



**Darwin Initiative Main/Post/D+ Project  
Half Year Report  
(due 31 October 2016)**

<b>Project Ref No</b>	22-014
<b>Project Title</b>	Maximizing Benefits of Marine Reserves and Fisheries Management in Belize
<b>Country(ies)/Territory(ies)</b>	Belize
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
<b>Partner(s)</b>	Belize Fisheries Department, Environmental Defense Fund, The Nature Conservancy, University of Miami
<b>Project Leader</b>	<i>Nicole Auil Gomez</i>
<b>Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)</b>	<i>HYR2</i>
<b>Project website/ Twitter/ Blog/ Instagram etc</b>	Webpage: <a href="https://belize.wcs.org">https://belize.wcs.org</a> Punta Fuego FaceBook link: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/puntafuegobelize/?fref=ts&amp;ref=br_tf&amp;qsefr=1">https://www.facebook.com/puntafuegobelize/?fref=ts&amp;ref=br_tf&amp;qsefr=1</a> Glover's Reef Research Station FaceBook link: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/GloversReefResearchStation/?fref=ts">https://www.facebook.com/GloversReefResearchStation/?fref=ts</a> WCS Belize Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/wcsbelize/?hl=en">https://www.instagram.com/wcsbelize/?hl=en</a>
<b>Funder (DFID/Defra)</b>	<i>DFID</i>

**1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to end September).**

**Output 1: For GRMR and SWCMR, sustainable fishing regulations are implemented through no-take zones and license-based MA programs that employ total allowable catch (TAC) quotas.**

1.1 WCS team has been collecting additional data from fishers' logbooks and catch data collection at GRMR and SWCMR. Furthermore, commencing in June (upon the opening of the 2016 lobster season) the National Fishermen Producers Cooperative Society (NFPCS) has

**2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.**

Output 2: During the rollout of SMART, we realized that not all co-managers and managers would be able to acquire their equipment at the same time, resulting in delayed use of the software at a national scale. Because of this, we had to hold multiple trainings for staff as the equipment became available. The lesson learned was that to have a smoother and more efficient implementation of SMART, purchasing and distributing reliable equipment to each site manager would have allowed for comparable analysis in a timely manner, and reduced time and resources needed for trainings. The adjustments are only a delay in compiling and analyzing data from MPAs.

Output 1: The Rollout of the Managed Access Program to all MPAs resulted in an increase in applications for fishing license in GRMR. However the Managed Access Committee for that area was able to meet and maintain the licenses within the annual number of license issues for the past 3 years. We anticipate that this will re-occur during the 2017 licensing period.

**2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?**

Discussed with LTS:	Yes/ <u>No</u>
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Formal change request submitted:	Yes/ <u>No</u>
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Received confirmation of change acceptance	Yes/ <u>No</u>
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**3a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g., more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?**

Yes      No      Estimated underspend: £

**3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully.** Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project please submit a rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary.

**4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?**

No.

**If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.**

**Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also** be raised with LTS International through a Change Request.**

Please send your **completed report by email** to Eilidh Young at [Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk](mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk) . The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message e.g., Subject: 22-035 Darwin Half Year Report**