



Belize Fund For A Sustainable Future



The Nature Conservancy Belize



BELIZE SUSTAINABLE OCEAN PLAN

39th Core Team Meeting

June 27th, 2024

Duration of meeting: 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Location: Hybrid: Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute Conference Room & Zoom

Minutes

Meeting Objectives:

1. To provide an update on Milestone 4.
2. Other Matters

Present:

In-person:

MSP Process Lead, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute
MSP Coordinator, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute
GIS Mapping & Spatial Analyst, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute
MSP Science Lead, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute
Communications & Public Relations Officer, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute
Director, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute
Marine Spatial Plan Specialist, The Nature Conservancy

Virtually:

Senior Associate, Ocean Planning and Mapping, The Nature Conservancy
Conservation Program Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy
Stakeholder Engagement Specialist, The Nature Conservancy
Operations Program Specialist, 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 9:06 am.	
1.2	The agenda was presented, the meeting objectives were reviewed and accepted. Annex I	
1.3	<p>Action Item from the previous CT meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To receive indicators report from praxi5 consultants by the week of June 17-21, 2024.- Completed, received on the 19th June 2024. 2. To share Stakeholder engagement tracker with CT. Completed, 13th June 2024 3. To send draft current conditions outline to CT. Completed, 13th June 2024. 4. Feedback to be received on the current conditions outline. Completed. 5. To share draft compatibility matrix with the CT and SC. In-progress. 6. Summary report from the workshop to be prioritised, potentially by the end of next week. In progress 7. Meeting place holder to be sent to CT. Completed 8. Milestone 4 public notice. Completed, and to be posted. 	
Science and Technical Update		
2.1	<p>MSP GIS Mapping and Spatial Analyst, outlined key points from the Science and Technical Subgroup meeting held on June 19th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussions centered around the compatibility matrix and progress made on Ocean Use Survey (OUS) data. - The compatibility matrix was shared with both the Science and Technical Subgroup and the Technical Working Groups (TWGs) for feedback. <p>Regarding the Marxan meeting held on June 24th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The initial meeting took place, with subsequent meetings scheduled every Monday at 10:30 am. - A significant outcome was the creation of a wish list for additional data acquisition and scenario building. - A workshop is planned to further develop these initiatives. - The OUS data was reviewed, and a contact list was compiled. - Various ocean use footprints derived from spatial data are currently undergoing testing. 	
Milestone 4 Update		
3.1	<p>The MSP Process Lead highlighted key activities and next steps for the milestone delivery.</p> <p>Presentation was provided to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CZMAI Board of Directors – June 20, 2024 - Lighthouse Reef Advisory Committee – June 26, 2024 <p>Reporting requirements: The filling out of the rationale tables for areas based on Annex information Proposed medium biodiversity protection zones (BPZs) to be reduced by at least half</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in terms of total space identified for 15% medium and 15% high BPZs, both having 5056.05km² each • currently medium BPZs = 2915.65464 km² • remaining medium BPZs = 2140.39537 km² • identified medium BPZs = 2346.323 km², is overed by 205.92763km² <p>Lighthouse Reef Atoll Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - area divided into two zones, (i) special management SI 128, 2-miles radius and (ii) general use zone <p>Glovers Reef Atoll Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - proposal is an expansion on the reserve boundary to include the SI 128 2-miles radius. 	
3.2	<p>Meetings were held with stakeholder for the Lighthouse Reef Atoll Area and the Bacalar Chico – Banco Chinchorro – EEZ area in San Pedro.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - San Pedro Tour Operators: Amigos del Mar and Belize Pro Divers - San Pedro Fishers <p>Feedback received by theses stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They are in agreement with the proposed boundaries - Support the general use zones - Recommended the sites “aquarium” and “west point” - Emphasis the addition of no more no take areas - Were not able to specifically identify person who directly use the EEZ area. - Inquired is a fee will be charged, as it would be an expansion of the Bacalar Chico area. 	<p>The Nature Conservancy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the targets in terms of numbers representation in this round for milestone 4? - Is there a strategy in place to cover a wider representation as you continue to proceed with milestone 4? <p>Feedback form on the website, the utilization of it and how the areas are being considered for stakeholders to provide their feedback.</p>
3.3	<p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To refine scenarios - Existing conditions report - Completion of proposal - Participation in stakeholder engagement meetings to be hosted by the Fisheries Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Proposed to indicate to stakeholders on how the areas are being considered and how and what kind of feedback they can provide on the forum. -How are you communicating the changes that have been done based on stakeholder engagement and results from the OUS, putting it on the website for the evolution of the process. Stakeholders need to see the evolution of the process. Publishing the feedback in the forum.
3.4	<p>MSP Process Lead addressed concerns and question raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intended targets is based on recommendation by co-manages to specific persons/groups for this initial engagement on proposal who can directly speak about the use of the areas. The fisheries department to have larger engagement for the wider public. - Areas of interest have been presented on and not the zonation proposal, as this is still being finalized. Once the proposal is completed it will be put out for feedback from the public. - Currently at the stage of identifying and engaging with key stakeholders to refine boundaries of what is being proposed. Once finalized another forum will be displayed with the actual zones and their description for feedback from the public. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Is there a defined strategy that will be used to see and provide feedback?
Other Matters		
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Steering Committee (SC) Meeting dated for July 10th, 2024 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AOP 24/25 Workplan, to be shared after the upcoming SC meeting - Project Assistant Vacancy, to be publicized next week. - Feedback reminder on SRA & SSF Methodology due June 28th - Fisheries Update: no viable application for the project assistant vacancy and no feedback for the facilitator vacancy. 	
Closing of Meeting		
5.1	<p>Next Core Team meeting tentative date on Thursday July 11th, 2024.</p> <p>MSP Process Lead ended the meeting at 10:05 am.</p>	
Item #	Next Steps	Status Date
1	To complete summary report from the spatial planning workshop	In process July 1 st , 2024
2	To complete existing conditions report.	In process July 1 st , 2024
3	To complete proposal document.	In process July 1 st , 2024
4	To have meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Pending TBA

Minutes submitted by:
MSP Coordinator of CZMAI

Annex I: Meeting Agenda

39th BSOP Core Team Meeting

Agenda

Date	Thursday June 27th, 2024		
Time	9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. (BZE local time)		
Format	Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86734869018?pwd=CWiemg4MFzt8VsBe2N3JGeuMWvAkSb.1		
Recorded	Yes		
Format	Presentation and discussions		
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide an update on Milestone 4 2. Other Matters 		
AGENDA			
#	Time	Topic	Presenter(s)
1	9:00 – 9:05	Welcome & Meeting Called to Order	S. Rosado
2	9:05 – 9:20	Update on action items from 38 th Core Team Meeting, June 13 th , 2024.	S. Rosado
3	9:20 – 9:35	Science & Technical	D. Guevara & C. Bowman
4	9:35 – 9:50	Milestone 4 Update	S. Rosado & J. McNab
5	9:50 – 10:05	Other Matters	All
6	10:15	Closing of Meeting	S. Rosado