



2022 **IMPACT REPORT**



ERIC CAREY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | 2007 - 2022

MISSION

The Bahamas National Trust is a science-based organization dedicated to effectively managing national parks to conserve and protect Bahamian natural resources.

VISION

A comprehensive network of effectively managed Bahamian national parks and protected areas that is recognized as a powerful force for global biodiversity conservation which is supported and enjoyed by the public.

OUR FOCUS

National parks are at the core of our work. We accomplish this work through five interconnected pillars. Every day, we are **managing unique spaces** as a form of **biodiversity conservation**; fostering environmental stewardship by offering **engaging education**; encouraging philanthropists and the business community to become involved by **investing in nature**; then sharing the impact we create together by telling our **park stories**.



MANAGING SPACES

We will continue to enhance our national parks by providing the necessary infrastructure to make them more accessible, employ best practices in park management, enforcement and maintenance.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

We will continue to conserve the unique biodiversity found within, and beyond, the boundaries of our national parks by regularly monitoring and restoring these critical habitats and conducting and sharing research to influence policies, and national development plan.

ENGAGING EDUCATION

We will continue to be a leader in youth environmental education, using national parks as outdoor classrooms to create environmental stewards and support the national school curriculum.

INVESTING IN NATURE

We will encourage people to invest their resources in national parks, immerse our donors and members in our work, connect parks to people, and encourage business opportunities for local communities.

PARK STORIES

We will share with the community the impact of what we accomplish, with the support of our partners, donors and volunteers. We will highlight our achievements and celebrate our conservation warriors, to inspire more people to join our cause.

OUR NETWORK OF NATIONAL PARKS

National Parks

- 1 Andros West Side National Park
- 2 Crab Replenishment Reserve
- 3 Blue Holes National Park
- 4 North Andros Marine Park
- 5 South Andros Marine Park
- 6 Rand Nature Centre
- 7 Peterson Cay National Park
- 8 Lucayan National Park
- 9 Walker's Cay National Park
- 10 Black Sound Cay National Reserve
- 11 Fowl Cays National Park
- 12 Pelican Cays Land & Sea Park
- 13 Tiloo Cay National Reserve
- 14 Abaco National Park
- 15 Primeval Forest National Park
- 16 Harrold & Wilson Ponds National Park
- 17 Bonefish Pond National Park
- 18 The Retreat
- 19 Exuma Cays Land & Sea Park
- 20 Moriah Harbour Cay National Park
- 21 Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve
- 22 Conception Island National Park
- 23 Southern Great Lake National Park
- 24 Pigeon Creek and Snow Bay National Park
- 25 Graham's Harbour Iguana & Seabird National Park
- 26 West Coast Marine Park
- 27 Green's Bay National Park
- 28 Great Hope House
- 29 Marine Farm
- 30 Little Inagua National Park
- 31 Union Creek Reserve
- 32 Inagua National Park

BNT Offices

Marsh Harbour, Abaco
 Freeport, Grand Bahama
 Nassau, New Providence
 Warderick Wells, Exuma Cays
 Moriah Harbour Cay, Great Exuma
 Staniard Creek, Andros
 Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera
 Matthew Town, Inagua





**FOR THE PARKS.
FOR THE COUNTRY.
FOR THE FUTURE.**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Member, donor, partner, volunteer, staff. However you choose to categorize yourself in our conservation community, I will continue to refer to you foremost as a BNT Park Friend. Your fellowship is vital. Your support makes our work possible.

With a mandate to effectively manage the existing 32 national parks in our system that conserve and protect Bahamian natural resources, we need all of the help we can get. Year after year, you demonstrate your commitment to the environment and a love of The Bahamas.

Last year was no exception. You enabled us to keep programs sufficiently resourced. BNT Parks team manages some of the most biodiverse ecosystems in the world while leading enforcement; our Science & Policy department monitors and protects fragile species and vulnerable habitats; and Education achieves national reach through youth and adult programming, utilizing outdoor classrooms that inspire. The BNT has demonstrated its guardianship for the environment and continues to deliver programming that benefits people and nature.

Bahamian national parks need you. With a renewed focus on our core mission of effectively managing these spaces, and thereby protecting the country's abundant natural resources for the benefit of future generations, there is no doubt that the BNT has a very bright future indeed.

BNT Park Friend, we will be continuing to rely on your partnership in 2023 and beyond. I confidently know you are steadfast in your support.

Sincerely,



Geoff Andrews
President



MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Friends, supporters, and colleagues,

After twenty years with this incredible organisation, I have made the decision to transition to the next chapter of my life. My time with the BNT has been one of my life's most remarkable experiences and privileges. As Executive Director, I have had the opportunity to grow the BNT from a small organisation to a mighty community of environmental champions.

I am exceptionally proud of all that we have accomplished together. From developing a world-class national park system to saving iconic species from extinction, providing quality education programs for youth, to transforming the conservation landscape, we have achieved a lot to protect The Bahamas' most precious resources. I am honoured to leave a legacy for the next generation that will reap the benefits of our work.

Although I'm sad to close this chapter of my life and the BNT's history, I fully believe that the time is ripe for new leadership, and I am happy to welcome Lakeshia Anderson-Rolle with respect and anticipation for what she'll do to steer the organisation along the path of the future.

Thank you for your support - both for me in my time as Executive Director, and for the BNT itself. I ask for you to continue to support however you can - in kindness and encouragement, through membership, donations, volunteering, advocacy, spreading awareness, and by caring for your environment every day in all you do. If I've learned anything in my tenure as Executive Director, it's that it's the sum of our individual small acts of conservation that makes a big difference; and we are all called to be stewards of our environment. It is our shared heritage, reward, and responsibility.

Despite all the shared successes I leave behind, the work ahead is still arduous, and perhaps more important now than ever. It will take all of us to forge ahead and create a better future for those who come behind. While I may be stepping down as Executive Director, my support for the BNT is unrelenting, and I stand ready to assist in whatever way I can.

Thank you for an amazing 20 years.



Eric Carey
Outgoing Executive Director



MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear valued BNT Supporters,

As I take on this new role at the BNT, I am honoured to build upon the legacy of this esteemed organisation. I am eager to grow and enhance our national park system and to lead a community of conservation warriors, working for a better Bahamas. In my previous role as BNT's Director of Parks for the past six years, I've seen first-hand the wonder of national parks and the role they play in our everyday lives; the health, social, environmental, and economic benefits they provide to people across The Bahamas and the opportunities that exist to provide direct benefit to nearby communities and business owners.

In reflecting on the past year and all of the things we did together, I am thankful for your support and hopeful for the future. I am mostly looking forward to building on what we accomplished in 2022, including working with the government to enact legislation to bring a new level of protection to national parks; reigniting outreach and education programs that bring our youth into their parks to experience the outdoors; revamping programmes to control invasive species in an effort to preserve native biodiversity; and strengthening partnerships, membership, and support to secure a sustainable future for our parks.

Now more than ever, we have to come together to build a future that protects our natural assets and improves human well-being. As we face the daunting effects of climate change, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss, we have a monumental task ahead of us. A task we can only overcome through strong and collective action!

When nature is protected, it thrives. When nature thrives, we thrive. National parks exist to ensure this. As a nation that is dependent on a healthy environment, we must prioritize conserving our natural treasures and safeguarding our national parks. When we work together we accomplish phenomenal things for our environment and humanity. I cannot express how grateful I am that you continue to choose to defend nature and support Bahamian national parks.

I know that with your dedicated support, there's no limit to what we can accomplish for our parks. Together, we can succeed in advancing habitat protection, restoring nature, and creating opportunities for communities to benefit from their national parks.

I am honoured to lead the charge to accomplish our mission of managing national parks and preserving our future. I am delighted to have you alongside me for the journey.

Sincerely,



Lakeshia Anderson - Rolle
Incoming Executive Director





THANK YOU ERIC CAREY FOR YOUR 20 YEARS OF DEDICATION TO THE BAHAMAS NATIONAL TRUST



Eric Carey has been a leading voice for conservation in the region and a true environmental warrior in The Bahamas, dedicating 20 years of service to The Bahamas National Trust (BNT).

For fifteen of those years, Eric served as Executive Director, truly transforming the historic organisation.

During his tenure, over \$60M in revenue was raised for the BNT's parks, science, and educational programs. Eric has overseen the dynamic expansion of the organisation, growing the BNT from a small 10-person group to an environmental powerhouse with over 80 staff, thousands of dedicated members, and both Bahamian and international communities of donors.

He has led the development of a world-class National Park System that is recognised and celebrated internationally. He has helped protect iconic Bahamian

species from decline, advocating for important species such as sharks, turtles, birds, conch, and grouper. And he has transformed the conservation landscape in The Bahamas forever, creating new conservation leaders through capacity-building initiatives.

During his time at The BNT, he has won several awards for his contributions and the work of The BNT including several lifetime awards.

In his wake, Eric leaves a powerful and proud legacy for the next generation of Bahamians and global citizens who will reap the benefits of The Bahamas' world-renowned National Park System and chart the course for a sustainable future.

We thank Eric Carey for his 20 years of service to The Bahamas National Trust, The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, and the world.

SOME OF ERIC'S PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDE:

- ✓ Raising over \$60M for the BNT during his tenure
- ✓ Growing the national park system to 32 national parks, covering 2.2 million acres
- ✓ Developing The Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve
- ✓ Creating The Bahamas Kirtland's Warbler Conservation Program
- ✓ Inspiring and connecting countless young Bahamians to pursue careers in conservation

On December 17th, some of BNT's partners, supporters, friends and family of Eric Carey gathered at Grand Hyatt Baha Mar to wish a final farewell to our environmental hero. We gave a final toast to Eric, shared congratulatory remarks, then feted him in style with a junkanoo rush out. We wish Eric well in his future endeavours.

At this event, Eric officially passed the baton of leadership to Lakeshia Anderson-Rolle, incoming Executive Director of The Bahamas National Trust.



"The thing I am most proud of in these 15 years is that the BNT is now part of our national identity. Bahamians now identify the National Park System as belonging to them; a treasure to hold and protect for generations to come."

– Eric Carey,
Executive Director
(2007-2022)

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

The BNT would like to say a special thank you to all of our partners who supported Eric over the years, his final farewell event, and our 2022 Advancement Campaign:



SAFEGUARDING
THE JEWEL OF THE

bahamas now & tomorrow

80
DONORS

\$2M
LEGACY

ERIC CAREY'S

\$2M LEGACY CAMPAIGN

*Safeguarding The Jewels of The
Bahamas Now & Tomorrow*

We began 2022 on stronger financial footing with a healthier balance sheet, more robust donor relationships, and major gift prospects with greater giving propensity. To accomplish current and future goals to effectively manage the 32 marine and terrestrial national parks within the system, we established a \$2M campaign that would provide a foundation for the BNT to expand and grow in critical areas in its next historical chapter.

The BNT's fundraising approach in 2022 was centered around the outgoing Executive Director Eric Carey's 20-year legacy in conservation leadership. The extraordinary success of our Safeguarding The Jewels of The Bahamas Now & Tomorrow campaign ensured that there is a healthy foundation for the organization's future as we welcomed new leadership and built central capacity at the start of 2023.

Thank You To Our Anchor Donors

Bob & Jeanne Coughlin
Sampson Cay Retreat Ltd, Exuma



Ignacio de la Rocha
BLU Investment Ltd

"We dedicated the entire year to showcasing our treasured National Park System in celebration of the twenty year career and impact of Eric Carey, BNT's outgoing Executive Director. Your generous gifts in 2022 helped to build necessary resources that kept national parks thriving. Thank you for your meaningful contributions and for choosing to support the BNT in honour of our very own conservation legend."

- Anna Bancroft
Director of Development & Communication, BNT



MANAGING UNIQUE SPACES

- BRINGING PEOPLE TO PARKS
- MAINTAINING SPECIAL PLACES
- SAFEGUARDING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES





THE LONG-AWAITED RETURN OF BNT'S EVENTS

One of the biggest trends since 2019 has been the influx of hybrid and virtual events into the event landscape. While this trend was innovative and necessary, these virtual events just weren't the same as the physical events we were so used to. BNT tried its hand at virtual and hybrid events, while we were eagerly waiting for the time when in-person events would be a reality again. 2022 was that time. The wait was over, and it was once again safe to have in-person events.

The BNT has been a leading non-profit organization working towards conserving and protecting the natural resources of The Bahamas for over 60 years. One of the major sources of funding for the BNT has been through hosting in-person fundraising events, which have been integral to our success. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the BNT was forced to cancel its in-person fundraising events, including some of the biggest festivals in The Bahamas: Wine and Art, Jollification, and Festival Noel.

With the steady decline of COVID-19 cases due to the introduction of good health and safety measures, the BNT



was able to resume hosting its in-person fundraising events in 2022. For us, and thousands of Bahamians and residents, this was the real return to 'normalcy'.

Seeing The Retreat come alive with wonderful art from local artists and artisans, hearing the Christmas bells at Jollification, and seeing the Rand Nature Centre once again become a festive holiday wonderland, BNT events were back.

The return of in-person fundraising events has significantly impacted the BNT's fundraising efforts. These events generated much-needed revenue, which will go towards managing parks, including the incredible spaces these events are held in. These events continue to raise awareness about the BNT's mission and the importance of conserving The Bahamas' parks and natural resources. Our events bring together members of the community and provide a platform for many local vendors and an opportunity for the BNT to connect with our supporters. As many event patrons, noted, seeing these events happen again was a 'sign of hope' for the community.

We couldn't be more excited to welcome people back into parks, and back to our events. We are looking forward to growing and improving these remarkable events in 2023 and beyond.

WINE AND ART

Wine & Art celebrated 30 years in 2022. This 3-day event brings together many facets of Bahamian culture and is the premiere arts and culture festival in The Bahamas.



JOLLIFICATION

Jollification is a 3-day annual Christmas Arts and Crafts Family festival hosted by the BNT. It's the biggest event held by the BNT and supports The Retreat Garden.



PIG ROAST

At Pig Roast 2022, \$100,000 was raised to support the Inagua Invasive Species Control Program.



FESTIVAL NOEL

Festival Noel is an annual holiday event hosted by the BNT in Grand Bahama at The Rand Nature Centre. It features a local chef competition and a featured artist



ASHORE

At Ashore 2022, participants committed towards the construction of a new fuel system at the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park.





CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF GRAND BAHAMA'S CROWN JEWEL

LUCAYAN NATIONAL PARK CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Of Grand Bahama's three national parks, the Lucayan National Park (LNP) - home to the world-famous Gold Rock Beach, one of the world's largest charted underwater cave systems and many other exciting natural features - is definitely a visitor's-favorite. Protecting an array of healthy ecosystems, and preserved remains of Lucayan Indians, it's no wonder this natural jewel attracts the second highest amount of visitors within The Bahamas' 32-national park system. In 2022, the LNP celebrated its 40th anniversary, and the special occasion marked some major milestones for this beloved national park.

The LNP's 40th anniversary celebrations included the soft opening of the park's gift shop and a groundbreaking ceremony for its welcome center - the former being financed by the European Union and the Organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States for the BIOPAMA Program; and the latter by donations raised at the BNT's 2020 Cuban Pig Roast. These two construction projects have been eagerly awaited for the LNP, as part of the vision for expanding park offerings and enhancing visitor experiences. But the completed gift shop and welcome center initiation are just the tip of the iceberg in terms of advancement projects at the LNP. In total, the BNT has secured seven projects and private donation collections that will see the expansion of infrastructural projects for this natural space in the years to come.



To commemorate its 40th anniversary, the completion of its gift shop, and the groundbreaking of its welcome center, many special guests traveled to Grand Bahama in June 2022 to join the BNT at the LNP on this threefold special occasion. These guests included government representatives like the Ministry of Tourism's Grand Bahama General Manager Steven Johnson, donors such as Carl Allen (owner of Walkers Cay), and partners like Spartan Construction - the company contracted to see the welcome center and other aspects of the LNP's ongoing infrastructural development through to completion.

Established in 1982, the LNP for years has attracted scores of visitors to Grand Bahama's shores - people looking to enjoy nature, explore the beauty of the island, and get a taste of history and adventure. These ongoing upgrades will serve to transform the natural attraction into a fully-functional, world-class national park destination that continues to attract visitors and support the livelihoods of many Bahamians for generations/years to come.



"The Lucayan National Park is known as the welcome mat to Grand Bahama. Our team has been working diligently to plan and deliver the infrastructural improvements that a park of this magnitude, popularity, and significance demands, and we've been very strategic about engaging stakeholders throughout the entire process. What you see here today was not conceptualized around a table in Nassau, but with valuable input from Grand Bahama's communities. After 40 years, we're proud of where the LNP is at and excited to put in more work and foster key relationships to take it to the next level."

- Lakeshia Anderson-Rolle
BNT Director of Parks,
Incoming BNT Executive Director





NATIONAL PARKS DAY 2022

SHARING NATIONAL PARK EXPERIENCES AND INSPIRING PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH NATURE

As the official national park manager of The Bahamas, the BNT strives to make national parks accessible for all Bahamians and visitors alike. It's our mission not only to safeguard these incredible places but also to share what makes them so extraordinary to encourage others to care for them as well. That's where National Parks Day comes in.

On April 23rd, 2022, we invited the public to celebrate our 4th annual National Parks Day with us: a fee-free day for people to get out and explore national parks across The Bahamas. We offered a ton of different activities at nine national parks across seven different islands - from birdwatching, nature hikes, and guided tours to kayaking, snorkelling, and outdoor yoga. National Parks Day is our way of celebrating Earth Day



and brings people together to experience all the wonderful ways to utilise these extraordinary spaces and connect with nature.

This was the first time National Parks Day was held in full fashion since the pandemic. We saw an increased number of people visiting their parks on this one day than any other previous National Parks Day.

We want everyone to know how important national parks are and how they, too, can benefit from them - so that they can be inspired to do their part in protecting these natural treasures, for now, and tomorrow.



30 YEARS OF A PREMIER ART AND CULTURE FESTIVAL



Over the course of the two-day event, hundreds of patrons flocked to The Retreat Garden, relishing the chance to support over 35 local artists and vendors, enjoy live music and entertainment, eat tasty delights made by celebrity chefs, and sample luxury wines and champagnes - all experienced against the backdrop of a beautiful, unique natural landscape showcasing the beauty and utility of national parks!

Wine & Art is the premier art and culture festival in The Bahamas, combining a culinary, artistic, and cultural experience with the opportunity to support conservation and national parks. It functions as one of the BNT's major annual fundraisers. Over the years, thousands of visitors have come to look forward to this one-of-a-kind festival and have made attendance a tradition. After a long wait, its return was a major success!

BNT'S WINE & ART FESTIVAL RETURNS AFTER TWO-YEAR HIATUS

After a two-year pandemic-induced hiatus, Wine & Art returned - bigger and better than ever before! The premier art and culture festival was the kickoff of the BNT's holiday event season, ushering in a wave of excitement and anticipation. We're proud to say the festival delivered in a way befitting such a much-beloved and missed community event.

What made this return extra special was that it also marked the 30th anniversary of Wine & Art! For this noteworthy milestone, we brought attendees the same iconic food and beverage experience they've grown to love, and introduced some new activities, like free hands-on classes and live demonstrations. Event sponsors Commonwealth Brewery and 700 Wines & Spirits showcased an incredible array of over 60 wines and beverages from around the world. They also serviced our newest Wine & Art feature: the VIP Champagne Lounge.

For the first time in the history of any BNT event, we implemented online ticket sales, offering more options and convenience for attendees and expanding our reach.



RESTORING GRAND BAHAMA'S PARKS AFTER HURRICANE DORIAN

RECOVERY EFFORTS AT THE RAND NATURE CENTRE AND LUCAYAN NATIONAL PARK

In Grand Bahama, two of three national parks sustained extensive damage during Hurricane Dorian: the Lucayan National Park (LNP) and the Rand Nature Centre (RNC).

The RNC experienced unprecedented flooding and the destruction of its Native Plant Arboretum - a project started in 2011 that was completely wiped out by Dorian in 2019. The purpose of the arboretum was to serve as an outdoor area that showcases Bahamian plants and wildlife. At the LNP, the world-famous Gold Rock Beach was severely impacted, with important natural features like sand dunes destroyed.

There was much to be done. And there still is. But together with help from partners like The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund (BPAF) and others, we've managed to restore important areas in these parks. Step by step, we're helping these natural environments to recover.

The RNC's main building and trails have been repaired and the Native Plant Arboretum - which was restarted from scratch - is now nearly complete. This work included designing and creating a new landscape plan, installing irrigation systems; planting native plant species; and creating and installing interpretive signage. Thanks to BPAF's support, we've been able to rebuild this project to a point where it's just about ready for public enjoyment, with a total of 115 trees having been planted within its various sections! A lathhouse was also constructed on site at RNC to support native plant propagation.

At the Lucayan National Park, restoration efforts have been twofold, focusing on invasive species removal (mainly casuarina) and the planting of native vegetation. These two things go hand in hand in rehabilitating the natural landscape



and helping to fortify it against future storms. Specifically, the rehabilitation of the sand dune at Gold Rock Beach, which was severely impacted during the storm.

To aid the recovery process at both parks, new machinery has been added to the BNT's inventory. This includes an ATV to assist with debris and invasive species removal, and a state of the art mulching machine to create mulch used in trail maintenance. These new equipment not only aided in bringing our restoration efforts to where they are now, but will continue to be utilized in the management of both parks.

Along with ongoing advancement and infrastructural projects for both parks, the hope is that these restoration efforts will help in the conservation of biodiversity within these protected areas, and enhance park experiences for visitors. Despite Dorian's damage, both the LNP and RNC are shaping up nicely in their rehabilitation. The latter was even able to host Festival Noel in December, showcasing just how far it's come!



RESTORING OUR OPERATIONS ON ABACO AFTER HURRICANE DORIAN

NEW MOBILE BASE OF OPERATIONS ALLOWS MORE EFFECTIVE RECOVERY AND MANAGEMENT

The BNT's operations on Abaco came to a complete halt after Hurricane Dorian in 2019. Our office sustained major damages, we lost patrol vehicles, and our marine patrol vessel was damaged as well. With no proper equipment on the island, not only were our management and enforcement efforts severely handicapped, but so were restoration efforts for Abaco's national parks. Despite this, we've done the best we could to continue stewarding the parks in this region amidst strenuous circumstances.

Nearly three years later, the BNT's operations on Abaco are making a recovery and we are able to move forward with park operations. Thanks to funding from The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund (BPAF), we've been able to acquire temporary mobile office space, and an all-terrain ATV and have made repairs to our patrol vessel to make it functional again. These major advancements and others allowed us to re-establish our presence on the island and continue management efforts for the six national parks on Abaco.



"Thank you to BPAF, for all that they have done for providing us with the necessary funds for us to reestablish our operations on Abaco and continue effectively managing these important protected areas."

- David Knowles
Chief Warden, Abaco



MOVING FORWARD WITH MORIAH HARBOUR CAY

Last year was an active year for the development of The Moriah Harbour Cay National Park, but this year was even more so. In 2022, there were several key activities happened in the park:



NEW PARK VESSEL

The BNT acquired a brand new park vessel to assist with maintenance, monitoring, and education activities in the park.



ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The BNT received a grant from Friends of Exuma to develop a project that will document the historical knowledge of how people depended on the natural resources of Moriah Harbour Cay National Park. These stories and information will be used to inform educational programs, park management, and interpretative signage and will go a long way in preserving the history of Great Exuma. So far, several members have participated in interviews with volunteers, and we have begun outlining the next steps of the project.



PUBLIC ART MURAL

The BNT collaborated with The Exuma Arts Network, the National Art Gallery of The Bahamas and several local artists to create an art mural which will be displayed in a heavily trafficked area to raise awareness of Moriah Harbour Cay National Park.



TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

We also began to develop a new trail system on Stocking Island and Moriah Harbour Cay, which has a lot of historical and cultural resources for visitors to explore.



MOBILE CONCH HATCHERY

This year, MHCNP became the host site for the **world's first mobile conch hatchery!** A partnership with FAU's Harbor Branch Queen Conch Lab and the Rolle Town Community, this lab will be used to hatch and grow queen conch to a certain stage and release them into the MHCNP to replenish historic nursery grounds.

TACKLING POLLUTION AND DEFENDING PARKS WITH NFL STARS AND BNT PARTNERS

On Friday, June 10th, to celebrate World Oceans Day, we welcomed a few football athletes from The Bahamas All Pro Celebrity Weekend, some of our corporate partners, and other special guests to The Bonefish Pond National Park for a clean-up and mangrove planting.

The team of NFL athletes included Rashad Fenton – Bahamian Super Bowl-Winning Cornerback of the Kansas City Chiefs, Melvin Ingram – 3 x Pro Bowler, Outside Linebacker of the Miami Dolphins, Michael Strachan – Bahamian Wide Receiver of the Indianapolis Colts Akeem Aguste – Super Bowl-Winning Former Cornerback of the Seattle Seahawks and Cleveland Browns, and George Wingham – Wide Receiver Coach.

World Oceans Day is held on June 8 every year. This day is an international celebration spearheaded by the United Nations to bring awareness to the importance of our oceans and the threats they face. This year's theme was "Revitalization: Collective Action for the Ocean." We know we must come together to protect the marine resources we all rely on. We were fired up to welcome these athletes and our corporate partners to join us to take some collective action at Bonefish Pond.



Sometimes debris and litter can end up in coastal parks from being washed in with the waves; but often, they've been dumped there illegally by people. A lot of this dumping happened before these areas were officially declared national parks. In the case of Bonefish Pond many different sites in and around the 1200-acre protected area have historically been used as dumping grounds. And even though this illegal dumping has decreased drastically, sometimes it still happens.

After an impressive cleanup effort along the park's northern boundary, we headed back to the main Bonefish Pond location to enjoy refreshments from our corporate partners, and also to plant some red mangroves.

We're very appreciative of our corporate partners who joined in on this effort:

Showman eBistro, Caribbean Bottling Co, Jimmy's Wines & Spirits, Corona Beer, Mount Gay Rum, Bahamas Waste, Bahamas First, The Baha Mar Foundation, REV and The Bahamas All-Pro Celebrity Weekend.



SAN SALVADOR'S “FANTASTIC FIVE” OFFICIAL

PM SIGNS LEASES TO DECLARE NEW NATIONAL PARKS

San Salvador is a small, remote island in the southern Bahamas that is considered a “living jewel.” It is renowned for its beautiful and relatively undisturbed natural areas, and is said to be one of the first places Christopher Columbus made landfall in the new world. Prime Minister the Hon. Philip ‘Brave’ Davis made a momentous move for San Salvador when he signed the leases to finalise the designation of five national parks for the out island after a BNT courtesy call to the Office of the Prime Minister.

The new park leases signed are: Graham’s Harbour Iguana and Seabird National Park; West Coast Marine Park; Pigeon Creek and Snow Bay National Park; Southern Great Lake National Park; and Green’s Bay National Park. These national parks - San Salvador’s “Fantastic Five,” as we like to call them - were verbally declared as part of the national park system managed by the BNT several years ago, but were never made official until now.

For many, San Salvador is a little-known island - few are acutely aware of its rich beauty and the importance of its natural history and culture; and those who are probably don’t have



it cross their minds very often. But San Salvador is indeed a national treasure, full of resources worth safeguarding for future generations, that can and should be utilized for the benefit and enjoyment of Bahamians, as well as visitors.

San Salvador is home to the critically endangered San Salvador Rock Iguana, one of the most impressive aggregations of nesting seabirds in The Bahamas, two Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), and exceptional dive sites that attract divers from all over the world. The BNT, with support from partner organisations, has long recommended and promoted areas of important

marine and terrestrial habitats in and around the island to be protected.

The BNT celebrates the signing of these leases for the “Fantastic Five.” Declaring these spaces as national parks to be protected gives us a chance to preserve and share their beauty, history, and culture; and create opportunities for the local economy by attracting visitors to the island. We commend Prime Minister Davis for pushing this forward. Now, the real work can begin to protect San Salvador’s natural treasures.

BNT NATIONAL PARK BYLAWS GAZETTED

NEW BNT NATIONAL PARK BYLAWS ARE OFFICIALLY ADDED TO BAHAMAS LAW

In 2016, The BNT received a grant from Oceans 5 through The Nature Conservancy (TNC) entitled "Realizing The 2020 Goal: Advancing the Expansion and Effective Management of the Marine Protected Area System in The Bahamas", to increase BNT's capacity and capability to manage the national park system. The BNT identified the priority needed to incorporate the advancement of park bylaws under the project.

After years of working with The Bahamian Government, BNT's Past President and Legal Advisor, Mr Pericles Maillis, and advisors and students from The Eugene

Dupuch Law School, the park bylaws were officially gazetted into Bahamian Law in 2022! The purpose of the bylaws is to provide the rules and regulations for the national parks of The Bahamas, enabling the BNT to manage the national parks and their resources efficiently and effectively. This includes providing the BNT with the ability to legally prosecute violators of the National Park Bylaws.

We are now working on a comprehensive communications and outreach plan to properly introduce and familiarise these bylaws to the community.

A PARTNERSHIP TO SAFEGUARD THE BAHAMAS' NATURAL RESOURCES

RBDF AND BNT SIGN MOU TO SIGNIFY LONGSTANDING & ONGOING RELATIONSHIP

After more than a decade of working together to protect The Bahamas' natural resources, The Bahamas National Trust (BNT) and the Royal Bahamas Defence Force (RBDF) officially signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU), signifying our longstanding partnership in service of country.

The RBDF has long supported our mission of managing national parks by assisting with enforcement within these protected areas. In particular, they have an integral role at the Exuma Cays Land & Sea Park (ECLSP), where their continued and well-established presence helps protect this haven of biodiversity from poachers and other threats.

The historic ECLSP is the oldest land and sea park in the world and a paradigm for marine protected areas (MPAs) globally. It serves as a reservoir for marine biodiversity and a sanctuary for some of The Bahamas' most economically, ecologically, and culturally significant marine resources. The park is also a complete no-take zone – meaning under no circumstances is any fishing, conching, shelling, or lobstering allowed – and requires high levels of patrolling and enforcement. The job of the BNT is massive, but our capacity is limited. So we're extremely grateful for partners like the RBDF who take up this mantle with us.

One of our goals for the ECLSP in the years to come is to create capacity for enhanced enforcement of the park, so we'll be relying on the RBDF even more. In light of that, this MOU signing comes at an opportune time. It's a landmark that solidifies a thriving partnership and signifies our commitment to continuing to work together for the benefit of Bahamians and The Bahamas.



"National parks are sanctuaries for some of The Bahamas' most invaluable and unique natural resources. Many species depend on these areas, like the ECLSP, in order to survive; and we as Bahamians depend on these species as well. That makes the management and enforcement of these areas critically important. It's our job as the stewards of national parks to protect The Bahamas' natural treasures for now and tomorrow, but there are 32 national parks across the country and it would be impossible to do it all on our own. Our very important mandate would not be possible without the assistance of the RBDF, whose own work is also vital to the integrity of our country."

-Eric Carey,
outgoing Executive Director



COLLABORATING TO STRENGTHEN PARK MANAGEMENT



PARTNERING WITH RE:WILD TO IMPROVE PARK MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

The BNT partnered with Re:wild, to facilitate a 5-day Management Planning and SMART Implementation workshop for BNT Parks and Science staff.

The purpose of the workshop was to build capacity within The BNT to manage and monitor resources in national parks. Some key activities taught in the workshop include: creating park operational plans, using Spatial Monitoring And Reporting Tools (SMART) to monitor and patrol parks and management plan training. SMART is a data collection tool aimed to help Protected Area Managers better monitor, evaluate and adaptively manage patrolling activities. It combines law enforcement monitoring tools with capacity building and best practices in its implementation, which makes it possible to collect, store, communicate and analyze data collected on illegal activities.

By the end of the workshop, draft Operational Plans were developed for Inagua National Park, Lucayan National Park, Blue Holes National Park and Moriah Harbour Cay National Park.

SAFEGUARDING NATURAL RESOURCES - ERADICATING INVASIVE SPECIES

Invasive species are a major threat to native biodiversity. They compete with native species for limited resources and in some cases act as predators to native species. In 2022, the BNT Parks and Science teams received support from Re:wild, The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund (BPAF), and the Global Environment Facility (GEF 2020) to enact invasive species monitoring and eradication programs in national parks and surrounding areas.

**Total number of invasive species removed from parks in 2022
through the BNT's Invasive Species Control Programs:**

**221
INVASIVE
MAMMALS**



**385
INVASIVE
PLANTS**



BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

- PROTECTING SPECIES IN PERIL
- ENSURING FUNCTIONING HABITATS
- SCIENCE THAT BENEFITS ALL AND THINKING GLOBALLY



CREATING ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS TO PRESERVE CONCH

IDB CONCH PROJECT SUPPORTS SUSTAINABLE TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY FISHERS

For several years the BNT has been engaging members of the McClean's Town and Sweeting's Cay communities in Grand Bahama as stakeholders in our IDB Conch project. Financed by the Japan Special Fund for Poverty Reduction through the Inter-American Development Bank, the Community-based Conch Management Project, or IDB Conch, is all about creating a more sustainable conch industry by working firsthand with frontrow stakeholders, like the fishers of McClean's Town and Sweeting's Cay. We've been closely collaborating with these community members to understand their needs and teach them sustainable fishing practices. As the program winds down, one of the last initiatives we wanted to deliver is creating alternative livelihoods in order to help preserve conch.

Partnering with Local Government and the Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources (MAMR), we conducted two "Alternative Livelihoods" workshops, focused on educating residents about small-scale farming as one of the opportunities available to them to create other sources of revenue. During the workshops, we trained participants in small-scale farming and taught skills such as how to build different types of plant beds, creating community



gardens, planting best practices, and irrigation. MAMR also donated backyard farming starter kits to participants. Another way we engaged community members in creating alternative livelihoods for themselves was to have them identify value added conch products they thought would be suitable for their needs. These products are the result of utilizing conch in multiple creative ways, creating more value and less waste from it as a resource. Its shell, for example - an often discarded byproduct of conch fisheries - can be used in carving and crafting. So together with The Bahamas Agricultural & Industrial Corporation (BAIC), the BNT conducted a training workshop for conch shell carving and crafting.

Our goal under the IDB Conch project is not just to educate but to build capacity within communities by providing them with the knowledge, skills, and opportunity to meet their needs in sustainable ways. Conch is integral to our Bahamian culture, identity, and way of life, which makes the depletion of this natural resource all the more devastating. Threatened by high demand and overfishing, we must all work together to save this iconic creature before it's too late. By creating alternative livelihoods for fishing communities, we also create a better chance for the preservation of conch into the future.



"We know it's possible to create a 'conchious' Bahamas. There are opportunities within our reach, and we would like to empower communities to take advantage of them to help save our beloved conch."

- Jewel Thompson-Beneby
BNT Science Officer and
IDB Conch Project Manager



A FIGHT TO SAVE CORAL BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

ENVIRONMENTALISTS UNITE TO RALLY FOR ACTION AGAINST STONY CORAL TISSUE LOSS DISEASE

One of the main attractions that brings people to our shores is our crystal clear turquoise waters and the magnificent marine species that inhabit them. Some of these breathtaking species include beautiful, vibrant, coral reefs. But in recent years, a lot of our corals have lost this same beauty, vibrancy, and color as an insidious threat spread rapidly through our waters. Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease (SCTLD) is killing our corals, and we haven't been doing enough to save them.

In March, a group of conservationists decided enough is enough. We rallied together with other environmental organizations and nonprofits to raise awareness about SCTLD and petition the Bahamian government to do more to stop this coral-killer in its tracks before it destroys one of our most beautiful, unique, and valuable resources.

SCTLD came to prominence in Florida in 2014; but the first instance of it in The Bahamas wasn't recorded until 2019, when it was found on reefs surrounding Grand Bahama. This fast-spreading disease destroys the living tissue of stony corals - which are the building blocks of reef ecosystems - demolishing thousands of years of growth. While there's no sure treatment as yet for this underwater malady, research and transplanting mechanisms have been deployed in Florida to save reefs before they're fully affected. In The Bahamas, however, red tape stopped any such research or treatments from being used.

We needed to act fast to push the Bahamian government to act faster, and inform the public about this threat to our reefs, which is ultimately a threat to



our economy and culture as we know it. A group of environmentalists - consisting of the BNT, the Perry Institute for Marine Science (PIMS), and Waterkeepers Bahamas - organized a press conference, and the call was heard.

After an impasse of more than a year, the government finally gave the green light for marine conservationists to get into the water and begin studying and treating SCTLD. Since then, there has been positive action towards amending regulations and creating more optimal conditions that would allow further measures to tackle SCTLD. But the fight to save coral is far from over. The BNT continues to work closely with other environmental organizations and experts in the field to play our role in protecting Bahamian coral reefs.

RESTORING MANGROVES IN THE NORTHERN BAHAMAS

The BNT continues to work with its partners Re:Wild, Perry Institute For Marine Science, Bonefish and Tarpon Trust and others to restore mangroves with communities in Abaco and Grand Bahama.

More recently, we've introduced an additional method of restoration which utilises propagules rather than seedlings.

This method includes collecting propagules from healthy, productive around the island and then immediately distributing them in areas that need restoration.

Research supports that propagules generally have a higher survival rate than seedlings, and are less expensive to conduct restoration with.

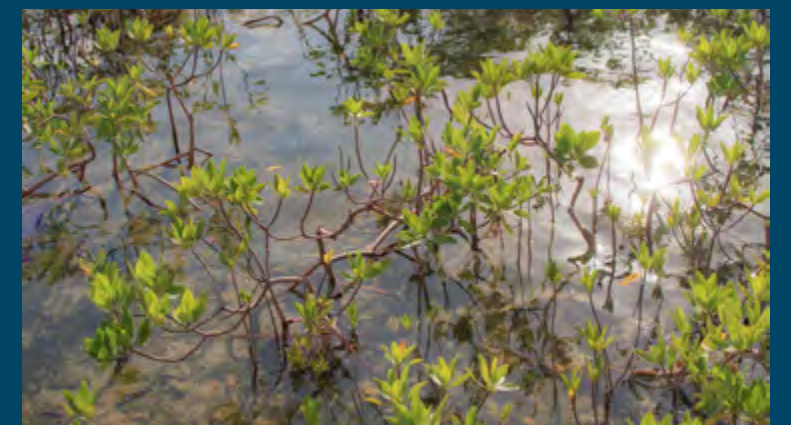
MANGROVE CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP WITH BAHAMAR

The BNT partnered with Baha Mar and The Baha Mar Foundation to raise funds for mangrove conservation. Guests who are staying at Baha Mar can make donations to the BNT's mangrove conservation projects while visiting The Baha Mar conservation centre.

Baha Mar has been a consistent supporter of The BNT for many years and this most recent partnership demonstrates Bahamar's commitment to supporting conservation in The Bahamas. To date, many guests have made small contributions through this channel and are supporting mangrove conservation around The Bahamas.

"The natural ecosystems of The Bahamas are our greatest yet most fragile resources. Baha Mar and The Baha Mar Foundation are committed to the conservation of our natural resources through innovative sustainability practices and partnering with organisations like the BNT. This mangrove conservation program presents a unique opportunity for Baha Mar's guests to have a positive impact on The Bahamian environment, and we are more than happy to continue to support the BNT through initiatives like this."

- Kimberly Darville,
Assistant Director of Conservation and Sustainability, Baha Mar





HOSTING A PREMIER CONFERENCE AT A FIRST CLASS BOTANICAL GARDEN

LEON LEVY NATIVE PLANT PRESERVE HOSTS BOTANICAL BRIDGES CONGRESS 2022

For the first time, The Bahamas had the honour of serving as the host country for the 2022 Botanical Bridges Caribbean and Central America Congress, or Botanical Bridges Congress. And the Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve (LLNPP) - one of 32 national parks managed by the BNT - had the honour of being the host venue and organisation!

Botanical Bridges is an international conference bringing together key contributors from around the region to explore issues and exchange ideas about the role botanical gardens play in plant conservation and taxonomy, sustainable development goals, and climate change adaptation and mitigation. Eleuthera's own native botanical garden, the LLNPP, facilitated this year's conference on its breathtaking 30-acre property in Governor's Harbour.

Botanical Bridges 2022 featured more than 30 presentations over the course of a week from various local and regional experts, botanists, and researchers in botany and botany-related fields. This year's conference addressed the need for developing protocols for native plant production, and better collaboration amongst gardens in the region. During the congress, participants also reviewed and preliminary accepted the objectives outlined in the Caribbean Plant Conservation Strategy.



The BNT team worked tirelessly to pull off a productive and successful event. We had approximately 50 participants from 26 institutions representing 11 countries and territories. One of the core things underscored at this conference is the need for continued and closer collaboration between botanical gardens, in order to nurture conservation efforts through the sharing of knowledge, resources, and experiences.

The Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve is the first and only national park on Eleuthera. This lush showcase of native and endemic Bahamian plants is the fulfilment of the vision of Shelby White, who shared a love for the natural environment and way of life on the island with her late husband, Leon Levy. After Leon's passing in 2003, Shelby conceived of the Preserve in honour of him and his interest in the preservation of the local bush medicine culture.

We were honoured to host the 2022 Botanical Bridges Congress at this wonderful national park - one year after the Preserve celebrated its 10th anniversary. The LLNPP has many plans in store, and we're committed to continuing to develop it as a national treasure with the capacity to support many more international initiatives in the future.



"Our team worked tirelessly to pull this event off without a hitch, and the result was outstanding. Everyone who attended offered profuse praise and appreciation, both for the congress as an event and for The Bahamas National Trust (BNT)'s ability to not only organize and host an international event of this magnitude but to do it extremely well. We couldn't be prouder of the fruits of our efforts."

**- Ethan Freid,
LLNPP Botanist**





ENGAGING EDUCATION

- BUILDING ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS
- TOUCHING THE LIVES OF YOUTH

INSPIRING FUTURE CONSERVATIONISTS THROUGH INTERNSHIPS

BNT SUMMER INTERNSHIPS GIVE YOUTHS HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE IN SCIENCE & CONSERVATION

Internships are a great way to stoke environmental curiosity in young minds, provide hands-on experience in science, and inspire future key players in the field of conservation. In 2022, the BNT hosted three summer internship programs: Education, Science, and the Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve (LLNPP) Internship. Each program adopted numerous interns for the chance to learn environmental skills, while giving them the opportunity to create impact by utilising their newfound expertise on the ground.

Our Science Internship selected four students for a five-week program. Topics studied included the use of SMART devices, Google Earth, and

other technology in conservation; how to identify different species; the Bahamian environment; local ecosystems; and conservation issues. They also received practical field experience to supplement their academic training.

From July to August, our Education department hosted 12 interns. These young spirits assisted our Education Team with their New Providence Summer Safari camp, professional development workshops for teachers, their Discovery Club Leaders' Retreat, and the production of educational resources.

The LLNPP internship was a six-week college-level course at the

Preserve in Eleuthera, where three individuals had the privilege of learning about plant taxonomy and the flora of The Bahamas. It also included a one-week site visit with the Natural Areas Conservancy in New York City for additional scientific training and collaboration.

The BNT loves inspiring young people to become active participants in the field of conservation - whether as volunteers, environmentalists, or just as conscientious citizens! Our goal with these internships is to provide valuable skills that will contribute to the futures of these students themselves as well as the environment. Every "conservation champion" has to start somewhere!

TEACHING EVERY-DAY PEOPLE HOW TO BE SCIENTISTS

PILOT PROGRAM GIVES VOLUNTEERS ACTIVE ROLE IN PARK MONITORING

This year we piloted our Citizen Science program: an effort that allows interested every-day people to learn scientific skills and assist with monitoring efforts within national parks. Through support from the Moore Foundation, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and Bahamas Protected, we're now able to offer individuals the chance to learn and play a personal, valuable, and firsthand role in the work that develops environmental studies and informs important decisions about conservation. What better way to affect impact than to do it yourself!

Under the project entitled "Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas" (GEF 2020), we launched our pilot Citizen Science program across three islands in 2022: in New Providence, students from the University of The Bahamas' Rotaract Club and members of the New Providence Bird Club helped to monitor Bonefish Pond National Park; in Grand Bahama, the Grand Bahama Bird Club helped monitor Lucayan National Park; and in Andros, bonefish guides from the Mangrove Cay Bonefish Lodge helped monitor the Andros West Side National Park. Their monitoring efforts included water quality, bird populations, and other environmental factors at these locations. The BNT plans to incorporate the data from these activities for broader monitoring and internal use.



The BNT's Science and Education Departments worked closely together to implement this amazing initiative. Education team members conducted trainings on various islands, while Science team members provided support for activities, reviewed protocols for the program, and recommended improvements for its framework and methodologies.

Because of the incredible people and organizations supporting this endeavor, we've even been able to additionally launch a high school version of our Citizen Science Program. This pilot is being run at Anatold Rodgers, CV Bethel, and Bahamas Academy in New Providence. Students engage in weekly meetings where they receive special training in preparation for monitoring activities at Bonefish Pond.

"The BNT's Citizen Science Program teaches valuable scientific skills and equips participants with tools and learning experiences they can use in practical ways in many areas of life. But at its core, it teaches that every individual can play a role in conservation, every person can be an environmental steward, and it's not as hard as it seems to make a difference!"

- Portia Sweeting,
Director of Education



DISCOVERY CLUB INSPIRES YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALISTS



CREATING UNIQUE & EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERIENCES FOR YOUTHS

"Being able to authentically explore nature is what truly ignites environmental enthusiasm and curiosity and inspires young people to think about the interconnectivity between themselves and the planet. Outdoor classrooms are the best classrooms, not just for environmental education but learning in general. We love introducing young people to these beautiful settings within national parks and offering them fun, educational experiences they'll always remember!"

- Portia Sweeting,
Director of Education

Discovery Club (DC) introduces children between the ages of five and 18 to nature in a fun and exciting way, connecting them with unique experiences that inspire environmental enthusiasm and curiosity. In recent years, because of the pandemic, Discovery Club went fully virtual. But 2022 was the year we finally reintroduced face-to-face interaction among our DC participants - and within national parks, at that!

In October the BNT's Education Department launched a new DC model meant to support 60 clubs across The Bahamas, utilizing national parks as classrooms. They continued to take advantage of interactive online modules, while

coordinating monthly visits to national parks for DC members.

The 28-year-old Discovery Club program is run by volunteer teachers on Andros, Eleuthera, New Providence, Grand Bahama, Inagua, Long Island, Cat Island, and Bimini. Learning about nature is one thing, but providing opportunities for participants to get outside and explore nature themselves is a quintessential component we yearned to reintroduce into our educational programming this year. Thanks to the BNT's dedicated and passionate Education Team and volunteers, we're proud to have delivered these incredible experiences to our young Discovery Club participants!



"SUMMER SAFARI" BRINGS KIDS THE ADVENTURE OF THE SUMMER

RETURN OF SUMMER EDUCATION PROGRAM PROVIDES INCREDIBLE CAMP EXPERIENCE FOR YOUNG EXPLORERS

For the first time since 2019, our Education Team brought children the adventure of the summer with their one of a kind "Summer Safari" program. The one-week expedition takes kids on a fun and exciting learning journey through national parks, where they participate in a ton of entertaining and educational activities.

This year's camps took place on Eleuthera, Grand Bahama, Andros, and New Providence, offering field trips, crafts, swimming, games, and more to young explorers wanting to get into the field during the summer. In New Providence, BNT partners Ardastra Gardens and Atlantis both hosted special field trips to their sites for the campers as well.

Summer Safari offers parents a summer camp alternative that's educational, fun, and engages their kids with nature. Education's Summer Safari program is important for exposing students to elements of the Bahamian natural environment



that they may have never experienced before, and teaching them about the role of The Bahamas National Trust in managing national parks and protecting the environment.

A special shoutout goes to Captain Bahamas - son of the BNT's very own Park Warden Anwar Rolle! One of many participants in this year's New Providence Summer Safari program, Captain Bahamas helps spread awareness about conservation and encourages other kids to get involved in doing their part to protect the environment.

Being able to once again bring this experience to so many children across The Bahamas and helping them create lasting and valuable summer memories has been incredibly rewarding.



INVESTING IN NATURE

● OUR SUPPORTERS

● OUR UNAUDITED FINANCIALS



OUR DONORS

We are deeply grateful to our generous donors and funders for their strong support and generosity, which enables us to deliver on our vital mission. Whether it was making donations towards special campaigns such as Eric Carey's Legacy or Giving Tuesday, offering support through a grant or funded project, or in-kind contributions, the BNT was supported by an amazing web of individuals and organizations during 2022.

INDIVIDUALS:

Adam Burrows
Adoni & Karla Wells-Lisgaris
Adrian Forsythe
Adriano & Raquel Baldacci
Aimee Henderson
Alden Stout
Alex Clark
Alex Jomarron
Alex Maillis
Alex Schmidt
Alex Tarlecky
Alex Weiss
Alexandra Medina
Alexandria Beckles
Alexya Dorsett-Williams
Alison Black
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Amanda & Eliza Lindroth
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Philip & Silvina Andrews
Philip Gormley
Philip Tunnicliff
Philippa Jane Vlasov
Phillip E. Figdore
Phylese Hanna
Pierce & Louise Boyd
Portia Sweeting
Quentin Minnis
Quentin Nunan
Quinn Haughey
R. Laurence Davis
Rachel Errickson
Rachel Hale
Rachel Wong
Racquel Coleby
Radoslav Kovatchev
Ramon Sweeting
Ranique Forbes
Raymond Farrelly
Raymond Jungles
Renee Kemp
Reno & Kristin Cartwright
Reto Giovanoli
Richard & Kelly Nye
Richard & Sheree Pyfrom

Richard Cavsavant
Richard Hartson
Rina Ward
Rob McKendry
Rob Whitley
Robert & Linda Bartlett
Robert & Lisa Spatt
Robert Bibik
Robert Dolgan & Kristin S&ers
Robert Lyon
Robert Safrit
Robin & Corbett Monica
Robin, Teresita & Alphaeus Forbes
Robyn Lee Ogilvie
Rocco LaSorsa
Rochelle Cleare
Roger Francoeur
Roger Newell
Rolf & Johanna Schuermann
Ron & Isabella Overend
Ron & Phebe Applegate
Ronald & Joan Lightbourn
Ronald Byrd
Ronnie Meade
Ronnies Stevens
Rosamund Roberts
Rose Walano
Roxan Smith
Royce & Jennifer Johnson
Rudolf Steinlechner & Melanie Bethel
Ruth Ann & Bill Harnisch
Ruth Moushabeck
Ruth Thackray & Jonathan Crowe
Ryan Mallery
Ryan Potter
Sally Vee Wooten
Sam & Thalia Campbell
Samantha Allen
Samantha Norris
Sandra Podlewski
Sandra Renwick
Sapna Chatlani
Sara Gardner
Sara Sullivan
Sara Woods
Sarah Davies
Sarah Lobosky
Sarah Sherwin
Savanna Mayhook & Trevor Hiker
Scott Stewart
Sean & SueLynn McCrea
Sean McWeeney
Semran Singh
Shalayne Mann
Shanae Ellsworth-Bratz
Shane Allen
Shania Brown
Sharad Ferguson
Shelley Andrews
Sherri Kimmel
Shona Louise Lawson
Simeon & Latina Anderson
Simone Coakley

Sofia Bennett
Sonia Kelly
Sonja Hoffmann
Stan & Leslie Conway
Stephanie Bowers
Stephen Maynard
Stephen Melvin
Stephen Wayne Booker
Steve & Claudia Fuller
Steve & Michele Belmonte
Steve Koch
Steven Christensen
Steven Evans
Steven Hoffer
Steven Koch
Steven Stubbs
Stuart Angus & Gail Blasie
Stuart Miller
Stuart Tavares
Suzy Eneas & Cameron Roach
Tadashi Arisaka
Tai Nguyen
Tamara Duncombe
Tameka Forbes
Tamilla Curtis
Tania Delmonte
Tanya Simmons
Taran Mackey
Tayce Wakefield
Ted & Catherine Grant
Ted Fullerton
Terri Henderson
Teynarae Newbold
Theo & Kerstin Kiesselbach
Theresa Reynolds
Thomas Potter
Thomas Van Hall
Tiffany Key
Timothy & Diane Leighton
Timothy & Mara Neske
Timothy Ingraham
Tina Mola & Gary Neil
TJ Bieker
Todd & Susan Vigland
Todd Allison
Todd Olsen
Todd Tilberg & Tanya Mortemore
Tom & Dana Talkington
Tom & Sara Thomas
Tom Hagy
Tonya Williams-Lightbourne
Traci Patina
Treva Beckius
Trevor Brice
Trisha Badger
Troy Anthony Dexter
Turiea Carter
Tyson Arnold
Valentino Collie
Valeria B. Lightbourne
Valerie Campbell
Valerie Lowe
Venita Moree

Victor & Mary Ann Jones
Victor Cartwright
Virginia Mckinney
Vonny Malbasha
Walker Royall
Warren Brown
Wayne Mackey
Webster Mundy
Wendi Weber
Wendy Ramsey
William & Kellirae Adcock
William & Nicole Boetticher
William Deertz
William Douglass
William Fessel
William Gunther
William M. Albury
William O'Donnell
William Rogers
William S. Barbour
Williams Peta
Wilola Carroll
Wilshire Bethel
Wytie Cable
Yula Kapetanakos
Yves Lebuic
Yvonne Hughes
Zaria Dean

FOUNDATIONS:

Amazon Smiles
Aqualia International Foundation
Bacon Foundation
Baha Mar Foundation
Elizabeth Henderson Charitable Fund
Fidelity Charitable Gift Foundation
Global Poverty Project Inc.
Leon Levy Foundation
Re:wild
Sandals Foundation
The Blackburn Giving Fund
The Brown Foundation
The Dudley & Finch Fund
The Moore Bahamas Foundation
The Moore Charitable Fund
The Richard Schneider Trust
The Wanderlust Fund
Sean Connery Foundation

COMPANIES:

Aliv Bahamas
Asa H. Pritchard
Auto Mall
Bahama Out Island Promotion Board
Bahama Rock Ltd.
Bahamas First General Insurance Company
Bahamas Waste
Bahamian Brewery Company
Blanco Beach
Bristol Wines & Spirits

Cafe Channing Noelle
Caicos Liveaboard Diving Ltd.
Caribbean Bottling Company Ltd.
CBS Bahamas
CGT Contractors
CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank
Commonwealth Bank
Commonwealth Brewery Limited
Damianos Sotheby's Realty
Delaney Partners
Ernst & Young (EY)
Expressions Entertainment
Family Guardian Insurance Company
Fernander's Plumbing
Freeport Container Port
Indigo Island
JAB Investments Ltd.
Jimmy's Wines & Spirits
J.S. Johnson Insurance
Kelly's Lumber Yard
Kidney Centre Limited
Kiwanis Club of Freeport
Lindblad Expeditions
Lyford Cay Member's Club
Marine Data Solutions
Missouri Botanical Garden
Montgomery Botanical Center
Morton Salt
Nua Insurance Agents & Brokers
Octogone Fund Management Ltd.
Odyssey Aviation
Pupstar Entertainment
Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)
Rotary Club of East Nassau
Royal Star Assurance
Sagoma Construction International
Sandypoint Development Company
Sol Petroleum Bahamas Ltd.
South Bar Community
Summit Insurance Co. Ltd.
Sun Oil Ltd.
The d'Albenas Agency
The Kidney Centre
The Paint Place
West Bay Advisors

THE BAHAMAS GOVERNMENT:

Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Resources & Family Island Affairs
Ministry of Education, Technology & Vocational Training
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Public Works
Ministry of The Environment & Natural Resources
Ministry of Tourism, Aviation & Investments
Ministry of Youth Sports & Culture

AN ARMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL GUARDIANS

We are extremely grateful to our network of members who make annual contributions to support our work. Membership is one of the lifelines of the BNT and we are proud to have such a strong, passionate community of supporters along with us on this journey.

BNT MEMBERSHIP GROWTH IN 2022

508
SINGLE

402
FAMILY

142
SUPPORT FLEET

84
SPECIALTY

39
LIFETIME

RETURNING EVENTS TURNED THE TIDE FOR MEMBERSHIP

Despite the challenges posed by the global pandemic, we are pleased to report that BNT membership has normalized with the return of in-person events and the reopening of national parks.

While we lost a number of members due to park closures and restrictions over the years, we are grateful to report that our community has bounced back! We are thrilled to have seen significant growth in renewing and new members, as people look forward to getting outside and regaining a sense of normalcy. In fact, the outpour of support has been overwhelming!

We attribute this success to the return of our beloved annual festivals, including Wine & Art, Jollification, and Festival Noel, which offered exclusive membership incentives such as free or discounted access, door prizes, giveaways, and much more. Throughout the year, we also gained membership through increased park visitation, as BNT supporters reentered their favourite parks



to enjoy activities such as guided tours, nature walks, birding, snorkeling, and kayaking, just to name a few.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue engaging new and renewing members and strengthening our community. We are grateful for the continued support of our BNT Members and look forward to the year ahead.

UNAUDITED
2022 FINANCIAL
SNAPSHOT



Government grants, annual
campaign gifts, park user fees,
special events, membership,
retail sales, etc.



Salaries & benefits, consultants,
travel, insurances, maintenance,
supplies, rents, etc.



Investment management fees,
amortization, meetings, etc.



Parks & Science funded projects,
Education & Outreach activities,
special event expenses, etc.

BAHAMAS NATIONAL TRUST

Statement of Activities
For Year Ending December 31, 2022

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	Actual 2022	Actual 2021
Grants, Contributions & Other Revenues		
Unrestricted Revenues	\$4,702,376.51	\$5,575,538.53
Total Revenues	\$4,702,376.51	\$5,575,538.53
Cost of Sales & Services	\$218,232.76	\$33,970.86
Gross Profit	\$4,484,143.75	\$5,541,567.67
Salaries & Benefits	\$2,896,635.32	\$2,043,461.32
External Consultants & Professional Fees	\$240,502.00	\$152,104.16
Travel & Related Costs	\$146,095.53	\$45,723.49
Other Operating Costs		
Advertising, Marketing & PR	\$22,295.97	\$16,778.28
Bad Debt	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bank Fees	\$64,199.46	\$50,293.43
Customs, Freight & Duty costs	\$23,600.52	\$20,498.77
Depreciation & Amortization	\$379,310.40	\$543,886.26
Insurances	\$147,169.59	\$150,053.01
Licenses & Permits	\$7,356.06	\$5,379.05
Meals & Entertainment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office & Other Supplies	\$88,593.76	\$48,264.51
Other Misc. Expenses	\$35,081.09	\$89,126.47
Printing & Reproduction	\$21,256.37	\$22,009.68
Postage & Delivery	\$958.02	\$518.49
Rents	\$43,200.00	\$37,200.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$413,201.86	\$296,835.60
Storage Fees	\$9,700.00	\$8,892.00
Utilities	\$112,605.69	\$90,341.89
Waste Removal	\$979.47	\$0.00
Total Operating Expenses	\$1,369,508.26	\$1,380,077.44
Non-Operating Expenses		
Council Meeting Expenses	\$2,613.23	\$114.36
AGM Expenses	\$868.03	\$170.10
Board Meeting Expenses	\$240.00	\$0.00
Investment Management Fees	\$318.90	\$291.12
Investment Fees & taxes	\$397,652.53	\$0.00
Unrealized Loss on Investments	\$17,962.68	\$0.00
Total Non-Operating Expenses	\$419,655.37	\$575.58
Change in Net Assets - Unrestricted	(\$588,252.73)	\$1,919,625.68
Restricted Activities		
Restricted Revenues	\$3,227,518.04	\$889,605.37
BNT Events Revenues	\$490,718	\$11,319.65
Education & Outreach Expenses	\$27,862.05	\$5,746.53
Special Event Expenses	\$169,435.99	\$89,232.30
Project Expenses	\$1,069,942.61	\$1,261,702.66
Change in Net Assets - Restricted	\$2,450,995.12	(\$455,756.47)
Change in Net Assets	\$1,862,742.39	\$1,463,869.21



OUR PEOPLE

#WEAREBNT



CONSERVATION WARRIORS

The work of the BNT would not be possible without passionate and dedicated conservation warriors. We're proud to have every staff member as part of our BNT Family and recognize their hard work and contributions towards helping to sustain the environment and create a better future for The Bahamas!

SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Eric Carey
Lakeshia Anderson-Rolle
Anna Bancroft
Falon Cartwright
Kendyce Ferguson
Portia Sweeting
Lynn Gape

Executive Director*
Director of Parks
Director of Development & Communication
Director of Science & Policy
Director Of Finance
Director of Education & Outreach
Special Projects Consultant

NEW PROVIDENCE

Darnell Albury
Princia Bethel
Daphne Brooks
Demonica Brown
Trevor Burgzorg
Leah Carr
Jonisha Cartwright
Christen Charlton
Chantal Curtis
Ancilleno Davis, PhD
Shaunna Dawkins
David Dean
Zaria Dean
Giselle Deane
Tisha Dolce
Kristoff Francois
John C. Fowler
Monique Gibson
Shane Grant
Joshua Haeward II
Regina Hepburn
Aaron John
Janeczka Johnson
Kim Iturriaga
Kimberly Knowles
Lindy Knowles
Pachancia Knowles
Summer McCartney
Robert McCoy
Gloria Miller
Audie Morley
Jenny Morris
Sheneil Moss
Juanita Munroe
Tika Penn

Accounts Officer
Donor Relations Officer*
Bookkeeper
Science Officer
Finance Manager
Communications Officer
Education Officer
Human Resources & Operations Manager
NP Parks Manager and Parks Planner
Senior Scientist and Policy Analyst
Executive Assistant
Retreat Attendant*
Web Graphics Officer
Science Officer*
Office Custodian & Messenger
Deputy Park Warden*
Project Manager*
Operations Officer
Security Officer
Web Designer
Assistant Parks Planner
Education Officer
Grants Manager
Office Custodian*
Development Officer
Senior Science Officer
Science Officer*
Human Resources Officer
Park Infrastructure Maintenance Officer
Senior Education Officer
Deputy Park Warden
Science Officer
Gift Shop Attendant
Retreat Gift Shop Associate
Discovery Club Coordinator

Brandon Pratt
Anwar Rolle
Gregory Rolle
Elijah Sands
Shawn Saunders
Alera Smith
Raquel Smith
Vernal Smith
Abdul Strachan
De'Shanna Williams
Michel Zonicle

ABACO

Marcus Davis
David Knowles
Arthur Williams

ANDROS

Leslie Brace
Deion Burrows
Shay Hudson
Lehron Rolle
Stephen Smith

ELEUTHERA

Camilla Adair
Lakeshia Culmer
Assistant*
Frederick Deleveaux
Hermane Exament
Jason Forbes
Ethan Freid, PhD
Bria Johnson
Omar McKlewhite
Jason Moxey
Philica Sands
Lakeisha Wallace

EXUMA CAYS

Andre McCartney
Cherry Elliott-Rolle
Preston McKenzie
Bradley Rutherford

Retreat Attendant
Park Warden
Security Guard
Senior Communications Officer
Education Officer
Operations Officer
Membership Officer*
Security Officer
Security Guard
Accounts Officer
Office Receptionist

Park Warden
Chief Park Warden
Deputy Park Warden

Andros Programme Coordinator*
Education Officer
Terrestrial Science Officer*
Deputy Park Warden
Deputy Park Warden

Deputy Preserve Manager*
Visitor Services & Membership

Preserve Attendant
Maintenance Supervisor
Preserve Attendant
Botanist
Preserve Manager
Preserve Attendant*
Preserve Attendant
Preserve Attendant
Education Officer

Deputy Park Warden
Office Administrator
Park Warden
Park Manager

GREAT EXUMA

Catherine Booker
Bradley Charlton Jr.

Exuma Programme Coordinator
Deputy Park Warden

GRAND BAHAMA

Anne-Marie Carroll
David Clare II
David Cooper
Julian Moss
Bradley Pinder
Jewel Thompson-Beneby
Ellsworth Weir
Lisa Wildgoose

Education Officer
Deputy Park Warden
Deputy Park Warden
Caretaker & Security Guard
Deputy Park Warden
Science Officer
Grand Bahama Parks Manager
Office Administrator

INAGUA

Casper Burrows
Sydney Delancy Jr.
Henry Nixon

Park Warden
Deputy Park Warden
Senior Park Warden*

LONG ISLAND

Kim Roberts

Grants Officer

**Indicates that the individual is no longer serving the organization as of year-end 2022.*



NATIONAL COUNCIL

APRIL 2022 - APRIL 2023

TRUST COUNCIL:

Geoffrey Andrews	President, Elected Member
Joanne Smith	Deputy President, Elected Member
Felicity Arengo, PhD	American Museum of Natural History, Appointed Member
Marvin Arrington	Elected Member
Glenn V. Bannister	Elected Member
Karen Bjorndal, PhD	University of Florida, Appointed Member
Gregory Bethel	Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources, Appointed Member
Kevin Cartwright	Elected Member
Christina Davis Justin	Governor-General's Representative, Appointed Member
Hank Ferguson	Elected Member
Andy Fowler	Elected Member
Christopher Hughes	US National Park Service, Appointed Member
Marcus Laing	Elected Member
Rachel Lightbourne-Graham	Elected Member
Barney Long, PhD	Re:wild, Appointed Member
Neil McKinney	Elected Member
Rhianna Neeley, PhD	Ministry of The Environment, Appointed Member
Holly Peel	Governor-General's Representative, Appointed Member
Devin Peet	Elected Member
Aurelio Ramos	National Audubon Society, Appointed Member
Pamela Reid, PhD	University of Miami, Appointed Member
Erik Rolland, PhD	University of The Bahamas, Appointed Member
Kenneth Romer, PhD	Ministry of Tourism, Appointed Member
Meredith Ross	Leon Levy Foundation, Appointed Member
Karin Sanchez	Elected Member
Gary Sands	Elected Member
Ashley Sturup	Ministry of Education, Appointed Member
Patrick Thomson	Elected Member
Simon Townend	Elected Member
Gavin Watchhorn	Honorary Treasurer

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORS:

Dan Brumbaugh, PhD	American Museum of Natural History
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PAST PRESIDENTS:

Glen V. Bannister	Janet Johnson
John F. Bethell	Colin Lightbourne
Sandra Buckner	Pericles Maillis
Lawrence Ginton	Neil McKinney
Lynn P. Holowesko	Macgregor Robertson

WAYS TO GIVE

Everything we achieved in 2022 was made possible by the generous support of our donors, members, and supporters who are the backbone of the BNT. As a non-profit organization, we count on donations to achieve our critical mission of protecting special species and spaces.

Depending on your preference or tax situation, there are several ways to give to the BNT - both in The Bahamas and through The Bahamas National Trust Fund Inc, a registered 501c3 charity in the United States. See below, for ways to make a contribution:

BECOME A MEMBER

Membership is the lifeblood of the BNT. Our members who make annual contributions receive free access to all national parks and other special benefits. Contact us for more information about becoming a member or renewing your commitment.

MAKE A ONE-TIME CONTRIBUTION

You can make a one-time gift to the BNT to support our work. Donations can be unrestricted or specific to a program or project. You can donate online, over the phone, with cash or cheque. You can also donate stocks, bonds, mutual funds or make a gift as a tribute. Get in touch to learn more about how to give.

PLANNED GIVING

Designate the BNT as the recipient of an annual philanthropic gift. Your recurring support will go a long way towards sustaining future programs and operations of the Trust. Go a step further to build a conservation legacy by designating the BNT as a beneficiary in your will or trust. For more information about planned giving, contact us today!

IN-KIND SUPPORT

Provide a gift or service in-kind to the BNT to help offset annual expenses or add value to a special campaign, project, or event. Gifts and services in-kind can also support the organization's revenue generation through re-sales such as silent auctions and raffles.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP

BNT Corporate Partners provide vital operating support for our conservation efforts through philanthropic giving, event sponsorship, and cause marketing. Partnerships with the BNT help corporations gain brand exposure, consumer loyalty, and community engagement while aligning with an important cause.

VOLUNTEER

Giving freely of your time and talents is welcomed! There are various ways to volunteer with the BNT, depending on your interests, skills, and expertise. When you volunteer with The BNT, you have the opportunity to work alongside a dedicated team of people committed to preserving our environment and safeguarding our future. Get in touch with us to learn how you can volunteer!

For information on how you can support The Bahamas National Trust please contact us by:



(242) 393-1317



supporttheparks@bnt.bs



www.bnt.bs/donate



BNT Headquarters
East Bay Street
Nassau, The Bahamas

This impact report can be found online at www.bnt.bs. A copy of the report may be obtained by writing.

SAFEGUARDING
THE JEWEL OF THE
bahamas
now &
tomorrow





@bahamasnationaltrust
#exploreyourpark
www.bnt.bs

