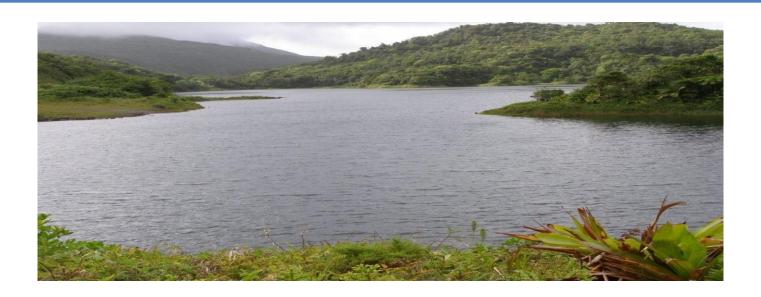






Supporting Sustainable Ecosystem by Strengthening the Effectiveness of Dominica's Protected Area System Project

MORNE TROIS PITONS NATIONAL PARK WORLD HERITAGE SITE – IMPROVED MANAGEMENT PLAN



PREPARED FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA

Marie - José Edwards June , 2018

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The following Village Councils:

- Giraudel/ Eggleston Village Council
- La Plaine/ La Ronde Village Council
- Grandbay Village Council
- Wotten Waven Development Committee
- Pichelin Village Council
- Wotten Waven Development Committee
- R/C/ Morne Jaune Council
- Dominica Organic Agriculture Movement, DOAM
- La Plaine Village Council Clerk
- Morne Jaune/Riviere Village Council
- Grand Fond Village Council
- Delices Village Council
- Bagatelle Village Council
- Morne Prosper Village Council
- Trafalgar Village Council

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The review and development of the Morne Trois Pitons National Park World Heritage Site (MTNP WHS), and the review and development of the buffer zone is one of several initiatives being undertaken by the Government of Dominica under the UNP-Funded project entitled "Supporting Sustainable Ecosystem by Strengthening the Effectiveness of Dominica's Protected Area System"

The Morne Trois Pitons National Park (MTPNP) was established in 1975 under the National Parks and Protected Areas Act. In 1997 it was established as a UNESCO World Heritage Site - Inscribed on the World Heritage List under Natural Criteria viii- "to be outstanding examples representing major stages of the earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms or significant geomorphic or physiographic features" and criteria x. "To contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation".

The **Park** is located in the central portion of southern volcanic complex of the island, covering an estimated 6,900 ha (17,000 acres). It is characterized by its ecological biodiversity with rare and unique natural features, a variety of natural attractions and a number of watershed areas and domestic water catchments. It encompasses four of Dominica's seven mountain ranges, three Lakes and a variety of other ecological features.

The present status of the boundary of the National Park indicates the following:

- The Archbold Preserve comprising of 940 acres though considered part of the park has not yet been legally incorporated within the National Park. As such, this has to be demarcated on the ground and included on the map.
- The boundaries that have been gazetted for the National Park do not correlate to what is actually seen on the ground and in many cases the discrepancy is not only large, there is absolutely no cut lines or demarcation especially in the east and southeast areas

 A significant percentage of the boundaries of the National Park have been re-established and maintained, however following Hurricane Maria much more work has to be undertaken for boundary clearance and access

CONSERVATION VALUE

The United Nation Environment Programme, UNEP, World Conservation Monitoring Centre describes the conservation value of the MTNPWHS thus: Large highly scenic tracts of the most extensive almost undisturbed tropical forest in the Lesser Antilles and the headwaters of most of the major streams and rivers in the southern half of the island. These support a high level of biodiversity. The Park lies within a Conservation International designated Conservation Hotspot, a WWF/IUCN Centre of Plant Diversity and a BirdLife-designated Endemic Bird Area.

The operational guidelines for the implementation of the World heritage convention clearly states the need for establishing a buffer zone around the World Heritage Site by describing it thus"Include sufficient areas immediately adjacent to the area of outstanding universal value in order to protect the site's heritage values from direct effects of human encroachment and impacts of resource use outside of the nominated area"

It defines a buffer zone as "an area surrounding the property which has restrictions placed on its use to give an added layer of protection: the area consisting of a buffer zone should be determined through technical studies. Details on the size, characteristics and authorized uses of a buffer zone as well as a map indicating its precise boundaries, should be provided"

The Park has two (2) Visitor Centres at the Freshwater Lake and the Emerald Pool. The centres are managed by the Ministry of Tourism & Legal Affairs.

PARK MANAGEMENT

The Park is currently managed by the Forestry and Wildlife Division of the Ministry of Environment, Disaster Management, Urban Renewal and Climate Resilience. There is co-

management with the Discover Dominica Authority, Ministry of Tourism and Culture of the Emerald Pool.

The Forestry & Wildlife Division has 5 operational Units one of which is the National Park Unit. The National Park Unit also manages the Morne Diablotin National Park, the Cabrits National Park as well as the Botanical Gardens, and other ecotourism sites like Trafalgar Falls in collaboration with the Discover Dominica Authority, DDA, and the Indian River.

The current organizational structure of the National Parks has the following shortcomings:

- The core functions of the NPU are carried out as part of the overall mandate of the Forest, Wildlife & Parks Division. Activities such as parks planning, research and development, site and infrastructure maintenance which relate directly to core function of parks preservation have not been grouped under independent work units.
- There is inadequate coverage of the core and support functions of park management and preservation.
- Responsibility and management of the proposed buffer zone has not been considered.
- Other activities such as park information, tour guiding, enforcement, community education and security which relate directly to day to day parks management have not been grouped under independent work units.
- Support activities such as executive management, finance and accounting, general
 administration, human resource management, communication and information systems are
 not grouped into independent work units that are specific to the NPU.
- There is no structured mechanism for co-management of the Park with adjacent communities or with the Ministry of Tourism
- It does not provide adequately for the number of staff positions necessary to deliver the full range of services required.

The National Parks and Protected Areas Act, NPPAA, (1975) recommended a management framework for the national Parks which specifies and independent management Unit with an established Park Advisory Committee and other institutional requirements for an integrated management process. Forty-three (43) years later, this has still not been implemented. A national

parks advisory council has never been appointed and no park management plan has been submitted for public review or approval as specified by the Act.

It is recommended that a management framework as outlined under the National Parks and Protected Areas Act, with some modifications that adequately supports park functions, is considered with a view to operationalizing the Park to meet its objectives.

The Management framework would be slightly modified to reflect a co-management approach with adjacent communities and private land owners within and bordering the Park and buffer zones.

The advisory council will function as a Board of Directors.

Co-management would be realized through the composition of the Board, the establishment of committees at the community level and the development of co-management agreements, specifically with respect to the buffer zone management.

Establishment of Community - based Committees

These communities will be expected to play a co-management role and to integrate Park activities, programmes and functions into their community programmes. These committees will be appointed by the Director of Parks and sanctioned by the Board and will be expected to serve for a period of 2 years. The committees will be expected to meet quarterly.

Functions of the Committees

- To be stewards of the Park
- To assist Park management in the implementation of objectives and programmes, research, visitor safety, trail construction and maintenance and surveillance
- To educate the wider community on the park public sensitization and support

These committees will be under the supervision of the Director of Parks and the Park Superintendent in implementation of the management plan.

Proposed Buffer Zone Management Concept

The concept of buffer zone management that integrates conservation of the resources of the Park with sustainable project development is being recommended for the MTNPWHS - an integrated approach with all stakeholders involved in decision- making.

A co-management approach with land owners and the community should be considered. This would entail the preparation of a memorandum of understanding, MOU, with land owners within the buffer zone, to create improved cooperation and understanding of Parks and protected areas and to create a "win- win situation for land owners and government.

A buffer zone management committee with 4 zonal sub-committees representing the eastern, western, northern and southern areas of the Park and sanctioned by the BOD would be established under the jurisdiction of the Park Director and the Park superintendent. Sub-committees members would include farmers and members of the adjacent communities

Objectives of the MOU

- To clarify the roles and responsibilities of participating agencies in support of the management of the buffer zone pursuant to the relevant legal instruments
- To agree on methods of use for improved livelihood
- To foster cooperative working relationships
- To help coordinate and implement the objectives for which the buffer zones were established

All community-based committees will be sanctioned by the BOD operating under the jurisdiction of the Park Director and the Park superintendent should be established to co-manage the Park.

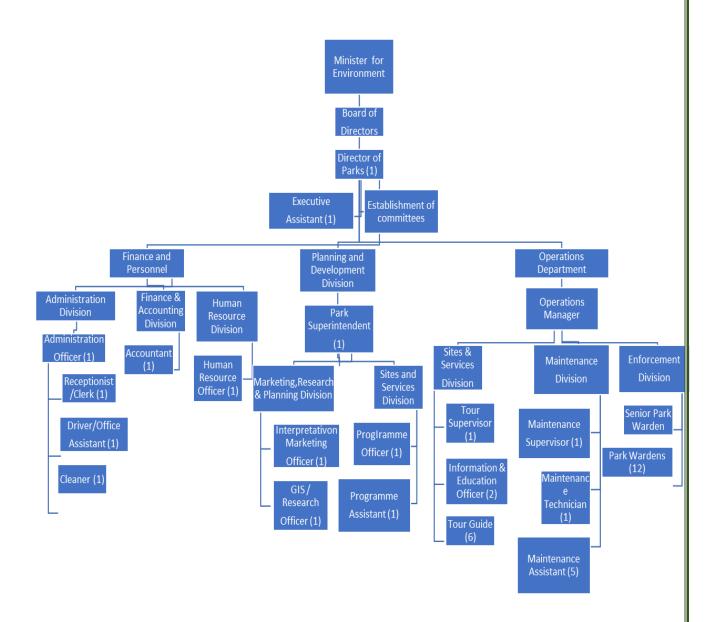
Management Structure

The proposed management structure will consist of three (3) units as follows:

1. An Office of the National Parks Director supported by a Finance & Accounting Unit, a General Administration Unit and a Human Resource Unit

- 2. A Planning and Development Department supported by a Research & Planning Unit and a Park Development Unit
- 3. An Operations Department supported by a Maintenance Unit, a Sites & Services Unit and an Enforcement Unit.

The total staff complement is estimated at forty-two (42) at a total estimated annual cost of EC\$995,432



Proposed Organizational Structure of the National Park Unit

VISION AND OBJECTIVES

Vision

To be a source of national pride and an international benchmark for sustainability in action, maintaining a pristine environment for research, recreation and livelihood development.

Objectives

Guided by this vision, the specific management objectives for which the Park was established are as follows:

- To manage this natural area in such a way that the essential characteristics and values remain
- To ensure that the plants and animals will have minimum human interference
- To promote and regulate appropriate park use by tourists and local visitors and to strive to continually upgrade the quality of this use in such a manner as to preserve the Park's natural character for future generations
- To provide visitors with a wide range of interpretation and recreational opportunities
- To provide a wide variety of visitor services to the extent that they are essential to visitor
 use and safety and in keeping with the purpose of the area
- To gradually eliminate or control damaging or incompatible uses
- To secure adequate administrative and personnel facilities in order to manage the park properly
- To encourage and develop applied research programmes to improve public knowledge to park values and resources as well as improve park management
- To work closely with the public and private sector organizations on educational programs related to conservation and public use
- To develop appropriate policies for sustainable utilization of the Park and its resources.

PARK ZONING PLAN

A zoning system has been recommended. Zoning is used as a tool for giving spatial dimension to specific management objectives. The zoning for the MTPNPWHS (see Annex A, Map 13)

Consists of 7 zones as follows:

- Special Use zone
- Intensive Use
- Extensive Use Zone
- Environmental
- Research
- Wildland Management
- Buffer Zone

The proposed buffer zone consists of establishment of a 300m (1000 ft.) buffer zone in the northern area of the park in the Pont Casse' area where approved building development has been granted to land owners in the area. In other areas of the Park a 200m buffer zone is being recommended.

A suggested 300 m buffer for the entire Park with the exception of some areas where there is residential development and where the boundary of the National park is along the main transinsular road has also been considered

IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Presently, there are no scientific studies on the impact of climate change within the national parks or forest reserves in Dominica except for rainfall monitoring currently being undertaken by the Dominica Meteorological Office. There has been no scientific studies on the impact of climate change in the MTNPWHS. The impact of natural disasters triggered by extreme weather events may cause severe and irreversible impact on biological and geomorphological characteristics of the Park which could over time destroy the integrity of the Park as a World Heritage Site if adaptation measures are not implemented. While there is no scientific data to establish the effects of climate change on the MTNPWHS, some observation on the impacts of Hurricane David in 1979, Hurricane Dean in 2007 and Tropical Storm Erika in 2016 and Hurricane Maria in 2017on

the biodiversity of the Park indicated that the hurricane-force winds caused significant destruction to the fauna and flora of the Park. There was extensive damage to the forests resulting in high percent of damage to standing volume as well as massive landslides, soil erosion and flooding with damaging impacts on watersheds and water for domestic use and hydroelectricity all of which have an impact on the social and economic landscape of Dominica.

PROPOSED MANAGEMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

There is need to develop an understanding of the current and future fluctuations in the weather, the climate and in the water levels in the various rivers within the National Parks so as to develop an effective management strategy for climate change. Equally important is the need to develop baseline information on the resources of the Parks as well as the ecological processes on the basis of which monitoring and evaluation of the changes resulting from the impact of climate can be assessed.

Management of climate change requires a multi-pronged, integrated approach involving all the major players responsible for collating and managing overall climate in Dominica including the Dominica Meteorological Service. An effective management framework for monitoring and management of climate change is required as well as the establishment of guiding principles that are outlined in the plan itself

The following recommended activities include preventive and corrective actions, exchange of information and development of mitigation measures based on sound scientific principles.

- The establishment of a hydro-meteorological monitoring programme for the Parks to monitor current and future fluctuations in the weather, climate and river water levels within the Park.
- Maintaining the genome of endemic and indicator species of the Parks through ex-situ
 research and the establishment of seed-gene banks.
- Managing watersheds in the Park and establishing buffer zones to reduce the impact of anthropogenic activities on the biodiversity of the forest

- Exchange of information through collaboration, co-operation and sharing of best practices and knowledge locally, regionally and internationally.
- Introduction of an effective public awareness programme must be implemented to sensitize all stakeholders on the issue of climate change so as to galvanize support for its effective management as well a capacity building and access to technology at the national level in order to mitigate and adapt to the adverse impact of climate change

PARK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES

Park management is to be built around 2 major management programmes:

- 1. A Resource Management Programme
- 2. Education and Outreach Programme which includes communication, education and public awareness and community outreach and livelihood development programmes

1. The Resource Management Programme

The objective of the Resource Management Programme is to safeguard the integrity of the biological resources, natural features, and watersheds of the Park through actions that build public support and counter specific threats. These include impacts of climate change, illegal hunting, visitor impacts, agricultural encroachment and contamination of water sources. This programme has the following 3 sub- programmes as follows:

- 1A Natural Resource Conservation Programme
- 1B Natural Resource Management Programme
- 1C Scientific Research and Monitoring Programme

1A - Natural Resource Conservation Programme – the objective is to maintain and protect the biological diversity of the park, watersheds, geological and landscape elements through implementation of activities geared at averting threats to the park and by encouraging community support for the park through education and involvement. This includes the following outputs:

- The physical demarcation of the park boundaries
- Establishment of the Park zonation programme including buffer zones,
- A visitor Use and Monitoring Programme

- A Programme for adaptation to climate change
- **1B Natural Resource Management Programme -** The objective is to provide the necessary staff, equipment and other relevant resources for management of the natural resources of the Park
- **1 C Scientific Research and Monitoring Programme -** The objective is to provide management with scientific information for decision-making so as to ensure that the objectives of conservation and management of the resources are achieved.

2. Education and Outreach Programme

The objective of the Education and Outreach Programme is to develop and coordinate the flow and variety of information within the park so as to increase awareness among relevant publics of the ecological and bio-physical significance of the Park, and to emphasize its contribution to national development and to global biodiversity conservation. The programme has 2 subcomponents as follows:

- 2A Public Awareness and Education
- 2B Community Outreach and Livelihood/ Alternative Livelihood Development

2A - Public Awareness and Education

The objective of this programme is to sensitize stakeholders on the value of the MTPNPWHS and to foster a sense of ownership and participation in its operations

2B - Community Outreach and Livelihood/ Alternative Livelihood Development

The objective of this programme is to include communities adjacent to the park in the management, research, monitoring and development of the park and to assist them to sustain and develop livelihood / alternative livelihoods compatible with the protection and sustainable use of Park

Studies of management effectiveness will be carried out at the beginning and end of the planning period in order to determine progress and highlight management requirements for the subsequent planning period.

MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

Review of the existing financial framework indicates the following:

- There is no link between annual budgets and the financial needs of the MTNPWHS
- The financing and auditing system does not provide adequate information on individual revenue sources except for user fees- there is no system to evaluate revenue generated per annum from other revenue sources.

A Technical Report "Supporting Sustainable Ecosystems by Strengthening the Effectiveness of Dominica's Protected Area System" by Ephrat Yovel of Counterpoint (March 9, 2015) identified inherent weaknesses in the existing framework.

With respect to the legal, regulatory and institutional framework the following recommendations were made:

- The need to improve policies to facilitate mechanisms for revenue generation
- Improve allocation of resources for park management
- Improve monitoring of financial resources
- Recognize the environmental and economic importance of the Park and budget more resources – higher % of revenue generated by the Park should be retained for park development
- Update fee structure and implement new fee structures

The report also recommended the development of *Business Planning Tools to Enhance Cost Effective Management* as follows:

- Improve conservation planning tools so as to mainstream financial sustainability into the current tools.
- Design new tools to address specific funding opportunities
- Develop business plans for the Parks as well as a financial strategy
- Improve integration of PA planning into national planning key development process
- Development of an economic valuation study that will influence governments decisions to conservation financing

Financing the Management Plan

The costs of the management plan exceed the average annual budget that has been available in recent years. Sustainable financing for Park management is a major constraint that will be dealt with by increasing visitation to the Park through increased marketing and upgrading visitor amenities and facilities and by developing new financial mechanisms and instituting legislation to support these mechanisms and by improving existing sources of and revenue generation. Recommendations have been put forward for increasing financial opportunities for the Park.

Presently the total amount collected through user fees in the MTNPWHS in 2015-16 is EC\$1.5M. The potential for increased generation of income can be realized if improved services and amenities are put in place and are supported by an effective marketing plan to increase visitation to the Park.

Except for Emerald Pool and the Trafalgar Falls, visitation to all the sites has been low and much below their carrying capacity. With improved facilities and services as well as marketing the Park could generate twice the amount of revenue that would be needed for budgetary support along with the other recommended revenue generating options.

Using the Emerald Pool as an example, in 2015-16 there were 46, 690 visitors which amounted to 128 persons per day and it generated \$630,305.24. If the other 3 sites were able to attract 100 persons /day at (the new price structure of the User Fee tickets (Organized tour – US \$3.00), (Private Tours – US \$5.00), using an average of \$US4.00- the park could generate an additional E.C. \$M2.97 and an overall annual E.C\$M 3.39 just from user fees. (300 persons/day $x365 = 109,500 \times 438,000 = 2.02 \times$

This cost is exclusive of revenue generated from other ecotourism sites, National Parks and other income existing income- generating activities proposed.

This indicates that with additional marketing the Park could attract many more visitors and sustain the cost of implementing the programme. However, this will require increased investment in the Park as outlined in the management plan, reviewing and upscaling existing income generating activities and implementing the proposed new activities outlined in the plan - the establishment of a Conservation Trust Fund, payment for ecotourism services, establishing registration fees for tourism services within the park, and the establishment of levies. Below is a table indicative of the recommended and improved funding mechanisms and the existing status.

Table of Proposed Financing Mechanisms

PROPOSED MECHANISMS	IN PLACE YES / NO	PRIORITIZE
Govt. Allocation Options		
Taxes deduction schemes	No	Medium
Document tax earmarked for conservation	No	Medium
Debt for Nature Swap	No	High
Tourism Related Mechanisms		
License fees – Tour operators/ Tour guides	No	High
Concessions and service Agreements	To be reviewed & upscaled	High
Sale of paraphernalia	To be re-evaluated and upscaled	High
Fines for environmental damages	No	Medium
Voluntary tourism contributions	No	High
Payment for Environmental Services	No	
Payment for ecosystem services, PES e.g. Watershed conservation fee - DOWASCO/DOMLEC	No	High
Carbon Credit REDD+	No	Medium
Natural Resources Trade		
Royalties from Resources E.g. the Quarry above the Emerald Pool, the proposed geothermal energy plant	No	High
Conservation Trust Fund	No	High
Corporate Sponsorship	No	
Corporate Sponsorship	No	Medium

INTRODUCTION

Background

The Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica has undertaken several initiatives to protect its natural resources which constitute an integral component of its social and economic development strategy. Following the ratification by government of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (the Stockholm Convention), and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, a number of programmes are being undertaken to combat the impact of climate change on the biodiversity of Dominica.

In 2011, Under the Special Programme for Adaptation to Climate Change (SPACC) Project funded by the GEF World Bank and implemented by the Caribbean Community Centre for Climate Change, (CCCCC,) Dominica was selected as one of the beneficiary countries for the implementation of specific (integrated) pilot adaptation measures that primarily addressed the impacts of climate change on the natural resource base specifically biodiversity and land degradation. This included the development of buffer zones for the MTNPWHS and the MDNP as well as a review of the existing management plans of these two parks to include detailed designs and adaptation measures to reduce the impact of climate change

Neither of these plans was submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture to cabinet for review and ratification.

Presently, under the UNP-Funded project entitled "Supporting Sustainable Ecosystem by Strengthening the Effectiveness of Dominica's Protected Area System" a new initiative is being undertaken that consists of three (3) major components

- 1: Strengthening the core zone management of Protected Areas, PAs at the systemic level and scaling up of innovative interventions at the core zone of selected PAs to improve Sustainability.
- 2: Establishing and managing Buffer Zones as a key component of National Protected Area System and selecting experiences to be scaled up beyond the buffer zone

3: Development of Community Resource Maps

The review of the buffer zone and the management plan for Morne Trois Piton National Park World Heritage Site constitute one of these components.

Other studies undertaken include the following:

- Review and develop Protected Areas Policies to bring them in line with current legislation and to increase efficiency and effectiveness of the management authorities
- Capacity building for the staff of the Forestry Division and operational capacity for MTNP and the development of a training manual
- Development and implementation of a surveillance plan to prevent illegal activities and enforce new guidelines on human activities in the Protected Areas of Dominica

The review and development of the Morne Trois Pitons National Park World Heritage Site and the establishment of buffer zones is the focus of this report.

The current management plan for the Morne Trois Pitons National Park covers the period 2011 to 2016. A review of the recommendations outlined in the management plan indicated that no substantial activities outlined in the plan have been implemented over the last 6 years. Discussions with the Forestry and Parks personnel indicated that the main reasons for this were follows:

- The absence of a management structure
- Limited financial resources and personnel for management of the National Park
- In addition, the plan was never presented to Cabinet for adoption.

The plan has been updated to incorporate the following:

- Development of a proposed management structure to include co-management of the Park and the establishment of the National Parks service
- Review and management of the buffer zone to include recommended productive activities in the buffer zone.
- Recommendations for financing of the National Park Plan

A 5-year management plan is recommended.

DOMINICA: CLIMATE TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS

The report "Future climate for the Caribbean in the late 21st Century" using a super-high resolution AGCM at MRI" -Model simulations of future climate change scenarios for the last half of the twenty first (21st) century for the Caribbean was carried out using data obtained from a super-high resolution Atmospheric General Circulation Model (AGCM) developed at the Meteorological Research Institute MRI, Tsukuba, Japan. Model simulations were done for 25 years present day scenario 1979 - 2003 and projections were made for the 25-year period 2075 – 2099 following the SRES A1B scenario.

The following was predicted with respect to future climate for the Caribbean and by extension Dominica. In terms of rainfall, the rainfall annual cycle of the Caribbean is characterized by four distinct rainfall regimes, namely an early dry season, an early wet season, a mid-dry season and a late wet season.

In terms of annual rainfall projections, the central Caribbean to including Dominica will become drier by 10-20% which is statistically significant. Caribbean rainfall indicates a gradual march from the early dry season in December to March with steady increases from April to June with a lessening of the rainfall in July August and the subsequent second rainy season from September to November. For future projections the annualized pentad (5-day running mean) rainfall shows that the early dry season for the Caribbean will become slightly wetter in November to January and from January to March northward of 15°N.

It is projected on a seasonal level that the early dry season will become drier by 10%. In the early wet season, the entire Caribbean will become drier by 10-20%.

¹Future climate for the Caribbean in the late 21st Century using a super-high resolution AGCM at MRI, Trevor C Hall Climate Studies Group Mona (CSGM) Department of Physics.UWI, Mona Campus Meteorological Research Institute (MRI).Tsukuba, Japan, September 6-17, 2010

With respect to temperature, the report indicates that future projection from the annual cycle suggests that surface temperature over the Caribbean will rise by 2.5°C. In terms of temperature extremes, there are projections of extremely hot days and tropical nights for the Caribbean.

Overall the report concluded the following:

- There is projected overall rainfall deficiency for most of the Caribbean during rainy seasons of 10-20%.
- The early dry season is expected to get wetter by 10%
- The model shows warming over the region by 2-2.5°C, which is a yearlong signal.
- There is a hint that rainfall deficits for the future might be consequential of changing largescale dynamics.

Reports have indicated that the hurricane intensity is likely to increase (as indicated by stronger peak winds and more rainfall) but not necessarily hurricane frequency that Caribbean Sea levels are projected to rise by up to 0.24 m by mid-century and sea surface temperatures in the Caribbean are projected to warm up to approximately 2°C by the end of the century.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

The 1994 GHG Inventory for Dominica indicated the following:

Dominica's INC described Dominica as a net sink of Greenhouse Gases (GHG) in 1994. The data showed that Dominica had gross emissions of 76.53Gg of CO2, which were offset by removals from changes in forest and other woody biomass stock and from the abandonment of managed lands, resulting in a net sink of 295.14 Gg of carbon dioxide.

There were also small quantities of methane, nitrous oxide and non-methane volatile organic compounds -2.73 Gg, 0.042 Gg and 6.13 Gg respectively.

The key sources of carbon dioxide emissions were as follows:

- Transport 50%
- Energy Industries 26%
- Commercial and Industrial Uses 10%

- Industry 5%
- Residential 4%
- Other 5%

Dominica as a source of carbon dioxide emission and its contribution to GHG emissions is negligible as a result of the vast forest cover of the island.

Dominica has committed to progressively reduce total gross greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions below 2014 levels (164.5 Ggs est.) at the following reduction rates: 17.9% by 2020; 39.2% by 2025; and 44.7% by 2030.

By 2030, total emission reductions per sector will be as follows: Energy industries -98.6% (principally from harnessing of geothermal resources); Transport -16.9%; Manufacturing and construction -8.8%; Commercial/institutional, residential, agriculture, forestry, fishing -8.1%; Solid waste -78.6%.

Benefiting from sound management practices, Dominica forests will continue to sequester 100 Ggs of national GHG emissions on an annual basis during the period 2020 to 2030.

INCOMPATIBLE USES IN THE PARK

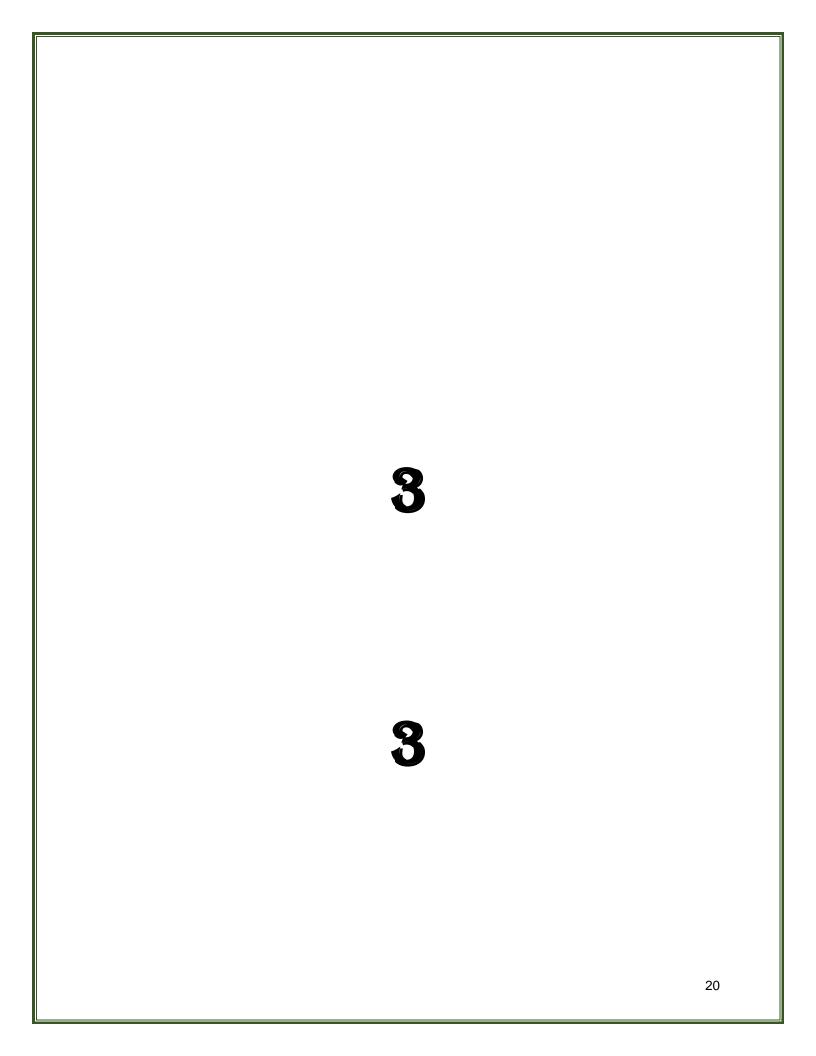
The following represent a number of activities that are incompatible with the objectives of the MTNPWHS

Legally sanctioned activities

- A rock quarry, north of the Park above the Emerald Pool area
- DOMLEC's Hydropower station- Trafalgar Falls and Padu which utilize water
 originating from the FWL with its rock and earthen dam and spillway, open air canal
 systems and a woodstave pipeline system, the water diversion intake all of which impair
 the scenic and visual impact of the area.
- A shooting range in the northern area of the park in "Williams Area"

Illegal activities

Agricultural activities occur in all areas of the Park



PART A DESCRIPTION

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES

The Commonwealth of Dominica is the largest and most northerly of the Windward Islands in the Lesser Antilles, lying between Guadeloupe and Martinique. The island measures 29 miles (40 km.) by 14 miles (22 km), extending from 15°10'N-15°40'N and 61°15'W-61°30'W, and covers an area of 289 square miles {751 km²). Dominica is the most mountainous of the eastern Caribbean islands, rising to 4,747 ft (1,422 m) at Morne Diablotin. The national Park has been named after the second highest mountain in Dominica that is located in the Park, Morne Trois Pitons.

The MTPNPWHS is located in the central portion of southern volcanic complex of the island, (Annex A map 1) covering an estimated 6,900 ha (17,000 acres) that includes four of Dominica's seven mountain ranges, Morne Trois Pitons, the highest peak at 1,387 m (4,550 ft), Watt Mountain (1,224 m or 4,017 ft), Morne Macaque (1,221 m or 4,006 ft), and Morne Anglais (1,113m or 3,650 ft). These mountain peaks and their connecting ridges form the backbone of the Park lands. The eastern slopes face the Atlantic Ocean and the western slopes face the Caribbean Sea.

Other major features of the Park consist of three lakes, the Freshwater, Boiling and Boeri Lakes. The Boiling Lake has been ascribed the largest in the western hemisphere. Other features include the Middleham Falls the Emerald Pool and the fumaroles within the Valley of Desolation.

The Park is made up of former crown lands and the privately-contributed Middleham Estate.

1.2 ACCESS

Official Access Points

There are several access routes to the national park ranging from official access points by vehicle and trails to unauthorized access from neighbouring villages, and private lands bordering the Park. The Waitukubuli trail passes only through the north-western tip of the park. (Annex A, Map 4)

The western boundary of the Park has a number of access points.

Vehicular access to the NPWHS is available from the village of Laudat east of Roseau towards the

Freshwater Lake

Several trails provide access as follows:

- From the Titou Gorge where the trail leads to the Boiling Lake
- From the Laudat Road where the trail leads to the Middleham Falls
- Between Laudat and Grand Fond, a foot path cuts through the park joining the two villages.
- From Cochrane and Sylvania where individual trails lead to the Middleham Falls
- From the village of Giraudel/ the Giraudel government school to the summit of Morne Anglais
- From Giraudel to Bellevue

On the Northern boundary

Vehicular access is available to the Park / Emerald Pool section from the Pont Casse' / Castle Bruce road

On the Eastern boundary

An ancient pedestrian trail from Delices to Pichelin

Other trails recently developed but not officially sanctioned by the Park are as follows:

- Delices to Pichelin and Delices to Morne Prosper and Delices to through Caliphan to the Boiling Lake
- La Plaine to Sari-Sari Falls
- White River to Victoria Falls
- Bolive in La Plaine through Grand Soufriere to the Boiling Lake

UNOFFICIAL ACCESS POINTS

There are a number of unofficial access points to the Park as follows:

- At locations where the Park borders on agricultural lands
- At points on the Delices / Soufriere road.
- Heights of Giraudel, Petite Savanne and Bagatelle
- From locations on the Pont Casse' to Castle Bruce Road where there are trails leading to the Emerald Pool.
- At the summits of Morne Trois Pitons as well as Bwa Diable and Newfoundland

In future development and planning, it is important that the Department of Forestry establish official entrances and exits with opening and closing times as per regulation.

1.3 Existing Legal and Regulatory Framework

Legal Framework

The National Parks & Protected Areas Act 1975 is the major legal instrument for the establishment of National Parks in Dominica. Section 5 outlines the following criteria for designation of an area as a national park. It authorizes the Minister for Agriculture to set aside any state lands as "protected areas" for the following:

- A. Preserving the natural beauty of such area, including flora and fauna
- B. Creating a recreational area
- C. Commemoration of an historic event of national importance; or
- D. Preserving any historic landmark or any area or object of historic, pre-historic, archaeological or scientific importance."

The Schedule attached to the Act describes the boundaries of the Park.

Regulatory Framework

Under section 16 of the National Parks and Protected Areas Act, the Minister may make regulations for inter alia the preservation of flora and fauna, the regulation of hunting and fishing, the preservation of water catchments areas, the prevention of encroachment, the prevention of soil

erosion, the control of fire, the charging of fees and to control the entry and movement of persons within the parks system area.

These regulations have been passed and gazetted as well as regulations with respect to vending in the park and implementation of user fees.

1.4 PARK ESTABLISHMENT

The Morne Trois Pitons National Park was established in 1975 under the "National Parks and Protected Areas Act, 1975". At the time of establishment, the Act sought to protect natural resources in the area, focusing especially on water resources since all the headwaters of the streams and rivers in the southern half of the island are located in the Park.

The original concept of the Park was as follows:

- To develop the park primarily as a wildland park containing outstanding examples of island tropical vegetation and a wide variety of wildlife species. The topography of the Park, the high rainfall combined to influence and support the abundance and diversity of plant and animal life.
- 2. The Park should be managed as "a day use pedestrian preserve" since all areas in the Park are accessible within a day. To facilitate this, a network of foot paths and rain shelters will be developed.

1.5 ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

The following are some of the major organizational and institutional issues with respect to the

MTNPWHS

- Inadequate human and financial resources
- Inadequate technical expertise
- There is no defined role for communities surrounding the Park in the management of the Park

- Overlapping jurisdiction with the departments of Lands & Surveys, Ministry of Tourism and Culture, and DOWASCO, Dominica Water and Sewerage Company.
- Lack of tools and equipment
- Absence of a Park structure as defined in the National Park legislation
- The role of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture in Park operations

2. PARK ENVIRONMENT

2.1 SUMMARY OF PHYSICAL ASPECTS

2.1.1 Elevation

The altitude in the Park ranges from 152-1424 m. The topographical map highlights the elevation of the Morne Trois Pitons National Park (Annex A, Map 2). When compared to the geological map, the areas of highest elevation are those of the younger pelean formation found in the centre of the park in a north to south direction. Moving towards the park boundaries, the elevation decreases.

2.1.2 *Climate*

The climate of the Park is dominated by four characteristics:

- Very high rainfall over most of the area through most of the year
- A consistent cover of low cloud for much of the year
- High Wind speeds
- Annual mean temperatures estimated at 16 to 20° C

Average temperature varies within the park from 21° C. at the highest elevations to 25 ° C. at the lowest, and there is little seasonal variation.

Rainfall averages 10,000 mm. per year at the highest elevations to 4,000 mm. per year at the lowest (see Annex A, Map 5).

The effects of the prevailing easterly winds are evident in the Park in the sheared-off shapes of trees on some easterly slopes. However, wind speed records are not available.

The driest season occurs between February and May, but humidity seldom falls below 85%. The NE trade winds blow during most of year, but there is a SE pattern from July to September when tropical storms can hit the island. There is an average of one hurricane every 15 years.

2.1.3 Geological and Geomorphic Processes

Geology

Information on the geology of the Park has been limited to the following geological investigations:

- A survey of the Valley of Desolation with the primary intent of documenting the location and activity of the numerous fumaroles in preparation for a geothermal survey undertaken by Martin-Kaye & Lang (1961), and an earlier survey by Robson and Willmore in 1955.
- A semi-detailed geological survey of the south of Dominica by Wills, 1974
- Preparatory survey work for the hydro- power system and for geothermal energy
- Seismic survey and monitoring of the La Plaine area in the early 1960's and work done in the southwest which focused on Morne Canot just outside the Park, Morne Anglais east of the Park and the Valley of Desolation within the Park, in late 1990.

Dominica is a summit of a submerged mountain chain at the eastern edge of the Caribbean Tectonic Plate. Dominica consists almost entirely of volcanic rocks. The oldest formations exposed are massive basaltic lava flows and breccias of Miocene age, found between Rosalie and Pagua with numerous Pliocene age dykes cutting through them.

The majority of the park is underlain with a pyroclastic apron, above which younger pelean domes are situated, highlighting the mountain peaks within the park. (Annex A Map 3). Pleistocene volcanoes, approximately 400,000 to 500,000 years old, morphologically well preserved, of composite nature with very many flows cover much of Dominica. They are represented in the Park by the mountains- Morne Watt, Nicholls and Anglais.

The latest major events of the geological record are the defining ones for the southern Dominica and the Park. Towards the middle of the Park, around Wotten Waven, is an ignimbrite flow cutting the park almost in half. This ignimbrite flow occurred about 30,000 years ago originating from the locus of Morne Trois Pitons producing 60km^3 of material which filled the middle and lower Layou Valley and some tributaries, the Roseau valley and some eastern valleys with partly welded ignimbrite, columned ash and pumice flow. This can be traced southward off the west coast for some 250 km.

Following this eruption, Morne Micotrin, Trois Pitons and Grand Soufriere Hills within the Park as well as Morne Patate southwest of the Park were formed as a result of an eruption of a large dome complex 25,000 years ago. The predominant composition is andesitic. (Maximea, Edwards, Lang)

There are ongoing signs of volcanic activity within the Park in the Valley of Desolation and on its fringes at Wotton Waven in the form of a Soufriere activity. Signs of these were reinforced in the 1960 and 1990 when the Grand Soufriere Hills and the southwestern fringes of the Park produced sufficiently seismic activities to cause concern that eruptions were imminent (in geological time scales).

Geomorphic Processes

The landforms of the Park are mainly composed of structures modified by landslides processes. In the case of pyroclastic flows, dominated by pumiceous material, the high rates of weathering accompanied by high permeability and high rates of leaching indicate that soil material starting with bases and silica is leached out of the system in solution

The dense vegetal cover and the usual amorphous clay minerals formed, lead to the unusual phenomenon of slope collapse when water contents of the ash – soil material exceeds 300 percent and triggers "flow slides"- a fairly rare process. Undercutting of cliffs and overloading of summits or loss of roots holding the mass together, produce the rock falls characteristic of ignimbrites illustrated very clearly when there was a rock fall at Trafalgar Falls in 1998.

The Foundland area differs in not only being primarily a basalt lava mountain but having landslides and rock falls of a different type with low permeability and represent the more common forms of erosion.

Landslides in the kandoid materials developed here are more likely to be simple planar or rotational Slides and the various lava forms including pillow lavas and auto brecciated forms may fall without cutting.

2.1.4 Soils

In the northern section of the Park and around More Micatin, allophanoids podzolic type soils are found. These are normally related to wet climates and as indicated in the rainfall map, these areas receive a tremendous amount of rain. Allophanoid latosolics make up the rest of the Park, except for Morne Micotrin which is mainly phytogenic.

There are two main areas of differing soil types which are related to geological differences. The larger of the two areas is covered by soils derived from fairly recent material. This is the area of the domes and ash showers from the Morne Trois Pitons/ Morne Macaque episodes. The following soil types are found in this area;

- Allophane podsolic soils
- Allophane latosolic soils
- Protosols
- Soils of the Soufriere affected areas
- Poorly drained soils

The other much smaller area comprises soils developed over the relatively ancient rocks of Foundland. Many of these soils have a variable local cover of the more recent ashes. The following types are found

- Immature kanditic latosols
- More mature allophone latosolics

Other soil types found are in areas like the Valley of Desolation which have pHs of 2 or less. These soils have been leached by dilute sulphurous or sulphuric acids from the nearby vents. (Annex A, Map 6) shows soil types found in the Park)

2.1.5 Hydrology

Rivers and Streams

The drainage of the Park is almost radial from the large mountain massifs. The backbone of the Park divides the major watershed/ river basins of the south of the island with the headwaters of the Geneva, Gillon, Roseau, Boeri, Belfast, Layou, Castle Bruce, Rosalie, Taberi, Ouayaneri, Sari, La Ronde, Boetica, Pointe Mulatre, Savanne and Malabuka rivers, all within the Park. All these are mountain streams with steep gradients and narrow valleys. These watersheds provide potable water to almost the entire south, southeast and southwest of the island. (Annex A, Map 9)

Most of the small radial streams from the various peaks respond very quickly to rainfall events and may dry up completely within thirty-six (36) hours of a heavy rainfall. The larger streams of higher order which form the major headstreams of the various watershed, while mostly perennial, are also subject to large variations in flow and sudden floods (flash floods) and can be a source of danger to unwary walkers in the Park

Lakes

The Park has 3 lakes, the Freshwater, Boeri and Boiling Lakes. The Boeri and Freshwater lakes are both found in the moat or trough between the massifs of the Morne Macaque dome and the rim of the old crater. The Boeri Lake has steep sides virtually all around and is relatively deep. The Freshwater Lake lies in a relatively in a relatively broad depression and was not deeper than fifty feet prior to being dammed.

The Boiling Lake is more than 250 feet across with a raised rim and steep sides and lie in a tributary of the Valley of Desolation. It contains a liquid which has been described as dilute sulphuric acid to a level of about 20 feet below the rim and it is usually boiling at a temperature of approximately

92° C. The ring of upwelling water in the centre gives an indication of the convection resulting from a steam vent below.

2.1.6 NATURAL HAZARDS

Hurricanes

Dominica is located in the hurricane belt and is susceptible to hurricanes. It is to be noted that, in general, north Atlantic hurricane frequency is characterized by a multidecadal cycle which yields active and inactive phases lasting 10 or more years (Goldenberg et al. 2001). Since 1995, the north Atlantic has swung into an active hurricane phase. Some of the country's most devastating recent hurricane experiences (e.g. Maria, Marilyn, Lenny, Dean) have occurred in the current active phase of the north tropical Atlantic.

There is also significant year to year modulation of hurricane frequency and track by El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events.

Since 1979, tropical systems of note (storms and hurricanes) which have impacted Dominica David (1979), Gert (1981), Gilbert (1988), Hugo (1989), Iris (1995), Marilyn (1995), Hortense (1996), Lenny (1999) and Dean (2007), Tropical Storm Erika (2016), Hurricane Maria (2017) The island is impacted (brushed or hit) approximately once every four years.

Landslide Risks

Landslides are a potential hazard throughout Dominica and especially in the high rainfall steeper areas. The majority of the MTPNP is susceptible to high risk landslide. West and South of Morne Micotrin are within the high landslide risk including the entire village of Laudat. Boiling Lake, Fresh Water Lake and Boeri Lake fall within medium risk. To the south of the park is an extreme landslide risk zone at Perdu Temps. (Annex A Map 7)

Volcanic Eruptions

There is no certainty of imminent volcanic eruptions in the Park. There are possible hazards based on 2 or 3 probable volcanic centres in the Park. One in the south of the Park that is classified as

low, another in the southcentral area around Titou Gorge, the Boiling Lake and the Valley of Desolation classified as high and a third are north of the Park classified as intermediate. The effect of a probable eruption would likely result in profound changes to the Park which would result in closure of the Park.

All these natural hazards must be considered in relation to safety of personnel and visitors. As such the development of a disaster mitigation plan for the National Park is of utmost importance in the management of the Park.

Flooding

Floods, particular flash floods, can occur in many streams in the Park and are a phenomenon of rapid run-off after intense storms when the land is saturated- a similar condition to those which favour landslides.

2.2 BIOLOGICAL ASPECTS

2.2.1 Flora and Vegetation Types

A number of studies have been undertaken on the flora of Dominica which describes the vegetation of the Park. These date back to the earliest in 1949 by J.S. Beard, to the most recent, (1995) undertaken by Peter Evans. The most extensive research on the vegetation of the island, "Flora of Dominica" was carried out by W.H. Hodge (1954). In his publication, he identified over 5000 species of vascular plants, twenty of which are endemic to Dominica. This serves as a comparative basis for measuring the plant diversity or floral richness of an area. The most recent ecological study of the Morne Trois Pitons National Park was undertaken by Dunn, Williams and Edwards in 1979 entitled "Vegetation Study of the Morne Trois National Park". Six vegetation types have been identified in the Park. (Annex A, Map 8).

Elfin Woodland/Cloud Forest

This zone occurs at the highest elevation, above 3000feet (914m) and is almost constantly in mist and subject to high winds, rain and cold temperatures. The vegetation consists of mosses, ferns,

shrubs and stunted trees covered by lichens. Many of the leaves are rubbery or leathery to protect the plants from the harsh climate. The trees form a gnarled impenetrable growth. They lack a definite trunk and generally have very small leaves. The two predominant species found in this zone are *Clusia venosa* (*Kaklin*) (about 50% of the growth) and *Lobelia cirisifolia*. Also present are plant species such as *Schefflera sp. and Oreopanax sp.*, *Weinmannia pinnata* and *Viola stipularis*, and palm species such as *Prestoea montana* and *Geonoma dussiana*.

Montane Thicket

This zone occurs in areas that are in transition from the Elfin to the Montane rain forest. The trees tend to occur in single stratum reaching heights of between 30 and 50 feet (10 - 15 m) attaining much shorter heights than they would in the rainforest. The most common species found are *Tovomita plumieri*, *Byrsonima martinicensis*, *Podocarpus coriaceus*, *Richeria grandis* and *Euterpe dominicana*. *In flatter areas*, *Amanoea caribea* tend to dominate.

This type of forest tends to form on ridges and well-drained slopes between elevations of 1500-3000 feet (455 m - 915 m). Dunn, Edwards and Williams (1979) estimate that there may be approximately 2233 ha (5582 acres) of montane rain forest thicket in the Park.

Montane Rain forest

The Montane Rain Forest is a transitional community between Rain Forest and Elfin Woodland. This formation is found predominantly along the high ridges and summits of lesser peaks on soils with impeded drainage, generally on Red Earth soils but also on the deeper phases of the Mountain Podsolic soil.

This zone occurs above 2000 ft (700 m) and is frequently in cloud cover of fog. Steep slopes retain minimal soil. The species composition is similar to that of mature rain forest, yet much reduced in stature. Non-vascular epiphytes characteristically cover the montane forest. Variations of rainforest associations are found in this area due to ecological conditions. In the wetter, swampy areas, *Dacryodes excelsa and Symphonia globulifera* are the dominant and sub-dominants species respectively. *Licania-Oxythece* association can also be found in this area as well as typical rainforest trees like *Amanoea caribaea*.

This type of forest can be found at elevations ranging from 455 m to 915m (1500 ft.-3000ft.). Three variations (sub-types) of Montane Rain Forest exist, namely: Lower Montane Rain Forest, Montane Thicket, Montane Swamp forest and Palm Brake. Index species are *Podocarpus coriaceus (gymnosperm), Richeria grandis, Cyrilla racemiflora, Tovomita plumierii, Amanoa caribaea, Brysonima trinitensis, Cyathea imrayana and Ilex macfadyenii.* A high proportion of palms exist within the Montane Rain Forest.

Montane Swamp Forest is found in regions of water-logged soils. It covers 465 ha (1212 acres) in the World Heritage Site and is restricted to the eastern portion of the Park. It is found between 600 –700 m (2000- 2500 ft.) in areas of poorly drained soils that receive at least 7620 mm (300 in) of rain annually. The floristic composition is a variation of Podocarpus-Richeria association and with *Amanoa caribaea* being also a dominant species, *Sloanea spp. and Sterculia caribaea*. The structure of the forest is typically two well- defined strata with an open canopy.

Palm Brake occurs in montane rain forest on stable soils and consists of *Euterpe globosa* and *Cyathea spp*. Other species found are *Richeria grandis*, *Byrsonima martincensis*. These are described as seral communities that will eventually change to rainforest thicket phase.

Mature Rain Forest

The rain forest of Dominica is a climax community occurring between elevations of 60 - 915m (200 – 3000 feet) where the annual rainfall combined with the fertile yellow earth soils, and protection from the wind, provide the optimum conditions for plant growth.

The mature rain forest contains the most luxuriant growth of all the zones because climate and soil conditions here are the most favourable. The general structure consists of three to four strata. The *Dacryodes-Sloanea* association is the purest form of this forest type on the island. The dominant trees *Dacryodes excelsa* and *Sloanea spp. reach a height of 27 – 30m (90 – 100 feet)*. Other species typical of the rain forest are *Tapura latifolia, Sterculia caribaea, Licania ternatensis, Pouteria fabrilis, Amanoa caribaea, Symphonia globulifera, Clusia plunkenetii, Geonoma pinnatifrons,*

Richeria grandis, Osmosia monosperma, Chimiarrhis cymosa, Dussia martinicensis and Eugenia species. Because of greater sunlight and flatter topography, a certain amount of humus can collect. The lower level of this forest type is normally dominated by epiphytes and fern species and climbers.

Secondary Rain Forest

This zone constitutes former mature forests that have experienced some disturbance, primarily logging or shifting agriculture, and the impact of hurricanes especially Hurricane David. Vestiges of old stands often remain, surrounded by smaller re-growth. These areas are normally characterized by a large diversity of smaller trees that are light demanding and a larger amount of undergrowth (grasses, bushes, etc.) Typically found in this area are invaders like *Cyathea spp. Cycropia sp.*, a variety of *Miconia sp.* including *mirabilis, striata and guanensis, Inga ingoides, Chimarrhis cymosa and Simarouba amara* among others. The lower elevation limits are usually defined by agriculture. However, at many locations on the southeastern side of the park, the lower reaches of secondary growth mix with semi-evergreen forest.

Semi-Evergreen Forest

This zone is subject to drought that causes leaf loss. Trees grow to medium height. Undergrowth lacks epiphytes and lianas. *Tabebuia pallida and Lonchocarpus pentaphyllus* are two common species in the semi-evergreen areas.

Fumarole Vegetation

Fumarole Vegetation is a specialized type of vegetation that inhabits the Valley of Desolation, above the Boiling Lake and the vicinity of other fumaroles like the Soufriere and Wotten Waven. In the Valley of Desolation, almost all the vegetation has been blasted by the sulphurous fumes up to a considerable height on the slopes, but pockets of elfin woodland persist here and there in the valley bottom. Clusia venosa and an Ilex spp. seem best able of the elfin flora to withstand the poisonous gases. Nearer to the vents can be found clumps of the endemic bromeliad, *Pitcairnia microtrinensis*, that evidently has a high tolerance for the harsh conditions, and persists quite close to active hot springs and fumaroles.

2.2.2 Fauna

The most comprehensive survey on wildlife in Dominica took place in 1975. (Swank, Wendell G. & Julien, Cuthbert R.-Distribution and Status of Wildlife in Dominica). Peter R. Evans, Forest Officers, M. Zamore and A. James have also conducted studies in specific areas. A review of published reports indicates that up to 14 species of mammals, 12 species of reptiles, 2 amphibians, 6 species of freshwater shrimps, 5 species of crabs and over 50 species of birds occupy park land at different times in their life cycles.

The largest mammal residing in the park is the agouti. There are impressive numbers of bird species in the Park including local and Antillean endemics. Once common inhabitants, the Rednecked parrot, "Jaco" *Amazona arausiaca* and the *Sisserou parrot, Amazona imperialis*, are seen in the Park though not in large numbers.

VERTEBRATES

Amphibians

Three species of frogs, two of which are endemic to Dominica, can be found in the park. The amphibian fauna in Dominica consists of three species of frogs, one of which is endemic to the island while two are regionally endemic. The most prominent is *Leptodactyllus fallax* a large frog commonly referred to as the Crapaud or Moutain Chicken, which is endemic to Dominica and Montserrat but is not found in the Park. Also included among Dominica's amphibian fauna are two species of small frogs, consisting of one single-island endemic species the Dominican Piping Frog (*Eleutherodactylus amplinympha*) which is restricted to higher elevation sites, and one regionally endemic species, the Tink Frog (*Eleutherodactylus martinicensis*).

Reptiles

Ten (10) species of lizards and four species of snakes have been recorded in Dominica. Three (3) species of Lizards are found in the park including two endemics. The tree lizard is endemic to Dominica and *Iguana delicatissima* is endemic to the Lesser Antilles. Four (4) species of snakes can be found in the Park including two Antillean endemics. Two (2) species of geckos, *Sphaerodactylus vincenti*, and the tree gecko, *Thecadactylus rapicauda*, are found in the rainforest

leaf litter and in secondary lowland forest within the park.

Fishes

Various studies undertaken by the Forestry Division Personnel and Kim Bell indicate that there are a number of freshwater fish found in various watercourses occurring in the Park. This includes the mountain mullet *Agonostomus monticola*, the American eel Anguilla rostrata, Goby Sicydium punctatum, Stippled clingfish Gobiesox punctulatus, and the Tilapia mossambica were introduced to Dominica.

Birds

Of the 176 species of birds recorded in Dominica, over 50 % occur in the Park. This includes endemics to Dominica as well as the Lesser Antillean and regional endemics. Of the endemics are the two endangered species of parrots, the "Sisserou" or Imperial parrot and the "Jaco" or Rednecked Parrot. There has been no systematic recording of birds in the Park.

Mammals

Of the mammals which occur in the Park, the bats constitute the largest population. Three of the bats found in the Park are Lesser Antillean endemics.

Rodents including the marsupial mammal, *Didelphis marsupialis "manicou" the "Agouti" Dasyprocta antillensis and the black rat, Rattus are common.* The largest of the terrestrial mammal, the feral pig, is also found in rain forest areas but is not present in the MTNPWHS

Eighteen species of terrestrial mammals have been recorded for Dominica. The wild mammalian population includes twelve native species of bats, one species of opossum, one species of feral pig and four species of rodents including the agouti.

Of the twelve (12) bat species recorded on the island, Dominica has one single-island endemic species, mouse-eared bat (*Myotis dominisensis*). Three (3) species are regionally endemic, namely: The Lesser Antillean tree bat, *Ardops nichollsi*, the Lesser Antillean long-tongued *Monophyllus plethodon* and the Antillean cave bat (*Brachyphylla cavernum*) are endemic to the Antilles. All

four species are can be found in the park.

However, some researchers have listed *Ardops nichollsi* as endemic to Dominica (Evans and James, 1997). Diversity and density of bats are highest in and around rain forests. The impacts of agricultural cultivation and hurricanes have reduced bat species populations and diversity.

The other six wild terrestrial mammalian species found in Dominica were all introduced. The Agouti (*Dasyprocta atillensis*) was introduced from South America possibly by the pre-Columbian Arawak and Carib Indians. The Opposum (*Didelphis marsupialis insularis*), the Wild Pig (*Sus scrota*), two species of rats, the Brown Rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) and the Black Rat (*Rattus rattus*) and one species of Mouse - the House Mouse (*Mus musculus*) were all introduced on the island, and have become naturalized.

INVERTEBRATES

A survey undertaken by F. Chace & H. Hobbs under the Bredin-Archbold collecting expeditions in the 1960's is still the most comprehensive on Dominica's crustacea.

Evans and James "Wildlife Checklist 1997" noted that twenty species of terrestrial and freshwater crabs of the Order Portunidae, Pseudothelphusidae, Gecarcinidae and Ocypodidae and eleven species of freshwater shrimps of the Order Penaeidae and Palaemonidae, have been recorded in Dominica.

There has been no specific collection of crabs in the Park. However, based on the ecological habitats typical of these crabs and shrimps, 3 species of crabs and six species of shrimps can be found in the rivers and streams occurring in the Park.

Crustaceans

The terrestrial and freshwater decapod crustaceans in Dominica include eleven species of freshwater shrimps and twenty species of freshwater/terrestrial/semi-terrestrial crabs (Chace & Hobbs, 1969); (Swank & Julien, 1975). There are no crustaceans endemic to the island and most are widely distributed in the Caribbean. The twenty crab species occur in ecologically diverse

habitats but most occur in coastal habitats.

Freshwater shrimps are common in Dominica with a distribution ranging from cascading mountain streams to slow flowing river mouths. Eleven species of shrimps from the following genera Atya, Jonga, Micratya, Potimirim, Xiphocaris and Macrobrachium, have been recorded in Dominica. Several of the larger species are used as food.

Insects

The class Insecta has not been fully surveyed on the island and as a result the species list is incomplete. Most of the surveys were conducted in the 1960s by the Bredin-Archbold-Smithosonian survey and many of the species are listed as new species. Orders listed include Hymenoptera, *Hemiptera*, *Diptera*,

Coleoptera, Lepidoptera, and Tricoptera. The population status of most of the species listed is not known.

Fifty-five species of butterflies have been recorded in Dominica. Two species, the Dominican Snout (*Libytheana fulvescens*) and Dominican Hairstreak (*Electrostrymon dominicana*) are endemic to Dominica, while seven species are endemic to the Lesser Antilles, namely, Godman's Leaf (*Memphis dominicana*), St. Lucia Mestra (*Mestra cana*), Godman's Hairstreak (*Allosmaitia piplea*), Bronze Hairstreak (*Electrostrymon angerona*), Stub-tailed Skipper, (*Astraptes anaphus*), Broken Dash Skipper (*Wallengrenia ophites*) and Lesser Whirlabout (*Polites dictynna*).

Based on recorded localities by Dr. Peter Evans 1982-2000 and David Spencer Smith (1991) and J.Y. Miller (1993) there are about 20 species of butterflies found in the National Park.

This includes at least one species of the *Lycaenidae* family, the Monarch (*Danaidae*), some species of the Whites and Sulphurs (*Pieridae*), the Frittillaires (*Nymphalidae*) and the Skippers (*Hesperidae*).

Eleven species of Phasmids (stick insects) have been recorded for Dominica. *Diapheromera* saussurei is a confirmed endemic of Dominica while two other species, *Diapherodes gigantea* dominicae and *Lamponius dominicae* are believed to be endemic but need further investigation (ASPER 2000).

The Hercules Beetle (*Dynastes hercules hercules*) which occurs in montane areas in Dominica is also found in Guadeloupe. It is the largest of eight recognized races of the hercules beetle whose distribution extends south from Guadeloupe into much of South America.

2.3 IMPORTANT ECOLOGICAL RELATIONSHIPS

Hurricanes and rainfall have shaped the composition of flora and fauna in the Park. Forest vegetation and soils absorb most of the rainfall, which is gradually lost through evapo-transpiration and evaporation thereby keeping humidity high and promoting further rain. The radiation climate of the Park indicates that small areas of the Park can receive direct sunlight and other areas receive it for only short periods in the morning or evening. These are steep north facing slopes in basins which provide early and late shadows. These habitats contain some interesting ecological systems. Droughts are rare.

The soils of the Park are nutrient poor since most of the nutrients are bound up in the plant material. There are tight plant-animal interactions for pollination, seed dispersal, feeding by mammals and birds.

Introduced spp. probably cause damage to native vegetation, but this has not been documented. Rats are probably the most damaging. The area has been hunted for centuries, but the effects on populations are unknown though it is probable that in the past it has depressed parrot populations.

The Park lies within a Conservation International-designated Conservation Hotspot, a WWF/IUCN Centre of Plant Diversity and a Bird Life-designated Endemic Bird Area.

2.4 Summary of Cultural Aspects

There has been no in-depth study on the cultural aspects of the Park. In the Emerald Pool area in the northern section of the Park is an old Carib trail used by the Carib Indians to traverse from north to south before the main road to Castle Bruce was built in the 1960's. There is also an old

trail from the Freshwater Lake to Grand Fond that was used for access by horseback or walking before motorable access was available.

3.0 SOCIO ECONOMIC AND LIVELIHOOD CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PARK

3.1 PRESENT POPULATION AND SETTLEMENT PATTERNS AROUND THE PARK

Table 1: Population and settlement around the Park

Parish/ Name of Community	Population	Approximate Area (Mi 2)
St. George	20, 920	21.7
(Roseau) (15,167)	14,725	
(Rest of St. George) –		
Trafalgar/ Shawford/ Fond Canie	3959	
Laudat	321	
Morne Prosper	703	
Bellevue Chopin	517	
Copthall	230	
Giraudel	588	
St. Paul	9,658	25.2
St. Mark	1,829	4.0
St. Patrick		33.8
Petite Savanne	753	
Pichelin/ Geneva	527	
Stowe/Dubic	150	
Bagatelle /Point Carib	388	
Victoria/ Point Mulatre	139	
Delices	207	
Boetica	149	
La Plaine	1128	
St. David- north east		50.8
Grand Fond/Rosalie/Newfoundland	722	
Morne Jaune	152	
St. Andrew	9,437	68.8
Total	71,293	289.5

Office, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Population and Housing Census – 2001 (mi2 = square miles)

Dominica has an average population of 72,000 people. Villages in close proximity to the Park contain over 10% of Dominica's population and area as follows:

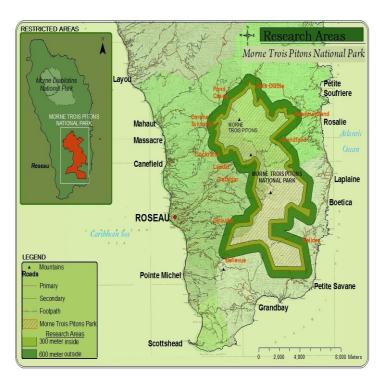


Figure 1: Location of communities in Morne Trois Pitons National Park

EAST OF THE PARK:	WEST OF THE PARK:	NORTH OF THE PARK	SOUTH OF THE PARK
Victoria	Sylvania	Pont Casse'	Bellevue Chopin
Delices	Cochrane	Fond Melle	Pchelin
Boetica	Laudat	Crete Palmiste	Geneva
La Plaine	Morne Prosper	Terre Ferme	Stowe
Morne Jaune	Wotten Waven		Dubique (dubuc)
Grand Fond	Copt Hall		Bagatelle
Rosalie	Giraudel		Petite Savanne
	Trafalgar		

3.2 PATTERNS AND POVERTY ASSESSMENT

"IMF Country Report No. 06/289 of August 2006, **Dominica: Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper" indicated** that poverty in Dominica is high – about 29% of households and 39% of the

population. The report stated that approximately 10% of households and 15% of the population are indigent, i.e. very poor. Poverty exists in urban and rural areas. Three quarters of poor households live in rural areas where one in every two households is poor. The remainder (24%) is to be found in the main towns of Roseau and Portsmouth.

The report also indicated that some of the catchment areas adjacent to the Parks namely, St. David and St. Patrick have the highest incidence of poverty.

The incidence of poverty in Dominica varies considerably from parish to parish. According to the report, "The highest incidence is in St. David, north east of the Park where over half the households are poor followed by St. Patrick (the southeast). St David also contains over twice as many indigent households (28%) as any other parish.

The geographic distribution of the poor population is similar to that of poor households; in all cases, the percentages are higher as poor households tend to be larger. In St. Mark and St. David, this means that the overall incidence of poverty exceeds 60% of the population.

The overall unemployment rate is 25% compared to around 16% in 1999 and 10% in 1991. The main economic activities of the majority of workers in poor households in the catchment area are in the construction and

agricultural sectors. Differences between the other sectors are far less significant. In terms of occupation, over half the employed poor are to be found in the skilled and unskilled manual sectors and another quarter is farmers.

A survey undertaken indicates that in the main catchment areas of the park there a large number of farmers indicating that farming is a significant activity in and around the Park. Of significance are the main parishes around the NPWHS - St David, St. Patrick and the Rest of St. George.

Table 2: Registered farmers by Parish and Farm Size

Parish	Size of Farms (acres)							
	>1	1.5	5.1 -10	10.1-25	25.1-50	50.1-75	75.1-100	
St. George	34	41	8	8	2			

Rest of St. George	99	96	12	11	2		
St. Paul	44	206	47	17	5	2	 60
St David	95	818	87	28	3		
St. Patrick	138	401	24	4	2		

Source: Central Statistical Office- Visitation records 2001 Population and Housing Census

3.3 CURRENT RESOURCE USE AND DEVELOPMENT

3.3.1 TOURISM AND RECREATION

There are a large number of visitors to the various ecological sites to the Park. Visitation to some areas like the Emerald Pool is very high. The impact of these visitors on the MS/CNP should be evaluated in terms of the limits of acceptable change, LAC. The visitor numbers to the Emerald Pool are indicative of the need to undertake this evaluation. The major tourism activities taking place are hiking, bird watching and mountain climbing. Total visitors to the park decreased from 127,832 in 2000 to 84, 544 in 2009 by 34%. In 2016 there was a further decrease of 15.7 % from 77.288 in 2012 to 65, 141 in 2016.

Table 3 -Forestry, Wildlife & Parks Division Summary Visitation to MTNPWHS 2012 - 2016

Sites	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Emerald Pool	55757	49732	50771	45804	46696
Middleham Falls	6606	5695	4403	5729	6854
Boiling Lake	4572	4691	4395	3805	3742
Freshwater & Boeri Lake	10330	9237	7535	6621	7849
Morne Trois Pitons	23	0	0	0	0
Total - MTNPWHS	77,288	69,355	68,791	61,959	65,141

(Source: Forestry & Wildlife Division)

HOTELS, BAR AND RESTAURANT

There are no hotels in the National Park. However, there are two restaurants/coffee shops located each located in visitor centres of The Emerald Pool and the Freshwater Lake respectively. There are a number of hotels and guest houses in communities adjacent to the Park.

RECREATION

Swimming takes place in a number of locations in the Park-the Emerald Pool, Freshwater and Boeri Lakes and the numerous rivers in the Park. Fishing and hunting are not permissible in the Park.

EXISTING FACILITIES AND AMENITIES

The MTNPWHS consists of a number of visitor facilities and trails in various areas of attraction within the Park as follows:

Table 4: Amenities and facilities in Morne Trois Pitons National Park

Facilities/amenit	Em	erald	Fre	sh Water	Boeri	Boiling	Mic	ddleham	Morne Trois Pitons
ies	Po	ol	Lak	e	Lake	Lake		Falls	Trail
Trailhead	*	1	*	2		1	*	3	*
Trails	*		*		*	*	*		*
Look-out points	*	3	*	2	*	*	*		*
Parking areas	*		*		1			*	
Signs &	*		*		*		*		
Interpretation									
Floating jetty				*					
Lake access			2						
Picnic shelter	*	2		*		*	*	2	
Viewing Platform	*							*	
Research station									
Visitor Centres		* 1	*	1					
Campsite									
Landscape			*						
rehabilitation									
Toilets	*	1	*	1			1		
Snack bar	*	1	*	1					

Indicates the presence of amenities and facilities

3.3.2 Potable Water consumption

Water systems within the Watershed that emanate from the Park consist of the following:

- Roseau Watershed, Area: 3,172.5 ha Rain Fall: 5388.3 mm
- Morne Prosper Water System / River Claire

- Wotten Waven/Trafalgar/ Copthall Water System (River Blanc River/River Padu
- River Douce Intake
- Bulk Water Supply (Padu River)
- Stewart Hall
- Desports
- Campbell

There are also plans for WA-1 Water supply Augmentation for the River Claire, Boeri River and Fresh Water Lake catchments

3.3.3 Hydroelectricity

Dominica Electricity Company Ltd., DOMLEC currently operates three (3) hydro stations on the Roseau River Watershed (Annex A, Map11) as follows:

- Laudat
- Trafalgar
- Titou Gorge / Padu

Maximum water extraction capacity at the above mentioned sites is 1.09m3/sec (Titou Gorge), 0.71m3/sec (Laudat) and 1.39m3 m3/sec (Trafalgar) (DOMLEC pers. comm.) Currently the water abstracted from these sites returns to the river at Trafalgar.

The average yearly output is estimated at 27gwh which constitute approx 30% of production

3.3.4 Research

A number of scientists, mostly biologists, have carried out research in and around the Park. The following represent some of the research programmes undertaken.

- Research the Black Capped Petrel by Birds of the Caribbean in collaboration with "Grupo Jaragua", an NGO located in the Dominican Republic, American Birds Conservancy and the Forestry Division
- Parrot Conservation Programme Forestry Division & Rare Species Conservatory
 Foundation, Florida

- Seismic Monitoring (Forestry/ODM) -Seismic stations were installed in the MTNP. A
 camera was installed in 2016 to monitor unusual events at the Boiling Lake. Undertaken in
 collaboration with the Seismic and Research Unit of UWI and Montserrat Volcano
 Observatory (MVO) who assisted in camera installation. The camera has not been accessed
 following Hurricane Maria.
- Geothermal and volcano monitoring in the Valley of Desolation and Boiling Lake by Dr.
 Patricia Joseph from Seismic Research Centre of the University of the West Indies/Trinidad to collect rock, water and gas samples (on-going)
- Undergraduate Course by Dr. John Hains/Clemson University to conduct research in Tropical Ecology at Freshwater Lake
- Pollinator competition and plant competition as mechanisms for evolutionary diversification in two hummingbird-pollinated plants of the Caribbean by Dr. Ethan Temeles and Dr. John Kress - Amherst College, Massachusetts, and National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington
- Carbon Storage in Secondary and Primary Forests on Dominica Adam Martin University Toronto Scarborough, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

3.4 GENDER ISSUES

The major form of employment of women in the Park is vendoring. At the 2 major sites where vendors are located, 90% of vendors are women. Other areas of employment are the restaurant which is dominated by women.

Park management in Dominica is still male-dominated. At present, there is only one female professional in the Forestry & Parks Service

3.5 LAND OWNERSHIP AND LAND USE

LAND USE

Most of the lands immediately bordering the Park are under agriculture: Some areas are forested with limited utilization by the land owners. (Annex A, Map 5). In many areas of the Park there

has been shifting agriculture which involves the clearing of trees and other vegetation that can lead to erosion, silting of waterways and destruction of wildlife habitat.

AREAS OF THE PARK WITH SPECIAL IN-HOLDINGS

LEGAL IN-HOLDINGS

- Freshwater Lake -Approximately one parcel of 17 acres of land are privately owned
- The south-east boundary of the park is part of the motorable road to the village of Delices
- La Plaine area- 2parcels of land in the area are privately owned- No information on acreage is available
- In the Northern section of the Park in the area of Emerald Pool, there is a quarry where tarrish is extracted for road construction. This area has been a constant source of silting of the Emerald Pool
- A shooting range in the northern area of the park in "Williams Area" north of the Park
- An inactive rock quarry at Freshwater Lake

ILLEGAL IN-HOLDINGS

- Grand Fond- there are approximately 9 squatters farming in the area.
- In the Petite Savanne/Morne Toupie squatters are planting Bay Trees

Land Ownership

95 % of the Park lands are state-owned.

There are a number of estates bordering the park some of which are state-owned as follows:

Table 5: Estates and settlements bordering the MTNPWHS

East	West	North	South
Guayaneri &Taberi Estates	Middleham Estate	Pont Casse Settlement	Rosehill

Pointe Mulatre	Stewart Hall Estate	William settlement	New Florida
Bois Bellevue Estate	Rose Hill Estate	Bwa Diable/ Fond Melle Settlement	Perdu Temps South Settlement
Palmiste Estate	Providence Estate	Petit Terre Ferme	Stowe
Plaisance Estate	Sandringham	Terre Ferme Settlement	Lisdara
	Brigandy Estate		
	Castleton Estate		
	Curbin and Berlin		
	Estate		
	Laudat Settlement		

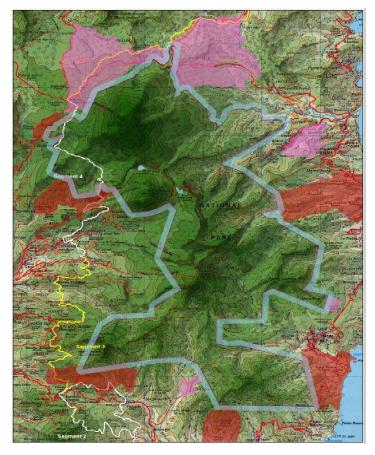


Figure 2: Morne Trois Pitons National Park - Land Ownership

4. LEGAL STATUS AND MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

4.1 CURRENT MANAGEMENT

The Ministry of Environment, Disaster Management, Urban Renewal and Climate Resilience is the primary institution with direct responsibility for national Parks through the department of the Forestry, Wildlife & Parks Division, (FWP). (May 2018). Prior to 2018 the Ministry of Agriculture held this responsibility.

To date, the "National Park Service" including the recommended management staff, has not been fully established. The existing permanent staff for the National Park consists of a Park Superintendent/ Forest Officer, who is responsible for the Park supported by a finance Officer, 12

Park wardens and 5 non-technical staff- 1 receptionist, 1 secretary, 1 cleaner, 1 labourer and 1 clerical assistant. To date, no one has been appointed as Director of National Parks. The Director of Forestry takes on the responsibility. A national parks advisory council has never been appointed and no park management plan has been submitted for public review or approval as required by the Act. In terms of the MTNPWHS, there are 10 non-established officers directly responsible for this component.

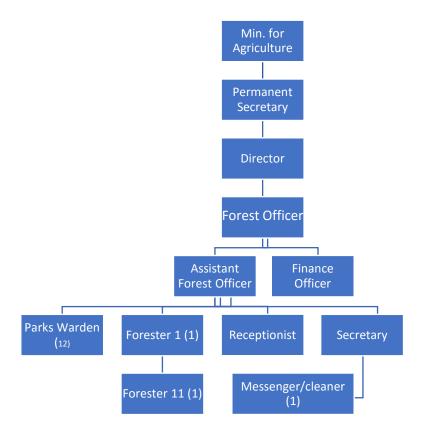


Figure 3: Current Morne Trois Pitons National Park Organizational Structure

Table 6- Budgetary allocation for the management of the National Parks for 2015 – 2018, is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Budgetary Allocation Recurrent Budget	Capital Estimates \$ECD	Total Allocation
2015/16	1,138,706	295,000	1,433,706.
2016/17	1,203,986	213,000	1,416,986
2017/ 18	1,203,986	298,000	1,501,986
2018/2019	1,203,986	1,790,000	2,933,986

Forester 1 & 2, 1 forest Officer and AFO are paid under the Protection budget. Recurrent costs entail staff salaries include daily paid workers, finance officer on contract the secretary, 12 park wardens, supplies and material, operating and maintenance services of buildings and vehicles, site maintenance, insurance of vehicles, machinery and equipment (computers and furniture)

Capital estimates entail rehabilitation of trails and facilities- signage, park benches, maintenance of facilities within the site.

Some facilities within the Park- The Emerald Pool, Freshwater and Boeri Lakes are managed by the Ministry of Tourism and Legal Affairs.

CURRENT MTNPWHS STAFF POSITIONS

<u>Table 7 – Current staff positions</u>

Staff Position Title	Posts	Position Category
The Freshwater Lake – Concessionaire Operated		
Park Warden	2	Non-established Position
Groundsman	2	Non-established Position
Sub-total Staff Positions	4	
The Emerald Pool – Concessionaire Operated		
Receptionist	1	Non-established Position
Park Warden	2	Non-established Position
Groundsman	1	Non-established Position
Sub-total Staff Positions	4	
Middleham Falls		
Caretaker	2	Non-established Position
Sub-total Staff Positions	2	
Total Staff Positions	10	

4.2 WORLD HERITAGE STATUS

The Morne Trois Piton National Park (MTPNP) was established in 1975 under the National Parks and Protected Areas Act. In 1997 it was established as a UNESCO World Heritage Site - Inscribed on the World Heritage List under Natural *Criteria viii- "to be outstanding examples representing major stages of the earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms or significant geomorphic or physiographic features" and criteria x. "To contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation".*

4.3 POLICY AND LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

4.3.1 Development of Policies

There are no written policies with respect to the Park. It is recommended that policies are formulated to deal with a number of important issues that impact on Park management and conservation of its resources. The following are some of the issues identified:

- Climate change
- Utilization and management of User fees generated from the Park
- Management of the Waitukubuli National trail and its relationship to the Park
- Physical Development Guidelines, architectural styles and standards
- Relationship with utility companies
- Involvement of community Organizations in decision making
- Concessionaires
- Use of visitor centres
- Establishment of buffer zones
- Maintenance plan
- Visitor Safety, Security and Rescue operations
- Safety of Park Staff
- Use of firearms by Park staff

- Licensing of Park Service Providers
- Accommodation facilities/ camping etc.

4.3.2 Existing Legal and Regulatory Framework

Morne Trois Pitons National Park WHS was legally established in 1975 under the National Parks and Protected Areas Act. No. 16, 1975 and is currently managed by the Forestry and Wildlife Division and National Parks.

The administration, management and control of the national parks system is vested under section 3(3) of the National Parks and Protected Areas Act.

No. 16, 1975 to the Minister responsible for the national park system. In this case the Minister for Agriculture &Forestry through its department, the Forestry, Wildlife and National Parks. The Ministry develops the broad policy framework to guide the development of these resources.

Section 7 of the Act provides for the appointment of a Director of National Parks, together with the Superintendent of Parks, Park wardens and such other officers who shall constitute the "National Parks Service" The Director is empowered under section 7(2) of the Act, to employ casual workers as may be necessary for the administration of the national parks system.

The Act also provides for the appointment of a National Park Advisory Council consisting of the Director of National Parks, three members appointed by the Minister and one on the recommendation of the Dominica Conservation Society (section 8)

The function of the Council is to advise the Minister on matters relating to the administration, management and control of the national parks system.

Regulations with respect to the NPPAA have been developed through "Statutory Rules and Orders No. 54 of 2003 and gazetted in January 2004.

Other aspects of the legislation and agreements affecting the Park include the:

 National Parks and Protected Areas Act. No. 16, 1975 which outlines the purpose, and permitted and not-permitted uses for National Parks also permits the Minister of Agriculture to grant licenses to water and electric companies of Dominica to construct any road or maintain any structure with the boundaries of a National Park for the purposes of carrying out their respective business; and,

• Agreement for researcher operating in Dominica

Under the Statutory Rules & Orders, (SR&O) The national Park regulation SRO No. 54 of 2003 provides for the following in the National Park

- Opening and closing hours
- Prohibited activities
- Selling of goods
- User Fees -The National Park and Protected Area Eco-Tourist Site, User Fee Regulation SRO No. 27 of 1997 and Regulation SRO No. 22 of 2008 authorizes the National Park to generate revenue from the following: user fee ticket sales, License fees from tour operators, vendors and tour guides. Permits for researchers, media personnel and impounding fees from animals in the Parks as well as Park fines for illegal activities in the Park.

PART B EVALUATION

5. IMPORTANCE OF THE PROTECTED AREA

Morne Trois Pitons National Park was Dominica's first national park and by an act of parliament was established in July 1975. It was also the first in the Eastern Caribbean to be enlisted as a "World heritage site" by UNESCO in 1997.

There are a number of characteristics that contribute to the importance of the Park.

Natural Features to be protected are as follows:

- The Park contains the largest and most diverse and pristine forest in the Eastern Caribbean.
- It has been listed by Birdlife International as an "Important Bird Areas, IBA" because it supports 4 globally threatened species- two endemic species of the Amazona parrots and the Forest thrush, Cichlherminia herminieri as well as the Black-Capped petrel, *Pterodoma hasitata*, reinforcing the critical biodiversity of the area.19 Lesser Antilles, EBA, Endemic Bird Area- restricted ranges birds.
- Protection of other endemic plant and animal species
- The Park is a Conservation International-designated Conservation Hotspot, a WWF/IUCN
 Centre of Plant Diversity and a Birdlife-designated Endemic Bird Area.
- Protection of watersheds Contains the headwaters of most of the major streams and rivers
 in the southern half of the island and provides potable water to approximately 60% of
 Dominica's population.
- Elfin Woodland occurs at the highest elevation, above 3000feet (914m). As such these areas are always targeted by telecommunication companies for establishment of communication towers and potential radar or electronic sites. There is at present one such site on Morne Micotrin where this type of vegetation is found. Such access has been responsible for the loss of significant elfin woodland in some countries and Dominica must guard against this.
- Fumarolic vegetation-One of the rarest formations on Dominica covering a total of 31 ha (Shanks & Putney 1979). Significant areas are found in the Valley of Desolation. (It may be impaired by geological investigations. The occurrence of and potential impact to rare

or endemic species of fumaroles associated vegetation should be considered when evaluating geothermal drilling.)

• A UNESCO-designated World Heritage Site under Criteria viii- "to be outstanding examples representing major stages of the earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms or significant geomorphic or physiographic features" and Under criteria x. "To contain the most important and significant natural habitats for insitu conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of

outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation".

6. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Morne Trois Pitons National Park is a world heritage site and contains some of the most diverse and pristine forest in the Eastern Caribbean. It has been listed by Birdlife International as an "Important Bird Areas, IBA" on the basis of support of three globally threatened birds, 19 restricted ranges and six congregatory seabirds "and according to "Birdlife International", the park contain populations of all the restricted-range species and the majority of the population of all 3 globally threatened species of the two endemic species of the Amazona parrots and the Forest thrush, Cichlherminia lherminieri thus reinforcing the critical biodiversity of the area.

7. ANALYSIS OF ISSUES

7.1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2001-2012 MANAGEMENT PLAN

The "Management and Development Plan, 2002- 2012 nor the updated version in 2012 was never ratified by government. Discussions with Forester Officer / Park Superintendent, indicated that less than 5% of the recommendations of the plan have been implemented due to institutional, manpower and budgetary limitations.

7.2 ANALYSIS OF CURRENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION

SWOT Analysis for Morne Trois Piton National Park

Strengths

- Park legally established.
- > Land mostly owned by government.
- > A designated World Heritage Site
- High biodiversity, rare and endemic species and range of habitat types.
- > Existing trails and signage.
- Linkage of park trails to the WNT
- Fee system in place.
- > Trained guides are available
- High quality water resources.
- Complementary ecotourism potential exists

Weaknesses

- Boundaries of Park not fully demarcated
- No buffer zones established for the Park
- > Too many access points
- Inadequate signage
- High maintenance of trails
- Insufficient facilities and amenities and interpretation
- Inadequate financial resources for management.
- Limited community and environmental education programmes
- Too many government agencies with overlapping responsibilities
- > Inadequate research and scientific information
- Visitor safety issues
- No regular monitoring of Parks resources or visitor impacts
- Underutilization of the Park's resources for ecotourism, research, and education.

Opportunities

- Development of alternative financing mechanisms
- To rally the support of policy makers to National Parks and conservation
- Improvement and diversification of ecotourism activities within the Park
- > Maintenance and improvement of the trails.
- Tie-in of Park trails to the WNT
- Visitor accommodations (campsites in intensive use zone
- Coordinate NP work programs with surrounding communities
- Cooperative research with universities.
- More frequent use of the Park for environmental education for teachers and students.
- Research to estimate the contribution of the MTNP to the economy of Dominica.

Threats

- Impacts of climate change on the biodiversity of the Park
- Continuing inadequate financial resources prevents
 Park from meeting its goals and objectives
- Inadequately maintained trails may lead to visitor injuries.
- Lack of staff capacity and finance reduces Park protection, the attention to visitors
- Presence of invasive species
- Threat of overcapacity of the Park from day visitors especially cruise ships
- Inadequate awareness of the role of the Park as a major source of foreign exchange and overall economic development leading to inadequate budgetary support
- User conflicts (hydro-electricity, water, tourism conservation, and agriculture).

7.3 CONFLICT

The major conflict in the Park has been in areas zoned as "Special Use" where the following activities have been legally endorsed:

- The shooting range and the quarry located in the north of the Park close to the Emerald Pool
- The Hydro power infrastructure and transmission lines
- An active quarry located north of the Park above the Emerald Pool.

These activities are of economic importance, but it is also recognized that any expansion of these could affect the biological integrity of the Park and its status as a World Heritage Site.

It is important that a coordination mechanism is instituted for exchange of information, monitoring and research with these respective users of the Park to ensure that biodiversity of the Park is not compromised as a result of the utilization of the resources.

Other Areas of Conflict

Conflicting policies of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture and the Forestry, National Parks & Wildlife Division with respect to the development, management, and use of sites within the MNPWHS that may lead to destruction of the natural resources of these sites.

Squatting, agricultural activities in some areas of the park through encroachment or land ownership and the use of herbicides and pesticides by those persons who have private in-holdings in the Park or those undertaking agricultural activities on private land bounding with the Park.

Squatting- Regularizing the location of the residential area in the Park and establishing a noencroachment zone.

7.4 SENSITIVITY TO DISTURBANCE

7.4.1 Anthropogenic Activities

The following represents some anthropogenic activities in the park which make the park more susceptible to the impacts of climate change:

- Agricultural encroachment
- Ecosystem manipulation –diversions of rivers
- Installation of commercial and industrial infrastructure
- Debarking of trees
- Fires
- Illegal hunting

The major activities as outlined below are agricultural. This is predominantly subsistence agriculture mainly to support households. There is no commercial agriculture taking place within the Park. The growth of Bay Leaf, *Pimenta racemosa*, for the production of bay oil is very important to the economy of the villages of Petite Savanne and Bagatelle where these are grown in abundance. Dominica is the largest exporter of Bay oil which is used as a base in the production of perfumes for men. As such, the growth and harvesting of Bay leaf trees within the vicinity of the Park must be considered. Figures on export of Bay Oil are not available. However, it is envisaged that cultivation of bay leaf trees within the Park will continue to be part of the vegetation of the Park in these areas.

WESTERN SECTION OF THE PARK

Agricultural activities are being undertaken on private land within the Park in the vicinity of the Fresh Water Lake where approximately one parcel of land consisting of 17 acres, is privately owned.

In the western area of the Park in the Corona/Sylvania areas there are visible signs of landslides within 300m inside the boundary of the Park and signs of agricultural activity within 600 m external to the boundary of the Park.

Hydro - power infrastructure is also located at the Freshwater Lake. The drainage flow of Boeri and Freshwater Lakes has been diverted via a weir and pipeline, to feed the hydroelectric power stations at Laudat and Trafalgar Falls at the headwaters of the Roseau River.

Other infrastructure include Communication Towers erected in the highest area of the park commonly vegetated by Elfin woodland. A trail was constructed in the area of Morne Micotrin for installation of communication towers and related structures. These contribute to land degradation and soil erosion and may have an impact on elfin woodland.



Figure 4: Utility and Commercial Activity in the Morne Trois Piton National

There is human settlement within the Park in the area of Corona (one residential building) and within 600m external to the Park boundary in the villages of Laudat and in Giraudel where new houses are being developed

IN THE EASTERN AREA OF THE PARK

Most of the activity in this area is agricultural- In La Plaine, intense farming is taking place within the boundaries of the Park on private land. In the village of Grand Fond 98% of which is located

within 600m of the boundary of the Park, there are approximately 9 squatters farming within the boundaries of the Park.

IN THE NORTHERN SECTION OF THE PARK

North of the Park in the Pont Cassé area bordering the MTNPWHS there has been clearing of land and provision of access to facilitate residential development in the area as a result of government's approval to a land owner to sub-divide land for residential purposes. This is also evident in the Crete Palmiste area where sparse residential settlement is visible very close to the boundary of the Park and in Sylvania NNW of the Park.

Marginal agricultural production is evident in the Brantridge and William settlements adjacent to the Park as well as shifting agriculture in the "William Settlement" where agriculture occurred previously but has been abandoned for over 20 years.

In the area of Emerald Pool, there is an active quarry where tarish is extracted for road construction. This area is a constant source of silting of the Emerald Pool. There is also shooting range near Emerald Pool which can have an effect on the wildlife.



Figure 5: Map Indicating Activities in 200 & 400m research area external to

In spite of the fact that felling of trees or other such activities are prohibited in the Park, there is still illegal activities like debarking of Gommier, *Dacryodes excelsa*, Bwa Bande', *Richeria grandis* trees as well as felling of the Gommier tree for boat construction.

There is also a major problem of clearing of forest land for the growth and cultivation of marijuana and evidence of fire on the Morne Trois Pitons NPWHS Trail.

SOUTHERN SECTION OF THE PARK

South of the Park in the Geneva/ Perdu Temps area land adjacent to the park is predominantly untouched forest except for the clearing to a cell site area owned by Cable & Wireless. Agriculture is evident in this area as well as some very scattered human settlement. In the other communities of Bagatelle, Pointe Mulatre and Delices agricultural activities are taking place within 600m of the boundary lines.

In the communities of Petite Savanne, La Roche, Victoria intense farming is taking place within the boundaries of the Park. The main cash crop in Petite Savanne is Bay oil. Farmers have expanded into extremely steep land into the National park to farm thus increasing the high erosion risk associated with the area.

In the communities of Laroche and Victoria some small scale human settlement is taking place within 600m of the Park boundary lines.

Southeast of the Park, the main access road to the villages of Delices and Point Mulatre is constructed on the Boundary of the Park.

7.4.2 Impact of Climate Change

Management Issues

The issue of climate change has taken international significance because of current research indicating the ongoing rapid changes that are affecting the social economical fabric of society and the major adverse impacts to the biodiversity worldwide.

Presently, there are no scientific studies on the impact of climate change within the national parks or forest reserves in Dominica except for rainfall monitoring currently being undertaken by the Dominica Meteorological Office. As such, a comprehensive management framework for monitoring or management of climate change is required that includes not only rainfall monitoring but monitoring of water levels in the various rivers within the National Parks as well as evaluation and collation of baseline information on the resources of the Park and its ecological processes for determining the impact of climate.

Management of climate change will require a multi-pronged, integrated approach that includes preventive and corrective actions, exchange of information and development of mitigation measures, based on sound scientific principles. As such, the following guiding principles and objectives for managing the impact of climate change on national parks are being recommended for adoption by the Government of Dominica.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- The need to utilize available scientific information and traditional knowledge in the decisionmaking process
- Undertake an assessment of impacts through appropriate research, monitoring, vulnerability assessment and risk preparedness measures
- Build public support for the managing the impact of climate change through the establishment of partnerships with policy makers, the communities and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of appropriate programmes
- Minimize the impact on gene pool, on species and their diverse habitat
- Increasing the resilience of sites by reducing non-climatic sources of stress
- Undertake capacity building, research, and sharing of information
- Develop successful and appropriate management responses to include climate change vulnerability analysis, risk assessment and preparedness and adaptation management strategies

• Develop and implement best practices and share this information with management partners and key stakeholders.

OBJECTIVES

- To understand the impact of climate change and to sensitize policy makers, communities and other stakeholders
- To work with all stakeholders to undertake research and monitoring and to develop and implement adaptation measures to increase the resilience of the parks to the impact of climate change.
- Increase the resilience of the Parks by reducing non-climatic sources of stress, re-designing boundaries and buffer zones to facilitate migration of species, and reducing the carbon footprint.
- To undertake ex-situ research to maintain the genome of endemic and indicator species of the Parks
- To collaborate, co-operate and share best practices and knowledge

Impact of Climate Change on Key Ecological Values of the Park

Dominica's INC under the UNFCC 2001 indicates the following with respect to the impact of climate change on Dominica's vegetation types:

"Dominica's vegetation type, especially in its mountainous interior exhibits a pronounced altitudinal zonation due to climate. Any changes in climate are likely to affect these. For example, assuming a lapse rate of 1° C per 500 ft, the low scenario of 1.7°C would elevate vegetative zones by 850 ft and the high scenario (3.5°C) by 1750 ft. Under the high temperature scenarios elfin woodlands could disappear completely, and some species unique to Dominica could be lost. (Parry, 2001. personal communication)".

Hurricanes and Tropical Storms

While there is no scientific data to establish the effects of climate change on the MTNPWHS, some observation on the impacts of major hurricanes, David, TS Erika and Maria, on the biodiversity of the Park included high winds that destroyed feeding grounds, nesting sites and roosting areas of wildlife with further exacerbation by floods, landslides and soil erosion floods.

Hurricane David in 1979 did significant damage to the forest resource by damaging 60% of the tropical forests in the southern half of the island. Most of the trees were debranched hence the loss of habitat and food supplies for wildlife species which resulted in wildlife mortality. 42 % of the standing volume was damaged and 11% completely destroyed. This was followed by in 2007, by Hurricane Dean that caused major damage to forested areas resulting in 35 percent loss of forest cover over the eastern forest range (ECU 2011). Tropical Storm Erika and Hurricane Maria. Trees of larger diameter were uprooted with greater frequency.

D.H. Kulkarni (1981) noted that two years following the hurricane there was a plethora of "epicormic twigs or invasive climbers" among the stems of the damaged forest trees. The destruction of forest resources from Hurricane Maria is considered to be comparable to Hurricane David

Impact on Elfin Woodland

Elfin woodland occupies a narrow range which is influenced by climate and geography. Major changes in temperatures and rainfall could shift the range and /or cause destruction of this ecosystem.

DH Kulkarni, 1981 indicated that Hurricane David severely damaged elfin woodland in the MTNP "where after a trashing and defoliation these trees died outright en masse in big patches". He indicated that after 2 years there were ample seedlings beneath the thick suppression of weeds and vines which "seem to be trying hard to penetrate". He recommended simple treatment of weeding and vine cutting to ensure their rescue and to quicken the restoration to the original growth.

The impact on elfin woodland or "cloud forest" was also noted by the Forestry Division. Discussion with forestry personnel indicated that this forest type decreased as a result of impact of the hurricanes, mainly because of the slow process of natural re-vegetation since this area is exposed to wind erosion, soil erosion and landslides especially when stripped of its vegetation as was the case after Hurricane David. Observation from some of forestry personnel also noted excessive dryness and cracking of the soil in some areas in the elfin woodland.

Other Impacts

An indirect effect of tropical weather systems such as Hurricane David is the conversion of wildlife habitat to agriculture. In accessible areas the toppled trees provided an opportunity to more easily clear land for farming thus resulting in a further reduction and fragmentation of wildlife habitat. These natural disasters particularly hurricanes can be attributed to one of the root causes of land degradation in Dominica.

Forestry and Parks personnel also indicated signs in the change in phenology of some plant species after hurricanes. There were changes in the flushing of flowers and fruits with implications of reduced food supplies for some bird species.

Flooding

Watersheds emanating from the Park feed almost the entire south, south east and south west of the island. Most of the small radial streams from the various peaks respond very quickly to rainfall events and may dry up completely within thirty-six (36) hours of a heavy rainfall. The larger streams of higher order which form the major headstreams of the various watersheds, while mostly perennial, are also subject to large variations in flow and sudden floods (flash floods) and can be a source of danger to unwary walkers in the Park.

Additionally, flooding will have an impact on potable water supply as a result of soil erosion and silting of rivers and streams.

Drought

Drought is not a major problem in the park. Droughts can lead to fires, increase in disease and invasive species as well as decrease availability of water for hydroelectricity as well as reduction in the volume of potable water

Landslides and Soil Erosion

These are triggered by extreme rainfall as well as the impact of man through deforestation and road construction. Overall, Dominica is susceptible to major landslides because of its rugged terrain and high precipitation. In terms of the geomorphology of the Park, large areas of the park are prone to landslides as was evidenced in the number of landslides which have occurred in the Park. There have been major landslides in the Park as a result of hurricanes, storms and high rainfalls

Landslide analysis indicates that the majority of the MTPNP is susceptible to high risk landslide especially in the west, south and east of the Park. Overall, the area can be described a high erosion hazard.

7.4.3 Proposed Activities for Managing Climate Change

Monitoring Climate Change in the National Park

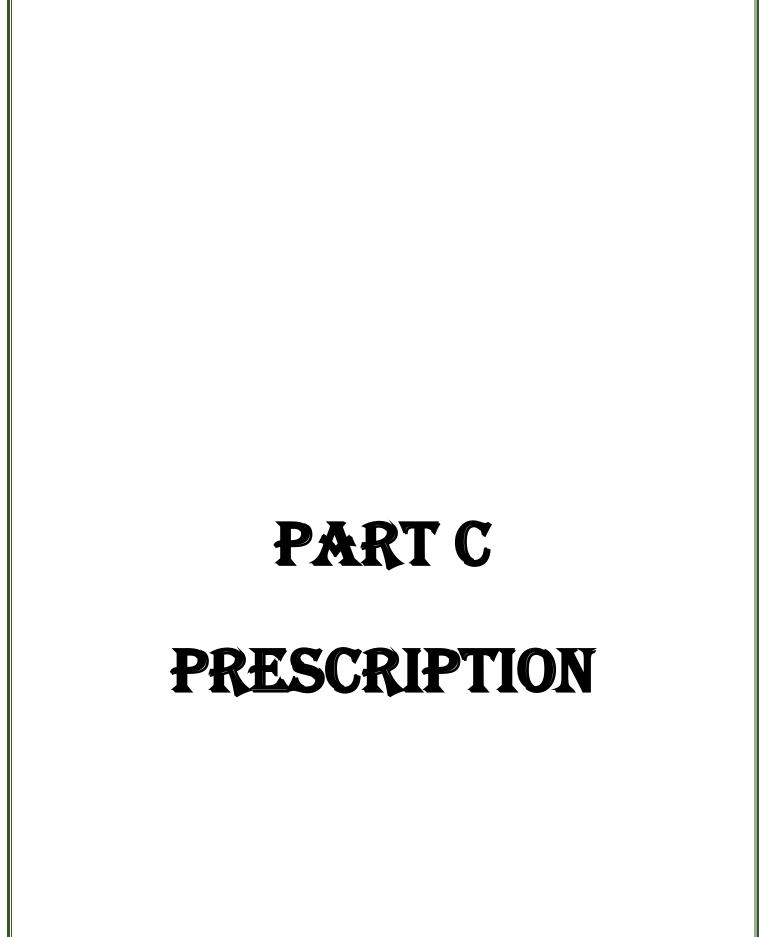
An evaluation of monitoring of climatic variables in the National park indicates that there has been some monitoring of rainfall. The Forestry and Wildlife Division monitors rainfall in the vicinity of the Park in the areas of the Emerald Pool, Delices and Pont Casse' utilizing standard rain gauges. Rainfall data is also measured by a private electricity company, Domlec in the areas of Laudat, Trafalgar and the Fresh Water Lake Lake. However, none of these are harmonized or coordinated to meet the needs of the Park

A report by Boyce² indicates that a thorough understanding of the current and future fluctuation in

² Data Collection and Management Strategy for the Commonwealth of Dominica Final report (Prepared by Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology)

the weather, climate and river water levels within the Park must be a prerequisite for managing the impact of climate change. Consequently, he recommends the following:

- The installation of a weather station in the Park located in such a way that data can be collected from both the windward and leeward slopes of the mountainous interior and that "at a minimum the wind direction, wind speed, air temperature, solar radiation and humidity sensors are installed to enable the estimation of evapo-transpiration fluxes at the installation locations and wider surroundings which is a necessary step for water budget calculations".
- The installation of one rain gauge above the forest canopy of the Park to study the rainfall interception process.
- Continuous monitoring of water levels within the National Parks is recommended in order to provide data on water level trends that are needed to manage the resource
- The determination of rainfall trigger values and soil moisture content required for the initiation of landslides so as to manage fresh water resources both within and exterior to the confines of the National Park System.



8. VISION AND OBJECTIVES

Vision

To be a source of national pride and an international benchmark for sustainability in action, maintaining a pristine environment for research, recreation and livelihood development

Objectives

Guided by this vision, the specific management objectives for which the Park was established are as follows:

- To manage the park to ensure that the essential ecological characteristics and values remain
- To promote and regulate appropriate park use by tourists and local visitors and to strive to continually upgrade the quality of this use in such a manner as to preserve the Park's natural character for future generations
- To provide visitors with a wide range of interpretation and recreational opportunities and services
- To gradually eliminate or control damaging or incompatible uses
- To secure adequate administrative and personnel facilities in order to manage the park properly
- To encourage and develop applied research programmes to improve knowledge to park values and resources as well as improve park management
- To work closely with all stakeholders in the management and development of the park,
- To develop appropriate policies for sustainable utilization of the Park and its resources.

9. PARK ZONING PLAN

Objectives

The objectives in delineating zones within the Park is to divide the Park into areas of differing functions, each compatible with the principles guiding the establishment of the Park and its designation as a world Heritage Site. Specifically, it is intended to achieve the following:

• To define different management objectives, regulations, and activities in identified zones

- within the World Heritage Site.
- To allow for multi-use management of the Park taking into account the different ecological features and aspects
- To ensure that boundaries are adequately defined on the ground and to encourage the development of buffer zones so as to protect the integrity of the various zones

Zoning for the MTPNPWHS (Annex A, Map 13) consists of 6 zones as follows:

- Special Use zone
- Intensive Use
- Extensive Use Zone
- Environmental Study Zone
- Research
- Wildland Management
- Buffer Zone

Special Use zone- Dark Green
Intensive Use- Purple coloured
Extensive Use Zone – Orange coloured
Environmental Study Zone – E
Research Zone – R
Wildland Management- Area
Outside Special Use Zone

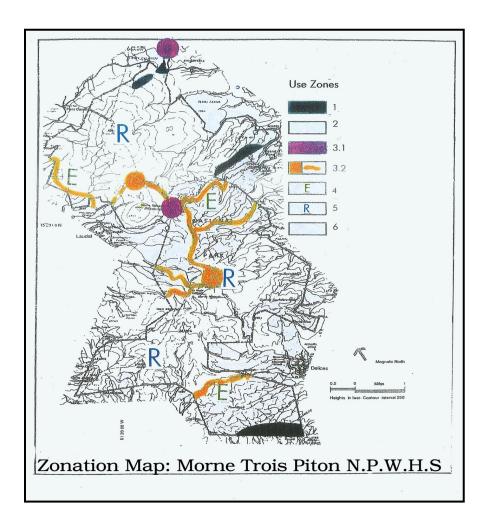


Figure 6 - Park Zoning Plan

9.1 SPECIAL USE ZONE / DEVELOPMENT ENCLAVES OR CORRIDORS

This zone is defined as areas with activities that are not compatible with the functions of the Park but are identified as national development activities

Objectives

To strictly confine or to phase out where possible these identified activities to ensure that the

integrity of the Park is not further compromised.

Activities

- To liaise with agencies responsible for these activities
- To monitor these activities
- To restrict these activities within well defined boundaries
- This zone is defined as areas with activities that are not compatible with the functions of the Park but are identified as national development activities

Examples of Existing Activities are as follows:

- The shooting range and the quarry located in the area close to the Emerald Pool
- The Hydro power infrastructure and transmission lines in Laudat
- Area along the Stuart River/Maraque area and Petite Savane/Morne Toupie areas

9.2 INTENSIVE USE ZONE/ PRIMARY VISITOR USE ZONE

Less vulnerable and accessible to large numbers of persons within acceptable limits. Organized recreation and visitor amenities including commercial activity. Visitor numbers and activities are sufficient to justify a facility with permanent personnel always when the site is open.

Programmes will be put in place to provide services to visitors and to monitor visitor numbers.

Objectives

- To provide and manage high quality facilities and amenities to visitors to the park to
 enhance their experience and to put measures to ensure that the natural resources of the
 Park are not compromised.
- To orient visitors to the Park, its resources and values (both material and non-material),
 through information and interpretation
- To stimulate business opportunities at the Visitor Centre and in the adjacent buffer zone to

generate income for the Park and local communities

• To serve as a focal point for infrastructure in support of educational and recreational experience

Activities

- Research and monitoring
- Park administration,
- Outreach to neighbouring landowners and communities.
- Provision of on-site facilities and services
- Provision of high quality infrastructure

Two sites within the Park have been identified for this as follows:

- Emerald Pool
- Freshwater Lake

9.3 EXTENSIVE USE ZONE/ SECONDARY VISITOR USE ZONE

These are defined as zones where visitors are expected and encouraged but where visitor volume is insufficient to justify a permanent staff presence. This may provide an argument for certified guides where signage is unsuitable or inadequate for the task.

Objectives

To provide basic facilities and services to users of the Park to enhance their recreational
experience and to educate them on the values and resources of the park to ensure that
their activities are in harmony with the Park's vision and overall objectives

Activities

• Provision of on-site information and interpretation

- Provision of basic infrastructure and facilities for access and use
- Research and monitoring
- Protection through patrol and enforcement

The following areas have been zoned for this activity as follows:

- The Boeri Lake
- Boiling Lake
- The Morne Trois Pitons Trail from Pont Casse'
- The Middleham/Sylvania/Cochrane Trail to Middleham
- The Delices/ Pichelin (Victoria –Perdu Temps) trail
- The Morne Anglais trail
- Sections of the Waitukubuli trail

9.4 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY ZONES

These zones can be defined primarily for day visits by school, undergraduates and adults with an interest in some basic knowledge of the natural history of the area but with no desire for in-depth study. These areas should be the subject of handbook guides with description of localities. These areas are also selected according to ease of access and diverse landscapes

Objectives

To encourage research in the national park by national and non-nationals including schools, research students and individuals to enhance the knowledge of the resources of the Park and to highlight the need to protect and conserve the resources of the Park

Management Activities

To provide basic services for ease of access to the users of the Park.

To encourage research activities and programmes in keeping with the research policies and programmes of the Park

Areas identified are as follows:

• The Middleham falls area contains mature rain forest, the waterfalls and the special bat

habitat of the "stinking hole".

• Chemin Letang from the Freshwater Lake to Grand Fond that traverses interesting rain forest and

geological resources

• The trail from Victoria Falls to Perdu Temps bordering the Foundland massif

9.5 RESEARCH / CORE CONSERVATION ZONE

Total priority areas for conservation of species, habitats, ecosystems, landforms and landscapes normally allowing only limited, non - destructive, management oriented monitoring, and research. These areas are defined as areas containing natural value about which further research is needed to develop an appropriate management response. There is need for ongoing research in the botanical inventory of the Park, the history of the development of the landscape and geomorphology, climatic data and climate change as well as the flora and fauna,

Objectives

To encourage non- destructive, management-oriented research into the biological, cultural, geological and geomorphic elements of the Park to include the impact of climate change to develop appropriate management programmes for use, protection and conservation of these resources

Management Activities

Total protection through patrol, enforcement and monitoring No provision of facilities to encourage access or use

Areas identified are as follows:

- The Valley of Desolation with its geological, volcanic and geothermal characteristics
- The parrot habitat areas,
- Geology and geomorphology especially detailed geology of the formation of the domes within an older crater exemplified between the Freshwater Lake and the Emerald Pool

- The ecosystems on the summits of Micotrin and Trois Pitons
- Volcanism especially the areas of the Valley of Desolation and the seismic activity in the southwest of the Park

It should be noted that some baseline studies have been conducted in the Park. However, additional studies are needed to adequately characterize the present status of the Park. As such, the entire Park should be considered a "zone for research"

On-going research and monitoring must be undertaken to evaluate the number and impact of visitors on the Park so that effective management decisions can be taken.

9.6 WILDLAND MANAGEMENT / WILDERNESS ZONE

This zone includes the large area of undisturbed natural forest that was once characteristic of all the mountains of Dominica and is critical to conserving the biological and genetic diversity and ecological integrity of this ecosystem. For persons wanting a wilderness experience with minimum volume of visitors

Provision of basic facilities for access and use with no permanent infrastructure The Wilderness Zone, which covers 70% of the Park, is managed to achieve:

Objectives

- Maximum conservation of natural habitats and genetic material of the forest ecosystem;
- The provision of opportunities for non-manipulative research and basic environmental monitoring;
- The provision of opportunities for motivated visitors to experience the forest wilderness on its own terms, without facilities other than basic trails – Low level, low impact recreation

Management Activities

- Provision of off-site information and interpretation
- Protection through patrol and enforcement
- Provision of basic facilities for access and use with no permanent infrastructure

9.7 BUFFER ZONE

A management zone designed to integrate the objectives of the Park with the activities along the Borders of the Park that are non-destructive and sustainable.

Overall, there has been a significant threat of encroachment in the parks, particularly due to agricultural and residential development. The development of a buffer zone (Annex A- Map 12) must as a priority, provide some level of protection to the biodiversity of the Park while enabling adjacent stakeholder communities to sustain livelihoods that are environmentally safe.

1000ft. / 305m "in areas where the land is under forest, marginal and state owned in the northern section of the Park in the Petite Terre Ferme area; 152.4 m (500 feet) "in localities where residential development is dense and in close proximity to the boundaries of the park (Sylvania). South of Corona the buffer follows the existing forest edge.

In other areas of the Park, a 200m buffer zone has been proposed for adoption. (Refer to the document "Design of Buffer Zones for the Morne Diablotin and Morne Trois Pitons National Parks")

Objectives of the Buffer zone

- To integrate the objectives of the Park with the activities along the borders of the Park that are non-destructive and sustainable.
- To provide some level of protection to the biodiversity of the Park while enabling adjacent stakeholder communities to sustain livelihoods that are environmentally safe.
- To meet the WHS criteria.

Management Activities

- To collaborate with land owners and communities bordering the Park to avert incompatible developments on private lands that represent a threat to Park values and to maximise the potential for development of these lands for sustainable livelihood development
- To promote and provide technical advice and incentives to land owners and communities

 To educate, inform and integrate landowners and communities in park management programmes

10. MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES

The specifics of "WHAT" is required for management of the Park are articulated through the following management programmes on resource protection, visitor use, research, environmental education, and community outreach and livelihood development. It is built around 2 major management programmes - Resource Protection and an Education and Outreach

RESOURCE PROTECTION PROGRAMME

10.1 The Programme objective is to establish an effective management structure, visitor use and non-intrusive infrastructure that safeguards the integrity of the biological resources, natural features, and watersheds of the Park through actions that build public support and counter specific threats. These include among other things, reducing illegal activities, managing and monitoring visitor impacts, agricultural encroachment, and contamination of water sources. It is built around 3 sub- programmes as follows:

- 1A Natural Resource Conservation Programme
- 1B Natural Resource Management Programme
- 1C Scientific Research and Monitoring Programme

10.1.1 Sub-programme 1A- Natural Resource Conservation

<u>Objectives</u>: To maintain and protect the biological diversity of the park, watersheds, geological and landscape elements through implementation of activities geared at averting threats to the park and by encouraging community support for the park through education and involvement.

Integral to achieving this objective is the development of a co-management programme that will engage major stakeholders in the management process. This will be highlighted under the proposed park management structure.

1) Physical Demarcation of Boundaries and Establishment of a Park Zoning Plan

Boundary Demarcation

Objectives

To legally incorporate the Archbold Preserve comprising of 940 acres as part of the MTNPWHS and establish the boundaries of the park using standardized, internationally accepted signage to ensure that boundaries that have been gazetted for the National Park correlate with what is seen on the ground.

A 3- year demarcation renewal programme should be established for clearing of the boundary lines and buffer zones of the Park. It is recommended that hardy plant, e.g. San Dwagon *Cordyline fruticosa* should be planted along the lines especially at corner points for easy location.

Activities to be undertaken for Boundary demarcation are as follows:

- Re-establish and formalize the boundaries of the Park with the use of GIS methods to develop a marker database of information
- Implement demarcation programme utilizing appropriate markers and developing effective signage.
- Reforest and restore where relevant, the buffer zones on state lands to increase the resilience of the Park
- Develop an annual boundary maintenance programme

Implementation -This should be initiated within the first year of implementation of the Management Plan followed by continuous maintenance.

Programme Monitoring and Evaluation

- Park boundaries are established and a "marker data base" is developed and accessible
- Boundary signage established

- Information on reforested acreage for buffer zone is provided
- Boundary maintenance programme is established

2) Establish and Implement a Park Zoning Plan

Objectives

To establish effective use and functionality of the Park by dividing the Park into areas with differing functions, each compatible with the principles guiding the establishment of the Park

Policy

To collaborate with stakeholders to protect the resources of the Park and disallow activities that are not compatible with the preservation of the biological integrity of the Park

Activities

- To undertake an inventory of the resources in the zoned areas
- Develop and agree on a management strategy for the proposed buffer zone in collaboration with all stakeholders
- Demarcate the various zones of the park on the ground
- Develop a management Plan for the other zones of the Park
- Establish a data-base of the zonation plan

Implementation - The zoning plan should be implemented within the first 3 years of the implementation of the management plan of the Park and a data-based developed. Inventory of the resources will be ongoing and will be part of the overall research programme for the Parks.

Programme Monitoring and Evaluation

- A buffer zone management plan is developed and approved by all stakeholders
- Inventory of the zoned areas commence in Year 2 and continues throughout.
- Zonal Inventory report is available
- Zones are demarcated and included into a GIS data base
- Zonal management Plans are developed and implemented

3) Update and /or Establish Public/Visitor Use Programme

Objectives

The objective of the Public / Visitor Use Programme is to facilitate the understanding and enjoyment of the Park and its resources by the public, provide excellent outdoor recreation opportunities and facilities in keeping with the park zoning plan, while maintaining a high-quality environment to enhance visitor experience, reduce the impact of climate change and promote sustainable and economic development of the Park and Dominica

Policy

The policy for the Visitor Use Programme is to provide the necessary amenities and services to enhance visitor enjoyment and appreciation of the Park, enhancement of the tourism industry (inclusive of stay-over and cruise ship visitors), within the context of the objectives of the Park and to develop monitoring programmes to enhance visitor experience and ongoing sustainable management of the sites.

The issue of safety of visitors using park facilities and the impact of climate change on Park users are also an important component of the Park's visitor use policy

Activities

- Infrastructure Design, implementation and Maintainence
 - Undertake an evaluation of existing facilities and prepare a 5 year visitor facility and development plan based on demand- to be costed under capital estimates
- Upgrade Existing Visitor Facilities and Services
 - Access: Review current access and finalize main access points to the park.
 - Trails: Upgrade existing trails and develop new trails where necessary based on trail standards and visitor safety. All trails will be adequately signed and maintained on an annual basis. Incorporate the principles of co-management of

the Waitukubuli trail into the National Parks' trail development and maintenance system

- Visitor Centres: Upgrading of visitor centres and construction of new ones where necessary
- Car parks: Maintenance of existing car parks and development of new car parks where necessary
- Picnic Shelters/ washroom facilities: Upgrading of existing picnic shelters, washroom facilities and development of new facilities where necessary
- ➤ Signage and Interpretation Develop a parks interpretation programme and prepare signage and interpretive material for existing trails utilizing international signs where relevant
- Develop a maintenance plan for these facilities and services

• Establish Visitor Safety Programmes

- > Develop a policy on visitor safety
- ➤ Develop and establish forecasting capability and early warning systems in collaboration with the Dominica Meteorological Office, to alert users of the Park to the impact of climate change- flooding, intense rainfall etc/
- > Development of a disaster management and mitigation plan for the Park
- ➤ Establish a "visitor search and rescue operations" programme in collaboration with the Police, Fire Department and the Office of Disaster Management/ the Dominica Red Cross and other relevant NGO oganizations like hiking clubs

Implementation

A visitor safety policy should be developed by Year 1 followed by the preparation of a"

Disaster Management and Mitigation Plan" and "Visitor Search and Rescue Operations"

Technical assistance is sought for the preparation of a "Disaster Management Plan and this is developed approved and available.

Meetings are convened and work plan developed with stakeholders and relevant agencies to develop joint programmes outlined

• Establish Visitor Monitoring and Management Programmes

- Establish visitor monitoring programmes- Identify range of programmes to be undertaken to include a bi-annual visitor survey programme.
- Establish indicators of Limits of Acceptable Change, LAC, for intensive use areas of the Park
- ➤ A number of policies outlined earlier must be considered for implementation as follows:
 - Management of the Waitukubuli National trail and its relationship to the Park
 - Physical Development Guidelines, architectural styles and standards with respect to buildings, trails types (based on park zonation)- A, B or C type trails
 - Use of visitor centres,
 - Maintenance planning
 - Visitor Safety, Security and Rescue operations
 - Licensing of Park Service Providers
 - Type of Accommodation facilities/ camping etc.

Implementation - The Development of a Visitor Use programme will be ongoing.

Programme Monitoring and Evaluation

The number of programmes that have been implemented based on activities outlined and the time frame for implementation

- A 5 -year visitor facility and development plan is developed and approved
- An infrastructure and trail maintenance programme is developed and operational
- Parks Interpretation programme developed for implementation
- Facilities upgraded or developed where necessary
- Policies are developed and in place

- Visitor survey instruments developed, and surveys undertaken
- A maintenance plan id developed and operational
- Visitor safety programmes are in place and operational
- 4) Climate Change Adaptation to Climate Change (this activity will be incorporated in *Programme 1C-* Scientific Research and Monitoring)

Objectives

- To understand the impact of climate change through scientific research and monitoring and to sensitize policy makers, communities and other stakeholders
- To work with all stakeholders to develop baseline information on the biota, physical features, and natural processes of the Park as a basis for measuring the impact of climate change and to implement necessary adaptation measures
- Increase the resilience of the Parks by reducing non-climatic sources of stress, establishing the buffer zones to facilitate migration of species, and reducing the carbon footprint.
- To undertake ex-situ research to maintain the genome of endemic and indicator species of the Parks
- To collaborate, co-operate and share best practices and knowledge

Activities

- Develop public awareness and community outreach programmes to sensitize and educate
 the stakeholders and communities adjacent to the Park to understand and manage the
 impact with climate change. this will be incorporated in "Programme 2A"
- Undertake Research and monitoring (This will be incorporated into Programme 1C-Scientific Research and Monitoring)

In-situ

- Collate and evaluate climate data within the Park Establish of hydro-meteorological monitoring in the Park through the Meteorological office. This will entail the following:
 - > Upgrade the current hydrological monitoring programme and instrumentation

- Establishment of a database management system- Establish an efficient data collection, management and retrieval system accessible to their the Forestry Division
- Install a weather station in the Park to monitor and assess climate data for water budget calculations data as a long-term strategy
- ➤ Install one rain gauge above the forest canopy of the Park to study the rainfall interception process.
- Monitoring of water levels within the National Parks to provide data on water level trends that are needed to manage the resource -forestry
- ➤ Determination of rainfall trigger values and soil moisture content required for the initiation of landslides to manage fresh water resources both within and exterior to the confines of the National Park System.
- Develop baseline data on the resources of the Park to monitor changes in these resources including the impact of climate change
 - Species inventories of fauna and flora, especially invertebrates (particularly moths), coleopterans, crustaceans, freshwater fish, mosses and liverworts; life histories, and population and distribution studies of key species
 - ➤ Identification of critical sites and habitats of endangered and endemic species;
- Undertake watershed management techniques

Ex-situ

- Establish seed-gene bank and collect and store seeds and plant materials of all endemic
- Establish a living collection of plants ex-situ field gene banks and indicator plant species.

Other Activities

- Train staff responsible for research, monitoring and collation of climate data
- Review legislation and policy of the National Park to allow for restoration of degraded areas of the Park and the management and impact of climate change. Establish

forecasting capability, early warning systems in collaboration with the Disaster Management Office

- Increase the resilience of the Park by reducing non-climatic sources of stress (These activities will be incorporated under the specific management Programmes)
 - Establish boundaries and buffer zones to facilitate migration of species
 - ➤ Retrofit all building in the parks to make them energy efficient
 - Reforest and restore degraded areas of the buffer zones
 - Provide incentives to land owners with land adjacent to the Parks to reduce impact on the Park
 - Close and rehabilitate the quarry in the Park and relocate shooting range in the Park
- Strengthen the co-operation between Forestry and national parks service, land owners and the private sector

Implementation – Research and monitoring will be undertaken under Programme "1C - *Scientific Research and Monitoring*". Other programmes will be subsumed under the relevant management programmes e.g. "Physical Demarcation of Boundaries and Establishment of Buffer Zones", "Infrastructure Design and Implementation" etc.

Programme Monitoring and Evaluation - This will be assessed on effectiveness and efficiency of the established data base, the development of baseline data on the resources of the Park and hydro-meteorological data collected.

5) Establish Management Regulations

Objectives:

To develop a comprehensive policy and an effective regulatory system for the MTPNPWHS in keeping with existing legal and regulatory regimes, as to ensure the protection of the resources of the park, the use of the park, as well as users of the resource.

Activities:

- A detailed review of all relevant legal instruments must be undertaken with a view to
 updating all the necessary laws and regulations. (This is being funded under this
 programme "Supporting Sustainable Ecosystem by Strengthening the Effectiveness
 of Dominica's Protected Area System Project"
- A regime of policies should be developed that will address the following:
 - Climate change
 - Funding of the Park- user fees, development of special funds etc.
 - ➤ Development of Park facilities- design, use of construction materials
 - Activities within zones
 - ➤ Leasing and franchising
 - > Safety
 - > Research
 - Maintenance
 - National ecological security policies for sovereignty and protection of genetic resources and bio-piracy
 - ➤ Relationship with Communities bordering the Park
 - ➤ Incentives to land owners within and adjacent to the Park

(<u>Refer to 4.4</u> Policy and Legal and Regulatory Framework- Development of Policies for complete listing).

<u>Implementation</u>: This will be incorporated upon completion and ratification by Government

<u>Programme Monitoring and Evaluation:</u> This will be assessed on the number of regulations that are developed and legally adopted and circulated to park users and stakeholders.

6) Develop a Surveillance and Enforcement Programme

Objectives:

To develop an effective surveillance and enforcement mechanism that will ensure compliance with the rules and regulations of the Park

Goals:

To attempt to prevent incidents or accidents through effective patrolling and surveillance as opposed to infraction while establishing a system to deal with unavoidable infractions as stipulated by Law

Activities

Under the "Supporting Sustainable Ecosystem by Strengthening the Effectiveness of Dominica's Protected Area System Project" one of the outputs is a "Surveillance and Enforcement Plan for Protected Areas. This will complement the recommendations outlined

- Power of authorized officers-Section 17 (1) of the NPPAA
- Establish protocol for enforcement procedures
- Training of park wardens
- Developing stakeholder relationship- cooperation with communities and land owners on the boundary of the park Refer to "Education and Outreach programme"
- Developing standard operating procedures, SOP, with respect to fines, violations etc
- Implementing public awareness and education programmes to all stakeholders especially users of the resource

Regular patrolling of Park boundaries will be carried out to control illegal activities like hunting, encroachment, and/or contamination of water sources.

An electronic data base will be established to archive incident reports, observation of endemic, rare, threatened and invasive species; and provide the raw data that will enable the identification of the most problematic areas, and the most effective programming and required frequency of patrols.

Initially, patrolling of the boundaries will give priority to the boundaries that have been demarcated, and the known entry points into areas that have not been demarcated. As data is collected and analyzed, the routing and frequency of patrolling will be revised accordingly".

<u>Implementation schedule</u>- This should be implemented within the first year of the implementation of the Management Plan followed by continuous monitoring.

Programme Monitoring and Evaluation

This will be based on the number of complaints, citations for violations and/or infractions. This would indicate the level of understanding of park regulations.

Establishment of an appropriate and standardized system for record keeping

10.1.2 Sub - Programme 1B. Natural Resource Management

Objective:

To provide the necessary staff, equipment and other relevant resources for management of the natural resources of the Park

Activities:

- 1. Establish the National Park Service and equip offices for staff
- 2. Recruit staff (Refer to Section 11-Governance & Administration- for staffing)
- 3. Undertake capacity building programmes for existing staff (refer to Annex E)
- 4. Demarcate specific access points for users of the resource
- 5. Develop an effective maintenance management programme
- 6. Manage species and habitats
- 7. Provide the necessary equipment for undertaking hydro-meteorological research and monitoring
- 8. Develop standard operating procedures and develop best practices with respect to park operations and programmes- fines and violations.
- 9. Develop relevant policies to deal with pertinent issues affecting the Park

Implementation schedule- This will be ongoing

<u>Programme Monitoring and Evaluation</u> - Park is operational and functioning with a full cadre of staff and equipment. A number of Park staff that has been trained annually through workshops attachments and formal training programmes. Polices are developed and utilized for management programmes.

10.1.3 Sub-Programme 1C. Scientific Research and Monitoring

Objectives: To provide management with scientific information for decision-making so as to ensure that the objectives of conservation and management of the resources are achieved.

In -situ Research

Activities

- 1. Setting standards and format and establishing protocol for research and monitoring programmes within the Park
- 2. Identify research needs of the Park and prepare research proposals
- 3. Develop and Establish in collaboration with the users of the resource a research and monitoring programme taking into consideration the following:
 - An inventory of species, especially invertebrates (particularly moths), coleopterans, crustaceans, freshwater fish, mosses and liverworts; Life histories, and population and distribution studies of key species;
 - ➤ Identification of critical sites and habitats of endangered and endemic species; and threshold level for disturbances to wildlife populations.
 - Undertake vulnerability assessment of the Park
 - ➤ Undertake watershed management techniques
- 4. Undertake hydro-meteorological monitoring in the Park to entail the following:

- Assess hydro-meteorological parameters of the Park for water budget calculations data as a long-term strategy
- Rainfall interception process.
- Monitoring of water levels within the National Parks to provide data on water level trends that are needed to manage the resource
- ➤ Determination of rainfall trigger values and soil moisture content required for the initiation of landslides so as to manage fresh water resources both within and exterior to the confines of the National Park System.

To achieve this, the current hydrological monitoring programme and equipment must be upgraded. Staff must be trained to effectively monitor, collate and store the data and the following must be installed to effect monitoring and collection of data:

- ➤ Install one rain gauge above the forest canopy of the Park to study the rainfall interception process
- 5. Establish indicators for the following so as to assess any changes in their status
 - > natural resources- wildlife, freshwater water levels, climatic data etc.
 - For climate change and monitoring indicators and trends.

6. Ex – situ Research

- Undertake ex-situ research to maintain the genome of endemic and indicator species of the Parks
 - Establish seed-gene bank and collect and store seeds and plant materials of all endemic and indicator plant species
 - Establish a living collection of plants ex-situ field gene banks
- Develop a database of information that is scientific, manageable and user friendly

An efficient data collection, management and retrieval system must be established.

Hydrometeorological monitoring instruments must be purchased to undertake the research and to monitor climatic parameters. Refer to Appendix I for list of instruments.

Monitoring

Interpretation of Monitoring Data

The monitoring information generated will be stored in a data base and will be analyzed on a quarterly basis to detect trends and patterns that require actions by the Resource Protection Programme. The following data will be monitored:

- > Status of endemic plants and animals
- > Trail conditions / erosion;
- ➤ Declining water quality and water level of major rivers in the Park
- > Agricultural encroachment
- ➤ Visitor Impact
- ➤ Condition of the Visitor Centre interpretive exhibits.
- ➤ Indications of hunting within the Park.
- ➤ Hydro-meteorology of the Park
- Monitoring the impact of climate change on the Park through establishment of indicators
- > Presence of invasive species
- Physical and biological resources of the Park.
- Rainfall trigger values and soil moisture content required for the initiation of landslides so as to manage fresh water resources both within and exterior to the confines of the Park.

 (Refer to Appendix I for list of research and monitoring priorities)

Implementation Schedule- Ongoing

Monitoring and Evaluation- the effectiveness of the programme will be based on the establishment of an effective database for the park, the actual collation of information on the biological resources, hydro-meteorological parameters of the Park and the development of management initiatives to protect the resources of the Park.

10. 2 ENVIRONMENTAL, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAMME.

10. 2.1 Programme 2 A. Communication, Education and Public Awareness and Marketing Goal

To develop and coordinate the flow and variety of information within the park so as to increase awareness among relevant publics of the ecological and bio-physical significance of the Park, various issues affecting the resources to include the impact of climate change in an effort to sensitize policy makers, communities and other stakeholders on climate change and other issues affecting the Park as well as the contribution of the Park to national development and to global biodiversity conservation. It is built around two (2) sub-programmes-

- Communication, Public Awareness, Education and Marketing
- Community Outreach and Livelihood/ Alternative Livelihood Development

Communication, Public Awareness, Education and Marketing

Objectives

To sensitize stakeholders on the value of the MTPNPWHS and the various issues affecting the Park so as to galvanize support for and to foster participation in its operations and to market the Park.

Activities

- Awareness Raising Develop and implement a public awareness programme
- Develop a Marketing Strategy and programme for the Park to include branding: Develop a "brand" and tagline for positioning of MTNPWHS- Undertake marketing of the Park in collaboration with other stakeholders, DDA, Tour Operators, Travel agencies.
- Key messages: Develop and deliver key messages to target audiences using the most costeffective vehicles;
- Community Outreach- Develop a community outreach programme
- Networking Media Outreach/Advocacy: develop strategic relationships with organizations and individuals and the media in Dominica
- School's Outreach: Launch a school's outreach programme, promoted through specially

organized activities for schools and students in order to attract interest in and garner support for the MTNPWHS as a Protected Area;

Development of Public Awareness and Educational tools

- > Printed materials
- > Audio-visual materials
- ➤ Interpretive centre

Implementation

This should be started within the first year of the implementation of the Management Plan and should be on-going

Programme Monitoring and Evaluation

Indicators to be assessed will include the development of a marketing and public awareness strategies and actual production of programmes and materials outlined above. The number of public awareness programmes implemented, the level of awareness of the target groups as well as evaluation of park users in terms of knowledge of regulations, zoning g etc. evaluation programme specific to this must be developed e.g. a before and after survey on the level of perception of stakeholders/target groups.

10.2.2 Programme 2 B. Community Outreach and Livelihood/Alternative Livelihood Development

Objectives

To include communities adjacent to the park in the management, research, monitoring and development of the park and to assist them to sustain and develop livelihood / alternative livelihoods compatible with the protection and sustainable use of Park

Activities

Strengthening the co-operation between Forestry and national parks service, communities,
 land owners and the private sector through the establishment of a buffer zone committees

with sub-committees in the east, west, north and southern buffer areas and community working committees

- Develop and prepare a Memorandum of Understanding, MOU, in collaboration with stakeholders for co-management of the buffer zone
- Provide the technical assistance to land owners and adjacent communities to identify alternative livelihood opportunities
- Develop community –based programmes and mainstream climate change into these programmes
- Train communities to assist in research, monitoring and management of the Park
- Reduce anthropogenic activities in and adjacent to the Park.

Implementation

This should be initiated within the first year of the implementation of the Management Plan

Monitoring

- Buffer zone Management committees established and operational / Co- management agreement developed, signed and operational
- Memorandum of Understanding, MOU, in place and operational
- Land use programmes in buffers developed in collaboration with land owners
- A technical assistance package with concessions and incentives developed in collaboration with land owners
- And the Ministry of Finance and submitted government and funding agencies for consideration

Personnel- 1 Public Awareness and Training officer in collaboration with the village councils and relevant CBOs, NGOs and government agencies.

11. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The MTNPWHS is managed by the Forestry and Wildlife Division currently under the Ministry of Environment, Disaster Management, Urban Renewal and CREED.

The Forestry & Wildlife Division has 5 operational Units - National Parks, Resource Management, Silviculture, Utilization and Protection. The National Park Unit also manages the Morne Diablotin National Park and The Cabrits National Park as well as the Botanical gardens, and other ecotourism sites like Trafalgar Falls in collaboration with the Discover Dominica Authority, DDA, and the Indian River.

The organizational chart below outlines the current organizational structure of the Forestry, National Parks and Wildlife Division as well as the National Parks.

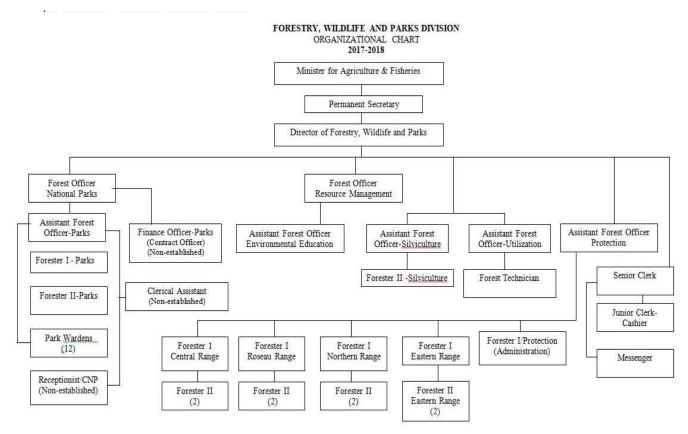


Figure 7– Current Organizational Chart – Forestry, National Parks & Wildlife Division The National Park Unit

The current staff of the MTNP consists 10 persons as follows:

- The Director of Forestry with dual responsibility for Forestry and National Parks.
- One (1) Forest Officer / Park Superintendent/ Forest Officer, who is responsible for the Park
- 1 finance Officer
- 12 Park wardens
- 5 non-technical staff- 1 receptionist, 1 secretary, 1cleaner, 1 labourer and 1 clerical assistant.

Staff deployment within the various sites of the Park indicate that deployment only occurs within 3 of the 6 sites of the Park as indicated in the table below.

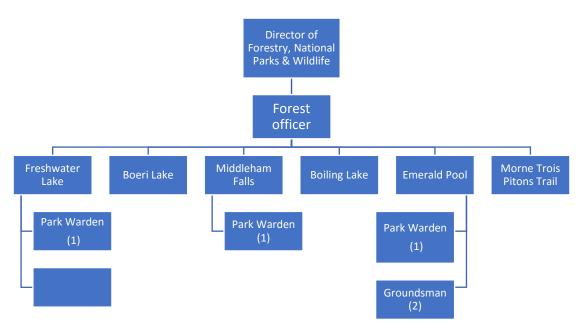


Figure 8- Current National Parks Organizational Structure

Table 8 - Deployment of Park Wardens and Non-technical staff of the MTNPWHS ref: Min of Agriculture

Staff Position Title	Posts	Position Category
The Freshwater Lake – Concessionaire Operated		
Park Warden – Boeri, Freshwater Lake & Boiling Lake	2	Non-established Position
Groundsman	2	Non-established Position
Sub-total Staff Positions	4	
The Emerald Pool – Concessionaire Operated		
Receptionist	1	Non-established Position
Park Warden	2	Non-established Position
Groundsman	1	Non-established Position
Sub-total Staff Positions	4	
Middleham Falls		
Caretaker	2	Non-established Position
Sub-total Staff Positions	2	
Total Staff Positions	10	

SHORTCOMINGS OF THE CURRENT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The current organizational structure of the National parks has the following shortcomings:

- The core functions of the NPU are carried out as part of the overall mandate of the Forest, Wildlife & Parks Division. Activities such as parks planning, research and development and site and infrastructure, maintenance which relate directly to core function of parks preservation have not been grouped under independent work units.
- There is inadequate coverage of the core and support functions of park management and preservation.
- Responsibility and management of the proposed buffer zone has not been considered.
- Other activities such as park information, tour guiding, enforcement and security which relates directly to day to day parks management have not been grouped under independent work units.

• Support activities such as executive management, finance and accounting, general administration, human resource management, communication and information systems are not grouped into independent work units that are specific to the NPU.

It does not provide adequately for the number of staff positions necessary to deliver the full range of services required.

The National Parks and Protected Areas Act, NPPAA, (1975) recommended a management framework for the national Parks. Forty-three (43) years later, this has still not been implemented. A national parks advisory council has never been appointed and no park management plan has been submitted for public review or approval as required by the Act.

Regulations with respect to the NPPA Act have been developed through "Statutory Rules and Orders No. 54 of 2003 and gazetted in January 2004. and earlier in 1997 user fee regulations were established. The Parks continue to be a source of national pride for all Dominicans, a conservation priority with respect to watershed management, wildlife protection and climate resilience and an inadequately untapped resource for sustainable economic development.

PROPOSED MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

A management framework that adequately supports park functions is being recommended with a view to operationalizing the Park to meet its objective outlined. A number of management frameworks have been proposed in the past.

In 1995, a national Parks organizational framework was recommended in keeping with the existing National Parks legislation. The Management Handbook dated 30th July 1995, proposed an organizational structure for the NPS with a list of staff positions recommended by title, number and type. The proposed structure recommended four (4) independent work units viz: Administration, Finance & Personnel, Operations and Planning & Development. three (3) independent work units viz: Finance & Personnel, Operations and Planning & Development and a list of staff positions by title, number and type. Eighteen (18) staff positions of which fourteen (14) are established and four (4) are non-established as follows:

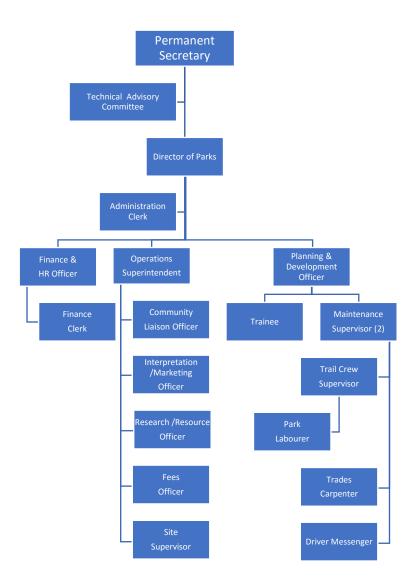


Figure 9 – The Proposed 1995 NPS Organizational Chart

The proposed structure above was never implemented.

Table 9 - Description of NPS Staff Positions by Title, Number, Grade and Type (1995)

No	Staff Position Title	Posts	Grade	Position Category
1	Administration			
1.1	Director of Parks	1		Established Position
1.2	Administration Clerk	1		Established Position
	Sub-total	2		
2	Finance & Personnel			
2.1	Finance & Human Resource Officer	1		Established Position
2.2	Finance Clerk	1		Established Position
	Sub-total	2		
3	Operations			
3.1	Operations Superintendent	1		Established Position
3.2	Community Liaison Officer	1		Established Position
3.3	Interpretation Officer	1		Established Position
3.4	Fees Officer	1		Established Position
3.5	Resource Officer	1		Established Position
3.6	Site Supervisor	1		Established Position
	Sub-total	6		
4	Planning & Development			
4.1	Planning & Development Officer	1		Established Position
4.2	Trainee	1		Established Position
4.3	Maintenance Supervisor	1		Established Position
4.4	Trades Carpenter	1		Non-established Position
4.5	Trail Crew Supervisor	2		Non-established Position
4.6	Park Labourer	1		Non-established Position
4.7	Park Driver/Messenger	1		Non-established Position
	Sub-total	8		
	Total Staff Positions	18		

In 2011 Government sought technical assistance from the Caribbean Development Bank, CDB, with the specific purpose of implementation of the Management Plan for the National Parks. However, the consultant hired to undertake the project did not follow the terms of reference submitted and proposed the development of a protected areas management plan that would incorporate all Dominica's protected areas under one umbrella body – a "Protected Area Authority, PPA

The proposed organizational structure of the PAA comprised of 3 independent work units as follows:

1. An Office of the Chief Executive Officer supported by a Finance & Accounting Division, a General Administration Division and a Human Resource Division

- 2. A Planning and Development Department supported by a Research & Planning Division and a Park Development Division
- 3. An Operations Department supported by a Maintenance Division, a Sites & Services Division and an Enforcement Division.

Supporting legislation, A draft Protected Areas Bill, and a management framework were developed for Cabinet's review and approval. The report was accepted by the Forestry, National Parks & Wildlife Division. Discussions with the Director of Forestry (April 2018) indicated that this was never ratified by Cabinet.

Recommended Management / Institutional Framework

In view of the above evaluation, it is recommended that a management framework as outlined under the National Parks and Protected Areas Act and recommended in the National Park handbook be adopted and implemented with the following modifications for consideration.

National Parks and Protected Areas Act

The Current National Parks Act clearly outlines the proposed management structure for the National Parks as follows:

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment (MOA) is the primary institution with direct responsibility for Forestry, Wildlife & Parks Division, (FWD). Recently this responsibility was passed on the Ministry of Environment, Disaster Management, Urban Renewal & Climate Resilience (MEDUCC). The Ministry develops the broad policy framework to guide the development of these resources.

The administration, management and control of the national parks system is vested, under the Act section 3(3), to the Minister responsible for the National Park System. In this case the Minister for Environment, Disaster Management, Urban Renewal & Climate Resilience. The Forestry and Wildlife Division is responsible for the management and development of National Parks with direct responsibility given to the Director of National Parks.

Section 7 of the Act provides for the appointment of a Director of National Parks, together with the Superintendent of parks, park wardens and such other officers who shall constitute the "National Parks Service" The Director is empowered under section 7(2) of the Act, to employ casual workers as may be necessary for the administration of the national parks system

The Act also provides for the appointment of a National Park Advisory Council consisting of the Director of National Parks, three members appointed by the Minister and one on the recommendation of the Dominica Conservation Society (section 8)

The function of the Council is to advise the Minister on matters relating to the administration, management The National Park should be established as a statutory body since it would be able to attract additional funding as a quasi-government body

- The Management framework be slightly modified to reflect a co-management approach with adjacent communities and private land owners within and bordering the Park and buffer zones.
- The advisory council should function as a Board of Directors. Co-management would be realized through the composition of the Board, the establishment of committees at the community level the development of co-management agreements, specifically with respect to the buffer zone management. These committees will be under the supervision of the Director of Parks and the Park Superintendent in implementation of the management plan.
- A buffer zone management committee with 4 zonal sub-committees sanctioned by the BOD should be established under the jurisdiction of the Park Director and the Park superintendent.
- Community-based committees sanctioned by the BOD operating under the jurisdiction of the Park Director and the Park superintendent should be established to co-manage the Park.

The proposed management structure will consist of three (3) units as follows:

- 1. An Office of the National Parks Director supported by a Finance & Accounting Unit, a General Administration Unit and a Human Resource Unit
- 2. A Planning and Development Department supported by a Research & Planning Unit and a Park Development Unit
- 3. An Operations Department supported by a Maintenance Unit, a Sites & Services Unit and an Enforcement Unit.

Establishment of Park Committees

<u>Park Advisory Committee</u>: This Committee will be established as per the National Park Act to ensure input from stakeholders into the Administration of the Park. It will also be a tool for

engaging stakeholders in the management process, raising their awareness of issues related to management, and to develop and transmit values that are consonant with the vision and objectives of the Park. The committee will be expected to provide advice and direction on scientific research and monitoring, financing, preparation of site management plans as well as marketing and sustainable Park infrastructure development and management. The committee will be chaired by the Director of the National Park and will comprise the following organizations and departments.

- Forestry -Director of Forestry
- DOWASCO- General Manager
- DDA- Director of Tourism
- Environmental Co-ordinating Unit Director
- Local Government Representative
- Physical Planning Unit Chief Physical Planner
- Representatives of Civil Society

Members will be appointed by the Minister as per the National Parks Act and will serve for a period of 2 years. The committee will be expected to meet quarterly or more often as required.

Functions of the Board / Park Advisory Committee

The Board will be responsible for the following:

- Ensuring the effective discharge of the functions and powers of the National Park Authority
- The general administration of the National Park;
- Providing policy and other strategic direction to the Park.

Establishment of Community - based committees

These communities will be expected to play a co-management role and to integrate Park activities, programmes and functions into their community programmes. These committees will be appointed by the Director of Parks and sanctioned by the Board and will be expected to serve for a period of 2 years. The committees will meet quarterly.

Functions of the Committees

- To be stewards of the Park
- To assist Park management in the implementation of objectives and programmes- research visitor safety, trail construction and maintenance, surveillance
- To educate the wider community on the park public sensitization and support

Proposed Buffer Zone Management Concept

The concept of buffer zone management that integrates conservation of the resources of the Park with sustainable project development is being recommended for the MTNPWHS especially in areas where farmers /land owners make a livelihood form the land in question- an integrated approach with all stakeholders involved in decision- making.

This process would entail ensuring that buffer zone activities do not compromise the ecology and natural resources of the Park, that projects identified are sustainable and the land owners accept their social responsibility for ensuring that whatever collaborative agreements on use of their land agreed to, will be upheld and adhered to and that programmes or projects developed will be financially sustainable.

This suggests an integrated approach and participatory decision making process

The success of this will depend on the level of involvement of the land owners and communities in the development and management of the buffer zone. Involvement being at the initiation stage. This will also entail capacity building at the community, land owner and private sector levels to create support and to institutionalize activities and programmes. All proposed activities and programmes including new or alternative activities, introduction of new technologies or inputs, capacity building programmes and/or technical assistance as well as incentives must be decided collaboratively with stakeholders having a clear understanding and level of acceptability of what will and will not be allowed in that buffer zone.

This will be the basis for development and institutionalization of a co- management programme for the buffer zone.

Management of the Buffer Zone

Overall responsibility for buffer zone management would fall directly under the National Parks. A co-management approach with land owners and the community should be considered. This would entail the preparation of a memorandum of understanding, MOU, among all parties concerned to create improved cooperation and understanding of Parks and protected areas and to create a "win- win situation for land owners and government.

Objectives of the MOU

- To clarify the roles and responsibilities of participating agencies in support of the management of the buffer zone pursuant to the relevant legal instruments
- To agree on methods of use for improved livelihood
- To foster cooperative working relationships
- To help coordinate and implement the objectives for which the buffer zones were established

Buffer Zone Management Committee

This will be sanctioned by the Board of Directors and will fall directly under the supervision of the Director of Parks / Park superintendent

This will consist of one (1) overall management Committee and 4 zonal sub-committees in the east, west, north and south of the Park.

Management Committee- Representatives of each zonal committee, Ministry of Agriculture, Private sector, Forestry Division, GEF/Small Grants Programme, Local Govt. representative

Buffer Zone Zonal Committee

Will consist of the following representatives:

- Land owners
- Farmer
- Village council rep
- Community -based NGO Committee
- Min. of Agriculture

Functions

- To help coordinate and implement the objectives for which the buffer zones were established
- To identify proposed activities and programmes including new or alternative activities for the buffer zone
- To develop agree on methods of use for improved livelihood
- To foster cooperative working relationships

It should be noted that the National Parks has overall responsibility for the following: Cabrits National Park- terrestrial component, Morne Diablotin National Park, the Botanical Gardens, Trafalgar Falls, Indian River. As such the entire functions related to the National Park have been taken into consideration with respect to the organizational structure proposed below.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

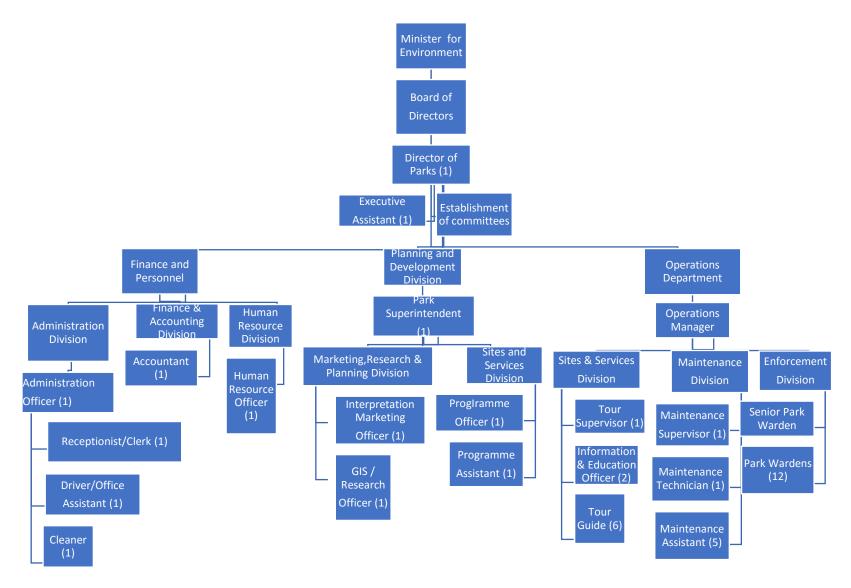


Figure 10 - Recommended Organizational Structure for the Management of National Park

Table 10 - Description of NPS Staff Positions by Title, Number, Grade and Type

No	Staff Position Title	Posts	Grade	Position Type
1	Office of the Director /CEO of Parks			
1.1	Executive Management Unit			
1.1.1	Director /CEO of Parks	1		Established
1.1.2	Executive Assistant	1		Established
	Sub-total	2		
1.2	Finance & Accounting Division			
1.2.2	Accountant	1		Established
	Sub-total	1		
1.3	General Administration Division			
1.3.1	Administration Officer	1		Established
1.3.2	Receptionist/Clerk	1		Established
1.3.3	Driver (2) /Office Assistant (1)	3		Non-established
1.3.4	Cleaner	1		Non-established
	Sub-total	6		
1.4	Human Resource Division			
1.4.1	Human Resource Officer	1		Established
	Sub-Total	1		

2.	Planning & Development Department		
	Park Superintendent	1	Established
2.1	Research & Planning Division		
2.1.2	Community and Livelihood Development Officer	2	Established
	Interpretation/Marketing Officer	1	Established
2.2	Sites Supervisor	1	
2.2.1	Sites officer/ Tour Supervisor	1	Established
2.2.2	GIS / Geology Officer	1	Established
	Sub-total	6	
	Total Planning & Development Department	7	
3	Operations Department		
3.2	Maintenance Division		
3.2.1	Maintenance Supervisor	1	Established
3.2.2	Maintenance Technician	1	Established
3.2.3	Maintenance Assistant	1	Non-established

	Sub-total	3	
3.3	Enforcement Division		
3.3.1	Park Ranger	1	Established
3.3.2	Warden 1,11,111	12	Non-established
	Sub-total	19	
	Total Operations Department	26	
	Grand Total	42	

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

One of the main reasons for the underdevelopment of the National Park Service barring financial constraints was the shortage of trained personnel. Advanced degree and certificate training is required in areas of Park Management. Site planning, freshwater fisheries management, wildlife management, general ecology and environmental education. Formal education opportunities are available in each of these areas at regional and international universities and institutes. Short-term specialized on-the-job training is also a desirable, short term alternative. Training must be properly coordinated with approved job positions. Approval and confirmation should be sought for the positions being planned and an integrated schedule should be adjusted accordingly.

- Park Management
- Interpretation
- Wildlife Management
- GIS
- Geology
- Public Awareness
- Community Development
- Marketing
- Recreation Management
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Project Development & Management

ACCOMMODATION

Central accommodation for the Parks Service appropriate to the numbers and grade of staff should be provided at a single site with excellent phone and radio communications. A facility should also be constructed to house a library and laboratory space as well as a general office, emergency stores and a park telecommunications centre. A site superintendent should be required to live very close to the Park.

TRANSPORTATION AND EQUIPMENT

There is need for field officers to be mobile and as such appropriate 4-wheel drive vehicles should be provided to supplement the existing fleet of vehicles. There is also need for specialized transportation within the Park in order to facilitate trail construction, maintenance and security operations. Minimal 2 vehicles will be required

Motorized wheel barrows for moving materials and a small all-terrain-vehicle, (ATV, 4-wheel motorcycle) should be purchased to assist in park operations and emergency.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

Survey and drafting equipment, global positioning systems, GPS and instruments for geographic information systems, GIS should be purchased for the Park. Telecommunication equipment will need as per the proposed list:

- GIS hardware and software
- Computer and software for database management
- Radio and communication equipment
- Building survey equipment
- Field GPS
- High resolution camera
- Equipment for sampling and measuring vegetation, soils, water etc.

12. PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE 2018- 2023

Table 11 – Programme Development Schedule

Natural Resource Conservation -1A	Timeframe (in years)				
1. Demarcation of boundaries	1	2	3	4	5
Archbold Preserve Boundary	*				
Boundary check against 1975Act	*				
Cut new lines/re-gazette boundary					
Definitive set of boundary data					
Mark boundaries and develop signage	*	*	*		
Develop boundary maintenance programme		*	*	*	*

Natural Resource Conservation - 1A	Time frame (years)				
2. Establishment of Buffer Zone	1	2	3	4	5
Finalize GIS surveys and update the proposed buffer zone	*				
Develop and finalize a management strategy for the Buffer zone	*	*			
Legal Guidance, implementation	*	*	*		
Finalize with land owners	*	*			
Funding and demarcation of the buffer zone			*	*	
Reforest and restore degraded areas of the buffer zones.				*	
Develop proposal for sites in collaboration with Stakeholders	*	*			

Natural Resource Conservation-1A	Time Frame (in years)				
3. Establishment and demarcation of Zoning Plan	1	2	3	4	5
Finalize zoning plan		*			
To undertake a inventory of the resources in the zoned areas			*		
Demarcate the various zones of the park on the ground		*	*		
Develop a management Plan for the various zones of the Park			*	*	
Develop a maintenance programme		*			

Natural Resource Conservation - 1A	Time Frame				
	(in years)				
4. Public / Visitor Use Programme	1	2	3	4	5
Develop a 5- Year Visitor Facility and Development Plan	*	*			
Establish visitor safety programmes to include the establishment of forecasting capability and an early warning system.	*				
Establish and undertake visitor monitoring programmes	*	*	*	*	*
Establish indicators of Limits of Acceptable Change, LAC, for the Park and monitor indicators	*	*			

Natural Resource Conservation – 1A	Timeframe (in years)				
Infrastructure Design and Implementation	1	2	3	4	5
Finalize access points to the Park and construct reception			*		
centre					
Site Improvement of existing sites		*			
Upgrading of existing trails			*		
Establish a Monitor and Evaluation Mechanism to measure the impact of the quarry on the Park and review with the relevant authorities the relevance of the shooting range in the Park	*	*			
Retrofit all buildings in the park to make them energy and environmentally efficient. Establish "Green Globe" or other relevant programme.	*				
Upgrading of visitor centres, picnic shelters, washroom		*			
facilities					
Development of new visitor centres, picnic shelters or				*	*
washroom where necessary					
Development of new trails where necessary with signage				*	*
Maintenance of existing car parks and development of	*	*	*		
new car parks where necessary					

Develop a comprehensive policy and regulatory	1	2	3	4	5
framework as identified in "5 Management Regulation"					
(Refer to Consultant's Report Being Undertaken under the SSE Programme)	*				
Review of legislation and existing regulations	*				
Review policies	*				
Develop and publish policies and regulation and	*				
Disseminate to users and stakeholders					

Natural Resource Conservation – 1A	Timeframe (in years)				
Development of a Surveillance and Enforcement	1	2	3	4	5
Programme - Refer to Report from the Natural					
Resources Consultant (SSE Project)					
Establish protocol for enforcement procedures	*				
Training of park wardens	*	*			
Developing stakeholder relationship- cooperation with	*				
communities and land owner on the boundary of the					
park Refer to "Education and Outreach programme"					
Developing standard operating procedures, SOP, with	*				
respect to fines, violations etc					
Establish protocol for enforcement procedures	*				
Develop data base system	*				

Natural Resource Management - 1B	Timeframe (in years)	;			
Institutional Development	1	2	3	4	5
Establish the National Park Service, recruit staff and equip offices for staff	*				
Recruit staff (Refer to Section 11-Governance and Administration for staffing)	*				

Develop capacity of existing staff in identified areas (Refer to	*	*	*	*	
proposed staff training programme - Annex E- Training					
programme)					
Demarcate specific access points for users of the resource	*				
Develop an effective maintenance management programme	*	*			
Develop standard operating procedures and develop best practices with respect to park operations and programmes-	*				
Develop relevant policies with respect to issues outlined in section 4.4.1	*	*			

Natural Resource Management - 1B	Timeframe				
	(in years)				
Sub-Programme 1C. Scientific Research and Monitoring	1	2	3	4	5
To undertake baseline assessment of the resources of the	*	*	*	*	
Park					
Upgrade existing data monitoring equipment	*				
Establish a scientific, efficient data collection, management	*	*			
and retrieval system.					
Purchase equipment for hydro-meteorological data		*			
monitoring					
Design a participatory monitoring system with communities.		*			
Undertake hydro-meteorological monitoring	*	*	*	*	*
Install additional weather stations in the Park to monitor and	*				
assess hydrometeorological data					
Install one rain gauge above the forest canopy of the Park to		*			
monitor and study the rainfall interception process.					
Establish seed-gene bank.		*			
Establish physical infrastructure for housing of seed bank Collect and store seeds and plant materials of all endemic	*	*			
and indicator plant species	•				
		*	*	*	*
Establish a living collection of plants – ex-situ field gene					
banks.		*	*	*	*
Upgrade existing nurseries and establish new ones	*				
Develop and implement silvicultural techniques to promote	*	*			
forest productivity					

maintain genetic diversity and promote ecosystem health					
Manage watersheds and regulate extractive water use	*	*	*	*	*
Undertake research based on research plan (Annex E) in	*	*	*	*	*
collaboration with the relevant research organizations and the communities					

PROGRAMME 2 - EDUCATION AND OUTREACH	Timeframe				
	(in years	s)			
Programme 2 A. Communication, Education and Public Awareness	1	2	3	4	5
Prepare Public Awareness and Marketing Development Strategies and Plans	*	*			
Design and prepare education and public awareness programmes		*			
Prepare Marketing and promotional Materials		*			
Upgrade and develop interpretive Programmes		*	*	*	
Implement Programmes		*	*	*	*
Programme 2B - Community Outreach and Livelihood					
Development Programme					
Establish a co-operative Park management programme with communities/land owners- monitoring and research in the Park	*	*	*		
Establish a register of communities and small businesses relative to Park objectives	*				
Provide training and technical and financial resources to enhancing livelihood opportunities	*	*	*	*	*
Strengthen the co-operation between Forestry and national parks service, land owners and the private sector	*	*	*	*	
	*	*	*	*	

13 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Existing Framework

Financial resources are required for administration, management and operations of the National Park

CURRENT SOURCES OF REVENUE FOR THE PARK

The Ministry of FNP&W receive an annual budgetary allocation from government. Other medium to short term funding come from international institutions especially for conservation, management and research programmes. Other sources of revenue come from taxes, levies – licenses, research permit, site fees, park fines and sale of paraphernalia

Collection of User Fees

The fee for the national parks structure is as follows: Tourists may purchase a **Site Pass** (US\$3) for organized tours for entry to one park. (US\$5) for private tours, the person can manage to visit in that day; and a **Week Pass** (for US\$12) for entry as many times into as many parks the person wishes to visit. Dominica nationals are exempt from paying fees and certain categories of persons are also exempt- (e.g. guests of the government, or tourism promotional visits).

Table 12– Existing revenue sources

	Existing Revenue Sources	Amount
SRO 22 -2008 / SR0 7 -2013	Site/Attractions entrance Fees	US\$3.00 for organized tours
		US\$5.00 for private tours
		US\$12.00 for a week pass
		US\$5.00 for a site visit
	Annual License Fee / Vendors	EC\$100
SRO 22 2008 / SRO 7 2013	Fees / Permits for film companies	Commercial U.S.\$1500 US
		or U.S. \$500/day
		Non- Commerial -US\$200
		Still Shoots _ U.S.\$350/day or
		\$1000. Independent \$200/ay
		or\$500
33	Fees for Researchers/Permits	Range from US\$115for 1
		research with an additional
		\$75 for research assistant
	For collection of plant specimen	Range from U.S.186 -\$558

	Permit/ fee for use of sites for weddings	ECD\$ 100 _ US\$ 150
	etc	
	Sale of literature/ posters	
	Animal Impounding Fee	From \$100 to \$250
SRO 22 -2008 SRO 7 -2013	Park Fines (penalties for offences)	Fines up to \$350
SRO 54 – 2002	Tourism based concessions	A symbolic license fee to be paid local communities who obtain revenue for the Park
	Events	Range from ECD\$100 in the Botanical Gardens to \$700 at the Cabrits
	Weddings	\$EC 150 - \$406
	Franchise Fees	

Review of the Financial Framework

A Technical Report for the Project "Supporting Sustainable Ecosystems by Strengthening the Effectiveness of Dominica's Protected Area System" by Ephrat Yovel of Counterpoint (March 9, 2015) made recommendations which included the following:

> Review of the Legal, Regulatory and Institutional

A review of the legal, regulatory and institutional framework undertaken by reveal the following:

- The need to Improve policies to facilitate mechanisms for revenue generation
- Improve allocation of resources for park management
- improve monitoring of financial resources-
- Recognize the environmental and economic importance of the Park and budget more resources – higher % of revenue generated by the Park should be retained for park development
- Update fee structure and implement new fee structures
- There is no link between annual budgets and financial needs of the MTNPWHS
- The financing and auditing system does not provide adequate information on individual revenue sources except for use fees. It is generally bulked together. There is no system to evaluate revenue generated per annum from other revenue sources.

> Development of Business Planning Tools for Cost Effective Management

- Improve conservation planning tools so as to mainstream financial sustainability into the current tools, design new tools to address specific funding.
- Design new tools to address specific funding opportunities
- Develop business plans for the Parks as well as a financial strategy
- Improve integration of PA planning into national planning key development process
- Development of an economic valuation study that will influence governments decisions to conservation financing

Budgetary Allocations for the Park, 2015 -2019

Budgetary allocations for the management of the National Parks for fiscal years, 2015–2019 were as follows:

Table 13 - Budgetary allocation for 2015 – 2019 (Ministry of Agriculture)

Fiscal Year	Budgetary Allocation Recurrent Budget	Capital Estimates \$ECD (Maintenance of trails and facilities)	Staff Salaries	Total Allocation	Revenue from User Fees (all sites)
2015/16	1,138,706	295,000	95,000	1,433,706.	1,500,727
2016/17	1,203,986	213,000	213,000	1,416,986	NA
2017/ 18	1,203,986	298,000	298,000	1,501,986	NA
2018/2019	1,203,986	1,790,000		2,933,986	NA

The above information was the only data available from the Forestry and Wildlife Division. Actual budget documents from 2016- 2019 were inaccessible hence there was no information on the current breakdown of financial resources as per the various units of the Division The only available document was 2013 /14 and 2014/15.

Table 14 - Proposed Park Budget 2018- 2023

Summary by budget category						
Budget Category	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Sub-Total
Personnel	995,432	995, 432	995,432	1,045,203	1,041,004	5,056,303.2
Staff Training	80,000	80,000	75,000	75,000	60,000	370,000
Boundary Marking Program	300,000	240,000	240,000	140,000	100,000	1,020,00

Zoning Program						310,000
	60,000		90,000	100,000	60,000	
Visitor Use	40,000	70,000	Staff time	Staff time	Staff time	110,000
Programme						
Infrastructure Design and Implementation	635,000	635,000	345,000	375,000	375,000	2,365,000
Legislation and Regulations		5, 000				5,000
Scientific Research and Monitoring	86,000	118,000	23,000	20,000	36,000	283,000
Monitoring	30,000	30,000	35,000	32,000	41,000	168,000
Surveillance and		120,000			90,000	520,000
Enforcement	120,000		100,000	100,000		
COMMUNICATION, PUBLIC	180,000	180,000	180,000	100,000	100,000	740,000
AWARENESS AND						
MARKETING						
Community Outreach and	80,000	80,000	80,000	60,000	60,000	360,000
Livelihood Development						
Programme						
BUDGET						
CATEGORY	3,002,432	2,949,432	2,560,432	2,739,212	1,982,204	11,994,503
TOTALS						

PROPOSED FINANCING MECHANISMS

There are a number of potential revenue mechanisms consistent with management priorities and strategies of the MTNP that that can be considered. Apart from the existing revenues, other national level mechanisms to be explored include tourism levies, grants, national environmental funds, "Debt-for- Nature Swap, establishment of a Conservation Trust Fund, cost sharing from the environmental levy imposed on cruise ship passengers that goes directly to the consolidated fund

At the site level a larger percentage of revenue from the user fees should be directed to Park management and development. Corporation donations e.g. adopt a trail or site programme donations as well as developing facilities and services at some sites could generate revenues. E.g. – the introduction of camping at the Freshwater lake. Establishment of conservation donation boxes at visitor accommodation facilities would also contribute to revenue generation.

There is also the need to revise the concessionary and franchise fees based on the value of the facilities leased and on the potential generating income potential of the facilities in questions. Existing franchise fees are very low.

The user fee collection system should be revised to reduce the leakages in revenue collection and to reduce the non-collection of fees from persons using the sites after official closing hours.

As such it is critical that a financial strategy for the Parks and protected area is developed and implemented and that the Management and operations of the Park treated as business with aa business development and management plan and programmes for the various sites.

The recommendations from the report "Technical Report for the Project "Supporting Sustainable Ecosystems by Strengthening the Effectiveness of Dominica's Protected Area System" by Ephrat Yovel of Counterpoint (March 9, 2015)" should be implemented.

Table 15 - Proposed Financing Mechanisms

PROPOSED MECHANISMS	IN PLACE YES / NO	PRIORITIZE
Govt. Allocation Options		
Taxes deduction schemes	No	Medium
Document tax earmarked for conservation	No	Medium
Debt for Nature Swap	No	High
Tourism Related Mechanisms		
License fees – Tour operators/ Tour guides	No	High
Concessions and service Agreements	To be reviewed & upscaled	High
Sale of paraphernalia	To be re-evaluated and upscaled	High
Fines for environmental damages	No	Medium
Voluntary tourism contributions	No	High
Payment for Environmental Services	No	
Payment for ecosystem services, PES e.g. Watershed conservation fee - DOWASCO/DOMLEC	No	High
Carbon Credit REDD+	No	Medium
Natural Resources Trade		
Royalties from Resources E.g. the Quarry above the Emerald Pool, the proposed geothermal energy plant	No	High
Conservation Trust Fund	No	High
Corporate Sponsorship	No	
Corporate Sponsorship	No	Medium

Revenue Generation from Site Passes

Table 16 - Visitation Level of the MTNP WHS

Table 7- <u>Visitation Level of the MTNP WHS (and ecotourism sites)</u> - <u>2012- 2016 (Forestry & Parks & Wildlife Division)</u>

	Number of Visitors					
Sites	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	
Cabrits	15727	16554	15136	13572	11744	
Syndicate	1391	1518	1051	928	1486	
Emerald Pool	55757	49732	50771	45804	46696	
Trafalgar Falls	65098	50136	54641	49676	61611	
Middleham Falls	6606	5695	4403	5729	6854	
Boiling Lake	4572	4691	4395	3805	3742	
Freshwater & Boeri Lake	10330	9237	7535	6621	7849	
Indian River	15555	14239	15022	16096	15625	
Soufriere Sulphur Springs	8583	7915	7125	5856	8961	
Morne Diablotin	203	361	169	333	649	
Morne Trois Pitons	23	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL NP And ecotourism sites	183,845	160,078	160,248	148,420	165,217	
Total MTNPWHS	77,288	69,355	67,273	61,959	65,141	

Table 17- Revenue generated at National Parks and ecotourism sites including MTNPWHS

Estimated Rev	enue Generatio	n user fee- Natio	nal Parks & Ec	otourism Sites,
2012-2016 (EC	D \$)			
Name of Eco-	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Site				
Emerald Pool	519,394.57	475,196.59	444,535.56	630,305.24
Trafalgar Falls	493,976.42	470,345.78	433,352.28	360,174.42
Indian River	133,930.52	233,915.23	150,974.34	120,058.14
Cabrits	74,252.18	101,517.54	145,382.70	90,043.61
National Park				
Soufriere	30,654.59	41,277.51		75,036.34
Sulphur			64,303.89	
Springs				
Freshwater	31,777.37	30,810.99	67, 099,71	45,021.80
Lake				
Boeri Lake	19,642.20	30,810.99	0	19,642.20
Syndicate	18,525.88	13, 522.11	11,183.30	18,525.88
Nature Trail				
Boiling Lake	15,731.45	29,036.83	36,345.67	15,731.45
Middleham	15,731.45	21,214.76	41,937.32	15,731.45
Falls				
Morne	9,648.16	13,522.11	2,795.82	9,648.16
Diablotin				
Morne Trois	9,648.16	13,522.11	0	9,648.16
Pitons				
Total	1,372,912.95	1,474,692.55	1,397,910.59	1,500,726.76
MTNPWHS	611,925.2	600,592.27	589,918.26	720,348.85
Total				

From the above table, it should be noted that the sites generate a sizable income from user fees. The potential for increased generation of income can be realized if improved services and amenities are put in place and are supported by an effective marketing plan to increase visitation to the Park.

Presently the total amount collected through user fees in the MTNPWHS in 2015-16 is EC\$1.5 M Except for Emerald Pool and the Trafalgar Falls visitation to all the sites has been low and much below their carrying capacity. With improved facilities and services as well as marketing the Park could generate twice the amount of revenue that would be needed for budgetary support along with the other recommended revenue generating options.

Using the Emerald Pool as an example, in 2015-16 there were 46, 690 visitors which amounted to 128 persons per day and it generated \$630,305.24. If the other 3 sites were able to attract 100 persons /day at (the new price structure of the User Fee tickets (Organized tour – US \$3.00), (Private Tours – US \$5.00), using an average of \$US 4:00- the park could generate an additional E.C. \$M2.97 and an overall annual E.C\$M 3.39 just from user fees. (300 persons/day x365 = 109,500 x US \$4 =\$U.S 438,000=\$E.C \$2.97M this would add up to an annual fee of EC \$2.97M+630,305.24 (from the Emerald Pool) =\$ 3.6M). This cost is exclusive of revenue generated from other ecotourism sites, National Parks and other income existing income-generating activities outlined earlier.

This indicates that with additional marketing the Park could attract many more visitors and sustain the cost of implementing the programme. However, this will require increased investment in the Park as outlined in the management plan.

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15. ACRONYMS

CANARI Caribbean Natural Resources Institute

CARICOM Caribbean Community

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity

CCCCC Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre

CCD Convention to Combat Desertification

CDERA Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency

CEHI Caribbean Environmental Health Institute

CERMES Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies Programme

DDA Discover Dominica Authority

CIMH Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology

CPACC Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Climate Change Project

DOMLEC Dominica Electricity Services

DOWASCO Dominica Water and Sewerage Company

ENSO El Niño Southern Oscillation

IWCAM Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Manage

FDD Fisheries Development Division
FWD Forestry, Wildlife & Parks Division,

FWL Freshwater Lake

GIS Geographic Information Systems

GOCD Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica

GEF Global Environment Facility

IWCAM Integrating Watershed and Coastal Areas Management

IWRM Integrated Water Resource Management

IUCN International Union for the Conservation of Nature

MTPNPWHS Morne Trois Pitons National Park, World Heritage Site

MDNP Morne Diablotin National Park

NEPA National Environment and Planning Agency

NSO National Statistical Office

OAS Organization of American States

OECS Organization of Eastern Caribbean States

UNDP United Nations Development Programme
UNEP United Nations Development Programme

UNESCO United National Educational Social Organization

WHS World Heritage Site

16. Annex A - Maps

Map 1: Location of Morne Trois Piton National Park

Map 2: Topography

Map 3: Geology

Map4: Access

Map 5: Rainfall

Map 6: Generalized Soils

Map 7: Landslide Hazard

Map 8: Vegetation

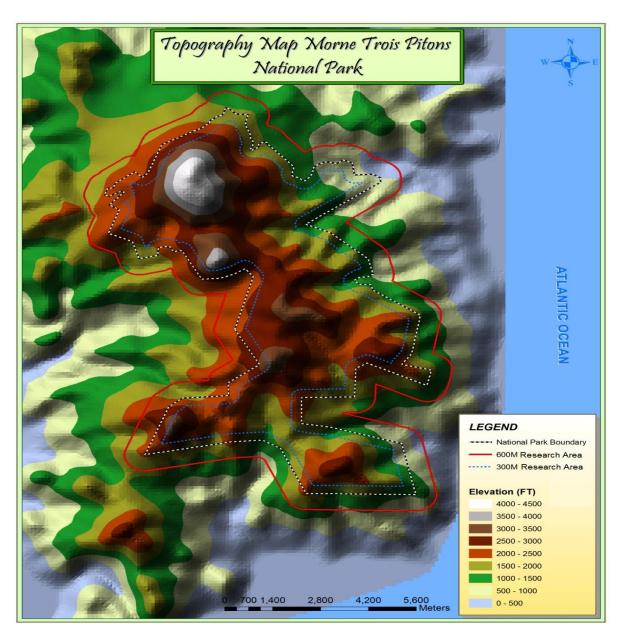
Map 9: Watersheds and Water Resources

Map 10: Attractions and Trails in and Around the Park

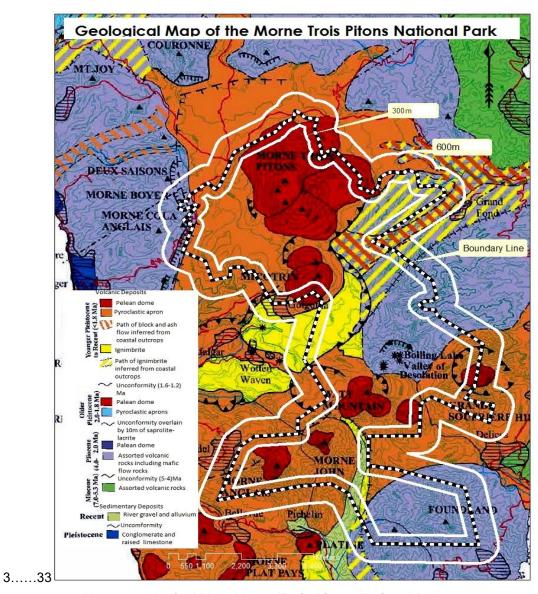
Map 11: Utilities and Commercial Activities

Map 12: Proposed Buffer Zone

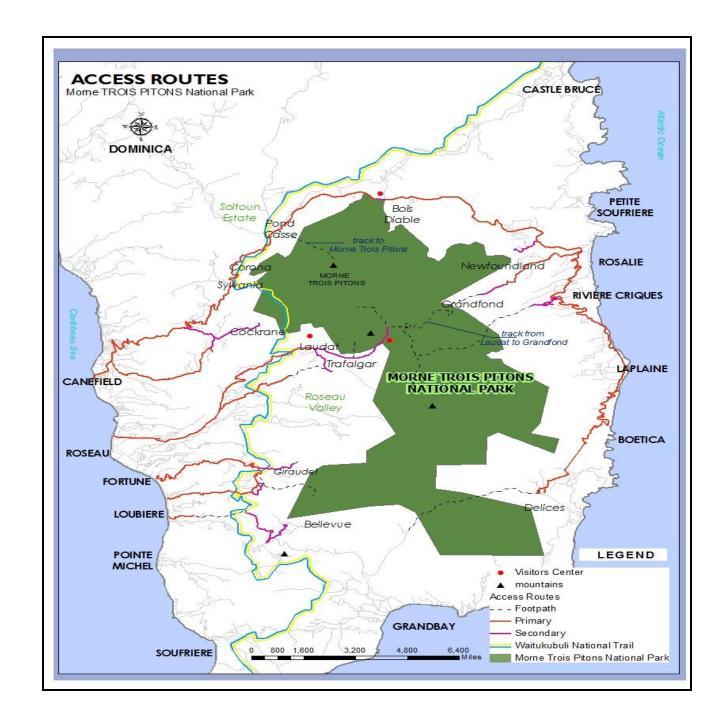
Map 13: Park Zones



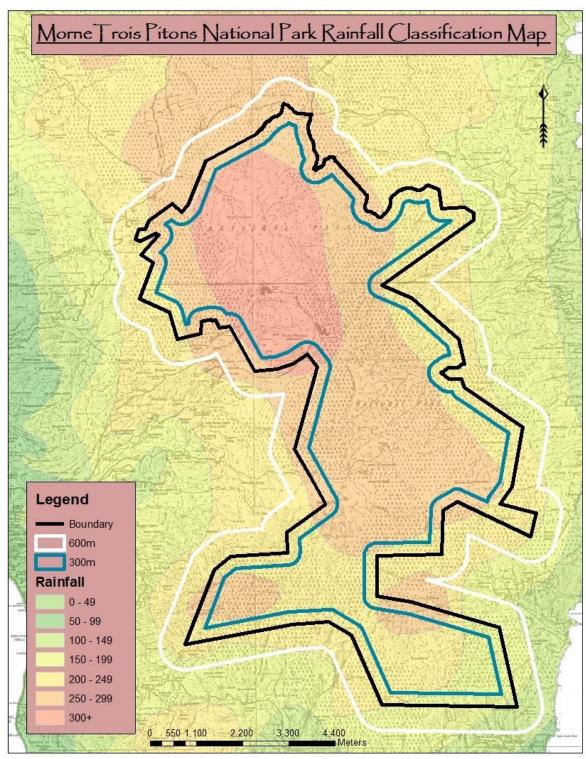
Map 2: Topography of the Morne Trois Piton National Park



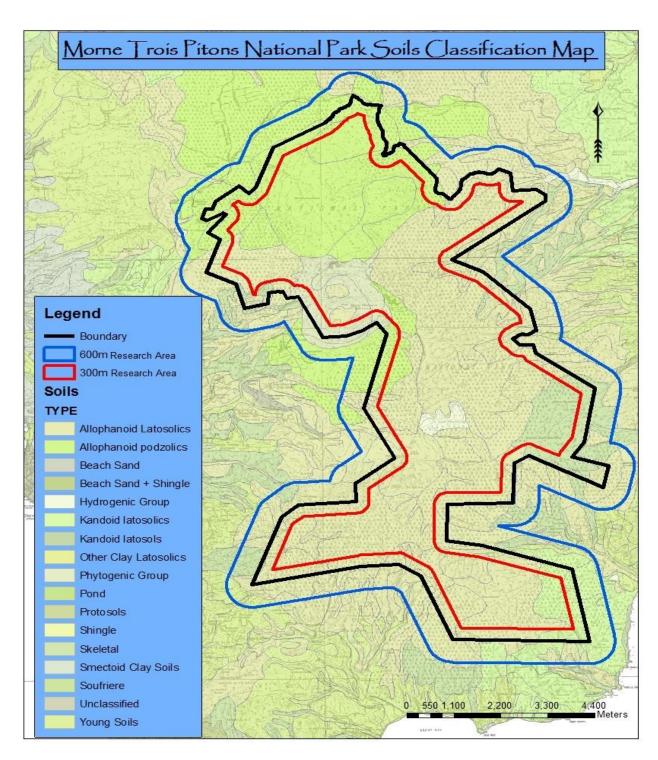
Map 3: Geological Map- Morne Trois Pitons National Park



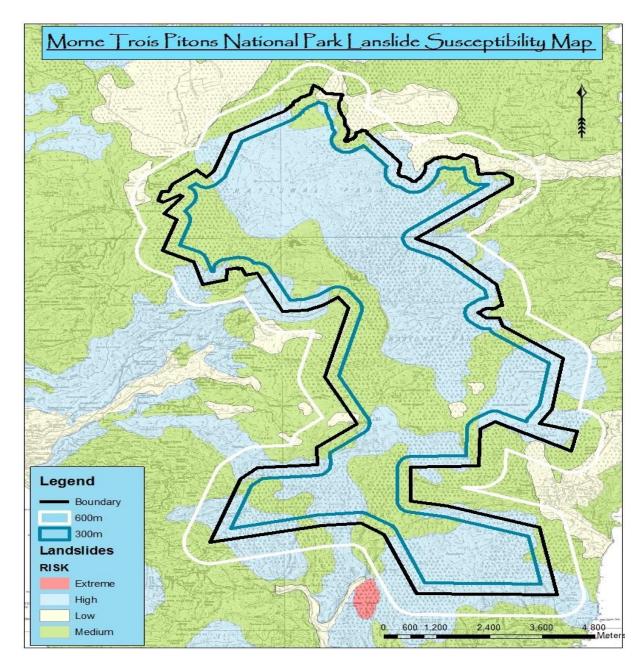
Map 4 – Access Routes-MTNPWHS



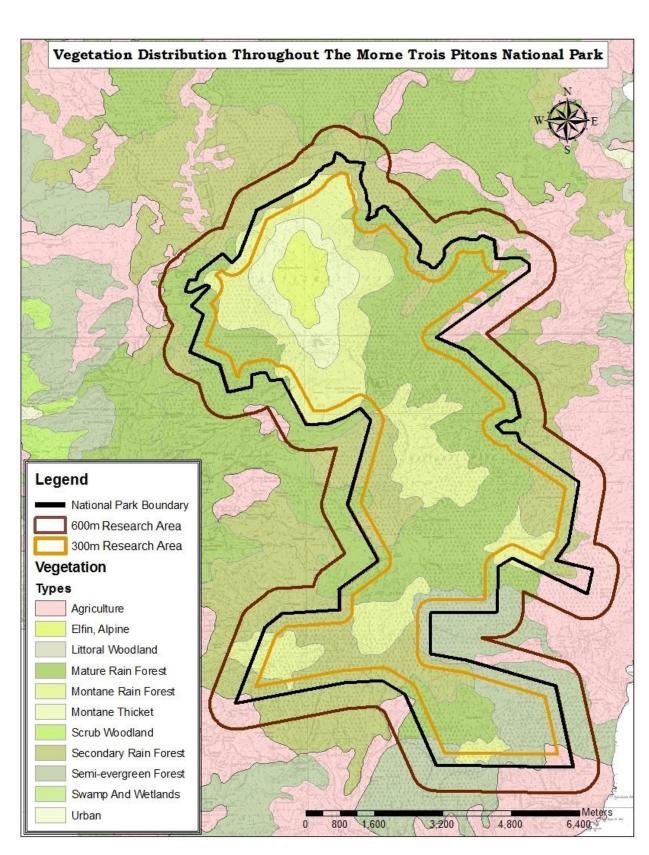
Map 5: Rainfall Classification for the Morne Trois Piton National Park



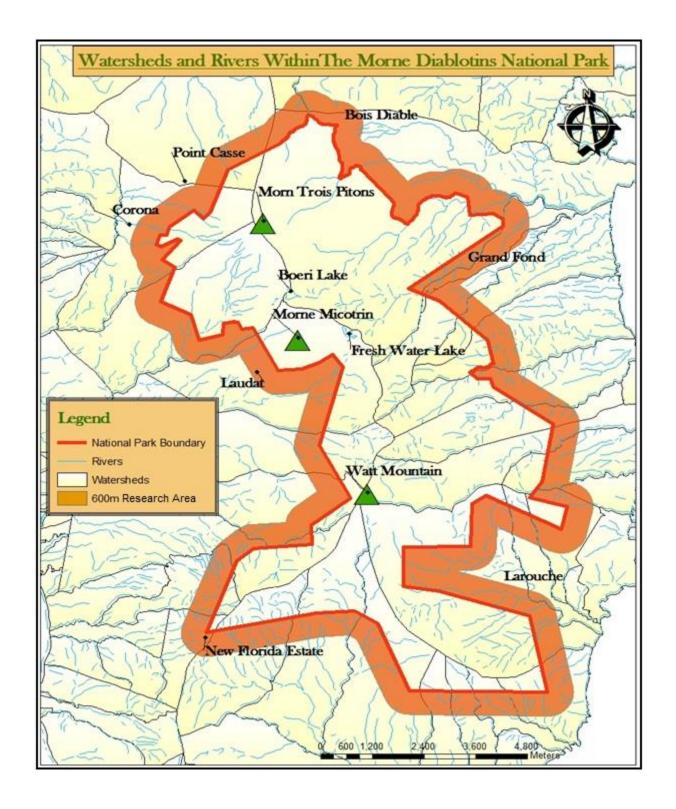
Map 6: Soil Classification within the MTNPWHS



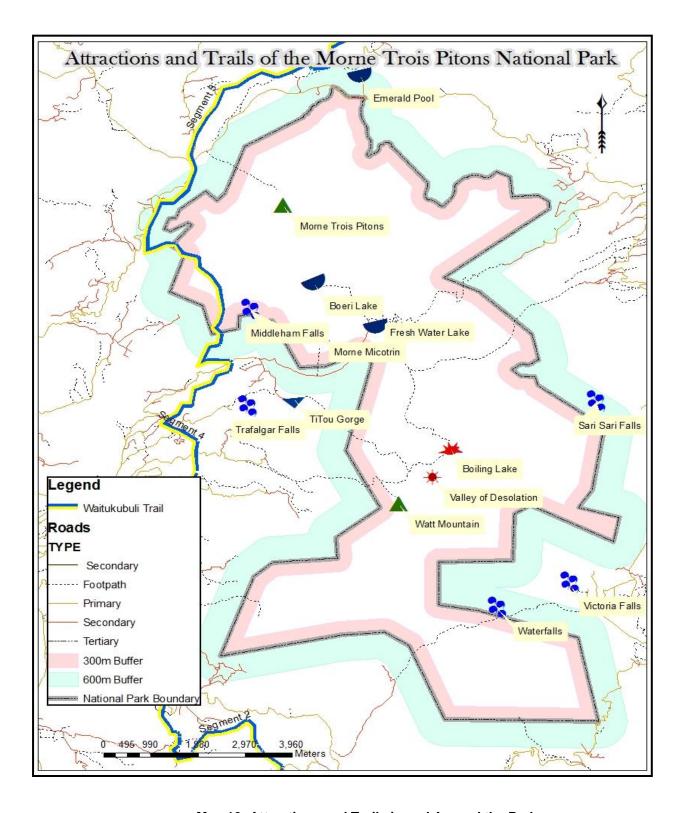
Map 7 – Landslide Hazards



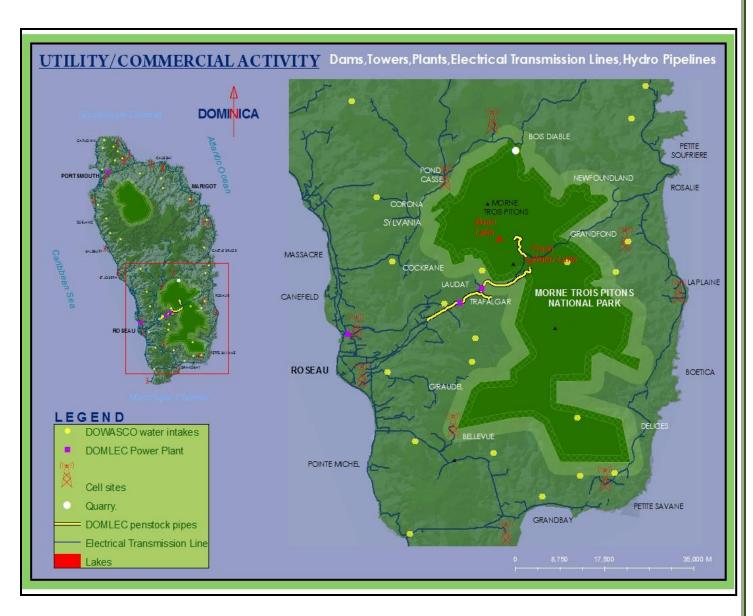
Map 8: Vegetation Distribution Throughout the Morne Trois Piton National



Map 9: Watershed and Water Resources



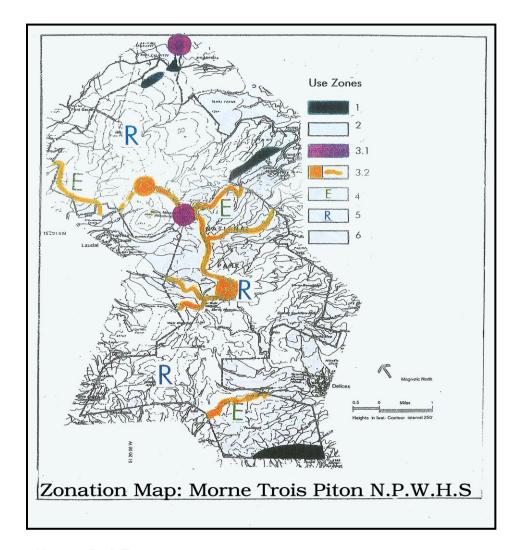
Map 10: Attractions and Trails in and Around the Park



Map 11: Utility and Commercial



Map 12: Proposed Buffer Zone



Map 13: Park Zones

Special Use zone- Dark Green

Intensive Use-Purple coloured

Extensive Use Zone – Orange coloured

Environmental Study Zone - E

 $Research-\boldsymbol{R}$

Wildland Management- Area Outside Special Use Zone

ANNEX B

13.1 BUDGET

MTNPWHS Park Budget										
Boundary Marking										
Boundary Marking Program	n									
Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Sub-Total				
Equipment and Supplies	100,000			-	-	100,000				
Hire Personnel to cut lines	200,000	200,000	200,000	100,000	-	700,000				
Develop and implement boundary maintenance programme		40,000	40,000	40,000	20,000	140,000				
TOTALS	300,000	240,000	240,000	140,000	80,000	940,000				

Boundary Marking and installation of boundary markers

It is expected that the Park will use its personnel and the lands & Surveys department for GIS expertise to develop a GIS database. A contractual amount of \$700,000 has been estimated for use of local labour for clearing of the Park boundary and installation of boundary markers especially following the destruction of Hurricane Maria

Personnel will include park staff which is not considered in this budget/

Project Supplies

It is estimated that boundary markers will be required at a cost of 40,000. An amount of 140,000 is provided for annual maintenance of the boundary lines.

Zoning						
Zoning Marking Program						
Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Subtotal
To undertake an inventory of the	Budgeted					
resources in the zoned areas	under					

	Research & Monitoring					
×Survey and demarcation - Personnel (Contracted labour)			90,000	80,000	40,000	210,000
Develop a management Plan for the various zones of the Park	Staff time					
Equipment &Project Supplies	60,000	-	-	_	-	60,000
Annual Maintenance Program/ Forestry personnel				20, 000	20,000	40,000
TOTALS	60,000		90,000	100,00	60,000	310,000

★Some Technical assistance is available under the SSE programme

Park Zonation-Buffer Zoning Marking

Activity zone marking

As above, contractual amount of \$210,000 has been allocated over 5 years for this activity. This will involve identifying zoning boundaries within the park and will include the development of a database of marker locations.

Personnel & Equipment- As per boundary marking.

Project Supplies

Public / Visitor Use Programme						
Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Sub-Total
Development of Public Awareness and Marketing strategies	20,000.00					
Establish visitor safety programmes to include the establishment of forecasting capability and an early warning system and the development of a disaster management Plan*	Office of Disaster Management	10,000				
Establish and undertake visitor monitoring programmes	Staff time					

Establish indicators of Limits of	Staff time			
Acceptable Change, LAC, for the Park				
and monitor indicators				
Review and development of visitor	Staff time			
services and amenities				
Procure communication and safety	20,000	60, 000		
equipment to upgrade existing stock				
TOTAL	40,000.00	70,000.00		

Zoning markers will be required at a cost of 60,000. An amount of 20,000 has been provided for annual repair and maintenance costs. It is expected that the maintenance of the zones and the boundaries will be undertaken simultaneously once the initial work is completed

*Some funding from the development of an early warning system will come from the Office of Disaster Management. Some communication equipment is available. Hence an amount to upgrade the communication equipment.

Infrastructure Design and Implementat	ion					
Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Subtotal
Upgrading and maintenance of existing	500,000	500,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,900,000
trails						
Upgrading of picnic shelters, washroom	80,000	80,000				160,000
facilities,		(MF) ³				
Finalize access points to the Park and construct principal reception centre						
(Seek funding for construction of reception centre)						
Retrofit all buildings in the park to make them energy and environmentally efficient. Establish "Green Globe" or other relevant programme.	40,000	40, 000	40,000	40,000	40,000	200,000
Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to monitor the impact on the National Park	Staff time					
Construction of, picnic shelters or				30,000	30,000	60,000
washroom where necessary				Boeri	Boiling Lake	
				Lake		
Maintenance of existing car parks	15,000	15000	5000	5000	5000	45,000
TOTALS	635,000	635,000	345,000	375,000	375,000	2,365,000

Infrastructure Design and Implementation

This will entail the construction of a rain shelter/picnic shelter at Boeri Lake and Boiling Lake, the upgrading and repairs of the rain shelter at the Middleham Falls.

³ Middleham Falls

Budgetary provisions are made for the maintenance and upgrading of the existing trails and the car parks.

Legislation and Regulations- currently being	reviewed a	nd develope	d			
Regulations	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Sub-Total
Develop a comprehensive policy and regulatory framework Review of legislation and existing regulations,						
develop and finalize						
Print and disseminate to stakeholders		5000.00				
Total		5,000.00				

Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Subtotal
Sub-Programme 1C. Scientific Research and Monitoring						
To undertake baseline assessment of the resources	Staff time TA					
Upgrade the current hydrological monitoring programme and instrumentation of the Forestry Division	25,000				15,000	40,000
Purchase equipment/ software for establishment of database	10,000	10,000	10,000	12,000	15,000	57,000
Purchase equipment/ instrumentation for hydro-meteorological monitoring	41,000					41,000
Install a weather stations in the Park to monitor and assess hydrometeorological data	Staff time					
Install one rain gauge above the forest canopy						
of the Park to monitor and study the rainfall						
interception process.						
		8, 000	6, 000	4,000	2,000	22,000
Establish seed/gene bank. Establish physical infrastructure for housing of seed bank Collect and store seeds and plant materials of all endemic and indicator plant species		90, 000				90,000

	2,000	2,0000	1,000			5000.00
Establish a living collection of plants – ex-situ field gene banks.						Technical input
Upgrade existing nurseries and establish new ones	8,000	8,000	6,000	4,000	4,000	30, 000
Develop and implement silvicultural techniques to promote forest productivity, maintain genetic diversity and promote ecosystem health						
OUTPUT 4.1 TOTALS	86,000	118, 000	23,000	20,000	36,000	283,000.00

Research & Monitoring OUTPUT: Biological, Resource Use, Activity Monitoring								
Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Sub-Total		
Research officer Technical assistance								
Equipment and transportation	20,000	20, 000	20,000	12,000	15,000	87,000		
Maintenance of all the installations and equipment	10,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	26,000	81, 000		
OUTPUT TOTALS	30, 000	30,000	35,000	32,000	41,000	168,000		

Research & Monitoring Personnel

It is estimated that this activity will be undertaken by Park personnel- Research Officer and technical assistance from International agencies or collaboration with Institutions of higher learning

Surveillance & Enforcement									
OUTPUT : Surveillance & Enforcement- Park personnel									
Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Sub-Total			

Training of Park wardens	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	50,000
OUTPUT TOTALS						

Surveillance & Enforcement Personnel- This will be undertaken by Park Personnel

Training budgeted for entails short term training and attachments. It is expected that technical assistance for training will also come from regional organizations. Financing will be sought from government and other organizations for long term training.

Project Supplies

This represents estimated cost of transportation and equipment

Staff Training	120, 000	120,000	100,000	100,000	80,000	520,000
						520,000
OUTPUT TOTALS	120,000	120,000	100,000	100,000	80,000	520,000

This will entail attachment programme to other Parks for new personnel; participation in overseas Seminars and training programmes as well as local training programmes

Education & Public Awareness								
Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Sub-Total		
PROGRAMME 2 A. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	180,000	180,000	180,000	100,000	100,000			
OUTPUT TOTALS						400,000		
	180,000	180,000	180,000	100,000	100,000			
Programme 2B-Community Outreach and Livelihood Development Programme- Access through funding agencies	60, 000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000			
OUTPUT - TOTALS	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	600,000		

Education & Public Awareness Personnel

It is estimated that this activity will require an Education and Outreach Coordinator who will be hired as part of the NP staff under the revised institutional structure.

Collaboration, training and technical assistance will be given to adjacent communities in identifying sustainable livelihood projects that are compatible to the goals and objectives of the

Park. Collaborative monitoring with the communities will be desirable with respect to the impact of climate change on the biodiversity of the forest.

The objective is to raise Park awareness and to generate a sense of ownership for the resources of the Park so that communities assist in Park management programmes and can benefit from the conservation of the resources through alternative uses of their land.

Technical Assistance and funding for projects

Proposed Total Annual Salary for NPS Personnel

No	Staff Position Title	Posts	Proposed Annual	Position Type
			salary	
1	Office of the Director /CEO of Parks			
1.1	Executive Management Unit			
1.1.1	Director /CEO of Parks	1	75,000	Established
1.1.2	Executive Assistant	1	24,000	Established
	Sub-total	2	99,000	
1.2	Finance & Accounting Division			
1.2.2	Accountant	1	38,000	Established
	Sub-total	1	38,000	
1.3	General Administration Division			
1.3.1	Administration Officer	1	36,000	Established
1.3.2	Receptionist/Clerk	1	17,200	Established
1.3.3	Driver (2) /Office Assistant (1)	3	51,600	Non-established
1.3.4	Cleaner	1	10,000	Non-established
	Sub-total	6	114,800	
1.4	Human Resource Division			
1.4.1	Human Resource Officer	1	38,000	Established
	Sub-Total	1	38,000	

2.	Planning & Development Department			
	Park Superintendent	1	50,000	Established
2.1	Research & Planning Division			
2.1.2	Community and Livelihood Development Officer	2	70,000	Established
	Interpretation/Marketing Officer	1	36,000	Established
2.2	Sites Supervisor	1	38,000	

2.2.1	Sites officer/ Tour Supervisor	1	36,000	Established
2.2.2	GIS / Geology Officer	1	40,000	Established
	Sub-total	6	270,000	
	Total Planning & Development Department	7	350,000	
3	Operations Department			
3.2	Maintenance Division			
3.2.1	Maintenance Supervisor	1	41,632	Established
3.2.2	Maintenance Technician	1	38,000	Established
3.2.3	Maintenance Assistant	1	36,000	Non-established
	Sub-total	3	115,632	
3.3	Enforcement Division			
3.3.1	Park Ranger	1	36,000	Established
3.3.2	Warden 1,11,111	12	204,000	Non-established
	Sub-total	19	240,000	
	Total Operations Department	26		
	Grand Total	42	995,432	

BUDGET SUMMARY

Summary by budget category						
Budget Category	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Sub-Total
Personnel	995,432	995, 432	995,432	1,045,203	1,041,004	5,056,303.2
Staff Training	80,000	80,000	75,000	75,000	60,000	370,000
Boundary Marking Program	300,000	240,000	240,000	140,000	100,000	1,020,00
Zoning Program	60,000		90,000	100,000	60,000	310,000
Visitor Use Programme	40,000	70,000				110,000
Infrastructure Design and Implementation	635,000	635,000	345,000	375,000	375,000	2,365,000
Legislation and Regulations		5, 000				5,000
Scientific Research	86,000	118,000	23,000	20,000	36,000	283,000

and Monitoring						
Monitoring	30,000	30,000	35,000	32,000	41,000	168,000
Surveillance and Enforcement	120,000	120,000	100,000	100,000	90,000	520,000
COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION	180,000	180,000	180,000	100,000	100,000	740,000
AND PUBLIC AWARENESS AND						
MARKETING						
Community Outreach and Livelihood Development Programme	80,000	80,000	80,000	60,000	60,000	360,000
BUDGET CATEGORY TOTALS	3,002,432	2,949,432	2,560,432	2,739,212	1,982,204	11,994,503

Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Sub-Total
Develop public awareness and education						Budgeted under
programmes targeted at policy makers, the general population, communities and stakeholders on the issues of climate change (to be incorporated under COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS)						public awareness
,						
Upgrade the current hydrological monitoring programme and instrumentation of the Forestry Division	*****					10, 000
Install a weather stations in the Park to monitor and assess hydrometeorological data	*****					27,473.00
Install one rain gauge above the forest canopy of the Park to monitor and study the rainfall interception process.						
						20,000
Establish seed/gene bank. Establish physical infrastructure for housing of seed bank Collect and store seeds and plant materials of all endemic and indicator plant species						70,000
						5000.00
Establish a living collection of plants – ex-situ field gene banks.						Technical input
Upgrade existing nurseries and establish new ones						30, 000
Reforest and restore degraded areas of the Park and buffer zones						Forest technica

⁴ All costs have been integrated into the relevant programmes

TOTALS	70,000	35,000	25,000	45,000	45,000	322,473,000
Establish Social Forestry Programmes						20, 000
Parks to reduce impact on the Park						
Provide incentives to land owners with land adjacent to the						
Close down and rehabilitate the quarry and the police shooting range in the Park						
						Management Unit
systems						Disaster
Establish forecasting capability, early warning	 					In collaboration with
Establish "Green Globe" or other relevant programme for all attractions in the Park						120,000
Retrofit all building in the park to make them energy and environmentally efficient.						20,000
health						
promote forest productivity maintain genetic diversity and promote ecosystem						
Develop and implement silvicultural techniques to						

ANNEX C - Communication, Education and Public Awareness and Visitor Use

To meet the recreational and educational needs of the visitors and potential users with respect to the importance of the World Heritage Site as a world patrimony to be protected and managed on a sustainable basis for economic, social and scientific purposes.

Objectives

- To promote and enhance the Park for public education, public use and enjoyment.
- To sensitize users of the Park of the its importance to natural resource conservation and bio-diversity
- To promote the park as a contributor to economic development through sustainable use.
- To sensitize the public and other resource users on the resources and status of the park to
 encourage them to be custodians of the Park and to evoke responsible behaviour and
 support.

This will be achieved through interpretation, environmental education, displays and the use of the multimedia facilities.

Design of Educational Programmes

Environmental educational programmes should be developed for different user groups as follows:

- Schools
- Public
- Universities / Research groups
- Government bodies
- NGO's
- Media, local artists etc.

Educational Materials to be developed:

- Billboards and signs
- Brochures, leaflets, booklets, posters
- Audio-visual material

- Exhibitions and displays
- Other interpretive signs

A. Development of Interpretive Centres

Objectives

- To serve as a resource centre and to orient users of the park with respect to the functions and services of the Park
- To inform visitors/users of the park, of the educational and recreational opportunities available in the park.
- To provide visitors with and inform them of the regulations governing the park.

Management Guidelines and Programmes

- All existing brochures, billboards, signs should be upgraded to reflect the status of the Park as a World Heritage Site.
- Development of displays and exhibitions to acquaint park users with the features, regulations and facilities in the Park
- Signs must be erected at the boundaries of the various zones to explain the purpose of each zone.
- Develop the necessary human resource in the park to enhance their ability to educate Park users.

B. Forest Trails Interpretation

This entails upgrading of trails, development of interpretive signs and materials.

Objectives

- To highlight the features of the park
- To improve educational experience and opportunities

- To enhance recreational experience
- To reveal the meaning and relationship of natural features and processes occurring along the trail.
- To develop educational material to highlight the biological resources and functions of the specific zones.

Management Guidelines and Programmes

To interpret the biological diversity of the Park within the intensive and extensive use areas. This to be achieved through the development and use of various educational methods.

Produce brochures for the various trails in order to interpret the unique features of the trail –natural, historical, cultural features.

C. Environmental and Conservation Education

This component will foster an understanding of the Park and its values as a world patrimony, and the need to conserve the biological diversity.

It will provide knowledge of environmental values and an understanding of environmental problems and methods of preventing and mitigating environmental problems.

Objectives

- To educate park users on the environmental and socio-economic values of the Park.
- To educate the public and private sector and policy makers on conservation and environmental issues relevant Dominica and the World Heritage Site.
- To inform park users of the regulations, policies and management programmes of the Park so as to mitigate negative activities and to enlist them as custodians of the Park
- To inform and recruit communities adjacent to the Park, in the process of education and conservation.

Management Guidelines and Programmes

To highlight the importance of the bio-diversity of the World Heritage Site

Objectives of the World Heritage Site

- Its history, habitat, fauna and flora
- The structure of the forest
- The role of the Park in the conservation of soil, water and wildlife
- The economic, historical and cultural values of the park
- The impact of human activities on the park including tourism
- Geological / geomorphic Structures

Target Groups

- Schools-primary secondary and tertiary
- Communities adjacent to the Park
- Community based groups and NGO's
- Tour guides, tour operators, and other park users

Tools/ Materials

- Schools programme
- Media programme-radio, TV, Newspaper
- Production and sale of environmental education materials
- Training of staff at interpretive centres and Tourist Information offices

D. Tourism, Ecotourism and Recreation

Dominica has been promoted as "The Nature Island of the Caribbean". Five sites within the WHS are major areas of attractions for a very large percentage of all visitors to Dominica. Although data on actual use patterns and volume have yet to be collected at all sites, the Emerald Pool and Freshwater Lake sites are the most popular. Middleham Falls and Boeri Lake rank second and Boiling Lake third.

As might be expected, sites close to parking areas are visited most often. Sites requiring longer hikes, such as the seven-hour round trip to the Boiling Lake, are much less frequented.

Branding of the Park

- Branding: Develop a "brand" and tagline for positioning of MTNPWHS
- Development of a logo
- Key messages: Develop and deliver key messages to target audiences using the most costeffective vehicles;

E. Legislation, Regulation, Planning and Policy formulation are important to the sustainable use of Park for tourism development.

These should address the following:

- It is important that the Carrying capacity or indicators of limited acceptable change be established in areas of attraction so as to determine the maximum number of visitors to the site and the development of facilities and amenities to ensure that the resources of the area are maintained
- Protection of fauna, flora, from incompatible uses
- Control of access to wildlife Management zones and other zones not accessible to public use
- Strict regulations guideline and integrated management plans must be instituted
- Involvement of communities and all stakeholders.
- Visitor safety

Management Guidelines and Programmes

- Development of regulations and guideline for the control of tourism activities in the WHS
- Development of policy guidelines on architectural design and construction taking into

account the need to utilize indigenous technology and materials and the need to blend with the environment.

- Manage the volume of visitors based on LAC or the carrying capacity
- Limit access to sensitive areas
- Protection of fauna and flora
- Integrated management programme
- Policies and action for visitor safety
- Ongoing monitoring of environmental quality

ANNEX D- CONSERVATION TRUST FUND CONCEPT-Recommended by Allen Putney, MDNP Plan 2008 and Supported for the MTNPWHS Plan

INTRODUCTION

The revision of this plan is supported by the GEF/World Bank under the under the Special Programme for Adaptation to Climate Change (SPACC) project. The previous plan 2009- 2014 was prepared in 2008 and was funded by the USAID Caribbean Open Trade Support (COTS) Programme. The plan has not been ratified by the Government of Dominica and as such no component of the plan has been implemented. In the meantime, the vision of the Park has evolved, and it is now seen as a resource that must actively contribute to the sustainable development of northern Dominica.

Additionally, the institutional arrangements for management of the Parks are shifting. A National Park Service is being established that will have responsibility for managing the 3 national parks of Dominica (Morne Trois Pitons National Park and World Heritage Site, Morne Diablotin National Park, and Cabrits National Park) as well as the Ecotourism Sites scattered around the island. In essence, The Park Service will be responsible for the major natural assets of Dominica that are managed for biodiversity and watershed conservation, and tourism.

One important aspect of the revised management plan for the MDNP is financial sustainability, because implementation of the plan depends to a great degree on the availability of funding. Since

MDNP is a part of a wider system of protected areas, questions of finance must be considered in the wider context. How can the protected areas of Dominica be funded so that they contribute fully to the conservation of the island's biodiversity and water resources, while at the same time supporting the tourism industry? The current government budget and concessionaire and visitor fee systems are inadequate. So, what can be done to develop adequate funding, especially now that a National Park Service is to be established?

The answer is that <u>much</u> can be done if the right mechanisms are in place. In fact, the problem is not a lack of funding sources, but rather the lack of appropriate mechanisms to adequately tap the available sources.

CONSERVATION TRUST FUNDS

One financing mechanism that has received attention during the past 15 years is the Conservation Trust Fund (CTF). CTFs are legally independent institutions that raise, administer, and disburse funding. They do not implement projects but rather work through other existing implementing organizations. They usually make grants to government protected area agencies, NGOs, and/or local community groups for activities that protect biodiversity and promote community-based sustainable development near protected areas. The last 15 years of experience with CTFs in more than 50 countries demonstrates that they not only complement the funding provided by national governments and international donor agencies, but can also serve to mobilize substantial additional funding from national governments, international donor agencies, and the private sector.

Although CTFs do not implement conservation activities or projects themselves, they can influence the priorities and the operating procedures of government agencies and NGOs by providing them with otherwise hard-to-obtain additional financial resources. In many cases (Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, South Africa and Bhutan), CTFs serve not only as funding mechanisms, but also as catalysts for institutional reform of government protected area agencies. In other countries such as Brazil, CTFs have served as catalysts for the creation of new partnerships with the private sector. In still other cases (as in the 23 CTFs whose financing comes from the proceeds

of bilateral debt reductions by the US Government), CTFs have served as mechanisms for strengthening NGOs.

OPERATION OF A CONSERVATION TRUST FUND

Governance

CTFs are set up as independent institutions, usually as a foundation or not-for-profit corporation, depending on the particular legislation of a country. For example, in Dominica, a similar type of organization, the Social Investment Fund, was set up under the Companies Act. One important lesson learned from experience is that the most critical factor for good governance of a CTF is to have a large non-government majority on its Board of Directors, and to limit the number of government representatives to 20% or less. CTFs whose governing boards have a non-government majority, and are not chaired by a government Minister or housed inside of a government Ministry, are more transparent and accountable in how they spend funds. In some cases, donor representatives are included on the Board, but this has turned out to be limiting in some cases where the presence of a specific donor representative gives the perception that the CTF is the client of only one donor institution, thereby driving away other potential donors.

In some CTFs, a Founder's Committee or similar body is set up to play an oversight function with respect to the Board. The Founder's Committee is made up of the representatives of the institutions that established the CTF in the first place. This Committee has the power of veto over any decision made by the Board of Directors which contravenes the original intent of the legal instruments that established the Fund.

In some cases, CTFs play a lead role in strategic planning and priority setting for a country's national park system, either at the direct request of the government, or by default (i.e., because neither the government nor anyone else is doing this). Recent studies show that CTFs have served as the mechanism for financing up to 75% (in Peru) or even 90% (in Bolivia) of the annual

operating costs of a country's protected area system, which can give them a significant indirect (or direct) influence on how those protected area systems are managed. This is true even in cases like Ecuador, where a CTF provides only 20% of such operating costs, or Mexico where a CTF provides only 14% of the total operating costs for 22 protected areas.

Staffing

CTFs seek to maintain low staff levels so that they can maximize the amount available for grant-making. The larger the CTF, the more efficient operations can be as a percentage of total revenues. At start-up, CTFs usually have to spend up to 40% of their funding on administrative overheads, but as they grow in experience and resources, even small funds can usually get their administrative overheads down to about 25% of total revenues. Starting funds usually need only a Director and a Secretary. As the CTF develops, an Administrative Officer and one or more Project Officers can be brought on board to administer funds, organize and implement the requests for proposals, advise the Board of Directors on project selection, supervise and monitor project implementation, and report to donors. These functions can also be outsourced if preferred.

Sources of Funding

A 2002 study of CTFs in Latin America and the Caribbean found the following distribution of funding sources:

Debt for nature swaps	48%
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	27%
Bilateral Grants	9%
Governments	7%
Loans through bi-lateral or multi-lateral institutions	5%
Earned income (fines, entrance fees, concessions, etc.)	2%
Private foundations	1%

These figures show clearly the importance of international funding which adds up to 91% of all current sources. Since this study was carried out, some CTFs have made breakthroughs in tapping into private sources of funding, mostly through the corporate sector.

Grant Making

The basic function of a CTF is to make grants that further biodiversity conservation and other relevant objectives. The guidelines for grant-making are normally outlined in a "Grant-Making Manual", or in a broader "Operations Manual" that has a section on grant-making. Grant priorities can either follow established government policy, such as a biodiversity strategy or protected area action program, or can be developed by the CTF's Board of Directors. The entities eligible for grants are usually defined by the Board of Directors as well and can include government agencies, NGOs, local community groups and/or the private sector. In many instances, the guidelines for grant-making at any particular time are defined in a "call for proposals" that clearly sets out priorities (thematic and/or geographical), deadlines for application, eligibility criteria, monitoring and evaluation requirements, amounts to be granted, and other operational details.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Most CTFs monitor and evaluate "project completion" indicators. There are no reported cases of CTF funds being stolen, misappropriated, or diverted for unauthorized uses. The general record of CTFs seems to be better than the general record of accountability of individual projects financed by international donor agencies or national governments.

However, many CTFs have not collected detailed baseline data that would permit monitoring of biodiversity impacts of their grants, because collecting such data is often expensive, time-

consuming, highly skilled work, for which the best methodologies are sometimes still a subject of debate even among scientific experts. Instead, many CTFs collect and analyze "proxy indicators" for biodiversity conservation, such as the number of (1) additional park guards that have been hired, (2) vehicles and radios purchased to equip park guards, (3) training courses given to park managers, (4) public environmental awareness campaigns that have conducted, and/or (5) environmentally sustainable livelihood projects for local communities in park buffer zones.

Fund Administration

Most CTFs administer their funds through different account types. In general, these accounts include trust funds (where the capital is maintained and only the interest is available for grant-making), sinking funds (where an initial seed capital is spent over time, such as with project funding), or revolving funds (where regular income, such as concession fees, entrance fees, or fines build up in an account until spent). Each of these account types may also be divided into sub-accounts so that the funding from different sources is tracked independently. This is a must for most donors.

Investment Performance

The financial performance of CTFs ---i.e., the annual rates of return on the investment of their endowments, sinking funds, and revolving funds---has generally been similar to that of many developed country non-profit institutions such as universities and foundations, averaging between 6% and 9%, depending on which years are used as a reference, and on how much of the CTFs' portfolios are invested in stocks as opposed to bonds.

THE WAY FORWARD

There appear to be opportunities for furthering the development of a CTF in Dominica, both related to the development of national parks. The first is the on-going GEF- World Bank Project. There may be an opportunity for Dominica to request support for the establishment of a CTF as a pilot

effort in the region. The other immediate opportunity is the Caribbean Development Bank Project related to the development of a National Park Service in Dominica. It would be entirely fitting to link the establishment of this new entity with the simultaneous establishment of a CTF that might be entitled a "National Parks Fund". There may be other opportunities as well through the U.S. AID financed Caribbean Open Trade Support Program, the European Union, the FFEM (French Global Environment Facility), or other related program initiatives.

ANNEX E- PROPOSED RESEARCH, MONITORING AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Research programmes are identified as follows:

- The Valley of Desolation with its geological, volcanic and geothermal characteristics
- The parrot habitat areas,
- Geology and geomorphology especially detailed geology of the formation of the domes within an older crater exemplified between the Freshwater Lake and the Emerald Pool
- The ecosystems on the summits of Micotrin and Trois Pitons
- Climate and hydrology
- Flora and fauna
- Volcanism especially the areas of the Valley of Desolation and the seismic activity in the southwest of the Park
- The impact of climate change on the biodiversity of the Park- Plant and animal species especially endemic plants and animals, phenology.
- Develop and implement silvicultural techniques to promote forest productivity maintain genetic diversity and promote ecosystem health via restoration

It should be noted that some baseline studies have been conducted in the Park. However, additional studies are needed to adequately characterize the present status of the Park. As such, the entire Park should be considered a "zone for research"

Monitoring Programmes

- Status of endemic plants and animals
- Trail erosion;
- Declining water quality and water level of major rivers in the Park
- Agricultural encroachment
- Visitor Impact
- Trail conditions; and,
- Condition of the Visitor Centre interpretive exhibits.
- Indications of hunting within the Park.
- Hydro-meteorological data
- Monitoring the impact of climate change on the Park through establishment of indicators
- Introduction of invasive species
- Physical and biological resources of the Park.
- Rainfall trigger values and soil moisture content required for the initiation of landslides so as to manage fresh water resources both within and exterior to the confines of the Park.

Proposed training programme

- Train staff responsible for monitoring and collating climate data
- Train staff and communities in silvicultural techniques to promote forest productivity
- and maintain genetic diversity
- Data management
 - > Instrumentation and processing large quantities of data
 - ➤ Data storage and retrieval
 - ➤ General maintenance and troubleshooting

APPENDIX F- BIRDS FOUND IN THE MORNE TROIS PITONS NATIONAL PARK

SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	REMARKS
Blue-headed Hummingbird	Cyanophaia bicolor	2-island endemic
Purple-throated Hummingbird	Eulampis jugularis	
Antillean crested Hummingbird	Orthorhyncus cristatus	Regional Endemic
Green-throated Hummingbird	Sericotes holosericeus	
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Migrant
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	
Yellow Warbler	Dendroica petechia	
Plumbeous Warbler	Dendroica plumbea	2-island Endemic
Blackpoll Warbler	Dendroica striata	Migrant
Green Heron	Butorides striatus	
Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	
Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	
Great Egret	Egretta albus	Migrant
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax violaceus	
Bananaquit	Coereba flaveola	
Grey Kingbird	Tyrannus dominicensis	
Mangrove Cuckoo	Coccyzus minor	
House Wren	Troglodytes aedon	
Blue-winged Teal	Anas discors	Migrant
Ruddy Quail-Dove	Geotrygon montana	
Red-necked Pigeon	Columba squamosa	
Common Ground Dove	Columbina passerina	
Zenaida Dove	Zenaida aurita	
Red-necked Parrot	Amazona arausiaca	Endemic to Dominica
(Imperial Parrot)	(Amazona imperialis)	*(Endemic; present in MTPNP)
Blue-hooded Euphonia	Euphonia musica	
Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres	Migrant
Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularia	Migrant
Ringed Kingfisher	Ceryle torquata	
Caribbean Elaenia	martinica	
Lesser Antillean Pewee	Contopus latirostris	Regional Endemic
Lesser Antillean Flycatcher	Myiarchus oberi	Regional Endemic

Lesser Antillean Swift Chaetura martinica Regional Endemic

Black Swift Cypseloides niger

Barn Swallow Hirundo rustica Migrant

Bank Swallow Riparia Migrant

Scaly-breasted Thrasher Margarops fuscus
Pearly-eyed Thrasher Margarops fuscatus
Trembler Cinclocerthia ruficauda
Forest Thrush Cichlherminia Iherminieri
Rufus-throated Solitaire Myadestes genibarbis

Black-whiskered Vireo Vireo altiloquus
Black-faced Grassquit Tiaris bicolor

Lesser Antillean Bullfinch Loxigilla noctis Regional Endemic

Streaked Saltator Saltator albicollis
Common Moorehen Gallinula chloropus

Sora Rail Porzana carolina Migrant
American Coot Fulica americana Migrant

APPENDIX G - LIST OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED

Minchington Burton- Director of Forestry and Parks

Jacqueline Andre - National Parks Superintendent, Forestry and Wildlife Division

Stephen Durand- Head, Research Department, -Forestry Division

Artherton Martin - Morne Trois Pitons Geotourism Stewardship Council

Lloyd Pascal - Head of the Environmental Coordinating Unit

Nick Larocque - Director- Department of Lands and Surveys

Annie Edwards - Senior Physical Planning Officer

Marshall Alexander - Dominica Meteorological Office

Francisco Maffei - Forest Protection Unit

APPENDIX H - LIST OF PARTICIPANTS/ NATIONAL CONSULTATION

Name		Organization/Community	Email Address(es)	Phone Number(s)
1.	Joanna Guiste	Petit Savanne Resettlement Committee	guistej@gmail.com	265-1833
2.	Paul Moses	Domlec	Paul.moses@domlec.dm	275-7062
3.	Allan Toussaint	D/ca Geothermal Development Company	Allan.toussaint@geodominica.com	275-7392
4.	Agnes Esprit	GEF SGP	agnese@unops.org	275-1275
5.	Gary Shillingford	D/ca Geothermal Development Company		275-7396
6.	Lyn Foutenelle	D/ca Geothermal Development Company	Lyn.fontenelle@geodominica.com	448-6178
7.	Johanne Lockhart	Grand Fond Village Council	Johannelockhart5@gmail.com	277-1214
8.	Adisa Trotter	Agricultural Division	trottera@dominica.gov.dm	266-3807
9.	Washbourne Cuffy	Morne Jaune Village Council	Washy03@hotmail.com	245-0919
10.	Atherton Martin	Morne Trois Pitons Geotourism Stewardship Council	Acm_75@hotmail.com	276-1878
11.	Annie Edwards	Physical Planning	Annierose63@gmail.com	277-7588

Name	Organization/Occupation	Email Address(es)	Phone Number(s)
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Adisa Trotter	Agriculture Division	trottera@dominica.gov.dm	266-3807
Jacqueline Andre	Forestry	andrej@dominica.gov.dm	245-7662
Nick Larocque	Lands & Surveys	larocn@hotmail.com	614-2233
Roland Royer	Min of Tourism	ctotourism@dominica.gov.dm	266-3002
Artherton Martin	Geotourism Stewardship Council	Acm-75@hotmail.com	276-1878

Appendix I - Hydro-meteorological Monitoring - List of Instruments and Hardware

No.	Instruments / hardware	Global Water
		Unit cost
1	Weather Station	3,235.00
1	Mounting Tripod	292.00
1	Solar Radiation Sensor	807.00
1	Soil Moisture Sensor	291.00
1	Barometric Pressure Sensor	426.00
2	Recording Rain Gauge	918.00
1	Satellite Telemetry System	2,047.00
1	Ultrasonic Water Level Recorder	856.00
1	Boost Regulator+Water Level	600.00
	Logger+Enclosure	
2	Solar Panels	734.00
		\$ 10,206.00 = 27,722.56

(Reference Shawn Boyce- Assessment of Hydro- meteorological Sensors to Support Dominica's National Park Management- Final report-)