MPA Coral Data - Gaps & Needs

- 1. Does your MPA have historic and recent coral reef survey data? (locations, years, methods)?
- 2. If your MPA does not have any sites with survey data what are priority areas (#, location)?
- 3. If your MPA has sites to be surveyed, do you staff, equipment,
- 4. Are there reef health indicators that you currently don't have data

Key metrics include coral cover, fleshy macroalgae, herbivorous fish (parrot/surgeon) density and biomass, commercial fish (snapper and grouper) density and biomass, fish size (especially for parrots, and various grouper, snapper or other harvested species), Diadema, reef structure, coral recruits, coral health, other key species like lobster, conch, etc)

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Potential Management Actions

- 1. Reef monitoring plans (ideally every 2 years unless disturbance event like hurricanes, bleaching, disease then survey after event).
- 2. Review zoning of MPA (are there sensitive areas that would benefit from more protection (shallow reefs, spags, nursery areas?)
- Review regulations and enforcement (are there areas for improvement?)
- 4. Minimize human impacts (land-based pollution, boat damage, coastal development or erosion, etc).
- 5. Active restoration (are there areas that would benefit from intervention -seagrass/mangrove restoration, coral enhancement, shoreline rebuilding)?

(what are priorities for next 1 and 2 years?)

3



11 sites Most recent data-2016 Historic data – 2006, 2010, 2014 (data being collected 2018) 2016 Site Names Cayo Culebra Caballeros 1 Caballeros 2 Tariagagu Voitague

Cordero Atkins Bight Cayo Mayor Lion's Paw / Pelican 4 Roatan Banks 1 Roatan Banks 2

Status of reef health indicators

- 1. Is reef structure intact and expected to maintain integrity (e.g., coral cover, reef structure and low macroalgae, more promoters than detractors, no bleaching or disease)?
- 2. Are herbivorous fish populations healthy (density, biomass, fish size - esp parrotfish).
- 3. Are commercial fish populations healthy (density, biomass, fish size, enough mature fish)?
- 4. Are other fishery species healthy and managed (e.g., lobster, conch, sea cucumber)?

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Maturity size of fis		
Species	Common Name	Maturity Size
Mycteroperca bonaci	Black Grouper	67.7
Cephalopholis fulva	Coney	14.7
Lutjanus cyanopterus	Cubera Snapper	65
Lutjanus cyanopterus	Cubera Snapper	65
Lutjanus jocu	Dog Snapper	31
Lutjanus griseus	Gray Snapper	21
Cephalopholis cruentata	Graysby	16
Lutjanus synagris	Lane Snapper	16
Lutjanus mahogoni	Mahogany Snapper	14
Lutjanus analis	Mutton Snapper	28
Epinephelus striatus	Nassau Grouper	48
Epinephelus guttatus	Red Hind	25
Epinephelus adscensionis	Rock Hind	25
Lutjanus apodus	Schoolmaster	25
Mycteroperca tigris	Tiger Grouper	46
Mycteroperca venenosa	Yellowfin Grouper	51
Mycteroperca interstitialis	Yellowmouth Grouper	42
Ocyurus chrysurus	Yellowtail Snapper	15

What is average size of fish in your MPA?

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Are they getting large enough to reach maturity?

Maturity size of fish data are from Courtney Cox (RARE) and Heath

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Cayos Cochinos, Honduras

Status of reef health indicators

- Live coral cover was highest at 3 sites: Roatan Banks 1 Roatan Banks 2 and Lions Paw; but poor to fair at all other sites. The high coral cover sites also had some of the tallest reef structure (nearly 1m in height).
- Only two sites had more reef promoters than reef detractors (Roatan Banks 1 & 2).
- Fleshy macroalgae was high (poor rating) at all sites with critically high macroalgae at 3 sites Caballeros 1, Caballeros 2, and Tariagagu. This is surprising since herbivorous fish biomass was high and some Diadema urchins were present.
- Herbivorous fish biomass was good at all sites but one which was fair (Cayo Cordero).

 Parrotfish had higher biomass than surgeonfish, although most parrotfish were small in size
- except at two sites (Roatan Banks 1 & 2).
- Commercial fish biomass was critical at 4 sites (Caballeros 1, Tariagagu, Voitague, Cayo Cordero). Some sites had no snappers. Rotatan Banks had high commercial fish biomass

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