



Factsheet

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

Bonaire National Marine Park

- A SPAW listed site -

Identification

- Country:** Netherlands
- Name of the area:** Bonaire National Marine Park
- Administrative region:** Bonaire
- Date of establishment:** 1/1/1979
- Geographic location:**
- Longitude X: -68.280058
- Latitude Y: 12.134495
- Date of listing under SPAW:** 23 October 2012

Contacts:
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Introduction

The Bonaire National Marine Park was first established in 1979. It surrounds the island of Bonaire and includes the satellite island and the waters around Klein Bonaire. Bonaire lies in the Southern Caribbean approximately 100km (60 miles) north of Venezuela and 12' north of the equator. Bonaire is unusual in that it is a true oceanic island, separated from the South American mainland by a deep water trench. Bonaire is part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and is regarded by the European Union as an Overseas Territory. The marine park falls entirely within the territorial waters and jurisdiction of the Island of Bonaire and is protected by the Marine Environment Ordinance (A.B 1991 Nr.8). The marine park was declared a National Park by the Central Government of the Netherlands Antilles in November 1999. For issues related to World Heritage, Ramsar wetlands, threatened and endangered species, migratory species and marine pollution the Central Go-

vernment Department of Nature and the Environment (MINA) also has jurisdiction. The marine park includes 2,700 hectares of coral reef, seagrass and mangrove ecosystems and provides habitat for a diverse range of marine species including over 50 species of stony coral and more than 350 species of reef fish. Sea turtles nest on the shores of Klein Bonaire and forage in Lac, a semi enclosed seagrass and mangrove bay located on the islands windward shore. Bottlenose and Spinner dolphin as well as various species of whale can be found seasonally in the seas around Bonaire. Bonaire is regularly visited by migratory birds. Bonaire has a well deserved international reputation for excellence in the field of SCUBA diving and is routinely listed in the top five destinations for the Caribbean. The Bonaire National Marine Park consists of the waters around Bonaire from the high water mark to the 200' (60m) depth contour, the island of Klein Bonaire and its

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

Size: 27 sq. km

Terrestrial surface under sovereignty, excluding wetlands:

60 sq. km

Wetland surface: 170 ha

Marine surface: 27 sq. Km

National status of your protected area: National marine park.

Marine ecoregion: 66. Southern Caribbean

Management structure, authority

STINAPA Bonaire

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

Coral reef. See Appendix 1 Bonaire Fish Abundance Part I and II – Lac Fish Species and BNMP Species List – Bonaire coral list - pictures.

Inhabitants inside the area or in the zone of potential direct impact on the protected area:

Inside the area:

Permanent: not given

Seasonal: not given

In the zone of potential direct impact:

Permanent: 15000

Seasonal: not given

Management plan

The management plan was written to assist both staff and Board by providing a solid framework for reference, decision-making

and planning. The management plan aims to ensure continuity of management effort and allow stakeholders and other interest groups to understand and participate in the planning process (as illustrated below).

The stages in Blue indicate the consultative parts of the process (2006 meetings, radio interviews, stakeholder questionnaires), Orange represents the formal development of the management plan and those in Purple to the right provide the necessary feedback for adaptive management. Background information collection and preparation for stakeholder consultations started in 2005. Field information and stakeholder positioning meetings were held in January 2006. Formal stakeholder input into the management plan was conducted during February 2006. The management plan was submitted to the Executive Council of the Island Government for their approval.

International status and Date of designation

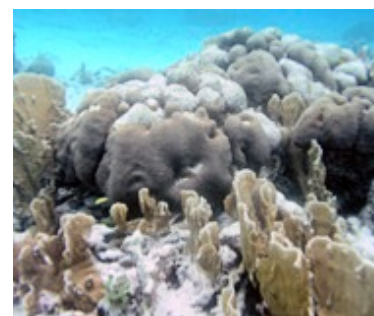
Biosphere reserve: No

Ramsar site: Yes 5/23/1980

Significant bird area: No

World heritage site (UNESCO): No

SPAW Site : 2012



Links

- PA LISTING : www.spaw-palisting.org
- CaMPAM : <http://campam.gcfi.org/campam.php>
- UNEP-CEP : www.cep.unep.org/
- SPAW-RAC : www.car-spaw-rac.org