



# NEGRIL MARINE PARK NEWS

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## Wilma's Effect in Negril

### Inside this Issue:

NCRPS BOD 2005-2006	2
International Coastal Cleanup	2
Crocodile Cap- ture	2
Trade Fair/ Bingo Party	3
SocMon Pro- gram-Update	3
Marine Park Regulations	3
Membership Form	4

In Wilma's early stage as a tropical depression and as it progressed into a hurricane, moving towards Florida, its wild and fierce journey was felt by all the countries it passed. The Negril Marine Park particularly experienced Wilma's hard rains and strong winds. As she moved within the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico, sending huge, crashing waves along the shorelines of the Negril Marine Park, this storm terribly eroded the beach and caused damage to many properties in Negril.

Along Long Bay Beach Park, waves dragged in mounds and mounds of algae onto the beach. Many other properties along Long Bay experienced immense flooding and many related property damages. Among the worst hit were properties along the West End such as Mariner's Inn which experienced 20 ft waves hitting, crashing and damaging the very rocks on which the resort is built.



Sea hits properties along Long Bay



Algae covered Long Bay Beach Park

### Did you Know...

- Coral reefs are the basis for 10% of the world's diet!
- Coral reefs protect the coastline of 109 countries from erosion!
- It is illegal to interfere with any markers in marine parks!

Some feel that Wilma's effect may not have been as devastating as it was if the coral reefs in Negril were in better shape. In a recent study done by NCRPS scientific advisor, Dr. Brian Lapointe revealed that 70 to 80 percent of reefs in some areas of the Negril Marine Park are now gone. Normally coral reefs act as a barrier, by slowing down the water from waves, currents, storms and floods before it gets to the shore which wash away sandy beaches and cause property damage. Therefore, the absence of abundant coral reefs in Negril simply do not provide protection from erosion to the shoreline as they once did.

The Member of Parliament, Dr. W. McNeil, Environmental Organizations and Stakeholders of Negril have formed a Beach Restoration Committee of 12 members to deal with this serious ongoing problem of beach erosion in Negril. The new committee comprises Jean P. Brown and Carl Hanson, of the Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society, Kenric Davis and Nadia Ferguson of the Negril Area Environmental Protection Trust, Wayne Cummings, Ray Arthurs and Jean Jackson-Spence of the Negril Chamber of Commerce, Cliff Reynolds of the Negril Green Island Planning Authority, Evelyn Smith of the Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association, Daniel Grizzle of the Negril Resort Board, Peter Wilson-Kelly and Janet Hyde of the National Environmental and Planning Agency and Anna Reader of the Tourism Product Development Company. This committee will hopefully produce a timely and effective solution to this problem of beach erosion in Negril. They have already submitted a project proposal to the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica soliciting funding for a study aimed at identifying the most effective mitigation methods to use in restoring the beach.

## NCRPS Board of Directors 2005-2006

The Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society would like to present the Board of Directors for the 2005-2006 year.

**Jean Brown, President**



Ms. Jean P. Brown has been on the NCRPS Board of Directors since 1992. She is currently a teacher at the Negril All Age School.

**Executive Board:**

Kenric Davis, *1st Vice President*  
Lenbert Williams, *2nd Vice President*  
Erwin Caine, *Treasurer*  
Meghan Foley, *Secretary*

**Directors:** Lowan Lawrence, Llyod Nelson, Oscar Reckord, Ceylon Clayton, Don Streete, David Wallace, Clive Pringle, Winston Reid, Richard Bourke, Paulette Samuels - Peddie, Baldwin Powell, Stanley Carvalho, Corp. Neville Powell, Lesa Banton, Antoinette Johnson, Junior Francis, Matthew Marzouca

## International Coastal Cleanup 2005

On September 17, 2005 approximately 143 volunteers participated in International Coastal Cleanup 2005. These activities organized by the Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society included many areas of the Negril Environmental Protection Area. In total approximately 116 bags of trash were collected.

The day's activities began with orientation from Ms. Brown, NCRPS President. After orientation, volunteers dispersed to their sites to begin cleanups. The Green Team Trophy Competition continued this year with two of the four invited schools participating, Negril All Age and Whitehall Basic and Prep. Approximately 60 students from the two schools cleaned sections of Bloody Bay. As an incredible cleanup was done in both areas, the competition ended in a tie, which will leave the trophy at each school for 6 months of the year. Little Bay, Negril, Orange Bay, Green Island and Davis Cove were included in the fishing beach cleanup. Sandals and Beaches Resort organized cleanup activities for the Negril Beach, and Couples Negril, a section of the Orange Bay beach. Little Bay, Green Island and Davis Cove beach cleanups were organized by their own fisherman. The day's activities also included an underwater cleanup along the West End. Volunteers from Couples, Hedonism, Negril Scuba Center, CREP, NEPT and NCRPS assisted in the effort. This cleanup produced 4 bags of trash and many items too large to be contained. Following cleanup, many participants returned to the Negril Marine Park Headquarters for lunch. Other participating communities cooked lunch at their cleanup sites. The day's activities commenced at 2:00pm.



Student cleanup along Bloody Bay



Green Island Fishing Beach cleanup

We would like to extend thanks for in-kind contributions from the following: Negril Cash N' Carry, C&E Hotel Supply Company Moon Dance, Negril Treehouse, Sunset at the Palms, Valuemaster, Kuyaba, Charela Inn, Hedonism II, RIU Tropical Bay, Club Hotel RIU, P&S Wholesale, D&Y Supermarket, Shopper's Choice, Rockhouse, Alfred's Ocean Palace.

## NCRPS Rangers Capture Crocodile



On October 8th, NCRPS Marine Park Rangers led the capture of a 12ft crocodile that was lurking in the waters by Hedonism II Resort in Negril. As the crocodile posed serious threat to visitors in Negril it was quickly captured and taken out of the waters.

After about a 2 hour ordeal of capturing the largest crocodile ever seen in the Negril Marine Park, it was taken to the Royal Palm Reserve in Sheffield, Westmoreland for holding which currently has three other crocodiles. The following Friday the crocodile was taken to Black River Safari in St. Elizabeth where it was released to freely move about, like so many other crocodiles that normally reside in the waters.

## Trade Fair/Bingo Party Fundraiser

On Saturday, October 29th, the Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society held a Trade Fair/Bingo Party fundraising event at The Jungle in Negril. The fundraising activity organized by NCRPS Board Members and Staff began at 2:00pm with the trade fair. Participants for the Trade Fair included Group 7 Promotions, Trafalgar Travel Agency, Bank of Nova Scotia, Le'Antonio's Boutique, Halloween Costumes, Suave Fashions and the Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society.

The Bingo Party began at 8:00pm where over 100 people geared up to win lots of great prizes from Valuemaster, Walkerswood, BOD, Devine Destiny, The Caves, Grand Lido Negril, Hedonism II, Couples Swept Away, Sandals Whitehouse, Sandals Negril, RIU Tropical Bay, and Couples Negril. However, most people came to win the last and most desired prize, \$50,000 cash!

We would like to thank all sponsors, participants and volunteers for the day's fundraiser. NCRPS sincerely appreciates the support in making this event a success.



Bingo winners

## Social and Economic Monitoring Programme Update

Following on a workshop of Social and Economic Monitoring (SocMon) for Coastal Management, and Fisheries Management Planning for the Negril Marine Park which was held on April 14, 2005, the Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society (NCRPS) in collaboration with the UWI Center for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) held a series of follow-up meetings on November 22-24. The focus of these meetings, facilitated by Dr. Patrick McConney of UWI CERMES, was to communicate summary outputs of the surveys and to solicit input through discussion.

On November 23, Dr. McConney gave a presentation at the Swept Away Resort to community stakeholders of the survey results. Participants of this meeting represented the Watersports Association, TPDCo, CREP, NEPT, NGIALPA, MBMP, NEPA, SDC, Fisheries Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisherman from the various fishing communities and NCRPS. Stakeholders were informed about the outputs and how they can or will be used in decisions relating to management of the Negril Marine Park as well as how others can become involved in institutional arrangements for such decisions.

On the three afternoons of the visit, Dr. McConney facilitated meetings with members of with fishing communities in the Negril Environmental Protection Area on the outcomes of the study. Fisherfolk listened to results and discussed their concerns and ideas to further improve the Marine Park. Fishing communities visited were Salmon Point, Little Bay, Negril, Orange Bay, Green Island and Davis Cove.



Salmon Point fishing community meeting



Stakeholder's meeting

## Marine Park Regulations

Under the NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ACT, the Marine Park Regulation 7.1., specifically states, a person shall not willfully mark, deface or injure in any way or remove or interfere with in any way any mooring buoy, marine park sign, notice or placard, whether temporary or permanent or with any monument stake, post, or other boundary marker in any marine park. If found liable, a person may be convicted before a Resident Magistrate to pay a fine or possibly face imprisonment.

All users of the Negril Marine Park should endeavor to become more aware of the Park, so as to become conscious of the potential threats to the reef and other natural marine resources in general. If you have any questions regarding the NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ACT, please call the National Environment & Planning Agency (754-7543), stop by the Negril Marine Park Headquarters or call NCRPS at 957-3735.



For our children's children.....

*The Mission of the Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society is to protect and preserve coral reef ecosystems, locally, regionally, and globally, through education, research, training, monitoring, lobbying, and the creation of marine protected areas.*

### Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society

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## Join NCRPS and Support the Negril Marine Park!

You can support the Negril Marine Park and help protect the fragile coral reef ecosystem by becoming a member of the Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society.

Members receive newsletters.

I wish to become a member of NCRPS (Membership fees are for a one year period)

- Business Membership, \$1000 JA (Jamaican residents)/\$50 US (Overseas residents)
- Family Membership, \$700 JA (Jamaican residents) /\$35 US (Overseas residents)
- Full Individual Membership \$500 JA (Jamaican residents) /\$15 US (Overseas residents)
- Student Membership, \$50 JA (Jamaican residents) /\$5 US (Overseas residents)



I wish to make a tax deductible donation to NCRPS to benefit the Negril Marine Park

(NCRPS is registered as a non-profit, charitable organization in Jamaica, West Indies)

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ E MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to: NCRPS, Negril P.O. Box #2563, Westmoreland, Jamaica, West Indies

### US TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS THROUGH FRIENDS OF JAMAICA USA

NCRPS works in partnership with Friends of Jamaica (FOJ) USA, a US based organization dedicated to providing economic assistance to organizations in Jamaica. FOJ is recognized by the US Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit charitable organization, 501 (c) (3). All contributions made to NCRPS through FOJ are US tax deductible. FOJ will retain 5% of all contributions for administrative purposes. Those wishing to make donations to NCRPS through FOJ will become members of FOJ and receive membership benefits. [www.friendsofjamaicausa.org](http://www.friendsofjamaicausa.org)

Please make cheques payable to Friends of Jamaica USA, 1312 W. Empire Street, Freeport, Ill. 61032