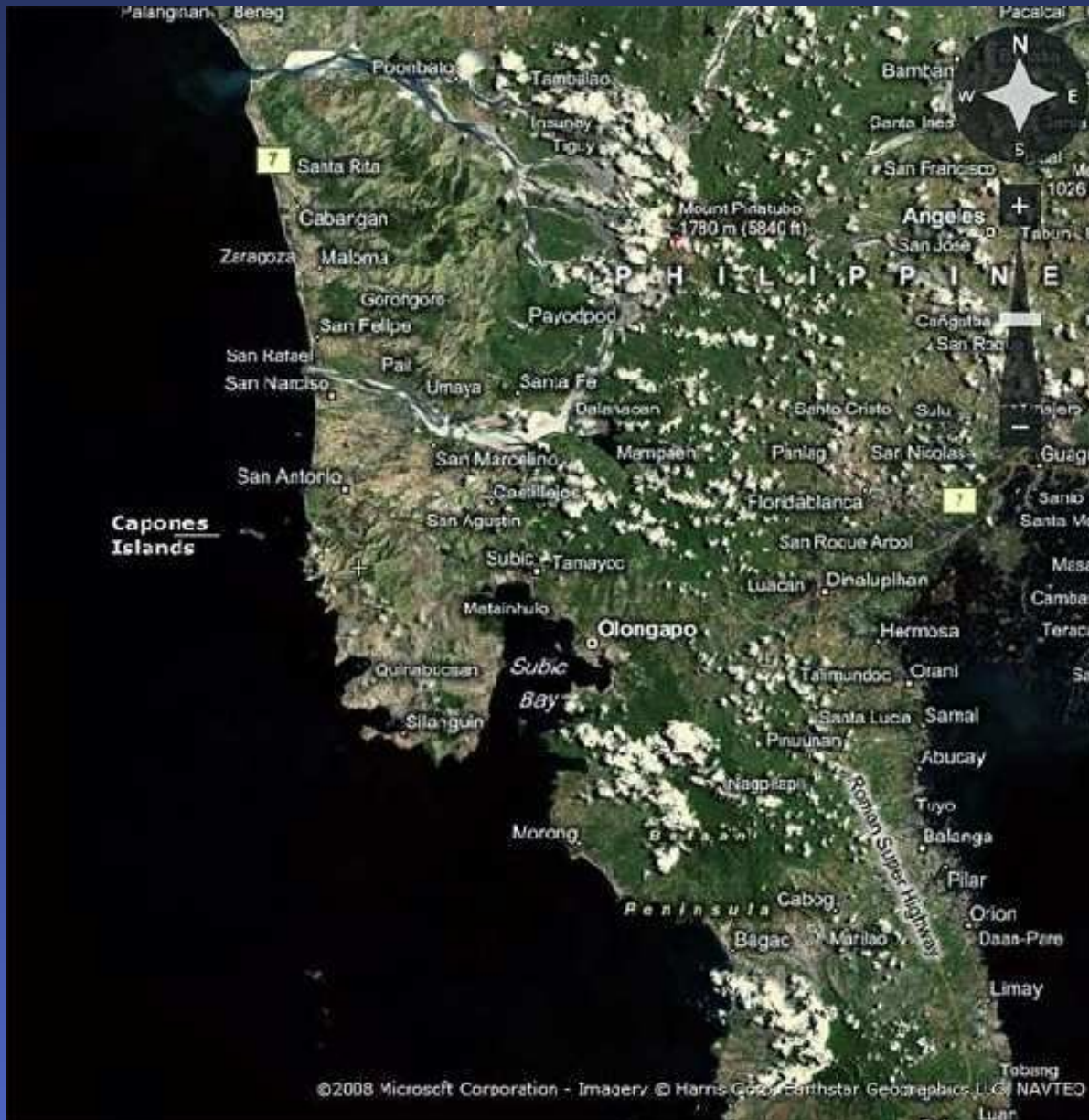


# Capones Islands Marine Research Reserve

## Implementation

Ocean Technology Institute Philippines Inc.  
in association with Eco-Coral Corporation and  
Technostrat Corporation

# General Location

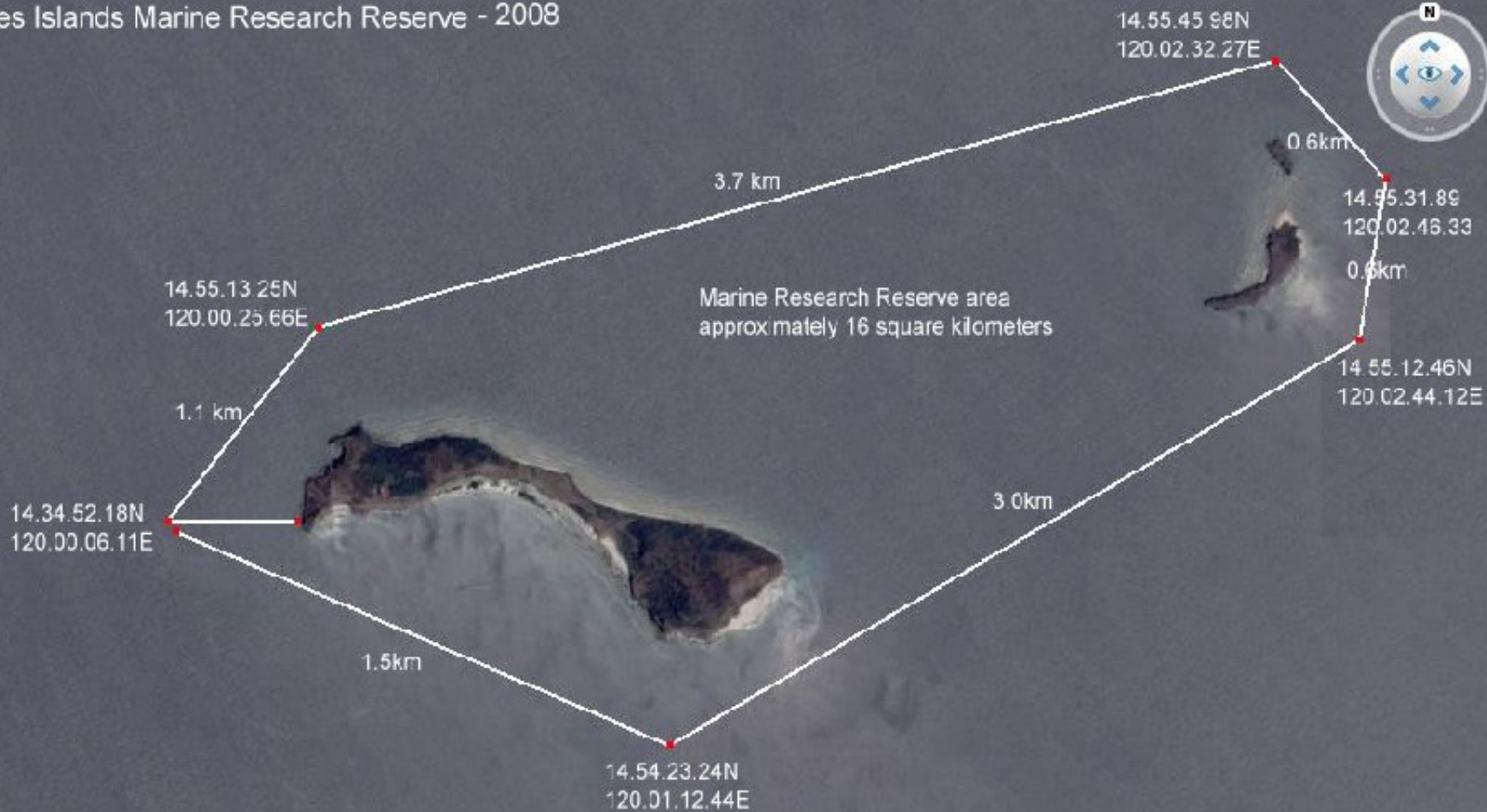


The reserve area.



# The reserve area defined.

Capones Islands Marine Research Reserve - 2008



# Purpose of Reserve.

- To protect and restore the coral reefs and associated fisheries which are being dynamited, poisoned and over fished.
- To conduct research on new techniques of reef breeding outside the actual reefs.
- To establish the Capones Marine Research Reserve (CMRR) as a premier dive location in the Philippines.

# Purpose of Reserve (cont.).

- To bring sustainable and increased economic benefits to the stakeholders in the local area.
- To use the results of the research to restore other damaged areas of Zambales and the rest of the Philippines.
- To attract international researchers to work in the reserve.
- To use volunteer divers, local and overseas, to catalog all the creatures and organisms in the reserve.

# Implementation.

- Declaration and gazetting of the Marine Research Reserve area – Provincial Government and Secretary Atienza of DENR.
- Promulgation of the CMRR details to all stakeholders –meetings and presentations.
- Delineation of the CMRR by installation of marker buoys and notices.
- Installation of Anti-Trawling Devices to protect the CMRR.

# Implementation 2.

- Training Bantay Dagat Officers in the use of the patrol boat and their responsibilities in protecting the CMRR and assisting permitted diving, snorkeling and tourist parties.
- Establishment of a CMRR Center (management office) to oversee the operation of all aspects of the Reserve.
- Establishment of a co-coordinating committee comprised of representatives of all sectors involved to manage disputes **other than** apprehension for criminal acts or infringements of the CMRR regulations.

# Regulations.

- **Fishing or extraction of any aquatic life or material is prohibited within the area of the CMRR.** Offenders will be arrested by Bantay Dagat Officers and will have their equipment and boats confiscated; photographic evidence shall be deemed proof of guilt.
- **The small island (a.k.a. Camera Islets) may not be visited other than by accredited researchers or members of OTIP.**

# Regulations (cont.).

- Tampering with or stealing marker buoys and other property of OTIP is a criminal offense; offenders will be arrested by Bantay Dagat officers .
- The Large island may be visited by tourists if conveyed by authorized and licensed boat operators, subject to the rules established to manage such activities (see below).
- Jet skis are not permitted in the CMRR.

# Diving Regulations.

- All divers wishing to dive in the CMRR are required to register at the CMRR Center and Dive Center. The fee for diving access is Php 1,000.00 per day payable at the CMRR Center. Diving maps are available. Experienced Dive masters will be available at the Dive Center and training courses offered. Equipment will be available for rental.
- Diving access is only permitted using registered boats.
- Divers are not permitted to remove any thing from the CMRR.

# Boat Regulations.

- Every boat which will operate as service to the CMRR shall be licensed and issued a registration number which must be painted on both sides of the boat in letters 300mm high (12 inches) in color red. All registered boats shall be painted white.
- Each registered boat shall have fitted to it a mast which will carry the CMRR flag, provided to the boat operator.

# Boat Regulations (cont.)

- Each registered boat owner shall also register their crew members and anyone else who is permitted to operate the boat, they will be required to carry their CMRR licence at all times when operating to or from or within the CMRR.
- Each registered owner and crew member shall sign a covenant with OTPI to abide by all rules and regulations and at all times, when operating the boat to or from the CMRR, will wear the CMRR T-shirt provided.

# Boat Regulations (cont.)

- Each registered boat shall only use soft anchors (sacks of sand) and may only anchor in prescribed areas defined by buoys.
- When installed, boats may only tie-up at the permanent mooring buoys.
- It is the responsibility of every registered boat owner and crew to report any contravention of these regulations.

# Boat Regulations (cont.)

- At any time, when approached by Bantay Dagat Patrol Officers, all boats must stop and permit inspection; failure to do so will mean the arrest of the crew and confiscation of the boat.
- All registered boats will be supplied with handheld transceivers and are required to log in to the CMRR Center and advise of their destination, time of departure and duration of trip. On arrival they will advise the CMRR Center.
- Registered boat owners and their crews shall advise, by radio, Bantay Dagat Patrol of any suspicious activity in or near the CMRR.

# Boat Regulations (cont.)

- Each registered boat shall pay to the CMRR center Php 250.00 per trip to the CMRR when carrying divers or their equipment.
- Registered boats may negotiate their own charges to transport divers but a minimum of PHP 1,000.00 is set by these regulations.
- Registered boat owners and crew are required at all times to be courteous and helpful to their passengers to promote the CMRR as a premium quality dive experience.

# Tourist Regulations

- **Preamble.**
- Many persons like to visit the Capones Island to picnic, snorkel, swim and generally enjoy the environment.
- To ensure their safety and enjoyment whilst protecting the CMRR the following regulations apply.

# Tourist Regulations (cont.).

- All registered boats are required to carry rubbish containers and the crew are responsible to see that the tourist passengers do not leave any rubbish on the island or in the sea. Offending boat operators will have their licence suspended.
- All registered boats operating as tourist transport are required to carry flotation devices for passengers and crew.
- No flora or fauna on the island or the seashore may be damaged or removed.
- No rocks, signs or other areas may be defaced in any way whatsoever.

# Tourist Regulations (cont.).

- All registered boats are required to advise the CMRR center of their trip and the names of their passengers, using the radios. The duration and destination of the trip shall be specified. Arrival and departure shall be advised.
- Each tourist passenger shall be charged an access fee of Php 100.00 for the trip in addition to the registered boat owner's charge. This fee must be paid to the CMRR Center or to the Resort office prior to departure.
- No boat may set sail when the CMRR Center issues a safety warning nor when any storm signal is raised for the area.

# Tourist Regulations (cont.).

- Resort owners arranging diving or tourist trips to the CMRR shall be required to provide their guests with a copy of the CMRR regulations.
- Resorts who are members of the Zambales Resorts Association shall be automatically accredited to OTIP and authorized to collect 'Access Fees' as prescribed herein.
- Boat owners operating out of resorts are not exempt from the regulations.

# General.

- OTIP will provide much of the equipment required and ownership thereof will remain with OTIP. Breakage or loss will be charged.
- The technical and research component of the CMRR will be subcontracted to Technostrat Corporation a non-profit research company whose sister company Eco-Coral Corporation developed the Eco-Coral installations.
- OTIP will be seeking inputs from foundations and charitable organizations and individuals to purchase more Eco-Coral to repair the damage done by blast and cyanide fishing.

# General.

- Several Improved Fish Aggregation Devices will be installed to encourage the return of pelagic fish to the CMRR.
- OTIP will arrange dive training for young people and will train them in reef management technology.
- OTIP will arrange English speaking training for the community to assist in interaction with tourists.

# Conclusion.

- The establishment of the CMRR operated by OTIP and the local stakeholders offers an opportunity to achieve several benefits:
- The restoration of the coral reefs and the fishery of the Capones Islands to a stable and pristine state.
- The establishment of the area as one of the worlds great diving experiences.

- Development of tourism in the area and the provision of stable and uplifting employment for the local fishing families.
- Within 5 years a stable inshore fishery, outside the CMRR capable of sustaining the local community in addition to diving and tourist incomes.
- Worldwide publicity and acclaim for their maturity and foresightedness in saving a great natural asset.

# Summary of Access Fees

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Payee</u>
Dive boat access	Daily	Php 250	CMRR
Diving per diver	Daily	Php 1,000	CMRR
Diver boat	Daily	Negotiable min. Php 1,000	Boat operator
Tourist boat access	Daily	Php 250	CMRR
Tourist access per head	Daily	Php 100	CMRR
Tourist boat fee	Daily	Negotiable	Boat operator

# Application of fees charged.

1. Payment of Bantay Dagat personnel and operating expenses.
2. Payment of CMRR office expenses including stationery and forms.
3. Maintenance of CMRR installations (buoys, anchorages etc.)
4. Conservation, education and good fishery practices.
5. Emergency fund for local disasters.

# Forecast annual earnings potential based on 6 months useable weather (180 days).

<u>Activity</u>	<u># per day</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Total Php</u>
Dive boat access	6	250	270,000
Diving fee	12 divers	1,000	2,160,000
Diver Transport	6 boats	1,000	1,080,000
Tourist boat access	4 boats	250	180,000
Tourist fee	24 pax (6 in boat)	100	432,000
Tourist boat fee	4 boats	Estimate 2,500	1,800,000
<b><u>Totals</u></b>		<b><u>Possible</u></b>	<b><u>30% achieved</u></b>
CMRR		3,042,000	912,600
Boat operators		1,880,000	564,000

**To maximize potential earnings promotion and service are the key.**

# CMMR

## Capones Marine Research Reserve



## Forward Zambales