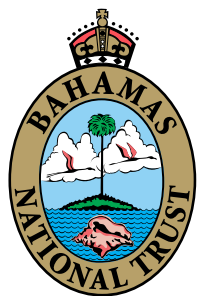




2018 Annual Report  
BAHAMAS NATIONAL TRUST



# BAHAMAS NATIONAL TRUST COUNCIL

APRIL 2018 – APRIL 2019

Janet Johnson	President, Appointed Member Ministry of Tourism
Geoffrey Andrews	Deputy President, Elected Member
Andy Fowler	Honorary Secretary, Elected Member
Simon Townend	Honorary Treasurer, Elected Member
Sherry Albury	Ministry of Education, Appointed Member
Felicity Arengo PhD	American Museum of Natural History, Elected Member
Marvin Arrington	Elected Member
Glenn Bannister	Past President, Elected Member
Karen Bjorndal, PhD	University of Florida, Appointed Member
Kevin Cartwright	Elected Member
Brian Carlstrom	U. S. National Park Service, Appointed Member
Mr. Edison Deleveaux	Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources, Appointed
Mr. Edward Fields	Governor-General's Rep, Appointed Member
Hank Ferguson	Elected Member
Colin Higgs	Elected Member
Matthew Jeffery	National Audubon Society
Marcus Laing	Elected Member
Rachel Lightbourne	Elected Member
Peter Marra, PhD.	Smithsonian Institution, Appointed Member
Livingston Marshall, PhD	Governor-General's Representative, Appointed Member
Neil McKinney	Past President, Elected Member
Deno Moss	Elected Member
David A. Oehler	Wildlife Conservation Society, Appointed Member
Pamela Reid, PhD	University of Miami RSMAS, Appointed Member
Christopher Russell	Ministry of The Environment, Appointed Member
Karin Sanchez	Elected Member
Andy Smith	Elected Member
Rodney Smith, PhD	University of The Bahamas, Appointed Member
Patrick Thomson	Elected Member

## Scientific Advisors

Dan Brumbaugh, PhD, University of California, Institute of Marine Sciences  
Alan Bolten, PhD, Univ. of Florida, Archie Carr Centre for Sea Turtle Research

## BNT Past Presidents

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

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2018 was an exciting year for the Bahamas National Trust. Last summer, the Trust was recognized as a leader in shark conservation when the Discovery Channel teamed up with the popular “Shark Tank” series to educate their audience on what is happening to the world’s top predators. The judges were given a crash course in shark conservation projects and became advocates for why their ocean cause should win a \$50,000 donation. The BNT’s judge advocate did an awesome job not only convincing the Shark Tank panel to give the donation to the BNT but also matching the pledge himself. As a result of the international exposure, Global Wildlife Conservation pledged another \$150,000 to support our marine conservation efforts. Bahamians cheered BNT’s intersection with popular culture.

In October, the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park was recognized as a Platinum Global Ocean Refuge. The Global Ocean Refuge System (GLORES) is a bold and innovative strategy to safeguard marine biodiversity around the world by accelerating the rate of marine protected area (MPA) implementation and improving the quality of MPAs. GLORES uses up-to-date science to set high standards for MPAs. The result of the Global Ocean Refuge System will be a network of refuges safeguarding marine wildlife. We were honoured to receive this Platinum Global Ocean Refuge Award. To have marine scientists from around the world recognize and recommend the Exuma Cays Land & Sea Park for the award is quite something. There is no greater honour than to be recognized by the scientific community and peer management agencies.

More than 10 years ago, the Government committed to protecting and effectively managing twenty percent of our marine surroundings by 2020, to ensure a healthy marine environment and sustain livelihoods in fisheries and tourism. With this deadline less than one year away, 10 percent of the country’s nearshore environment has been set aside in protected areas, placing The Bahamas at the halfway mark. In September, the Bahamas Protected Project (BNT, TNC and BREEF) presented the Government with the 20 x 20 White Paper: Marine Protection Plan created after consultation with the NISP (National Implementing Support Partnership) and other key stakeholders. It proposes 43 areas covering 8,111,661 acres (3,282,674 hectares), areas that would protect important marine resources across The Bahamas and achieve the country’s 20 x 20 goal. The creation of these new areas will impact the BNT.

The BNT’s new strategic plan commits to improving access to the 10 National Parks selected because they have the potential to become sustainable with appropriate infrastructural investment. The Trust is committed to expanding the infrastructure, amenities and administration of these parks as well as implementing management and development plans, designed to safeguard the integrity of sensitive resources.

Additionally, a key area of work will be making sure that local communities become engaged in national parks on their island but are also able to derive economic benefits for the areas, which have a high nature tourism value. Our success will depend on determined fundraising initiatives. I would like to thank our donors both private and corporate for their

support this year and encourage their continued commitment to our work.

BNT waded into the fray on matters that captured the imagination of the public in a meaningful way. This leadership stance while risky, served to enhance our reputation with the public. Hopefully there are no more environmental controversies but if there are, then the organization will have to decide its strategy based on what’s best for the environment. Issues like oil and big development often put environmental organisations and government on opposite ends of a spectrum, but it’s important to be at the table and to strive together for positive outcomes.

As the BNT celebrates its upcoming 60th Anniversary we will commemorate the past, celebrate accomplishments and inspire future generations to experience, connect with, and protect the national parks’ unique natural, cultural, and historic resources. It is evident that the BNT and our national parks are recognized internationally for their good work and conservation value. We need to continue to raise greater awareness amongst Bahamians of the value of our national parks economically and culturally and encourage their involvement in our work.

As I prepare to move off the scene as your President, I wish to thank the staff of the BNT for their dedication and commitment to the national park system of The Bahamas and the Executive Committee and the Council for their volunteerism and support over the last two years.



Janet Johnson  
President



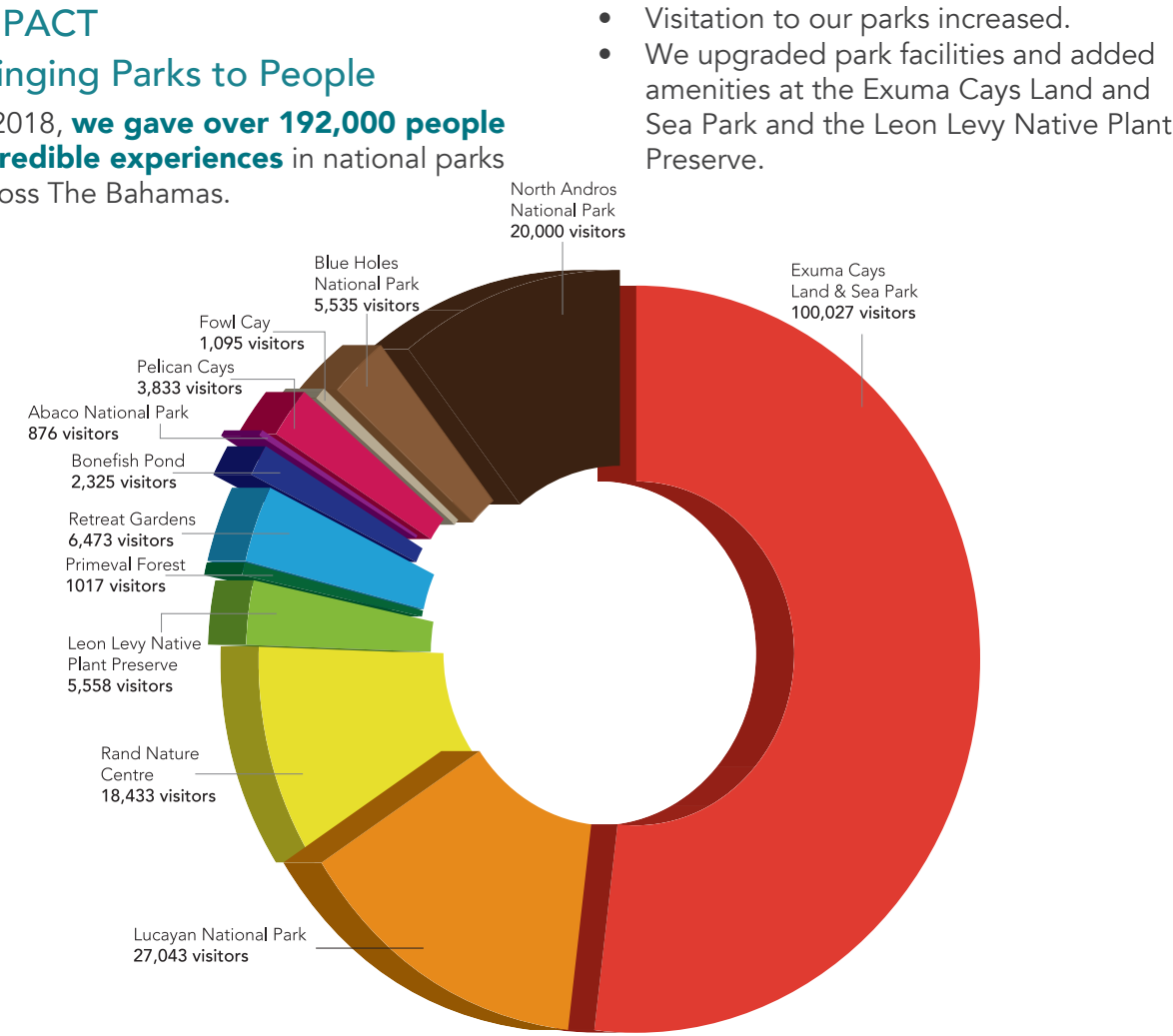
# MANAGING UNIQUE SPACES

National parks. At BNT, they’re who we are, they’re what we do. We bring parks to people by making them accessible. Our dedicated staff work hard to maintain these special places by employing impeccable management practices. Finally, we safeguard the natural resources that our parks protect.

## IMPACT

### Bringing Parks to People

In 2018, **we gave over 192,000 people incredible experiences** in national parks across The Bahamas.



## IMPACT

### Maintaining Special Places

**We won an Oscar!** Well, not quite, but close. **The Exuma Cays Land & Sea Park (ECLSP) earned a Global Ocean Refuge (GLORES) Award.** And, forgive us for bragging but, we didn’t just win, we won at the top tier level - the Platinum Award.

A GLORES award is only given to marine protected areas (MPAs) that meet the highest science-based standards for biodiversity protection and best practices for management and enforcement. Each GLORES winning MPA has as strong management team, a clear plan to conserve biodiversity and effective monitoring and enforcement efforts in place. With the support of our donors, we’ve managed ECLSP for 60 years. Our approach is working. We’d like to thank our donors and the Marine Conservation Institute...

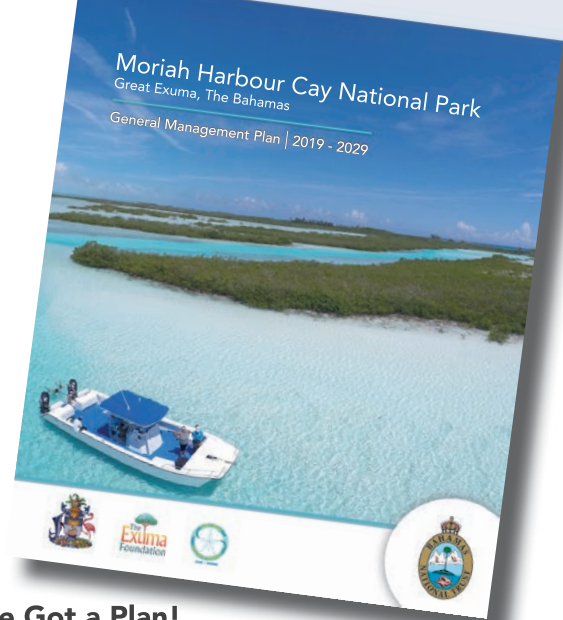


Minister of the Environment and Housing, The Honourable Romauld Ferriera, M.P., at the 2018 Our Ocean Conference in Bali, Indonesia. Representatives from about one hundred nations and hundreds of marine conservationists gathered with the Marine Conservation Institute in October to award the GLORES. Minister Ferriera received the award on behalf of The Bahamas and The Bahamas National Trust. Global Ocean Refuge Award winners have been carefully researched by the Marine Conservation Institute, and then vetted by an international council of respected marine scientists. These strongly protected blue parks will make outstanding contributions to saving marine life for future generations.

### We Came Together with the Community to Save “Living Jewels”

In 2018 **we signed our first-ever Co-management Agreement** with the San Salvador Living Jewels (SSLJ) Foundation. SSLJ is a grass-roots conservation organization established to promote awareness of the earth’s “living jewels”, its natural resources. Under the agreement, we will work together to create and co-manage national parks on and around the island of San Salvador. We are excited that we can assist local communities with getting on the frontline in the fight to save our planet.





### We've Got a Plan!

This year **we completed the 10-year management plan** for the Moriah Harbour Cay National Park in Exuma. It takes a lot to develop a management plan for a national park. Our process is interactive. We engage with local users, business owners, partners and other stakeholders. The Moriah Harbour Cay National Park plan shows that we need to increase staff to manage the park effectively. It also shows how we will:

- develop and maintain infrastructure
- provide services to visitors
- manage existing threats
- provide economic opportunities for neighbouring communities.

Developing a management plan is one of the most important things we can do in caring for a national park. We need management plans to help us protect a park's resources for future generations, while allowing people today to enjoy the beauty that it has to offer. This year we brought the Moriah Harbour Cay National Park one step closer to sustainability.

## IMPACT Safeguarding our Natural Resources

### We Improved Enforcement

Thanks to a generous gift from three donors, we took a big leap forward in our enforcement program at the Exuma Cays land and Sea Park. **Our donors made it possible for us to invest in a Metal Shark 28 Relentless enforcement vessel**, providing a necessary tool for park wardens to conduct effective patrols of this important area that builds up surrounding

fish populations. The Metal Shark 28 is made of welded aluminium and has a high-performance centre console. It is designed for inland, coastal and offshore use. The Metal Shark is a specialized vessel, built to provide impact protection during docking, boarding, or alongside manoeuvres, making it highly suitable for law enforcement and response missions. By obtaining this vessel we took a critical step in resource protection, strengthening our enforcement efforts throughout the national park system. Park rule violators beware!



### We're Working to Save More of the Planet!

The Bahamas has committed to conserving 20% of its nearshore marine environment by 2020. This year we helped our country take a big leap forward in meeting that promise. We

led a robust stakeholder engagement process, which involved **three rounds of public consultations engaging approximately 400 persons in 21 meetings on over 10 islands** throughout the Bahamas. This process

accelerated the development of The Bahamas' 20 by 20 White Paper: Marine Protection Plan, which proposes **43 new and expanded protected areas, covering 8,111,661 acres**.



The Bahamas Protected project partners (The Nature Conservancy, Bahamas National Trust and Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation) hosted a breakfast meeting on September 18th, to formally present the 20 by

20 White Paper: Marine Protection Plan, to The Honourable Romauld Ferreira, Minister of the Environment and Housing, and The Honourable Michael Pintard, Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources.



# BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Our goal is a nationally and internationally respected science program that supports the management of national parks, protected areas and biodiversity. For us, the path to meeting that goal leads us to ensure that; ecosystems are functioning, species in peril are protected and the meaningful scientific research we conduct benefits all. We did all that, and then some, in 2018.

## IMPACT

### Ensuring Functioning Ecosystems:

How the South got its Mangrooooove Back: Together with our conservation partners, Baha Mar and Rotary International, **we planted 400 Red Mangroves and 100 Black Mangroves** in Bonefish Pond National Park. Mangroves are the first line of defence against storm surge. The Southern



coastal areas of New Providence, where Bonefish Pond is located, have sadly lost most of this extremely important ecosystem. We helped it get its Mangroove back in 2018.

Monitoring beneath the waves: **390 fish surveys, 234 benthic surveys and 78 coral surveys** were completed around The Bahamas. These surveys are important indicators of the health of our marine environment. The monitoring of coral bleaching, coral diversity and fish assemblages tell us how our marine environment is doing both inside and outside national parks. It also gives us a glimpse into the future of our changing climate. Conducting these surveys help us to update our management plans and determine restoration and policy needs for the country.



## IMPACT

### Protecting Species in Peril

A bird with two tales: **We educated 212 students and 19 teachers about the plight of the Kirtland's Warbler.** This special, tiny, very rare bird migrates between The Bahamas and Michigan every year and its numbers have been severely declining, especially in The Bahamas. We partnered with scientists in the United States to raise awareness about the fragility of this species and how the special plants it visits The Bahamas to feed on are critical to its survival during winter. We can never have too many guardians of this special part-time resident.

For the love of snakes: **64 participants came to the BNT to learn how to properly handle a snake.** The Bahamian Boa is highly persecuted locally due to fear. We noticed that there was a serious need to increase the educational awareness about snakes and build a community of people





willing to rescue snakes found in unwanted places. We started the Nassau Snake Rescue **Team which has grown to 148 members. The team has rescued 16 snakes**, and regularly organizes snake handling workshops.

**IMPACT**  
**Science that Benefits All**  
Science on the Bahamian Riviera: **A record-breaking 550 participants** attended the Bahamas Natural History Conference (BNHC) in 2018. Baha Mar partnered with us to host the conference and bestowed it with its most significant financial commitment to date. BNHC 2018 was given a luxury resort level facelift and we had a great turnout. To get students excited about research and careers in STEM fields, we added the “Meet a Scientist” feature to the conference. These sessions **brought over 200 local students face-to-face with respected scientists** from around the world.

Held every other year, the BNHC ensures that the meaningful research that is done in this country can be shared with government agencies, students, teachers, and the interested public; building a more informed Bahamas!



**IMPACT**  
**Thinking Globally, Acting Locally**  
**Bringing Global Standards Home:**

Members of our team were a part of a group of 14 Bahamian and eight Caribbean conservation experts who came together for training on how to access threatened and endangered species. This specialized training, administered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is called Redlisting Training.

IUCN is the leading authority on what is considered endangered. For The Bahamas to make informed wildlife protection decisions it must incorporate internationally recognized standards, therefore the country needs to get its unique and special species on the IUCN Redlist of Threatened Species. **Our training paid off. We learned how to conduct IUCN Redlisting assessments and we submitted a total of six new species onto the IUCN Redlist.** More are on the way!

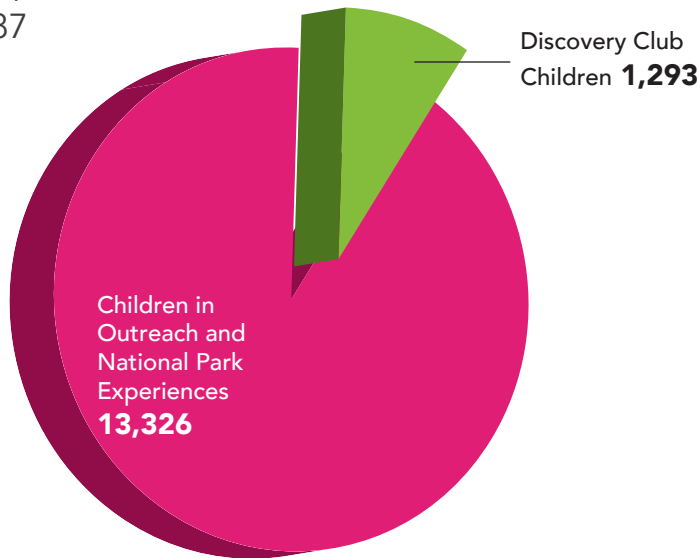


# ENGAGING EDUCATION

In 2018, with the support of our donors, we inspired 18,406 people through our education and outreach programs. These programs inspire people to care about the environment and take positive action to protect it.

## TOTAL INSPIRED

Children 14,619  
Adults 3,787



## Discovery Club

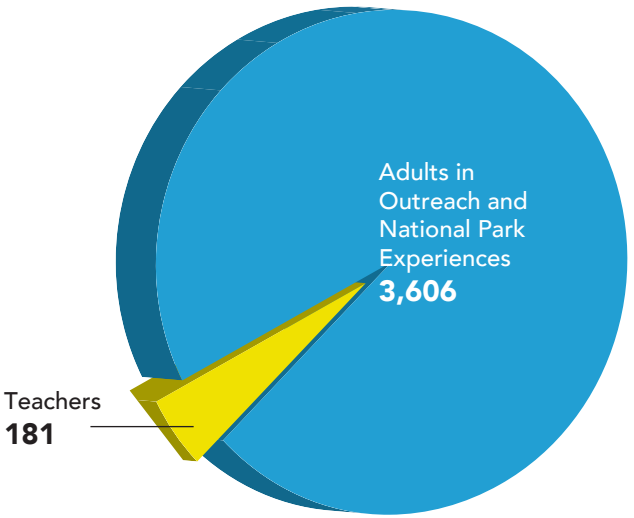
An award winning, school-based, environmental club for kids aged 7 – 18

### 2018 CLUBS

- Adventurers & Explorers (5-9 yrs) – 655
- Guardians (10-12 yrs) – 501
- Navigators (13-18yrs) – 137

## IMPACT

Discovery Club crosses disciplines to bring out the best in kids. Every year the BNT team writes references for dozens of our club participants who compete against hundreds of students around The Bahamas for the title of Student the Year. **In 2018, eleven Discovery Club members were Student of the Year finalists.** The overall winner, Remington Minnis, was a Discover Club member at Eva Hilton Primary.



**Discovery Club Makes Star Students**  
Eleven of the 2018 Student of the Year Award finalists are Discovery Club members.

### NEW PROVIDENCE

- Daunte Butler  
Xavier's Lower School
- Lauren Hewison  
Lyford Cay International School
- Olivia Cambridge  
St. Cecilia's Primary School
- Ailinia Gerrick  
Albury Sayle Primary School
- Brandon Carey  
St. Thomas More Primary School

### LONG ISLAND

- Revano Stubbs  
Glinton's Primary School
- Makayla Thomspen  
Simms Primary School

### ANDROS

- Katelynn Chea  
Clara Evans Primary School
- Jaden Neymour  
Behring Point Primary School

### CAT ISLAND

- Matthew Cleare  
Orange Creek Primary School

## 2018 CLUBS

Adventurers &  
Explorers (5-9 years) **655**

Guardians (10-12 years) **501**

Navigators (13-18years) **137**



## Discovery Club – Inspiring Inspirational Young People

MEET: TYSHA

AGE: 11 years

Discovery Club has ignited a passion for the environment in Tysha. In 2018, she embarked on a project to eradicate invasive species from BNT's Gwen Lawrence Bird



sanctuary. Tysha also spent a weekend with the BNT's education team preparing for the annual Summer Safari Camp, where **she helped 50 kids from the community** get the one-of-a-kind experiences that she receives in the

Discovery Club. After learning, through the club curriculum, that South Beach is an important habitat for shorebirds, Tysha volunteer at the 2018 International Coastal Clean Up where she joined a team that **moved over 5,000 items of trash from the beach.** Tysha's passion for the environment influences everything she does. She is The Bahamas' first international beauty pageant winner and a 2019 Primary School student of the Year Award nominee. She is constantly seeking ways to use her platforms to positively impact the environment



Discovery Club –  
Training Teachers To Lead  
The Charge

MEET: LETHERA  
SCHOOL: NASSAU CHRISTIAN  
ACADEMY (NCA)  
CLUB LEADER SINCE 2010

Lethera has touched the lives of hundreds of Bahamian children. As a Discovery Club Leader, she has inspired young people at each of the four age levels within the programme. At one point she led several clubs consisting of 150 kids.

Discovery Club is unique because it not only teaches important life skills through outdoor learning, it allows kids to experience their local national parks. Because Lethera understands how important these experiences are in fostering a love for the environment, she ensures that the kids in her Discovery Club visit their local New Providence parks and national parks across the country. To date the NCA Discovery Club members have visited 10 national parks across New Providence, Andros and Eleuthera. A trip to the Abaco parks is planned for 2019.



Lethera’s impact over the years has been tremendous. Alumni of NCA’s Discovery Club have gone on to make waves in the environmental community, participating in national research expeditions, internships and furthering their studies in science at local and international universities.

**She has inspired our network of over 200 DC teachers and 60 clubs.** Many of them have followed her lead by giving their kids inter-island national park experiences.

Discovery Club NUMBERS

- Males 615 47%
- Females 678 53%

Discovery Club Locations	
New Providence Units	20
Family Island Units	24
Abaco	1
Andros	5
Cat Island	2
Eleuthera	4
Exuma	3
Grand Bahama	4
Inagua	1
Long Island	4
Total Units	44

Number of teachers who participated in the Discovery Club Symposium – 98



ARMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL GUARDIANS  
OUR MEMBERSHIP

Members, donors, supporters, we call the folks that make what we do possible a few names. But regardless of what we call them, we wouldn’t exist without their passion, dedication, and generosity. **We thank them for being environmental guardians and a part of our conservation family.**

Thank You to Our Corporate and Individual Donors

<b>Corporate Donors</b> Abaco Markets Advanced Document Systems Airbrush Junkies Albany Resort Operator Ltd. Albuquerque BioPark Aliv Bahamas Atlantis American Women's Club of the Bahamas Asa H. Pritchard Baha Mar Foundation Bahamas Energy and Solar Supplies Bahamas Protected Fund Bahamas Ferries Bahama Fantasies Bahamas Ministry of Tourism Bahamas Waste Ltd. Bahamas Wholesale Agencies Bahamia Rental Bahamian Brewery & Beverage Co. Ltd. Bonefish Tarpon and Trust BCG Foundation Bell Island Ltd. Breezes Resorts Bristol Wines and Spirits BTC Burns House Ltd. Cable Bahamas Campbell Chase Law Caribbean Bottling Co. (Bahamas) Ltd. Cat Island United Chilly Willy Commonwealth Bank Commonwealth Brewery Ltd Conch Boy Films Conservian Inc Freeport Advertising Freeport Harbour Company Fidelity Bank Fidelity Charitable Gift Foundation FOCOL Forfar Field Station Freedom Sound Productions Fun Foods G. B. Maintenance Ltd. Ginosko Kids Educational Centre	Grand Bahama Airport Company Ltd. Grand Bahama Port Authority Ltd. Highbourne Plantations Ltd. Hobah Limited Home Fabrics Inter-American Development Bank J.S. Johnson & Co. Limited Joy FM Y98 100 Jamz Kiss FM Island FM Lyford Cay International Schools Mackey Media Milo Butler & Sons Ocean Crest Alliance Papa Surf Save the Bays Signarama St Cecelia School Ultimate Tours Wolf Kayaking Royal Bahamas Defense Force Lampkin Marine Services Lit Summer Series Leon Levy Foundation Lost Island Voyages Mactaggart Third Fund Majestic Tours Ministry of Tourism New Mexico Bio Park Society P.A.M. (Perpetual Asset Management) Overseas Ltd. Paradise Games Pearl Island Bahamas Playgroup Ltd. Rotary Club of East Nassau Rotary Club of Southeast Nassau Sagoma Construction International Sandals Foundation Scotia Wealth Management Scotiabank (Bahamas) Ltd. Sherwin Williams Solomon's Summit Insurance Co., Ltd. The d'Albenas Agency The Horticultural Society of The Bahamas	The Nature Conservancy The New York Community Trust The Owl Foundation The Punch Titan Hospitality Ltd. Trilogy Tucker Foundation Wildquest Retreats Inc. Xpressions Entertainment  <b>Individuals</b> Agnes Roberts Alan Bolten & Dr. Karen Bjorndal Alexandra Hall Alfred Brathwaite Alison Black Andrea Lindenbusch Andrew Brent Symonette Anthony & Helen Hepburn Antonio Camejo Arame Strachan Barry Rassin Basil Minnis Basil Minns Bill and Sandy Drechsler Bill Vaughan Bob & Linda Turrentine Brenda Bethell Brenda Norsworthy Brent & Robin Symonette Bruce & Anna Cecil Captain Matt Carlos Kauffmann Cassandra Cartwright Catherine P. Knowles Cedric Saunders Charelle Lockhart Chase Gilman Chrishano Edgecombe Christopher Greer Henderson Christopher E. Lighbourn Cindy L. Erdos Jay Cartwright Cindy L. Halkitis Melanie Halkitis Clipper Group Management Caludette Adderly Corrie Seymour Curlene Burrows David & Frances B. Donald David Baron Dean Johnson Dean Simon Deirdre M. McCoy	Dennis & Marian Butcher Dennis & Phoebe Cross Deno Moss Diana Valerie Gray Diane Claridge Dieter Monheim D'Lethea Naim  Donald R. and Virginia Kester Donald W. Tomlinson Douglas & Luba Bland Douglas Wells Edward & Frances Doyle Edward Pritchard Elaine Powers Elise Lafontisse Elizabeth (Lou) Cuevas Elizabeth P. Bethel Ellen & Dan Tyransky Eric Carey Falon Cartwright Favetta D'Aguiar Favetta D'Aguiar Frances Aberle Freddie E. Munnings Geoff and Lynne Andrews Geoffrey & Lady Johnstone, KCMG George Mencia Ginger Warner Gisela Stang Glenn & Susan Allard Godfrey Kelly, CMG Gordon & Cindy Wilde Gordon Cleare Grinnel & Linda More Ignacio de la Rocha J.D. & Adele Good Jaime Ramon James & Melissa Eason James & Rev. Angela Palacios Jason C. & Sarah E. Callender Jay Cartwright Jeanine Lampkin Jeffrey & Michelle D. Mitchell-Lloyd Jeffrey & Susan Albury Jehan & Kristen Unwala Jennifer K. Murphy Joan Davies Joanna Robertson Joel & Elizabeth Box Johan Bolt	Dennis & Marian Butcher Dennis & Phoebe Cross Deno Moss Diana Valerie Gray Diane Claridge Dieter Monheim D'Lethea Naim  Donald R. and Virginia Kester Donald W. Tomlinson Douglas & Luba Bland Douglas Wells Edward & Frances Doyle Edward Pritchard Elaine Powers Elise Lafontisse Elizabeth (Lou) Cuevas Elizabeth P. Bethel Ellen & Dan Tyransky Eric Carey Falon Cartwright Favetta D'Aguiar Favetta D'Aguiar Frances Aberle Freddie E. Munnings Geoff and Lynne Andrews Geoffrey & Lady Johnstone, KCMG George Mencia Ginger Warner Gisela Stang Glenn & Susan Allard Godfrey Kelly, CMG Gordon & Cindy Wilde Gordon Cleare Grinnel & Linda More Ignacio de la Rocha J.D. & Adele Good Jaime Ramon James & Melissa Eason James & Rev. Angela Palacios Jason C. & Sarah E. Callender Jay Cartwright Jeanine Lampkin Jeffrey & Michelle D. Mitchell-Lloyd Jeffrey & Susan Albury Jehan & Kristen Unwala Jennifer K. 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# BETTER TECH FOR GREATER IMPACT

The influence of digital content on our everyday culture is undeniable. Online video sharing sites such as YouTube, Instagram and Facebook boast hefty daily audience numbers and it's no different in The Bahamas. With digital videos continuing to gain popularity, students today are utilizing educational videos as



a tool for learning everything and in 2018 we started to embrace this shift. We went “pro-video”. We invested in professional production equipment and began a new chapter in visual storytelling, from wildlife documentaries to impact stories, we **produced and shared more than 100 4k and HD videos** in 2018. Thanks to the shift,



we got our donors more engaged in our wok. **Videos now makes up more than 70 per cent of the educational content** across our programmes enabling us to teach our programme participants in a more compelling way.



**Social Media**  
In 2018 we stepped up our game, big time. Our Instagram platform is now our digital exhibit of national parks where we boast about the beauty and diversity of the 2 million acres we protect. We asked our Facebook audience what they wanted and they voted for video content, so we delivered.



We've uploaded **more educational and informative videos than anybody else in the country**. We've inspired people to visit national parks and share their experiences with the hashtag #exploreyourpark.  
Our organisation is a Baby Boomer, but we use our social media platforms like Millennials.





IN CASE YOU MISSED IT  
2018 HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY

THE FIGHT TO SAVE  
CONCH CONTINUES

Thanks to funding from the Japanese Special Fund Poverty Reduction Program (JPO) **we received a \$500K grant** from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to continue our fight to save The Bahamas' threatened Queen Conch population. Representatives from the JPO and the IDB gathered along with us to sign this historic grant, which is the first of its kind awarded in the region. The BNT team is excited to work with family island communities on Grand Bahama to improve conch-fisher livelihoods and also increase the sustainability of the conch fishery for future generations.





MARCH

# SECURING BAHAMA PARROT POPULATIONS

In 2009 we began implementing a Predator Control Programme in the Abaco National Park to control the feral cat population threatening the Bahama Parrot. To measure the effectiveness of both the programme and the park, we conduct parrot surveys every two years. Our Avian Scientist, Scott Johnson conducted surveys along with Dr. Frank Riviera, a Biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The 2018 survey puts the Bahama Parrot population at approximately **9,000 birds, a 350% increase in population** since the formation the Abaco National Park in 1994. This increase is significant because Abaco has been impacted by more hurricanes than any other island in the Caribbean. With only two populations of this parrot in The Bahamas – one on Abaco and one on Inagua - a robust population on Abaco is critical for the survival of our Bahama Parrot.



APRIL

# NATIONAL PARK DAY

We are committed to getting people outdoors, and enjoying, their national parks. To show folks just what their national parks have to offer them, we hosted a country-wide national park open house on Earth Day. Our first annual National Park Day was a great success. **Over 1,700 people joined us in national parks** across The Bahamas, from Inagua to Grand Bahama. We've already begun planning for next year. #ExploreYourPark.





APRIL / MAY

# FUNDRAISING FRIENDS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Our supporters make everything we do possible. They are our donors, members and partners. **This year, several supporters raised money to impact the national parks** that are near and dear to their hearts.

Organized by BNT member and volunteer Rachel Lightbourne, The Silver Fox Fishing Tournament was created to honour the late Colin Callender. The Callender family chose to donate proceeds from this special event to support the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, a place beloved by the late Mr. Callendar.

Bahamas Poker Run co-founders, Jordan Lampkin and Shane Freedman, along with the Poker Run committee came together with the community to raise money to support the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park.



MAY

# INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CONSERVATIONISTS

The Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve's eight-week, summer internship programme provided three Bahamian undergraduates with the opportunity to take a deep dive into the natural history of The Bahamas. The trio also benefited from an exchange programme with the Natural Areas Conservancy in New York. The **three participants graduated** with, not only knowledge of botany, geology, herpetology and bird identification skills, but also with an increased passion to save our environment.





JULY

# SWIMMING WITH SHARKS

We swam with the sharks of the hit ABC show Shark Tank and **won a \$100,000 pay-day to support shark conservation** in The Bahamas. Our team got the chance to make the winning pitch to Daymond John during the Shark Tank meets Shark Week collaboration, featured on The Discovery Channel. Global Wildlife Conservation helped increase the impact by adding an additional \$150K to our Shark Tank winnings. Bahamian shark conservation won big-time in 2018!

# ECO CAMP TURNS 10

We celebrated 10 years of Eco Camp, our life-changing, summer camp for teens. Since Eco Camp takes approximately 40 young people into its programme every summer, **10 years means that nearly 400 teens have participated!** Eco Camp is an eight-day, all-expenses paid, expedition to Andros. It immerses 14 – 17-year-old kids in national parks, teaching them about the Bahamian environment, culture and natural history. Thanks to our partnership with Aliv and other generous sponsors, 36 young people from 13 islands attended Eco Camp 2018.



AUGUST

# TRAINING TEACHERS TO BE LEADERS OF CHANGE

Our Discovery Club activities take place over the course of a school year. They are led by 200 passionate and dedicated, volunteer teachers from across The Bahamas. Every year, in the summer, our Education and Outreach team brings these teachers together for a train-the-trainer style symposium that familiarizes them with the curriculum for the coming school year and allows them to share lessons learned over the last. The teachers also share stories of the positive impact they are having on the kids and talk through any challenges they may be having with their club. Our teachers say that symposium motivates them to continue the good work they're doing with the kids in their respective clubs. **Ninety-eight teachers attended the 2018 Discovery Club Leader's Symposium.**





OCTOBER

# WINE & ART REIMANGINED

We reinvigorated our signature wine and art festival by bringing on board an exciting new partner, Commonwealth Brewery. Together, we infused the 28th annual festival with a new vibe that allowed the BNT to raise money, and attendees to raise their glasses, to support national parks.

## GUY HARVEY

We partnered with world-renowned marine artist and conservationist, Dr. Guy Harvey to educate over 400 students about the Nassau Grouper, barracuda, tiger shark and parrotfish, using short films. The students were given the opportunity to meet Dr. Harvey, ask him questions, and learn why it is important to protect marine life.



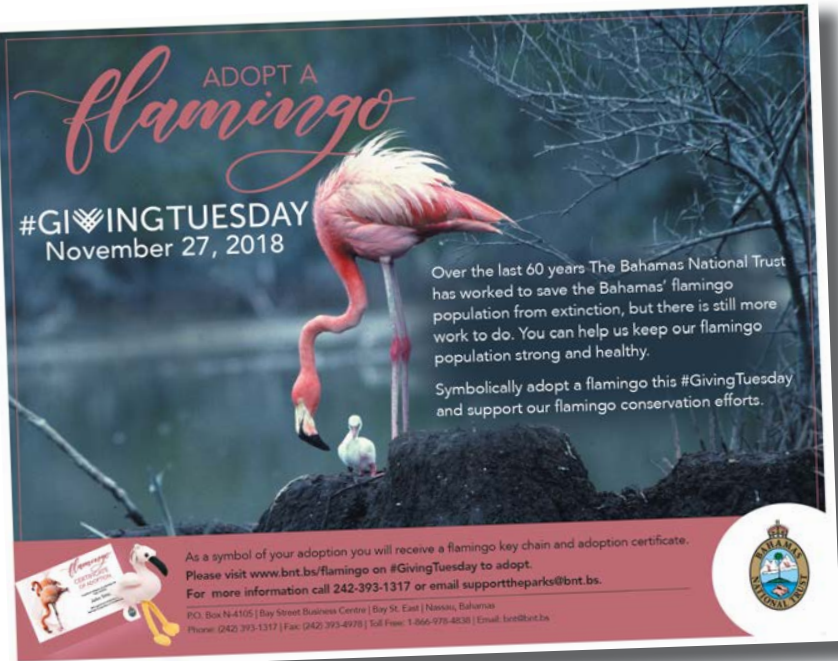
NOVEMBER

# #GIVINGTUESDAY

We held our first-ever #GivingTuesday initiative. #GivingTuesday is a movement to create an international day of charitable giving at the beginning of Christmas and the holiday season. Our plan to get a piece of the #GivingTuesday pie took flight when we launched our Adopt-A-Flamingo program.

## JOYFUL JOLLIFICATION

We ho-ho-hosted one of the biggest Christmas Jollification fundraisers ever. Jollification raises tens of thousands of dollars annually and every penny goes to support The Retreat Gardens, a historic botanical garden and national park on New Providence. The 2018 Jollification was a monster of an event. With the support of our partners, Commonwealth Bank, Bristol and BTC, we drew bigger crowds, raised more money and brought in the Christmas season joyfully!





DECEMBER

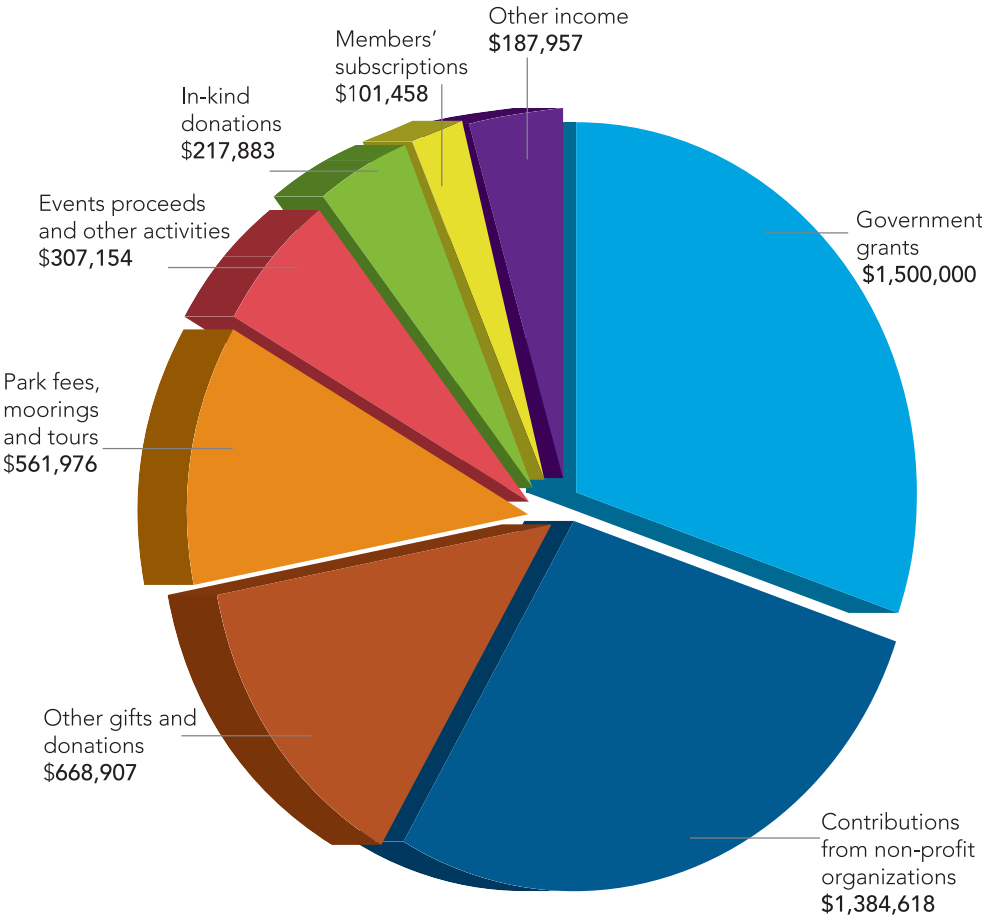
# CORPORATES 4 CORALS

Two of Grand Bahama’s **leading corporate citizens**, Freeport Harbour Company and Grand Bahama Airport Company are **fighting to combat the effects of climate change**. These companies funded the installation of coral nurseries in two national parks on Grand Bahama - Lucayan and Peterson Cays National Park. We installed the nurseries along with a team from the Perry Institute for Marine Science.



# 2018 FINANCIALS

## 2018 Income



## SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2018

### BALANCE SHEET

#### ASSETS

	2018	2017
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	244,391	299,443
Term deposits	36,422	37,694
Accounts receivable	340,257	123,182
Other receivable	197,252	-
Interest receivable	40,532	40,593
Inventories	71,687	78,199
Prepayments and other assets	102,885	14,794
	<u>1,033,426</u>	<u>593,905</u>
Non-current assets		
Financial assets at amortized cost	2,080,000	2,200,000
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	1,831,485	2,870,995
Capital work-in-progress	83,471	96,845
Intangible asset	34,140	37,743
Property and equipment	<u>1,404,099</u>	<u>978,301</u>
	<u>5,433,195</u>	<u>6,183,884</u>
Total assets	<u>6,466,621</u>	<u>6,777,789</u>

LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	236,287	254,598
Deferred contributions	<u>703,317</u>	<u>829,133</u>
Total liabilities	<u>939,604</u>	<u>1,083,731</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>5,527,017</u>	<u>5,694,058</u>
FUND BALANCES	<u>5,527,017</u>	<u>5,694,058</u>

### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

#### INCOME

Government grants	1,500,000	1,500,000
Contributions from non-profit organizations	1,384,618	1,041,284
Other gifts and donations	668,907	671,443
Park fees, moorings and tours	561,976	423,514
Events proceeds and other activities	307,154	229,541
In-kind donations	217,883	153,121
Members' subscriptions	101,458	77,897
Other income	187,957	176,833
Total income	<u>4,929,953</u>	<u>4,273,633</u>

Total expenses	4,989,436	4,383,188
Net operating loss	<u>(59,483)</u>	<u>(109,555)</u>
Net realized and unrealized loss on investment	<u>(107,558)</u>	<u>334,162</u>
Net (loss)/income	<u>(167,041)</u>	<u>224,607</u>



# CONSERVATION WARRIORS

## OUR STAFF

Our dedicated staff are on the front lines, 24/7, working hard to protect parks, inspire kids and refine their research.



### **STEFFON**

OUTREACH OFFICER

YEARS WITH BNT: 5

- Engaged over 50,000 people in educational experiences
- Worked with 5,043 volunteers
- Written 10 successful grant proposals
- Facilitated 20 Teacher's workshops



### **ELLSWORTH**

GRAND BAHAMA PARK MANAGER

YEARS WITH BNT: 7

- Constructed over 30 Park Demarcation Buoys
- Participated in 50 Bird Rescues
- Coordinated over 100 volunteers to assist with Park Maintenance
- Engaged 1000 people on the importance of National Parks



### **LINDY**

SENIOR SCIENCE OFFICER

YEARS WITH BNT: 9

- Conducted research in 22 of our 32 national parks
- Participated in over 200 coral reef survey dives
- Participated in over 3 major scientific expedition coral reef survey dives
- Created 44 maps supporting the 20 by 20 White Paper
- Time spent underwater conducting scientific research – 5 days

### **KRISTOFF**

JR. PARK WARDEN

YEARS WITH BNT: 5

- Engaged 10,000 park visitors
- Engaged with 10,000 students
- Assisted with 10 scientific research projects
- Helped maintain eight national parks across The Bahamas



### **ALERA**

OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

YEARS WITH BNT: 6

- Assists with procurement across organization
- Has purchased over 5000 items to support education programmes, scientific research and national park maintenance.



### **RAQUEL**

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

YEARS WITH BNT: 5

- Stewarded 2,700 members
- Composed 12 newsletters annually
- Engaged 5,000 people in conservation conversations



### **CHERRY**

OFFICE MANAGER/ECLSP

YEARS WITH BNT: 4

- The Voice of the Exuma's
- Has made 1,120 daily announcements to boats visiting the ECLSP, educating their occupants about the park, its history, boundaries and regulations.
- Engaged with 3,000 visitors.





## New Providence

Eric Carey	Executive Director
Lynn Gape	Deputy Executive Director
Dominique Martin	Director of Development
Catherine Pinder	Director of Finance & Operations
Portia Sweeting	Director of Education
Shelley Cant-Woodside	Director of Science & Policy
Dorcas Miller	Human Resources & Operations Manager
Monalisa Sweeting	Communication Manager
Urmie Braynen	Events Coordinator
Antone Barrow	Website & Graphics Officer
Sheral Armbrister	Grants Manager
Falon Cartwright	Retreat Curator
Alexio Brown	Park Warden
Raquel Smith	Membership Officer
Celeste Christie	Donor Relations Officer
Daphne Brooks	Book-keeper
Maureen Taylor	Finance Manager
Alera Smith	Office Assistant
Juanita Munroe	Environmental Education Officer
Steffon Evans –	Outreach Officer
Jewel Thompson	Education Officer/Discovery Club Coordinator
Chantal Curtis	Education Officer/ Navigators Coordinator
Gloria Miller	Education Officer
Scott Johnson	Science Officer
Lindy Knowles	Senior Science Officer
Bradley Watson	Science officer
Agnessa Lundy	Marine Science Officer
Giselle Deane	Assistant Science Officer
Lashanti Jupp	Conservation Planner
Terrel Knowles	Retreat Attendant
Anwar Rolle Jr.	Park Warden
Ventoi Bethune	Deputy Park Warden
Kristoff Francois	Jr. Park Warden
Kim Iturriaga	Office Custodian
Gregory Rolle	Security Officer
Jack Atillus	Garden Staff
Shannan Yates	Assistant Retreat Curator

## Abaco

David Knowles	Chief Park Warden
Kaderin Mills	Office Administrator
Marcus Davis	Deputy Park Warden

## Andros

Steven Smith	Park Warden
Lehron Rolle	Education Officer

## Eleuthera

Heidi Johnson	Preserve Manager/LLNPP
Camilla Adair	Deputy Preserve Manager
Ethan Freid	Botanist
Alvanna Johnson	Office Assistant
Brittany Ingraham	Gift Shop/Membership Assistant
Arlington Johnson	Site Supervisor
Hermane Exament	Maintenance Supervisor
Jason Moxey	Preserve Attendant
Omar McKlewhite	Preserve Attendant
Brian Smith	Preserve Attendant
Courtney Kemp	Education Officer

## Exuma

Joseph Ierna	Administrator/ECLSP
Nicola Ierna	Part time Admin. Assist./ECLSP
Preston Mckenzie	Maintenance Officer
Brent Burrows II	ECLSP Park Warden
Cherry Elliot	Office Manager

## Grand Bahama

Lakeshia Anderson	Director of Parks
Ellsworth Weir	Senior Warden
Lisa Wildgoose	Office Manager
Ann-Marie Carroll	Education Officer
Jinnel Sturridge	Administrative Assistant & Membership Officer
David Cooper	Deputy Park Warden
David Clare	Deputy Park Warden

## Inagua

Henry Nixon	Senior Park Warden
Sydney Delancy	Park Warden



## OUR 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 MISSION

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