



**WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION**

ENVIRONMENT • SUSTAINABILITY • EDUCATION

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (WCA)

The Wildlife Conservation Association (WCA) is a non-profit organization in Nosara, Costa Rica, dedicated to promoting wildlife conservation through scientific research, community engagement, and immersive educational experiences that inspire sustainable living.

We believe that successful conservation is dependent on us making the change to a sustainable lifestyle, where a harmonious balance of social, environmental, and economic interests exists.

Our vision is to be a leading example locally and internationally in wildlife conservation through our research, sustainability, and educational programs. Our mission is a planet in balance.

WCA ORGANIZATIONAL TIMELINE

2017

INITIAL STEPS

- Recruit key team members
- Develop case statement and executive summary
- Establish collaborations with local and regional organizations
- Develop operational plan and budget
- Identify fiscal sponsors

2018

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- Create organization
- Establish partnerships
- Develop marketing materials
- Develop strategic plan and business plan

2019

BUILDING SUPPORT

- Develop and implement programs
- Develop marketing materials and strategy
- Refine budgets for programs
- Open bank accounts

2020 +

GROWING ORGANIZATION

- Maintain all legal and financial aspects in order
- Finalize marketing strategy and branding
- Implement existing programs
- Continuously develop and implement new programs
- Continuously refine budgets for programs, fundraising, and building
- Begin operation of the Center

WCA ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

ADVISORY BOARD

Government Relations
Emel Rodríguez
Yeimy Cedeño

Community Engagement
Ethel Araya
Jennifer Simmons

Education
Jessica Sheffield
Michelle Libby

Fundraising
Steve Mack
Jennifer Thurman

Organizational Development & Change Management
Gabriel Coronado
Nice Alterman

Budget and Finance
Michel Bézy

Real Estate & Development
Nathaniel Jackson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, **Vanessa Bézy**
Vice President, **Roberto Quirós**
Treasurer, **Steve Mack**
Secretary, **Gerardo Brenes**



Vanessa Bézy
Executive Director*



Vanessa Bézy
Scientific Director



Carlos Clemente
Finance & Operations Director*



Francheska Guerrero
Marketing Director



Carlos Clemente
Research Coordinator



Julie Adele
Content Manager & Digital Strategist



Giuseppe Terella
Digital Media Manager

VOLUNTEERS

Graphic Design

Photography & Videography

Education Specialists

Copywriting

Community Members

* Ad interim roles

**PROGRAM
AREAS**

**WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION**

RESEARCH

**SUSTAINABLE
TOURISM**

EDUCATION

**COMMUNITY
OUTREACH**

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

NEW WEBSITE COMING JANUARY 2021!



[PROGRAMS](#) | [TOURS](#) | [BOOK A TOUR](#) | [THE CENTER](#) | [EDUCATION](#) | [ABOUT](#) | [CONTACT](#)  [DONATE](#)



**WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION**

ENVIRONMENT • SUSTAINABILITY • EDUCATION



Research Program

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

About

Reports of illness after swimming in foamy brown water at the beaches of Nosara have caused concern amongst residents and visitors. Currently, the Ecological Blue Flag program conducts water quality testing twice a year. This project aims to supplement the efforts of this important program to inform safe beach going year-round, increase awareness, and take action to improve water quality.

Methodology

We collect samples at 3 locations weekly, including two highly used areas of Playa Guiones and a nearby rivermouth representing the entire watershed.

Samples are analyzed in the water quality lab established at Playa Guiones, using EPA approved equipment and methods. Water quality results are posted on **Swim Guide** and all of our social media platforms.

TESTING FOR: **Fecal coliform bacteria**

Water samples containing > 240 colonies per 100 ml fail to meet water quality standards

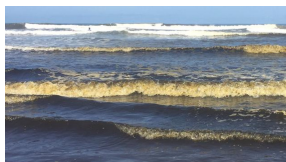


2020 Results & Impact



LAB SET-UP

CLICK TO WATCH!



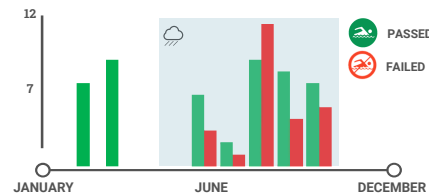
PROJECT LAUNCH

24

WEEKS OF MONITORING

73

SAMPLES ANALYZED

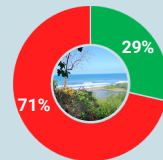


JANUARY JUNE DECEMBER

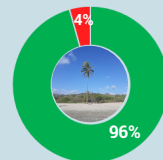
100% OF FAILED TESTS SO FAR HAVE BEEN REGISTERED DURING RAINY SEASON

41% OF SAMPLES FROM THE RAINY SEASON HAVE FAILED TO MEET WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

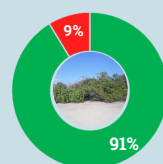
RIO NOSARA RIVERMOUTH



PALM TREE (GUIONES)



BAKER'S BEACH (GUIONES)



2021 Goals

- Complete a full-year of operation
- Strengthen collaborations with local institutions
- Launch ocean-friendly business and home campaign
- Work with local medical services to report and increase prevention of related health issues
- Study feasibility of adding Enterococcus to regular operations in 2022 (\$2,500 per year)

Annual Budget: \$12,000

CLICK TO INTERACT!



[YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#)



[VIRTUAL TOUR](#)

WATER QUALITY MONITORING



**RIO NOSARA RIVERMOUTH
FAILED TO MEET WATER
QUALITY STANDARDS**

Latest sample taken: August 12th, 2020 at 3:42 PM
Results posted to Swim Guide: August 13th, 2020 at 3:00 PM



Research Program

BIODIVERSITY MONITORING

About

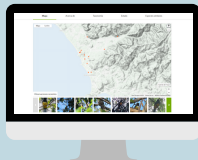
This project is a biodiversity study of the Ostional National Wildlife Refuge and surrounding buffer zone in Guanacaste, Costa Rica.

Our goal is to create an interactive freely accessible map with biodiversity and development data to support policy and regulations for wildlife conservation and sustainable development. By engaging the community as citizen scientists, we hope to increase awareness about biodiversity and promote sustainable land-use practices.

Methodology

Citizen scientists from the community collect geo-referenced wildlife observations on the iNaturalist app, which generate validated data.

Additionally, we conduct weekly surveys on trails and check camera traps monthly for observations of wildlife. A live-updated biodiversity map of the area is available on our iNaturalist project page.



2020 Results & Impact



PROJECT PAGE SET-UP

Results show increase to date vs before the set-up



2,477 ↑140%
OBSERVATIONS

813 ↑105%
SPECIES

185 ↑76%
OBSERVERS



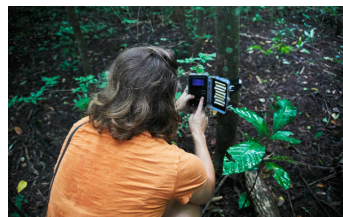
2 CAMERA TRAPS INSTALLED

In NCA Parklands to monitor terrestrial mammals



GRANT SUBMITTED

iNaturalist events (Total Budget of \$2,000)



TOP 3 SPECIES SEEN



HOWLER MONKEY
(*Allouatta palliata*)



BLACK IGUANA
(*Ctenosaura similis*)



WHITE-NOSED COATI
(*Nasua Narica*)



2021 Goals

- Create the first version of the interactive web-based map
- Increase the number of community members submitting observations through educational events and videos
- Educate residents on sustainable land-use practices through blog & social media posts
- Establish partnerships with hotels and businesses

Annual Budget: \$12,000

CLICK TO SEE OUR
PROJECT PAGE &
GET THE APP!



BIODIVERSITY MONITORING

Nosara Biodiversity Project Page on iNaturalist

iNaturalist Search [] Explore Your Observations Community Identify More

Nosara Biodiversity Project

About Members 9

The Nosara Biodiversity Project is a large-scale biodiversity study of the Ostional National Wildlife Refuge and surrounding buffer zone in Guanacaste, Costa Rica. We are promoting citizen science to collect biodiversity data that can be incorporated into the study, which will result in the creation of an interactive freely Read More >

[Your Membership](#) [Edit Project](#) [Project Journal](#)

Overview **2,480** OBSERVATIONS **813** SPECIES **541** IDENTIFIERS **186** OBSERVERS [Stats](#)

Recent Observations [View All](#)

- RG** **Black Vulture** *Coragyps atratus* 5 2y
- Genus *Trypoxylon*** 1 2d
- Spider Flower** *Cleome houltiana* 4d
- RG** **Virginia Opossum** *Didelphis virginiana* 2 5d

Most Observations

heinerziegler	435
robertoquiris	288
laurarefugeforwildlife	216
loarie	115
vannessabeyz	92
a-j	84

[View All](#) [View Yours](#)

Most Species

heinerziegler	202
robertoquiris	138
laurarefugeforwildlife	88
denniswross	60
loarie	51
dmkidwell	46

[View All](#) [View Yours](#)

Most Observed Species

Mono Congo	79
Black Spiny-tailed Iguana	57
Pizote	40
Turquoise-browed Motmot	26
Black Vulture	26
Green Iguana	24

[View All](#) [View Yours](#)

Project Requirements [Stats](#) [Journal](#)

Observations in this project must meet the following criteria:

- Taxa** All taxa
- Location** Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre Ostional, Sector Terrestre y Zona de Amortiguamiento, Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre Ostional, Sector Marino, GU, CR
- Users** Any
- Projects** Any
- Quality Grade** Research Grade, Needs ID, Casual
- Media Type** Any
- Date** Any
- Establishment** Any

2,480 Observations

- Research Grade
- Needs ID
- Casual

March 31, 2020 - 1:12 PM
 Bienvido/Welcome to the Nosara Biodiversity Project page!
 (ESP abajo)

The Wildlife Conservation Association is excited to announce a partnership with the Nosara Civic Association...

[View All](#)

Map of Observations

Recent Observations



Research Program

SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION

About

Sea turtles nest at Playa Guiones and Pelada throughout the year. However, the Refuge has limited resources for monitoring outside Playa Ostional. This project aims to provide support to monitor sea turtles and mitigate threats at these other beaches.

Additional research is also required to increase our understanding of sea turtle behavior so we can apply this knowledge to increase awareness and improve conservation management.

Methodology

We conduct weekly monitoring surveys for sea turtle activity at Playa Guiones and Pelada and study sea turtle behavior using TurtleCams and underwater drones.

We are also collaborating on a study to train local fisherman to monitor hawksbill sea turtles.



2020 Results & Impact



OPERATION SUSPENDED TEMPORARILY
Underwater drone stopped working after first test



NEW RESEARCH COLLABORATION
Training local fisherman to monitor hawksbill turtles



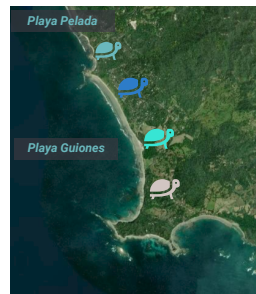
GRANT SUBMITTED
Collaboration with CREMA (Total budget of \$25,000)



Results (2015-2019)

242 OBSERVATIONS **91** NESTS

- Pelada (17%)
- North Guiones (44%)
- Central Guiones (30%)
- South Guiones (9%)



MOST COMMON THREATS TO SEA TURTLES



Illegal take (40%)



Depredation by domestic animals



Motorized Vehicles on the Beach



2021 Goals

- Fix or replace the underwater drone
- Full-year of operation of underwater research
- Implementation of new research project:
Training local fisherman to monitor hawksbill turtles in collaboration with CREMA
- Increase community outreach and volunteer base for beach monitoring surveys

Annual Budget: \$9,000



Research Program

MARINE BIODIVERSITY MONITORING

About

Our marine protected area contains many ecologically and economically important species. However, rising temperatures and water pollution are destroying these important ecosystem engineers.

In collaboration with Allen Coral Atlas, we are mapping the seafloor at the Refuge. Additionally, we are conducting surveys to monitor marine biodiversity and work with local fishing communities to learn more about this important natural resource and how we can protect it.

Methodology



We have developed methodology for conducting marine surveys in line with Costa Rican and international standards.



We will conduct snorkel and dive surveys to photograph the seafloor and submit these data for mapping. Additionally, we will work with fishing communities to collect observations in addition to video footage of our expeditions.



2020 Results & Impact



NEW RESEARCH COLLABORATION

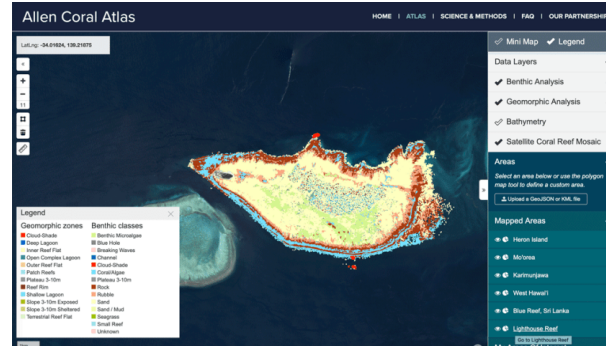
Seafloor mapping of the Ostial National Wildlife Refuge marine protected area

ALLEN CORAL ATLAS



FUNDING SECURED

Our partner will provide equipment and cover expenses for seafloor mapping



2021 Goals

- Conduct research boat expeditions and dive surveys to get data from reefs and seafloor in the marine protected area
- Work with Allen Coral Atlas to generate a coral reef and seafloor map database
- Establish baseline marine biodiversity data with video and citizen science observations

Annual Budget: \$12,000

CLICK TO
EXPLORE REEFS
AROUND THE WORLD!





Education Program

VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES

About

In light of demand for virtual learning and digital accessibility, we are creating interactive and engaging materials available for everyone to experience from their homes.

We use innovative methods and cutting-edge technology to share our research and day-to-day activities and inspire others to get involved in conservation and sustainable initiatives.

Methodology

In collaboration with five other National Geographic Explorers and non-profit organizations in Latin America, we founded the Virtual Field School and offer courses in English and Spanish for life-learners and university students.

We also develop and implement live stream and online educational content for children, families, and educators through our social platforms.



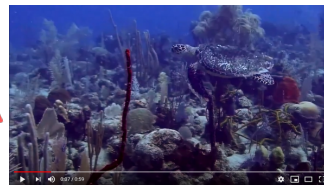
2020 Results & Impact



VIRTUAL FIELD SCHOOL LAUNCH

CLICK TO WATCH!

16-week certificate course on conservation, development and its interaction



FREE ONLINE EDUCATIONAL TOOLS

30-minute to 1-hour long educational activities about science and technology

©2020 CGS

Sea Turtle Science Series

Join National Geographic Explorer Dr. Vanessa Beaz to learn all about sea turtles in this series!

Empower a tabstop



1 Meet Dr. Vanessa Beaz



2 A Sea Turtle's Life



3 The Sea Turtle Ambassadors



4 Map of the world showing migration routes



5 Sea Turtle Research



6 Threats to Sea Turtles



GRANT SUBMITTED

Collaboration with Virtual Field School Partners

(Total Budget of \$25,000)



2021 Goals

- Six courses and 80+ students
- Eighteen live stream events
- All content available in English & Spanish



38 STUDENTS



3 COURSES



12 LIVE STREAM EVENTS

Annual Budget: \$20,000

CLICK TO INTERACT!



STORYMAP



VIDEO CONTENT

VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Collection Of Photography, Videography, and 360° Content



VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES

CERTIFICATE COURSE

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE IN LATIN AMERICA



Interactive seminars and virtual field trips led by experts whose work was funded by National Geographic Society

Ashli Akins, Edoardo Antúnez, Daniel Arauz Naranjo,
Vanessa Bézy, and Rebecca Smith

Get virtual work experience with partnering NGOs from across Latin America

Bay Islands Conservation Association (Honduras),
Fundación Para La Tierra (Paraguay), Mosqoy (Peru),
Rescue Center for Endangered Marine Species (Costa Rica), and
Wildlife Conservation Association (Costa Rica)

UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS, FALL 2020

Conservation, Culture, and Environmental Change

A Virtual Field School across Latin America supporting local communities



Course Details

Semester: FALL 2020 (3 credits)

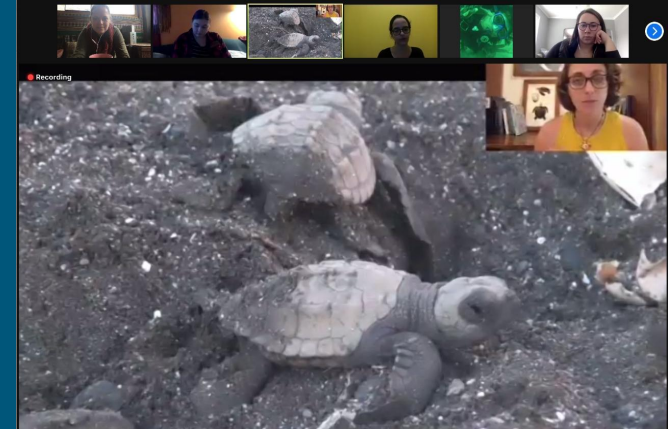
Dates: August 24 – December 10, 2020 (15 weeks)

Taught through the University of Memphis (UM Global). Cross-listed as upper-level undergraduate (4000-level) and graduate (6000-level) course.

Possibility to receive transfer credit for other universities.

ENROLL NOW AT
[MEMPHIS.EDU/ABROAD!](https://www.memphis.edu/abroad/)

VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES



VIRTUAL LEARNING RESOURCES

Sea Turtle Science Series of six
freely-accessible lesson plans,
activities, and worksheets and
live stream Q&A events in
English & Spanish

COLLECTION

Sea Turtle Science Series

Join National Geographic Explorer Dr. Vanessa Bézy to learn all about sea turtles in this educational series!

Get started



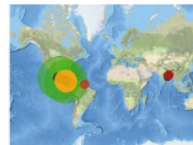
1 Meet Dr. Vanessa Bézy



2 A Sea Turtle's Life



3 The Sea Turtle Arribada



4 Map: olive ridley arribada sites



5 Sea Turtle Research



6 Threats to Sea Turtles

COLLECTION

Serie sobre la ciencia de las tortugas marinas

¡Los invitamos a participar en esta serie educativa de la Dra. Vanessa Bézy, exploradora de National Geographic, para aprender todo sobre las tortugas marinas!



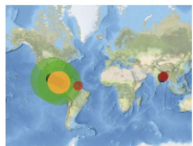
1 Conozca a la Dra. Vanessa Bézy



2 La vida de la tortuga marina



3 La arribada de las tortugas marinas



4 Mapa: lugares de la arribada de la tortuga lora



5 Investigando a la tortuga marina



6 Amenazas a las tortugas marinas

VIRTUAL LEARNING EVENTS

Science & Technology Series of
seven live stream Q&A events

Invited speaker

- National Geographic Explorer Classroom
- Fundación Mar y Ciencia Podcast
- Tiny Desk Adventures with Oceanswell
- Florida Atlantic University
- Kimball Electronics



WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION



SCIENCE TECH SERIES
with Dr. Vanessa Bezy



ALL EVENTS 12 PM CST / 2 PM EST

iNaturalist App	April 11
Submarine drone	April 18
Marine Debris Tracker App	April 25
TurtleCam	May 5
Water Quality Monitoring	May 7
Drone	May 12
eBird App	May 14



Vanessa Bézy ambassador
Wildlife Conservation Association

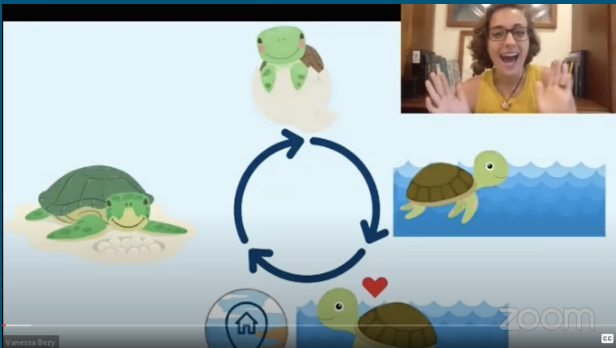
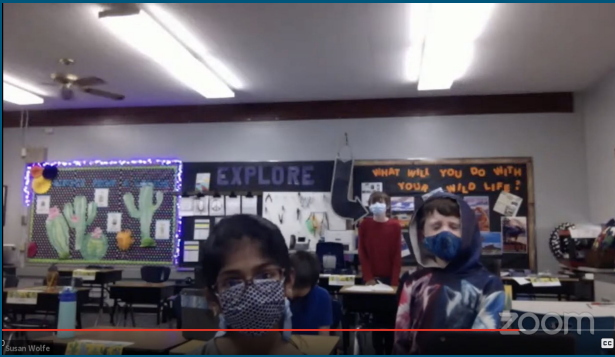
"Luchando por la conservación de las tortugas marinas"

VIRTUAL LEARNING EVENTS



The Sea Turtle Arribada

#TinyDeskAdventures with Vanessa Bézy
Scientific Director - Wildlife Conservation Association Costa Rica



Tiny Desk Adventure live chat and Q&A
between
Dr Asha de Vos and Dr. Vanessa Bézy
Scientific Director, Wildlife Conservation Association of Costa Rica



Education Program

FIELD EXPERIENCES



About

We provide immersive educational experiences to inspire change makers within our community and visitors. We offer hands-on field activities for the general public to engage in our research activities and learn about their natural surroundings.

We also provide customized packages through memberships and community partnerships and subsidize the cost of programs to make these accessible to local and underprivileged communities.



Methodology

We have developed a curriculum for the Nosara Explorer Academy, an immersive field course for people of all ages and backgrounds to engage in our day to day activities.

Community members and partners can choose a project to sponsor and participate in one or several hands-on activities with us.



2020 Results & Impact



NOSARA EXPLORER ACADEMY CURRICULUM & COURSE DEVELOPMENT



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



PLASTIC POLLUTION



SEA TURTLES



CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEMS



WATER QUALITY



NEW COURSE OFFERING

5

LESSON PLANS



VARIOUS OPTIONS FOR PROGRAM DURATION



2021 Goals

- All content available in Spanish and English
- Launch Nosara Explorer Academy
- One 4-week course (10 students)
- Six field experiences (60 students)
- Establish two Community Partnerships

Costs covered by operation

CLICK TO INTERACT!



VIDEO CONTENT

FIELD EXPERIENCES

Development of tailor-made course curriculum, lesson plans, activities, worksheets, and presentations for **Nosara Explorer Academy**



Sea Turtle
Biology
and
Conservation

Day 1	
Topic	Science and Technology
Corresponding Slideshow	Science and Technology Presentation
NGSS Focus Standard	<p>2-PS1-2: Analyze data obtained from testing different materials to determine which materials have the properties that are best suited for an intended purpose.</p> <p>Influence of Engineering, Technology, and Science, on Society and the Natural World</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every human-made product is designed by applying some knowledge of the natural world and is built using materials derived from the natural world.
Costa Rica Science Curriculum Related Theme	<p>Class 3: Fourth Year of Basic General Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable use of energy and materials, for the preservation and protection of the planet's resources. <input type="checkbox"/> Recognize some kinds of energy that are manifested in the natural environment and their application in daily life.
Objective(s)	The students will be able to conduct research on a sea turtle species of their choosing by using technology and filling out a worksheet with the information they find.
Vocabulary Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science Technology Research Experiment Data Environmental Science

Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation Conservation Poster Activity - Checklist

- Student / group clearly:
 - Picks a specific species of sea turtle **OR**
 - Completes project using "general sea turtle" information
- Student / group includes at least 3 facts about sea turtles
 - Fact 1: _____
 - Fact 2: _____
 - Fact 3: _____
- Student / group includes at least 3 threats / dangers to sea turtles
 - Danger 1: _____
 - Danger 2: _____
 - Danger 3: _____
- Student / group proposes a solution to each threat / danger listed
 - Solution 1: _____
 - Solution 2: _____
 - Solution 3: _____
- Student / group:
 - Uses pictures (on computer - digital)
 - Uses color (drawings - paper)
 - Includes name or group names



Education Program

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



About

We offer a training program for volunteers to participate in and learn from our day-to-day activities. We accept remote and in-person volunteers for a minimum time commitment of one month.



Methodology

We have developed an orientation and training program to ensure we align volunteer skills with our organization's needs.

Volunteers are assigned a specific project in addition to assisting with other day-to-day tasks of the organization. Final deliverables are submitted at the end of the agreed upon time commitment.



2020 Results & Impact



Developed an ocean-friendly guide and certification program for homes and businesses in Nosara



Developed a course curriculum and lesson plans



Researched and developed digital educational content



2021 Goals

- Increase number of volunteers (15+)
- Increase number of volunteer hours (500+)

7

VOLUNTEERS

280

HOURS



Sustainable Tourism Program

THOUSANDS OF TURTLES TOURS



About

Born from our desire to bring the arribada experience to everyone in a sustainable manner, this initiative is a collaboration with the Ostional National Wildlife Refuge and local guides.

Our goal is to improve the visitor experience and minimize the impact of tourism on sea turtles, all the while ensuring revenue generated is reinvested in conservation and the community.



Methodology

We regularly hold meetings and workshops with the Refuge and local guides to discuss sea turtle tourism.

We have developed a high-value tourism package for tourists staying in Nosara that includes transportation, a talk with an expert, and guided tour to see the sea turtle arribada. We offer logistical support for the management of tourism.



2020 Results & Impact



PROJECT
LAUNCH

7

TOURS

40

VISITORS

REVENUE

\$2,679

EXPENSE

\$2,273

Tickets Sale (\$2,643; 99%)

Merchandise (\$36; 1%)

Supplies (\$897; 39%)

Outsourced transportation (\$450; 20%)

Guides Fees (\$380; 17%)

Taxes (\$346; 15%)

Contribution to Refuge (\$200; 9%)

3

MONTHS OF
OPERATION

\$406

PROFIT TO BE
RE-INVESTED IN
THE PROGRAM

\$200

CONTRIBUTION
TO REFUGE



2021 Goals

- Re-evaluate business model after Covid-measures and implement new offering by June 1st
- Continue to provide logistical support to the Refuge
- Continue to develop virtual tour content

Costs covered by operation

CLICK TO INTERACT!



SUSTAINABLE TOURISM





Sustainable Development Program

OSTIONAL-NOSARA CAMPUS

About

The initiative to establish the Ostional-Nosara Sustainability Campus is the result of a collaboration between the WCA, the Nosara Civic Association and the Ostional National Wildlife Refuge.

Our goal is to create an integrated system of spaces that help to make the refuge's natural capital profitable to promote the construction of a resilient community in balance with nature.

Methodology

We meet bi-monthly with the Nosara Civic Association and the Refuge Administration to continue developing the Master Concept and Business Plan.

We are also continuously networking to identify and establish sources of funding.

2020 Results & Impact

- POLITICAL LEVERAGE**
Established contact with Costa Rican Ministry of Environment and Municipality of Nicoya and Santa Cruz
- FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**
Established contact with Blue Finance and other potential investors
- SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DESTINATION CERTIFICATION**
Feasibility analysis being conducted by Grupo RBA
- SUSTAINABLE TINY MODEL HOME**
Crowdfunding campaign for a converted, off-the-grid bus to be launched in collaboration with MicroMacro Costa Rica
- GRANT SUBMITTED**
Collaboration with VroomMate to produce a documentary film
- PROSPECTS FOR A LAND DONATION**
Proposals submitted to land-owners

2021 Goals

- Refine business plan
- Establish capital investments
- Grow donor base
- Develop initiative for a Land Trust

Project Budget: \$10M approx.



 **CLICK TO INTERACT!**

-  Master Concept Presentation
-  Logical Framework
-  Refined Business Plan

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Letter to the Municipality of Nicoya in support of Construction Regulations

1 Octubre 2020

ATT:

Carlos Armando Martínez, Alcalde de Nicoya
Concejo Municipal
Municipalidad de Nicoya

A quien le interese:

Como científicos y organizaciones preocupadas por la conservación de la vida silvestre, los espacios verdes y los hábitats naturales, escribimos para expresar **nuestro apoyo al "Reglamento para la construcción en la zona de amortiguamiento del Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre Ostional"**.

Este reglamento es una herramienta esencial para proteger el Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre Ostional, un sitio importante a nivel mundial para la protección de la tortuga lora (*Lepidochelys olivacea*), una especie que figura en la Lista Roja de la UICN como vulnerable a la extinción. Ostional es un hábitat reproductivo importante para la tortuga lora (Valverde et al., 2012) y uno de los pocos lugares en el mundo donde ocurren eventos de anidación masiva de tortugas marinas (también conocidos como arribadas; Bernardo & Plotkin, 2017). Ostional es único debido a la alta densidad de tortugas y la frecuencia de arribadas que ocurren en este sitio (Valverde et al., 2012; Bézy, 2019). La tortuga baula (*Dermodochelys coriacea*) y la tortuga negra (*Chelonia mydas agassizii*) en peligro de extinción también anidan en las playas del Refugio (Chacón, 2004), aunque estas poblaciones han experimentado una disminución en los últimos años. Además de las tortugas marinas, el Refugio Ostional protege 510 hectáreas de hábitat terrestre y 8.054 hectáreas de hábitat marino que contienen una diversidad de flora y fauna. El Refugio incluye importantes hábitats intermareales rocosos y manglares que cumplen funciones importantes para la conservación de la biodiversidad. Este reglamento cumple con esta regulación y protege el Refugio y



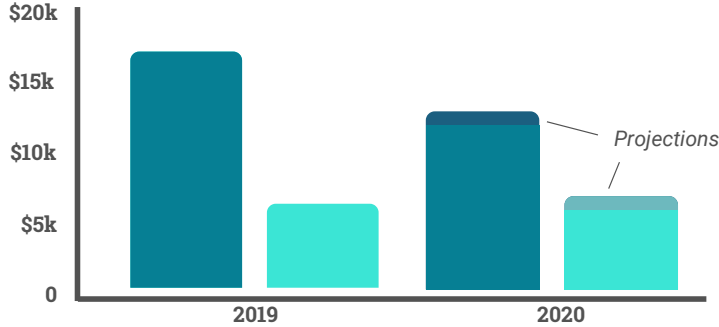
Therefore, we, the undersigned 60 scientists and environmentalist leaders and 16 organizations, representing 16 countries in the 5 continents, express our support for the Municipality of Nicoya's efforts to regulate construction in the buffer zone of the Ostional National Wildlife Refuge as a critical action to protect sea turtles, wildlife, and the communities inhabiting the Refuge and surrounding area. We urge the Contentious Administrative Court and Judicial Power of Costa Rica to support this initiative to back the Municipality of Nicoya.



2020 Financial Summary

As of October 31st

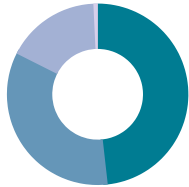
GROSS INCOME
\$12,442
EXPENSE
\$5,863



Projected through December 31st

GROSS INCOME
\$13,442
EXPENSE
\$6,873
GROSS PROFIT
\$6,569
ACCOUNT BALANCE
\$8,859

SOURCES OF INCOME



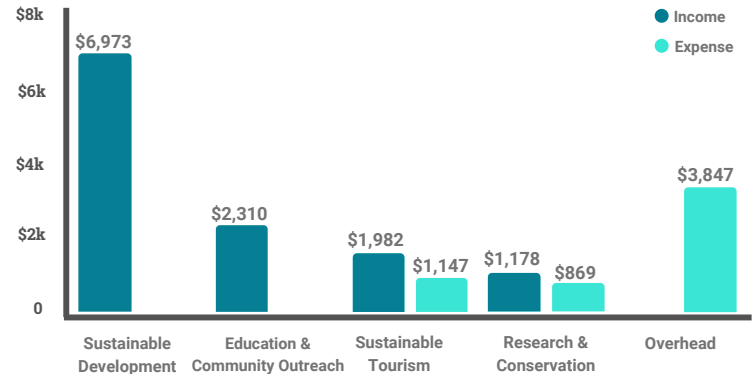
- Grants & Matching Funds (\$6,000; 48%)
- Private Donors (\$2,093; 17%)
- Programming Activities (\$4,256; 34%)
- Merchandise (\$94; 1%)

EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION



- Professional Services (\$4,355; 63%)
- Permits & Fees (\$1,062; 15%)
- Supplies (\$1,257; 18%)
- Contribution to Refuge (\$200; 3%)

INCOME VS EXPENSE BY PROGRAM



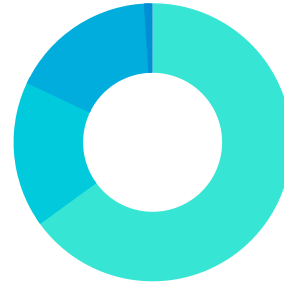
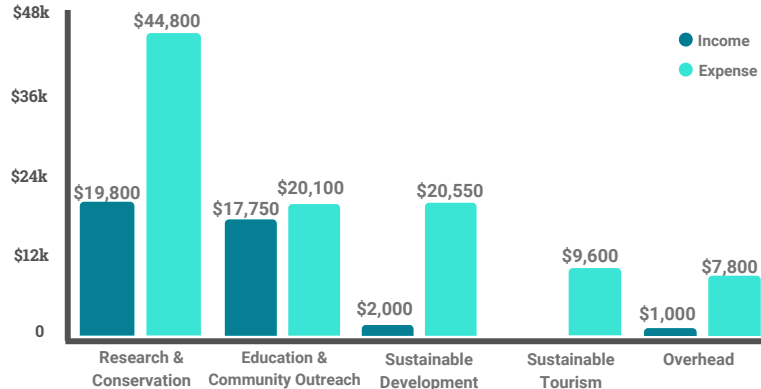


2021 Budget

Last year's operation was made possible thanks to our relentless team, most of whom donated their time to support the WCA's mission and vision.

As a non-profit organization, it is our responsibility to use our funding strategically to achieve the greatest impact while ensuring financial sustainability to achieve the greatest impact while ensuring financial sustainability. Therefore, salaries will be included in the operational cost for next year and the final implementation and reach of our programming will be prioritized according to available funding.

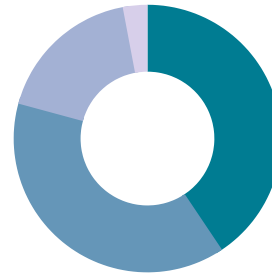
INCOME VS EXPENSE BY PROGRAM



\$100,000

OPERATIONAL COST

- **Staff (\$66,000; 65%)** includes full-time salaries for: Scientific Director, Research Assistant, Finance Director and Digital Marketing Strategist
- **Professional Services ((\$16,500; 17%)** includes legal, accounting, media production and fundraising advisory services
- **Supplies (\$16,500; 17%)** includes research and office supplies and online marketing tools
- **Permits & Fees (\$1,000; 1%)**



\$40,000

PROJECTED GROSS INCOME

- **Grants (\$16,000; 41%)** includes 3 proposals submitted with National Geographic Society and a partnership with Allen Coral Atlas
- **Programming Activities ((\$15,500; 39%)** includes income from our education program and research sponsorships with hotels
- **Private Donors (\$7,000; 17%)** includes small donations from individual contributors
- **Merchandise (\$1,000; 3%)**

THANK YOU

Our work would not have been possible without the support of the following people and organizations, who have contributed \$23,000+ in donations, grants, in-kind or logistical support to our programs to date.

Adam Weiss
Alex Rose
Alfred Rocha
Alya Bolowich
Amanda Huculak
Andrew Davies
Anna Fernandez
Anne-Claire Herr
Asha de Vos
Beverly Harner
Bill Thomas
Blue Ring Inc.
Brad Nahill
Brian Sells
Broc Glendinning
Bruce Bornstein
Carlina Picardo
Carlos Clemente Fernández
Caroline Alonzo

Carolyn Whitfield
Cassie Yellin
Catalina Velasco
Cathy Wells
Chris Chichirella
Christine Chang
Cinthya Berrocal
Corri Ditch
Corrie Safris
Diana Bell
Donna Providenti
Duncan Irschick
Earle Lawrence
Elise Muffitt
Eliza Hicks
Emel Rodriguez
Emily Arnold
Ernesto Ocampo

Ethel Araya
Francisco Jimenez
Franny Suarez
Gabriel Coronado
Gary Edwards
Gerardo Brenes
Hannah Russin
Hector Salazar
Jake Bryan
Jane Fryer
Jeanette Wyneken
Jennifer Beavis
Jennifer Simmons
Jennifer Thurman
Jeremy Goldberg
Jerry & Merry Cavanaugh
Jessica Sheffield
Joe Culbertson
Julianne Koval Tieman

Katherine Terrell
Keri Brondo
Kirk Iversen
Kristopher Van Stralen
Lani Hummel
Mackenzie Watten
Maia Dery
Margaret Johnson
Maria Milagros Rodriguez
Melissa Scheerer
Michael Wolfe
Michel Bézy
Michel Viau
Michelle Libby
Moni López
Nathan Jackson
Nice Alterman
Nicolas Arnao

Rebekah Smiley
Rob Rosenthal
Robert Edgeworth
Roberto Quiros
Sarah Cundill
Sarah Hawkins
Scott Huseby
Scott Robinson
Scott Saalman
Shana Kesner
Sheryl Barnes
Steve Mack
Tiffany Williams
Tina Brown
Virginia Wheaton
Vivek Patel
Wes Light
Yeimy Cedeno

