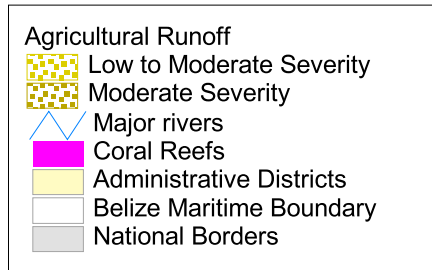
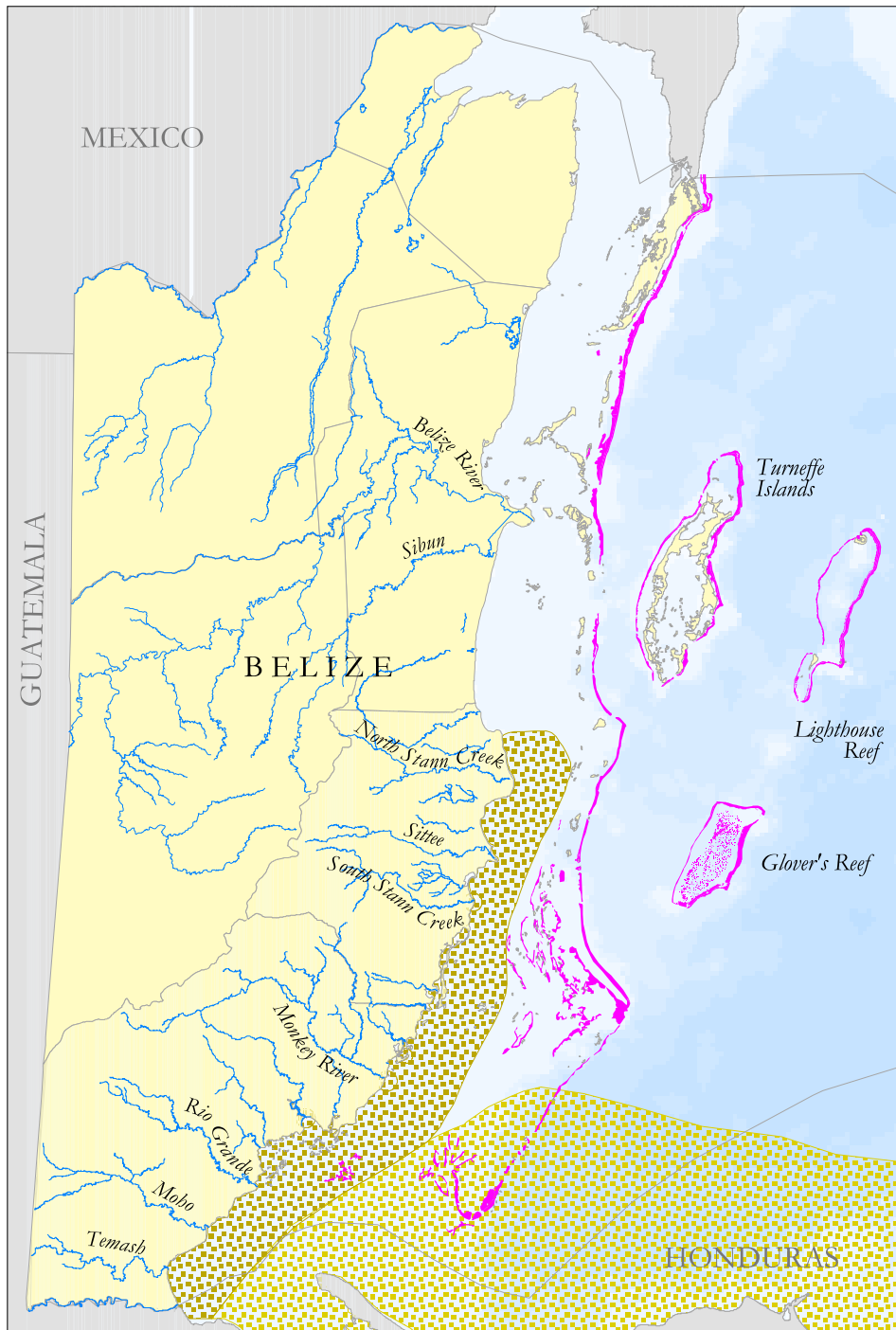


# Threat from Agricultural Runoff - Expert Mapping

Agricultural activities in watersheds draining adjacent to the Mesoamerican Reef system, which includes the Belize Barrier Reef, contribute increased sediment and pollutants from fertilizer and pesticide application. Increased nutrients from fertilizer runoff promote growth of algae at the expense of coral reefs. Runoff of pesticides and other chemicals can be toxic to both coral and fish. Excessive delivery of sediment to coastal waters can smother coral. Cultivation of bananas, pineapple, citrus, oil palm and sugar cane in Honduras, Guatemala and Belize was identified by local stakeholders and scientists at a threat assessment workshop as a key threat to coral reefs in the southern Belize Barrier Reef.



Data Sources: Threat from agricultural runoff based on results of "Belize Threat Assessment and Mapping" workshops. World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) for the Barrier Reef. Rivers from CZMAI, 2005.

### 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](mailto:datacen@coastalzonebelize.org) for more information).