

# “Establishment of two Marine Managed Areas (The Narrows Marine Reserve and The Narrows Fishing Priority Area) in St. Kitts and Nevis”

## Summary of the outcomes of the project supported by the CaMPAM-ECMMAN small grant in St Kitts and Nevis

### January 2015 – March 2017

#### Training MPA managers

*In February, 2015, two representatives of St. Kitts and Nevis (from the Nevis Historical and Conservation Society and the Dept of Marine Resources) participated in the [11<sup>th</sup> CaMPAM Regional Course on MPA Management](#) that took place in Grenada. The 2-week course was mostly supported and organized by the IUCN Caribbean Office (as part of their BIOPAMA program) and in conjunction with CaMPAM. Travel and accommodation of the SKN were funded by the project. The course included topics such as biophysical features of the marine environment, ecosystem services, and impact of uses; community-managed tourism and business planning, and stakeholder involvement in planning and management, outreach and communication, management operations, the basics of monitoring, international policy, all taught through lectures, interactive exercises and field to MPAs.*

#### “This Is Who We Are” campaign

*The “This Is Who We Are” campaign was launched in the summer of 2015. The campaign’s goal was to educate the general public and create an awareness presence for the importance of the Narrows (the 2.5 mile channel between St Kitts and Nevis) and the local marine life. This goal was achieved through the development of a task force team, purchasing paraphernalia, developing a banner and a slogan “Protect the Narrows” and drafting and executing a schedule of events and activities.*

#### Awareness booths and appearances at major public events:

1. *Nevis Blues Festival*
2. *Booby Island Regatta*
3. *WINFEST*
4. *Indian Castle Bay Fishing Tournament*
5. *Lion Fish Competition (held a booth and assisted in organising the event: fishing and cleaning and cooking demonstrations)*



## Conducted Grade Six Awareness a three day Grade Six Workshop in St Kitts

The “This is Who We Are” SKN Campaign task force members planned and organised a three day education and awareness workshop. Topics discussed included biodiversity, marine livelihoods and threats, and the Marine Managed Area. A question and answer segment as well as an activities segment were included to encourage students use their creativity to make posters and poems. Prizes were distributed for correct responses and excellent use of creativity.



Students participating the Grade Six Awareness workshop

## Other Activities

- *Organized Green Flash Sunset Cruise for fisher families*
- *Organized New Castle Bay Fisher Family Clean Up and Fun-Day*
- *Development of a call to action Song*
- *Development of an awareness song*
- *Development of a “This Is Who We Are-SKN” Video*

## **Other Outreach and awareness Activities**

### Marine life and habitat awareness booth in collaboration with Aquarium Quest

*In partnership with Aquarium Quest (Mr. Jan Kirchner) a booth was prepared at the Nevis Culture Yard Event held at the Hamilton Museum Grounds to bring awareness to the importance of marine life.*



Jan Kirchner – Aquarium Quest (left) and Ned Lestrade Diving and swimming instructor (right)



## Primary school awareness sessions

*Marine Life and Habitat Conservation awareness sessions were held from September 2015 to December 2016 in schools on Nevis. There was a lot of active participation from students and teachers. The schools have requested the continuation of this program.*

## Sea Turtle Hunt

*The Sea Turtle Hunt was conducted on November 25<sup>th</sup> 2016 with Guest turtle expert Mr. Lemuel Pemberton, the head of the Nevis Turtle Group, on Lovers beach Nevis. During the field trip information was disseminated on turtle species, their life cycle, protection methods, nesting locations, species identification and vulnerability, etc. Teachers requested for another field trip to take place in 2017.*



Attendee schools and teachers from VOJN (left) and St James Primary (Right)

## Other Completed Awareness Activities

- *The first New Castle Bay Fishers Association meeting (the idea of organising the fishing village into a Fishers Association came through the Fisher Family Clean Up and Fun-Day)*
- *Several fisher and fisheries officer consultations were organised to collect input on the Fisheries Aquaculture and Marine Resources Act (FAMRA) Rules and Regulations Section.*

## **Declaration of the Marine Management Area**

*On August 18<sup>th</sup> 2016, the Hon. Eugene Hamilton, Minister of Human Settlement, Community Development, Lands and Co-operatives approved the declaration of the St Kitts and Nevis Marine Management Area as defined by the two mile radius of sea water around the coastline of St Kitts and Nevis including Monkey Shoals: <http://dmrskn.com/declaration-of-st-kitts-nevis-marine-management-area/>*



## Ghost Trap Fishing Workshop

A Ghost Trap Fishing Workshop was organised by LSF project in collaboration with the ECMMAN project. Guest speaker Mr. Norman Norris from the Dominican Fisheries Department came in order to educate fishers on the negative effects of Ghost Trap fishing has in Dominica and to introduce fish trap designs as one of main the prevention methods. Material for the construction of fully biodegradable fish traps were also donated to fisher and fisheries department at the workshop.



Ghost Trap Fishing Workshop lead by Norman Norris from Dominica

## Fisher Consultations for Community Based Management Plan



Fisher and Fisheries officer consultation lead by Dr. Heyman and Audra Barrett

Short Term consultants Mr. Audra Barrett and Dr. Will Heyman's lead a series of surveying efforts on both St. Kitts and Nevis to collect fishers' perspective on the use of the designated fisheries area adjacent the Narrows from June 2016 to December 2016.

In January 2017 Dr. Heyman visited the federation to collect data from the fisheries area in question and with Audra's assistance, held consultation at the Combermere Community Centre with: fishers, fisheries officers and enforcement officers from St Kitts and Nevis. These consultations included presentation of findings of the data collect from the surveys filled out and



*an open discussion. The data collected and recommendations aided Dr. Heyman's work in refining the draft management plan.*

## **New Castle Bay Foundation Launch (Distribution of Buoys and Life Vests)**

*The New Castle Bay fishers celebrated the launch of their foundation in December 2016. A clean up was done starting from 7 am to 10 am followed by a distribution of the Fender buoys and the life vests purchased through the ECMMAN CaMPAM-SKN project.*

## **Other activities and resources acquired**

- *Education and Compliance Officer was hired. Completed work for their contracted period.*
- *Outreach coordinator was hired for the duration of the project, then absorbed into the Nevis Historical and Conservation Society to continue work in the Marine and Terrestrial Biodiversity Sector after the project ended.*
- *Reducing land based sources of pollution: Two heavy duty waste bins were purchased through the project and the words Marine Life painted by a local artist, Mr. Vaughn Anslyn. The bins were delivered to Basseterre Fishers Corp in St Kitts and the New Castle Bay Landing Site in Nevis and an agreement with Solid Waste Management for the collection of the waste material was reached as a part of their weekly collections.*

*For More Information Please Contact*

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