



Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Protocol and Programme

Newsletter N°8 - February 2013

Commonly used Acronyms

- BIOPAMA:** Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management
- CaMPAM:** Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum
- COP:** Conference of the Parties
- CEP:** Caribbean Environment Programme
- CLME:** Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem
- CMS:** Conservation of Migratory Species Convention
- CWC:** Caribbean Waterbird Census
- GCFI:** Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute
- GCRMN:** Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
- GEF:** Global Environment Facility
- IGM:** Intergovernmental Meeting
- IUCN:** International Union for Conservation of Nature
- LIFEWEB:** Partnership under the CDB on supporting biodiversity
- MSP:** Marine Spatial Planning
- NFWF:** National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- PAs:** Protected Areas
- SGP:** Small Grants Programme
- SCSCB:** Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds
- SPAW:** Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife
- SPAW-RAC:** Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife – Regional Activity Centre
- STAC:** Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
- UNEP-CAR/RCU:** United Nations Environment Programme - Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit
- WCR:** Wider Caribbean Region
- WIDECAST:** Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network

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News of the month:

18 Protected Areas (PAs) have been listed under the SPAW Protocol during the Seventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties - COP71

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News of the month

Eighteen Protected Areas have been listed under the SPAW Protocol during SPAW COP7



The US delegation receives their award for the US Protected Areas listed under SPAW.

Further to a recommendation of the Fifth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee to the SPAW Protocol and a subsequent decision of the Seventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the SPAW Protocol, respectively convened in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, on 22 October 2012 and 23 October 2012, 18 Caribbean Protected Areas are now listed under the SPAW Protocol. The list of SPAW Protected Areas is composed of:

■ 9 Protected Areas that had been presented for listing at SPAW COP6 in October 2010 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. The SPAW COP6 had approved their listing pending positive assessment by SPAW STAC5. The SPAW STAC5 recommended validating the listing of those first nine PAs, and SPAW COP7 has accordingly approved them for final listing under the SPAW Protocol.

■ 9 other Protected Areas were presented in October 2012 to the SPAW STAC5 and SPAW COP7. All the nine PAs were positively recommended by SPAW STAC5 for listing, and subsequently approved by SPAW COP7.

The eighteen Protected Areas that form the basis of the SPAW network of Caribbean Protected Areas are:

PRESENTED IN 2010

- **Belize:** Hol Chan Marine Reserve;
- **Belize:** Glover's Reef Marine Reserve;

- **Colombia:** Sanctuary Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta;
- **Colombia:** Regional Seaflower Marine Protected Area in San Andrés and Providencia Archipelago;
- **French Guiana (France):** Grand Connétable Island Natural Reserve;
- **Guadeloupe (France):** National Park of Guadeloupe;
- **Bonaire (Netherlands):** Bonaire National Marine Park;
- **St Eustatius (Netherlands):** National Park the Quill and Boven;
- **United States of America:** Florida Key National Marine Sanctuary.

PRESENTED IN 2012

- **Cuba :** Guanahacabibes National Park in Pinar del Río;
- **USA:** Dry Tortugas National Park in Florida;
- **USA:** Everglades National Park in Florida;
- **USA:** Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary in Texas (Gulf of Mexico);
- **Saba (Netherlands):** Saba Bank National Park;
- **St Martin (France):** St Martin National Reserve;
- **St Martin (France):** St Martin Lagoon Ponds;
- **Guadeloupe (France):** Petite-Terre National Reserve;
- **French West Indies (France) :** Agoa Sanctuary. A dedicated cooperation programme will be developed by the Secretariat in 2013 and 2014 for these 18 Protected Areas.



Figure 1: Tentative map of the 18 PAs currently listed under SPAW.

FOCUS ON

Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) and Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) meetings: Adoption of the new SPAW Workplan for 2013-2014

UNEP-CEP convened a series of meetings under the Cartagena Convention and the Caribbean Environment Programme, from 22 to 27 October 2012 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic:

- The Fifth meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) for the SPAW Protocol was held on 22 October 2012;
- It was followed by the Seventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the SPAW Protocol on 23 October 2012;
- The First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Protocol on Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS) was convened on 24 October 2012 ;
- The Fifteenth Intergovernmental Meeting and Twelfth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention was finally held from 25-27 October 2013.

On this occasion, the SPAW STAC5 reviewed the next SPAW Workplan for the period 2013-2014 that was further approved by SPAW COP7 and endorsed by the IGM. The new workplan is available on: www.carrcu.org/meetings-events/meeting_info/1. The new Workplan maintains a strong focus on MPAs and capacity building, on the protection of species including marine mammals, sea turtles and sea birds, and on improved monitoring and management of coral reefs and associated ecosystems. The development of targeted partnerships with the tourism sector will also be sought.

Other important outcomes from SPAW COP7 and IGM15 include:

- a final review of the **guidance document for exemptions** to species protection under Article 11(2) of the SPAW Protocol (see [Newsletter #3](#)), that will be followed by its final approval by the Parties through an electronic consultation;
- an extended mandate of the **Working Group for the review of species** to be listed in the annexes of the Protocol (see [Newsletter #3](#));
- the approval of **18 Protected Areas** for listing under SPAW (see above);
- a decision on the lionfish invasion that supports the **Regional Lionfish Committee** established under the auspices of ICRI (see [Newsletter #7](#)), promotes the use of the dedicated manual for the control and management of the lionfish, and supports the establishment of a **regional response plan against the lionfish**;
- an encouragement of the efforts of France towards the **reintroduction of the Antillean manatee** in Guadeloupe, FWI; and
- an endorsement of the recommendations of the Report of the Regional Workshop on **Marine Mammal Watching** in the Wider Caribbean Region, including the Overarching Principles and Protection Guidelines for Marine Mammal Watching in the Caribbean Region (see [Newsletter #4](#) and the [report](#)).

All the meeting documents, including the various reports that were presented and the new SPAW Workplan for 2013-2014, are available [here](#).

ON-GOING PROJECTS

Report of the last Agoa monitoring campaign and launching of the next one

Once again, the Agoa scientific campaign "Wet Season 2012" in the waters of Guadeloupe, Martinique, and the islands of St Martin, St Maarten, Saba, St Eustatius, St Bart and Anguilla was a great success! Many partners answered the invitation to participate and



Pygmy Killer Whale.

for the first time, the team welcomed experts not only from the Dutch Caribbean and Anguilla, but also from the USA, the Netherlands, Venezuela and Trinidad & Tobago. Discussions between partners

were fruitful and future common projects on marine mammals should be developed in 2013.

In addition, a French National TV crew was invited on board during the mission in Guadeloupe for shooting the scientific methodology (the documentary "Des Racines et des Ailes" will be broadcast in March on the French television).

Among the species observed in the three areas (Northern islands, Guadeloupe, Martinique), were the following: pilot whale (*Globicephala macrorhynchus*), bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), pantropical spotted dolphin (*Stenella attenuata*), Atlantic Spotted Dolphin (*Stenella frontalis*), pygmy killer whale (*Feresa attenuata*), Gervais' beaked whale (*Mesoplodon europaeus*), Fraser's Dolphin (*Lagenodelphis hosei*).

Translation of the lionfish manual in spanish completed

El manual "Invasión de pez león: una guía para el control y manejo" ha sido traducido al español. Este manual es el resultado de un proyecto financiado por el Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial (FMM) y el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA). El manual es el resultado de un proyecto financiado por el Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial (FMM) y el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA). El manual es el resultado de un proyecto financiado por el Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial (FMM) y el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA).



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Spanish Lionfish Manual snapshot.

The manual " Invasive lionfish : a guide for control and management" has been translated into Spanish with funds provided by the SPAW-RAC and matching funds brought by the US National Fish and Wildlife Foundation under the grant awarded in 2011 to REEF and the SPAW-RAC for lionfish activities.

The Spanish version of the manual has been laid out by the same specialist who formatted the English version.

Copies will be soon printed and shipped to all Caribbean Spanish-speaking countries, as well as the manual in Spanish

will soon be available on-line. The manual in English is available at : <http://lionfish.qcfi.org/manual>.

New large project on MPAs : the IUCN BIOPAMA project

IUCN has been awarded a grant by the European Union for a project entitled "Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management" (BIOPAMA). The project scope includes Africa, the Pacific and the Wider Caribbean. Its goal is to improve long-term conservation of biodiversity in the three Regions and reduce the poverty of populations surrounding PAs. More specifically, the project aims to enhance existing institutions and networks, based on the best available science and knowledge, by building their capacity to strengthen policy and to implement well informed decisions on biodiversity conservation, protected areas management and Access and Benefit Sharing.

For the Caribbean Region, the link between BIOPAMA and CaMPAM Initiative and SPAW is obvious, and; if properly streamlined to ensure consistency and avoid redundancies, the two initiatives could tremendously benefit from one another. A workshop for the Caribbean Region to identify regional priorities for data and information needs as well as capacity needs for improved decision making for Protected Areas management was convened by IUCN on 22-24 January 2013 in Barbados. This should help build a clear partnership between IUCN, UNEP-CEP and CaMPAM to that purpose.

The sperm whale, although considered a resident in the waters of the Lesser Antilles, did not show up. But its presence was nonetheless confirmed by the use of a hydrophone. Underwater sounds of sperm whale (and other species) were recorded. With regard to the Humpback whale, that was not observed directly during the missions, it has made its comeback in our waters since the end of November when it was first sighted in the Leeward coast of Guadeloupe. No doubt that this species is much-awaited for the next mission. The Agoa monitoring campaign "dry season 2013" is planned for March-April (dates will be determined soon).

For further information on the Agoa mission or if you are interested in joining the campaign, please contact the SPAW-RAC. You can also find more details about this campaign and the previous one in the SPAW Newsletters #6 & #7.

Wrap-up of Caribbean Challenge Initiative: Two last mid-size grants for enforcement awarded

Several activities were developed over the past two years under the UNEP-CAR/RCU project "MPA strengthening in the Wider Caribbean and the Caribbean Challenge) funded by the Directorate General for Development Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 8 islands countries participating in the Caribbean Challenge (see SPAW [Newsletter #6](#)). The project is now coming to an end, and a final wrap-up workshop was organized by CaMPAM during the 65th Annual Meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) in Santa Marta, Colombia, 1-5 November 2012 ([Meeting webpage](#)).

Nevertheless, in order to maximize the usefulness of the project, CaMPAM, UNEP-CEP and the SPAW-RAC decided to award two last grants of USD20,000 to improve enforcement in marine protected areas. A call was launched to that effect in mid-November 2012 and two applications were received, reviewed by the project coordination team, and approved :

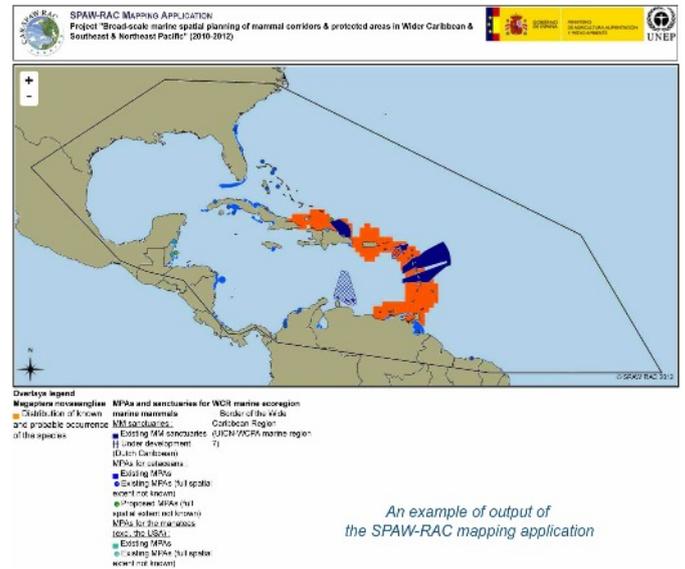
- Building compliance and enhancing capacity for MPA Enforcement in Grenada, a project coordinated by the **Fisheries Division of Grenada**;
- Enhanced Enforcement to Protect Increasing Coral Reef Diversity and Biomass in La Caleta MPA, coordinated by **Reef Check Dominican Republic**.

In both cases, training and awareness-raising activities on enforcement in MPAs are organized with the help of the grant in order to increase compliance with MPA and to improve the effectiveness of control and surveillance, and important equipment for enforcement is also acquired. The final reports are due by the end of February 2013.

Extension of the LifeWeb project on broad-scale Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) for marine mammals and next activities

The Spain-UNEP LifeWeb project on Broad-scale Marine Spatial Planning of marine mammals' corridors and protected areas in the North-east & South-east Pacific and in the Wider Caribbean Region has started in mid-2010. After more than two years of implementation in the two regions, significant progress has been made and important outputs have been produced and released (see for examples SPAW Newsletter [#4](#), [#5](#), [#6](#) with respect to activities and outputs in the Wider Caribbean). The Government of Spain, funders of the project, has now agreed to extend it until December 2013 so that an additional set of activities may be developed, especially in the Wider Caribbean.

For the WCR, the work will be focused on the development of preliminary scenarios for marine mammal transboundary management. This scenario exercise was one of the major outcomes of the Interregional workshop on marine spatial planning for marine mammals that was convened in Panama City,



An example of output of the SPAW-RAC mapping application

Example of map produced during the Lifeweb project.

Panama, in May 2012 (see Newsletter No.7). Participants in the workshop also selected two Caribbean areas where the scenarios are to focus: (i) the Dominican Republic down to

Karukera Benthos 2012 in Guadeloupe, FWI



Karukera Benthos workshop.

If the most emblematic components (fishes, corals) of the marine ecosystems in Guadeloupe are now well inventoried, the situation is different for the small macrobenthos components. A project lead by the National Park of Guadeloupe (PNG), the Antilles-Guyane University (UAG), the National Museum of Natural History (MNHN) and the Pierre et Marie Curie University (UPMC) with matching funds are provided by the European, french and local partners, the KARUKERA BENTHOS 2012 project aims to fill this gap.

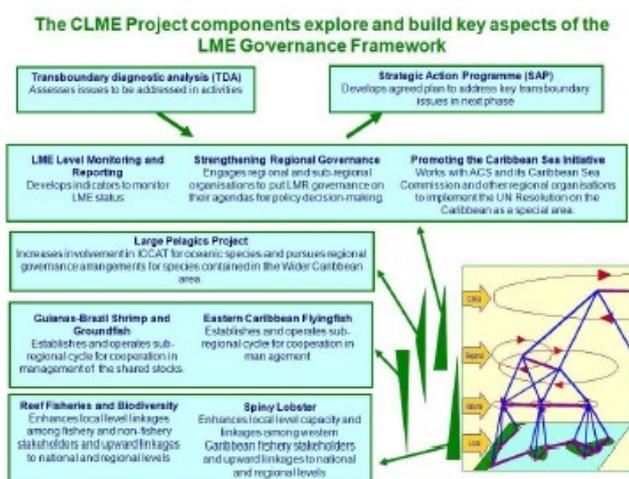
The main mission from 2 to 30 May 2012 involved about 40 volunteers, staff and scientists. Eight nationalities in total were represented (*Venezuela, Cuba, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United States, Mozambique, France*). A small team of 5-6 persons been collecting complimentary data in December 2012 for particularly seasonal organisms (algae, nudibranchs). A total of 9 sites have been sampled in May, and 5 were inventoried again in December. Habitats' diversity, ecological specialization of organisms and their small size require that sampling methods are diverse, therefore a variety of approaches was used.

Once the project is completed, it could constitute a model for the tropical Caribbean Region. A total list of 300 to 500 macroalgae species and of 1,000 to 1,500 mollusc species are expected. New species will likely be discovered. The sorting out of collected samples and a first identification will be completed in March 2013 by the Museum team. On this occasion, first results will be published.

Trinidad and Tobago, encompassing all the Lesser Antilles islands and their waters ; and (ii) ranging from Venezuela to French Guiana.

Time and resources don't allow for a full-scale, participatory scenario exercise. This idea is therefore to use the datasets and maps on marine mammal distribution, threats, and policies, that were produced during the course of the LifeWeb project to explore the feasibility of the scenario exercise and to develop a few mock scenarios, with the assistance of experts of respectively marine spatial planning and scenario mapping. The mock scenarios will then be submitted to Caribbean governments and relevant organizations as examples of what can be elaborated using marine spatial planning, in order to initiate further discussions. This work should focus on the first of the two selected areas mentioned above.

Update on the major achievements of the GEF Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Reef Biodiversity and Reef Pilot Project



Structure and governance of CLME project.

The focus of the GEF CLME intervention is to assist Caribbean countries to improve the governance and management of their shared living marine resources, most of which are considered to be fully or over-exploited, through an ecosystem level approach. The UNEP-CEP CLME Pilot Project on Reef Biodiversity and Fisheries is being executed by UNEP-CAR/RCU. UNEP then issued sub-agreements to partners operating in the CLME selected Pilot Target Sites, which were Montecristi National Park in the Dominican Republic; Caracol Bay in Haiti; Pedro Bank in Jamaica; and Seaflower Biosphere Reserve in Colombia. The objectives of the Pilot Project are to promote an ecosystem-based approach for the conservation and effective management of coral reef ecosystems and their resources in order to maintain their functional and structural integrity and biodiversity, and to ensure economic and social benefits for local communities and the region as a whole. The pilot project, which began in 2010 and is slated to end in April 2013, has helped add to the current knowledge of coral reef ecosystems and reef fisheries, at the local, national and regional levels, as well as on relevant global and regional experiences in multi-sectoral and participatory management and conservation measures. Major accomplishments to date include:

- **Networking and Sharing Lessons Learnt:** A regional workshop entitled "Regional Conservation, Fisheries Management Practices and MPAs: Implementation in the Caribbean" was held 23 – 25 April 2012 at the Seaflower, Colombia site, with 60 participants. This workshop provided an opportunity for the participants from 3 sites to exchange lessons learnt in particular

on MPA management, community participation, reef fisheries ecosystem impacts, and fisheries enforcement strategies.

- **Strengthening of Fisheries management and governance at Pedro Bank, Jamaica:** through development of a management plan for the Pedro Cays and surrounding waters; declaration of the South West Cay Special Fisheries Conservation Area; expeditions at Pedro Bank to support surveys and research; and training.

- **Strengthening of Scientific Base and enforcement at Seaflower Marine Protected Area, Colombia:** through inclusion of a scientific expedition in the Global Reef Expedition; dedicated studies to queen conch abundance and distribution, coral and associated communities; stakeholder sensitization; monitoring sessions; stock assessment analysis; and training in enforcement and surveillance regulations and ecological background.

- **Strengthening of Marine Resources Management at Montecristi National Park, Dominican Republic:** through scientific expedition and data gathering trips; workshops with community members; and development and implementation of a co-management plan.

A final set of activities is being implemented in order to strengthen existing management frameworks based on the principles of the ecosystem-based management approach (assessment, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation).

For more details see these UNEP articles: [Factsheet CLME Reef Pilot Project](#), [Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine and Coastal Ecosystems page](#), [Coastal and Marine Ecosystem](#).

CMS Small Grants Programme Announces Projects Funded

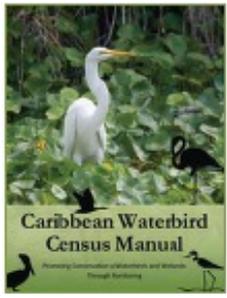
The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) Small Grants Programme (SGP) has announced that after being inactive for several years due to a lack of funding, it issued a call for applications earlier in 2012, and has selected twelve winning projects. It expressed appreciation to the UN Environment Programme for its pledge of US\$300,000, made at the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties in November 2011.

The SGP is meant to provide fast and direct support to grassroots conservation projects directed at migratory species listed on the CMS Appendices. The twelve winning projects come from different regions, including Africa, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean, and aim to conserve migratory species including Atlantic humpback dolphins in Congo, humpback whales in Costa Rica and Mozambique, saiga antelope, sooty falcons, bats in Slovakia, and snow leopards in Tajikistan. Eight of the successful applications have secured significant co-funding for their projects.

The next round of applications for the small grants will be opened by the end of 2013. Activities under the Small Grants Programme shall only take place in countries which have ratified CMS and are not more than 3 years in arrears with their contributions. For the Wider Caribbean, Antigua & Barbuda, Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, and French, Dutch and UK Overseas Departments and territories correspond to these conditions and are therefore eligible. National Focal Points are encouraged to facilitate the submission of suitable proposals. For those countries not yet Party to CMS, ratification of the Convention is a requirement.

The SGP is not included in the core budget of the Convention, and is therefore dependent on voluntary contributions, the CMS Secretariat notes. It is seeking additional funds to supplement the amount available, as well as to continue the programme beyond 2014. www.cms.int/news/PRESS/nwPR2012/11_nov/nw_191112_sgp2012.html

Caribbean Waterbird Census Regional Count 2013



The Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds (SCSCB) has announced the Third Annual Regional Caribbean Waterbird Census (CWC) in 2013, that will take place from Monday, January 14 to Sunday, February 3, 2013 inclusive, thus including three weekends and World Wetlands Day on 2 February 2013.

The CWC is a region-wide waterbird and wetland monitoring program sponsored by SCSCB and supported by SPAW. The goal of this program is to learn more about the distribution, status, and abundance of waterbirds in the Caribbean to improve conservation planning and management of these birds and their habitats. One region-wide count is organized in the winter where everyone counts at the same time during the middle of winter (when birds are most stationary) to get a "snapshot" of waterbird population numbers and habitat use throughout the Caribbean. In order to fill in the remaining large gaps in the knowledge of migratory waterbirds and the sites they use for migration and wintering, CWC counts are also encouraged at least once during fall and spring migration periods in as many wetland sites as possible

Two levels of counts have been developed: level 1 is basic counting, whereas level 2 counts include measures of detection probability. Count data must be entered in eBird Caribbean (<http://ebird.org/content/caribbean>). All species must be counted and recorded to the extent possible in one count area (including land birds) and effort must be recorded as well (the amount of time spent counting). CWC Training Workshops have been organized to help counters build capacities. On-line resources are also available to help plan monitoring programs and surveys and train counters. The CWC Manual (with protocols and data sheets) are available for download at: <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/cwc>. You can also download powerpoints that can be used for training purposes (e.g., Bird Identification 101, Wetland Birds of the Caribbean, Levels of Monitoring (including descriptions of protocols), Name That Bird, and many more).

Eighteen Caribbean countries have participated in the CWC from 2010-2012, with 2010 being a pilot year. Participation in the CWC

has increased each year: the number of sites surveyed increased from 102 in 2010 to 205 in 2012; the number of checklists submitted increased from 112 in 2010 to 360 in 2012. As a consequence of greater effort and geographical coverage, the number of species counted increased from 86 in 2010 to 166 in 2012. A total of 865 CWC checklists were entered into eBird Caribbean from 2010-2012 and a total of 51 persons contributed at least one CWC checklist during 2010-2012.

Five waterbird species of conservation concern were selected for further exploratory mapping of their distribution and abundance. A detailed report, including maps for these species, is available for download from <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/cwc/>. For more information, please contact SCSCB (Lisa Sorenson).

Wrapping-up of the project on mangrove reforestation and environmental education in Haiti

The project entitled "Integrated protection and promotion of sustainable coastal and marine ecosystems directly impacted by the earthquake in Haiti" (2010-2012) that had been initiated in 2010, is now completed. The project was led by SPAW-RAC and the Haitian Foundation FoProBim in collaboration with various technical partners and donors (Ministry of Environment in Haiti, UNEP-Haiti, French Caribbean Botanical Conservatory, French Forest Office in Guadeloupe, "Mon école ma baleine" and APIGWA NGOs, Lemarchand and Nature et Découverte Foundations, Regional Fund for Cooperation in Guadeloupe), as well as with generous in-kind donors who provided educational materials for classes.

The project was composed of two main components: Integrated mangrove reforestation (with plant nurseries and beekeeping and local trainings provided to local community members) and environmental awareness raising.

First and above all, the amazing groundwork in Haiti undertaken by the principal project partner FoProBim and its director Mr.

NFWF announcement of solicitation for Spring 2013 funding



Photo: Gourdin Franck

The US National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is soliciting conservation grant proposals for sea turtle research and conservation. Priorities for awards in Spring 2013 include:

- 1. Bycatch mitigation in trawl and longline fisheries that impact the Northwest Atlantic loggerhead population with a focus on the Gulf of Mexico and the Eastern Atlantic;
- 2. Caribbean hawksbill bycatch assessment and reduction in Jaragua and Saona Islands, Dominican Republic;
- 3. Mitigation of impacts to the Eastern Pacific leatherback population from priority fisheries in Ecuador and Peru;
- 4. Continue rapid bycatch assessment for Eastern Pacific leatherback population through port surveys and in-water satellite tagging to identify potential critical in-water habitat;
- 5. Assessment of threats to top producing nesting beaches for the Caribbean hawksbill.

Applicants are encouraged to select one topic for each proposal. Applications outside of these priority areas will be considered for funding provided they support the goals and objectives outlined under the NFWF Sea Turtle Conservation Business Plan, but will be a lesser priority for funding.

See www.nfwf.org/seaturtle for a full version of the RFP including specifics within these priorities, eligibility requirements and application instructions.



FoProBim, SPAW-RAC, UNEP Haiti and some partners of the project.

Wiener must be warmly commended. Their team carried out all project activities on the ground, often under very difficult circumstances, managing complex situations, but, always keeping their focus.

Although the tight project schedule did not permit the development of a cooperative structure of the kind usually needed to continue the management of these new activities, the project outcomes have proven to have nevertheless the possibility to continue to develop on their own, as they are already doing: the plant nurseries have "sprouted" others, and the honey production is continuing to develop.

On the short term, it is greatly hoped that this project can be continued in one way or another either in the same target area to expand and strengthen current activities or in new target areas considered as priority. Other activities as well may be incorporated through building on and using technical expertise present in the Caribbean such as for aquaculture, better watershed management, sustainable fisheries, targeted training and exchanges, environmental educational activities for children, development of marine protected areas.

It now rests with the Haitian Government, which has fully supported the project since its start to decide what follow-up activities it would like to give the project, along with its principal Haitian partner UNEP- Haiti.

For more information on the project and its implementation, see [Newsletter #5](#) and www.car-spaw-rac.org/?Haiti-project,251.

PUBLICATIONS



■ **The manual on Best practices for the control and management of the invasive lionfish** has been translated in Spanish and will be available on-line soon. Printed copies will also be shipped to all Spanish-speaking countries and territories of the WCR. For the manual in English : <http://lionfish.gcfi.org/manual/>



■ **Educative on-line tools on cetaceans:** "Mon École, Ma Baleine", an NGO based in Guadeloupe, FWI and specialized in education and awareness-raising on marine mammals, has translated and posted with support from the SPAW-RAC a series of games and stories for children in Spanish and English: www.monecolembaleine.org

■ **A GCRMN Regional Report for the Caribbean** will be released soon. The report includes both quantitative and qualitative assessments of coral reef status and trends, including Caribbean sub-regional areas. A global launch is planned for the spring of 2013.

UPCOMING EVENTS

■ **22-24 January 2012:** Workshop on information and capacities development priorities for MPAs under the BIOPAMA Project, IUCN, Barbados;

■ **23-25 and 28-30 January 2013:** Caribbean Regional Workshops on harmonized reporting and on mainstreaming Multilateral Environmental Agreements into national policy development, CARICOM, St Lucia;

■ **29-31 January 2013:** CLME Regional Workshop on IMIS-REMP, Playa del Carmen, Mexico;

■ **2-3 February 2013:** International Sea Turtle Symposium, Baltimore, USA;

■ **4-8 February 2013:** WIDECAST Annual Meeting, Baltimore, USA;

■ **Feb-March 2013:** (TBD) UNEP Green Economy Regional Workshop, Costa Rica (TBD);

■ **5-6 March 2013:** Partners Advisory Group and 4th CLME Steering Committee Meetings, Cartagena, Colombia;

■ **19-21 March 2013:** Third Senior Officials Meeting (SOM3) and First Ministerial Meeting (MM1) on the Caribbean Challenge Initiative, Puerto Rico;

■ **March 2013** (TBD) Peer-to-peer workshop on MPAs and tourism, St Martin, FWI;

■ **27-31 July 2013:** 19th Regional Meeting of the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds, Grenada.

USEFUL LINKS

■ GCFI and its 65th annual meeting: www.gcfi.org/Conferences/65th/StaMarta.html

■ Newsletter of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Funds by CANARI: www.canari.org/documents/CEPFCaribbeanNewsletterIssue3Dec2012.pdf

■ Caribbean Waterbird Census: <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/cwc>

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