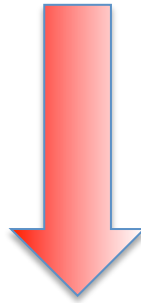


# Articulating Nature's Benefits to Improve Decisions

Anne Guerry

Lead Scientist, Natural Capital Project  
Northwest BioCarbon Summit, June 2013

people



nature



Food, fuel,  
fiber



Climate  
regulation



Coastal  
protection



Clean  
water

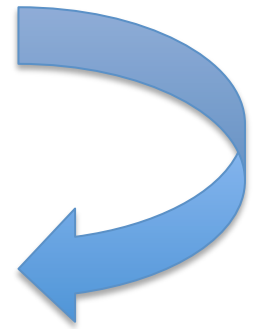


Recreation





people  
nature



# The Natural Capital Project

natural  
capital  
PROJECT



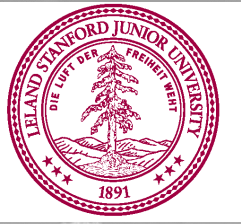
INSTITUTE ON THE  
ENVIRONMENT

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
Driven to Discover<sup>SM</sup>

# NatCap's mission

- Develop and apply a credible ecosystem service approach to support decision makers with dual development and conservation goals
- Learn what works, train users, and disseminate useful approaches and lessons
- Create an informed community of leaders and practitioners who will enable large-scale policy changes





# The Natural Capital Project

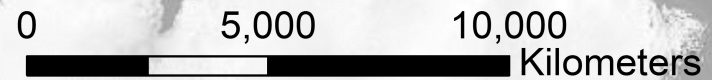
## Incorporating ecosystem services in decisions



- Spatial Planning**
- Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)**
- Climate Adaptation Planning**
- Development Impacts and Permitting**
- Restoration Planning**
- Corporate Risk Management**

natural  
capital  
PROJECT

Ruckelshaus et al. in review





How can we balance sustainable use of the coastal and marine environment for the benefit of Belizeans and the global community?



natural  
capital  
PROJECT





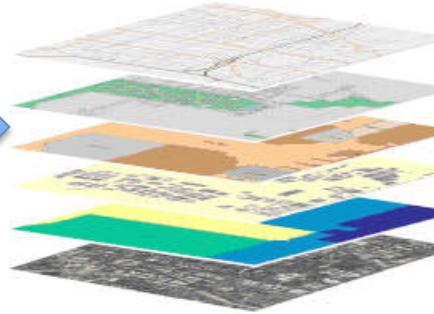
1

# Define Partnerships, Roles & Objectives



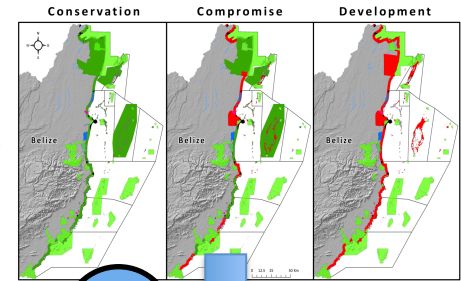
2

# Compile Data



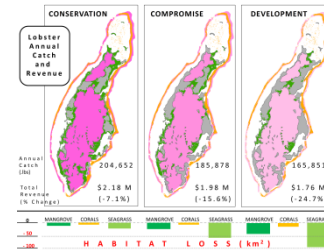
3

# Generate Baseline & Scenarios



4

# Assess outcomes



## Habitats & Blue carbon

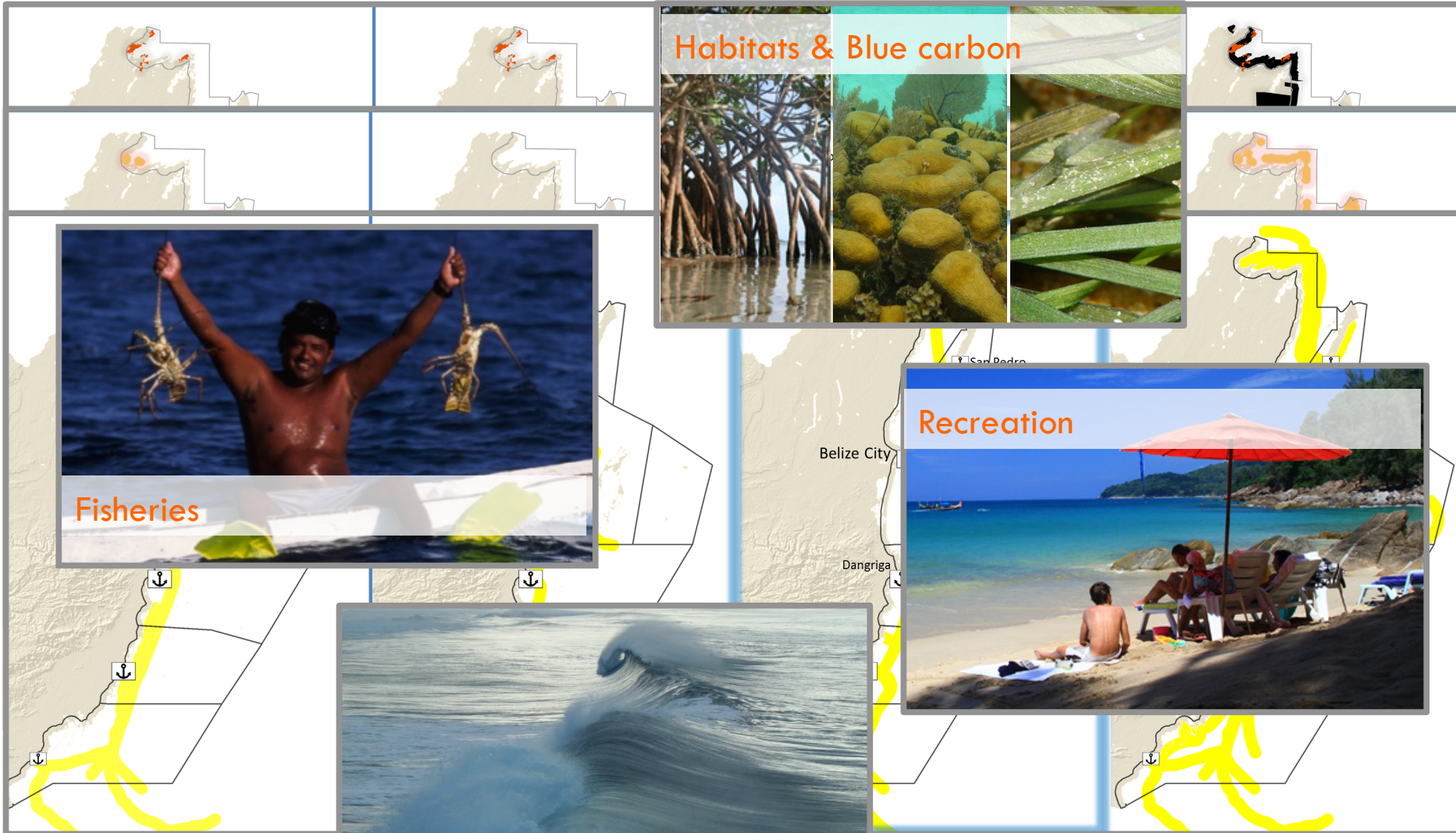


## Fisheries

## Recreation



## Storm protection



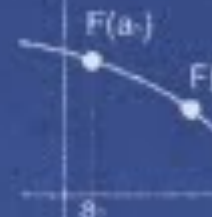
# InVEST

Accounting for nature's benefits

Free. Open source.  
[www.naturalcapitalproject.org](http://www.naturalcapitalproject.org)

natural  
capital  
PROJECT

# THE WHAT IF MACHINE



$$f_a = \frac{f(x_0 + 1) - f(x_0 - 1)}{2}$$
$$f_b = \frac{f(y_0 + 1) - f(y_0 - 1)}{2}$$
$$f_{aa} = \frac{f(x_0 - 1) - 2f(x_0) + f(x_0 + 1)}{4}$$

Changes in ecosystem → Changes in ecosystem services and their values



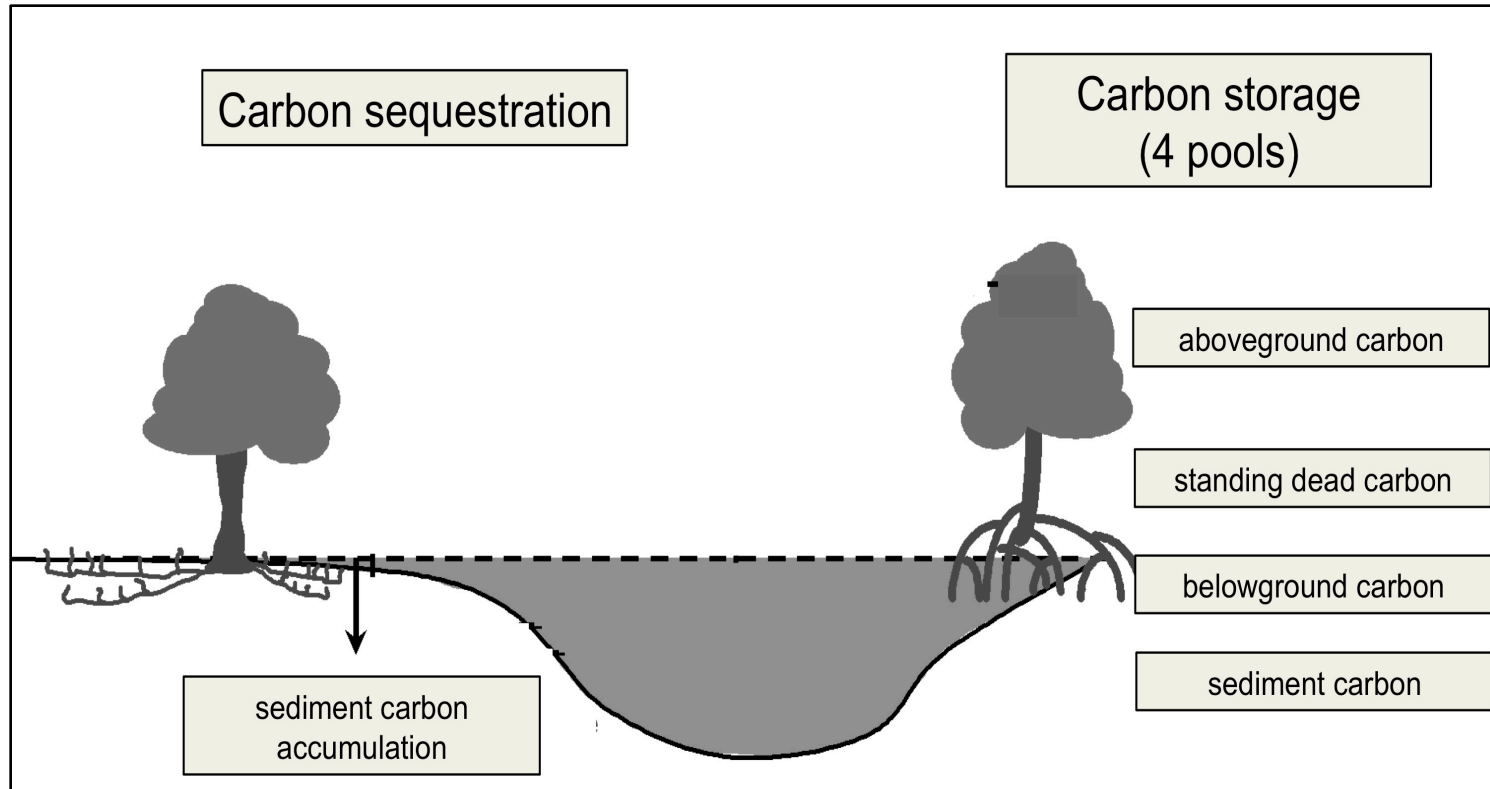
How might coastal development affect  
*Erosion/flooding from storm events?*



How might coastal development affect  
*Erosion/flooding from storm events?*  
*Coastal and marine recreation?*  
*Nursery habitat for key species?*  
*Fisheries?*  
*Carbon storage and sequestration?*



# Blue Carbon model



Estimates:

- **How much carbon is stored** in coastal vegetation and sediments
- **Carbon accumulation** in the sediments
- **Economic value (social or market)** of storage and sequestration



# Blue Carbon Model

InVEST

integrated valuation of  
environmental services  
and tradeoffs

## Inputs

### Biophysical

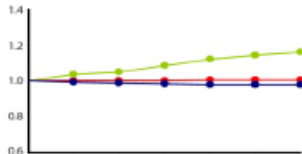


Maps of coastal/marine  
vegetation



Storage in 4 carbon 'pools'

- Aboveground biomass
- Belowground biomass
- Sediments
- Dead organic matter



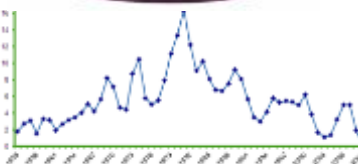
Rate of carbon accumulation  
in sediments

### Economic (optional)

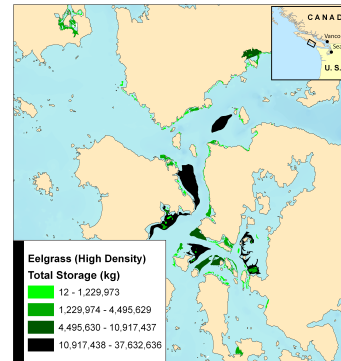


Market or social value

Annual rate of change  
and discount rate



## Outputs



Carbon storage  
(Mg C/ha)

Carbon sequestration  
(Mg C/ha/yr)



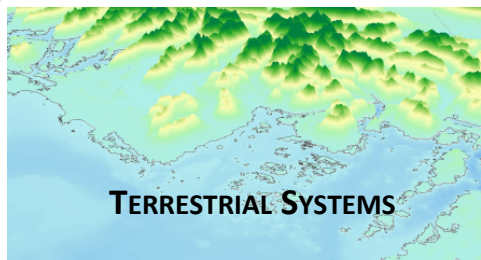
Value of carbon  
storage and  
sequestration

Input Data (reflect scenarios)

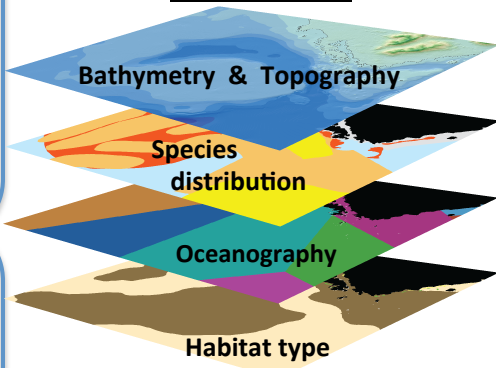
Marine InVEST Models

Model Outputs  
(ecosystem services & values)

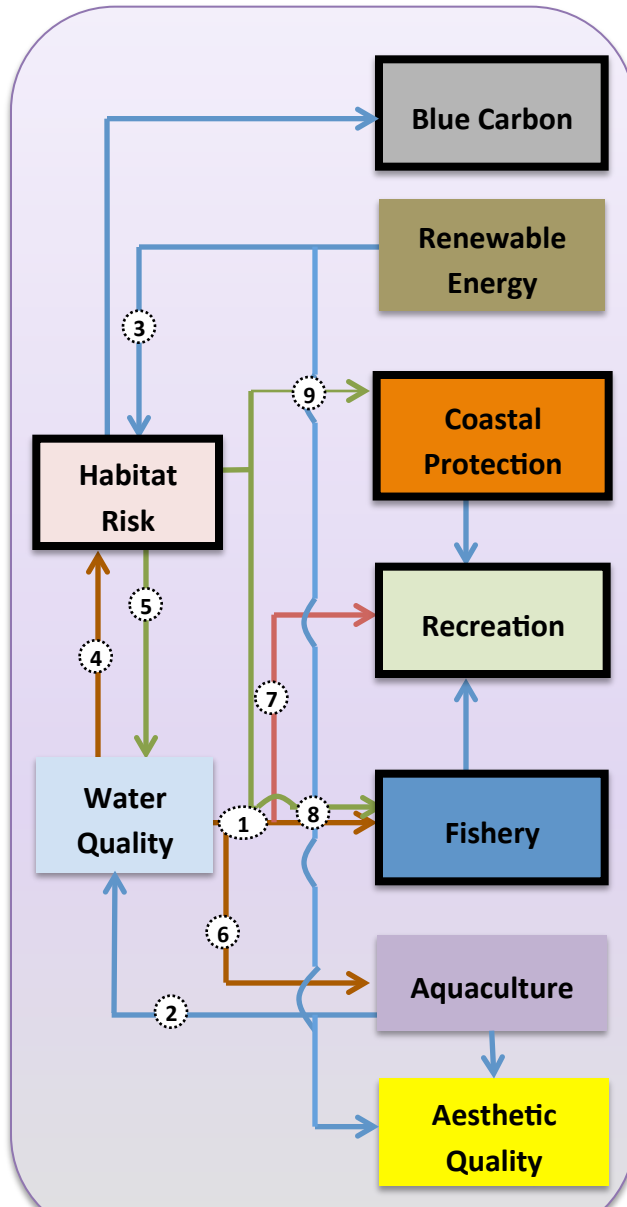
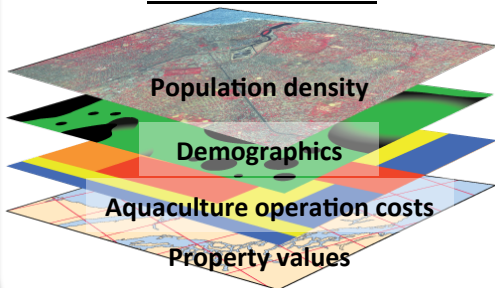
SCENARIOS



BIO-PHYSICAL



SOCIO-ECONOMIC



ECOSYSTEM SERVICES VALUATION  
*e.g.*

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES	VALUATION <i>e.g.</i>
Carbon Sequestered	Value of carbon sequestered
Energy Captured	Value of captured wave energy
Avoided Area Flooded/ Eroded	Value of avoided damages
Visitation Rates	Expenditures due to recreation activity
Landed Biomass	Net present value of finfish and shellfish
Harvested Biomass	

## FUNCTIONAL HABITAT (km<sup>2</sup>)

CORALS  
MANGROVES  
SEAGRASSES

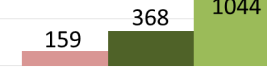
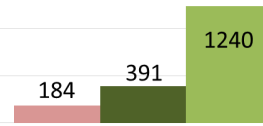
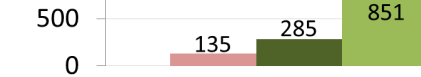
1500  
1000  
500  
0

2010  
CURRENT

2025  
CONSERVATION

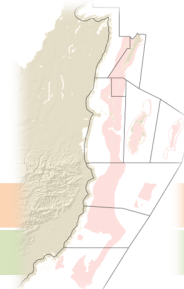
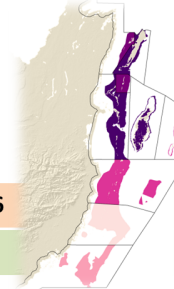
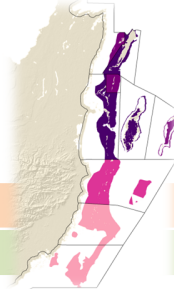
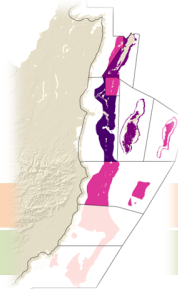
2025  
INFORMED MANAGEMENT

2025  
DEVELOPMENT



## LOBSTER FISHERIES

LOW HIGH



CATCH (thsd. pounds) 519

REVENUE (mil. BZ\$) 16

764

24

676

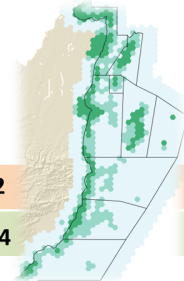
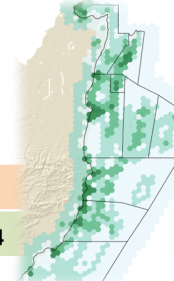
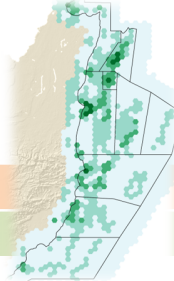
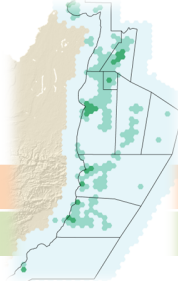
21

79

3

## RECREATION

LOW HIGH



VISTORS (# in mil.) 1.8

EXPENDITURES (mil. BZ\$) 205

4.2

446

4.9

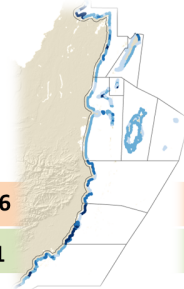
834

4.2

444

## COASTAL PROTECTION

LOW HIGH



LAND PROTECTED (km<sup>2</sup>) 351

AVOIDED DAMAGES (bil. BZ\$) 3.6

387

4.4

379

7.6

196

4.1

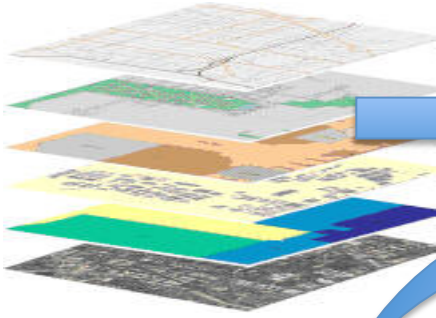
1

# Define Partnerships, Roles & Objectives



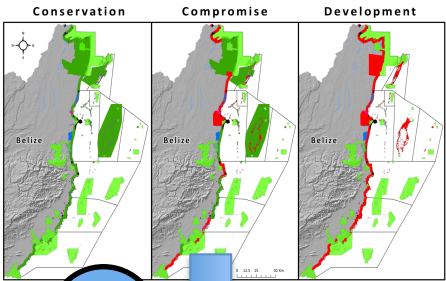
2

# Compile Data



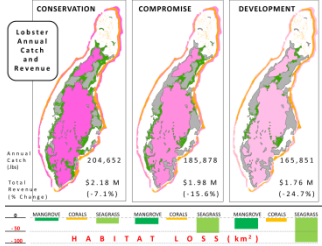
3

# Generate Baseline & Scenarios



4

# Assess Outcomes

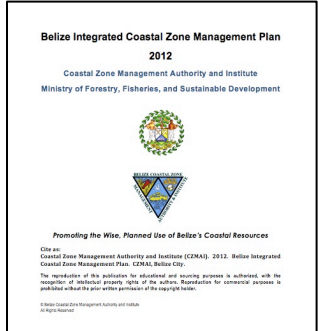


# Iterate & Build Capacity

6

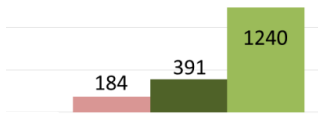
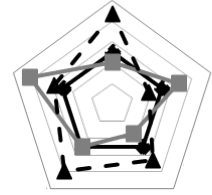
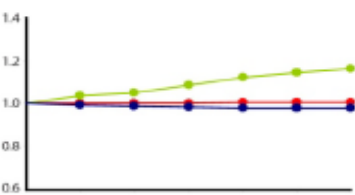
7

# Inform Decisions



5

# Synthesize Results



# **Belize Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan**

## **2012**

**Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute**  
**Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries, and Sustainable Development**



*Promoting the Wise, Planned Use of Belize's Coastal Resources*

Cite as:  
Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute (CZMAI). 2012. Belize Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan. CZMAI, Belize City.

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# What are the costs and benefits of alternative climate adaptation options?



'Green'



'Grey'



- Value suite of services
- Scenarios for climate change and adaptation options



# Integrated

- Protection of coastal mangroves and littoral forest
- Some restoration of mangroves
- Establishment of MPAs
- Strategic construction of sea walls to avoid undeveloped and conservation areas and beaches that are used for tourism

# Reactive

- Construction of sea walls along all coastlines with development
- Some protection of mangroves and littoral forest

**ECOSYSTEM SERVICES  
& VALUES**  
SOUTH-CENTRAL  
PLANNING REGION

**ANNUAL RETURNS  
(2025 - 2100)**

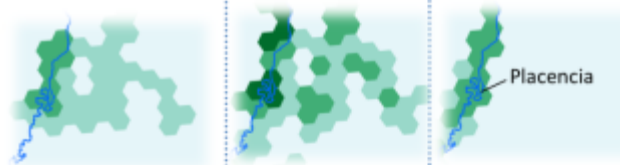
Adaptation >>  
Scenarios

NO ACTION    INTEGRATED    REACTIVE



Climate Scenarios >>    IN ACTION    MITIGATION

CATCH (thsd. pounds)	19,44	24,54	3,6
REVENUE (thsd. BZ\$)	205,470	253,576	135,310



VISTOR DAYS (# in thsd.)	441	549	368
EXPENDITURES (mil. BZ\$)	47	94	39



CARBON SEQ. (mil. tons)	3.9	4.1	3.7
VALUE (thsd. BZ\$)	-	141	-786



# Integrated

- Protection of coastal mangroves and littoral forest
- Some restoration of mangroves
- Establishment of MPAs
- Strategic construction of sea walls to avoid undeveloped and conservation areas and beaches that are used for tourism

**\$275M greater net benefit**

# Reactive

- Construction of sea walls along all coastlines with development
- Some protection of mangroves and littoral forest



- 1) Articulating multiple benefits of natural systems informs planning and improves outcomes for people and the environment
- 2) Accessible tools and capacity building are critical for scaling up these approaches

Mary Ruckelshaus, Steve Polasky, Gretchen Daily, Peter Kareiva, Taylor Ricketts, Jon Foley, Heather Tallis, Anne Guerry, Becky Chaplin-Kramer, Rich Sharp, Emily McKenzie, Liz Rauer, Brian Robinson, Gail Kaiser, Guy Ziv, Stacie Wolny, Jodie Toft, Katie Arkema, Greg Guannel, Gregg Verutes, Spencer Wood, CK Kim, Joey Bernhardt, James Douglass, Martin Lacayo-Emery, Derric Pennington, Amy Rosenthal, Yonas Ghile, Rob Griffin, Suzanne Langridge, Lula G-Michael, Nasser Olwero, Doug Denu, Nirmal Bhagabati, Bonnie Keeler, Mike Anderson, Kris Johnson, Peter Hawthorne, Shan Ma, Jess Silver, Adrian Vogl, Joe Faries.

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NOAA, NSF, DoD, EPA

Private Individuals

TNC, WWF, Stanford, UMN



# Blue Carbon Global Lit Review

## Vegetation included:

- salt marsh
- mangrove
- seagrasses

## Values included:

- aboveground biomass
- soil storage in top meter
- sediment accumulation rate
- depth of organic sediments

Location	General Location	Latitude	Longitude	Tonnes CO2e/ha/yr	Study	Year	Citation	Original Article if Cited in Review
Tijuana Slough, Calif.	California	32.50	-117.10	12.58	Chmura et al.	2003	Chmura, G. L., S. C. Anisfeld,	Cahoon et al 1996
Tijuana Slough, Calif.	California	32.60	-117.10	1.58	Chmura et al.	2003	Chmura, G. L., S. C. Anisfeld,	Cahoon unpublished data 1993
Alviso, San Francisco Bay, Calif.	California	37.50	-122.00	14.12	Chmura et al.	2003	Chmura, G. L., S. C. Anisfeld,	Patrick and DeLaune 1990
Bird Island, San Francisco Bay, Calif.	California	37.60	-122.20	1.98	Chmu			90
Ballona Wetlands Los Angeles		33.97	-118.44	1.43	Brevik an			
St. Annaland, Netherlands	Europe	51.50	4.10	10.16	Chmu			
St. Annaland, Netherlands	Europe	51.50	4.10	5.10	Chmu			
Scheldt, Netherlands	Europe	51.50	4.10	21.53	Chmu			988
Scheldt, Netherlands	Europe	51.50	4.10	23.84	Chmu			988
Netherlands	Europe	52.32	4.20	35.09	Cebri			
Netherlands	Europe	52.32	4.20	68.57	Cebri			
Netherlands	Europe	52.32	4.20	56.25	Cebri			
St Marks Florida	Florida	30.06	84.15	2.15	Choi a			
St. Marks, Fla.	Florida	30.10	-84.20	1.61	Chmu			ed data

