

An aerial photograph of a tropical island, likely in the Maldives, showing a vibrant coral reef with various shades of blue and green, a white sandy beach, and a small settlement with several buildings and palm trees. The water transitions from deep blue to light turquoise near the shore.

**OCEANA** Protecting the  
World's Oceans

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Annual Report 2022









## Annual Report 2022

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# Letter from the VP



## ***My fellow Belizeans,***

2022 was indeed a year of highs and lows. In November, the Government's direct confirmation to us of their interest in conducting seismic surveys offshore Belize was a definite low. We were buoyed by the

public's immediate reaction that a decision to lift the indefinite moratorium (to allow for exploration) would have been made without meaningful consultation. In response, Oceana launched the "Ask Belize First" campaign, an initiative designed to ensure that Belizeans will be able to participate in future decisions about offshore oil activity via an official referendum.

The referendum mechanism is non-binding on the government, but the results will provide a clear indication from the Belizean electorate as to how we should proceed as a nation. Collective, informed decision-making is imperative on such an issue because all Belizeans will be impacted.

If the context of our reality was a song, it would be an instant Belizean hit. We proudly lay claim to being stewards of unique marine ecosystems, biodiversity above and below the waterline and globally recognized features like the Blue Hole, home of the second longest barrier reef in the world and three of the North Western Caribbean's four atolls.

It makes sense, and cents then, that Belize is in every respect a nature-based economy. More than 60% of our citizens are dependent on the health and integrity of our coastal and marine resources daily via coastal shoreline protection, tourism and fishing. One in every four Belizeans is directly employed in tourism, with marine resources being the backbone to that service sector. More than 15,000 Belizeans are dependent on fishing.

But the follow-up stanza to that chorus is the fact that Belize is also one of the most vulnerable countries on the planet to the negative impacts of climate change like more destructive storms and hurricanes, rising seas and warmer waters. And just as importantly, disease, acidification and biodiversity loss, are just a few of the long list of threats compromising marine wealth.

All this to say that nature is already buckling; we can least afford to add to the challenges. We must instead challenge ourselves to adapt, mitigate and restore wherever we can. Those measures will take financing. Post the Blue Bond deal,



which wiped out a significant amount of our national debt, there are other initiatives already underway to reward political will for meaningful conservation deliverables. But more than money, it will take all of us showing up and standing up to protect and preserve the Belize we need, the way of life we love and the future we deserve.

I cannot underscore enough that the participation of the public, directly and/or via civil society, is crucial in democratic governments. It is essential that the voices of citizens are heard and that their needs and concerns are taken into account when decisions are being made.

Since March 2022, I have witnessed firsthand the difference public participation can make within the legislative system. On March 18th, I was sworn in as Senator representing Non-Governmental Organizations in Belize's Senate. Our government is designed, via parliamentary committees, to give citizens direct access to weigh in on proposed legislation. But for reasons yet to be scientifically confirmed, the average

length of these parliamentary committees is five (5) minutes. Belizeans aren't showing up. As part of my commitment to the immense responsibility of my Senatorial role, I'm determined to help to ensure that the schedule of these meetings are posted well in advance and that the technologies available can be used to remove some of the logistical obstacles of appearing to make submissions.

Please get in touch with us or with other NGO's in your area to find out more about how you can participate. When citizens are involved in decision-making processes, we help to ensure that actions are transparent, and that decision-makers are accountable for their actions. Without your participation, democracy cannot be expected to function effectively and the very mechanisms that already exist for Belizeans to express their opinions, prevent abuses of power and promote transparency and accountability, are essentially rendered null and void. These factors are just some of the reasons why we're once again coming to you, asking





you to show up by signing up to the Ask Belize First petition. By signing the form, registered voters will help to ensure that any future administration must consult the Belizean people before any attempt is made to lift the offshore oil moratorium. Consultation by referendum can very well become one of our democratic strengths.

I don't propose any of this lightly or to make it seem easy. But as the saying goes, nothing worth having is ever easy and you don't get things without fighting for them. I'll close this note to you with a few lyrics of one of the songs that is always a source of motivation to me. I do hope it will do the same for you when you're feeling overwhelmed by everything.

***"In high seas or in low seas,  
I'm gonna be your friend. In  
high tide or in low tide, I'll be  
by your side..."***

***...She said, "A child is born  
in this world, he needs  
protection. God, guide and  
protect us. When we're wrong,  
please correct us. And stand  
by me.""***

**High Tide or Low Tide  
Bob Marley & The Wailers**

Sincerely,



Janelle Chanona  
Vice President  
Oceana in Belize





# Oceana's Approach

## How We Work

OCEANA WAS CREATED TO IDENTIFY PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS AND MAKE THEM HAPPEN

Our oceans are in trouble. But the good news is that together we can restore the oceans to their former glory. Since it's founding, Oceana has won more than 275 victories around the globe and protected more than one million square miles of ocean.

Oceana has the tools to win. We are -

### **CAMPAIGN-DRIVEN:**

We channel our resources towards strategic, directed campaigns to achieve measurable outcomes that will protect and restore our oceans to former levels of abundance.

### **FACT-BASED:**

We believe in the importance of science in identifying problems and solutions for the oceans.

### **MULTI-DISCIPLINARY AND EXPERT:**

Our scientists work closely with our teams of economists, lawyers, communicators and advocates to achieve tangible results for the oceans.

### **SUPPORTED BY CITIZENS AND ALLIES:**

Oceana has a base of close to one million supported, including 1.2 million Wavemakers globally. Our Ocean Council is a select group of academic, business, policy and philanthropic leaders who represent and support Oceana's efforts on the global stage. Locally, Oceana is supported by over 3.2K+ Belizean Wavemakers.



# Campaigns and Victories

Oceana's long-term vision for the Belize Barrier Reef is a thriving ecosystem, capable of producing abundant, healthy marine resources that support a vibrant and sustainable local economy for Belizeans.

To this end, Oceana in Belize focused its efforts to the latter end of 2022, on collecting signatures to trigger a National Referendum on Offshore Oil. The vote will give Belizeans the right to decide if the offshore oil moratorium should be lifted.

Status: In Progress





# On the Ground and in the Water

## REDUCING SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

We will continue to advocate for the continued ban on single-use plastics by championing the food vendors who are using environmentally friendly alternatives and practices. We are also advocating that the approved alternative products will not be plastic based in any way, shape or form.

Green Vendor Registry continues: Oceana profiling local businesses who have committed to reducing single-use plastic and styrofoam dependence and use.



## SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAN

Belize's new single-use plastic ban reaching final roll-out on March 31st, 2022, with possession of prohibited items becoming illegal, was a huge victory for our oceans.

However, the fight to end plastic pollution – and keep it out of our oceans has only just begun.

It will take time and energy to fully transition to a plastic-neutral destination: environmental education on the negative effects of plastic at all levels; making alternative options more accessible to the average Belizean; and proper enforcement of current regulations. No longer can we afford a linear 'take-make-waste' framework—one that's so heavily reliant on the exploitation of raw materials into cheap, short-use products whose consequences are far from short-lived.

In a circular economy, we stop waste being produced in the first place—a solution framework where waste is eliminated, resources are circulated, and nature is regenerated. And for that, it starts from

the source, where the onus of responsible waste management begins with producers and manufacturers.

This initial transitional period is prime for fine-tuning what potential amendments that may arise for a resilient future. It's a matter of honoring ambition to recognize the value of individual sacrifices – one we must all take in the name of a collective good – while holding lawmakers and vendors socially accountable. That includes ensuring the current Environment Protection (Pollution from Plastics) Regulations 2020 continues to evolve as Belize has as an environmental leader—including things like PET bottles—and effectively making way for newer, innovative solutions towards a truly circular, blue economy in Belize.

Our efforts moving forward in 2023 is to continue ensuring the adherence and enforcement of the ban, to address the nationwide scourge of single-use plastic pollution still affecting the country.







# On the Ground and in the Water

## RESPONSIBLE FISHING

Belize's marine resources, if managed responsibly, can provide healthy seafood meals, stable income, and fulfilling livelihoods for countless Belizeans for generations to come.



## FISH RIGHT, EAT RIGHT

On the 27 of June 2022, held the ***Fish Right Eat Right (FRER) Forum: Closing Data Gaps with Technology***, at the Radisson Fort George Hotel and Marina.

The objective of the forum was to highlight the ways technology is currently being used in fisheries management by various partners of the Fish Right Eat Right initiative, as well as highlight the outcomes of the project Market Based Incentives for Responsible Fishing.

The Fish Right, Eat Right program started a few years ago in 2016, initially targeting restaurants and hotels, with the plan to expand to include cooperatives, fish markets, supermarkets and other seafood purveyors in the future. For restaurants, the program will help match consumer demand for legal, healthy products with a supply chain that will deliver. The program will also help restaurants identify alternative seafood options for consumption, that can help reduce fishing pressure on species that are over-exploited, threatened, or endangered.

OCEANA Belize has been piloting a local project called Market Based Incentives for Responsible Fishing and through funding from the IDB, a virtual marketplace app with an e-monitoring and e-reporting component was developed.

Jacinta Gomez – Outreach and Project Director of Oceana Belize expanded more stating: “We know that fish fraud is real unfortunately, so a huge part of this has been capacity building and awareness among locals. You’ve seen our adds featuring Chef Sean Kuylen on how to avoid fish fraud and ensure that your fish fillet has the skin patch as mandated by the regulations. And so what this technology is doing, is ensuring that you can actually see the fish being caught and you can know what gear is being used, the e-reporting app shows you who caught the fish; in what area was it caught.”

Presenters at the forum included representatives from: the Belize Federation of Fishers, Oceana in Belize, Shellcatch, WCS Belize, Toledo Institute for Development and Environment (TIDE), Belize Tourism Board/ Ministry of Tourism and Diaspora Relations, Fisheries

Department – Belize, Turneffe Atoll Sustainability Association, The Nature Conservancy and Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium.

You can view the featured FRER Forum video [here!](#)



*Jacinta Gomez – Outreach and Project Director of Oceana in Belize*





Images from the Fish Right Eat Right (FRER) Forum: Closing Data Gaps with Technology. Fish Right, Eat Right establishes a local brand that highlights sourcing seafood responsibly; enabling consumers to make correct choices that ensures the health of our oceans.



# On the Ground and in the Water

## CLEAN ENERGY

The Petroleum Operations (Offshore Zone Moratorium) law, which indefinitely prohibits offshore oil exploration and drilling everywhere Belize exercises maritime jurisdiction, became law on December 31st, 2017. Since it was enacted, Oceana has referred to it as “The People’s Law” because it has been the unwavering position of the Belizean people that the risks associated with offshore oil is simply too great: any “benefit” is short term and the damage to quality of life, job and food security is irrevocable.

In 2022, Oceana continued to champion the people of Belize for saying no to the inherently dangerous and dirty reality of offshore.





## HANDS ACROSS THE SAND

Since 2010, the Hands Across The Sand (HATS) event has been held annually across the world, gathering thousands of global citizens at beaches and cities to draw metaphorical and actual lines in the sand; human lines in the sand against fossil fuels that threaten our future.

This unique event promotes clean energy alternatives to fossil fuels, saying “NO” to fossil fuels and “YES” to clean energy like solar and wind power. The movement was founded by Dave Rauschkolb, a restaurateur in Florida, who saw the need for change after the horrific BP Oil spill.

In Belize, participants came together from across the country to join hands for the very first time since the Covid-19 Pandemic on May 21st 2022, in solidarity for the movement to steer our energy policy away from our dependence on fossil fuels, and towards clean energy and renewables.



*Oceana in Belize - Belize City Wavemakers taking part in the 2022 Hands Across The Sand Event while social distancing.*



*Oceana in Belize - Corozal Wavemakers taking part in the 2022 Hands Across The Sand Event.*



# Community Outreach and Events

Across the country, Oceana continues to work with stakeholders, partners and the sensational Wavemaker community to protect Belize's invaluable marine resources.





## PRESENTATIONS AND BROWN BAG SESSIONS

In 2022, Oceana in Belize's dedicated field representatives continued to engage schools, businesses, organizations, and Wavemakers countrywide, through presentations, consultations, and brown bag sessions.

These interactions feature highlights of our campaign work on protecting and restoring our oceans, the single-use plastic ban, and our latest constitutional reform campaign to trigger a national referendum on offshore oil exploration.



In bolstering our Grassroots efforts, our team has been able to raise awareness on our campaigns, while cultivating lasting relationships with Belizean supporters and potential Wavemakers.

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Oceana continues to find ways to collaborate and partner with different organizations and individuals and through these, we have been able to give back to various communities, and to strengthen our relationships with people and partners.

Tiburon Rum has been an avid supporter of our organization and the conservation efforts of Belize's marine life. As such, for every bottle sold they continue to donate a dollar to Oceana in Belize, to aid in our conservation efforts of the Belize Barrier Reef System, and other ecosystems along the country's extended Caribbean coast.

Sol Handmade Clay Jewelry also partnered with us this year to create a signature line of earrings inspired by the sea called "Belizean Blues," which featured 5 sets of artfully crafted earrings. For every purchase, a portion was donated to Oceana in Belize.

Miss Earth 2021 - Destiny Wagner, was also an integral part of our plastics campaign in early 2022, teaming up with our field representatives to visit schools across the country to share her concerns about the environment, and her role in promoting conservation and sustainability.



Miss Earth 2021-2022: Destiny Evelyn Wagner



# PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Oceana in Belize continues to support classroom presentations and marine restoration efforts. As such, we had the opportunity to collaborate with the Sarteneja Alliance for Conservation and Development (SACD), to support in the education of the CEMJC Biology and Natural Resource Management students on mangrove restoration, the importance of mangroves, and sustainable fisheries management.

We also provided support to the Rotaract Club of Corozal, for several clean-ups along the bay and beach side by donating garbage bags and gloves. These clean-ups are typically well received and are important for students as a part of their community service.

In Belize City, we partnered with the team at Diamonds International for a session on single-use plastics, and sea-wall clean-up along the Baron Bliss Lighthouse sea wall.

Our SJC and SCA High School Wavemaker clubs also got involved with clean-ups across the city.

Down in Dangriga, we partnered with organizations such as the BTIA Youth Arm and DYFA, for clean-ups on the shoreline of the community.

Further south in Punta Gorda, we partnered with the Rotaract Club, Punta Gorda Town Council, TIDE, and the Full Gospel Church of God Youth Group, for several clean-ups along the shore - providing supplies and support.

# REEF WEEK 2022

This year's theme - *“Exemplary Reef Health Benefits Our Nation's Wealth,”* represents the importance of sustaining the health of our Barrier Reef, as many Belizean livelihoods depend on it.

Reef Week 2022 was a success, with partners, sponsors and the wider community, showing their support and love for protecting our marine resources. Belizeans got “Active For

The Reef,” hosted beach and local clean-ups, planted mangroves, hosted classroom presentations in schools countrywide, and even took part in workshops, competitions and trivia.

Mesoamerican Reef Day - March 10th 2022, marked Reef Week 2022's signature event, a live discussion: “Protecting Our Reef,” followed by an interactive Q+A segment with insights from several experts on reef health, sharks and marine life, illegal fishing and regulations enforcement.





## Earth Hour 2022



*"Participants lit candles in the shape of sixty plus, which represents the 60 minutes of Earth Hour where we focus on the impact we are having on our planet and take positive action to address the environmental issues we face."*

For this year's Earth Hour, we partnered with Zero Belize to host an event that was attended by the Rotaract Club of Corozal, the Revolutionaries Youth Club, the Corozal Town Council, and several other NGO's.

Under the theme - "Shape Our Future," participants and supporters were encouraged to commit to positive changes that will benefit the future such as minimizing our carbon footprint and carrying out activities to raise awareness.

Conserving our coastal and marine ecosystems and adapting to the impacts of climate change are also considered key to ensuring the restoration of our blue planet.

A highlight of the event was the signature lighting of the "60+" symbol, as we turned off our lights in solidarity for both people and planet.







# ONLINE AND IN THE NEWS

## OCEANA'S 13TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Oceana wavemakers from across the country participated in Oceana in Belize's 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM), held at the Saint Catherine Academy Multi-purpose Mercy Center on Saturday October 22nd, in Belize City.

Over 200 hundred wavemakers from the Corozal, Orange Walk, Belize, Cayo, Stann Creek and Toledo districts, as well as from the islands of Caye Caulker and Ambergris Caye, attended the annual event.

During the AGM, several wavemakers were recognized for their sensational support for Oceana's campaigns and initiatives over the past year. The 2022 awardees are Gival Marin from Corozal; Manuel Novelo from Orange Walk; Marci Mejia from Belize City; the Interact Club of Sacred Heart College in Cayo; Ethan Velasquez from Stann Creek, and Yesenia Figueroa from Toledo.

Oceana also proudly recognized the Scout Association of Belize with its first ever Partner of the Year Award, and Chef Sean Kuylen as the 2022 National Wavemaker of the Year.

Born in Corozal and raised in Belize's 'Kulcha Capital' – Dangriga, Chef Sean Kuylen's passion and commitment for Belize's marine resources has always taken center stage. Sean has the distinction of being one of Oceana's very first influencers. From the kitchen, he helped to protest offshore oil drilling in Belize, at the riverside he spoke to fishers about the negative impacts of destructive fishing gear and online, he's educated over 13,000 followers about the importance of reducing plastic pollution.

Sean was also vital in conceptualizing the Fish Right Eat Right initiative, along with Chefs like Jennie Staines. They saw the need to educate local chefs and consumers on the fisheries regulations, and to recognize and incentivize restaurateurs to support fisherfolk who abide by the laws and uphold best practices in sustainability.

This year's guest speakers were Mr. Daril Avila and Ms. Dominique Noralez of the Young Leaders Alliance of Belize (YLAB), both of whom emphasized the critical importance of youth participation in the decision-making processes that will determine their inheritance and the quality of their lives as determined by the integrity of our natural resources.

Oceana in Belize's dedicated wavemakers countrywide are an essential pillar of our advocacy. We are proud to stand alongside Belizeans who are always ready and willing to speak up for our precious marine environment.

Belizean supporters are among the more than a million Oceana Wavemakers from across the globe who support the protection and restoration of the world's oceans.

The National Wavemaker Award was made by local artist, Aesha Garel of Zest Handcrafted.

To see the images of this year's awardees and event, click [here](#).



# 2022 OCEAN HEROES

## ONLINE AND IN THE NEWS

During its 12th annual award ceremony that was held virtually on Thursday, September 29th, 2022, Oceana recognized two extraordinary Belizeans as its 2022 Ocean Heroes.

They are marine conservationist, Dr. Rachel Graham and marine ecologist, Dr. Leandra Cho-Ricketts.

Dr. Rachel Graham has been fascinated with the sea from an early age. Her journey in research started with her passion for marginalized animals including rays, sea turtles, and sharks. That passion took Rachel across the globe: her research in environment and development has been conducted in Latin America, Africa, and Micronesia.

For twenty-five years, Rachel has worked with fishers and partners in Belize to identify threats, research needs, and conservation opportunities for threatened marine wildlife and their critical habitats. In 2014, Rachel founded the international NGO - MarAlliance, to promote impactful and

inclusive grassroots science and conservation of marine wildlife. Rachel's commitment to marine conservation can be felt throughout the region and the country of Belize, with more Belizeans being inspired to be actively involved in protecting ocean wildlife and coastal biodiversity.

Graham shared *"We need to fight for what we have left, and we need to re-wild our seas. I hope you will join us for this fight because it's a big one, but it's one worth fighting for."*



To see a recording of Dr. Rachel Graham's Ocean Hero Video click [here](#).

Dr. Leandra Cho-Ricketts' bond to the Caribbean Sea was immediate: the minute she locked eyes with the Belize Barrier Reef for the first time, she made a lifelong connection. Growing up in Belmopan, discussions about the reef were quite common in her household, which piqued her interest to study and learn about coral reef ecology and ecosystems management.

Over the past two decades, Leandra has applied her expertise in marine sciences, to advance marine conservation and scientific research throughout Belize to advance academic interest and advance policies and regulations.

One of her key career achievements was back in January 2010, where she co-founded the University of Belize's Environmental Research Institute, dedicated to building scientific capacity for the sustainable use and conservation of Belize's natural resources. Leandra's dedication to scientific research and marine



## ONLINE AND IN THE NEWS



To see a recording of Dr. Leandra Cho-Ricketts' Ocean Hero Video click [here](#).

resource management throughout the years, has paved the way for new generations of Belizean marine conservationists.

*"What I always heard growing up was about the reef and really for me, that's what I wanted to work on to help manage, to help protect. So, I guess over time, I've always been trying to work towards conserving, protecting, and managing the Belize Barrier Reef,"* said Cho-Rickett's.

During the virtual presentation of this year's awards, Oceana's Vice President Janelle Chanona, shared, "The 2022 Ocean Heroes we introduce to you now are front liners behind the scenes. They are the researchers crunching the numbers to tell the story, our story. As the videos showcase, their work is providing invaluable information, data that drives informed decision making...data that will make it so that we don't just survive but that we thrive!"

The stained-glass awards were made by local artist, Leisa Carr-Caceres of Belizean Craft and Colors.

Past award recipients include Lionel Heredia, Dr. Melanie McField, Rene Montero, Lisa Carne, Jamal Galves, Miguel Alamilla, Romaldo Badillo Sr., Janet Gibson, Wil Maheia, Luz Hunter, Madison Edwards, Michael Heusner, Captain Earl David Jr, Guadalupe Lampella, Dale Fairweather, Neville Smith, the late Lowell Godfrey, Kevin Andrewin and Chef Jennie Staines.

## OCEANA ADS AND PSA'S



World Oceans Day was celebrated on June 8th 2022, under the theme: "Revitalization: Collective Action for the Ocean."

To commemorate the day, Oceana in Belize unveiled a PSA featuring local professionals and leaders encouraging everyone to take action, get involved to save our seas, and raise awareness for ocean restoration and conservation.

To view the World Ocean's Day PSA click [here](#).



## SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAN

In an effort to inform and update consumers on the single-use plastic ban and encourage sustainable shopping practices, Oceana created a series of print ads that were shared and posted in businesses across the country reminding consumers that as of March 31st 2022, the possession of single-use plastic items became illegal.

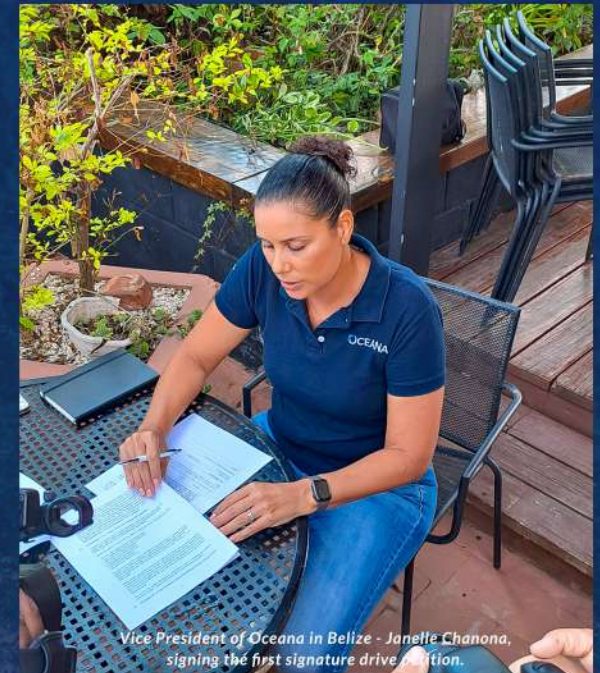


## CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

On November 17th 2022, Oceana began collecting signatures to trigger a national referendum in order to decide if the offshore oil moratorium should be lifted.

Oceana took this decision following a conversation held on September 9th, 2022, with Prime Minister, Honorable John Briceño, during which he confirmed his administration's intention to proceed with seismic testing in Belizean waters without prior approval of the public to lift the moratorium against the exploration and exploitation of offshore oil.

Our team rallied and created a stellar PSA highlighting Belize's Barrier Reef, and the many threats it faces such as pollution, climate change, and offshore oil. The PSA was viewed by tens of thousands of Belizeans across the country, as it was aired on several local media channels throughout the 2022 FIFA World Cup.



Vice President of Oceana in Belize - Janelle Chanona, signing the first signature drive petition.



To see the Signature Drive PSA click [here](#).



## JANELLE CHANONA IS NEW NGO SENATOR

The members of the Belize Network of NGOs (BNN) convened on Friday, March 11, to elect a new Senator.

A representative from each of the 31 Non-Governmental Organizations in good standing at the time were eligible to cast votes. By a result of 21 to 10, those members elected Oceana's Vice President: Janelle Chanona, to be their next representative in the Senate. The snap election followed the resignation of former senator Osmany Salas, who has gone on to work with the World Wildlife Fund.

The swearing in took place during Women's Month activities in Belize. As the new 13th Senator, Chanona became one of five women serving as Senators and one of less than ten women in the entire National Assembly. On that note, Chanona underscored that additional representation by women is always helpful in amplifying the needs of others.



*"I commit to honouring the vote of confidence that I've received today through hard work and inclusive representation. The contributions of the NGO community to national development via multiple sectors is tremendous, and their voices deserve to be amplified in the corridors of power in support of informed decision making and good governance," - Janelle Chanona*



# Engage with Oceana

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## Please Give Today to Help us Rebuild Ocean Abundance

Each of us has the power to help save the oceans and feed the world. The support of people like you allows Oceana to carry out targeted campaigns to end overfishing, limit bycatch, protect habitats and curb ocean pollution.

With your help, Oceana can win victories that will help to restore the ocean's biodiversity and abundance for generations to come. Become part of a growing circle of ocean advocates by joining Oceana today.

## Take Action

Become a Wavemaker and join more than 1.2 million Oceana supporters from around the world who have signed up with Oceana to save our oceans.

Being a wavemaker means you won't stand by while fishing nets drown sea turtles and airgun blasts deafen dolphins to enable offshore drilling. With you by our side, we can fight these and other threats.

## Follow Oceana

Follow Oceana on social media for breaking news from all over the world and insights into our research and campaigns.



@OceanainBelize



@OceanaBelize



@Oceana\_Bze

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# By the Numbers

Facebook Followers:

**26.4K+**

Twitter Followers:

**1.7K+**

Instagram Followers:

**25.4K+**

Wavemakers:

**3.2K+**



# Staff

## Executive Committee

### ANDREW SHARPLESS

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### JIM SIMON

President & General Counsel

### JANELLE CHANONA

Vice President, Belize

### NANCY GOLDEN

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### CHRIS SHARKEY

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Vice President, Chile

### KATHRYN MATTHEWS

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### ADEMILSON ZAMBONI

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Oceana is the largest international advocacy organization dedicated solely to ocean conservation. Oceana is rebuilding abundant and biodiverse oceans by winning science-based policies in countries that control one-quarter of the world's wild fish catch. With more than 275 victories that stop overfishing, habitat destruction, oil and plastic pollution, and the killing of threatened species like turtles, whales, and sharks, Oceana's campaigns are delivering results. A restored ocean means that 1 billion people can enjoy a healthy seafood meal every day, forever. Together, we can save the oceans and help feed the world. Visit [Oceana.org](https://www.oceana.org) to learn more.