

# BNT *Currents*

## Mark Your Calendars

**Sept 19**  
International Coastal Cleanup

**October 2-3**  
Council Meeting

**October 3**  
P. I. Golf Course bird watch

**October 7**  
Public Meeting and book signing "Birds of the Bahamas" with Anthony White

**October 31**  
Annual Wine & Art Festival

**November 7**  
Ornithology Birdwalk, Coral Harbour entrance - 7am

**November 21 & 22**  
Annual Jollification

**December 5**  
Ornithology Birdwalk, South West Ridge - 7am

**January 2**  
Annual Christmas bird count

## International Year of The Oceans

Seventy per cent of the "Blue Planet" is water, and all but 3 per cent of that is salt water. Life itself evolved from the ancient seas and yet we know more about space than we do about the world's oceans.

To help people understand the importance of the oceans to life on earth and to heighten awareness of the threats they face, the United Nations declared 1998 'the International Year of the Ocean'.

Why should we care? Dr Sylvia Earle, a noted oceanographer who has earned many honours for her work in marine conservation, recently answered that question in an article for the magazine *People and the Planet* (Volume 7, Number 2). It is reproduced here in part.

"From afar, astronauts quickly grasp the truth: Earth is dominated by the sea. In short, the ocean is our life support system, the driving force behind climate and weather, the key to temperature regulation, the source of most of the oxygen in the atmosphere, the place where enormous quantities of carbon dioxide are absorbed. It is also home for most of life on Earth. Water is the single non-negotiable thing life requires, and this planet is blessed with lots of it, most of it -97%-ocean.

In the past half-century, new discoveries have been made that are bringing into focus the many ways this living ocean affects humankind. The recent El Niño phenomenon, a fluctuating

current off the coast of Peru, has made people aware of the global connections among ocean currents, winds, rainfall, temperature, crops, flooding, drought, the stock market—and economies of nations far removed from the western coast of South America.

The sea has always been valued as a liquid highway, dividing and sometimes uniting cultures worldwide, sometimes

serving as an important arena for aggression or defence. It has also yielded a treasure trove of history, especially in recent years as new technology has made possible the recovery of long-lost artifacts from ship wrecks and has revealed ancient shorelines. New access to the deep sea has begun to provide insight into the nature of earthquakes and other grand earth processes that have direct impacts on the lives of people far inland. Oil and gas reserves under the ocean are being tapped and used worldwide, and alternate energy sources explored, ranging from power derived from waves and tides to the thermal differential between cold, deep water and warm surface temperature.

The past 50 years have not only yielded new discoveries about the ways the ocean affects



Continued on page 8

## **EARTH WEEK— NEW PROVIDENCE**

Trust members teamed up with the Rotary Club of Southeast Nassau in April to create environmental awareness during Earth Week. The Education Office produced a series of environmental messages on the International Year of the Ocean, coral reefs, hunting and fishing regulations, landscaping for wildlife, and ozone depletion, which were placed on all of the local radio stations. Also, members of the Interact Clubs of L.W. Young and St. Andrew's schools, BNT Discovery Club, St. Andrew's ReGreen Club and Rotarians from the Southeast Nassau Club spent a Saturday clearing litter from Adelaide Road, removing casaurinas and debris from the Adelaide Creek area. Participants were treated to lunch and refreshments after their morning work projects. The Rotary Club of South-east Nassau sponsored the radio messages and invited the Trust to participate in the club's 1998 Environmental Programme.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION BOOK REPRINTED**

The Trust has revised and reprinted a booklet summarizing various laws affecting wildlife and national parks in the Bahamas. The re-printing was financed by a grant from lawyer Peter Graham. Included are the Wild Birds Protection Act, fisheries regulations, a list of wild bird reserves, information on the national parks and their bye-laws, and a fact sheet on the endangered West Indian Whistling Duck. Cabinet ministers, Customs officials, and the police have all received copies of this handy reference guide. Copies are on sale at BNT offices.

# BNT BEAT

## **EARTH WEEK— GRAND BAHAMA**

The oceans took centre stage in Earth Week '98 activities on Grand Bahama. "Get Into It" was the theme for commemorative t-shirts and other activities included a Junkanoo Earth Walk, Rap for the Earth Contest, and local beach clean-ups. Earth Week committee members from the Rand Nature Centre, the Grand Bahama



Island Tourism Board, and Paradise Cove visited schools to talk about the importance of oceans and encourage their protection.

## **ORNITHOLOGY GROUP ACTIVITIES**

Fifteen members of the BNT's Ornithology Group met to celebrate International Dawn Chorus Day in May. The group, led by Paul Dean, saw many birds including a large group of Blackpoll Warblers. A fundraising BBQ was held in June to finance a delegation to the Society for Caribbean

Ornithology meeting in Guadeloupe this summer.

## **RETREAT TOURISTS**

The Retreat garden continues to be a popular place for students to learn about native vegetation and the Bahamas' unique limestone topography. Recent school visitors have come from Bahamas Academy, St. John's, L.W. Young, Respect Academy and Kingsway Acad-

Adelaide. Members were tested on their camping skills—pitching tents and making campfires—and watched the early-morning fly-in of Bahama Pintails and Blue-Winged Teal to the Maillis Pond. They learned about the importance of mangrove wetlands at Adelaide Creek and visited Stuart Cove's to participate in the dive operator's "Children on the Reef" programme where they were lectured on correct snorkelling procedures. Thanks to Stuart Cove's Dive South Ocean and the Maillis family for making this one of the club's best camping trips. Discovery Club is not all fun and games. Members must participate in volunteer activities which include helping with BNT mailings, Retreat garden projects, and community service. Two members, Wendell Collie and Ashli Fox, have volunteered enough time to qualify for their gold badge.



*Wendell Collie and Ashli Fox—outstanding Discovery Club volunteers*



*Discovery Club Members get suited up for their snorkelling adventure at Stuart Cove's Dive South Ocean.*

emy. In addition to garden tours, students listened to presentations on the national parks system, the Green Pledge programme and endangered species of Bahamian wildlife.

## **DISCOVERY CLUB SPRING TERM**

Whether on a bug hunt, making invisible ink, learning about animal adaptations, studying amphibians and reptiles, or learning about weather, Discovery Club members were having fun. A highlight of the term was the overnight camp at

# AGM Report

The Trust's Annual General Meeting was held April 23 at Government House with Governor-General Sir Orville Turnquest in attendance.

President Sandra Buckner's report reviewed the Trust's activities in parks management and expansion, policy and advocacy, evaluation of development proposals, school and public education programmes, and wildlife conservation.

Honorary Treasurer Ernest Grindrod announced the appointment of Cooper's & Lybrand as auditors for the coming year, and nominations for elected members of Council were presented by Keva Hanna-Lawrence and approved.

The Governor-General presented awards to the following volunteers in recognition of their special services:

- Paul Dean—for his tremendous contribution to advancing the knowledge of Bahamian birds and their habitats among students and Trust members, and for spearheading the Kirtland's Warbler Monitoring Programme.

- Melissa Maura—for service as the Trust's bird rehabilitator and educational illustrator.

- Ernest Grindrod—for his tireless devotion and the good humour he brings to the treasurer's position.

A motion was presented by Terry Bain to strengthen national park legislation and administration throughout the country. Although the motion itself was not approved, an amendment to the motion was approved. Mr Bain was invited to meet with the Executive Committee to address and further develop the spirit of his motion.

A motion presented by Pericles Maillis was approved. Accordingly, the Trust will redouble its efforts to promote preservation of natural and historic places throughout the country, including a formal review of sites to be recommended for protection.

The Trust has consulted with Ocean Watch and is reviewing the Clifton Cay environmental impact study in order to make recommendations on the conservation issues involved.

The Trust has made extensive input on the North Bimini development. This has included two visits to the area (once with the Prime Minister's delegation); a review of the environmental impact assessment; detailed recommendations for environmental protection (which the office of the Prime Minister has in turn required of the developer); and meetings with the developer to discuss concerns and proposed alternatives. The latest proposals reflecting a reduction in the scale of the development and other environmental changes are now under review.

These issues (and many others) were discussed in depth during Council meetings in April. Officers elected for the year 1998-99 were: Sandra Buckner, president; John F. Bethell Jr, deputy president; Macgregor Robertson, honorary secretary, and Ernest Grindrod, honorary treasurer.

## Bahamas National Trust Council 1998-1999

The Trust is governed by a 21-member council, of which nine are elected annually from among the general membership and 12 are appointed by Bahamian and international organizations designated by the Bahamas National Trust Act, 1959.

Durward C. Archer	Elected Member	
Glenn V. Bannister	Elected Member	
John F. Bethell	Elected Member, Deputy President	
Donald Bruning	Wildlife Conservation International	
Sandra D. Buckner	Elected Member, President	
David Challinor	Smithsonian Institution	
Angela Cleare	Min. of Tourism	
Dr. Donald Cooper	Department of Environmental Health Services	
Elma Garraway	Min. of Education	
Dr Samuel Gruber	University of Miami	
Colin Higgs	Min. of Agriculture & Fisheries	
Lynn Holowesko	Governor-General	
Geoffrey Johnstone	Elected Member	
Pericles Maillis	Elected Member	
Richard G. Ring	U.S. National Parks Service	
Macgregor Robertson	Elected Member & honorary secretary	
Oris Russell	Governor-General	
Alexander Sprunt IV	National Audubon Society	
Dr Melanie Stiassny	American Museum of Natural History	
Robin Symonette	Elected Member	
Phillip Weech	Elected Member	
<b>Special Advisors to Council</b>		
Dr Karen Bjorndal	Center for Sea Turtle Research	
Dr Alan Bolten	Center for Sea Turtle Research	
Dennis Knowles	Grand Bahama Regional Committee	
Dr G. Carleton Ray	University of Virginia, Dept. of Environmental Sciences	
<b>Honorary Past Presidents</b>		
Robert Blum	Basil Kelly	Michael Lightbourn
J.A. McKinney	Oris Russell	Lynn Holowesko

### Cheep! Cheep!

Bird Books & Calls now available at the BNT Shop

Peterson Field Guide to Eastern Birds

\$34.95 (hardcover)

American Bird Conservancy All the Birds of North America

\$31.95

National Geographic Field Guide to Birds of North America

\$25.95

Guide to Birds of the West Indies

\$57.95 (hardcover)

Audubon Bird Calls \$5

# Harrold Pond—Area for Protection

**T**o the south of the City Dump, bordered by Sir Milo Butler Highway, is one of the best birding areas on New Providence. The BNT's Ornithology Group, under the guidance of Paul Dean, have been monitoring the Wilson and Harrold Pond area since 1994, and last January submitted a species list to the Trust's Executive Committee.

The concentration and variety of birds in this area is remarkable. Over a hundred species have been identified, falling roughly into four categories: year-round residents of The Bahamas, neotropical migrants which stop over on the flight between their nesting and wintering grounds, migrants which fly south to the Bahamas for the winter, and summer migrants which come north from South America and the Caribbean to breed in The Bahamas.

Mixed species of herons, egrets and cormorants have established the largest rookery on New Providence on Harrold Pond islets. At sunset they present a striking sight as they stream into their roosts by the hundreds. Recently, a strong headwind stalled the northward migration of literally thousands of shorebirds gathered around Wilson Pond. As one observer put it, "the ground was moving with birds."

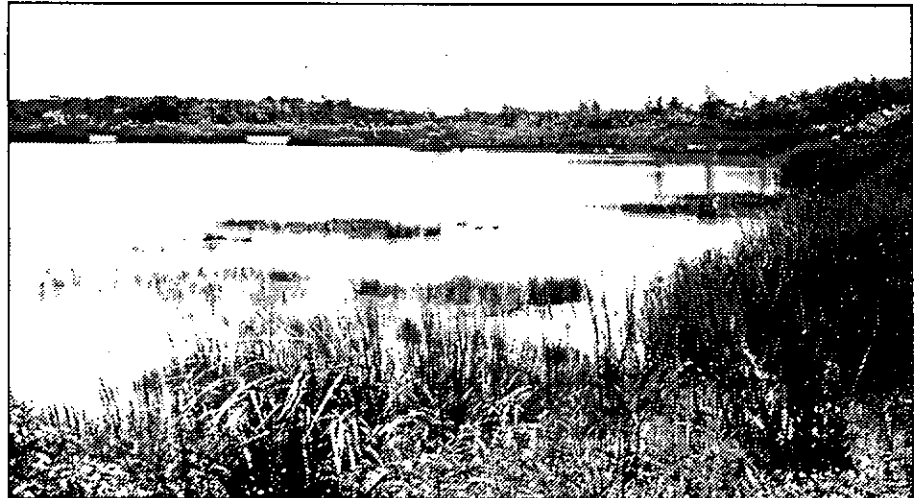
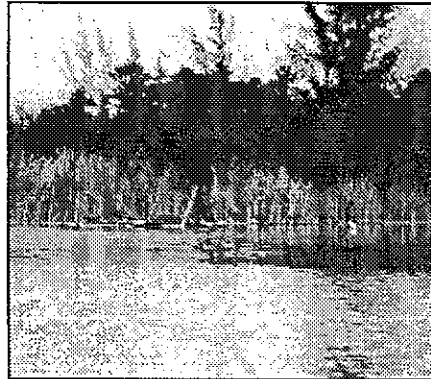
Whether resident or migrant, each species has specific food requirements, but their most important need is water. In terms of bird life alone, Harrold and Wilson Ponds are the most significant wetlands on New

Providence. The government recently signed the Ramsar International Convention on Wetlands, thereby committing itself to stemming their loss. These rich habitats on our doorstep offers a textbook illustration of the need and opportunity to honour this commitment.

The Trust is currently preparing



proposals for several areas on New Providence that have been designated high priority sites for protection. Wilson and Harrold Pond will be included in this submission. Members can show their support by writing letters to the Ornithology group supporting the protection of this valuable wetland.



## Gwen Lawrence Property

The Bahamas National Trust recently received a \$2,500 grant from the Rotary Club of East Nassau, to label and plant Native Trees in our Gwen Lawrence Bird Reserve in San Souci. Mrs. Lawrence left the property located on Sherwood Drive in San Souci to the Trust so that it could be preserved as a haven for bird life. The Native Flora Group adopted the project and will be adding 30 species of native trees to the property which will provide additional cover and food sources for local bird populations. The property will be fenced through a generous grant from the MacTaggart Third Fund and the Flora Group hopes to have it ready for the enjoyment of BNT members by the end of September of this year.



# BNT at BREEF 2

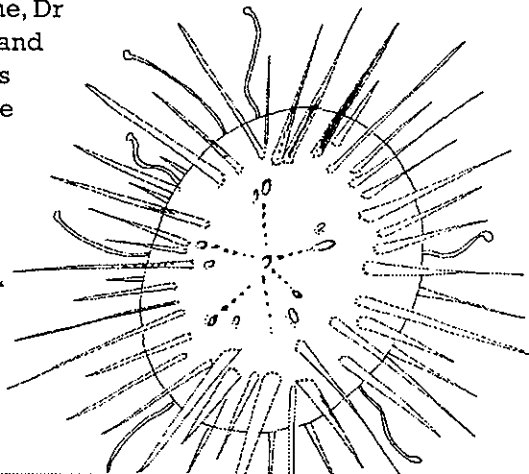
BNT employees participated in the Global Environmental Institute for Teachers—otherwise known as BREEF 2—this summer at the Bahamian Field Station on San Salvador. Kathy Oliver, assistant director of the Rand Nature Centre in Freeport, and Education Officer Monique Clarke were among 29 educators and civil servants from various islands, including Mayaguana, Andros, Grand Bahama, Cat Island, Inagua, Abaco and Eleuthera. The group was under the guidance of Sir Nicholas Nuttall

(chairman of BREEF); Carol Landis (of the US-based Linworth Alternative Program); Larry McKenzie (of Ohio State University); Carmen Trisler (of Wittenberg University); Hamblin Newbold (of the Ministry of Education in Nassau); and Annaleta Swann (of the West End All-Age School). This intensive educational programme featured presentations on the marine environment and natural resources, coral reefs, mangroves, climate change and geology. There were demonstrations of class activities and teaching techniques as well as field experience in creating beach profiles, inspecting marine life along the shoreline, and observing the geological features of coastal caves. Public Relations and Education Officer Lynn Gape gave a presentation on the BNT's Wetland Education Programme and the various educational resources available from the Trust. She distributed a package of

## SEARCHING FOR THE URCHIN

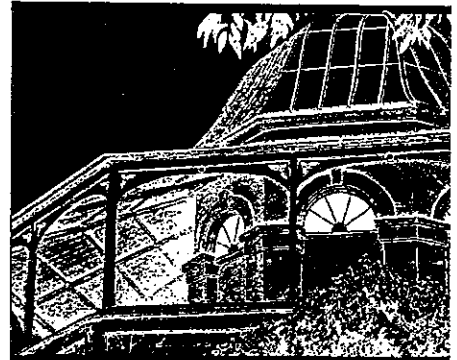
The Bahamas Reef Environmental Education Foundation (BREEF) is compiling information on the long-spined sea urchin, *Daidema antillarum*, which seems to be in decline in the Bahamas. This urchin is usually black and has numerous long, thin, sharp spines. It is found in waters from up to 130 feet deep. If you know of areas in the Bahamas where these urchins are found in abundance, please contact BREEF or the BNT at (242) 393-1317.

educational materials which included an educator's resource booklet on coral reefs, the BNT's new National Parks poster, endangered species fact sheets, and a booklet on the Bahamas environmental laws. Other guest lecturers included Jo Gascoigne, Dr Don Gerace, Dr Garriet Smith and Paul Turnquest. All participants received what was dubbed "the BREEF bible" - an impressive collection of information and class activities for educators. The College of the Bahamas is offering credit hours for completion of the programme.



**IUCN**  
The World Conservation Union

Bahamas National Trust member since 1963



## Historic Nassau Study

The Ministry of Tourism, together with the Nassau Tourism & Development Association, has contracted well-known architect Jackson Burnside to undertake the Historic Nassau Restoration Project.

Financed by the public and private sectors, the project will identify sites of historical and architectural value and examine land uses within the city. A Report will define the character and composition of historic buildings and make recommendations for their preservation.

An advisory committee representing major stakeholders in the public and private sectors was appointed by the Minister of Tourism to undertake an ongoing review of the project. Architect Anthony Jervis, chairman of the BNT's Historic Preservation Committee, and Lynn Gape, BNT Public Relations and Education Officer, are representing the Trust.

A survey of public views on historic Nassau and how citizens would like the city to be changed is now underway. Questionnaires are available at the Retreat.

# News from Our NATIONAL PARKS

## Reliable Transport for Inagua Wardens

A recurring problem over the years for the Inagua National Park has been reliable transportation. Thanks to



On a recent visit to Inagua, Geoffrey Johnstone and Macgregor Robertson received the keys to the new park truck from Carl Farquharson, general manager of Morton Bahamas Ltd. Pictured from left are Wardens Randolph Burrows and Henry Nixon; Mr Johnstone, Carl Farquharson, Mr Robertson and Warden Jimmy Nixon.

Morton Bahamas Ltd, our wardens now have a late-model four-wheel drive vehicle to patrol the park and its boundaries.

Visiting and monitoring the remote nesting areas in Lake Rosa will now be possible due to a generous donation from Lightbourne Marine of a 10-foot inflatable dinghy powered by a 5hp Mercury outboard.

On a not-so-happy note, the BNT regrets the loss of Inagua Warden "Casper" Randolph Burrows, who is moving to Nassau to join the Royal Bahamas Police Force. We wish him the best of luck and expect to see him frequently at our Nassau activities.

## Grand Bahama Regional Branch

The Grand Bahama Branch held its Annual General Meeting in March and elected the following officers:

Chairman-Dennis Knowles  
Vice-chairman-Chantel Nesbitt  
Secretary-Karin Sanchez  
Treasurer-James Poole

Receiving certificates of appreciation for special event fundraising were Bristol Cellars, Cool 96, Columbian Emeralds International and Freeport Advertising and Printing. Freeport Power won a certificate for outstanding corporate sponsorship, and Carolyn and Barton Milligan were recognized as outstanding volunteers.

## Lucayan National Park

Some 20,000 visitors to the park were recorded in 1997. The new \$3 fee system is working well, generating income from commercial users of the park. Admission

will soon apply to individuals. This revenue has funded improvements like a ticket booth, phone service, a composting toilet facility. Plans also call for a new visitor centre. A park reception officer has been appointed. Ivan Laing, of Pelican Point is a former Customs officer and accounts clerk at BORCO. He is also associate minister of St Matthew's Baptist Church in Pelican Point.

## The Retreat

The new Cycad Lawn in the front northern section of the garden displays 14 different varieties of cycad donated by Chuck Hubuck, head curator of Fairchild Tropical Gardens, and Paul Craft, of Pine Nuts Nursery



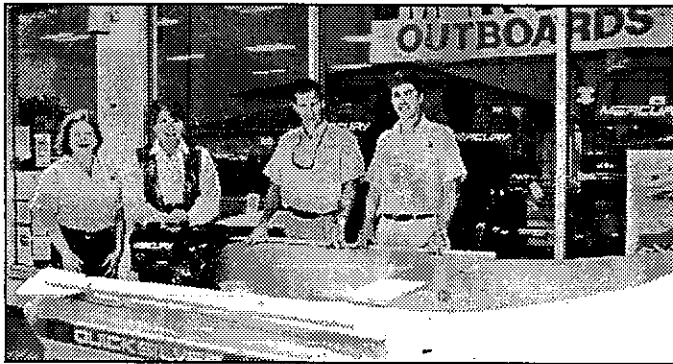
in Florida. The addition of stone benches to the Huamil area make it an ideal spot for birdwatching as the new fountain and bird feeder are attracting many species. Bobbie Pyfrom and her hard-working volunteers have planned another pond for the Pergola area which is now covered with flowering vines and a new red ground cover. Volunteers have been particularly helpful this year. Thanks to Margaret Day, Tom Wright, Michelle Stanhope and Jane St. George. The Retreat Committee is also pleased to welcome new member David Higgs, a well-known Bahamian horticulturist. Linda Thomson is still in need of garden guides. Members are invited to accompany a tour on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays at 11:45 am. Anyone wishing to volunteer as a guide should call the BNT office at 393-1317.

## BNT Presents National Parks Poster to Prime Minister

On Earth Day '98, the Trust presented Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham with a framed copy of the educational poster "National Parks-National Treasures". Making the presentation were BNT President Sandra Buckner, BNT Executive Director Gary Larson and Rotarians Andrew Gape, Robert Lotmore and Robert Brown. The 2-sided, 23 x 35" poster was developed by the Trust, designed and produced by Media Enterprises, and funded by the Rotary Club of East Nassau. It features information on the 12 national parks in the Bahamas and stunning colour photographs of Bahamian wildlife. After the presentation, the group discussed many issues with the prime minister, including the Trust's ongoing work with the people of Andros and several government agencies to establish protected areas for the whole Andros Island system.

## Rand Nature Centre

Volunteers are playing an increasingly important role at the Centre in areas such as tour-guiding, visitor reception, office management, grounds-keeping, and construction and maintenance. To better assess the interests and capabilities of volunteers, Carolyn Milligan organized a committee to draft new member involvement forms and develop a data base for registering volunteers. Since the beginning of the year, our regular volunteers have logged over 265 hours! The new observation deck at the flamingo pond is nearing completion and members have taken part in the project by donating funds for benches. Fourteen benches have been constructed and each donor is being recognized with an engraved plaque. The flamingos took little notice of this major construction project, and in fact, increased their courtship activity and pair formation. Nature Centre staff hosted members of the Kirtland's Warbler Survey Team, composed mainly of biologists from agencies in Michigan. Habitats from West End to South Riding Point were surveyed and the microhabitat of agave blossoms was studied. The team's efforts were rewarded with positive sightings of three of these rare birds. Through the generosity of the Nature Conservancy and Canon Corporation, ornithology group representative Rick Oliver was presented with a new pair of Canon binoculars.



Lightbourne Marine's donation was made in support of the Trust's natural resource and wildlife conservation efforts on Inagua. Pictured from left are: Jane Lightbourne of Lightbourne Marine; Lynn Gape, BNT PR and Education Officer; Tim Bethel, parks officer; and Terry Lightbourne of Lightbourne Marine.

## Rat Eradication at White Cay, Exuma

White Cay (also called Sandy Cay) in the southern Bahamas is the only home of the sub-species rock iguana, *Cyclura rileyi cristana*.

The population has been intensely surveyed by Dr William K. Hayes and Dr Ron Carter from Loma Linda University in California, and it was evident that the iguanas were suffering severely from rat predation and also from predation by a racoon that had been thoughtlessly left on the cay by some careless individual.

Studies revealed that only about 200 iguanas survived on the cay, making this animal one of the most endangered lizards in the world. It is listed as a priority species by the World Conservation Union (IUCN).

As a result of these findings, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Trust carried out a rodent eradication programme on White Cay in April. The programme was facilitated by Flora and Fauna International, a UK-based conservation organization.

The rats were disposed of by a grid of poisoned bait stations monitored constantly by resident personnel who took precautions to prevent impact on non-target species and ecosystems.

The iguana population is expected to recover as a result of this programme. Seabird colonies are also expected to recover as similar projects in other parts of the region have shown that many species prosper after rat eradication.

## Discovery Club visits Grand Bahama Parks

Rand Nature Centre Grand Bahama served as the camp site for this year's Discovery Club grand camping trip. Club members and chaperones made up the group of 33 travelling June 19-22.

The first activity was the Dolphin Experience at Lucaya where the group was hosted by Mr Christopher Allisoun. Discovery Club members got in the water with the dolphins and were allowed to pet them. They also learnt about dolphin biology and behaviour.

The afternoon was spent exploring the Rand Nature Centre. The group visited the resident flock of flamingos and the Lucayan village on the property and received a lesson on trees of the pine forest from Acting Regional Director and Assistant Rand Nature Centre Director, Kathy Oliver.

On Sunday Discovery Club visited the Lucayan National Park. The group enjoyed exploring the park walking through every vegetative zone in the Bahamas—a special feature of this national park. Beach fun was then the

order of the day followed by a roasted hot dog lunch. Later the group enjoyed a leisurely stroll through the Garden of the Groves. Dinner was had at Pier 1 Restaurant where the group witnessed the shark feeding frenzy.

The whirlwind trip ended on Monday when they broke camp and cleaned the camp site. Even though there was a three-hour delay on the trip back to Nassau, the success and fun of the weekend kept everyone's spirits high.

(Continued from page 1)

humankind. Increasingly, there is evidence of the many ways that we are affecting the ocean.

Extraction of hundreds of millions of tons of wildlife from the sea in the past few decades has begun to alter the nature of ancient ocean ecosystems. Once abundant species have collapsed and entire ecosystems, from coral reefs to kelp forests, are showing clear signs of stress.

If the oceans did not matter to the future of humankind, perhaps we could justify using the waters of the world as a convenient place to dump whatever we don't want nearby where we live. Perhaps we could ex-

tract wildlife without worrying about the sustainability of populations of fish, whales, shrimp, oyster, seaweed, crabs and clams—as well as the many other forms of life that comprise the living sea. Perhaps we could continue behaving much the same way we do now.

However, we have learned enough in the past half century about the importance of the ocean to human survival and wellbeing to understand that we must change our ways—if we are to have an enduring, prosperous future. Dying coral reefs, sharp declines of more than a hundred once-common species of fish, a growing anoxic “dead zone”

in the Gulf of Mexico, a 50 per cent loss of shoreline mangrove forests, increasing abundance and extent of toxic algal blooms—are among recent signs that the ocean is in trouble. The ocean is our life support system. If it is in trouble, so are we.

This would be terrifying news but for one thing. During the same few decades when we have done the most harm, we have also learned more about the nature of the ocean and its importance to our survival and wellbeing than during all preceding human history. With knowing comes caring, and with caring, there is hope that we will seize the opportunities now available.

We have the power to eliminate—or perpetuate. The choice is ours about whether there will or will not be great whales thriving in the waters of the Antarctic at the turn of the next century; whether there will or will not be cod and bluefin tuna chasing capelin and herring in the North Atlantic; whether there will or will not be coral reefs along certain shores. What we do, or choose not to do, right now, will surely shape the nature of the ocean—and our own lives—in the near future.”

*For more information on the Year of the Ocean please check the World Wide Web at <http://www.yoto.98.com>—Year of the Ocean Information.*

*In recognition of the importance of the marine environment, the United Nations has declared 1998 the International Year of the Ocean (YOTO). The ocean, the major feature of our planet, is vital to life on earth. The Year of the Ocean designation provides governments, organizations and individuals with an important opportunity to raise public awareness of the important role the ocean plays in our lives.*

*NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) has provided a general website for Year of the Ocean Information as well as other web sites of interest to educators and students. Please check out the following list of websites and learn more about our oceans.*

<http://www.yoto.98.com> - Year of the Ocean Information

<http://www.elnino.noaa.gov> - Information on El Nino or La Nina

<http://www.noaa.gov/nmfs/sustain.html> - Sustaining Marine Resources

<http://www.erols.com/gulfstrm> - The Gulfstream

<http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/OCPD/Marine/contents.html> - Ocean Pollution

<http://mapindex.nos.noaa.gov/> - National Oceanic Service's MapFinder

<http://www.hurricanehunters.com/welcome.htm> - National Hurricane Center

<http://kingfish.ssp.nmfs.gov/uncintyr/prot-res.html> - Endangered & Threatened Marine Mammals



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**Conservation and Preservation for a Better Quality of Life!**