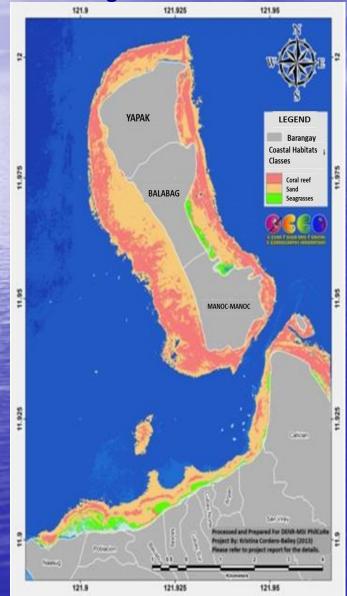
# Current Conditions of Reefs in Boracay: DENR (BMB) Action Plans

Vincent V Hilomen Biodiversity Management Bureau Department of Environment and Natural Resources

#### **Coastal and Marine**

#### **Coral reef fringes the entire island of Boracay**



Sec. 1. In or a	Sites	Coral Reef Area (ha)	Seagrass Area (ha)	Mangrov e Area
Service Se	Yapak, Boracay Island	161.89	0.83	156.42
	Balabag, Boracay Island	258.30	10.73	150.93
	Manoc-manoc, Boracay Island	153.88	8.15	208.98

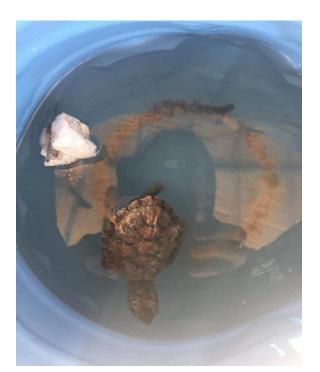
With 9 Marine Parks (Locally Managed MPA: MO 272) and 15 designated scuba diving sites

- Angol Point Reef
- Tambisaan and Crocodile Reef
- Tulubhan Reef
- Ilig-Iligan Reef
- Balinghai Reef
- Lapus-Lapus Reef
- Sa-Id Point Reef
- Punta-Bunga Reef (recently declared in 2009)
- Bunyugan Reef (recently declared in 2009)

#### **Coastal and Marine**

---- LEGEND ----

#### **Marine Turtles**



Marine turtle hatchlings March 2018



Hawksbill turtle



Green turtle

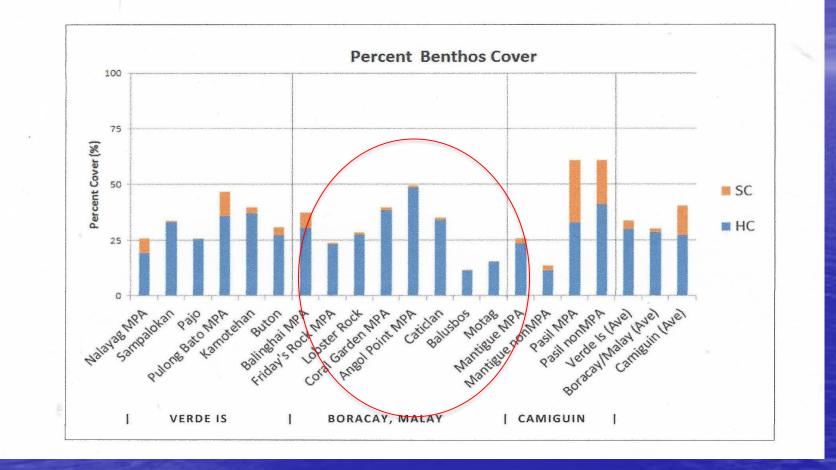


Olive ridley



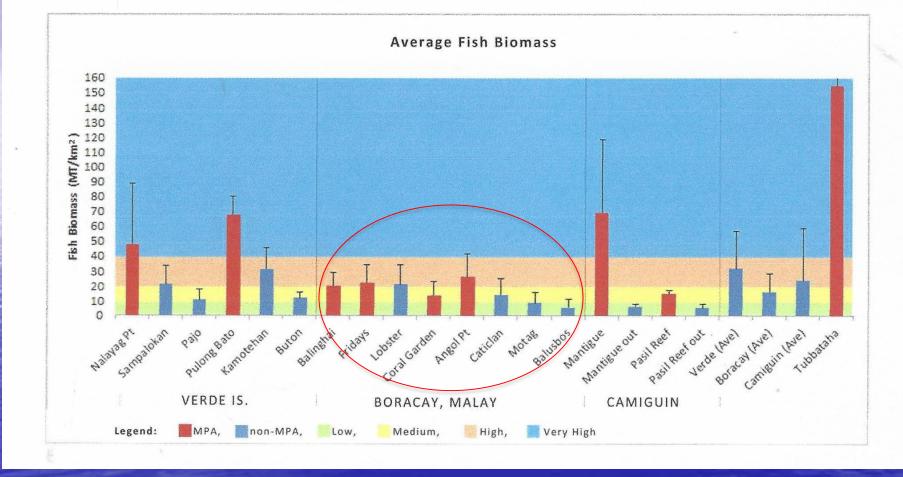
Leather back turtle

#### CORAL COVER

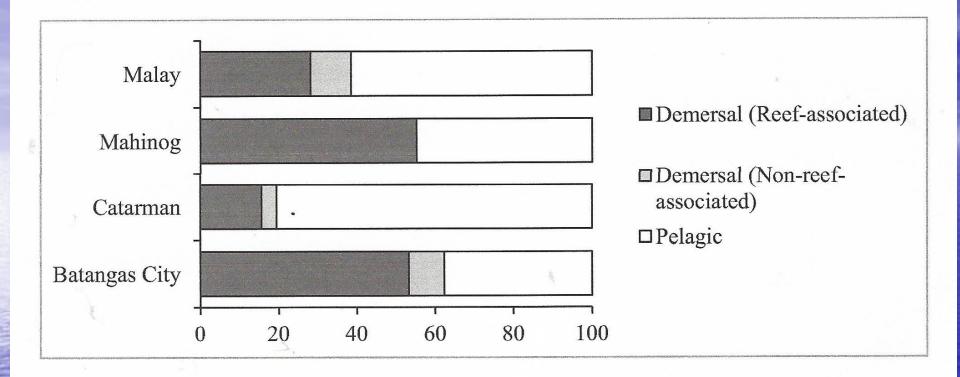


Reef condition based on live coral cover: 0-21.9% Poor; 22-32.9% Fair; 22-43.9% Good; >44% Excellent. POOR=2 of 8 sites, FAIR= 4 of 8 sites; GOOD = 1 of 8 and Excellent 1 of 8

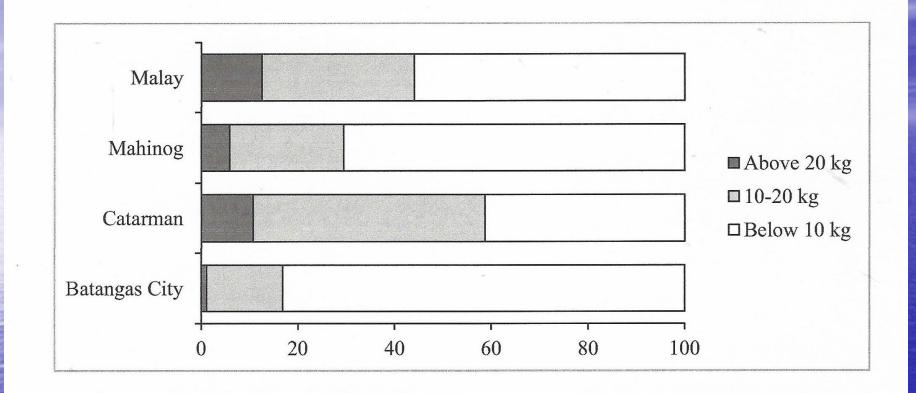




Fish Biomass: Low = 2 of 8 sites; Med = 3 of 8; High = 3 of 8; Very High = None



Catch composition: Boracay area, >60% pelagic spp.;  $\sim$ 10% non-reef associated and  $\sim$ 30% reef associated



Catch rates in Boracay: nearly 60% of fishers report daily catch rates of below 10 kg per day; ~30% between 10 - 20 kg per day and ~ 10% above 20 kg per day

# **Threats and Pressures**

- Pollution [over capacity –tourism activities]
  Solid wastes
  - Waste water
    - Only ~70% of 842 establishments (bigger ones) have their own STP or are connected to Boracay Water STP
    - Current STPs not enough
    - Those without STP connect illegally to storm drain



https://www.facebook.com/dboracay/photos/pcb.938352373005397/938350086338959/?type=3&t heater







# Before



http://www.manilachronicles.com/2017/03/look-slimy-green-algae-blanketing.html

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# **Threats and Pressures**

### Habitat conversion

Wetlands have been reclaimed, titled and establishments erected

- Blocked natural drain of watersheds
- Ability of wetlands to control floods impaired (worst flooding in Boracay December 2017)
- Habitat loss for biodiversity (birds, invertebrates, fish, plants

# **Threats and Pressures**

### Habitat conversion

- Forestlands have been reclaimed, titled and establishments erected
  - Habitat loss for biodiversity (bats, birds, invertebrates, plants)
- Caves disturbed
  - Displaced important biodiversity (snakes, bats, crabs)

**Other Threats and Pressures** • Tourism activities that help degrade habitats (aside from over capacity) Anchor damage Recreational fishing - Collecting mementos (shells, sand) Weak governance (both local and national) -Solid and liquid waste management Issuance of permits - Law enforcement Monitoring and evaluation

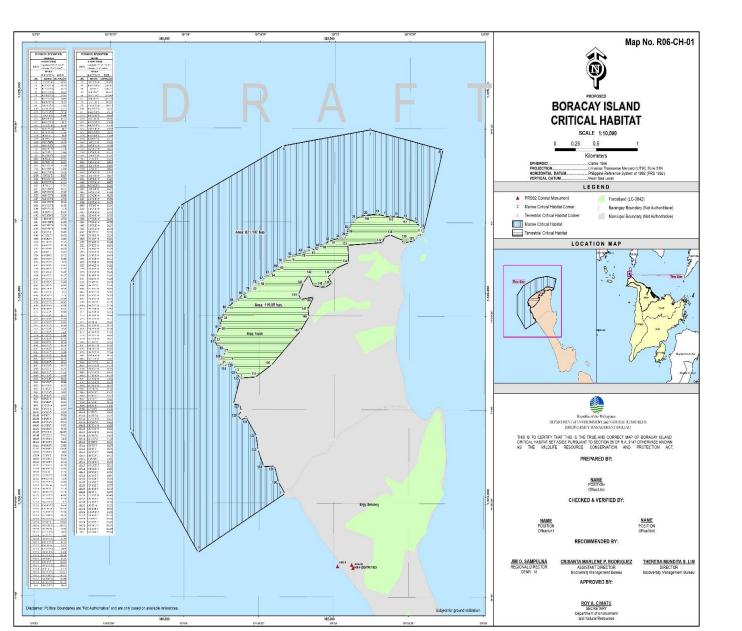
# What we intend to do (for which we need help from science community)

- Determine carrying capacity (programmatic)
  - Develop new limits for indicators (e.g. E. coli, BOD, TSS, etc.)
  - Number of tourists on the island
  - Establishments
- CEPA –communication, education and public awareness campaigns to change behavioral attitudes including greed

Increase competence for governance

- Promote code of conduct for tourism
- Develop new and better rehabilitation methodologies consistent with correct conservation

### **PROPOSED BORACAY ISLAND CRITICAL HABITAT**



**Total Area (in ha): 750.96** Land: 119.85 Marine 631.107

Location: Brgys.Yapak and Balabag Malay, Aklan With critical habitat, we hope to achieve

 Protecting nesting sites for marine turtles, roosting sites of fruit bats, cave habitats Impose on the island no collection of sand, shells and other materials Educate tourists and locals Initiate improving governance Improve cooperation with locals for conservation activities Rehabilitate conditions of habitats