

*The Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean (SPAW):*

# Mont Scenery National Park

- A SPAW listed site -

## Identification

**Country:** The Kingdom of the Netherlands  
**Name of the area:** Mt. Scenery National Park  
**Administrative region:** Saba, Caribbean Netherlands  
**Date of establishment:** 09/18/2018  
**Geographic location:**  
 Longitude X: -63.23889  
 Latitude Y: 17.63472

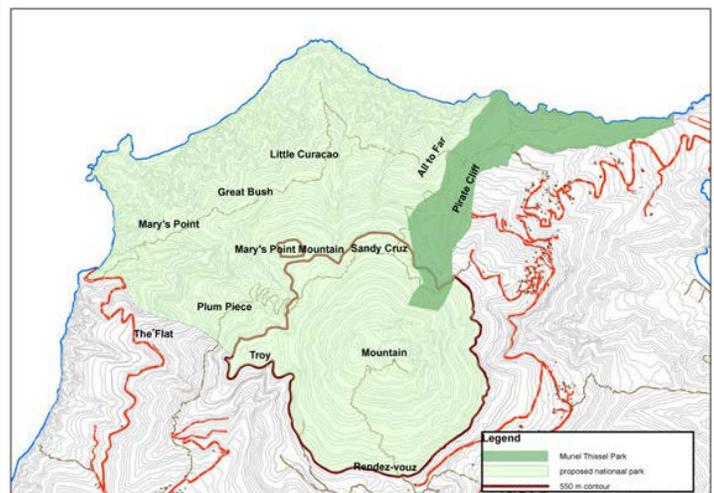
**Date of listing under SPAW:** 03 June 2019  
**Contacts:** [yoeri.devries@rijksdienstcn.com](mailto:yoeri.devries@rijksdienstcn.com)  
**Website:** [www.sabapark.org](http://www.sabapark.org)

## Introduction

The Mt. Scenery National Park comprises the northern part of Saba plus the centrally located Mt. Scenery above 550 m height, an area of approximately 25% of the total island area (see map) ranging from the shoreline to the highest top of the island. The area is predominantly wilderness and contains all six of the vegetation zones found on Saba.



*The Mont Scenery National Park. Saba.*



*The Mont Scenery National Park geographical location. Saba.*

## SPAW criteria met :

### Ecological criteria

- Representativeness
- Conservation value
- Rarity
- Naturalness
- Critical habitats
- Diversity
- Connectivity/coherence
- Resilience

### Cultural and socio-economic criteria

- Productivity
- Cultural and traditional use
- Socio-economic benefits

## Site description

### General features of the site:

Terrestrial surface under sovereignty, excluding wetlands:

4 sq. km

Wetland surface: 0 ha

Marine surface: 0 sq. km

National status of your protected area: National Park under Island Ordinance based on the National Nature Conservation Framework Act BES (Bonaire St. Eustatius and Saba).

Marine ecoregion: 64. Eastern Caribbean

### Management structure, authority:

Management falls under the responsibility of the Island Government and has been mandated to the Saba Conservation Foundation (SCF), on the basis of a management plan currently in development.

### Main fauna populations and/or those of particular importance present (resident or migratory) in the area:

The small size and isolation of Saba has led to relatively few species of fauna making a home on the island. Five bat species are the only mammals on Saba that were not introduced by humans. There is one endemic vertebrate; the Saban Anole (*Anolis sabanus*, *Saban Anole*) A number of vertebrates are endemic to the Lesser Antilles and Virgin Islands, including several species of birds, reptiles and one amphibian. Very little is known about the invertebrates living on Saba, some of which may be endemic such as the Scorpion *Oiclus purvesii sabae*.

### Birds

There are 26 species of bird that breed in the area, including the endangered Bridled Quail-dove (*Geotrygon mystacea*), with a further 36 species using the island as a migratory stop over. Of the breeding populations, 9 species or sub-species of forest dwelling bird are endemic to the Lesser Antilles and/or the Virgin Islands.

The shoreline of the Mt. Scenery National Park is home to the Caribbean's largest breeding colony of Red-Billed Tropic Birds. The steep hills and ravines in the Mt. Scenery National Park are an important site for Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*, SPAW Annex II) that nest there.

Two birds of prey that live on Saba are the Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis jamaicensis*) and The American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius caribaeum*). Saba's coastal areas including the shoreline of The Mt. Scenery Nature Park are home to a number of species of sea bird including 4 endangered species: Brown Noddy (*Anous stolidus*), Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuscata fuscata*) and Bridled Tern (*Onychoprion anaethetus*).

### Reptiles and Amphibians

The only amphibian found on Saba is Johnstone's Whistling Frog (*Eleutherodactylus johnstonei*, SPAW Annex II), however, from sound recordings a second as yet unnamed species of *Eleutherodactylus* and possibly a third species of frog appear to be present. The 10 species of reptile found on Saba include five species of lizard including the endemic Saban Anole (*Anolis sabensis*), one species of tortoise (*Powell, Henderson & Parmelee, 2005*). The Red-bellied Racer snake (*Alsophis rufiventris*), is only found on Saba and St. Eustatius.

The population of Green Iguanas (*Iguana iguana*) on Saba is distinctive and warrants designation as a distinct species or subspecies. The characteristics of the Saban population would disappear if iguana's from other areas arrived on the island.

### Other animals

A total of 86 species of invertebrate have been accounted for on Saba, including the endangered Mountain Crab (*Gecarcinus ruricola*), 14 species of snail and 70 insect species including 27 butterflies.

### Management plan:

Since the National Park Mt. Scenery was only established in September 2018, the legally mandated management plan is currently still in development and still needs adjustments based on stakeholder consultations. Only a very preliminary draft is available at this stage which is appended in Annex A here, but which is still confidential and we request reviewers of this submission not to share it with others.

The basic outline of the management plan is set out in the legislation to establish the National Park Mt. Scenery.



### Links:

UN Environment programme : [www.unenvironment.org/cep/](http://www.unenvironment.org/cep/)

SPAW-RAC : [www.car-spaw-rac.org](http://www.car-spaw-rac.org)

CaMPAM Network : <http://campam.gcfi.org/campam.php>