

Friends *for* Conservation and Development

Promoting Core Conservation



ANNUAL REPORT 2021





**U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF THE INTERIOR**
INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The 22nd Annual General Meeting of **Friends for Conservation and Development** is
made possible in part with financing from the
US Department of the Interior- International Technical Assistance Program



This publication is produced with
sponsorship from BRC Printing

CHIQUIBUL NATIONAL PARK A QCC Site



Cover photo: Karst Monitoring in the Chiquibul Caverns © FCD

Page 3 inset photo: Chaa Creek

Page 3, 23 photos: John and Susana Vanzie

Page 4 inset: Brenda Phillips

Page 5,6,12,14: Tony Rath



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



This past year has been as much a challenge to the world as it has been to FCD. However; I am happy to say that through perseverance and determination FCD has managed to maintain its presence in the Chiquibul and Vaca regions, and effectively kept the border incursions to a minimum. Rogue loggers, *xateros*, illegal gold panners and cattle ranchers from Guatemala extending into Belizean territory, have for the most part been kept at bay.

Having said that we still have a number of issues to confront. Operations at the various Conservation posts along the border require significant sacrifices by FCD Rangers who patrol these areas. Road access is non-existent for the most part, so Rangers walk and carry their rations and equipment for more than a day oftentimes in order to reach their respective outposts. It is tough as well as dangerous, and unless one has done this oneself it is hard to comprehend.

The construction of the new and wonderful highway from Georgeville to Blancaneaux Line has allowed an influx of both local and foreign visitors to the area. Anyone who has ever had to travel this road on any regular basis in the past, sings praises and feel relief when it comes to driving down to town or for that matter going in the other direction to Caracol and the Mountain Pine Ridge. These new roads increase access, traffic and visitation to the area, most of which is positive. However, there needs to be proper management guidelines as well as enforcement to prevent damage such as forest fires, illegal logging, litter and even damage to the watershed.

We are very grateful to the Government for their endorsement of FCD's mandate to include surveillance and monitoring of the Bald Hills in the Mountain Pine Ridge which border onto the Chiquibul Forest. With these added responsibilities comes the need for further funding to support the effective management of these areas. With the pandemic it has been challenging to raise funds and continues to be so.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the individuals, corporate sponsors and government agencies who have continued to support FCD through these difficult times. We also thank the members for the trust, support and the confidence given to FCD that enables the organization to perform the various duties of management and conservation of the vital resources, located in the Western Maya Mountains. We are always looking for other partners to get involved in the protection of these valuable resources so please don't hesitate to contact us. There are innumerable ways in which you can be of help. Last but not least I would like to recognize the amazing commitment of all the FCD staff who often times work under very difficult conditions but shine in their belief and dedication to the cause of protection of our natural resources.

Mick Fleming
President
FCD Board of Directors



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This has been a difficult year as the country and organizations like FCD have had to endure the ravages of the pandemic. Staff have gotten ill from time to time and hours of work in the field have been tumultuous. Several field staff have also caught leishmaniasis and have had to stay home for treatment. Meandering through the difficult terrain of partnerships and addressing complicated new, environmental issues also took its toll this year. But not all has been gloomy. FCD has become stronger and more avid in taking on the challenges, enabling us to become more mature and disciplined.

With support from the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Risk Reduction, FCD received endorsement for streamlining our conservation efforts in the Western Maya Mountains, opening a path towards an improved governance and conservation opportunity in the Chiquibul Forest, Vaca Plateau and Mountain Pine Ridge. This endorsement supports FCD's landscape approach and fosters the implementation of the Chiquibul-Mountain Pine Ridge-Caracol Complex sustainable development plan. For us this is a major step towards consolidating FCD's effort. One that comes with a higher level of responsibility.

But the work of FCD cannot be done without the staff, members, donors and friends who support the FCD mission. With over 40 employed staff, the realization of harnessing the pool of energies, enthusiasm and aspirations is overwhelming. From the remote jungles of Rio Blanco to Caballo, deep in the caves of Actun W'oh, un-earthly boulders of the Vaca and pristine cold waters of the Chalillo Lake, the FCD staff are constantly monitoring and conducting surveillance. The information recovered, once digitized gives us a monthly perspective of hotspots, a first-hand view of the actual situation and management actions to undertake.

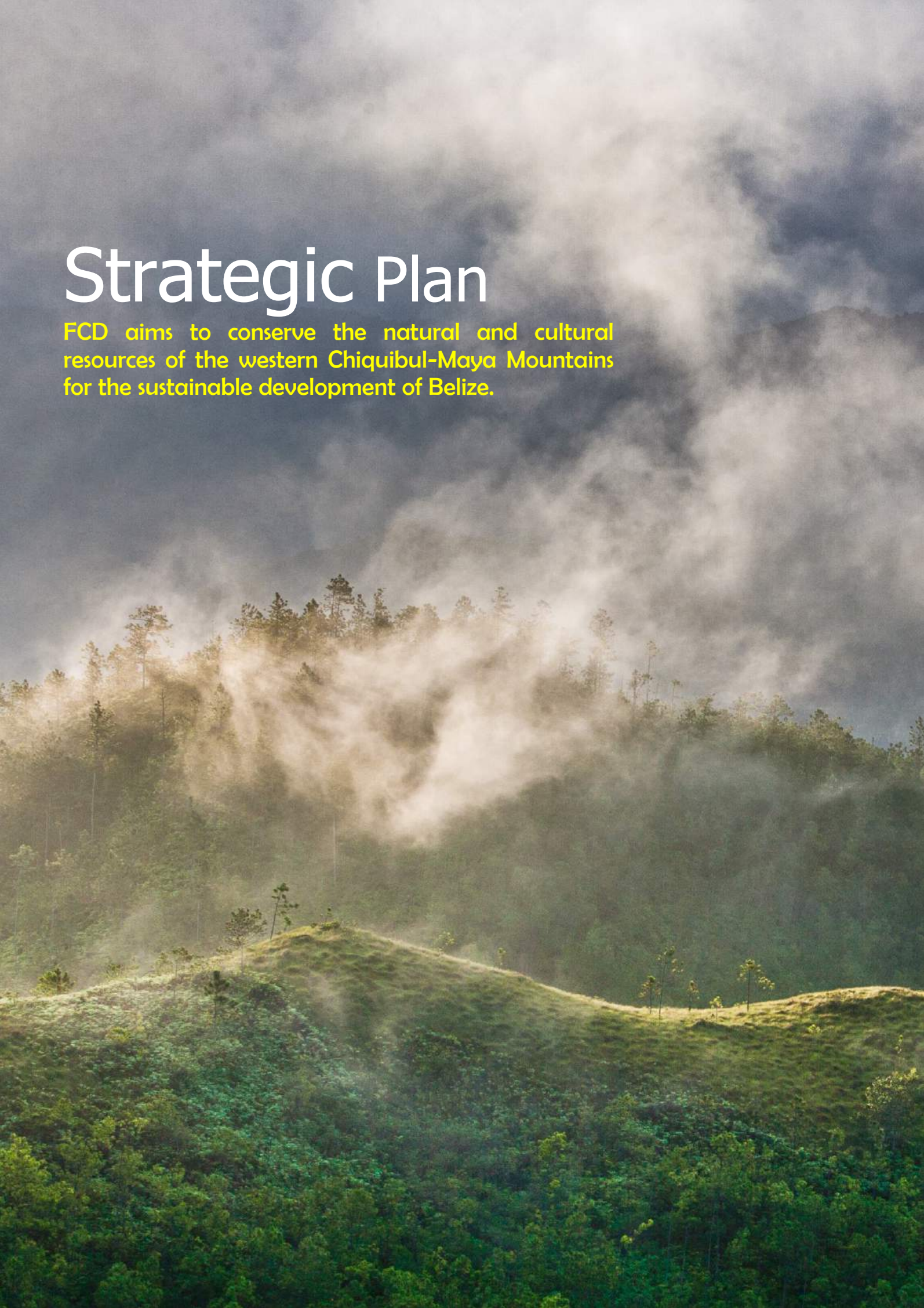
Our members, friends and donors have kept growing. We certainly can do more with membership and coming 2022, with a Communications Technician aboard, we will certainly be more in touch and mobilize further the Advocacy Strategy as well as the Landscape Action Plan aimed at working closer with stakeholders and generating more targeted support for FCD's mission.

2022 will also see FCD moving into its new headquarters. This has been a long-time dream. With this, not only will FCD have an adequate space and comfort place to work and engage with partners, but it will also set us up to improve further our mechanisms of controls and governance. FCD's institutional capacity has stood up to the test for more than 10 years, but with new opportunities, our systems need to be fine-tuned. We already have knowledge on the areas to build on as well as tools that are no longer adequate. The magic formula will be: how to enter into this new era, with more diverse personnel, different interests and extended landscape scale without losing the values and work ethics of the organization. We are up to the challenge!!!

Rafael Manzanero
FCD, Executive Director

Strategic Plan

FCD aims to conserve the natural and cultural resources of the western Chiquibul-Maya Mountains for the sustainable development of Belize.





Landscape Action Plan

To integrate and strengthen FCD's activities and support for landscape management in the wider Chiquibul-Mountain Pine Ridge-Caracol Complex.

Enforcement and Compliance



RANGER EFFORTS CONTRIBUTED TO:

- Recovery of degraded lands in southern Chiquibul
- Protection of emblematic species: macaws and jaguars
- Containment of human expansion in 8 hotspots

The biggest and largest effort in the Chiquibul any day remains the work of Park Rangers. Back in 2007, the work of the Ranger centered on the control of *xateros*. Xate extraction is no longer a primary threat to biodiversity loss, but instead other activities keep the Rangers busy at the frontline.

This year, the three main areas of work centered on addressing illegal wildlife trafficking, gold panning and cattle ranching. Rangers conducted a total of 362 patrols, representing a total of 2,093 hours of active recces with a land coverage of 3,679 km on foot and over 4,340 km on vehicle, aimed at monitoring and targeting poachers which resulted on the encounter of dozens of encroachers.

Gold panning has been a chronic situation. Guatemalan gold panners encroach in southern Chiquibul to pan for gold, despite the activation of a Conservation post in that region since 2012. The numbers dwindle throughout the year with a recurrent increase during the months of November and December. Cattle ranching and agricultural farming are now contained and restricted to the western border areas; however, due to the close proximity to Guatemala, any operation there makes it a sensitive subject. This year, with financing from PACT and the Global Environmental Facility - Small Grants Programme a special operation with more than 60 law enforcement agents was launched. This resulted in the destruction of 80% of the 300 acres of crops and fields occupied by a Guatemalan farmer north of the Rio Blanco Conservation Post.

The Caballo, Valentin, Cebada, Rio Blanco and Ceibo Chico Conservation Posts harbored Belize Defence Force and Park Rangers throughout the year. From these outposts, weekly patrols were implemented to monitor and detect any encroachments. A total of 70 persons were profiled in Chiquibul from November 2020 to October 2021. These individuals were engaged in logging, non-timber forest extraction, hunting, cattle ranching and farming. Twenty-nine other encroachers were detected but made well their escape and were not profiled.

With support from the Protected Areas Conservation Trust, U.S Department of the Interior, U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, GEF SGP, Adventure Travel Conservation Fund and Harvest Caye Conservation Fund the FCD Park Rangers were mobilized, trained, and equipped to function in the harsh conditions of the Chiquibul jungles.

In the Vaca Forest Reserve, eighty-five patrols covering a total of 686 km were conducted by FCD Rangers located in the Vaca plateau. These Rangers documented illegal logging, forest fire incidences and further encroachment of Belizean farmers. Reports were submitted to the Forest Department for further action. In the Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve, in August of 2021, the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Risk Reduction endorsed for FCD's monitoring and surveillance roles to start off at the Bald Hills and Cooma Cairn. The FCD Ranger's mission there is to control any human footprint expansion into the eastern regions of the Chiquibul jungles.

Park Ranger on an operation destroying fences that were erected by cattle ranchers



Research Unit personnel taking readings for water quality testing in southern Chiquibul



Research and Monitoring



RESEARCH TEAM EFFORTS CONTRIBUTED TO:

- Increasing the number of scarlet macaws
- Establish a water quality baseline
- Collection of 2nd data set of mammals and game birds

The work of the FCD Research Unit continues to have major successes in generating data to support management and validating conditions of the conservation targets. The revised Chiquibul National Park Management Plan, being finalized, identifies seven

conservation targets, namely: Tropical Broadleaved Forest, Aquatic Systems, Scarlet Macaw, White-Lipped Peccary, Jaguar, Upper Elevation Amphibians and Karst Systems. These have been central to the ground efforts of the Research Unit this year.

During the first part of the year, the Research Unit installed and monitored wildlife camera traps across the Chiquibul landscape. A total of 20 camera locations were established. The data recovered was submitted to *Panthera* for their analysis. A total of 1669 trap nights across 97 active days of camera trapping were documented. *Panthera's* preliminary report indicates that a total of 26 mammalian species were detected, including the five species of felids. The main game bird species were also detected, namely the Great Curassow, Crested Guan, Ocellated Turkey, Chachalaca, and various species of tinamous. Thereafter, from the month of March, seven months were spent conducting biological monitoring at the Chalillo Lake. With support from 21 volunteers, the field staff remained active monitoring scarlet macaw nests along the regions of the Lake. An expedition to the Monkey Tail River was also conducted where one nest was confirmed to be active but had been poached. By the end of the season, 17 chicks safely made it into the wild, while an additional 4 were soft released. Each of the 21 volunteers participated for 7 days, summing up to 147 days of effort for the 2021 macaw breeding season. Apart from the biomonitoring component, FCD also mobilized the Anti-poaching Unit to safeguard the macaw population. A total of 57 patrols were conducted by this Unit.

With support from the Belize Nature Conservation Foundation, the project titled, *Monitoring of Water Quality in the Chiquibul Headwaters* was launched this year. A total of 32 sampling sites were selected in Chiquibul. All these sites drain into the main tributaries, namely the Raspaculo River, Monkey Tail River, Macal River and the Chiquibul River. Sampling sites were located using GPS and information such as air temperature, cloud cover, precipitation, stream, width and stream depth was documented. Thereafter, the chemical and physical parameters were recorded. Technical staff from the Department of the Environment supported FCD by providing training, facilitating use of equipment (such as the DO sensor) and serving as a repository for the information, contributing to Belize's National Water Quality Monitoring Program. The program was instrumental in bringing together key partners in water conservation efforts, namely the Cayo Watershed Conservation Alliance, Caretakers of Our Rivers and the Environment, Upper Macal Watershed Working Group to discuss strategies in support of watershed protection. Notably, the Advocacy Strategy developed in 2020 recommends for FCD to adopt a catalytic role in its strategic networking aspects which increases the potential for force multiplier effects.

Tapir Camp Conservation Post, main Ranger field headquarters



Cebada Conservation Post, one of four CPs located along the western border



Extension and Networking



EXTENSION and NETWORKING EFFORTS CONTRIBUTED TO:

- Sensitizing Government decision makers
- Expand stakeholder involvement
- Reduce degradation in the Vaca plateau

The complicated work of Extension Services in the Vaca Forest Reserve continued this year with financing from the US Department of the Interior and US Fish and Wildlife Services. It is complicated, given

that for the last 8 years the farmers are not yet fully convinced of the importance of stewardship although their farming activities are taking place inside the Vaca Forest Reserve. Nonetheless, FCD's Agroecological Extension Technician, Ermain Requena kept visiting the farmers and encouraged them to reduce the use of chemical pesticides, their hunting activities in the area and be more careful in lighting of fires during the dry season. A glimpse of optimism appeared, with farmers collectively cleaning and recovering the Cacao Creek. Planting of trees along the creek was made and agroforestry principles were taught. Vegetable seeds and plants were acquired and distributed among farmers. Requena believes that with patience and a new methodology of Extension, the farmers will be more respectful of the reserve.

An intent to reactivate the Friends of the Vaca Forest Reserve was made, aimed at improving governance and unite the farmers. But this had limited success. On the other hand, the Vaca Forest Reserve Working Group was reconstituted with the participation of the Forest Department, Agriculture Department, Police Department, Belize Defence Force, Belize Electric Company Limited, Friends of Vaca Forest Reserve and FCD. The year culminated with a site visit with members of the Working Group, which was welcomed by the farmers in the area.

The networking, this year reached to new heights, despite the pandemic limitations. With support from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, we enabled for the Maya Leaders Alliance to jumpstart their indigenous stewardship program. An educator and a community promoter are programmed to conduct conservation efforts in five communities. The British High Commission Office in Belize has enabled for FCD to liaise once more with Guatemalan partners, including Asociacion Balam, Grupo Integral de Cuencas, Todos Por Un Mundo Verde and Instituto de Arqueologia, Etnologia e Historia, while the Belize Roadway Construction Limited has paved the road for us to work with Itzamna Society and the Institute of Archaeology. An expedition into the Chiquibul to observe the impacts of gold mining provided an opportunity to network with OCEANA, Association of Protected Area Managers, and the Belize Network of NGOs.

With the change in new Government, FCD have had productive engagements and collaborations among key agencies including the Belize Forest Department, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Belize Defence Force. Thanks to ASTRUM, an overflight early in the year with the Ministers responsible for the BDF, Police and Forest Department over the Chiquibul landscape helped galvanize Government support, and executive presentations highlighting the crucial functions of the Western Maya Mountains were made to the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Ara macao cyanoptera, a sub-species of macaw with its main breeding area in Chiquibul



Morelet crocodile found in Chiquibul, 1 of 2 last pure crocodile populations left in Belize



Outreach and Education



EDUCATION EFFORTS CONTRIBUTED TO:

- Reduction of forest fires
- Strengthening of two local organizations
- Mobilization of children to action

Due to COVID restrictions, FCD's Environmental Educator, Wilford Justin Pook Jr. had the challenge of reaching out effectively to the target groups in the Cayo District. He worked on two main areas of public outreach. The first dealt with sensitizing farmers and local people from

communities near the Vaca and the Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve on preventative methods aimed at reducing incidences of forest fires. With support from the US Department of the Interior International Technical Assistance Program (USDOI-ITAP) he worked closely with the 16 farmers located in the Vaca plateau and utilized a multimedia approach to increase awareness among inhabitants of 6 communities. The results paid off with the reduction of forest fires this year in the area. The Agriculture Department reports that due to the education campaign more farmers reached out to their offices for permits to burn. This is a marked success as traditionally people were not even aware that such regulations existed.

The other public outreach activity centered on the protection of the Mopan-Macal-Belize Rivers, supported by the GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP). This has enabled the educator to sharpen its skills in capacity building and public participation. He put into use these skills, working with other conservation groups such as the Cayo Watershed Conservation Alliance (CWCA) and Caretakers for Our Rivers and the Environment (CORE). Justin worked with them to plan and develop their action plans for the next two years. With these plans, not only does FCD feel confident that they have a roadmap to follow, but a more credible opportunity exists to obtain funds to execute the outlined activities.

During this outreach program, over 500 posters on wildlife and river conservation were distributed on the targeted communities.

FCD's educator implemented the 3rd Chiquibul Junior Ranger Summer Camp with the support of Belize Roadway Construction Ltd and participation. Ten children from among the communities of Cristo Rey, San Antonio, 7 Miles-El Progress and Georgeville had a memorable and enjoyable experience of the Chiquibul Forest.

In addition, the educator remained busy conducting research and developing a lay out for the upgrade of the Chiquibul Visitor Center. This Center was developed over 5 years ago but practically it has never been used to its full potential. The educator took it to task to improve it and with the financial support from the Protected Areas Conservation Trust a major boost was made. The interior has been redesigned and the water and roof systems were repaired. With an increase of visitation at Caracol Archaeological Monument, the Center will be more frequently opened. FCD welcomes the various tourist lodges and tourism outlets to call on us to conduct interpretive sessions, know of available destinations and opportunities for partnerships.



Chiquibul National Park

A core area of biological diversity protection within the Chiquibul Forest with high ecological integrity, and intrinsic natural and cultural value, providing vital environmental services in support of Belize's national development, climate resilience, regional security and cooperation.

Pumpkin plantation found along the border north of Rio Blanco



Gold panning activities at Ceibo Chico, southern Chiquibul



Transborder Cooperation

BINATIONAL EFFORTS CONTRIBUTED TO:



- Reduction of conflicts on the adjacency zone
- Strengthening of grassroots organizations in Belize and Guatemala
- Activation of two taskforces to address environmental threats

Since 2007 when FCD first took co-management responsibilities of the Chiquibul National Park, a full swing conservation binational effort began with Guatemalan agencies and organizations. The 2009 Management Plan further reiterated the

importance of this as a strategy to mitigate transborder threats.

In 2014, the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of Belize and Guatemala for the protection of the Environment and Natural Resources, helped solidified and facilitated further the binational efforts. FCD has led the way, and together with Asociacion Balam, the program continues growing and having solid results.

This year FCD activated the Binational Illegal Wildlife Trafficking Taskforce with the support of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and later in the year the Binational Forest Fire Taskforce through the support of the British High Commission. These taskforces are comprised of civil society groups with participation of agencies such as the Forest Department and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Belize and Consejo Nacional de Areas Protegidas in Guatemala. The nature of these taskforces is to identify and report threats affecting both countries and develop interventions to address them.

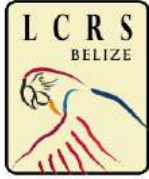
On the latter part of the year coordination and planning ensued with the Binational Watershed Alliance, Guatemala Chapter known as ASIPROM with the aim of strengthening their capacities to undertake river conservation projects. Earlier in the year a motorcycle was donated to them for their mobilization across the nine communities that comprise the alliance. Likewise, FCD sought and obtained funds from the British High Commission to support Todos Por Un Mundo Verde, which is the equivalent youth group working with the FCD Environmental Youth Group on conservation efforts.

In Guatemala, our counterpart, Asociacion Balam, remained active devising an array of strategies and activities ranging from training women to be entrepreneurs to building youth into leaders on their communities and promoting sustainable livelihoods among rural communities located on the adjacency zone in Guatemala. Their work is supported in large by the US Department of the Interior, European Union, Food and Agriculture Organization, KOICA and others. Based on these multi-year efforts, FCD and Balam were nominated by the Centre for Strategic Studies, Policy Analysis and Research (CSSPAR) for the Milefsky Award. The entry was successful. The International Boundaries Research Unit is the institution that provides the annual Award as part of their recognition of institutions or individuals who do boundary marking or cross-border cooperation programs.



Vaca Forest Reserve

GOAL: The reserve continues to function as a key buffer for the Chiquibul National Park and continues to contribute to the functioning of the Belize River watershed whilst maintaining its intrinsic natural values, and contributing to local development.



Wilderness Adventure



STATION STAFF EFFORTS CONTRIBUTED TO:

- Catering services for more than 375 visitors
- Upgrading of 3 infrastructures at LCRS
- Highlighting the importance of the landscape among decision makers

The Las Cuevas Research Station is a paradise for wilderness adventure located in the heart of the Chiquibul Forest. For those who have dared to visit, it has left on them life singular experiences of close

encounters with wildlife. Visitors frequently ask, what probabilities are there of seeing a Jaguar or Macaws. The fact is that for sure the wildlife is there and with good luck you will see them.

This year due to the pandemic the number of visitors remained low and the Chiquibul marathon also was cancelled for until 2022, fingers crossed. The station; however, still received special guests including the Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Cordel Hyde and representatives from Belize Tourism Board. The station hosted 142 persons who undertook training sessions; 163 guests who came to enjoy nature, 21 conducted birdwatching, one person conducted research, while 52 visited for the day for a total of 379 persons hosted.

The Tourism Enterprise Development Manager, nonetheless has been busy upgrading the station. With support from the Protected Areas Conservation Trust and Nature Trust of the Americas, the deck and main posts of the main building have been upgraded and Cabin Four has been upgraded to the VIP Chiquibul Cottage.

Eco-Guarding Species

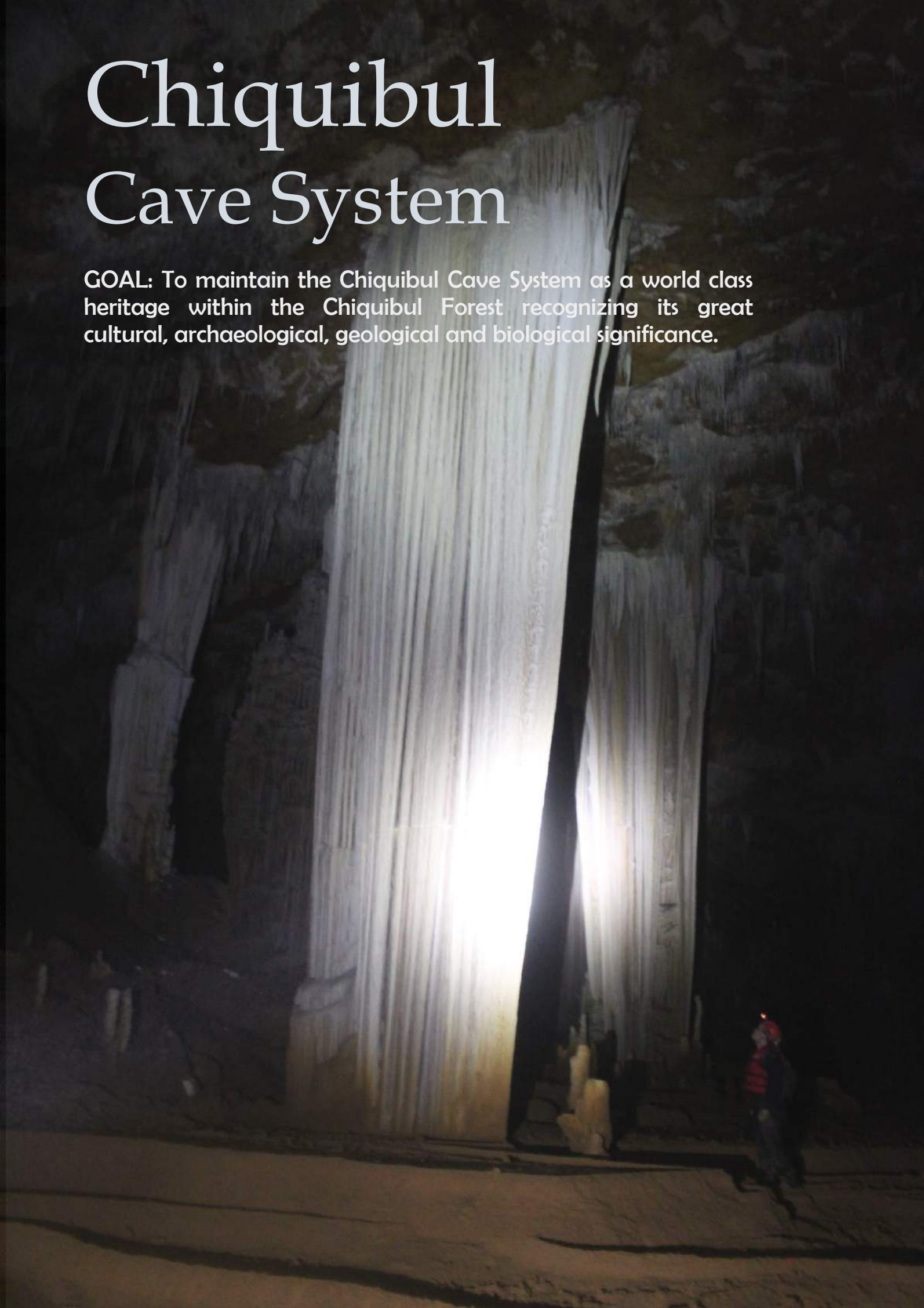
For the last 3 years, FCD has worked closely with Belize Electric Company Limited (BECOL) at the three hydro dam facilities, namely Chalillo, Mollejon and Vaca. The work of Eco-Guards there are not only to manage the entrance gates, but the primary objective is to have a protective role for the forests that are found in the area and that are adjacent to FCDs targeted areas, namely Vaca Forest Reserve and the Chiquibul Forest.



This year the Eco-Guards patrolled the BECOL property on a bi-weekly basis with the assistance of other Park Rangers based at Tapir Camp and Vaca. Through the wildlife cameras installed, it is evident that the 1,714 acres maintains a healthy wildlife population ranging from white tailed deer to macaws, tapirs and morelet crocodiles.

Chiquibul Cave System

GOAL: To maintain the Chiquibul Cave System as a world class heritage within the Chiquibul Forest recognizing its great cultural, archaeological, geological and biological significance.



Exploration and Discovery



KARST EFFORTS CONTRIBUTED TO:

- Cultural Inventory of Natural Arch region
- Discoveries of new caves
- Improvement of mapping techniques

At FCD we have always believed that if someone wants to discover new species and have their names tagged to a scientific nomenclature then the place is the Chiquibul Forest. From Maya monuments completely covered with vegetation

and tall forests to the insects found in strange vegetation, and creatures frozen in time inside the Chiquibul Caverns, the mosaic of uniqueness does provide this area with the magnitude of a World Heritage Site.

This year the Karst Management Unit continued their inventory effort of cultural remains, specifically centered around the region of the Natural Arch. Based on the data recovered, the Arch has Maya platforms that once conserved, they will do for another great attraction in that area. The team also found and documented other caves around the Actun Kabal, and their recesses in other caves helped monitor any human footprint. Several caves have signs of human impacts, and Maya mounds appear to have been looted. These, however, occurred some years ago and recent digs do not appear to be found. Nonetheless, the work of the Karst Unit is now turning to the development of management protocols, particularly as they conclude their work of inventory. Management will mean recovery of looted areas and having a more pronounced presence in hotspot areas such as the Cebada Caves, that are located within the 1 km range from Guatemala. This will mean, however, a closer work of coordination with the Institute of Archaeology. FCD's binational efforts will also see the combination of efforts with Guatemalan institutions including the Instituto de Arqueología, Etnología e Historia and Atlas Arqueológico. Through the US Department of the Interior – ITAP, FCD has already received the interest from professional cave managers to assist in building the local capacities for cave management.

This year the Karst Unit was successful in finding the location and skeleton of the documented extinct Florida Cave Bear. The discovery had been done in the late 1990s and it was until now that a team had once more arrived in this deep tomb. The area contains a cemetery of bat skeletons, frozen in time and the curtains of spectacular cave formations are singular. A recce at Actun Kabal also resulted in the discovery of three large cave entrances, that are located nearby the Ledge of Offerings; and Actun W'Oh, a cave discovered recently opened new discoveries.

As FCD progresses on this realm, the Karst Unit personnel need to be further exposed to new techniques. In this regard, thanks to PACT, Dr. Holley Moyes trained the staff on cave mapping and identification of cultural features, that could help them better collect field data.

Towards the latter part of the year, a Cultural Heritage Coordinator was hired to help systematize the information gathered by the Karst Management Unit and to liaise with the Institute of Archaeology to devise a management portfolio of priority cultural features.

Partnerships

FCD is honored to have worked with more than 80 partner institutions from Belize and abroad. From the private sector and community-based organizations to government and international organizations, they have made our work more effective and result oriented.

GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

Belize Defence Force
Belize Forest Department
Belize Police Department
Immigration Department
Institute of Archaeology
Agriculture Department
Belize Tourism Board
Economic Development Council
Department of the Environment
National Biodiversity Unit
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Defence and Border Security
Ministry of SD, Climate Change and Risk Reduction
U.S Department of the Interior-ITAP
U.S State Department - INL
U.S Fish and Wildlife Service
British High Commission of Belize
British Army Training Support Unit Belize
Consejo Nacional de Areas Protegidas (Guatemala)
Organization of American States
Protected Areas Conservation Trust
Ministry of Education (Cayo District)
Commonwealth of Municipalities of Southern Peten



COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS



Cayo Watershed Conservation Alliance
Caretakers for Our Rivers & Environment
Grupo Integral para Conservación de las Cuencas
Todos Por Un Mundo Verde
FCD Environmental Youth Group
Friends of Vaca Forest Reserve
Friends of Lower Dover
Itzamna Society
Maya Leaders Alliance
Julian Cho Society
San Antonio Village Council

Exploring Solutions Past ~ The Maya Forest Alliance
Mesa Integral de Tierra y Medio Ambiente
Bullet Tree Positive Environmental Group

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Belize Nature Conservation Foundation
Association of Protected Area Management Organizations
Centre for Strategic Studies, Policy Analysis and Research
Asociación Balam
Programme for Belize



COACAP
ACOFOP
XMET
Engaged Scholarship & Service Learning
APAMO
Foro de Justicia Ambiental
Belize Wildlife and Referral Clinic
The Belize Zoo and TEC
Harvest Caye Conservation Foundation
Chaa Creek Foundation
Wildtracks
OCEANA

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

United Nations Development Program
The European Nature Trust
Forecastle Foundation
Western Kentucky University
The Nature Trust of the Americas
Toucan Education Programs
Wildlife Conservation Society
Panthera
GEF-Small Grants Program
World Nomad
GIZ-Selva Maya
Adventure Travel Conservation Fund
Animals Saving Animals



PRIVATE SECTOR

Belize Communication Services Limited
Belize Airport Concession Company
Belize Electric Company Limited
Chaa Creek Inland Expeditions
Belize Roadway Construction Ltd.
Blancaneaux Lodge
John and Susana Vanzie
Bull Run Farms
Pacific Heights
Turtle Inn
GAIA River Lodge
Channel 5 Belize
Channel 7 Belize



Board and FCD Staff

STRATEGIC GOAL

FCD aims to conserve the natural and cultural resources of the western Chiquibul Maya Mountains for the sustainable development of Belize.

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Reynaldo Sutherland, CNP Ranger	Rahim Ponce, CNP Ranger
Josue Najera, CNP Ranger	Selvino Sho, CNP Ranger (Until Aug)
Mariano Beckford, CNP Ranger (From May)	George August, CNP Ranger (From May)
Abimael Guzman, CNP Rangers (From October)	Robin Magana, VFR Field Assistant
Jovanni Puc, CNP Ranger (From Oct)	Ermain Requena, Extension Technician (From Sep)
Simon Lotiff, CNP Ranger (From Oct)	Stephen Coc, CNP Ranger (From May)
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Ricardo Mena, Research Assistant	Richard Angel Harris, Research Assistant
Wendy Garcia, CCS Chief Ranger (Until Oct)	Eric Antonio Max, Research Assistant
Rocendo Chun, CCS Ranger	Ronnel Melendrez, CCS Ranger
Ismael Landero, Chief Eco-Guard	Joerland de la Fuente, Eco-Guard (Til April)
Daniel Cruz, Eco-Guard	Ryan Thompson, Eco-Guard
Gliss Penados, Eco Guard (Part Time- Until June)	Axel Castellanos, Eco Guard
Darrío Bautista, Station Caretaker	Lenney Gentle, Eco Guard (Until May)
Angelica Morales, Cook (Part-Time)	Ivy Flores, TEDP Manager (From May)
	Lynn Katherine Coc, Janitor



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