The Department of Natural Resources and the Environment (DNRE) became operational in October 1st 1999. It was created as a result of a merger between the Department of the Environment of the Division of Tourism, Information, Environment and Settlements and the Forestry Section of the Department of Agriculture in the Division of Agriculture, Land and Marketing.

The Department is responsible for ensuring that the natural environment of Tobago is managed in a sustainable manner. Administratively, Department of Natural Resources and the Environment (DNRE) is divided into five (5) functional areas.
THE OBJECTIVES INCLUDES

- To ensure sustainable use of our natural resources
- To protect areas of significant biological diversity
- To conserve and protect the indigenous flora and fauna of Tobago
- To reduce the pollution of our natural environment
- To rehabilitate degraded ecosystems
- To reduce soil erosion
- To monitor import and export of wild animals and plants
- To maximize the water storage potential of watersheds
- To provide recreational opportunities in the natural environment
- To sensitize and educate the general public about matter pertaining our environment.
The Wildlife management unit of Department of Natural Resources and the Environment comprise presently of a Wildlife Biologist as the head, Foresters, Game Wardens and skilled field staff. These officers address all matters pertaining to wildlife and wetlands conservation including but not limit to:

- Administration to an Enforcement of the follow legislation
- Environmentally Sensitive Species Rules, 2001
- Environmentally Sensitive Area Rules, 2001
- To some extent the Fisheries Act 67:51 of 1916 (amendment 1975)
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THIS UNIT INCLUDES.

- Wetlands Assessment and Evaluation
- Wildlife Research and Education
- Monitoring of Turtles and Turtle Nesting Beaches
- Development of Bon Accord Lagoon Nature Park
LACK OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IN ISOLATED VILLAGES, LEADS TO ILLEGAL HARVESTING OF SEA TURTLES AND THERE EGGS.

THE SIZES AND QUANTITY OF JELLY FISHES THAT NORMAL WASHED ASHORE HAVE REDUCE

ABNORMAL DEPOSIT OF SEA WEED UNTO NESTING BEACHES

IN SOME BEACHES, POACHERS ARE HARVESTING THE EGGS AND LEAVING THE LEATHERBACKS TO NEST
NUMBER OF NEST HATCHED PER MONTH DATA

- LEATHERBACK
- GREENS
- HAWKBILL
- LOGGER HEAD

Number of nests per month:
- Leatherback: 1
- Greens: 64
- Hawksbill: 196
- Logger Head: 78
MORTALITY DATA

- LEATHERBACK
- GREENS
- HAWKSBILL

139
42
4
NUMBER OF NEST LOST

LEATHERBACK
GREENS
HAWKBILL
NUMBER OF BEACHES PATROLED

- Leatherback: 16
- Greens: 26
- Hawksbill: 26
- Logger Head: 1.20
NUMBER OF HATCHLINGS

- LEATHERBACK
- GREENS
- HAWKSBILL
- LOGGER HEAD
NUMBER OF NEST ESCAVATED

LEATHERBACK
GREENS
HAWKBILL
LOGGER HEAD

98
30
21
1.2
WEIGHT OF PLASTIC TAKE OFF THE BEACHES

- 2011: 19168 LBS
- 2010: 37101 LBS
- 2009: 14547 LBS
BEACH PROFILING DATA FOR NESTING SITE
(GREAT COURLAND BAY - CENTRAL)

Mean Elevation 2006

Mean Elevation 2009

Mean Elevation 2007

Mean Elevation 2008

Change in Mean Elevation (2006 - 2009)

Erosion - 0.593m
Mean elevation - 1.544m
BEACH PROFILING DATA FOR NESTING SITE (GREAT COURLAND BAY- NORTH)

**Mean Elevation 2006**

**Mean Elevation 2009**

**Mean Elevation 2007**

**Change in Mean Elevation (2006 - 2009)**

Erosion - 1.882m
Mean elevation - 2.812m
BEACH PROFILING DATA FOR NESTING SITE (GREAT COURLAND BAY- SOUTH)

Mean Elevation 2006

Mean Elevation 2009

Mean Elevation 2007

Change in Mean Elevation (2006 - 2009)

Mean Elevation 2008

Erosion - 4.279m
Mean elevation - 5.433m
BEACH PROFILING DATA FOR NESTING SITE
(MT. IRVINE BAY- NORTH)

- **Mean Elevation 2006**
  - Average Level (m): 7.5 to 9.5
  - Months: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov

- **Mean Elevation 2009**
  - Average Level (m): 7.5 to 9.0
  - Months: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov

- **Mean Elevation 2007**
  - Average Level (m): 7.5 to 9.5
  - Months: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov

- **Change in Mean Elevation (2006 - 2009)**
  - Average Beach Level (m)
  - Year: 2006 to 2009
  - Trend: Decreasing from 9.0 to 7.6

- **Mean Elevation 2008**
  - Average Level (m): 6.5 to 9.5
  - Months: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov

Erosion - 0.689m
Mean elevation - 8.493m
BEACH PROFILING DATA FOR NESTING SITE (MT. IRVINE BAY- SOUTH)

Mean Elevation 2006

Mean Elevation 2009

Mean Elevation 2007

Change in Mean Elevation (2006 - 2009)

Mean Elevation 2008

Erosion - 0.167m
Mean elevation - 8.083m
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Make fines commensurate with product value
- Continued monitoring and Data collection on nesting populations, hatchlings
- Promote co-management between Government agencies, (NGO) Non Governmental Organization, CBO.
- Increase Educational Programs in schools and the mass media
- Investigate non-consumptive use to generate revenue i.e the potential for sustainable income from well-designed ecotourism.
- Regulation of Eco tourism and tour guiding
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