



# **BLUE ALLIANCE**

## **FOR THE ORIENTAL MINDORO MPA NETWORK, INC.**

**PROGRESS REPORT**

**July-Dec 2022**







# ABOUT US

Blue Alliance (BA) is an NGO assisting the municipalities of Baco, San Teodoro, Puerto Galera and the City of Calapan in the day-to-day co-management of the Marine Protected Areas since 2021.

Blue finance (Bf) is the sister company and co-management partner of Blue Alliance.



Blue finance



# OUR 4 PILLARS



**COMMUNITY**



**SCIENCE**



**SUSTAINABLE  
REVENUES**



**ENFORCEMENT**







# PROGRESS REPORT

July-Dec 2022



BIODIVERSITY  
CONSERVATION  
AND SCIENCE



SURVEILLANCE  
AND COMPLIANCE



MANAGEMENT AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE



COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT,  
EDUCATION AND  
ENGAGEMENT



REVENUE  
GENERATION  
AND VISITOR  
EXPERIENCE





## BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION & SCIENCE

1

Biophysical assessments

2

Crown-of-thorns seastar  
monitoring and collection

3

Collaborations





# BIOPHYSICAL ASSESSMENT



Mangroves



Seagrass



Corals

Benthic  
Communities



Fish

processed data

# STATIONS

inside and outside MPAs

## 5 MPAs

- Harka Piloto Fish Sanctuary
- Salong-Calero MPA
- Baco MPA
- Punta Ilag Fish Sanctuary
- Puerto Galera MPA

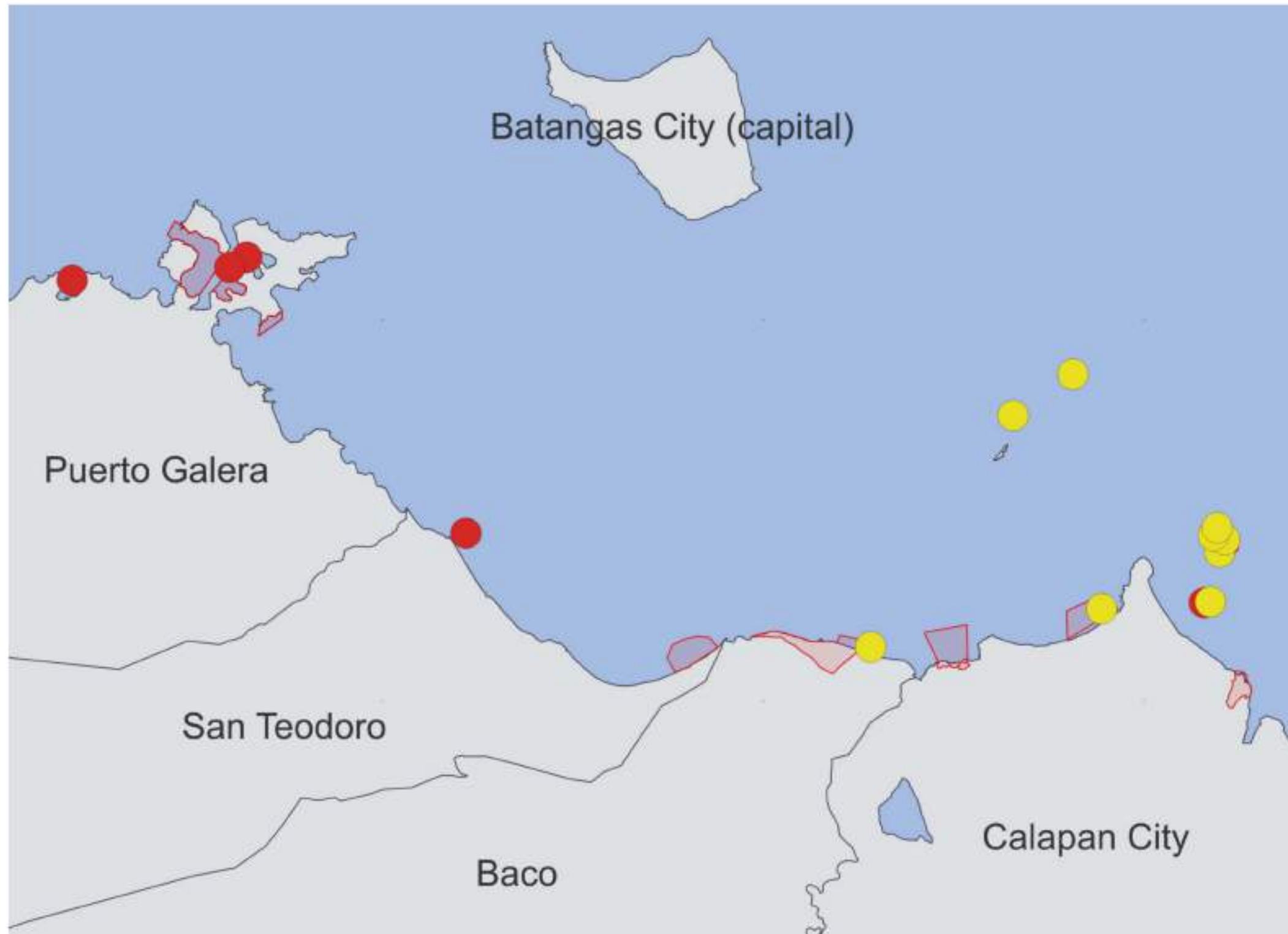
**outside MPA: Control and Reference sites**





# CORALS

## Hard Coral Cover



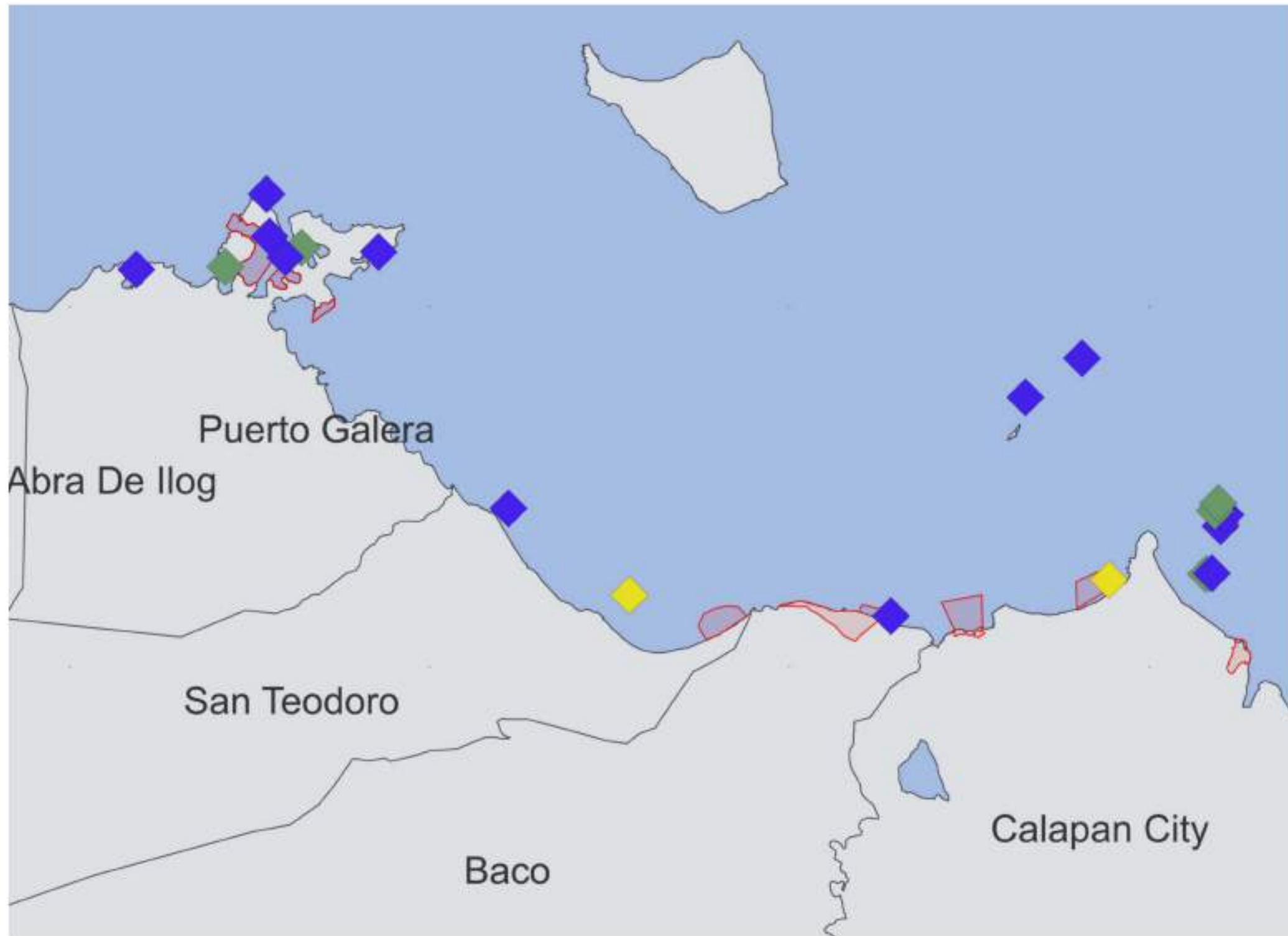
- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Excellent

- Puerto Galera and San Teodoro - poor category
- City of Calapan and Baco, - general reef condition is fair (26-50%)
- Reef damage - highest around Calero Salong MPA 2 (0.6) of Calapan City; Dalaruan (0.7), Kalaw (0.7) and Minolo (0.8) stations of Puerto Galera and Punta Ilag (0.8) of San Teodoro



# FISH

## Fish Species density (species/500sqm)

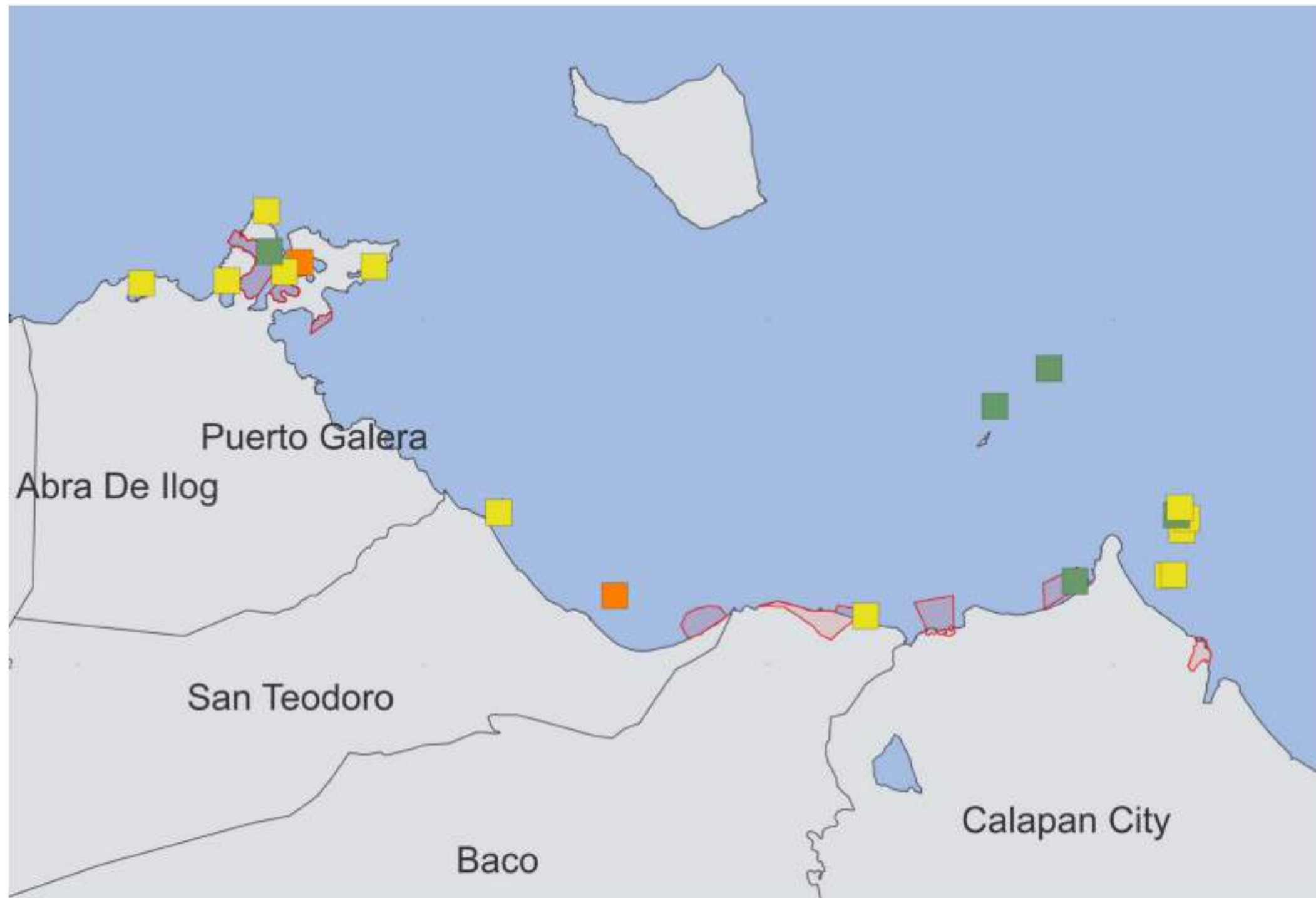


- Very Low
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Very High

- Highest number of fish species was observed in Puerto Galera (232 spp), followed by Calapan City (197 spp), then San Teodoro (107 spp) and Baco (55 spp)
- Species density in all sites generally falls under high (38-50 species/500m<sup>2</sup>) to very high (>50 species/500m<sup>2</sup>)



# FISH Mean density of fish communities (ind/500sqm)

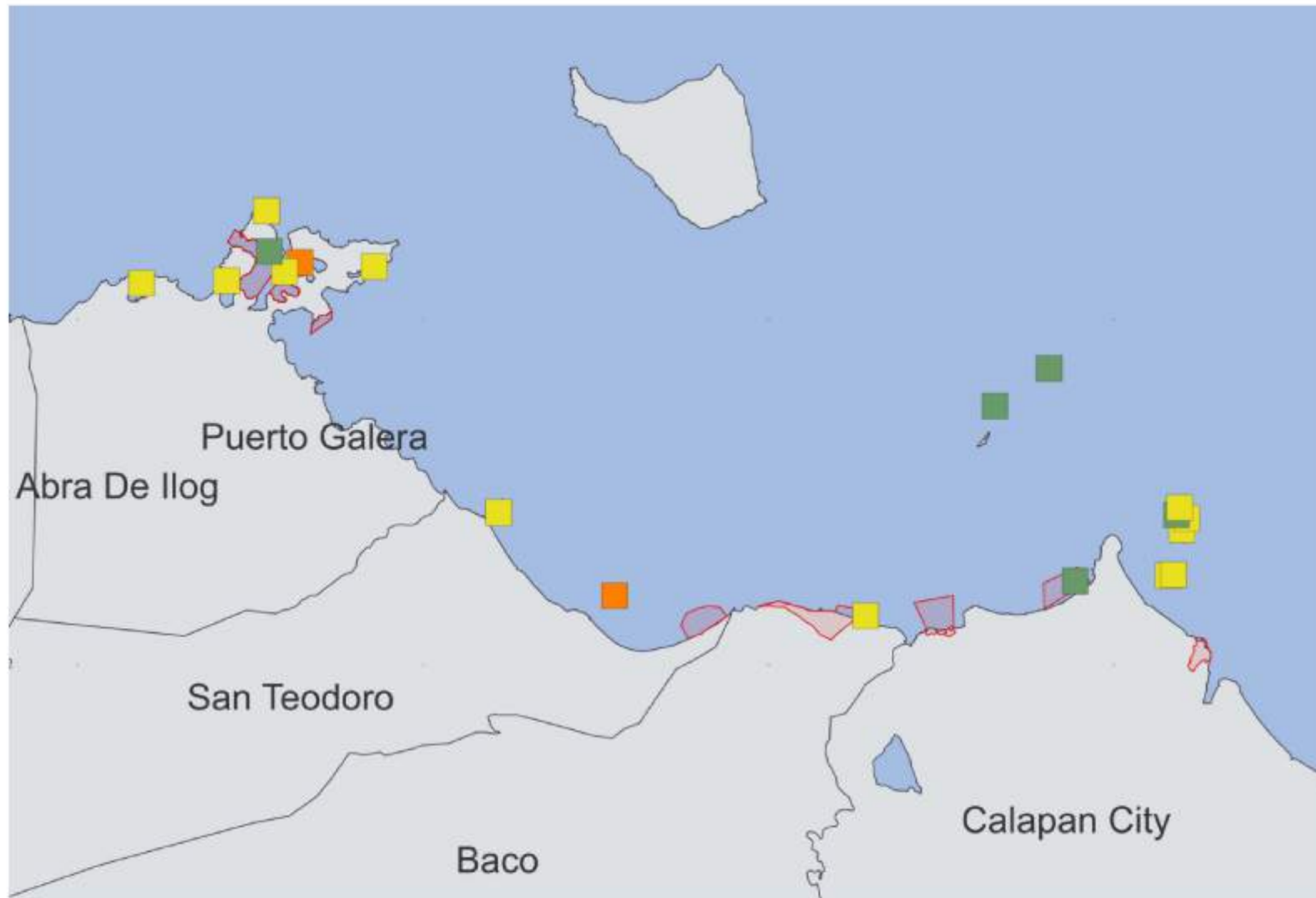


- Very Low
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Very High

- MPAs generally fall under moderate (Harka Piloto FS and Baco MPA; 339 – 1,133 ind/500m<sup>2</sup>) to high categories (PGMPA; 1,134 – 3,796 ind/500m<sup>2</sup>)
- Only Calero-Salong MPA is consistent to low category (102 - 338 ind/500m<sup>2</sup>)
- Outside MPAs - also fall under moderate to high category



# FISH Fish Biomass (mt/sqkm)



- Very Low
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Very High

- MPAs fall under high (21-40 mt/km<sup>2</sup>) to very high categories (>40 mt/km<sup>2</sup>)
- Only Calero-Salong MPA under low category (6-10 mt/km<sup>2</sup>)
- Outside MPAs - Aside from Tatlong Polo, generally low – moderate conditions.



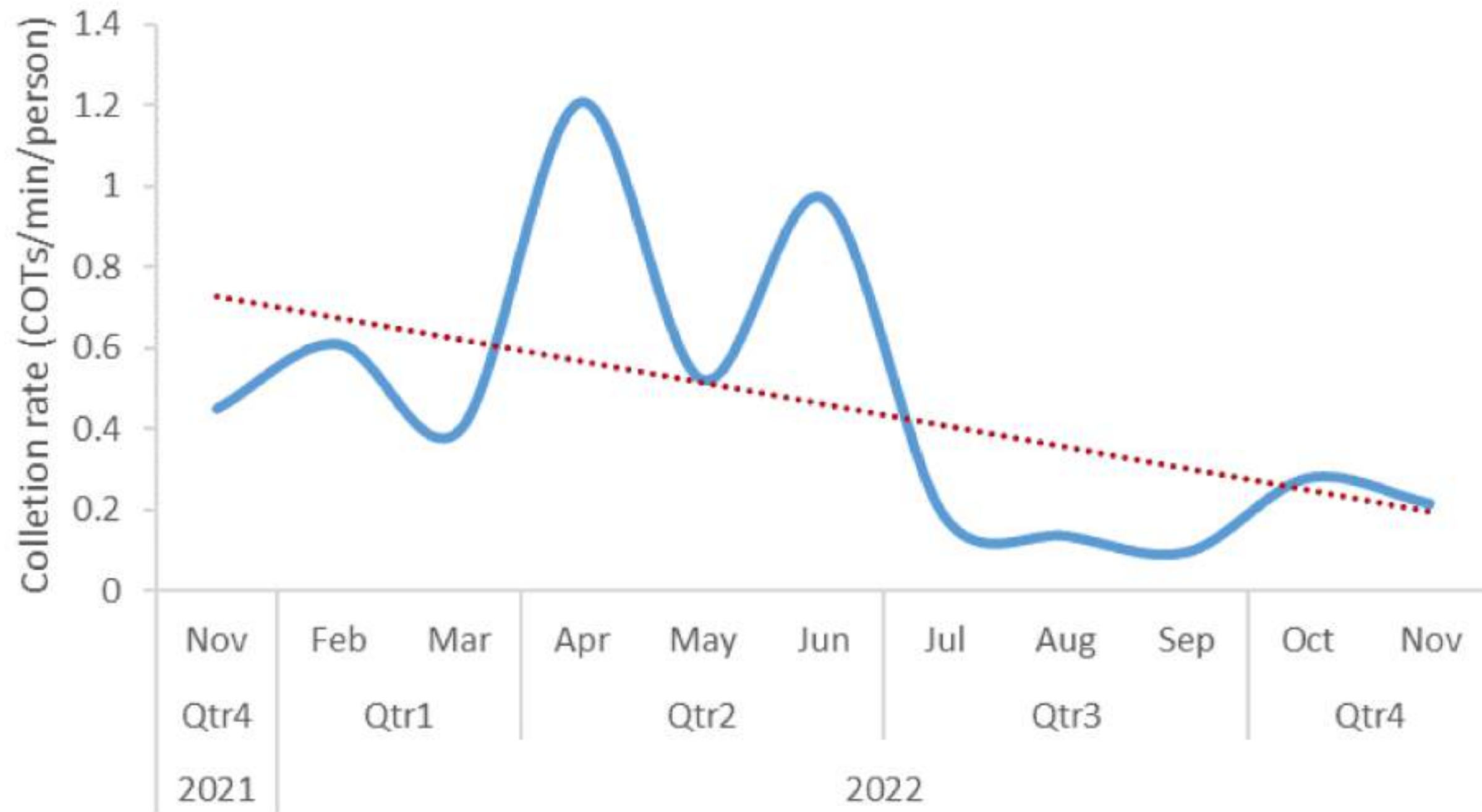
# CROWN-OF-THORNS SEASTAR

Continuous Monitoring and Collection Program





# CROWN-OF-THORNS SEASTAR



Collection rate (COTs/min/person) across the collection period showed a decreasing trendline, with the highest recorded in April and June 2022.



# COLLABORATIONS

- In the recently concluded biophysical assessments, Blue Alliance worked with Mindoro State University (MinSU).
- BA is underway initiating a partnership with UP Marine Science (UPMSI).
- Partnership with the Stairway Foundation, Inc.







## SURVEILLANCE AND COMPLIANCE

1

Logistical support

2

Marker Buoys

3

Monitoring

4

Collaborations





# LOGISTICAL SUPPORT

Materials such as megaphone, flashlight, raincoat, monthly fuel support for seaborne patrolling, solar panels, BD uniforms, among others are provided to all BDs across 4 LGUs.





# LOGISTICAL SUPPORT

in Baco

- Support for the construction of 3 Monitoring Stations
- Making Baco Bantay Dagat active and cohesive
- Monthly modest BD incentives





# FUEL SUPPORT

- Taclican - Barangay Council
- Puerto Galera - MAO
- Calapan - FMO





# MARKER BUOYS

- Markers buoys with blinkers
  - Calapan - Harka Piloto and Calero-Salong MPAs
  - Baco MPA
  - San Teodoro - Punta Ilag
- Puerto Galera - ~40 marker buoys, 4 of which are big ones with markers





# EFFICIENT MONITORING

## Applications

- SMART App - BA staff were trained
- EarthRanger App





# COLLABORATIONS

MOA with BFAR signed in October 2022

- took 2 years mobilizing for the signing of the MOA
- immediate positive effect: engagement in policy-related works for Puerto Galera where Implementing Rules and Regulations should be crafted to iron out the ordinance's gray areas.





# COLLABORATIONS

MOA with PCG is approved by their legal department

- Signing on first quarter of 2023
- would increase law compliance





## MANAGEMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE



1

Stakeholders Advisory  
Committee (SAC)

2

Management compliance

3

Human Resources



# STAKEHOLDERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)

- Continuous engagement
- Board of Trustees (BOT), created in 2020 was restructured in October 2022.





# MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE

- Financial and admin systems
- Operational offices





# HUMAN RESOURCES

- Community Coordinator,  
New Business Officer,  
Finance Officer
- On-call vessel mechanic,  
vehicle driver and speed  
boat operator will be  
sourced-out on a need basis.







## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT



1

Sea Turtle Training

2

Income Generating Activity (IGA)

3

Working with LGU

4

MEAT and PO assessments



# SEA TURTLE TRAINING

- November 21-23, Calapan City
- Sea Turtle Ecotourism Project in Calapan thru FMO
  - 1,000sq m area for the Pawikan Center and ex-situ hatchery demonstration sites, with a mini museum
  - BA committed to provide a counterpart





# INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITY (IGA)

- Pilot at least 2 community Income Generating Activity (IGA)
  - Mud-crab culturing and fattening
  - blue swimming crab





# WORKING WITH LGU

- monthly CRM Coordinators meeting
- will create an inter-LGU Bantay Dagat joint meeting
- Inter-LGU MPA Management fora/symposia will also be facilitated





# MEAT AND PO ASSESSMENTS

Management Effectiveness  
Assessment Tool (MEAT) and  
Peoples' Organization Capacity  
Assessment Tool for nine (9)  
locally managed MPAs





# SAN TEODORO

Name of MPA and Location	Year Established	Management Effectiveness level	Overall Score
Punta Ilag Fish Sanctuary	2016	Level 3	78/84
Tamauyan Reef Fish Sanctuary	2006	Does not meet level 1	49/84





# PUERTO GALERA

Name of MPA and Location	Year Established	Management Effectiveness level	Overall Score
Puerto Galera Mangrove Conservation and Ecotourism Area	2015	Level 3	78/84
Puerto Galera Fish Sanctuary	2006	Completed Level II but failed in some thresholds in Level I	49/84





# BACO

Name of MPA and Location	Year Established	Management Effectiveness level	Overall Score
Baco Marine Protected Area	2015	Level 3	75/84





# CALAPAN

Name of MPA and Location	Year Established	Management Effectiveness level	Overall Score
Harka Piloto Fish Sanctuary	2015	Level 2	74/84
Silonay Mangrove Conservation and Ecotourism Area	2007	Level 3	80/84
Mahal na Pangalan MPA	2019	1 threshold for Level I not met	35/84
Salong-Calero Coral and Seagrass Marine Protected Area	2016	Completed Level II but failed in some thresholds in Level I	44/84





# MEAT AND PO ASSESSMENTS

## Insights

- A still lingering issue in community work and in projects implemented at the community level is the sustainability of the projects and its people's organizations
- COVID19 Pandemic has affected the MPAs in terms of management systems and funding.







## REVENUE GENERATION AND VISITOR EXPERIENCE

1

Sea Sensorium project

2

BlueTalk

3

Blueyou

4

Business Plans



# SEA SENSORIUM PROJECT

The Lease Agreement between Blue Alliance and the Municipality of Puerto Galera was signed sometime in October 2022.





# BLUETALK

BlueTalk is developed featuring the biodiversity of Oriental Mindoro, highlighting ecosystem connectivity, MPA significance, reef ecosystems, and fishery in general.





# BUSINESS PLANS

- Business Plan for Harka Piloto is underway.
- Preparation of Business Plan for the Dive Safari in Puerto Galera and Punta Ilag is also currently being developed.
- Sea Turtle Center was planned by BA and FMO during the last quarter of 2022. Implementation will kickoff first quarter of 2023.





# BLUEYOU

In partnership with Blueyou, (a global organization creating innovative sustainable seafood solutions for a sustainable future), the aquaculture project in Calapan City will start this year.







## WAY FORWARD WORK PLAN

1. Biophysical Assessments
2. Updating/formulation of MPA Management Plan
3. Updating of the Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MEAT)
4. Ecotourism Business Planning
5. IGA Business Planning
6. Purchases of enforcement equipment and capacity-building for enforcers.





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# THANK YOU

## REACH US

Please contact us if you have any questions.

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