

Cost of Managing National Parks



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Bahamas National Parks, 2017

- 1 Andros West Side National Park
- 2 Crab Replenishment Reserve
- 3 Blue Hole National Park
- 4 North Andros Marine Park
- 5 South Andros Marine Park
- 6 Rand Nature Centre
- 7 Peterson Cay National Park expansion
- 8 Lucayan National Park expansion
- 9 Walker's Cay National Park
- 10 Black Sound Cay National Reserve
- 11 Ford's Cay National Park
- 12 Pelican Cay Land & Sea Park
- 13 Tilco Cay National Reserve
- 14 Abaco National Park
- 15 Primeval Forest National Park
- 16 Harrold & Wilson Ponds National Park
- 17 Bonellah Pond National Park
- 18 The Retreat
- 19 Exuma Cays Land & Sea Park
- 20 North Harbour Cay National Park expansion
- 21 Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve
- 22 Conception Island National Park
- 23 Southern Great Lake National Park
- 24 Pigeon Creek and Snow Bay National Park
- 25 Graham's Harbour Iguana & Seabird National Park
- 26 West Coast Marine Park
- 27 Green's Bay Marine Park
- 28 Great Hope House
- 29 Marine Farm
- 30 Little Inagua National Park
- 31 Union Creek Reserve
- 32 Inagua National Park

New National Parks, 2015

- a) The Abaco Marks
- b) Cross Harbour
- c) East Abaco Cays
- d) Blight of Addins
- e) Andros Green Cay National Park
- f) Andros Joulter Cays
- g) North Shores—The Gap National Park
- h) East Grand Bahama National Park
- i) Bodoy Cay, Mayaguana
- j) Southwest New Providence Marine Managed Area
- k) Pampell Track National Park
- l) Southeastern Bahamas Marine

Discovery Clubs

- Abaco
- Andros
- Cat Island
- Eleuthera
- Exuma
- Grand Bahama
- Inagua
- Long Island
- New Providence

BNT Offices

- Marsh Harbour, Abaco
- Freeport, Grand Bahama
- Nassau
- Exuma Cays Land & Sea Park (Wanderick Wells)
- Andros (central)
- Central Eleuthera
- Matthew Town, Inagua

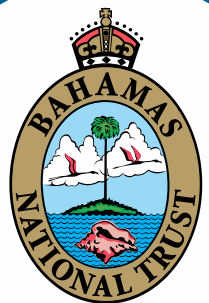
Overview

- Issues faced by our Nation and the role of the Bahamas National Trust
- Resource protection cost and challenges
- BNT sustainable funding mechanisms
- The funding gap



Issues faced by our nation and the role of the Bahamas National Trust

- Competition for government funds – high crime, high unemployment, high health care costs, educational concerns
- The Exuma Land and Sea Park formed in 1958
- The Bahamas National Trust formed in 1959
 - Bahamas National Trust ACT
 - Charged with creating and managing the national parks
 - Advisor to the government



THE GAP

Our cost verification report commissioned by the IDB in September 2016 and updated by The BNT in March 2018, shows funding needs for optimal performance as follows:

Description	Staffing Needs	Annual Operating Costs	Investment Needs
Existing parks	211	\$10,526,820	27,662,899
New and park expansions	18	1,370,672	3,711,200
Total at optimal performance	229	11,897,492	31,374,099
Historical operating budgets	60	\$4,300,000	
OPERATIONAL GAP	169	\$7,597,492	

BENEFITS OF AN OPTIMAL NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM:

Science	increase in staff and larger travel budget	increased ecological assessments to identify and advocate for the designation of areas that should be protected; increased evaluations to determine the effectiveness of our programs and expanded habitat restoration program	Resource protection	INCREASE IN BIODIVERSITY STRONGER ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION OF TOURISM, FISHERIES & AGRICULTURE INDUSTRIES
Parks	increase in staff, equipment, visitor centers, trails, vehicles, boats	increased enforcement, habitat restoration and invasive removals, improved park maintenance; visitor centers, restrooms, trails and signage for growth in awareness	Resource protection by BNT staff	
Education	increase in staff, supplies and travel budget	a Discovery Club in every school, an adult group in every church	Awareness resulting in resource protection by volunteers and general public	
Development	larger budget	increased awareness and more in kind and financial contributions from donors	sustainable financing	
Marketing and communications	larger budget	increased awareness and more in kind and financial contributions from donors	sustainable financing; and awareness resulting in resource protection by volunteers and general public	
Finance	larger training budget	increased revenues from visitor fees and other sustainable financing mechanisms; and the development of a comprehensive training program including grant writing, enforcement, mooring maintenance, fundraising and leadership training.	sustainable financing, increase in donor and public confidence	





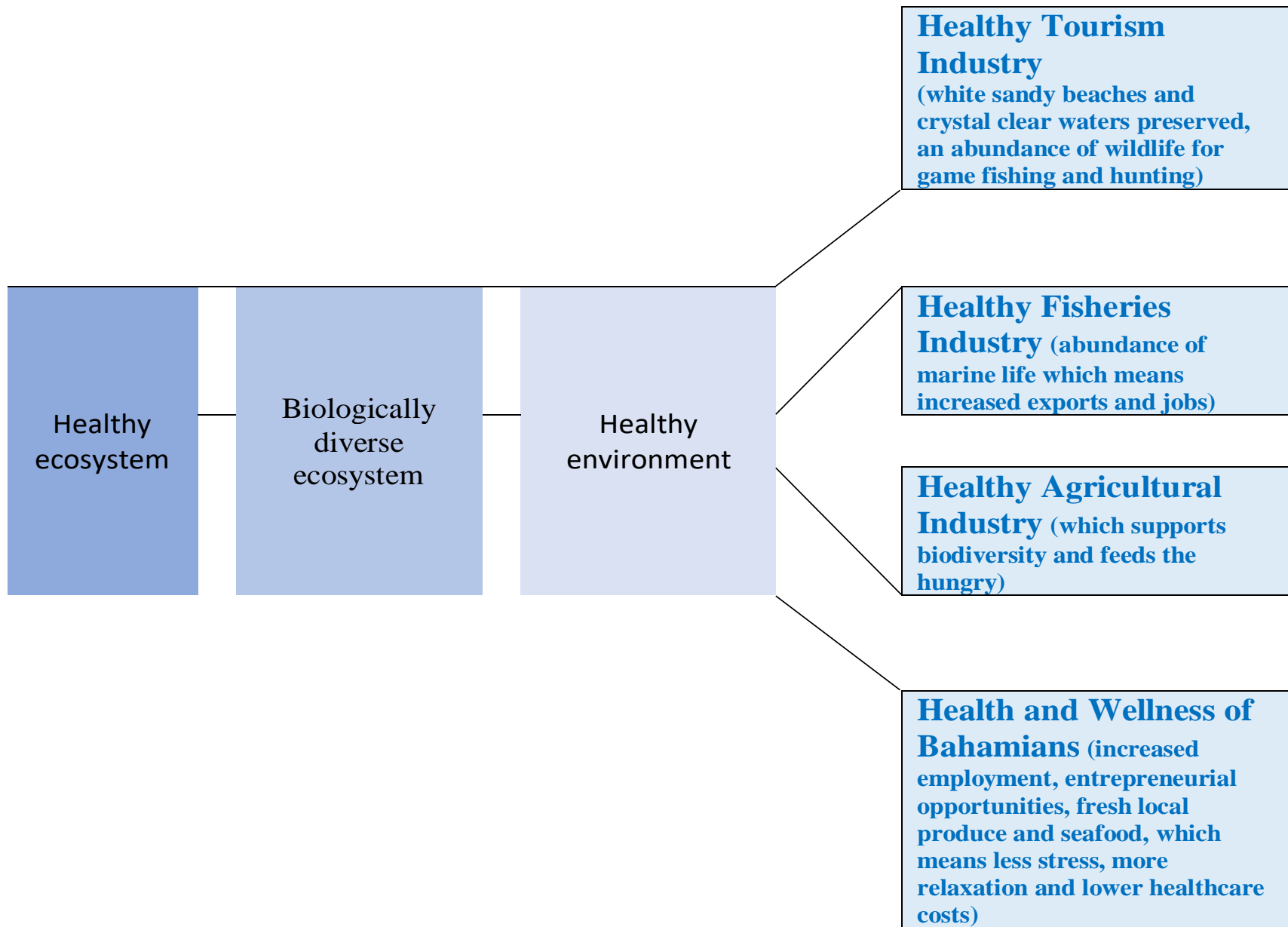


Table 1a: Summary of BNT’s Estimated Staffing, Annual Operations and Investment Needs for an Effectively Managed National Park System – Existing Parks

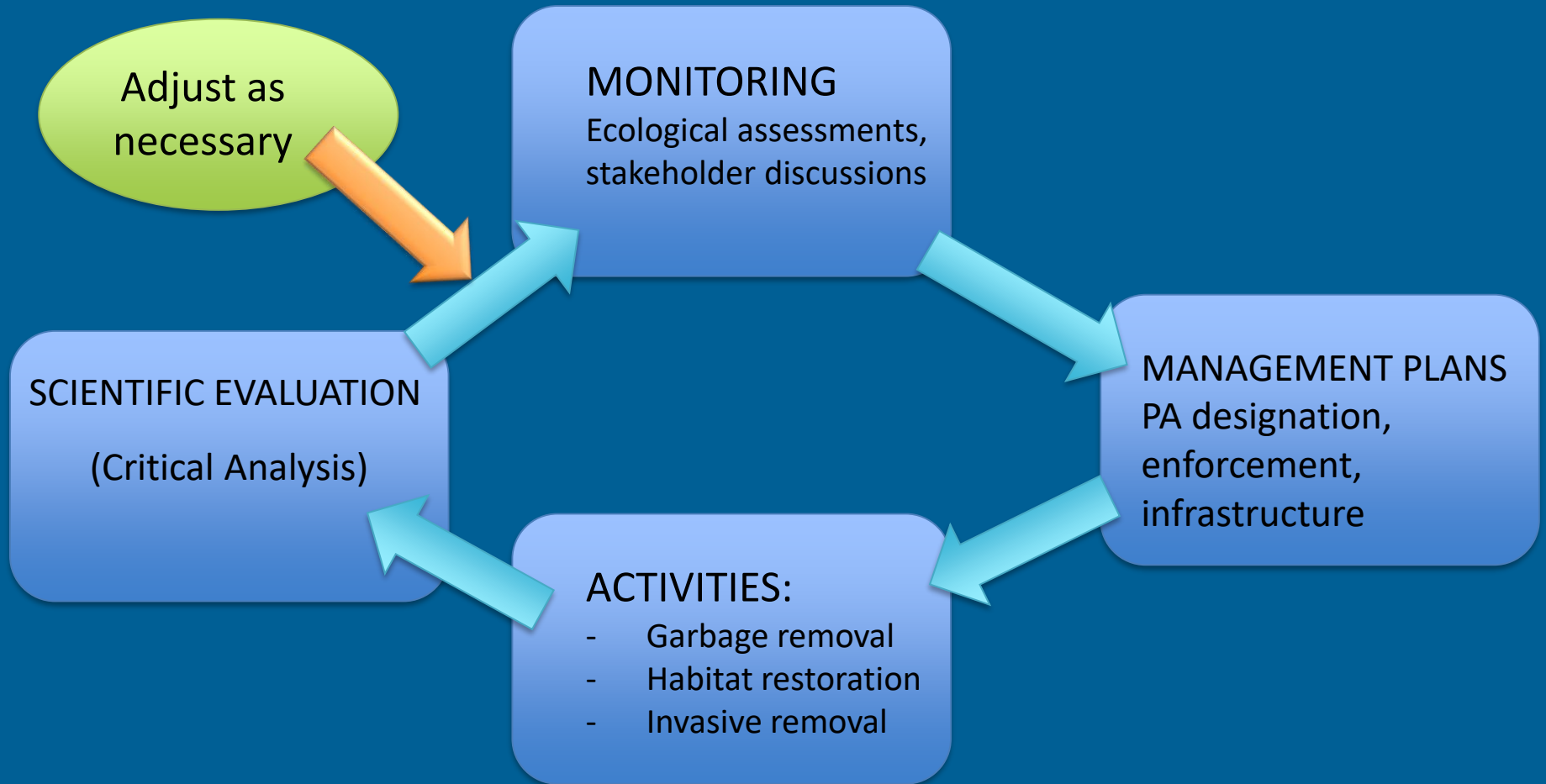
	Effectively Managed National Park System		
	Staffing Needs	Annual Operations Costs	Investment Needs
Abaco Island	11.00	Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Abaco National Park	4.00	\$ 349,885	\$ 2,013,051
Black Sound Cay National Reserve	0.10	\$ 54,912	\$ 59,054
Fowl Cays National Park	0.40	\$ 70,665	\$ 16,170
Pelican Cays Land and Sea Park	0.40	\$ 107,609	\$ 82,195
Tilloo Cay Reserve	0.10	\$ 23,471	\$ 63,927
Walker's Cay National Park	2.00	\$ 153,264	\$ 102,852
Andros Island	18.00	Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Andros North Marine Park	1.00	\$ 126,013	\$ 493,800
Andros South Marine Park	1.00	\$ 123,420	\$ 447,800
Andros West Side National Park	5.00	\$ 869,893	\$ 2,537,800
Blue Holes National Park	4.00	\$ 369,321	\$ 1,399,350
Crab Replenishment Reserve	0.00	\$ 3,924	\$ 71,300
Conception Island National Park	2.00	\$ 117,950	\$ 235,000
Crooked Island	2.00	Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Hope Great House	0.00	\$ 22,845	\$ 115,750
Marine Farm	0.00	\$ 22,845	\$ 140,750
Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve	10.00	\$ 289,500	\$ -
Exuma Island	4.00	Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park	7.00	\$ 682,511	\$ 4,208,500
Moriah Harbour Cay National Park	4.00	\$ 232,660	\$ 421,000
Grand Bahama	16.00	Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Lucayan National Park	5.00	\$ 371,182	\$ 1,686,054
Peterson Cay National Park	1.00	\$ 147,754	\$ 219,856
Rand Nature Centre	7.00	\$ 495,401	\$ 1,310,389
Inagua Island	5.00	Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Inagua National Park	0.00	\$ 217,773	\$ 1,060,668
Union Creek Reserve	0.00	\$ 1,612	\$ 352,390
Little Inagua National Park	0.00	\$ 27,100	\$ 83,542

	Effectively Managed National Park System		
	Staffing Needs	Annual Operations Costs	Investment Needs
New Providence	17.00	Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Bonefish Pond National Park	4.00	\$ 305,729	\$ 1,240,003
Harrold and Wilson Ponds National Park	6.00	\$ 437,173	\$ 1,664,460
Primeval Forest National Park	3.00	\$ 199,242	\$ 169,836
The Retreat	12.00	\$ 543,414	\$ 1,196,400
San Salvador	8.00	Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Graham's Harbour Iguana and Seabird NP	0.00	\$ 115,985	\$ 362,300
Greens Bay National Park	0.00	\$ 41,702	\$ 39,300
Pigeon Creek & Snow Bay National Park	0.00	\$ 139,490	\$ 241,800
Southern Great Lake National Park	0.00	\$ 33,703	\$ 125,800
West Coast Marine Park	0.00	\$ 160,265	\$ 248,800
Centralized Programmes and Support			
Parks Department	7.00	\$ 295,000	75,000
Science Programme	11.00	\$ 372,000	\$ 103,000
Education Programme	8.00	\$ 979,000	\$ 50,000
Support Staff - Executive, Finance & Admin, HR, Development	25.00	\$ 1,972,605	\$ 5,025,000
Total Existing Parks	211.00	\$ 10,526,820	\$27,662,899

Table 1b: Summary of BNT’s Estimated Staffing, Annual Operations and Investment Needs for an Effectively Managed National Park System – New Declared Parks

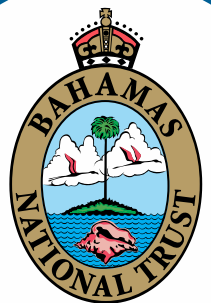
	Effectively Managed National Park System		
	Staffing Needs	Annual Operations Costs	Investment Needs
Abaco Island		Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Abaco – Blue Holes		\$120,983	\$968,900
Abaco East Creeks – The Bight		\$23,900	\$35,333
Abaco East Creeks – Snakes Cays		\$23,000	\$ 35,333
Abaco East Creeks - Cherokee		\$23,000	\$35,333
Abaco – Cross Harbour		\$118,120	\$497,000
The Marls National Park		\$148,620	\$195,000
Andros Island		Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Joulter Cays		\$96,000	\$153,000
Andros Green Cay		\$37,250	\$110,200
Acklins & Crooked Island		Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Acklins Bight		\$123,000	\$121,200
Southeastern Bahamas Marine		\$241,000	\$75,500
Exuma Island		Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Moriah Harbour Cay National Park Expansion			
Grand Bahama		Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Lucayan National Park Expansion			22,300
Peterson Cay National Park Expansion			5,000
North Shore The Gap		\$81,900	\$113,700
East Grand Bahama Park		\$161,500	\$580,400
Mayaguana		Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Booby Cay		\$18,400	\$13,500
New Providence		Costs Shared among Island's Parks	
Perpall Track Well Fields		\$80,400	\$485,500
South West New Providence Marine Managed Area		\$73,600	\$264,000
Total New Parks and Expansions		\$1,370,672	\$3,711,200
Total Existing, New Parks and Expansions		\$11,897,492	\$31,374,099

BNT's Resource Protection strategy



Resource Protection Cost and Challenges

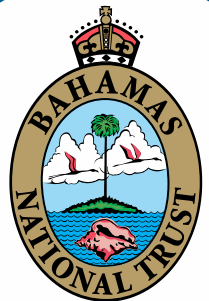
- Low Infrastructure Budget – visitor centres, trails, equipment, boats, vehicles
- Low Operating Budget – Supplies, fuel, R&M, Utilities, Insurance, travel, staff
- Low Administrative Budget
 - Marketing costs – awareness
 - Managed uniform program – awareness
 - Training – efficient, effective resource management
 - Technology – efficient, effective resource management



RESOURCE PROTECTION CHALLENGES

INFRASTRUCTURE

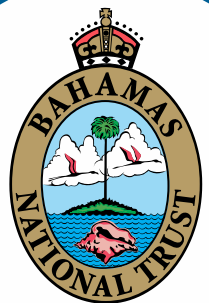
- Equipment – for park maintenance
- Boats – enforcement and monitoring
- Vehicles – for park maintenance
- Trails and boardwalks
- Science equipment
- Visitor centres, campsites and restrooms– to strengthen awareness
- Education centres – to strengthen awareness



RESOURCE PROTECTION CHALLENGES

Operating Costs:

- Supplies
- Fuel
- Repairs & maintenance
- Science related costs
- Utilities
- Insurance
- Travel
- Staff

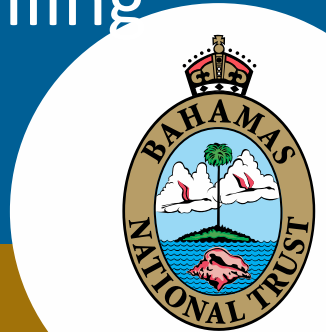


RESOURCE PROTECTION CHALLENGES

MARKETING

Growth in the Non-profit sector has not kept pace with other sectors in the last 40 years.

To grow this industry and achieve sustained behavioral change we must increase the value Bahamians attribute to conservation by selling knowledge, awareness and education.



RESOURCE PROTECTION CHALLENGES

MANAGED UNIFORM PROGRAM

Benefits:

- *Creates a professional business image* - that attracts and helps retain customers.
- *Promotes your company or brand.*
- *Provides free advertising/awareness.*
- *Protects workers* - functional benefits for our park wardens and scientific team e.g. life vests, proper dive equipment etc.
- *Improves customer relationships* - work uniforms immediately identify company representatives who can be approached for information thereby improving overall customer service. This is especially important for tourists who are in an unfamiliar environment.



RESOURCE PROTECTION CHALLENGES

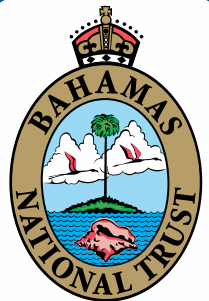
TRAINING

Hire for passion and intensity; there is training for everything else.

- Nolan Bushnell, technology pioneer

Benefits:

- Improves employee efficiency and productivity and results in higher revenue, improved customer service, and better organizational loyalty
- Reduces costs
- Reduces errors, liability, and risks (improve risk management);
- Increases donor and volunteer satisfaction;
- Improves employee recruitment
- Increases job satisfaction and retain key employees, reduce turnover;

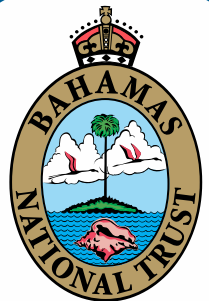


RESOURCE PROTECTION CHALLENGES

TECHNOLOGY

Need for:

- Reliable internal infrastructure, including sophisticated information technology systems which result in more efficient, effective organizations.
- Drones



SUSTAINABLE FUNDING MECHANISM

TOURISM

The BNT can play a vital role in The Bahamas' \$1.3 billion tourism industry as many of the industry's iconic drawcards are located on public conservation land.

Ecotourism trends

Authenticity is key to attracting ecotourism visitors

Sustainable luxury respects local people lands and culture.

Personal lifestyle consultant who can arrange highly personalized and unique travel experiences

Transformational experience that involves learning/education

Food & dining trend - visitors are mindful of what is authentic and what is locally sourced.

True environment and 'digital detox'. – going back to simplicity

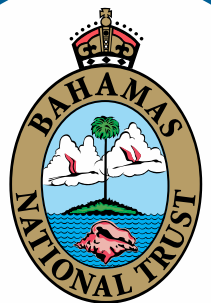
Estimated size of ecotourism industry as % of total visitors:

Low: 1–2 percent, per the Buckley (2009)

Medium: 5–10 percent, per EBSCO (2009)

High: 20–40 percent, per the Ecotourism Society (1998)

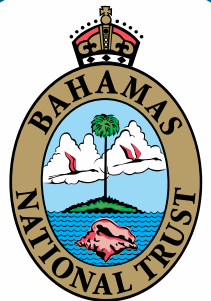
Total visitors – 6.1 Mil per year



SUSTAINABLE FUNDING MECHANISM

CONCESSIONS

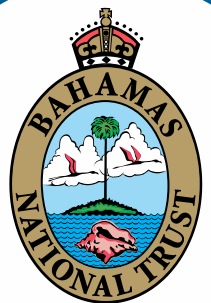
- Increased entrepreneurial opportunities
- Increased employment opportunities



SUSTAINABLE FUNDING MECHANISM

BUILDING AWARENESS THROUGH:

- **Recreation**
 - locals using the parks and learning through signage and tours
- **Marketing**
 - Engaging prospective donors and convincing them to give their hard-earned money to your cause
 - Recruiting program participants or end-users of the services your organization provides
 - Driving brand awareness and affinity that establishes your organization's credibility with government funders and foundations
 - Attracting volunteers and community support
 - Generating support for and organizing action around issues about which your organization advocates
 - Driving social and behavioral change.



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Thank you for
listening

Become a member
today

Join the fight!

Managing National Parks • Preserving Our Future

