



Distr. LIMITED

UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.46/INF.3
12 August 2023

Original: ENGLISH

Twelfth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to
the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas
and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region

Oranjestad, Aruba,
3rd October 2023

The Establishment and Operation of a Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network (CAR-WEN)

Briefing

This meeting is being convened virtually. Delegates are kindly requested to access all meeting documents electronically for download as necessary.

The Establishment of a Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network

Executive Summary

The Caribbean, a region celebrated for its rich biodiversity and vibrant ecosystems, faces an escalating threat from wildlife crime. This paper seeks to illuminate the complexities and implications of such illicit activities, ranging from illegal fishing to trafficking and poaching, that jeopardise the region's ecological balance. As the Caribbean's unique biodiversity not only holds global ecological significance but also underpins the socio-economic fabric of its communities, primarily through sectors like tourism, the stakes are exceptionally high. Within this context, the role of the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) becomes paramount. This briefing paper delves into the challenges, underscores the importance of a collaborative approach among member states, and offers recommendations to fortify the Caribbean's stance against wildlife crime.

The Establishment of a Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network

Introduction

This briefing paper outlines the critical need for the establishment and operation of a Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network (CAR-WEN). This initiative, supported by the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol, will significantly enhance the enforcement of wildlife laws in the Wider Caribbean Region. The Parties to the SPAW Protocol can support the establishment of a CAR-WEN by taking at least three actions: 1) Engage and contribute to the CAR-WEN Working Group, 2) Advocate for systematic detection and analysis of Caribbean wildlife crimes, and 3) Support CAR-WEN pilot projects.

What are WENs?¹

Wildlife Enforcement Networks (WENs) are collaborative organisations dedicated to improving the implementation of laws and the reduction of crimes, or ‘law enforcement’, that involve or otherwise impact undomesticated flora and fauna, or ‘wildlife’ (ICCWC, 2020). These networks unite agencies, departments, and other organisations at sub-national, national, and regional scales, thereby fostering collective action to address the complexities of wildlife law enforcement. Because of their potential to catalyse change, WENs have been broadly endorsed by various intergovernmental and multilateral organisations, including the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) which offers a range of supporting materials and services for the establishment and operation of national and regional WENs.²

The structure of a WEN can vary widely depending on the jurisdiction and needs. For instance, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) WEN in Southeast Asia was built within an existing intergovernmental organisation for regional political and economic integration (This Nation, 2021). In comparison, the Network for Observance and Application of Wildlife Regulations (ROAVIS)³ in Central America and the Dominican Republic was created through a

¹ Other similar concepts to WENs include Environmental Enforcement Networks (EENs) (Pink, 2015) and Networks on Environmental Security and Terrorism (NESTs) (White, 2016). These concepts are largely overlapping in their purposes to foster cooperation and information exchange.

² The ICCWC is the collaborative effort of five inter-governmental organisations: the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Bank and the World Customs Organization (WCO). See <https://iccwc-wildlifecrime.org>.

³ In Spanish, the name of the Central American WEN (CA-WEN) is the Red de Observancia y Aplicación de la Normativa de Vida Silvestre (ROAVIS) de Centroamérica y la República Dominicana.

network of prosecutors (Palacios Gutiérrez, 2016). In other regions and countries, the functions of a WEN may already be served by more general intergovernmental enforcement organisations, such as Europol in Europe (Europol, 2022). Rarely, a WEN may be entirely run by civil society organisations (CSOs) operating in partnership with government agencies, such as is the case with the Eco Activists for Governance and Law Enforcement (EAGLE) Network in western, central, and eastern Africa (EAGLE, 2023).

Though publicly available data is limited, WENs appear to vary widely in the strategies used to guide their operations. Nevertheless, some strategies and projects seem to be standard among WENs. The strategies of ‘enforcement capacity-building’ and ‘joint enforcement operations’ may be the most commonly implemented, while other strategies like ‘legal and regulatory reform’ and ‘intelligence sharing and analysis’ are commonly espoused but only occasionally implemented. Common types of capacity-building projects include training manuals (Freeland, 2016), legal compendiums (ROAVIS, 2020), databases (EU-TWIX, n.d.), and mobile apps for species identification (Freeland, 2022). Meanwhile, specific joint operations may be organised within a given WEN, across multiple WENs, or by multilateral organisations working with one or more WENs (ICCWC, n.d.; INTERPOL, 2022).

The successes of WENs stand out as proof of their potential to curb illegal wildlife trade and foster a sustainable coexistence between humans and wildlife. For instance, the ASEAN WEN’s Operation Cobra significantly disrupted wildlife smuggling syndicates across multiple countries in multiple regions, resulting in 139 arrests and more than 247 seizures of illicit wildlife products such as elephant ivory, rhino horns and pangolins, marking a major victory in the global fight against wildlife crime (UNODC, 2015). In Africa, the Wildlife Enforcement Monitoring System (WEMS) implemented by the Lusaka Agreement Task Force has proven remarkably effective, facilitating the uniform collection and analysis of wildlife and forest crime data (WEMS, 2020). As of 2014, WEMS resulted in the identification of 540 cases across borders and significant enforcement actions in countries such as Congo, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda, thus strengthening regional environmental governance and law enforcement responsiveness. Meanwhile, in Argentina, the Jaguar Network has deployed a coexistence guide based on restorative justice and normative compliance principles to mediate conflicts between jaguars and livestock (Lodeiro Ocampo & Nigro, 2022). This has minimised human-wildlife conflict and helped reshape traditional attitudes towards wildlife, paving the way for healthier human-wildlife relations. These successes underscore the remarkable strides WENs are making in the fight against wildlife crime, serving as compelling evidence to support the CAR-WEN initiative.

Despite their potential, WENs have yet to realise their full potential by employing strategies that also address the root causes of wildlife crime, such as promoting behaviour change and developing alternative livelihoods, or that mitigate the harms of wildlife crime, such as by building wildlife rehabilitation capacity and establishing biosecurity controls. This is indicative of a broader trend in which WENs tend to be guided more by a general deterrence theory of compliance, rather than more contemporary responsive regulation and restorative justice theories. Deterrence theory suggests that the threat of punishment will deter individuals from committing crimes (Nagin, 2013). In contrast, the responsive regulation theory proposes a more nuanced approach, suggesting that regulators should promote voluntary compliance by offering a range of regulatory responses proportionate to the behaviour of those being regulated (Ayres & Braithwaite, 1994). Restorative justice theory focuses on repairing the harm caused by illegal behaviour through law enforcement and emphasises the importance of involving all stakeholders in a process of understanding, mitigation, and healing (Johnstone, 2011). By adopting a more comprehensive approach to compliance, WENs can address wildlife crime more effectively.

Wildlife Crime Threats in the Caribbean

The Caribbean is home to a remarkable diversity of wildlife, encompassing a broad range of wild plants, animals, and fungi and the habitats and ecosystems that support them. This rich biodiversity contributes significantly to the Caribbean's natural beauty, ecological health, economic vitality, and cultural identity. For that reason, there exists a similar diversity of laws and international agreements governing human activities involving or otherwise impacting wildlife. As commonly seen elsewhere in the world, human activities governed by contemporary Caribbean wildlife laws include those that regulate the consumption, hunting, possessing, processing, transporting, and selling of undomesticated species (Pascual et al., 2021).

Unfortunately, wildlife laws and treaties appear to be poorly implemented and enforced in many, if not most, countries and territories of the Wider Caribbean Region. However, this crisis in Caribbean wildlife law is set within a far greater global crisis in the environmental rule of law (Nellemann et al., 2014). For instance, a UNEP expert report on the global environmental rule of law found that despite a 38-fold increase in environmental laws since 1972, failure to implement and enforce these laws fully remains one of the greatest challenges to mitigating climate change, reducing pollution and preventing widespread species and habitat loss (UNEP, 2019a).

Evidence of limited implementation of Caribbean wildlife laws, and associated widespread non-compliance, is broadly available, but systematic analyses still need to be produced. Therefore, to

illustrate the scale of wildlife crime in the Wider Caribbean, here are ten types of wildlife crimes that appear to occur regularly with potentially serious effects.

1. *Illegal Agricultural Clearance*. This crime involves clearing land for agriculture without authorisation, leading to habitat destruction and increased human-wildlife conflict. Cases have been reported in most, if not all, Caribbean countries and territories, including the Dominican Republic (Secades, 2010), Haiti (Hedges et al., 2018), Trinidad and Tobago (Hroudova, 2012), Saint Lucia (Daltry, 2009), and Jamaica (Miller, 2000). An example of this is in the Dominican Republic and in Haiti, where agricultural clearance threatens endemic land mammals such as the Hispaniolan hutia and the Hispaniolan solenodon (Hedges et al., 2018; Secades, 2010). Similarly, in Jamaica, agricultural activities threaten the two largest wetlands on the island, with illegal marijuana cultivation contributing to the deterioration of the Negril Great Morass and agricultural drainage threatening the Black River Lower Morass, which is home to the endangered American crocodile and West Indian manatee (Garrick, 1986; Miller, 2000).
2. *Illegal Fishing*. This crime includes overfishing, capturing prohibited resources, and targeting protected species, which can lead to fisheries collapse and loss of income for fishing communities. Cases have been reported in most, if not all, Caribbean countries and territories, including Belize (Stiles et al., 2010), Cuba (Alzugaray et al., 2018), Saint Kitts and Nevis (Granderson & Ramkissoon, 2022), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (Department of Maritime Administration, 2013), and Trinidad and Tobago (Solomon, 2018). For example, illegal trawling and overfishing have heavily depleted most marine fisheries in Trinidad and Tobago (Solomon, 2018). In Cuba, the decline of the Spiny lobster has been attributed to illegal fishing (Alzugaray et al., 2018). Furthermore, the European Union has issued 'yellow' and 'red' cards to several Caribbean countries for failing to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing (EU IUU Fishing Coalition, n.d.).
3. *Illegal Human-Wildlife Conflict*. This crime most commonly involves the unauthorised killing of wildlife considered pests, leading to biodiversity loss and increased human-wildlife conflict. Cases have been reported in most, if not all, Caribbean countries and territories, including Dominica (Douglas, 2011), Jamaica (Snyder et al., 2000), Saint Lucia (Daltry, 2009), Bonaire (BioNew7, 2013), and Trinidad and Tobago (Gibson, 2022). For example, in Trinidad and Tobago, the use of illegal pesticides indirectly harms birds and so has contributed to the near-total extirpation of many culturally significant songbird species (Gibson, 2022). Similarly, in

Saint Lucia, the indiscriminate killing of the Fer-de-lance snake has negatively impacted native ecosystems (Daltry, 2009).

4. *Illegal Hunting*. This crime threatens endangered species and ecosystem health and fuels organised crime when linked to illicit trade. Cases have been reported in most, if not all, Caribbean countries and territories, including Trinidad and Tobago (Hsu & Agoramoorthy, 1996), Guyana (Grimes et al., 2008), Saint Lucia (Snyder et al., 2000), Dominica (Durand & Baptiste, 2008) and Belize (Foster et al., 2016). In Trinidad and Tobago, hunting pressure has significantly reduced red howler and capuchin monkey populations (Hsu & Agoramoorthy, 1996). While in St. Lucia, illegal hunting of the Saint Lucian parrot threatens its survival (Snyder et al., 2000).
5. *Illegal Jewellery and Art Making*. This crime involves the unauthorised use of wildlife products to make jewellery and works of art, leading to species overexploitation and habitat destruction. Cases have been reported in most, if not all, Caribbean countries and territories, including Belize (Arias, 2021), Haiti (Kitade et al., 2021), the Dominican Republic (CAFTA-DR, 2018), Mexico (Gress & Andradi-Brown, 2018), and Cuba (Woronuk, 2008). For instance, critically endangered hawksbill sea turtle shells are commonly used for jewellery in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, leading to species overexploitation (CAFTA-DR, 2018; Kitade et al., 2021). In Cuba, the use of various animal parts for jewellery threatens several endangered species, including black and stony corals, queen conch, polymita snails, sea turtles, and crocodilians (Woronuk, 2008).
6. *Illegal Logging*. This crime involves unauthorised tree felling, leading to habitat loss, soil erosion, and displacement of indigenous communities. This crime often co-occurs with illegal agricultural clearance. Cases have been reported in most, if not all, Caribbean countries and territories, including Trinidad and Tobago (Hroudova, 2012), Belize (Young, 2008), Guyana (Guyana Chronicle, 2021), Honduras (WRI, 2014), and Jamaica (Davis, 2013). For example, illegal logging contributes to deforestation in Belize (Young, 2008). While in Jamaica, logging and deforestation for charcoal threaten endemic flora and fauna in protected areas (Davis, 2013).
7. *Illegal Mining*. This crime involves the unauthorised extraction of minerals and the use of hazardous chemicals, leading to deforestation, soil erosion, and water pollution. Cases have been reported in most, if not all, Caribbean countries and territories, including Guyana (Grimes

et al., 2008), Suriname (Hilson & Vieira, 2007), Jamaica (Pilkey et al., 2023), Grenada (Cambers, 1997), and Haiti (Merilus, 2018). For example, illegal mining activities in Guyana and Suriname that use hazardous chemicals such as mercury have serious environmental impacts (Hilson & Vieira, 2007). Similarly, in Haiti, unregulated mining leads to habitat destruction and water contamination (Merilus, 2018).

8. *Illegal Pet Keeping*. This crime involves keeping wild animals as pets without authorisation, leading to species overexploitation and habitat destruction. Cases have been reported in most, if not all, Caribbean countries and territories, including Dominican Republic (Snyder et al., 2000), Trinidad and Tobago (Gibson, 2022), Cuba (Altherr et al., 2019), Saint Vincent (Johnson, 2017), and Brazil (Connelly & Peyronnin, 2021). For instance, in Trinidad and Tobago, the keeping of parrots, songbirds and capuchin monkeys as pets is prevalent and threatens biodiversity (Gibson, 2022). In the Dominican Republic, illegal keeping of wild animals such as parakeets has also been reported (Snyder et al., 2000).
9. *Illegal Wild Meat Consumption*. This crime, also known as bushmeat hunting, involves consuming wild animals, posing a risk to public health and leading to species overexploitation. Cases have been reported in most, if not all, Caribbean countries and territories, including Colombia (Ingram et al., 2022), Brazil (Ripple et al., 2016), US Virgin Islands (Fleming, 2001), Guyana (Vliet et al., 2022), and Jamaica (Newman, 2014). For example, in Jamaica, the Jamaican boa is illegally hunted for food (Newman, 2014). While in Guyana, deer, tapir, and armadillos are hunted and sold for meat (Vliet et al., 2022).
10. *Illegal Transportation and Sales of Wildlife*. The classic threat of ‘wildlife trafficking’ involves unauthorised transport and sale of wildlife specimens and products, leading to species overexploitation. Cases have been reported in most, if not all, Caribbean countries and territories, including Saint Vincent (Lambert, 1985), Cuba (Altherr et al., 2019), the Dominican Republic (Kitade et al., 2021), Jamaica (Neufville et al., 2012), and Puerto Rico (Snyder et al., 2000). In Cuba, the illegal trade of endangered endemic lizards contributes to overexploitation (Altherr et al., 2019). While in the Dominican Republic, the illegal trade in hawksbill turtle shells threatens critically endangered species (Kitade et al., 2021).

Various forms of organised crime further exacerbate the complex issue of wildlife crime in the Wider Caribbean. Criminal organisations and more diffuse criminal networks exploit the same weak enforcement and regulatory structures that enable wildlife crimes to perpetrate other forms

of illegal activities, such as drug trafficking, arms smuggling, and human trafficking (Anagnostou & Doberstein, 2022). The interconnected nature of these crimes amplifies the impact on wildlife, as the same routes used for smuggling contraband can also be used for the illegal wildlife trade. This convergence of crimes presents a multifaceted challenge to law enforcement agencies and conservation efforts in the Caribbean.

Beyond wildlife crimes, a range of other threats also significantly impact wildlife in the Caribbean. These include climate change (Day, 2009), which alters habitats and threatens species' survival; natural disasters (López-Marrero et al., 2013), which can devastate ecosystems; and the introduction of invasive species (Rojas-Sandoval et al., 2017), which can outcompete native wildlife. Overfishing (Leria, 2016), overhunting (Hillstrom & Hillstrom, 2004), and over-clearance (CANARI, 2019), even when legal, can lead to significant habitat loss and species decline. The impact of tourism (Peterson, 2020), often seen as a benign industry, can also be detrimental when not managed sustainably. Harmful but legal animal-keeping practices (Fielding & Ostberg, 2023), pollution (Diez et al., 2019), and the emergence of zoonotic diseases (Shiokawa et al., 2019) further compound the threats to wildlife. These threats must be considered in any comprehensive strategy to combat wildlife crime and better protect the region's biodiversity.

The interplay between wildlife crime and non-crime threats creates a complex situation for wildlife in the Caribbean. For instance, legal overfishing may deplete fish stocks, creating a vacuum that illegal fishing can fill (Leria, 2016). Similarly, climate change-induced habitat loss may push species into smaller areas, making them easier targets for poachers (Day, 2009). Therefore, addressing wildlife crime in the region requires a holistic approach that considers not only the direct illegal activities but also the broader socio-economic and environmental factors at play.

The above-described wildlife crimes and other intersecting non-crime threats contribute to a pervasive crisis that threatens not only the wildlife of the Caribbean, but also the ecological balance, economic stability, and cultural legacy of the region. Addressing these problems with urgency and constructing a robust framework for effective implementation and enforcement of wildlife laws has, therefore, never been more critical.

The CAR-WEN Initiative

An initiative to establish a CAR-WEN has been discussed and developed among Caribbean leaders for approximately the past decade. The initiative's popularity may have built upon the more general popularity of the WEN concept that began with the establishment of the ASEAN WEN in

2005 (CITES, 2022) and the continued establishment of WENs in other regions of the world, such as the ROAVIS established in 2010 in Central America and the Dominican Republic (ROAVIS, 2022) and the Lusaka Agreement Task Force established in 1996 (LAFT, 2021). Nevertheless, today a wildlife enforcement network in the Caribbean remains unrealised despite growing opportunities and threats that could support and justify the network's establishment.

In 2014, the Parties to the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol formalised efforts to establish a CAR-WEN. Specifically, the Sixth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee to the SPAW Protocol (SPAW STAC6) recommended that a regional wildlife enforcement network be developed in the Caribbean (UNEP, 2019a). This recommendation was subsequently discussed and approved by the Parties to the SPAW Protocol at its annual conference of parties (COP8) in Cartagena in 2014 (UNEP, 2014). As a result, various Parties to the SPAW Protocol entered into collaborative planning for a CAR-WEN in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Caribbean Environment Program (CEP) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Cooperation between Caribbean governments, the UNEP CEP and UNODC led to two important workshops to form the CAR-WEN (ICCWC, 2022; Isaacs et al., 2016). The first workshop, held in Nassau from July 20-22, 2016, was organised by UNODC in collaboration with the Government of the Bahamas and the ICCWC (UNODC, 2016). It convened 55 participants consisting of experts and law enforcement officials from 11 Caribbean countries to identify critical threats and recommendations concerning wildlife crime to enhance regional cooperation and enforcement. This workshop recommended the establishment of a CAR-WEN to facilitate increased information sharing, provide a platform for capacity building and sustainable financing, and support greater enforcement actions. The identification of country focal points was central to this initiative, as it facilitated ongoing dialogue among interested parties.

The second workshop held in Bridgetown, Barbados on May 10-11, 2017, was organised by the UNODC in collaboration with the Government of Barbados and the ICWCC (UNODC, 2017). It convened 32 participants, including law enforcement agency representatives from 10 Caribbean countries. This workshop reaffirmed interest in the establishment of a CAR-WEN and discussed possible structures and frameworks for network coordination and implementation. Key takeaways from this workshop included a recommendation to involve UNEP as a leading partner, a draft MoU for revision, and a statement of intent to create a CAR-WEN Working Group (UNEP, 2018).

From 2014 to 2018, efforts to establish a CAR-WEN yielded several promising results, including a draft MOU, a SPAW Protocol Briefing document, and the establishment of a CAR-WEN Working Group led by the UNODC. These results also attracted the interest of additional CSO supporters, including the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) and the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW). AWI organised a WEN side event at the eighth meeting of the SPAW Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC8) in Panama in 2018, co-hosted by UNODC and the SPAW Secretariat, and drawing the participation, interest and enthusiasm of SPAW Parties in advance of the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) in 2019 in Roatan, Honduras. IFAW, known for its past engagements with other WENs such as the Horn of Africa Wildlife Enforcement Network (HAWEN) and the ASEAN WEN, expressed its interest in supporting the CAR-WEN at COP10 in Roatán, Honduras (UNEP, 2019b).

Despite the progress made towards establishing a CAR-WEN, the initiative was widely considered to be indefinitely stalled by 2022. The reasons for this stalling have yet to be fully understood, but a range of factors have been mentioned to the current CAR-WEN Working Group members. The unexpected passing of Dr Maurice Isaacs, a central figure in the CAR-WEN initiative, in March 2021 left a significant void in the project's leadership. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic significantly disrupted regional cooperation and prevented further in-person workshops, a primary method of advancing the initiative. High turnover in-country focal points and a lack of support from Caribbean governments have also been suggested as contributing factors. Furthermore, desk research and expert discussions suggest that dwindling donor enthusiasm due to the perceived poor performance and performance monitoring of WENs elsewhere may have also contributed to reduced donor resources to establish a CAR-WEN (TRAFFIC & Freeland, 2016).

Recent efforts to reinvigorate the initiative began with informal discussions at the 4th Global Meeting of WENs in November 2022. Governmental representatives from Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and the Bahamas, and civil society representatives from the US-based Animal Welfare Institute and the Trinidad and Tobago-based Nurture Nature Campaign engaged in dialogue with representatives from ICCWC, UNODC, and UNEP. These conversations sparked a renewed interest in the CAR-WEN initiative, leading to monthly planning meetings for key stakeholders and periodic intergovernmental meetings for interested government representatives since December 2022. The initiative now enjoys backing from 15 Caribbean governments and three partner CSOs that continue to work collaboratively through a working group model. Importantly, the CAR-WEN Working Group has made a conscious decision to use the generic term 'CAR-

WEN' in place of the former name 'CaribWEN' until a more representative group can decide upon an appropriate and highly inclusive name.⁴

The reinitiated efforts are supported by a diverse array of resources for WENs and continued global interest in fostering international cooperation on wildlife crime. Resources include those offered by ICCWC (ICCWC, n.d.), such as the Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit (ICCWC, 2022) and the Guidelines for Wildlife Enforcement Networks (ICCWC, 2020). Additionally, a wealth of resources has been produced by or for other regional WENs, including ROAVIS's app (ROAVIS & ITAP, n.d.) and the ASEAN WEN training toolkits (Freeland & ASEAN-WEN, 2016). The continued interest in regional cooperation on wildlife crime is further evidenced by the statements of international fora. For instance, in 2019, the United Nations General Assembly approved Resolution 73/343, encouraging Member States to adopt effective measures to prevent and counter wildlife trafficking and poaching and to cooperate at the bilateral, regional, and international levels in this pursuit (UNGA, 2019).

Thus, while efforts to establish the CAR-WEN have faced setbacks, recent developments suggest a promising future. The continued support from various Caribbean governments and international organisations and the global momentum towards addressing wildlife crime provides a strong foundation for the successful establishment of WEN in the Caribbean.

How SPAW Protocol Parties Can Help Establish A CAR-WEN

The CAR-WEN initiative presents an invaluable opportunity for the Parties to advance the protection, preservation and sustainable management of specially-valued areas and threatened species of flora and fauna in the Wider Caribbean Region. Moreover, all stakeholders, particularly the Parties to the SPAW Protocol, have a vested interest in supporting the establishment and impactful operation of the Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network (CAR-WEN).

Action 1: Engage and Contribute to the CAR-WEN Working Group

SPAW Protocol focal points, associated professionals, and their colleagues are urged to actively engage in and contribute to the CAR-WEN Working Group. The collective wealth of knowledge possessed is invaluable to the strategic design of CAR-WEN. Presently, there is a collaborative

⁴ The terms 'Carib' and 'Arawak' are increasingly recognised as externally-imposed terms that obscure a diversity of indigenous identity, with the former term in particular carrying strongly pejorative connotations. Increasingly identifiers such as 'Kalinago' and 'Taino' are used in their place.

effort among leading governmental and civil society stakeholders alongside the CAR-WEN Working Group to revise a draft MOU, formulate a strategic plan, and pinpoint pilot projects that could expedite the formalisation of the initiative. Participation in the Working Group not only broadens representation and legitimacy but also fosters its ability to address the diverse wildlife crime issues within the region. By incorporating a broader spectrum of governments and agencies, the Working Group can strengthen its position to refine, advocate for, and ultimately secure the approval of an intergovernmental MOU critical for the establishment of CAR-WEN. Please refer to the Annexe for contact information if you wish to participate in the CAR-WEN Working Group.

Action 2: Advocate for Systematic Detection and Analysis of Caribbean Wildlife Crimes

SPAW Protocol focal points and their colleagues can champion the need for systematic detection and analysis of Caribbean wildlife crimes. Currently, the region's most challenging wildlife crime problems, including wildlife trafficking, illegal hunting, and illegal fishing, are under-researched and often undetected. By advocating for the SPAW Regional Activity Centre (RAC) and Cartagena Convention Secretariat to raise funds and commission a research team to conduct a comprehensive study on these issues, Parties can improve awareness and understanding of these threats. This research can motivate political interest and support for establishing the CAR-WEN, providing a solid evidence base to inform and shape the network's strategies and actions.

Action 3: Support CAR-WEN Pilot Projects

SPAW Protocol focal points and their colleagues can also promote the development of pilot projects that illustrate the potential value and impact of CAR-WEN. The SPAW RAC and the Cartagena Convention Secretariat can be instrumental in raising funds and facilitating these projects to demonstrate the utility of various wildlife enforcement tools and training workshops that could be produced programmatically by a CAR-WEN. Potential pilot projects include the creation of a legal compendium and mobile app, as well as the conduct of training workshops on biodiversity and threat monitoring, enforcement, and wildlife identification. Such pilot projects can demonstrate the practical value of CAR-WEN, building support for its establishment and operation.

Conclusion

The rich biodiversity of the Caribbean is not only a source of the region's natural beauty but also a critical driver of its ecological health, economic vitality, and cultural identity. Unfortunately, the lack of proper implementation and enforcement of wildlife laws and agreements in the Wider Caribbean Region threatens these invaluable assets. The emergence of a wide array of wildlife

crimes, ranging from illegal fishing and hunting to wildlife trafficking and illegal pet keeping, further indicates the urgency of tackling this multifaceted biodiversity management problem.

In response to this pressing need, the Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network (CAR-WEN) initiative presents a significant opportunity to bolster wildlife law enforcement across the region. Establishing CAR-WEN, however, will require concerted effort and collaboration from all stakeholders, particularly the Parties to the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol. By engaging and contributing to the CAR-WEN Working Group, advocating for systematic detection and analysis of Caribbean wildlife crimes, and supporting pilot projects to illustrate the potential value of CAR-WEN, the SPAW Protocol Parties can play a crucial role in driving this initiative forward.

Establishing CAR-WEN will not only help to address the current wildlife crime crisis but also contribute to the broader global movement for the environmental rule of law, climate change mitigation, and biodiversity conservation. As such, the commitment and proactive engagement of all stakeholders in this endeavour are paramount. By working together, we can secure a sustainable and biodiverse future for the Caribbean, safeguarding its natural beauty, ecological integrity, and economic prosperity for generations to come.

References

- Altherr, R. S., Lameter, K., & Cantu, J. C. (2019). The trade in nationally protected lizards from Australia, Cuba, and Mexico and the EU's role as a main destination. *TRAFFIC Bulletin*, 31 (No.2). <https://www.traffic.org/site/assets/files/12507/lizards-from-australia-cuba-mexico.pdf>
- Alzugaray, R., Puga, R., Piñeiro, R., Estela de León, M., Cobas, L. S., & Morales, O. (2018). The Caribbean spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*) fishery in Cuba: Current status, illegal fishing, and environmental variability. *Bulletin of Marine Science*, 94(2), 393–408. <https://doi.org/10.5343/bms.2016.1126>
- Anagnostou, M., & Doberstein, B. (2022). Illegal wildlife trade and other organised crime: A scoping review. *Ambio*, 51(7), 1615–1631. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-021-01675-y>
- Arias, M. (2021). *The illegal trade in jaguars (Panthera onca)*. CITES Secretariat. https://cites.org/sites/default/files/articles/CITES_Study_on_Illegal_Trade_in_Jaguars%20.pdf
- Ayres, I., & Braithwaite, J. (1994). Responsive regulation: Transcending the deregulation debate. *Journal of Legal Studies Education*, 12(2), 345–353. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1744-1722.1994.tb00048.x>
- BioNew7. (2013, August 26). Understanding the human/parrot conflict. *DCNA*. <https://dcanature.org/understanding-the-humanparrot-conflict/>
- CAFTA-DR. (2018). Biodiversity conservation. *CAFTA-DR Environmental Cooperation*

Program. <http://www.caftadr-environment.org/biodiversity-conservation/>

Cambers, G. (1997). *Integrated framework for the management of beach resources within the smaller Caribbean islands*. UNESCO.

<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000108730>

CANARI. (2019). *Ecosystem profile: The Caribbean islands biodiversity hotspot*. Caribbean Natural Resources Institute. <https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/cepf-caribbean-islands-ecosystem-profile-december-2020-english.pdf>

CITES. (2022, October 28). *ASEAN launches the ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN)*. Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species.

<https://cites.org/eng/news/sundry/2005/ASEAN-WEN.shtml>

Connelly, B., & Peyronnin, H. (2021). *Taking off: Wildlife trafficking in the Latin America and Caribbean region*. ROUTES Partnership, C4ADS, USAID.

<https://www.traffic.org/publications/reports/taking-off/>

Daltry, J. (2009). *The status and management of Saint Lucia's forest reptiles and amphibians* (Technical Report No. 2; He National Forest Demarcation and Bio-Physical Resource Inventory Project). FCG (Finnish Consulting Group) International Ltd.

<https://saintlucianplants.com/downloads/Reptiles.pdf>

Davis, N. (2013, June 12). Charcoal trade threatens Jamaica's protected forests. *BBC News*.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-22794929>

Day, O. (2009). *The impacts of climate change on biodiversity in Caribbean islands: What we*

know, what we need to know, and building capacity for effective adaptation (No. 386; CANARI Technical Report, p. 28). CANARI. <https://www.canari.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/386-The-impacts-of-climate-change-on-biodiversity-in-caribbean-what-we-know-what-we-need-to-know-and-building-capacity-for-effective-adaptation.pdf>

Department of Maritime Administration. (2013). *St. Vincent and the Grenadines development of a national ocean policy*. Discussion document.

<https://security.gov.vc/security/images/stories/Maritime/svg%20national%20ocean%20policy%20discussion%20document.pdf>

Diez, S. M., Patil, P. G., Morton, J., Rodríguez, D. J., Vanzella, A., Robin, D. V., Maes, T., & Corbin, C. (2019). *Marine pollution in the Caribbean: Not a minute to waste*. World Bank Group. <https://bvearmb.do/handle/123456789/1540>

Douglas, L. R. (2011). *Social and ecological underpinnings of human wildlife conflict on Dominica* [Doctoral dissertation, Columbia University].

<https://doi.org/10.7916/D812657H>

Durand, S., & Baptiste, B. J. (2008). Dominica. In *Important bird areas in the Caribbean: Key sites for conservation*. BirdLife International.

<http://datazone.birdlife.org/userfiles/file/IBAs/CaribCntryPDFs/dominica.pdf>

EAGLE. (2023). *Eco Activists for Governance and Law Enforcement Home Page*.

<https://www.eagle-enforcement.org/>

EU IUU Fishing Coalition. (n.d.). *EU carding decisions*. <https://www.iuuwatch.eu/map-of-eu-carding-decisions/>

Europol. (2022). *About Europol*. Europol. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/home>

EU-TWIX. (n.d.). *EU-TWIX: A tool to facilitate information exchange on illegal wildlife trade in Europe*. EU-TWIX. <https://www.eu-twix.org/>

Fielding, W., & Ostberg, A. (2023). *Animal welfare in the wider Caribbean in 2008, with emphasis on dogs*. The Pegasus Foundation: Concord, NH, USA.

Fleming, E. H. (2001). *Swimming against the tide: Recent surveys of exploitation, trade, and management of marine turtles in the northern Caribbean*. Traffic North America. <https://agris.fao.org/agris-search/search.do?recordID=XF2015030577>

Foster, R. J., Harmsen, B. J., Macdonald, D. W., Collins, J., Urbina, Y., Garcia, R., & Doncaster, C. P. (2016). Wild meat: A shared resource amongst people and predators. *Oryx*, 50(1), 63–75. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S003060531400060X>

Freeland. (2016). *Protected area operational and tactical enforcement conservation training manual*. <https://library.wcs.org/fr-fr/doi/ctl/view/mid/33065/pubid/DMX3177900000.aspx>

Freeland. (2022, August 5). *WildScan*. Google Play. <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.freeland.wildscanapp&hl=en>

Freeland & ASEAN-WEN. (2016). *ASEAN handbook on legal cooperation to combat wildlife crime*. <https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/ASEAN-Legal-Handbook->

2021_20230223_single-pages.pdf

- Garrick, L. D. (1986). The Black River Lower Morass: A threatened wetland in Jamaica. *Oryx*, 20(3), 155–160. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0030605300020007>
- Gibson, M. C. (2022). *Action-oriented studies in green criminology and a harmful trade in pet wildlife in Trinidad and Tobago* [Doctoral dissertation, Michigan State University]. <https://doi.org/10.25335/WGQA-M881>
- Granderson, A., & Ramkissoon, C. (2022). *Report of the vulnerability and capacity assessments in coastal and fishing communities in Saint Kitts and Nevis*. FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb7303en>
- Gress, E., & Andradi-Brown, D. A. (2018). Assessing population changes of historically overexploited black corals (Order: Antipatharia) in Cozumel, Mexico. *PeerJ*, 6, e5129. <https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.5129>
- Grimes, A., Zweede, M., & Frasier, D. (2008). *FAA 118/119 biodiversity and tropical forest assessment Guyana*. USAID/EGAT/NRM, USFS International Programs. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACL994.pdf
- Guyana Chronicle. (2021, March 24). Authorities mull legal action over illegal mining and logging. *Guyana Chronicle*. <https://guyanachronicle.com/2021/03/24/authorities-mull-legal-action-over-illegal-mining-and-logging/>
- Hedges, S. B., Cohen, W. B., Timyan, J., & Yang, Z. (2018). Haiti's biodiversity threatened by nearly complete loss of primary forest. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*

of the United States of America, 115(46), 11850–11855.

<https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1809753115>

Hillstrom, K., & Hillstrom, L. C. (2004). *Latin America and the Caribbean: A continental overview of environmental issues*. ABC-CLIO.

Hilson, G., & Vieira, R. (2007). Challenges with minimising mercury pollution in the small-scale gold mining sector: Experiences from the Guianas. *International Journal of Environmental Health Research*, 17(6), 429–441.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/09603120701633396>

Hroudova, K. (2012). *Assessing residents' attitude and practices of pesticide use in Aripo sub-catchment, Trinidad and Tobago* [Master's Thesis, Wageningen University & University of the West Indies]. <http://hdl.handle.net/2139/43853>

Hsu, M. J., & Agoramoorthy, G. (1996). Conservation status of primates in Trinidad, West Indies. *Oryx*, 30(4), 285–291. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0030605300021785>

ICCWC. (n.d.). *Implementation Support*. ICCWC. <https://iccwc-wildlifecrime.org/implementation-support>

ICCWC. (2020). *ICCWC Guidelines for Wildlife Enforcement Networks (WENs)*. United States Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. https://cites.org/sites/default/files/EST/ICCWC%20WEN%20Guidelines_FINAL_ENG.pdf

ICCWC. (2022). *ICCWC wildlife and forest crime analytic toolkit, second edition 2022*.

<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/ICCWC%20Vision/ICCWC/ICCWC%20Wildlife%20and%20Forest%20Crime%20Analytic%20Toolkit%202022.pdf>

Ingram, D. J., Prideaux, M., Hodgins, N. K., Frisch-Nwakanma, H., Avila, I. C., Collins, T., Cosentino, M., Keith-Diagne, L. W., Marsh, H., Shirley, M. H., Van Waerebeek, K., Djondo, M. K., Fukuda, Y., Glaus, K. B. J., Jabado, R. W., Lang, J. W., Lüber, S., Manolis, C., Webb, G. J. W., & Porter, L. (2022). Widespread use of migratory megafauna for aquatic wild meat in the tropics and subtropics. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 9. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2022.837447>

INTERPOL. (2022, December 6). Global crackdown on illegal wildlife and timber trade:

INTERPOL and World Customs Organization join forces.

<https://www.interpol.int/en/News-and-Events/News/2022/Global-crackdown-on-illegal-wildlife-and-timber-trade-INTERPOL-and-World-Customs-Organization-join-forces>

Isaacs, M., Brown, T., & Nelson, J. (2016, September). *Caribbean: Outcomes of the Caribbean regional wildlife enforcement workshop*.

<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/prog/iccwc/WENs/5.2-Caribbean.ppsx>

Johnson, S. (2017, March 5). Working to save and protect what's ours—That's our caws.

BirdsCaribbean. <https://www.birdscaribbean.org/2017/03/working-to-save-and-protect-whats-ours-thats-our-caws/>

Johnstone, G. (2011). *Restorative Justice: Ideas, Values, Debates* (2nd ed.). Routledge.

<https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203804841>

Kitade, T., Sakamoto, M., & Hof, C. M. (2021). *Shell shocked: Japan's role in the illegal tortoiseshell trade*. WWF. <https://www.traffic.org/publications/reports/shell-shocked-japans-role-in-the-illegal-tortoiseshell-trade/>

LAFT. (2021). *About us*. Lusaka Agreement Task Force. <https://lusakaagreement.org/about-us/>

Lambert, F. (1985). The St Vincent parrot, an endangered Caribbean bird. *Oryx*, 19(1), 34–37.

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0030605300019529>

Leria, C. (2016). *Caribbean fisheries legal and institutional study* (No. C1124; FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular). FAO Subregional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/9cc974d4-eda3-4cdd-86be-dc6058bf6454/>

Lodeiro Ocampo, N., & Nigro, N. Á. (2022). *Guide for the coexistence between jaguars and livestock*. Red Jaguar Foundation. <https://redyaguarete.org.ar/sin-categoria/guia-para-la-convivencia-entre-yaguaretas-y-ganaderia-misiones-argentina/>

López-Marrero, T., Hampton, J., Vergara, E., Quiroz, J., Simovic, K., & Arevalo, H. (2013). Hazards and disasters in the insular Caribbean: A systematic literature review. *Caribbean Geography*, 18, 85–105.

Merilus, J.-Y. (2018). *Haiti and resource extraction development: Establishing a critical framework for resource exploitation as a national development strategy* [Doctoral dissertation, University of California, Davis].

<https://www.proquest.com/docview/2299216459/abstract/CFD50AF2FFC486DPQ/1>

Miller, D. J. (2000). Environment-Jamaica: Wetland use divides farmers and ecologists.

Environment Bulletin.

<https://go.gale.com/ps/i.do?p=AONE&sw=w&issn=&v=2.1&it=r&id=GALE%7CA61414572&sid=googleScholar&linkaccess=abs>

Nagin, D. S. (2013). Deterrence in the twenty-first century. *Crime and Justice*, 42, 199–263.

<https://doi.org/10.1086/670398>

Nellemann, C., Henriksen, R., Ash, N., & Mrema, E. (2014). *The environmental crime crisis –*

Threats to sustainable development from illegal exploitation and trade in wildlife and

forest resources. [https://www.unep.org/resources/report/environmental-crime-crisis-](https://www.unep.org/resources/report/environmental-crime-crisis-threats-sustainable-development-illegal-exploitation)

[threats-sustainable-development-illegal-exploitation](https://www.unep.org/resources/report/environmental-crime-crisis-threats-sustainable-development-illegal-exploitation)

Neufville, Z., Wilson, B., & Zimmerman, J. (2012). A growing illicit trade threatens Jamaica's

wildlife. *Reptiles & Amphibians*, 19(2), 143-147.

<https://doi.org/10.17161/randa.v19i2.14535>

Newman, B. C. (2014). *Determining the suitability of the Jamaican Boa for short distance*

translocation in Cockpit Country, Jamaica [Master's Thesis, Texas A&M University -

Kingsville].

<https://www.proquest.com/docview/1615789905/abstract/A9BC98F75BBA4D9BPQ/1>

Pascual, M., Wingard, J., Bhatari, N., Rydannykh, A., & Phelps, J. (2021). Building a global

taxonomy of wildlife offenses. *Conservation Biology*, 35(6), 1903–1912.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.13761>

Peterson, R. R. (2020). Over the Caribbean top: Community well-being and over-tourism in small island tourism economies. *International Journal of Community Well-Being*.

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s42413-020-00094-3>

Pilkey, O. H., Longo, N. J., Neal, W. J., Rangel-Buitrago, N. G., Pilkey, K. C., & Hayes, H. L. (2023). *Vanishing sands: Losing beaches to mining*. Duke University Press.

<https://www.dukeupress.edu/vanishing-sands>

Pink, G. (2015). Environmental enforcement networks: Theory, practice and potential. In *Environmental Enforcement Networks* (pp. 13–36). Edward Elgar Publishing.

<https://www.elgaronline.com/display/edcoll/9781783477395/9781783477395.00010.xml>

Ripple, W. J., Abernethy, K., Betts, M. G., Chapron, G., Dirzo, R., Galetti, M., Levi, T., Lindsey, P. A., Macdonald, D. W., Machovina, B., Newsome, T. M., Peres, C. A., Wallach, A. D., Wolf, C., & Young, H. (2016). Bushmeat hunting and extinction risk to the world's mammals. *Royal Society Open Science*, 3(10), 160498.

<https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.160498>

ROAVIS. (2020). *Compendio De Sentencias Relevantes Casos De Crímenes Contra La Vida Silvestre En Centro América*. <https://roavis.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Compendio-Jurisprudencia-V12-1.pdf>

ROAVIS. (2022, August 22). *About Us—ROAVIS*. <https://roavis.net/sobre-nosotros/>

ROAVIS & ITAP. (n.d.). *Vida Silvestre—Aplicación móvil normas de protección de especies*.

- Vida Silvestre. International Technical Assistance Program of the US Department of the Interior. <https://vidasilvestre.net/>
- Rojas-Sandoval, J., Tremblay, R. L., Acevedo-Rodríguez, P., & Díaz-Soltero, H. (2017). Invasive plant species in the West Indies: Geographical, ecological, and floristic insights. *Ecology and Evolution*, 7(13), 4522–4533. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.2984>
- Secades, C. F. (2010). *Analyzing human-wildlife conflict reports and public awareness and perceptions of Solenodon paradoxus and Plagiodontia aedium, Hispaniola's last endemic mammals (West Indies)* [Master's Thesis, Imperial College London]. <https://www.iccs.org.uk/wp-content/thesis/consci/2010/Secades.pdf>
- Shiokawa, K., Llanes, A., Hindoyan, A., Cruz-Martinez, L., Welcome, S., & Rajeev, S. (2019). Peridomestic small Indian mongoose: An invasive species posing as potential zoonotic risk for leptospirosis in the Caribbean. *Acta Tropica*, 190, 166–170. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actatropica.2018.11.019>
- Snyder, N., McGowan, P., Gilardi, A., & Grajal, J. (2000). *Parrots. Status survey and conservation action plan 2000–2004*. IUCN. <https://www.parrots.org/publications-and-fact-sheets/parrot-action-plan>
- Solomon, F. N. (2018, April 11). The state of the marine fisheries resources of Trinidad and Tobago. *Institute of Marine Affairs*. <https://www.ima.gov.tt/2018/04/11/the-state-of-the-marine-fisheries-resources-of-trinidad-and-tobago/>
- Stiles, M. L., Stockbridge, J., Lande, M., & Hirshfield, M. F. (2010). *Impacts of bottom trawling*

on fisheries, tourism, and the marine environment. Oceana. https://oceana.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/18/Trawling_BZ_10may10_toAudrey.pdf

Palacios Gutiérrez, T.. (2016, September). *ROAVIS: operating through a prosecutors network and planned activities*. PowerPoint Presentation.

<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/prog/iccwc/WENs/4.7-ROAVIS.ppsx>

This Nation. (2021, July 22). What is the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network? *This Nation*.

<https://www.thisnation.com/politics/climate/what-is-the-asean-wildlife-enforcement-network/>

TRAFFIC & Freeland. (2016, September). *The NGO perspective: Lessons learned in supporting networks*.

https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/prog/iccwc/WENs/3.NGO_perspective_Lessons_learned_supporting_networks.ppsx

UNEP. (2014). *Report of the meeting: Sixth meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean* (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.36/ 8). UNEP CAR. United Nations Environment Programme.

<https://wedocs.unep.org/xmlui/handle/20.500.11822/10041>

UNEP. (2018). *Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network (CaribWEN) briefing* (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.40/ INF.11). United Nations Environment Programme.

https://gefcrew.org/carrcu/SPAWSTAC8/Info-Docs/WG.40_INF11-en.pdf

UNEP. (2019a). *Environmental rule of law: First global report*. United Nations Environment Programme. <http://www.unep.org/resources/assessment/environmental-rule-law-first-global-report>

UNEP. (2019b). *Report of the meeting: Tenth meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) in the Wider Caribbean* (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.40/4). United Nations Environment Programme. <https://gefcrew.org/carrcu/18IGM/10SPAWCOP/Work-Docs/IG.40.3-en.pdf>

UNGA. (2019). *Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 16 September 2019* (A/RES/73/343). United Nations General Assembly. https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/42147-doc-Resolution-UNGA-Tackling_illicit_trafficking_in_wildlife_September_2019.pdf

UNODC. (2016). *Workshop report: Caribbean wildlife enforcement workshop*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dtBlIVM_yk7MsM50aDpXU3McvO_N0_iW/view?usp=sharing

UNODC. (2017). *Workshop report: Caribbean wildlife enforcement workshop*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wbuOF5I3TfuQx3P2K30F9YGuh720jrsl/view?usp=sharing>

UNODC. (2015, June 18). *Successful operation highlights growing international cooperation to*

combat wildlife crime. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

[//www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2015/June/successful-operation-highlights-growing-international-cooperation-to-combat-wildlife-crime.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2015/June/successful-operation-highlights-growing-international-cooperation-to-combat-wildlife-crime.html)

Vliet, N. van, Puran, A., David, O., & Nasi, R. (2022). From the forest to the coast: The wild meat trade chain on the Coast of Guyana. *Ethnobiology and Conservation*, 11.

<https://doi.org/10.15451/ec2022-08-11.17-1-13>

WEMS. (2020). *WEMS – protecting Africa’s most threatened species*. Wildlife Enforcement Monitoring System. <https://wems-initiative.org/>

White, R. (2016). Building NESTs to combat environmental crime networks. *Trends in Organized Crime*, 19(1), 88-105.

Woronuk, J. (2008). *Tourists’ awareness, attitudes, and perceptions of wildlife souvenirs: A case study in Cuba* [Master Thesis, University of Waterloo].

<https://uwspace.uwaterloo.ca/handle/10012/3807>

WRI. (2014). *Honduras*. Forest Legality Initiative. World Resources Institute.

<https://forestlegality.org/risk-tool/country/honduras>

Young, C. A. (2008). Belize’s ecosystems: Threats and challenges to conservation in Belize.

Tropical Conservation Science, 1(1), 18–33.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/194008290800100102>

Annex - Contact Information for CAR-WEN Working Group

Title	Full Name	Role	Country	Organisation	Sub-Organisation	Position	Email
Ms	Desiree Corneille	Co-Chair and Focal Point	Bahamas	Ministry of National Security	Bahamas Wildlife Enforcement Network (BahWEN)	BahWEN Lead	desireecorneille@bahamas.gov.bs
Mr	David Mahabir	Co-Chair and Focal Point	Trinidad and Tobago	Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries	Forestry Division	Head of Wildlife Section / Wildlife Biologist	david.mahabir@gov.tt
Ms	Melissa Meade	Focal Point	Anguilla / United Kingdom	Ministry of Sustainability, Innovation & the Environment	Department of Natural Resources	Chief Natural Resources Officer	melissa.meade@gov.ai
Ms	Kim Downes-Agard	Focal Point	Barbados	Ministry of Environment and National Beautification	N/A	Senior Environmental Officer	kim.downesagard@barbados.gov.bb
Ms	Mercedes Valdez	Focal Point	Belize	Belize Forest Department	N/A	Forest Officer	valdezma@gobmail.gov.bz
Dr	Viana Victoria Barcelo Pérez	Focal Point	Cuba	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment	Office for Environmental Regulation and Safety	Senior Specialist	viana@orasen.co.cu
Mr	Bradley Guye	Focal Point	Dominica	Forestry, Wildlife & Parks Division	Ministry of Environment, Rural Modernization, Kalinago Upliftment and Constituency Empowerment	Forest Officer	guyeb@dominica.gov.dm

Mr	Anthony Jeremiah	Focal Point	Grenada	Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries & Cooperatives	Forestry Department	Chief Forestry Officer	cfoo@moa.gov.gd
Mrs	Airam López Roulet	Focal Point	Guatemala	National Council of Protected Areas	N/A	Advisor in Coastal Marine Ecosystems and Wetlands	marinocosteroconap@gmail.com
Mr	Lemuel Cromwell	Focal Point	Guyana	Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission	Monitoring and Compliance	Director	lemuelcromwell.j@gmail.com
Mr	Jean Herby Nelson	Focal Point	Haiti	Haiti Customs	Risk Management and Information Unit	Director	herbynelson@hotmail.com
Ms	Tamara Woodit-Morris	Focal Point	Jamaica	National Environment and Planning Agency	N/A	Enforcement Coordinator	tamara.woodit@nepa.gov.jm
Mr	Miguel A. Garcia-Bermudez	Focal Point	Puerto Rico / United States	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Science Application/Migratory Birds Program	Landscape Conservation Scientist	miguel_garcia-bermudez@fws.gov
Mr	Alwin Dornelly	Focal Point	Saint Lucia	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Rural Development	Forestry Department	Chief Forest Officer	alwin.dornelly@govt.lc
Mr	L. Fitzgerald Providence	Focal Point	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour	Forestry Department	Director of Forestry	fitzpro@yahoo.com
Dr	Mark Gibson	CSO Advisor	Trinidad and Tobago	The Nurture Nature Campaign / Sustainable	N/A	Director / Project Manager	mgibson@sii-inc.org

		and Facilitator	& United States	Innovation Initiatives			
Ms	Susan Millward	CSO Advisor	United States	Animal Welfare Institute	N/A	Executive Director	susan@awionline.org
Ms	Courtney Vail	CSO Advisor	United States	Lightkeepers Foundation	N/A	Executive Director	courtney@lightkeepersfoundation.com

* Please note that many countries have several representatives in the CAR-WEN Working Group, but only one focal point is provided here.