

Project Update: May 2011

The first field survey is to be done from June 23rd to July 11th 2011. The field survey will target specific sites and areas of Antigua and Barbuda, and will also focus on rare species of ferns, species not observed in Antigua for the last 20 to 30 years or more, on the specific relationships of ferns and certain habitat types and plant community associations, human activities and threats to the species and on conservation issues and challenges. The field visit is also an opportunity to engage stakeholders on issues of ferns, conservation and potential management options. I plan on visiting with key members of the EAG's plant conservation project, the Environment and Forestry Divisions and publicising this grant and the value of ferns.

I have asked for volunteer field assistance and expect to visit many areas with EAG members and with staff of the Forestry Division. Photos of species and field visits will be taken and catalogued and these will be shared with Rufford Small Grants Foundation, EAG and other stakeholders.