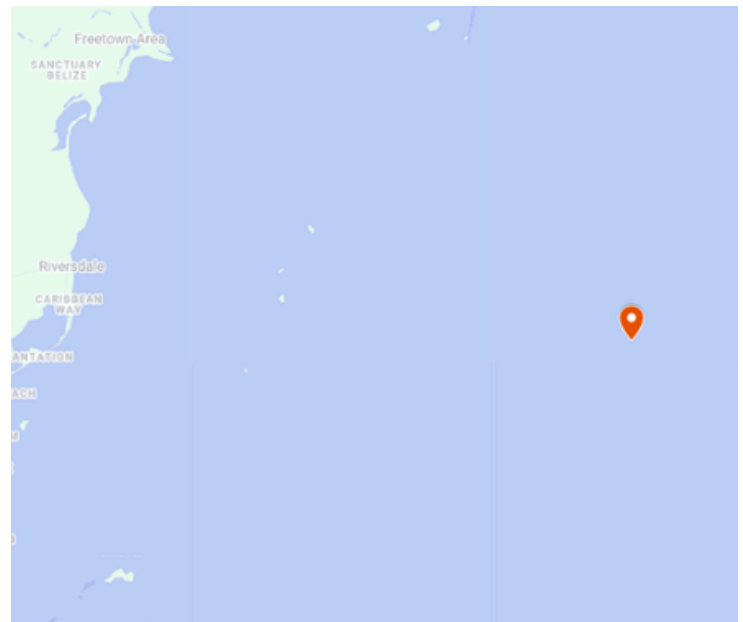


CAMP BLUE - Cultivating - Conservation, Advanced Diversification, Management, and Protection of Blue Economies within the Gladden Spit and Silk Cayes Marine Reserve



Location of Gladden Spit & Silk Cayes Marine Reserve



Gladden Spit & Silk Cayes Marine Reserve

Map Data © 2025 Google

COUNTRY	Belize
COASTAL MARINE PROTECTED AREA (CMPA)	Gladden Spit & Silk Cayes Marine Reserve (GSSCMR)
CO MANAGER	Southern Environmental Association (SEA)
CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION (CSO)	Humana People for People Belize (HPPBz)
DURATION:	December 2024 - December 2027



Photo: SEA

PROJECT SUMMARY:

The project aims to improve the effectiveness of the protected area's management through the participation of communities, the public and private sectors.

To address illegal fishing and overfishing, innovative technologies will be used and the community will be trained in their use. Key equipment will be purchased to improve their control and surveillance activities and community participation will be encouraged through a program of researchers who will collect data for adaptive management.

To address unsustainable tourism practices, guides and operators will be trained in regulations and best practices. The necessary infrastructure will also be rehabilitated to ensure the proper functioning of the CMPA.

REACH

Protected area
10,523
hectares



Number of
beneficiaries
118



Photo: Untame Belize Tours

KEY TOPICS AND ACTIVITIES

CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

- Collect data on fish populations and complete analysis for GSSCMR.
- Train SEA staff in innovative technology to strengthen GSSCMR's control, surveillance, and monitoring programs, as well as improve their operational and business knowledge in key areas.
- Evaluate the management effectiveness of GSSCMR.
- Rehabilitate infrastructure and communication channels to improve management of GSSCMR, and install demarcation buoys for the different zones of the protected area.
- Implement an awareness and education campaign for key communities, and conduct a knowledge, attitudes, and practices survey among GSSCMR users.

SUSTAINABLE USE WITH LOCAL PARTICIPATION

- Train community researchers in collecting data on fish populations for GSSCMR.
- Develop eco-groups with community youth to support GSSCMR's awareness and education campaign.
- Conduct sessions with key communities and government entities aimed at improving the management of GSSCMR.
- Develop and implement standardized monitoring protocols for GSSCMR.

STRENGTHENING AMONG KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND GOVERNANCE

- Establish a Combat, Protection, and Enforcement (CPE) Team composed of representatives from SEA, the Department of Fisheries, the Belize Coast Guard, the Belize Police Department, and local communities to enforce GSSCMR monitoring and protection standards.
- Provide annual capacity building sessions for the CPE.
- Conduct annual workshops on key topics for SEA staff and stakeholders, focusing on sustainable natural resource use practices.
- Develop transnational workshops to exchange best practices, experiences, and lessons learned for standardizing monitoring protocols with protected area managers from other countries.



The project "Protection of Maritime Resources in Central America III (Phase III)" represents a joint and ongoing effort to strengthen the effective management of marine and coastal protected areas of the Mesoamerican Reef System. With the financial support of the German Cooperation through KfW, and the active participation of local managers and implementers, this regional effort strengthens the protection of key ecosystems and the benefits they provide to communities. Learn more: