

# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2021 was a historic year for The Bahamas National Trust. We ushered in a new look to propel us into the next 60 years and beyond. Our brand evolution celebrates BNT's rich history and prepares us for the future. While we got an entirely new look, our focus remains the same: conserving and protecting The Bahamas... Now and Tomorrow.

The launch of this new brand marks an exciting era for all of us. We want everyone to know this change, while significant, does not alter our values, our mission, or our goals. It is our hope that as we undertake this rebranding journey, we carry our auspicious history with us into a more vibrant future. I am incredibly proud of what we accomplished this year, and I am even more excited for the year 2022, which will bring new challenges, conservation wins, and opportunities for collaboration. My promise to you is we will continue to do all that we can to work towards a sustainable future where both people and nature thrive.

We are protecting and restoring nature — forests, mangroves, coral reefs, wetlands — to tackle the climate crisis. We are inspiring communities to join us in safeguarding our future and taking part in protecting their lands. We continue to lead and inspire the next generation of conservation warriors, who will take on the earth we leave behind. And all our work is guided by science and fueled by a network of incredible supporters.

National parks around The Bahamas are receiving advancements and major infrastructure upgrades as we aspire to build a world-class National Park System that preserves sensitive natural areas and provides people access to nature.

We're connecting local communities to their ecosystems and inspiring them to join us in restoring these habitats they depend so heavily on. We are also motivating them to help us preserve species in peril. This includes empowering community members in Abaco and Grand Bahama to assist with restoration efforts in response to the devastation Hurricane Dorian left behind and working with fishers on Grand Bahama to create a sustainable conch fishery that future generations will reap the benefits of.

We released the State of The Environment: Post Dorian Report, which included recommendations of how we can work together to restore nature to help people recover. Research from our scientists and partners show that human intervention is necessary to help revive the environment after this climate-charged storm wreaked havoc on communities and the environment. This propelled the country's largest-ever restoration effort of mangrove forests in The Northern Bahamas.

We continue to advocate for and support policies that encourage sustainability and conservation. In 2021, we contributed to the development of the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan, reinforced our stance on an oil-free Bahamas, and continued to work with the government and partners to study and fight the deadly Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease.

In the year ahead, The BNT is setting its sights on protecting more natural areas and continuing to work with local communities to drive positive conservation impact.

The BNT is growing stronger every day. Because of our people — those who work here and those who show up and support our mission in so many ways. Thank you for your commitment to our mission of protecting nature for people and the planet. I cannot wait to see what 2022 holds for us.



**Eric Carey**  
*Executive Director*

