

# PROTECTING THE **GOLD** OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES



BAHAMAS  
**PROTECTED**  
AREAS FUND







# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

## GLENN BANNISTER



“The stewardship of the earth, its species and biodiversity are the responsibility of mankind. The Bahamas has unique and incredibly productive ecosystems, such as our mangroves, corals and seagrasses, that support critical biodiversity and contribute to our quality of life. If we want to maintain these benefits however, we must manage these resources at sustainable levels.

## BPAF'S IMPACT: SUCCESS STORIES

### 100-ACRE RAND NATURE CENTRE REJUVENATION - POST DORIAN

Reestablished the Native & Tropical Plant Arboretum and developed a management plan for the Park through funding from BPAF.

### OVER 30,000 MANGROVES PLANTED AT DOVER'S SOUND SINCE 2019, AND GROWING

Waterkeepers Bahamas along with its partners, Blue Action Lab, Coral Vita, EARTHCARE and dozens of volunteers made this possible with on-going meticulously planned out-planting exercises, since the passage of Hurricane Dorian.

### FOREST HEIGHTS ACADEMY OPENS THEIR DOORS AGAIN IN MARSH HARBOR, ABACO

BPAF supported the installation of solar power to the academy. As a result, it was able to open its doors again in September, for the 2022 -2023 school year!

In 2009, I, a passionate advocate for the preservation of nature, embarked on a life-changing journey. Leaving my beloved home in The Bahamas, I boarded a plane bound for Belize, a land teeming with lush landscapes and vibrant marine life. Little did I know that this trip would forever shape my destiny and ignite a fire within me.

As the plane touched down, my excitement grew. I made my way to a boat waiting at the harbor, ready to take me to one of the smaller cays, a haven for biodiversity. As the boat approached its destination, I couldn't help but notice something amiss. The picturesque island I had heard so much about seemed transformed.

The island I remembered from pictures was barely recognizable. The turquoise waters that once gently lapped against the shore now encroached onto the land, reclaiming its territory. The entire island appeared submerged, leaving only the faint outlines of what had once been.

My gaze fixed on a fence, a vivid reminder of the island's past. It stood as a sentinel, almost completely submerged in the rising waters, a silent witness to the relentless forces of nature.

Today, in 2023, my experience in Belize serves as a stark reminder of the urgency of our mission. Our precious natural habitats are disappearing before our eyes, and time is slipping away. But it's not too late. Together, we can rewrite this narrative.

Help us ensure that the world may continue to enjoy our paradise for as long as humanly possible, in spite of rising tides. Join us in our mission to Protect the Gold of our Natural Resources for generations to come.



*K Panton*

**KAREN PANTON**

Executive Director,  
Bahamas Protected Areas Fund



# PROTECTING THE GOLD OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

## THE URGENT NEED FOR CONSERVATION

At BPAF, we recognize the responsibility we bear in preserving the nation's invaluable natural resources. Our mission is clear: to protect, conserve, and manage our natural areas for the benefit of present and future generations. We work tirelessly to ensure that our coral reefs remain vibrant, our forests thrive and our waters remain teeming with life.

Our lives and environment are at risk from rising sea levels, invasive species, climate change, diseases like Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease, pollution, and unchecked development. We must act urgently! Invest in nature-based solutions and ecosystem approaches to secure our future. The time is now to protect our children and preserve our planet.

JOIN US IN  
THE FIGHT:  
YOUR SUPPORT  
MATTERS!

DONATE NOW



Continue reading to discover how  
you can make a difference.





# OUR MILESTONES: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## 19 MILLION ACRES PROTECTED BY 2021

The Bahamas National Protected Area System (BNPAS) now protects **18%** of the country's coastal and marine environment.

We need in excess of

## 150 MILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY

TO EFFECTIVELY MANAGE THESE AREAS

## 23 PROJECTS FINANCED TO DATE

in areas related to marine restoration and conservation, including mangrove and coral reef restoration and conservation.

**We are the only NGO in the  
English-speaking Caribbean with  
Observer Status  
under the  
United Nations Framework  
Convention on Climate Change**  
giving BPAF a voice in the global climate arena.







# **JOIN OUR MISSION:** **HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

## **BECOME A BPAF SUPPORTER**



By joining the BPAF community, you become a steward of our precious natural paradise. Your support not only conserves our environment but also offers you a range of benefits, including exclusive updates, invitations to BPAF events, and more. Together, we can make a lasting impact.

## **CHOOSE YOUR WAY TO GIVE**

Making a difference is easy. You can choose to make a one-time donation, become a monthly donor, or explore corporate partnership opportunities. Every contribution, big or small, brings us one step closer to preserving our natural paradise.

Potential corporate sponsor? Protecting the Gold of our Natural Resources is designed to convince local, regional and international companies to donate to The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund for five (5) consecutive years. This campaign aims to secure

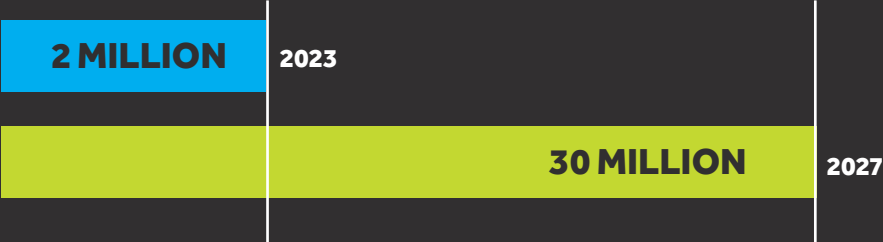
# **\$30M IN CORPORATE DONATIONS**

between 2023 and 2027.





# DONATION GOAL



SCAN ME  
TO DONATE



## DONATION INFORMATION:

Please send all donation inquiries to **Karen Panton**  
**kpanton@bahamasprotected.com**, **info@bahamasprotected.com**  
or call us at **242.698.1152** or **242.437.2168**.

**Wire transfers** may be made via J.P. Morgan Chase below:

**Intermediary Bank:** CHASUS33

**(IBK)** JP MORGAN CHASE BANK  
NEW YORK  
ABA 021000021

**Pay to Bank:** /001 1 188448

**(BBK)** ROYCBSNS  
RBC Royal Bank of Canada (Bahamas) Ltd.  
Nassau, Bahamas

**BENEFICIARY:** Bahamas Protected Areas Fund  
**Account:** 5565-1403666





# STRENGTH IN COLLABORATION



## RECOGNIZING OUR PARTNERS

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated partners, grantees, generous donors, and passionate volunteers who have stood by our side in our mission to protect our future, for generations to come.


**Your participation in our mission is invaluable.**

Bahamas Marine Mammal Research Organisation  
 Bahamas National Trust  
 Bahamas Undersea Research Foundation  
 Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute  
 Bahamas Reef Environmental Education Fund  
 Bahamas Hotel & Tourism Association  
 Builders Initiative  
 Clifton Heritage National Park  
 Caribbean Biodiversity Fund  
 Consortium of Caribbean Trust Funds  
 Department of Environmental Planning Protection  
 The Department of Marine Resources  
 Disaster Reconstruction Authority  
 Fem Stem  
 Forest Heights Academy  
 Forestry Unit - Ministry of Environment  
 Friends of the Environment  
 GEF Small Grants Programme Implemented by UNDP  
 Office of the Prime Minister - Climate Change & Environmental Unit  
 University of The Bahamas  
 Waterkeepers Bahamas (WKB)  
 New Providence Development Co. Ltd  
 Ministry of Tourism, Industry and Aviation  
 The Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources  
 The Nature Conservancy  
 The Perry Institute  
 The Thomson Reuters Foundation  
 The Waitt Foundation

## WORKING HAND IN HAND

Together with The Bahamas Government, corporations and concerned citizens, we have achieved remarkable successes. From ecosystem restoration, solarization, to sustainable initiatives promoting climate relief, our collaborative efforts are making a profound impact.





"The coral reefs, the mangroves, they're providing jobs, they provide food security, they provide protection from storm surge and things like that. They're under such dramatic threats right now, that we really need to be active and very intentional in what we're doing to help."

**-Craig Dahlgren**  
The Perry Institute  
(Bahamas Research Foundation)



"So for the curious persons out there, I would suggest that they learn more, but not just learn more, but get involved."

**-Shenique Albury-Smith**  
The Nature Conservancy



"Our partners speak for us. Their words of support reflect the importance of our work and the impact we have had on [preserving] The Bahamas' natural heritage."

**- Karen Gayle**  
Caribbean Biodiversity Fund



Continue to the next page for contact information  
and to follow BPAF on social media and the website





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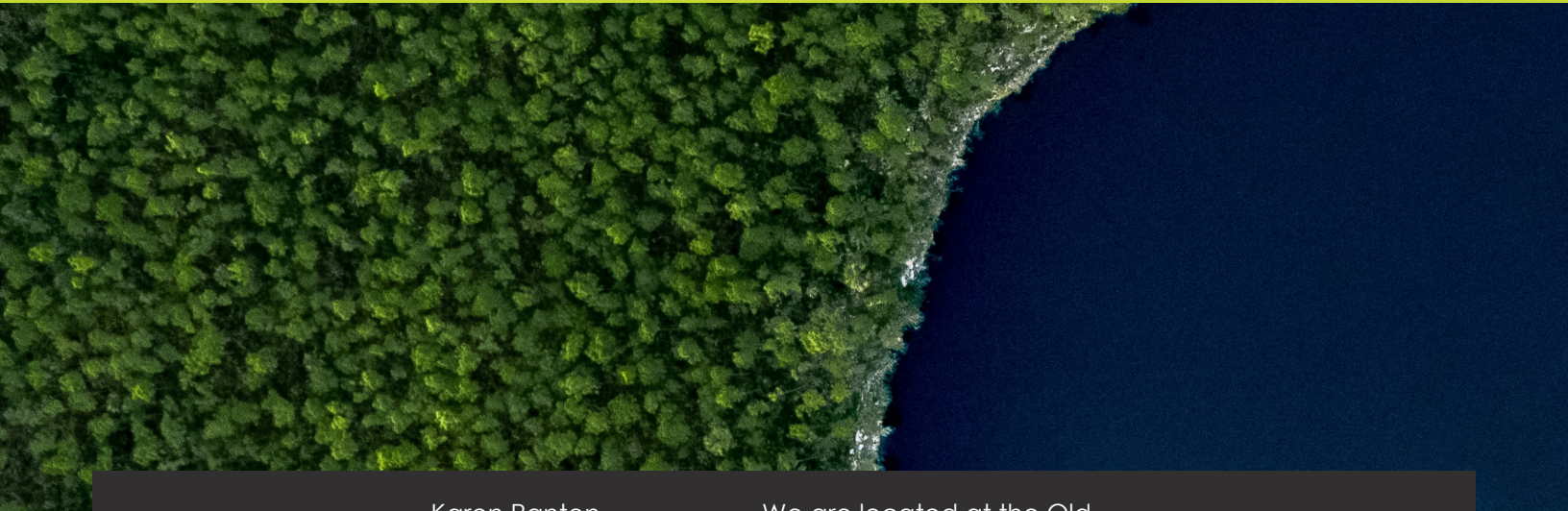


# STAY CONNECTED: CONTACT AND FOLLOW US

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

We're eager to answer your questions and provide more information about our conservation efforts, including future plans and how you can participate. Join our vibrant online community and stay updated on our latest initiatives, success stories, and events.

Follow us on social media and  
visit us online.



## CONTACT US

Karen Panton  
t: 242.698.1152  
m: 242.437.2168

[kpanton@bahamasprotected.com](mailto:kpanton@bahamasprotected.com)  
[info@bahamasprotected.com](mailto:info@bahamasprotected.com)

We are located at the Old  
Fort Bay Town Centre,  
Building #4, Unit 7  
P.O. Box SP-62863 Nassau,  
The Bahamas

We are open every day  
from 9am to 5pm

Thank you for taking the time to explore our mission. Your support means the world to us and plays a pivotal role in preserving The Bahamas' natural environment and wonders for generations to come. Together, we can ensure a sustainable future for our paradise.

SCAN TO  
JOIN OUR  
MAILING  
LIST

