

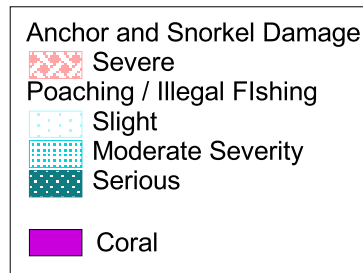
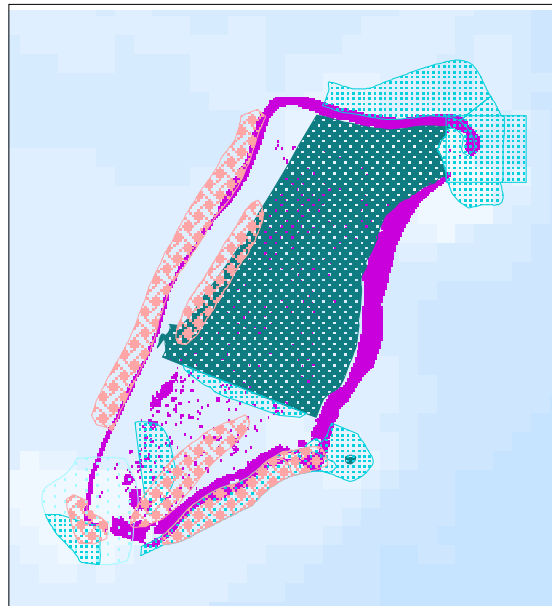
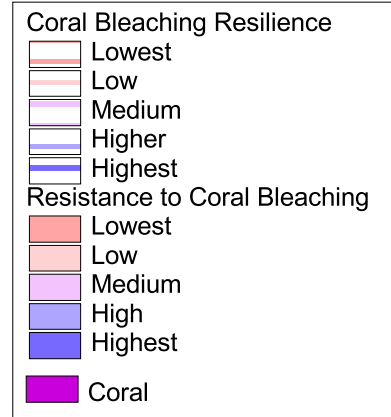
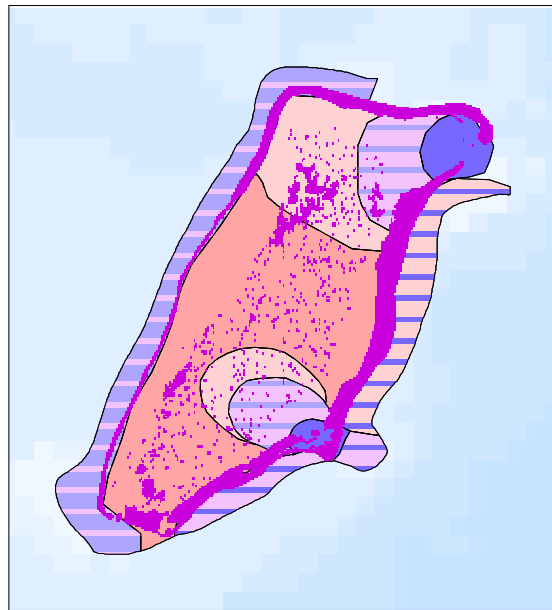
Glover's Reef - Key Threats from Expert Mapping

Local stakeholders and scientists at a threat analysis and mapping workshop for Glover's Reef identified coral bleaching, physical damage from recreation (anchors and snorkelers), and overfishing (both local and non-local fishers) as key threats to the reef.

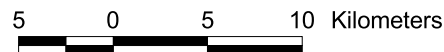
In evaluating the threat of coral bleaching, areas of high through low resistance and high through low resilience were mapped. High resistance areas are less likely to bleach because of depth, openness and faster water movement, which makes them less likely to heat up. High resilience areas are more likely to recover quickly because of factors promoting recovery, such as availability of coral larvae. At Glover's Reef, patch reefs in the lagoon have both low resistance (shallow with low flushing) and low resilience (limited inflow of larvae.) Reefs on the western side of the lagoon were identified as having high resistance to bleaching, while reefs on the eastern side were identified as having only medium resistance, but having the highest resilience (due to availability of larval recruits.) An area in the northeast, near a gap in Glover's Reef, was identified as having very high resistance and resilience.

In addition to the overarching threat of coral bleaching, poaching and other types of illegal fishing were identified as threats to many sections of Glover's Reef. Physical damage from anchors, diving and snorkeling was identified as a threat along the western and southern portions of Glover's Reef. Although not portrayed in a detailed map, runoff from farms and aquaculture was also identified as an important threat that needs to be monitored.

Data Sources: From a "Belize Threat Assessment and Mapping" workshop for Glover's Reef, hosted by the Wildlife Conservation Society in February 2004.



Map Projection: UTM, Zone 16, NAD1927



Reefs at Risk in Belize

A collaboration between the World Resources Institute, Belize Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute, and many other partner organisations in Belize. Datasets available on the Belize Coastal Data CD (email datacen@coastalzonebelize.org for more information).