

MONTH OF THE OCEANS 2021

JUNE 2

Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation
Sustainable coasts, involved communities



About Us

Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation (CCEF)

CCEF is a non-stock, non-profit organization registered under the laws of the Philippines. Fully known as Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, Inc., it is composed of innovative and collaborative professionals working “on the ground”, primarily through local governments, with the people of the coastal communities who most directly benefit from a healthy marine ecosystem.

“When you protect the coast, you secure the future of the next generation.”

For 22 years, CCEF has been taking part in the establishment, management, and monitoring of at least 200 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) all over the Philippines. One of CCEF's oldest projects is the Saving Philippine Reefs Expedition, which has helped create one of the largest coral reef datasets in the Philippines. CCEF also started an MPA database that aims to evaluate the management effectiveness of the locally managed MPAs in the Visayas region using the CCEF MPA rating system. The CCEF MPA rating system has been adopted and used by the Marine Support Network (MSN) to evaluate the current status and progress of the MPAs in the Philippines and has become the baseline for different MPA evaluation tool like the Marine Protected Area Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MPA MEAT). Today, CCEF is actively supporting various local government units (LGUs) in Siquijor Province and Southeast Cebu in the strengthening of their MPAs, capacity development, and monitoring in the partnership LGUs, national agencies, NGOs, law enforcement group, and the community



Contact Us

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MONTH OF THE OCEAN IN A GLANCE

A summary of what we found

In celebration of the Month of The Oceans, CCEF partnered with the Southeast Cebu Coastal Resource Management Council in conducting an underwater cleanup at Boljoon, Samboan, Dalaguete and Alcoy. Here's what we found during the cleanup:



47% of the trash collected were plastic wrappers from nearby shops.

Plastic wrappers from junk food were the most commonly found trash, followed by glass bottles from alcoholic beverages and nylon fishing lines.

Crown of Thorns (COT) outbreak present in Boljoon.

A Crown of Thorns Outbreak happens when the area has more than 30 COTs in a hectare. In Boljoon, we were able to collect 33 Crown of Thorns (COT) in less than 1 hectare! Since most of Boljoon's Corals are comprised of Branching corals, it is a good prey for COTs, that's why it is important to carefully monitor outbreaks as well as make sure that the MPAs are well-enforced so that its natural predators are not overfished.



Illegal Fishing still present in MPAs

The presence of nylon fishing lines, ghost nets and ropes indicate that illegal fishing is still present inside MPAs. This can also be seen by the size of the fishes inside the MPAs despite good coral cover.



Hawksbill Sea Turtle spotted in Dalaguete

Hawksbill sea turtles is one of the critically endangered species of sea turtles found in the Philippines. They are believed to be the most endangered of the seven species of sea turtle, with only approximately 8,000 nesting females left globally. According to locals, sea turtles like these often frequent the waters of Dalaguete, which just shows how important it is to protect the marine biodiversity in ADABOSS areas!

We could not have done this without you!

Thank you to our partner municipalities, Boljoon, Samboan, Alcoy and Dalaguete for supporting us on our month of the Ocean activity! We would also like to thank DENR CENRO Argao, BAD Freedivers and Southside Freedivers for joining us on our cleanup. A big thank you as well to our donors for this cleanup, [Fresh Choice Foods](#) and [Judephilan Food Corporation!](#)