

## BELIZE SUSTAINABLE OCEAN PLAN

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### 43rd Core Team Meeting

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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

Location: Virtually via Zoom

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### Minutes

#### Meeting Objectives:

1. To provide an update on Milestone 4.
2. Update from Steering Committee Meeting
3. Updates on the next steps in the MSP Process
4. Any Other Matters

#### Present:

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

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

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

Aalliyah Knight – MSP Project Assistant, Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute

Beverly Wade – Director, Blue Bond & Finance Permanence Unit

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

Adriel Castaneda – Fisheries Officer, Belize Fisheries Department

Alicia Eck- Nunez - Fisheries Officer, Belize Fisheries Department

Wendy Casasola – Conservation Program Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy

Nidia Chacon – Stakeholder Engagement Specialist, The Nature Conservancy

Chantal Collier – Senior Associate, Ocean Planning and Mapping, The Nature Conservancy

Kat Griswold – The Nature Conservancy

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

#### Minutes :

Agenda Item Number	Notes/Comments/Advice	Proposed Action & Response
<b>Welcome &amp; Meeting Called to Order</b>		
1.1	The MSP Coordinator 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 reviewed and accepted. Annex I	
<b>Milestone 4 Update</b>		
2.1	<p>The process of the proposal was recapped, noting key steps along the process that signified the near completion of the Milestone 4 process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- August 21<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Public Stakeholder Engagement with Belize Fisheries Department</li> <li>- September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, National Validation Workshop</li> <li>- October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, The S.I. was developed by legal drafters hired by the Belize Fisheries Department, with CZMAI providing boundary description and final maps. S.I has been submitted to the Attorney General Ministry for revision.</li> <li>- Presentation of the proposal was made to the CEO Executive Committee on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, and was accepted and approved.</li> <li>- October 2nd, 2024, Cabinet Paper was submitted to the Cabinet Secretary</li> <li>- October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Cabinet Memo 110 of 20204 was approved</li> <li>- October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, presentation to Parliament</li> <li>- October 21<sup>st</sup>- 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, Publication in the Government Gazette</li> <li>- Submission of revised proposal and S.I. by November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024</li> </ul> <p>Currently waiting for approval on submitted documents.</p>	
2.2	<p>Next Steps in MSP Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue with stakeholder engagement</li> <li>- Continue with the analyzing exiting conditions</li> <li>- Strat to develop analyzing future conditions</li> <li>- Start to develop the Plan</li> </ul> <p>Percentages noted toward the MSP development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 52.5% completed</li> <li>- 30% ongoing</li> <li>- 18.75% not started as yet</li> </ul>	
<b>Science &amp; Technical Update</b>		
3.1	Highlights were presented regarding next steps for the upcoming Ocean Use Survey (OUS) to be conducted in 2025. Highlighting key steps in preparation:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enumerators selection and training by mid-December 2024 (11<sup>th</sup> Dec)</li> <li>• Travel logistics with the assistance of the new Project Assistant</li> <li>• Data collection between January to mid-March 2025</li> <li>• Use of updated targets 2022 census data</li> </ul> <p>Other aspects mentioned for the over all develop of the MSP were in relations to the tools being used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marxan</li> <li>• Compatibility Matrix</li> </ul> <p>It was also noted that there is also the need for data gaps and assessment to identify high priority areas, with assistance from Science for Sustainability of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and GIS data support from Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCPP) MarFishEco (MFE).</p>	
<p><b>Communications Updates</b></p>		
<p>4.1</p>	<p>An over of upcoming activities relating to Milestone 4 and beyond were presented. With a look into year 2025-2026 work plan and the completion of 2024-2025 workplan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Primary School Educational Visits. To be conducted across 20 institutions in Belize City and Stann Creek district. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 schools in Stann Creek from in Hopkins, Dangriga and Placencia between the 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> November 2024.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Communication of Milestone 4 to the public in the form of info graphics, story map, social media campaign, media visits and press release.</li> <li>- Sticker and Billboard campaign to raise awareness and promote community engagement in the BSOP process.</li> </ul> <p>Work plan for the upcoming year in 2025 to be reviewed.</p>	
<p><b>8<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Update</b></p>		
<p>5.1</p>	<p>The Steering Committee Meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2024 at the Best Western Belize Biltmore Plaza was recapped. Noting key out comes in the relation to an update on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Milestone 4 proposal process, where the document is to be gazetted and handover for final submission of the 4<sup>th</sup> of November with the accompanying S.I.</li> <li>- Upcoming activity of the OUS &amp; data gaps to identity priority areas.</li> <li>- Attendance at public outreach activities and upcoming activities.</li> </ul>	

	Involvement in the development of the MSP Policy with IH Cantabria Consultants for the delivery of Milestone 5.		
<b>Other matters</b>			
6.1	<p>6<sup>th</sup> MSP Global Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MSP Coordinator attended from 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> October 2024</li> <li>- Presenting on behalf of the MSP Unit and CZMAI on the BSOP Process and its inclusion of Sustainable Blue Economy.</li> </ul> <p>Milestone 5 Consultancy, IH Cantabria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contact period of nine (9) months. October 2024 – July 2025</li> <li>- Milestone 5 a comprehensive update to the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP), will include a new chapter dedicated to marine and coastal biodiversity offsets.</li> <li>- Amendments to the Belize Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Act and Regulations, with a focus on establishing a National Marine Spatial Plan Policy.</li> <li>- Consultancy to have 5 specific objectives, with the inclusion of the MSP Policy to be developed among others.</li> </ul> <p>Marine Spatial Planning Unit Capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vacancy for the MSP Science Lead, application deadline 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024.</li> </ul> <p>Response to media articles regarding milestone 4 No direct action will be made to address these articles. But to look at the concerns that are raised and develop messaging accordingly.</p>		
<b>Closing of Meeting</b>			
7.1	<p>Next Core Team meeting tentative December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024.</p> <p>MSP Coordinator ended the meeting at 10:15 am.</p>		
<b>Action Items</b>			
<i>Item #</i>	<i>Next Steps</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Date</i>
1	Communications Subgroup meeting to start the develop communications materials and strategy for Milestone 4	Completed	9/12/2024
2	Meeting with key partners to discuss Milestone 4 feedback	Completed	21/11/2024
3	Revision of 2025-2026 Communications workplan	In process	TBA



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**Minutes submitted by:**

Janel McNab, MSP Coordinator of CZMAI

**Approved**

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**Mr. Samir Rosado**  
Marine Spatial Plan Process Lead,  
CZMAI

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

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Annex 1: Meeting Agenda



[Drawing]

## 43rd BSOP Core Team Meeting

### Agenda

<b>Date</b>	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2024		
<b>Time</b>	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (BZE local time)		
<b>Format</b>	Virtually via Zoom: <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83070620135?pwd=Pmuiby8pts5qsE1gGbJbg6gisDA2Sc.1">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83070620135?pwd=Pmuiby8pts5qsE1gGbJbg6gisDA2Sc.1</a>		
<b>Recorded</b>	Yes		
<b>Format</b>	Presentation and discussions		
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide an update on Milestone 4</li> <li>2. Update from Steering Committee Meeting</li> <li>3. Updates on the next steps in the MSP Process</li> <li>4. Other Matters</li> </ol>		
AGENDA			
#	Time	Topic	Presenter(s)
1	9:00 – 9:10	Welcome & Meeting Called to Order	J. McNab
2	9:10 – 9:20	Update on action items from 42 <sup>nd</sup> Core Team Meeting, October 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2024.	J. McNab
3	9:20 – 9:45	Milestone 4 Update	A. Young & Fisheries Dept.
4	9:45 – 10:00	Science & Technical	D. Guevara
5	10:00 – 10:15	Communications Update	S. Banner
6	10:15 – 10:30	8 <sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Update	J. McNab
7	10:30 – 10:55	Other Matters	All
8	10:55 – 11:00	Closing of Meeting	J. McNab





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