

Busuanga Island is a vulnerable ecosystem.

- Sensitive to temperature and sea-level rise
- Vulnerable to strong winds and rains
- Susceptible to experiencing more frequent storms and prolonged rainfall
- Prone to saltwater intrusion and coastal subsidence
- Can easily submerge, sink and loss as sea level rises
- Home of endemic species, as well as rare, threatened, and endangered species of plants and animals
- Introduction of non-native species may alter the ecosystem and habitat of native flora and fauna
- Species populations tend to be small, localized, and highly specialized, and thus can easily be driven to extinction

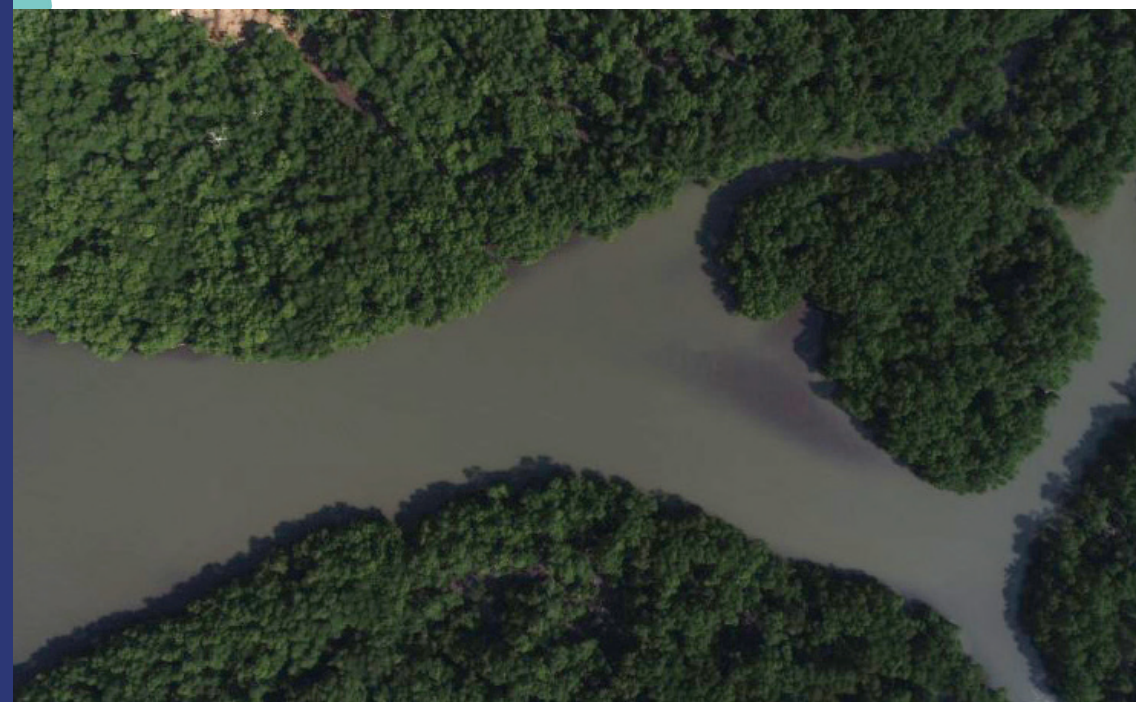
Major threats to mangroves and beach forests include:

- Clearing for coastal development
- Settlement and tourism development
- Aquaculture, Agriculture and Salt production
- Deforestation (for firewood, construction wood, charcoal production)
- Pollution from sewage and aquaculture
- Global temperature and sea-level rise/ climate change



Did You Know?

- ✿ The entire island of Palawan has been declared as a **Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve** through PD No. 2152 on 29 December 1981.
- ✿ The Palawan mangrove ecosystem is the **largest** in the Philippines.
- ✿ There are **29** mangrove species in Busuanga, Palawan. (*C3 Philippines, 2018*)
- ✿ The dominant species is *Rhizophora spp.*
- ✿ Mangrove habitats store more carbon than rainforests. Much of the carbon is in the substrate.
- ✿ Mangroves help fight coral bleaching by absorbing carbon dioxide, reducing the water's pH level, and shading corals against excess heating



Help us protect our mangroves and beach forests!

We work with coastal communities in Busuanga, as well as local government and local and international organizations, to:

- ✿ Conduct research on mangroves and beach forests
- ✿ Educate and empower the youth
- ✿ Equip community-led stewardship initiatives
- ✿ Create sustainable income-making activities

Contact us to learn more!



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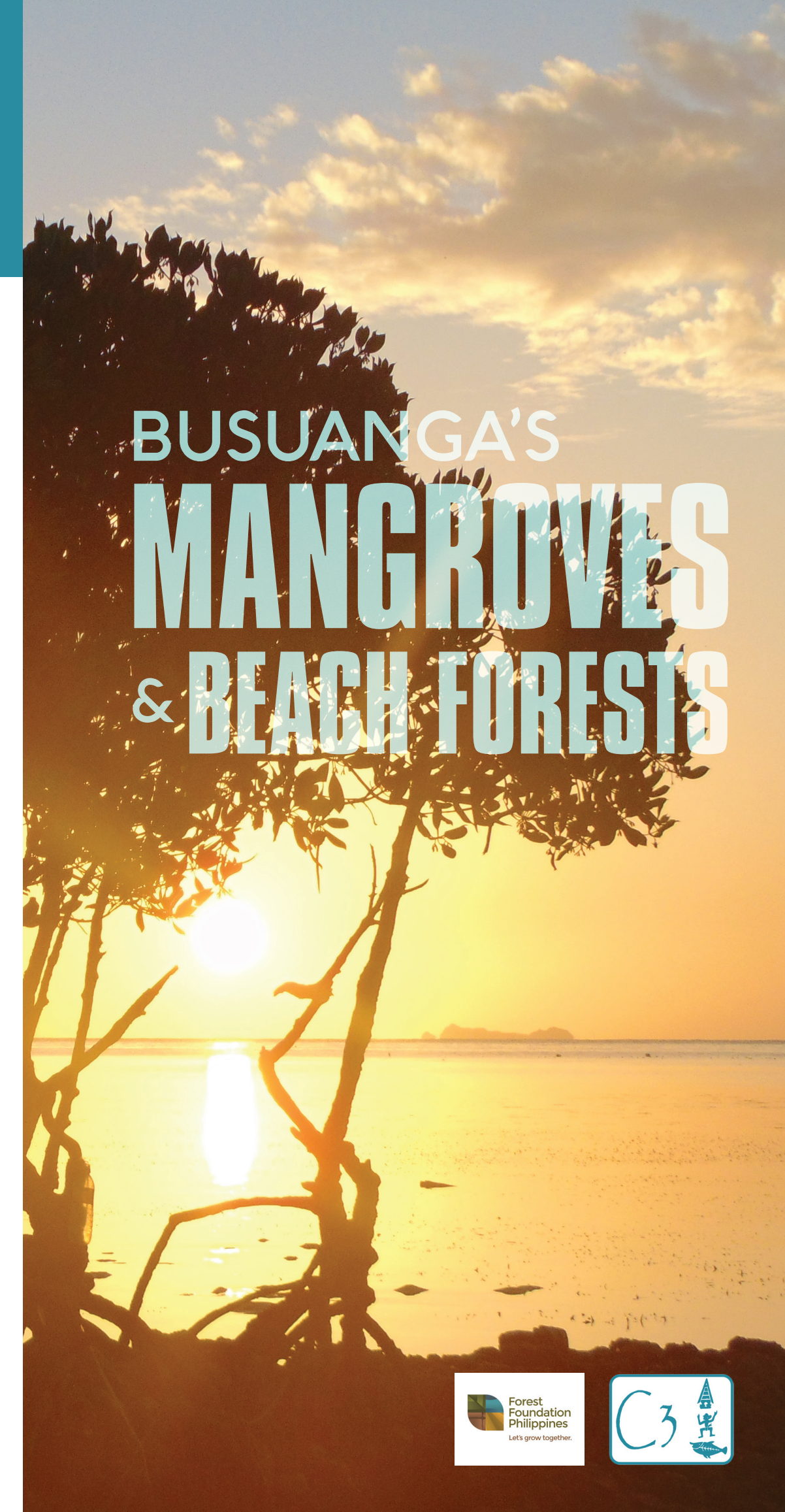
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BUSUANGA'S MANGROVES & BEACH FORESTS



Why are mangroves important?

- Home of endemic species, as well as rare, threatened, and endangered species of plants and animals
- Serve as a storm buffer against the actions of wind, waves and water currents
- Provide structure and stabilization to the island’s shoreline, thereby preventing erosion
- Serve as breeding ground and nesting site for fauna
- Filter human-generated wastes and pollutants
- Protect groundwater aquifers from mixing with seawater
- Serve as natural floodway control
- Serve as carbon sinks
- Potential for sustainable revenue-generating activities such as a source and increase in fish catch, and ecotourism

Why are beach forests important?

- Rich in biodiversity
- Protect against the effect of large storm surges and tidal waves
- Protect human settlements from coastal erosion and coastal retreat



TOP MANGROVE SPECIES IN BUSUANGA ISLAND



Bruguiera gymnorhiza
COMMON NAME: Pototan, Busain
LOCAL NAME: Botsing



Ceriops tagal
COMMON NAME: Tangal
LOCAL NAME: Tungeg



Lumnitzera littorea
COMMON NAME: Culasi
LOCAL NAME: Dublisa



Nypa fruticans
COMMON NAME: Nipa
LOCAL NAME: Nipa



Rhizophora apiculata
COMMON NAME: Bakhaw-lalaki
LOCAL NAME: Bakhaw-lalaki



Sonneratia alba
COMMON NAME: Pagatpat
LOCAL NAME: Pagatpat



Xylocarpus granatum
COMMON NAME: Tabigi
LOCAL NAME: Tabigi

TOP BEACH FOREST SPECIES IN BUSUANGA ISLAND



Calophyllum inophyllum
COMMON NAME: Bitag
LOCAL NAME: Dangkalan



Erythrina variegata
COMMON NAME: Dapdap
LOCAL NAME: Dapdap



Pandanus tectorius
COMMON NAME: Pandan
LOCAL NAME: Pandan



Planchonella obovata
COMMON NAME: Banasi
LOCAL NAME: Kapar-kapar



Terminalia catappa
COMMON NAME: Talisay
LOCAL NAME: Talisay

