

~ 2018 Annual General Meeting ~  
Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network  
(WIDECAST)

Playa Del Este Resort

Matura, Trinidad  
18-21 March 2018

**Sunday, March 18**

- 6:00 - 9:00 pm      **Evening Welcome Reception** - [Playa Des Este Resort](#)  
*Welcome! Join us for delicious, traditional Trinidadian food!*  
Doubles, Soupe, Geera Chicken, Baked Pies (Potato, Chicken, Beef, Veggie),  
Local Ice Cream, Juice / Water (Alcohol at your expense)

**AGENDA DAY 1**

**Monday, March 19**

7:30 - 8:30 am      ~ BREAKFAST in Playa Del Este Dining Hall ~

**Session I: Opening**

- 8:30 **Registration** - *Playa Del Este Conference Room*  
9:00 **Opening Remarks** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*  
9:10 **Announcements** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*
  - List of Participants, Logistics

9:20 **Introductions**  
9:30 **Welcome Address** - *Mr. Romano MacFarlane, Head, Wildlife Section, Forestry Division*

**Session II: Sea Turtle Research & Conservation in Trinidad & Tobago**

- 9:45 **History of Sea Turtle Conservation and Protection in Trinidad** - *Suzan Lakhani-Baptiste, Founding Member and Managing Director, Nature Seekers*  
10:15 **Science of Matura Turtles** - *Kyle Mitchell, Chairman, Nature Seekers*  
10:30 **Grande Rivere, Then & Now** - *Len Peters, Grande Rivere Nature Tour Guides Assoc.*

10:45 ~ **Coffee Break** ~

11:15 **History of Sea Turtle Conservation and Protection in Tobago** - *Tanya Clovis, President, Save Our Sea Turtles (SOS) Tobago*

11:30 **Community-based Conservation in Tobago** - *Laura Williams and Kafeifsha Cooper, AFEPO*

11:45 **Research on Foraging Turtles in Tobago** - *Michelle Cazabon-Mannette, Save Our Sea Turtles (SOS) Tobago*

12:00 ~ **LUNCH** in the Dining Hall ~

1:00 **Open Room - Displays and Sharing**

*Nesting Beach Atlas meetings with Adam Eckert, GIS Specialist*

### **Session III: Caribbean Island Research Updates**

1:30 **Aruba: Monitoring, Research & Telemetry Update** - *Sietske van der Wal, Turtugaruba*

1:45 **Curaçao: 'Sea Turtle Conservation Curaçao' Update** - *Sabine Berendse, Sea Turtle Conservation Curaçao*

2:00 **Curaçao: Nursing Green Turtles with FP** - *Odette Doest, Veterinarian*

2:15 **Barbados: Care of Neonatal Hatchlings: Thoughts and Techniques** - *Carla Daniel, Barbados Sea Turtle Project*

2:30 ~ **Coffee Break** ~

3:00 **Montserrat: Sea Turtle Management System** - *Alwyn Ponteen, Ministry of Agriculture, Trade and Environment*

3:15 **Anguilla: Saving Sea Turtles - Combining Community Action and Scientific Evidence to Drive Legislative Change (Part II)** - *Louise Soanes, Anguilla National Trust*

3:30 **Puerto Rico: Impacts of Hurricanes Irma and Maria on Sea Turtle Nesting** - *Carlos Diez, Department of Natural and Environmental Resources*

3:45 **USVI: Sea Turtle Conservation at St. Croix's Jack and Isaac Bay Preserve** - *Kemit-Amon Lewis, The Nature Conservancy*

4:00 **Bermuda: Turtle Project Video** - *Jennifer Gray, Bermuda Turtle Project*

4:15 **Closing Remarks and Adjourn** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

4:30 **NWA Leatherback Regional Assessment: Planning Meeting** - *Karen Eckert, Chair*  
Invited Participants with Long-term Leatherback datasets: Aruba, Costa Rica, Grenada, Guyana, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, USVI, Venezuela

6:00 ~ **DINNER** in the Dining Hall ~

7:00 **Nesting Beach Atlas: Trinidad & Tobago** - *Adam Eckert, WIDECAST*

# AGENDA DAY 2

**Tuesday, March 20**

7:30 - 8:30 am ~ BREAKFAST in the Dining Hall ~

## Session IV: Opening

8:30 Late Registration - *Playa Del Este Conference Room*

8:45 Opening Remarks, Announcements - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

## Session V: Research and Conservation in the Guianas

9:00 Introduction and Overview of the Guianas - *Michael Hiwat, WWF Guianas*

9:15 Guyana: Shell Beach Protected Area and Sea Turtle Conservation - *Sopheia Edghill, WWF Guianas*

9:30 Suriname: Research and Conservation - *Michael Hiwat, WWF Guianas*

9:45 French Guiana: Research and Conservation - *Hanneke van Lavieren, WWF Guianas*

10:00 ~ Coffee Break ~

## Session VI: Regional Initiatives and Updates

10:30 The Role of the UN Environment Programme and the Cartagena Convention in the WCR - *Sandrine Pivard, UNEP/CEP/RAC for Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife*

10:45 Establishing a WIDECAST Satellite Telemetry Database to Identify Foraging Grounds - *Linda Searle, ECOMAR*

11:00 A Wildlife Friendly™ World: Building a Global Movement - *Marissa Altmann, Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network*

11:15 Social Media Influence on Conservation & Education - *Leah Schwartzentruber, Edisto Beach State Park, USA*

11:30 Enterprise/Field Trip Session (2:00 PM) / Turtle Watch (9:00 PM)  
Logistics, Transport, What to Bring? - *Nevon Williams, Nature Seekers*

12:00 ~ LUNCH in the Dining Hall ~

1:00 Open Room - Displays and Sharing

*Nesting Beach Atlas meetings with Adam Eckert, GIS Specialist*

## Session VII: Conservation Enterprise Models in TT

1:30 Trash to Cash: Converting a Community - *Esther Vidale, Project Director, Nature Seekers*

- 1:45 **Sustainability through Conservation** - *Nevon Williams, Turtle Programme Coordinator*  
2:00 **National Sea Turtle Conservation Programme** - *Kathryn Audroing, Turtle Village Trust*

### **Session VIII: Enterprise Sessions**

- 2:30 Trash to Cash: Crafting Session (Max 20 persons)  
Salybia River Kayak Tour (Max 12 persons)  
Mermaid Pool Tour (Max 40 persons)  
Nature Trail Tour (Max 30 persons)

Explore [www.natureseekers.org/tours/](http://www.natureseekers.org/tours/) for details - come prepared (e.g., bathing suit, hiking shoes); cost is USD \$15.00 per person per tour. All tours are conducted by trained and certified Nature Seekers Tour Guides. Cost includes transportation.

- 6:00 ~ DINNER in the Dining Hall ~

### **Session IX: Turtle Watching**

- 8:00 **Matura Beach Turtle Tourism** - Guided trip to one of the largest and most visited sea turtle nesting beaches in the world. Dress comfortably! Details:  
[www.natureseekers.org/tours/turtle-watching-experience/](http://www.natureseekers.org/tours/turtle-watching-experience/)

## **AGENDA DAY 3**

**Wednesday, March 21**

- 7:30 - 8:30 am ~ BREAKFAST in the Dining Hall ~

### **Session X: Opening**

- 9:00 **Opening Remarks, Announcements** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

### **Session XI: Enterprise Sessions**

- 9:15 Trash to Cash: Crafting Session (Max 20 persons)  
Rio Seco Waterfall Tour (Max 40 persons)  
Mermaid Pool Tour (Max 40 persons)  
Nature Trail Tour (Max 30 persons)

Explore [www.natureseekers.org/tours/](http://www.natureseekers.org/tours/) for details - come prepared (e.g., bathing suit, hiking shoes); cost is USD \$15.00 per person per tour. All tours are conducted by trained and certified Nature Seekers Tour Guides. Cost includes transportation.

- 12:00 ~ LUNCH in the Dining Hall ~

**1:00 Open Room - Displays and Sharing**

*Nesting Beach Atlas meetings with Adam Eckert, GIS Specialist*

*Departure Confirmations with Karen Eckert/Nevon Williams (Nature Seekers)*

**Session XII: Conservation Enterprise Models - What Are Others Doing?**

**1:30 STCB's Merchandise Philosophy - Mabel Nava, Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire**

**1:45 Micro-enterprises: A Way to Build Bridges in Coastal Communities - Didiher Chacón, LAST Costa Rica**

**2:00 Brazil's Sea Turtles are Worth More Alive: TAMAR's Social Production Chain - Paulo Lara, Fundação Pró-TAMAR**

**2:30 ~ Coffee Break ~**

**Session XIII: Working Groups**

**3:00 Working Groups - Select Topics & Group Leaders**

**3:15 Working Group Sessions**

**4:45 Working Group Reporting**

**5:00 Testimonials from Enterprise Sessions**

**5:30 Departure Confirmations - Karen Eckert, WIDECAS Executive Director**

**6:00 Closing Remarks and Adjourn - Karen Eckert, WIDECAS Executive Director**

**6:00 ~ DINNER in the Dining Hall ~**

*We hope you enjoyed the Meeting! See you next year!*

*Many thanks to the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium for their financial support, and much gratitude to our local hosts and venue for organizing such a successful meeting!*

