

SAVE OUR MANGROVES



ARABU MANGROVE NURSERY
"Restoring the Ecology and Protecting the Future of Belize"



Importance

- Nursery habitat for $\approx 75\%$ reef finfish and shellfish
- Nesting/roosting habitat for resident bird species
- Important 'stopoff' for migrating birds species
- Shoreline protection and stabilization, from wave action and storm runoff
- Maintenance of water quality by trapping sediments
- Carbon sequestration, $\approx 4\text{-}5\text{x}$ that of terrestrial forest
- Uptake of excess nutrients/heavy metals
- Refuge for reef-building corals escaping environmental stressors of ocean

Deforestation impact

- Loss of biodiversity
- Loss of food source
- Loss of culture
- Increased erosion, flooding and pollution

For further information, contact:
Forest Department - 822-1524
World Wildlife Fund - 223-7680
Crocodile Research Coalition - 672-5852