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# THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Puerto Rico

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# MISSION

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

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Freediver descende mientras una gran bola de cebo lo rodea en Bonaire.

© Lorenzo Mittiga/TNC 2019 Photo Contest

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY | CARIBBEAN

Gulf of Mexico

USA

★  
THE BAHAMAS

North Atlantic Ocean



TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

CUBA

★  
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

CAYMAN ISLANDS

HAITI

★  
PUERTO RICO

★  
US VIRGIN ISLANDS

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

★  
JAMAICA

ST. KITTS & NEVIS

Caribbean Sea

DOMINICA

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# WHERE WE WORK

17 countries and territories

★ Caribbean Division Offices

SAINT LUCIA

ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES

BARBADOS

★  
GRENADA



# Strengthen local capacity to better address land-based sources of pollution by supporting ridge to reef planning for marine protected areas

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NOAA CRCP Cooperative Agreement



# Introduction

- Puerto Rico has 134 watersheds, of these the DNER has identified 54 that supply water to a river as primary, ten that supply water to a ravine as minor, and 70 that have an undefined hydrography pattern as coastal areas.
- In Puerto Rico, inland activities produce several contaminants associated with agriculture runoff, deforestation, and waste disposal that affect coral growth and the surrounding marine ecosystem.
- Every watershed has its own history, anthropogenic pressures, and legal jurisdictions.
- Strengthening local capacity to better address land-based sources of pollution is one of the ways to implement best management practices, protect corals from these effects, and understand watershed complexities.
- Strengthening local watershed management capacity is necessary. A learning exchange network is needed to organize key partners and put in place more effective management to protect coral reef ecosystems.

# Task Objective

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The objective of this task is to strengthen local capacity to better address land-based sources of pollution by:

- Establishing a learning exchange network to share effective management approaches and lessons learned across watersheds.
- Synthesize monitoring data to inform management decisions and education and outreach efforts.
- Support installation of best management practices prioritized in existing watershed management plans.

# Outcomes and Products

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## 2 years

- Learning exchange network structure developed
- Five events – Associated to PR DNER and NOAA Coral Priorities (2010)
- After each event, educational materials of the results for the general public and scientists will be created.
- Development of a website completed to gather, organize and provide access to effective watershed management approaches and lessons learned across watersheds, including synthesized local monitoring data to inform management decisions.
- At least two best management practices designed and implemented



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¡GRACIAS!



La cría de tortuga llega al océano en una playa en Cayo Largo, Cuba.

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¡APRENDE MÁS SOBRE NUESTRO TRABAJO!



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