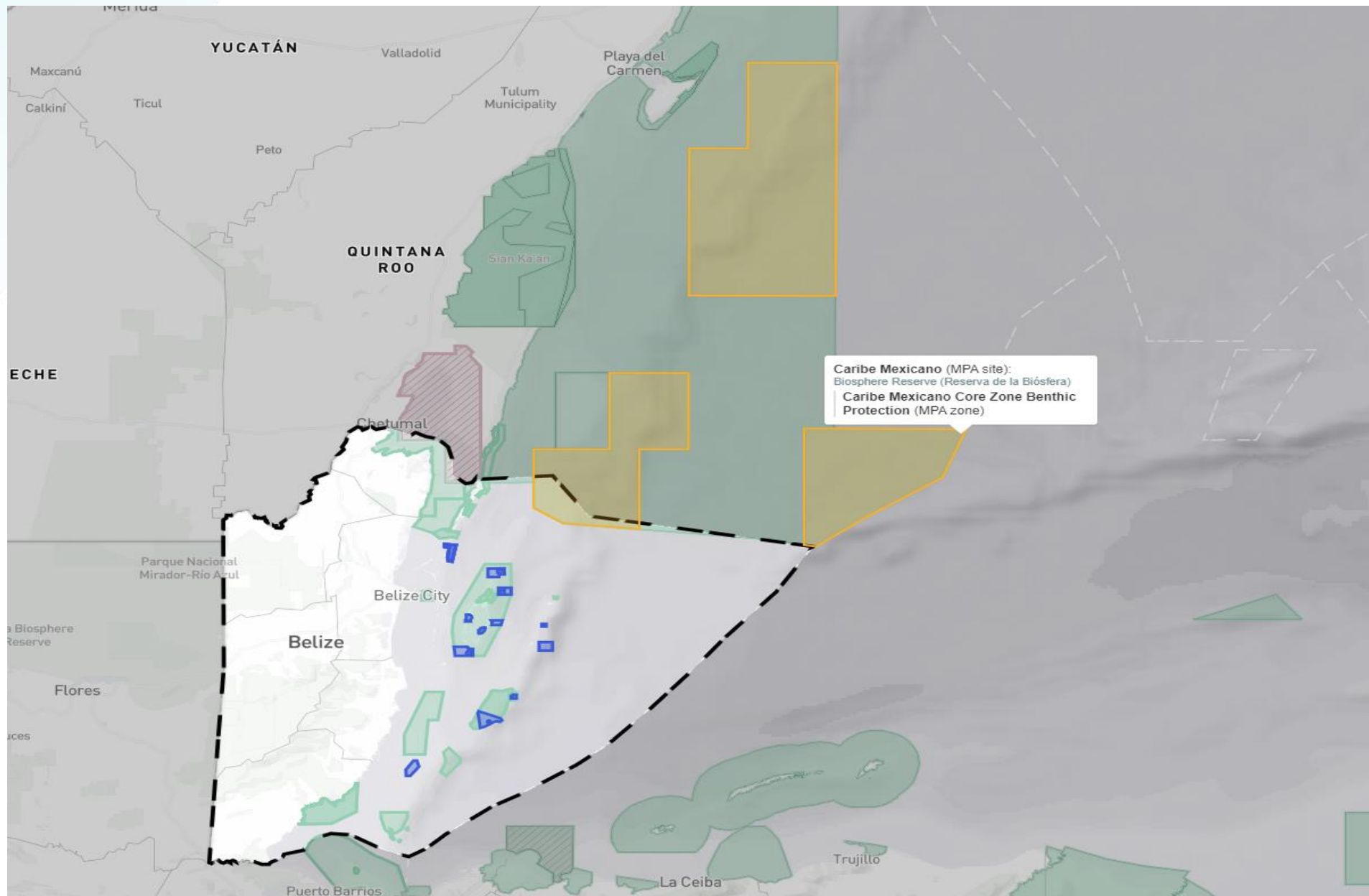
Milestone 4: Lighthouse Reef Atoll



Existing Protection within Lighthouse Reef Atoll

- Area under protection **105.39km²**
- Not Protected **508.216km²** or **1.507%** of ocean space
- $20.3\% + 1.507\% = \mathbf{21.807\%}$ of Belize Ocean Space

Milestone 4: Banco Chinchorro – Bacalar Chico Transboundary MPA



Caribe Mexicano Core Zone Benthic MPA

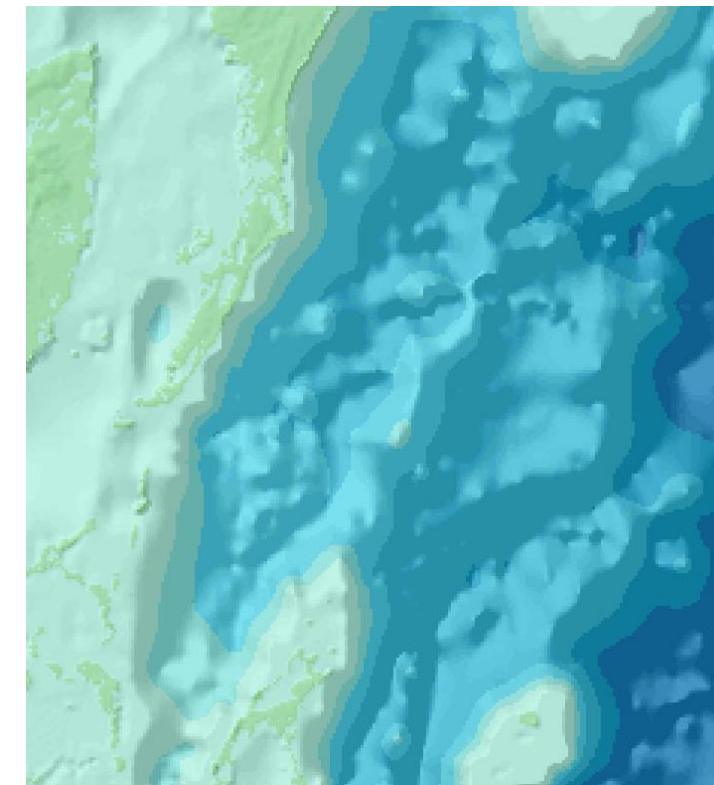
- Less Protected /Unknown
Areas that afford some protection but allow moderate to extensive extraction and associated impacts.
 - Vertically zoned
The deep-sea zoning starts 100 meters below sea level and extends to the sea floor; fishing and mining activities are not permitted in this zone
 - Other Activities allowed, such as snorkeling diving etc.
 - no public or private stakeholders currently use resources from these deep zones
- Why wait for conflicts to emerge in order to create MPAs?*
- These measures are implementing UN General Assembly resolutions on deep-sea protection, such as Resolution 61/105, and support similar measures taken by the European Union, individual countries, and regional fisheries management organizations around the world.

Milestone 4: Banco Chinchorro – Bacalar Chico Transboundary MPA

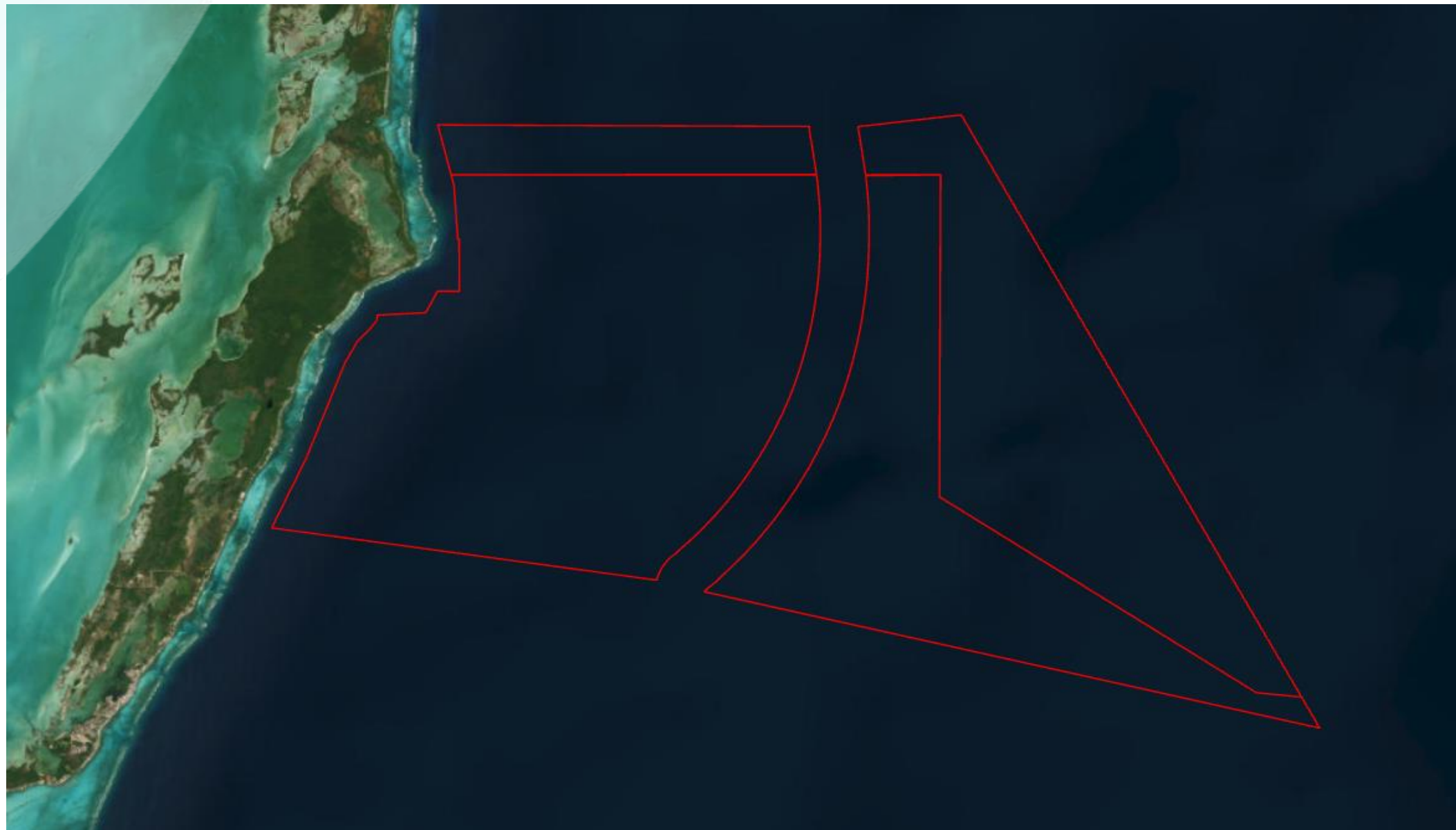


Caribe Mexicano Core Zone Benthic MPA Overlaps with Belize

- **257.215km²** of overlap in Belize's Maritime Areas
- **0.763%** of Belize's Ocean Space



Milestone 4: Banco Chinchorro – Bacalar Chico Transboundary MPA



Caribe Mexicano Core Zone Benthic MPA Connected to Bacalar Chico MPA

- **869.253km²** of overlap in Belize's Maritime Areas
- **2.579%** of Belize's Ocean Space

Milestone 4: Two(2) Mile Buffer around Atolls



SI No.128 of 2021

- Red areas indicate the areas protected under SI No.128 2021
- SI 128 2021 states
 - No Person Shall within a radius of 2 Miles of Turneffe, Glover's or Lighthouse
 - Fish using hooks greater than 12/0
 - Fish using any unanchored or drifting longline
 - Fish for sharks(all species in the superorder Selachimor)
- **992.799km²** of overlap in Belize's Maritime Areas
- **2.945%** of Belize's Ocean Space

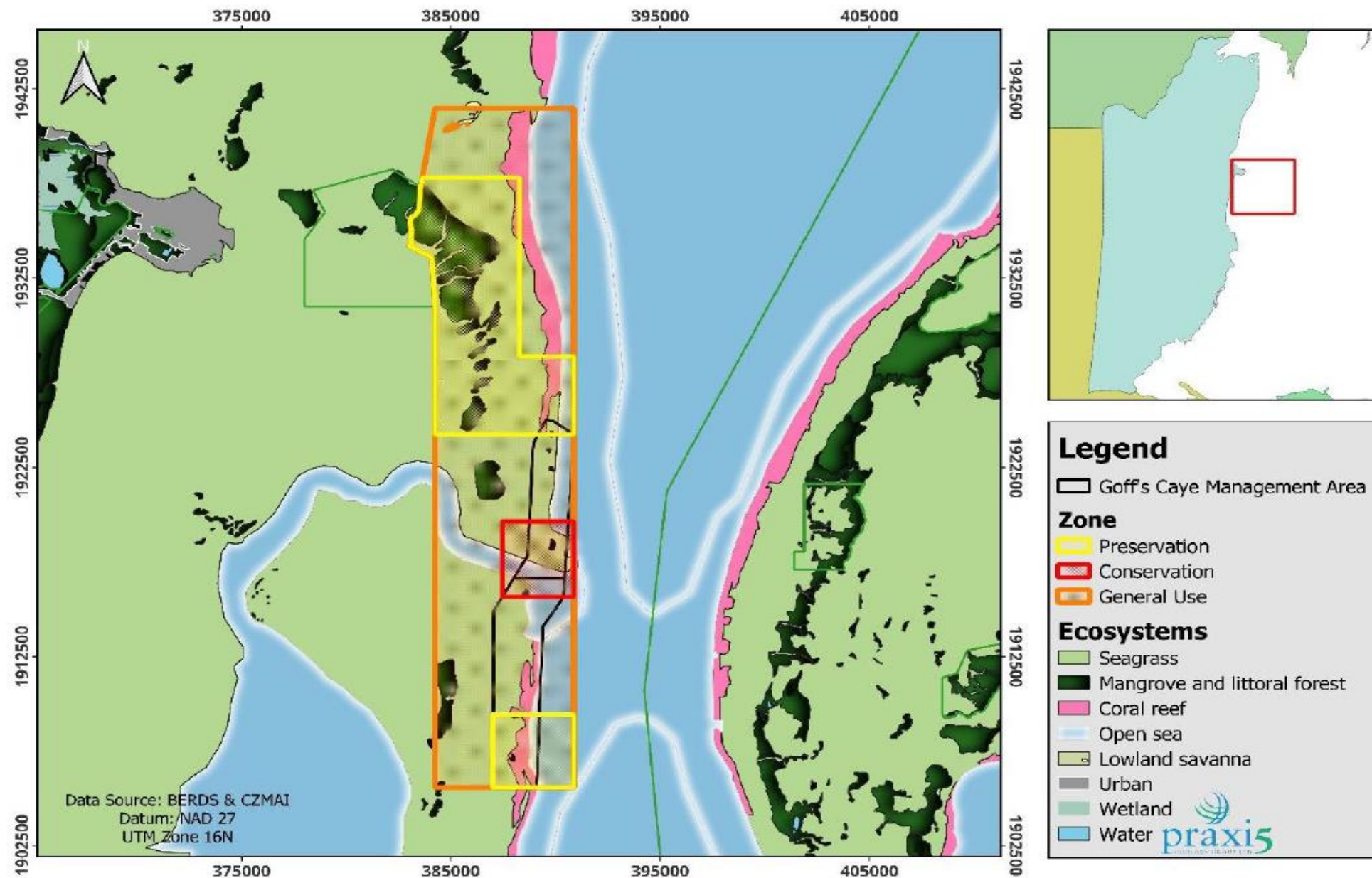
Milestone 6: Placencia Lagoon



Protection of Placencia Lagoon

- No Management
- Boundary created from Belize Maritime Boundary
- Lagoon area **29.476km²** Or **0.087%** of Belize's ocean space
- Interests in protecting the lagoon from NGO's
- There is a [Placencia Lagoon Management Plan 2015-2020](#) (WWF, SEA, prepared by wildtracks)

Milestone 6: Proposed Central Region MPA



Proposed Central Region MPA

- No MPA in central Region
- CZMAI has a management site.
- Area of Proposed site Boundary created from Belize Maritime Boundary
- Proposed area **242.698km²** Or **0.72%** of Belize's ocean space

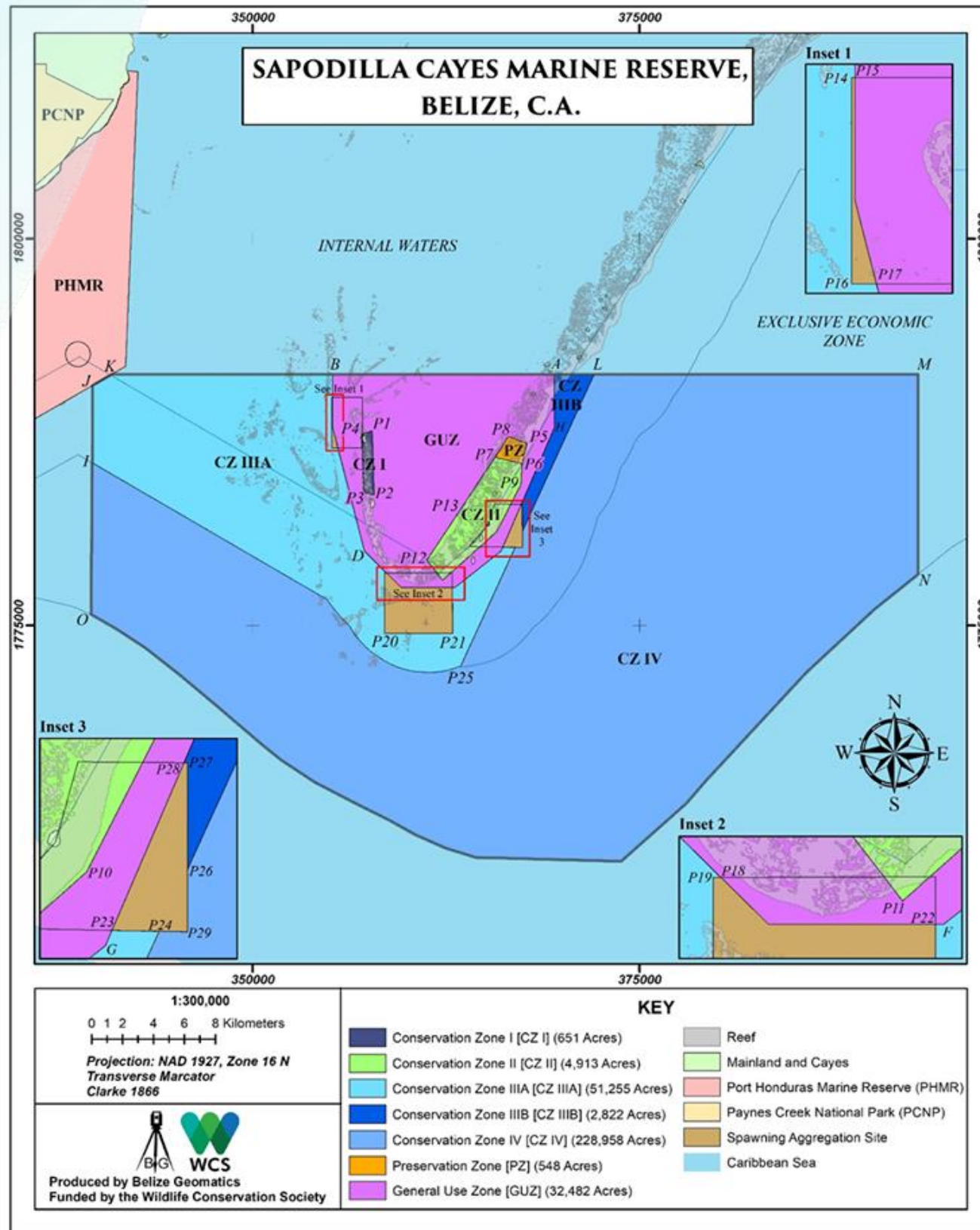
Summary



Possible Areas for Biodiversity Protection

Possible Area of Protection	Area km2	%
Lighthouse Reef Atoll	1297.744	3.850
Placencia Lagoon	29.476	0.087
Central Region-Goff's Caye	242.698	0.720
2miles Radius (GLOVERS)	200.893	0.596
Mexico- Belize MPA	869.253	2.579
Total	2640.06	7.832
Current Protection	6,845.60	20.30
Grand Total	9485.66	28.132392
Remaining(km2)	629.51	1.867607939

Cayman Crown



Potential redesignation of the Cayman Crown Area from Highly Protected to Fully Protected.

- No Change in Percentage towards BPZ targets
- Will contribute towards the People Centric Conservation Agenda.



OVERVIEW OF KEY CONSIDERATIONS

IDENTIFICATION OF AREAS ARE NOT FINAL

- AREAS OF INTEREST HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BUT ANY BOUNDARIES WOULD BE DEFINED VIA THE MSP PROCESS.

MILESTONE 4: MEDIUM BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION ZONE

- FOCUSING ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF MEDIUM BPZ.
EXCEPTION: POTENTIAL REDESIGNATION OF CAYMAN CROWN AS FULLY PROTECTED.

INFORMATION TO BE CONSIDERED TO DETERMINE BPZ BOUNDARIES

- HUMAN USE AREAS (OUS SURVEY OUTPUTS)
 - SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND ENVIRONMENTAL
- EXISTING DATA LAYERS
 - SENSITIVE HABITATS
 - ENDANGERED OR THREATENED SPECIES
 - COMMERCIALY IMPORTANT SPECIES

- PREVIOUS RESEARCH EFFORTS AND MODELING OUTPUTS
- MARXAN TOOL OUTPUTS
- INPUTS FROM THE SEVEN (7) TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS.



FEEDBACK EXERCISE

FEEDBACK EXERCISE

- PRINTED MAPS OF THE AREAS ARE POSTED AROUND THE ROOM
- EXAMINE MAPS AND PROVIDE COMMENTS VIA POST-IT NOTES
 - GENERAL COMMENTS CAN BE WRITTEN AND PLACED IN THE FEEDBACK BOX.
 - FOR COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC AREAS
 - WRITE A NUMBER ON THE MAP AND PLACE THE CORRESPONDING REFERENCE NUMBER ON THE POST-IT NOTE.
 - TRY TO AVOID NUMBER DUPLICATION
- SUPPORTING SPATIAL LAYERS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION WHILE EXAMINING MAPS
 - COMPUTER STATIONS
 - DATA VIEWER USING QR CODE



<https://bit.ly/3wo47iD>





QUESTION & ANSWERS

Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

“Leading the sustainable use and planned development of Belize’s coastal zone”



Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan

Princess Margaret Drive, P.O. Box 1884

Belize City, Belize

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<https://bsop.coastalzonebelize.org/>

E-mail: bsop@coastalzonebelize.org

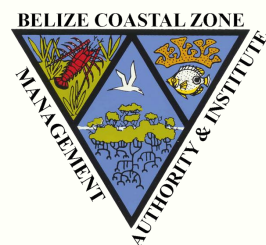




LUNCH

1 hour

Rapid Assessment of Existing Conditions & Uses





Analyzing Existing Conditions

- The process of understanding the situation in the marine space being planned.
- Provides information on the current physical, biological, social, economic and governance characteristics of the planning area.
- Forms the basis for exploring different approaches that may be taken in planning to meet set objectives.



Analyzing Existing Conditions

In Analyzing Existing Conditions:

- What are the *current human uses* of the planning area?
- What are the *key marine ecosystems* (e.g. coral reefs, seagrasses) & *current ocean conditions* (e.g. ocean temp, sea level, ocean currents)?
- What is the perceived status and trends in the planning area?
- Are there economic, social and governance factors that need to be considered?

Rapid Assessment of Existing Conditions and Uses

The objective of this breakout session is a rapid assessment of the perceived status and trends of existing conditions in the planning area.





Rapid Assessment of Existing Conditions and Uses

Step 1

List the current human uses or current ecological conditions in the 1st table

Step 2

Add the *perceived status* in the 2nd table (e.g. excellent, good, fair, poor, unknown)

Step 3

Add the current *trends* in the 3rd table (e.g. improving, stable, declining, unknown)



Step 1:

List the current human uses in the first table (some examples taken from the 2021 MSP Global Guide are provided below).

Fisheries and Mariculture

- nets
- hook/line
- pots/traps
- spears/harpoons
- trawls/dredges
- seine nets
- beach seine
- purse seines
- offshore aquaculture
- recreational fishing
- subsistence fishing
- seaweed farming

Tourism & General Uses

- sailing
- boating
- personal watercraft
- scuba diving
- snorkelling
- surfing
- wildlife watching
- cultural and historic conservation
- shipwrecks
- maritime archaeology sites
- cultural heritage sites
- sacred sites

Maritime Transportation

- ferry routes
- port and harbour operations
- cruise ship facilities
- industrial infrastructure
- dredging
- dredged material disposal
- offshore liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals
- offshore industrial production facilities

Marine Development

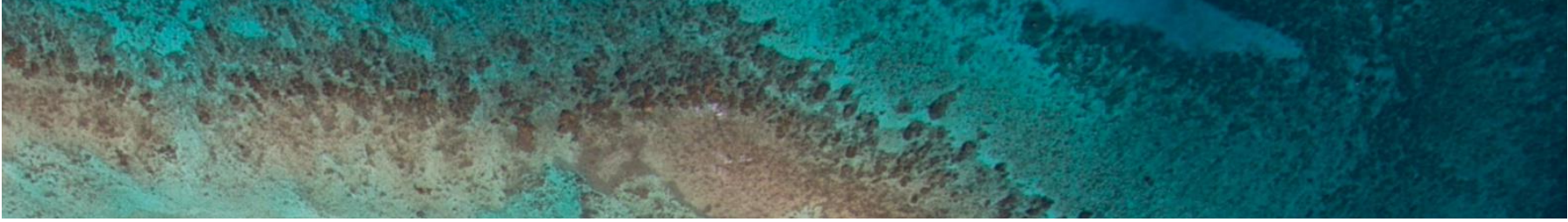
- cables, pipelines, transmission lines
- offshore mining
- sand and gravel extraction areas
- dredging
- offshore renewable energy
- wind farms
- wave energy generators
- tidal energy generators
- current generators

Other Uses

- scientific research
- marine protected areas
- strictly protected marine reserves
- multiple use marine parks

Human Uses

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



Step 2:

List the *perceived status* in terms of *activity/pressure level* in the second column of the second table (i.e. high, moderate, low, none).

Sample questions to guide discussions and determining activity/pressure level:

- Think from the ocean's perspective. If the ocean could speak, how would it describe the current level of human activity? Would it be a constant "high pressure hustle" or scattered pockets of "low-key relaxation"?
- Imagine the ocean floor as a bustling city. Certain areas have intense activity (think of a busy shipping lane), while others are like quiet neighborhoods (think coral reefs). Sometimes "city life" spills over and disrupts the peaceful neighborhoods. How can we categorize human activities in the marine space based on their "pressure level"?

	Human Uses	Perceived Status
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____



Step 3:

List and describe known trends in the *activity/pressure level* in the final column (i.e. increasing, decreasing, no change). Explain your reasoning behind the trends and their impact.

Sample questions to guide discussions and determining activity/pressure level:

- The ocean has witnessed a long history of human interaction. Imagine you could turn back time and observe the level of human uses in the marine space over the last 20 years. How would you describe the overall trend? Has the “pressure” on the ocean increased, decreased, or fluctuated?
- Think about the different areas of the ocean – bustling shipping lanes, quiet coral reefs, or unexplored abyssal plains. How has the intensity of human activity in these areas changed over the past few decades? Has there been a surge in pressure, a decrease in pressure, or no change?

	Human Uses	Perceived Status	Trends
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____



Breakout Session

- Worksheets are provided for both Human Uses and Environmental Conditions.
- 20 mins for this breakout session.
- Select one group member to report out in plenary.

Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

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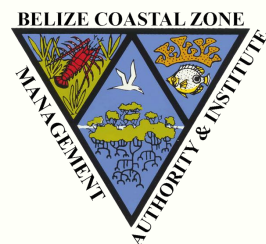




Future Condition Scenarios

Part I

Chantal Collier, The Nature Conservancy
May 8, 2024














Identifying Future Conditions

Consider:

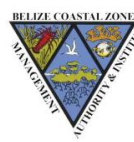
1. What new or emerging sectors are likely to be developed in Belize's ocean?
2. How will Belize's ocean look if trends in current conditions and human uses continue without new management interventions?
3. How might Belize's ocean look under alternative spatial use scenarios?
4. What do Belizeans want their ocean to look like in 5, 10, 15 years?

HOW WILL BSOP IMPROVE CURRENT SECTORS?				
FISHERIES  It aims to ensure that the identification and effective management of productive fisheries habitats or ecosystems are prioritized for the benefit of a thriving fishing industry.	COASTAL DEVELOPMENT  It will take into account coastal activities with the aim of striking a balance between development, conservation and management requirements to sustain the health of coasts and oceans.	TOURISM  It will establish an optimal allocation of tourism activities across the ocean, with the goal of securing the long-term sustainability of the industry while maintaining the healthy ecosystems that serve as its foundation.	SHIPPING AND PORTS  It will consider the location of deep-water channels and shipping lanes, as well as the maneuvering of ships and other navigation concerns to ensure that the shipping and transportation sector can continue to operate efficiently while minimizing negative impacts on the marine environment.	
HOW WILL BSOP SUPPORT EMERGING SECTORS?				
MARICULTURE/ AQUACULTURE  It can help to identify best locations for mariculture operations that minimize environmental impacts, promote sustainable practices and support restorative functions.	BIO-PHARMACEUTICALS  It can assist in the identification of opportunities for both bio-pharmaceutical advancements and ecosystem services, while actively avoiding any negative environmental effects.	ECOSYSTEM SERVICES  It can identify areas that can contribute to the long-term prosperity of Belize's coastal communities that depend on the ocean by identifying key ecosystems and recommending best management practices that support economic growth and environmental sustainability.	OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY  It can help to inform Belize's transition towards a low-carbon economy and increase energy security by identifying areas within Belize's ocean space that are suitable for renewable energy development and considers impacts on marine ecosystems and the needs of coastal communities.	DEEP SEA MINERALS  It can help to identify opportunities for deep-sea mineral development while considering possible social and environmental impacts.




Public awareness and participation are critical to the development of the BSOP. You can actively participate by:

- Staying informed by attending public meetings
- Visiting the BSOP website and social media pages to get updates on engagements
- Participating in technical or community consultations and providing your input

For more information contact:



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 501-223-5739 / 501-223-0719

 Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan
 bsop_bz
 <https://bsop.coastalzonebelize.org/>



Identifying Future Conditions

Answering these questions involves:

- **Projecting trends** in current conditions and human uses into the future (may include mapping projection for each use to visualize implications)
- Estimating the spatial and temporal **requirements of new demands** for use of the planning area
- Identifying possible alternative **future scenarios** for the planning area
- Selecting **a preferred scenario** for use of the planning area that provides the basis spatial management decisions
- Compilation, review and evaluation of existing literature, maps and data for coastal and marine ecosystems in the planning area, as well as **expert and local knowledge**



Identifying Future Conditions

The value of developing scenarios

- Inform present-day decision-making by exploring possible futures – stories of what *may* happen, not what *will* happen.
- Examine all possible futures identified – rather than focusing on the more desirable ones – with the understanding that any scenario may occur.
- Examine what is most uncertain and surprising as a mechanism to generate insights and promote action regarding future risks and opportunities.
- The implications drawn from the scenarios are designed to prompt discussion, provide insights, and inform choices, rather than serve as predictive outcomes.
- Involvement of individuals and institutions in scenario development and elaboration helps build shared understanding, relationships and trust to tackle complex issues, trade-offs, and commit to solutions.



Identifying Future Conditions

Proposed BSOP Focal Question:

How will Belize's ocean space and marine resources be used to support sustainable growth and development of Belize's blue economy, while ensuring a healthy, resilient, and equitably shared ocean in 2030?



Developing Future Scenarios - Part I

Output : Possible alternative future scenarios for use of Belize's ocean

Step 1

Identify **driving forces of change** (i.e., projections of current trends whose impacts on future ocean conditions and uses are anticipated or likely)

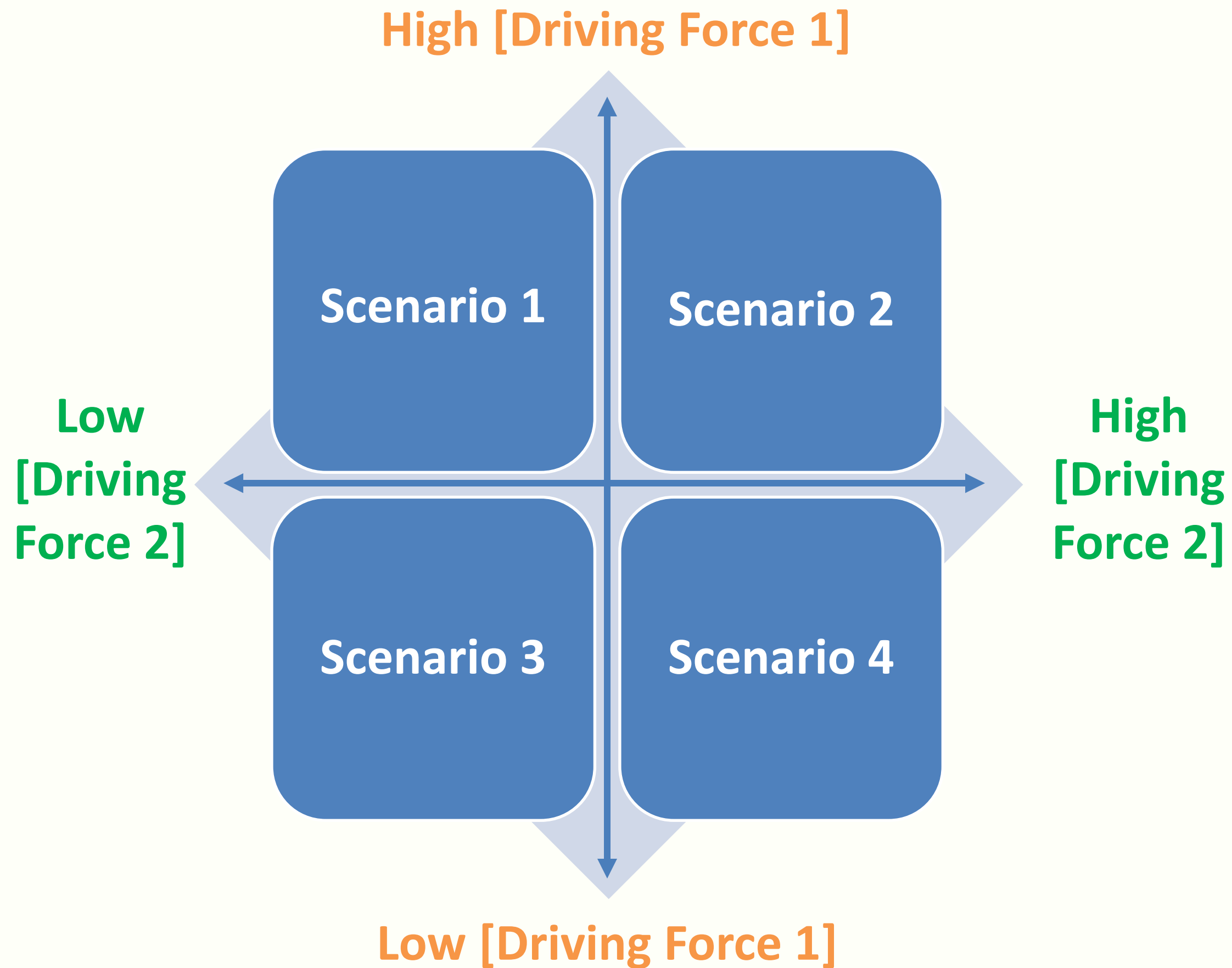
Step 2

Identify **implications** of the driving forces for different sectors (e.g., challenges and opportunities)

Step 3

Prioritize driving forces that will most profoundly and unpredictably impact the BSOP focal question

**Output:
Four
Possible
Future
Scenarios**





The stories

With two main axes representing high and low levels of governance and investment, the four scenarios cover four combinations:

1. High governance with low investment,
2. High governance with high investment,
3. Low governance with high investment,
4. Low governance with low investment.

These are reflected in the names:

Slow but sure - In this country there is little investment but governance is good. There is little wind and the progress of the ship is slow, but the crew are good and able to make the most of their situation.

Riding the wave - This country is blessed by rich resources and a good government. The wind is strong and steady, powering the ship forward, while the skilled captain and crew steer it expertly through the challenges en route.

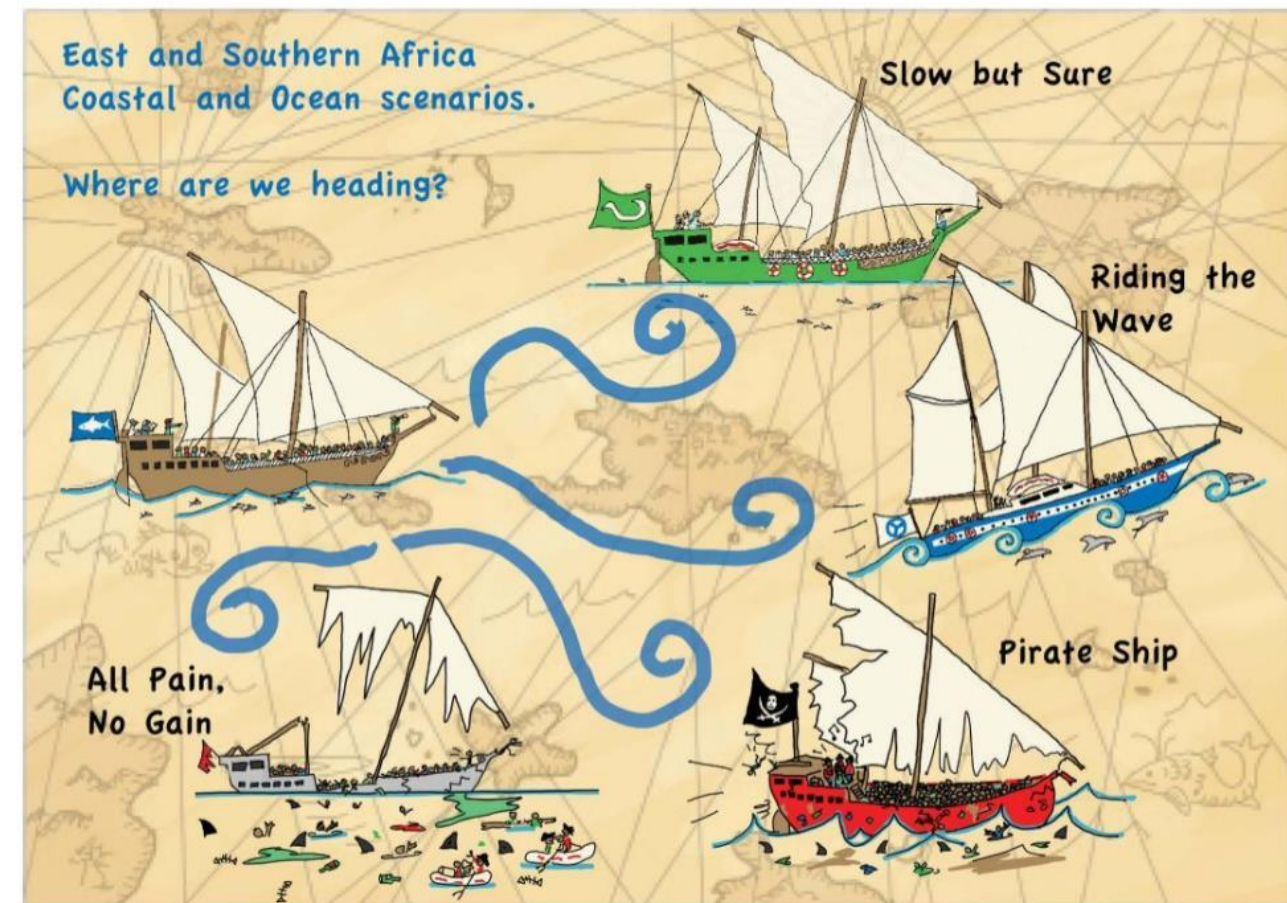
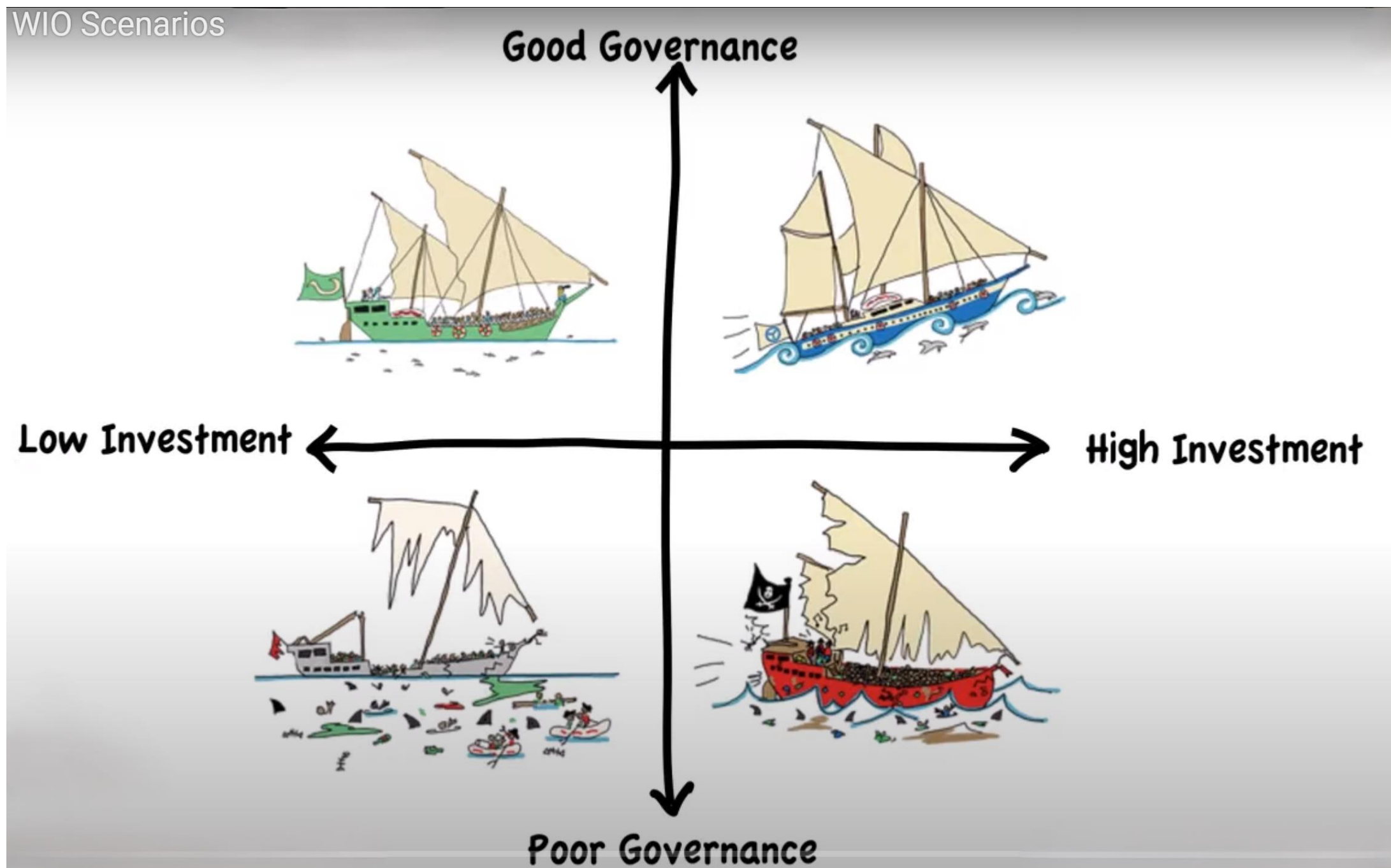
Pirate ship - This country has abundant wealth but poor governance. The wind and waves are turbulent and rough, and the captain and crew act like pirates, uncaring of their passengers.

All pain no gain - This country is poor and poorly governed. With no resources or leadership it wallows without progressing, and all on board are dispirited.

How these major drivers play out against a backdrop of other drivers, common experiences and luck, are described in the narrative summaries on the next pages. The comparative table below provides a structured comparison of key narrative elements.



WIO Scenarios





Step 1

Identify **driving forces of change** - projections of current trends whose impacts on future ocean conditions and uses are anticipated or likely

Examples:

- increasing impacts of global climate change
- population growth
- intensification of current ocean uses
- development of new technologies
- increased demand for use of the ocean space by new or emerging sectors



Step 2

Identify **implications** of the driving forces **for different sectors**

- For each sector, brainstorm a few challenges, issues, opportunities caused by the driving forces identified

Sample questions to start exploring uncertainties:

1. How will climate change and other threats impact the long-term stability and productivity of ocean ecosystems and species?
2. What will be the rate of seafood consumption and from what sources?
3. What will be the rate of availability and adoption of new technologies?
4. What will be the rate of offshore development and by which sectors?
5. What will be the rate of energy consumption and from what sources?
6. How might national, regional and local governance systems evolve in response to the driving forces?



Step 3

Prioritize driving forces that will most profoundly and unpredictably impact the BSOP focal question, based on:

1. The highest degree of importance of the driving force to the focal question
2. The highest degree of uncertainty surrounding those forces

Proposed BSOP Focal Question:

How will Belize's ocean space and marine resources be used to support sustainable growth and development of Belize's blue economy, while ensuring a healthy, resilient, and equitably shared ocean in 2030?



COFFEE BREAK

15 minutes



Developing Future Scenarios - Part II

Output: A preferred future scenario

Step 4

Make **the scenario matrix** using the most important and most uncertain driving forces from Step 3.

Step 5

Develop all **4 possible future scenarios**.

Step 6

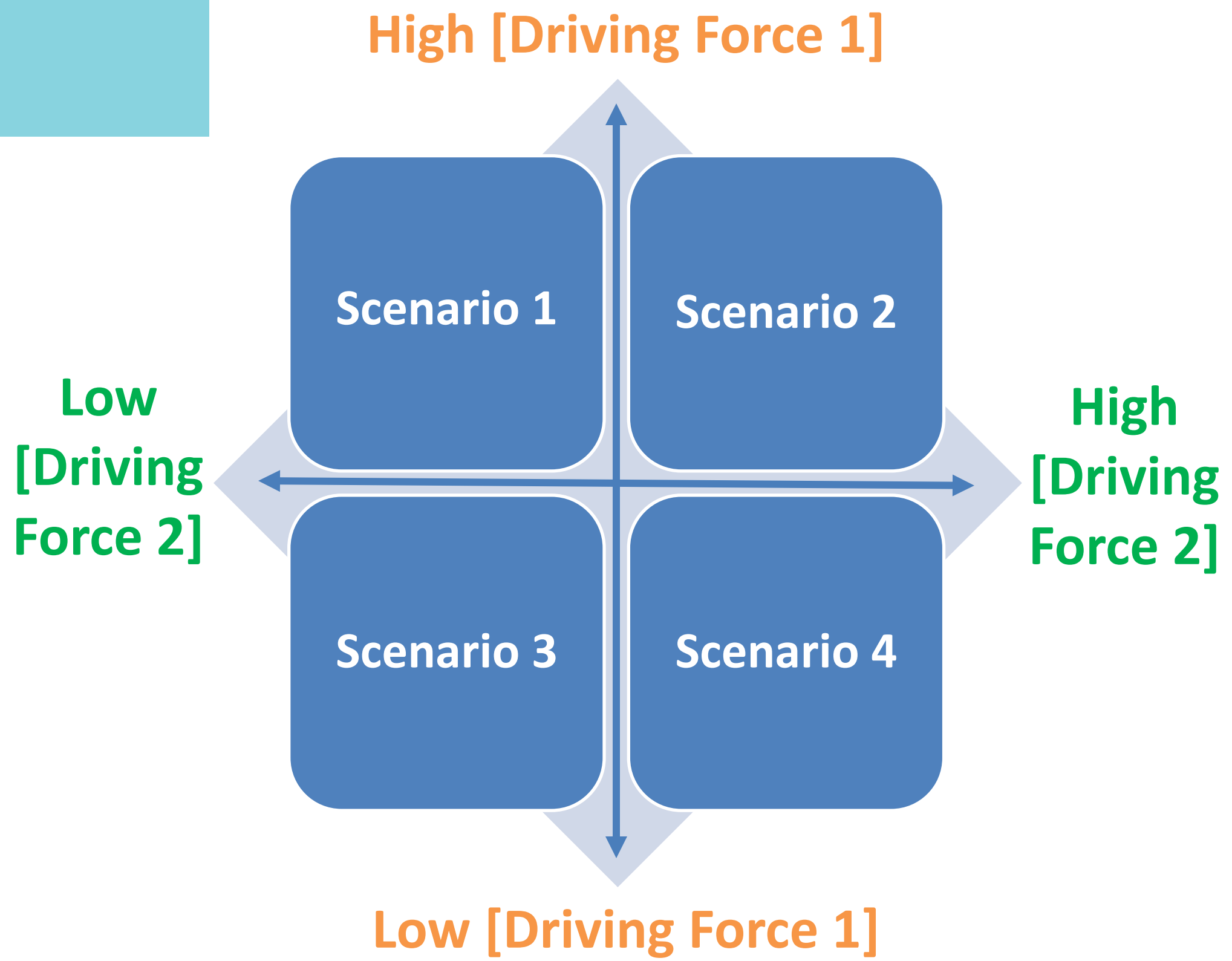
- **Reflect** on the 4 scenarios and discuss their implications for the MSP.
- **Choose** a preferred future scenario.



Step 4

Make the scenario matrix.

- The driving forces which are:
 1. most important to the core issues in the focal question,
 2. most uncertain,will be the foundation for your future scenarios.
- Each quadrant of the matrix represents one scenario.





Step 5

Develop all **4 possible future scenarios** by discussing the following questions:

1. What happens in each scenario?
2. What policy options are available for each scenario?
3. Which interventions are needed to prepare for each scenario?

Proposed BSOP Focal Question:

How will Belize's ocean space and marine resources be used to support sustainable growth and development of Belize's blue economy, while ensuring a healthy, resilient, and equitably shared ocean in 2030?



Step 6

- **Reflect** on the 4 scenarios and discuss their implications for the MSP.
- **Choose** a preferred future scenario for Belize's ocean.

Proposed BSOP Focal Question:

How will Belize's ocean space and marine resources be used to support sustainable growth and development of Belize's blue economy, while ensuring a healthy, resilient, and equitably shared ocean in 2030?



Closing Day 1

1. What transpired here today?
2. And why does it matter?



Closing Day 1

Looking ahead to tomorrow, Thursday, May 9th:

- Day 2 Focus: Foundational planning assessments and frameworks
- Kindly arrive promptly at 9am!



Thank you for participating!

