



## GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry,  
the Environment, Sustainable Development and Immigration

# PRESS RELEASE

### **Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System officially comes off the Danger List**

Belmopan, (26<sup>th</sup> June 2018). The Ministry of Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment and Sustainable Development is pleased to announce that at the meeting of the World Heritage Committee in Bahrain today, Belize's dossier was table and after hearing the matter the Committee officially made the decision to remove the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System from the Danger List. Belize's delegation to the World Heritage Committee Meeting is led by the Deputy Prime Minister, Hon. Patrick Faber and the Minister of Environment, Hon. Dr. Omar Figueroa. The Ministry takes this opportunity to thank all those who have played a role in working to satisfy the conditions for removal.

The Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System comprises seven protected areas along the largest barrier reef in the northern hemisphere, including atolls, several hundred sand cays, mangrove forests, coastal lagoons and estuaries. This outstanding natural system illustrates the evolutionary history of coral reef development and is a significant habitat for threatened marine species, including sea turtles and the West Indian Manatee. The Barrier Reef and its various attractions is one of the core foundations for Belize's vibrant tourism industry. It was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1996.

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For immediate release.

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