

Project Update: July 2013

Nesting sea turtle monitoring-tagging

In the period between March and June 15th 2013 we recorded 110 nesting activities of leatherback and hawksbill turtles on the monitored beaches (night and morning patrols).

In December 2012, our local guide Emmanuel Bethel also performed early morning patrols in Petit Carenage beach, monitoring for late hawksbill nests and eventually erasing turtle tracks as anti-poaching strategy but this year we did not find any late nests in December.

Trained guide Solomon Stafford and Emmanuel and Camilla Bethel started the Kido Foundation 2013 Sea Turtle Nesting Monitoring season by patrolling Petit Carenage Beach and Anse La Roche beach from March 1st 2013 before dawn every morning. The full night patrols began in the middle of March. They worked with overseas volunteers to monitor and protect these two critically endangered species of turtles nesting in the High North proposed National Park beaches of Carriacou. Sparrow bay beach, adjacent to High North Park was also monitored as an active nesting ground of mainly hawksbill turtles.



Solomon Stafford with a post-nesting leatherback - Solomon Stafford with volunteer Spring with in Petit Carenage beach a post-nesting hawksbill in Petit Carenage

Youth Eco-Club activities and presentations

Kido Foundation re-launched the 2013 Kids with Cameras programme (already successfully implemented in 2012) on April 12th 2013 at the Multipurpose Centre in Hillsborough, Carriacou, with the new group of participants (age 9-11).

Davon Baker, photographer and IT Manager with the Ministry of Carriacou and Petite Martinique Affairs, assisted with photography/video technical classes.

Dario Sandrini, co-founder, director and president of Kido Foundation, discussed with the group key aspects of wildlife and ecosystem conservation in Carriacou (sea turtles, coral beaches, mangroves, reefs, sea grass beds) and how to showcase environmental issues and the beauty of the natural environment and wildlife, through photography and filming.



Davon Baker teaching the art of photographing nature to the first group of KWC



Dario Sandrini with the group of KWC introduces environmental and wildlife conservation

With this new KWC group we did 6 field trips of nature photography throughout the island:



High North Park – April 13th 2013



Anse La Roche – May 5th 2013



Island bus tour – May 12th 2013: land turtles and relocation of a coconut shoot from eroding Tibeau



Hillsborough, Botanical Gardens – May 18th 2013

Paradise beach (by KwC Kady) – May 20th 2013



Petit Carenage mangroves – May 26th 2013: planting red mangrove sapling in the restoration zone (left) and KwC Anthony showing two red mangrove propagules damaged by crabs he found

We plan to run one or two more KwC groups (14-16 kids each group) before the end of the year and to re-group the most interested and gifted Kids with Cameras as an Eco Club, to take part in ongoing environmental conservation activities on the island.



The photo editing sessions were carried out at the Carriacou Multipurpose Centre computer lab in Hillsborough.

Dr. Marina Fastigi, co-founder, director and treasurer of Kido Foundation and local volunteer Antonia Peters assist the new group of KwC

The Kids with Cameras Carriacou Facebook page is gradually updated to highlight the achievements of Kids with Cameras in photography and environmental awareness.