



**Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of  
Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand**

**REPORT**

**INITIAL ICHTHYOPLANKTON SURVEY IN  
SELECTED AREAS OF BOLINAO BAY**

**PANGASINAN, PHILIPPINES  
27-29 SEPTEMBER 2017**

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TRAINING DEPARTMENT



**Southeast Asian Fisheries  
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**I. Highlights of Activities:**

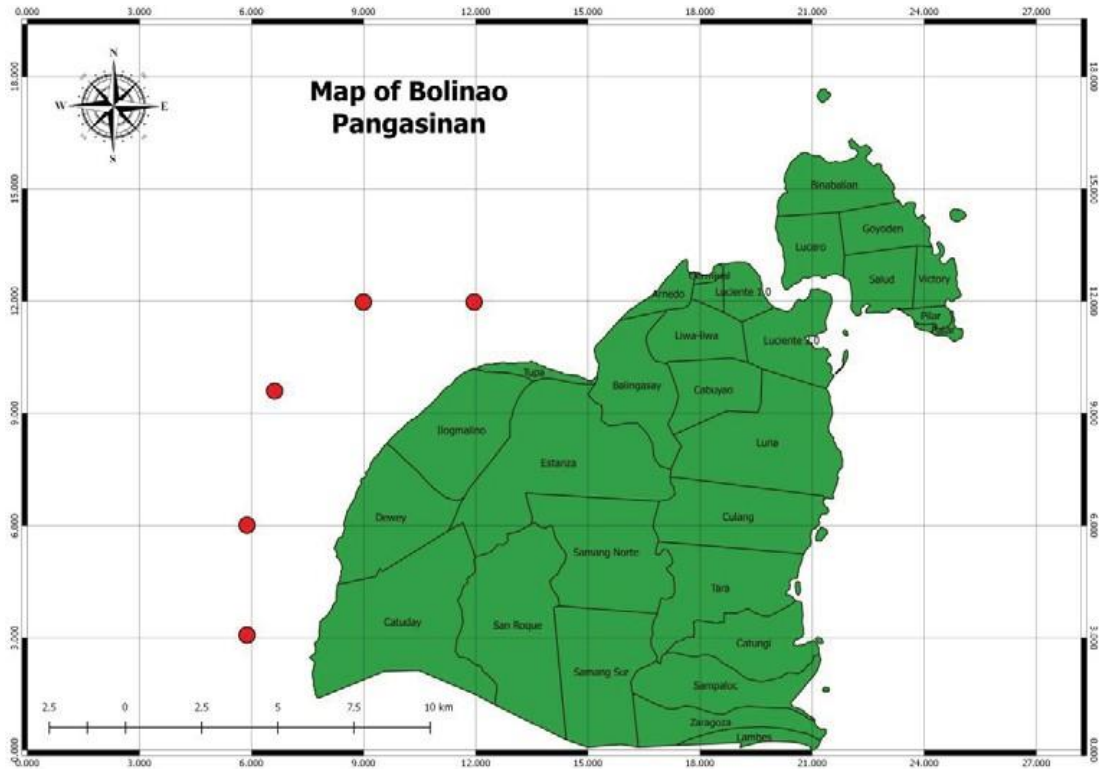
- 1) A courtesy visit was conducted to the Municipal Agriculture Office, the Team meet Ms. Carolina Ramirez, Municipal Agriculturist and inform her that the Team will be conducting Initial Hydrobiological survey which includes collection of various water parameters, plankton (phytoplankton and zooplankton), and ichthyoplankton samples. The objective of this research was to use the fish eggs and larvae as initial data for the Establishment and Operation Fisheries Refugia in Masinloc, Zambales. She informed the team that a Prior Inform Consent Certificate should be requested at the office of the Mayor before conducting the said survey.
- 2) On the second day the Team conducted the survey early in the morning, we assigned 5 selected area in Bolinao Bay. Horizontal towing of Bongo nets (50 cm diameter, 2.5 m length and 300 µm mesh size) in the surface water was done for 10 minutes on board the vessel at a possible speed of about 2-3 knots in each station to collect ichthyoplankton samples for estimates of the abundance and distribution of fish eggs and larvae.
- 3) Vertical tow of phytoplankton (30 cm diameter, 1m length and 20 µm mesh size) and zooplankton (30 cm diameter, 1m length and 64 µm mesh size) nets from near bottom up to the surface to ensure that planktons within the water column was well represented.
  1. Echo sounder was also used to determine the depth of every station.
  2. Collected sediment samples in every station using sediment corer.

**II. Laboratory work:**

- 4) Analyses of various samples (water, ichthyoplankton and plankton samples) are on-going process in the laboratory. Species composition of ichthyo- and plankton assemblages will be microscopically analyzed. The chlorophyll and nutrient contents of the water samples are still being analyzed by chemical titration with spectrophotometer.

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Map of Bolinao, Pangasinan with sampling stations