



Sanctuaire Agoa

**Short Name**

Agoa

Country

Guadeloupe

Description

The marine and coastal environments of the French Antilles are home to various habitats, estuaries and lagoons, mangrove, beaches, coral reefs and seagrasses, high seas and deep zones. The available knowledge at the moment in French Antilles does not allow us to determine with certainty and exactitude the use of all the environments by marine mammals. Even if the preservation of the integrity of the coastal ecosystems and their functional relations is a major stake for the sanctuary Agoa, it is also essential for the preservation of marine mammals, in particular some species which feed in deep waters, to discover the features of the habitats situated beyond 50 meters deep. These areas are used by marine mammals, or by some of them during their life cycle for the reproduction, breeding, resting, feeding... To define the use of these areas by the marine mammals and to know the relations of MM with the ocean food web are necessary to determine effective conservation actions which will

guarantee a favorable conservation status of marine mammals.

Ecoregion location

EasternCaribbean

Total Surface area

138000 sq. km

Sea Surface area

138000 sq. km

Site international designation

Cartagena special protected area

IUCN category

none

Designation

Legally Designated

Date established

2010/10/10

Primary contact

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Marine habitats

The Caribbean Sea is a semi-closed basin between the Florida and the Bahamas in the North, and Central and South America in the West, and by the Antilles in the East. It is the second biggest sea of the world with a surface of 2 828 125 km² (Costello, Coll and al ., on 2010) and is constantly fed by Atlantic waters and currents of Guyana. These waters are seasonally enriched by the phytoplankton coming from the Guyana Shield. This exogenous supply comes to increase a coastal local primary production, mainly bound to the contributions of terrigenous nutrients, the level of which is still underestimated. Considered as the heart of the biodiversity of the Atlantic Ocean . Three types of major ecosystems are found : coral reefs, mangroves and s

Marine invertebrates and fishes

117 types of sponges, 633 of mollusks, 378 of bivalves, 77 of stomatopodes, 148 of echinoderms, more than 1 400 species of fishes.

Marine mammals, birds and sea turtles

76 of sharks, 45 of shrimps and 28 of cetaceans.

Primary management institution

Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development

Other institutions that participate in management

the Natural Marine Park management advisory councils and boardthe; Scientific Council

Management objectives

species protection, ecosystem protection, fisheries management

Management framework

Yes

Date of establishment of management framework

2012/07/20

Last update of management framework

2017/07/20