

assisting with the scientific monitoring programmes, and the educational programmes; and assisting with tasks associated with the interpretative section of the National Environmental Centre.

The Parks Manager supervises **Park Wardens** who are at the forefront of the protected areas with primary responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of park management programmes. It is the job of the park wardens to maintain all park equipment and infrastructure such as boats, engines, mooring markers, buoys and other facilities. Park wardens are also tasked with providing assistance to the Scientific Officers, information to visitors to the parks and guided tours of the Environmental Centre.

The **Curator** is the chief operating and administrative position for the National Environment Centre. The Curator plans, directs, promotes and implements the Centre's interpretive and educational programs. He will develop the exhibit programme at the NEC with the widest possible audience. The Curator is directly responsible to the Director.

The **Environmental Education Officer** is in charge of implementing environmental awareness campaigns for both the general public and schools.

The following Officers provide administrative support to the DECR:

Administrative Officer, based in Grand Turk- Responsible for maintaining the accounts of the DECR, including transactions from the Conservation Fund; procurement of supplies; supervision of junior administrative staff and secretarial support to the Director.

Executive Officer provides administrative support to Deputy Director and other staff at the NEC. Duties involve processing invoices from the Conservation Fund; visitor relations; light typing, filing and procurement of supplies for the office.

Clerical Officers, one is based in Grand Turk and the other in South Caicos.

The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) is the government agency charged with the conservation, protection and management of the Natural Resources of the Turks and Caicos Islands. The Department is divided into two divisions: the Protected Areas Division oversees the management of our National Parks, Nature Reserves, Sanctuaries and Historic Areas. The Fisheries Division, is directly responsible for the management and conservation of our fish populations and habitats.

MISSION STATEMENT

“To ensure sustainable utilization of the natural resources of the Turks and Caicos Islands, protect and promote biodiversity and economic prosperity through a sustainable fishing industry and a protected areas system”

Department of Environment and Coastal Resources

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www.environment.tc**



**Department of
Environment and
Coastal Resources**



The Department has its main office in Grand Turk but also maintains offices in South Caicos and Providenciales. As of May 1st 2005 the DECR centralized its operation in Providenciales at the newly constructed National Environmental Centre (pictured above), when offices of the Fisheries and Protected Areas combined operations at the building.

DECR'S ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



Present Director of the DECR: Mr. Wesley Clerveaux

The DECR is headed by a **Director** who has overall responsibility for management of the Department so that its stated goals and purpose are achieved. The Director is charged primarily with the planning and deployment of human and other resources throughout the department and represents the Department to the Permanent Secretary and at inter and intra-governmental meetings. Other functions include budget preparation, coordination and implementation of international legislation and the preparation of Executive Council Papers. The Director is also tasked with the preparation of funding proposals to support the implementation of natural resource management plans, and general conservation and environmental improvement; appraisal of development proposals, development agreements and Environmental Impact Studies. (EISs). Immediately responsible to the Director is the Deputy Director and the Chief Conservation Officer.

The **Deputy Director (DD)** is charged primarily with management of the protected areas system. This includes specifically preparing and updating management plans for the protected areas, extending management activities throughout the PAS, and collaborating with the Director and NPEAC in managing and monitoring the Conservation Fund. The DD also provides professional support to the Director, in particular input into development proposals, development agreements and EISs. Other duties include the supervision of all

staff at the National Environmental Centre. The DD is responsible for revenue collection at the National Environment Centre and assists with the development of the interpretative programs for the Visitors' Centre. Immediately responsible to the DD are the Parks Manager and Park Wardens, Scientific Officer – Protected Areas, Environmental Officer- Protected Areas.

The **Chief Conservation Officer (CCO)/Assistant Director** has principal responsibility for the fisheries, in particular the coordination and implementation of surveillance systems and the scientific monitoring programme for the fisheries. The CCO provides professional support to the Director, including the design and coordination of all enforcement activities, acting as liaison officer between other enforcement agencies (Customs, Immigration, Police), reviewing local legislation and the administrative supervision of all Conservation Officers. The CCO will also liaise with local and international NGOs and research institutions concerning the development of scientific research programmes. The CCO will be responsible for revenue collection at the South Caicos Office. The CCO has a number of legislated duties, which include the issuing of certain types of licenses. Immediately responsible to the CCO are the Deputy Chief Conservation Officer (DCCO), Senior Conservation Officers, Scientific Officer – Fisheries and Environmental Officer - Fisheries.

The **Deputy Chief Conservation Officer (DCCO)** supervises the **Conservation Officers** in effecting surveillance and monitoring operations of the marine banks, processing plants, hotels, restaurants, and airports in accordance with the Fisheries Pro-



tection Regulations (1989). The DCCO and Senior Conservation Officers are also tasked with issuing licenses, maintaining registers, distributing public awareness materials, and conducting scheduled maintenance of patrol boats and vehicles. In terms of seniority, the DECR has established a bar system whereby the CCO will have four bars, DCCO three bars, Senior COs two bars and COs one bar. The system will be extended to the park wardens.

The **Scientific Officers (SO)** are responsible for the collection and analysis of data to monitor both resource use and basic environmental parameters. There are two mainstream programmes being developed (i) monitoring of the protected areas, and (ii) monitoring of the fisheries resources. The former programme comprises the following areas for monitoring: coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass, water quality, dive statistics, and beaches. Scientific programmes for the fisheries include analysis of catch and effort data, size frequency, recruitment index, and fish abundances in an effort to develop an accurate maximum sustainable yield [MSY]. These Officers will also spearhead programmes such as habitat mapping, GIS and monitor research programmes developed externally and carried out in the TCI.

The **Environmental Officers** provide direct support to the SOs. These officers will be directly involved in the collection and entry of scientific data, maintaining databases and assisting in the preparation of scientific reports. The EO will also take the lead in public awareness and environmental education in the DECR and will collaborate with the Environmental Education Officer in implementing educational programmes throughout the TCI.

The **Parks Manager** oversees the day-to-day operation of the protected areas system, in particular the marine parks. His primary responsibilities include the enforcement of the National Parks Regulations, maintenance of park equipment and infrastructure and the development of co-management programmes in the PAS; coordinating and working with the different stakeholder groups,