



**PAYNE'S CREEK NATIONAL PARK
ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

PREPARED BY:

**TOLEDO INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND
ENVIRONMENT (TIDE)**

SUBMITTED TO:

BELIZE FOREST DEPARTMENT

Table of Contents

Words from the Manager	3
About TIDE	4
About PCNP	4
Biological Characteristics	6
Park Use	8
Park’s Strategic Plan & Goals	8
Park Rules & Regulations	8
PCNP Staff	8
PCNP Accomplishments 2007	9
Patrol & Surveillance	9
Maintenance (Equipment & Lawn)	9
Infrastructure Development	10
Boundaries Demarcation	10
Pine Savannah Management Plan Development	10
Research	11
Archaeological Research	12
Yellow-headed Parrot Monitoring	11
Indian Hill Lagoon Project	12
Goliath grouper Research with WCS	12
Visitors to PCNP	12
In the Community	13
Park Improvement	14
Institutional Strengthening	14
Strategic Planning	15
Networking	15
Financial Report	16
PCNP Income /Expenditure Statement 2007	16
TIDE Team	17
PCNP Contact Information	18

Words from the Manager

With great pleasure we present our stakeholders with the Payne's Creek National Park (PCNP) annual report for 2007. Irrespective of the huge wild fires this year was a successful one for PCNP as we continue to achieve the intended purpose and goals for the Park

Funding from the Protected Areas conservation Trust (PACT) and the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), allowed us to address three of the major threats identified in the PCNP management plan which this year was finally approved by the Belize Forest Department, in addition to the continuous improvement of the PCNP management.

We developed a sample ticket to implement the user fees system for the park and the same was submitted to the Forest Department for approval. We constructed a new docking facility at the park, a fire lookout tower, and replaced some of the communications equipment destroyed during a thunderstorm in June, 2007. These recent developments will greatly assist and improve the management of the park's resources.

Capacity building was of paramount importance for our staff. The manager and head ranger underwent supervisory training from the Belize Institute of Management, the manager also attended fire management planning and assessments trainings for the implementation of integrated fire management as a tool in managing pineland ecosystems and all staff received training to improve their report writing skills. The head ranger completed the National Tour Guide Training course to improve his interpretive skills, and one ranger received training in solar system design and installation to better maintain the power system at PCNP.

We assisted with archaeological research conducted by the Louisiana State University and Goliath Grouper Research done by Dr. Rachel Graham and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). Park staff carried out the monitoring of the yellow-headed parrot nesting sites during the 2007 nesting season, a total of 22 nests were monitored same as the previous year but new sites were monitored as several of the old sites were destroyed during the 2006 and 2007 wild fires. The staff also was involved in the daily patrol and surveillance and this year were able to conduct several joint patrols with the Forest Department, Police Department and Belize Defense Force personnel to enhance law enforcement in and around the park.

The PCNP annual report summarizes the park's achievements for the year 2007. We take this opportunity to thank those who played key roles in making this year a success. Special thanks to PACT, USFWS, The Wallace Foundation, The Summit Foundation, The Nature Conservancy and Thomas Gomez & Sons Ltd for their contributions to improve PCNP. We also extend sincere gratitude to the Payne's Creek National Park Management Committee and the communities and groups they represent for their continued interest and support over the years as well as to the Forest Department for their continued assistance and support and input at PCNP,

Sincerely,

Mario Muschamp
MANAGER PCNP

ABOUT TIDE

The organization has been hard at work over the past 10 years to achieve its goal of improving its organizational capacity to enable it to promote the protection and responsible management of Toledo's natural resources while simultaneously fostering programs that will create and promote sustainable alternative economic opportunities for resource users who have traditionally depended on these resources for their livelihoods.

Where We Work

Near to its inception, TIDE identified what is now known as the Maya Mountain Marine Corridor (MMMC) as a high priority conservation action site. The MMMC is a magnificent natural area covering approximately one million acres of land and 1000 square miles of sea. The MMMC extends from the crest of the Maya Mountains in southwestern Belize to the southern end of the Belize Barrier Reef System. Within this area, the more significant conservation activities revolve around the efforts in the Payne's Creek National Park (PCNP), Port Honduras Marine Reserve (PHMR), and TIDE's Private Lands Initiative.

Our Approach

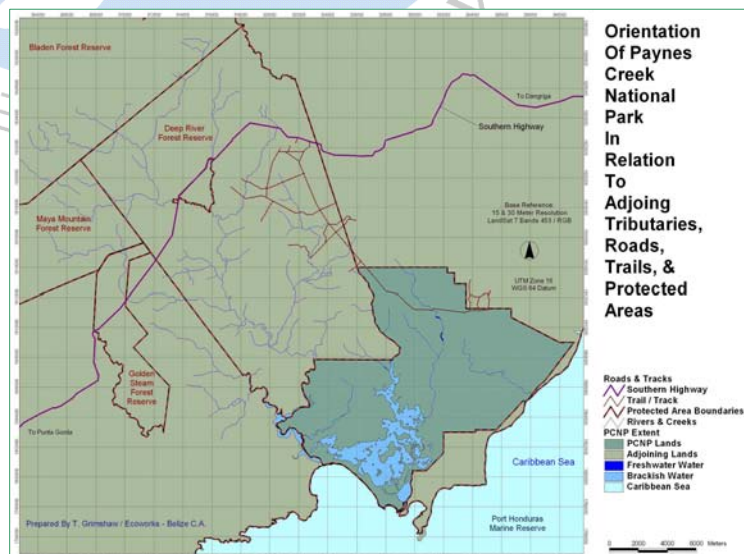
As part of its expansive conservation programme, TIDE employs several conservation methods from natural and social sciences which fall under five strategic objectives:

- Protected Areas Planning and Management
- Promotion of Sustainable development
- Research and Monitoring
- Environmental Education and Outreach
- Institutional Development

ABOUT PCNP

Payne's Creek National Park (PCNP) is located northeast of the Toledo District and lies just south of Monkey River, extending southwards to the Punta Ycacos Lagoon and delineated by Deep River to the west.

PCNP started as a local initiative by Monkey River Village Leaders who wanted to create a nature preserve along the river banks which would bring economic benefits to the village through eco-tourism and agricultural development. The area was first declared as the Monkey River Special Development Area (MRSDA) in October 1991 under the



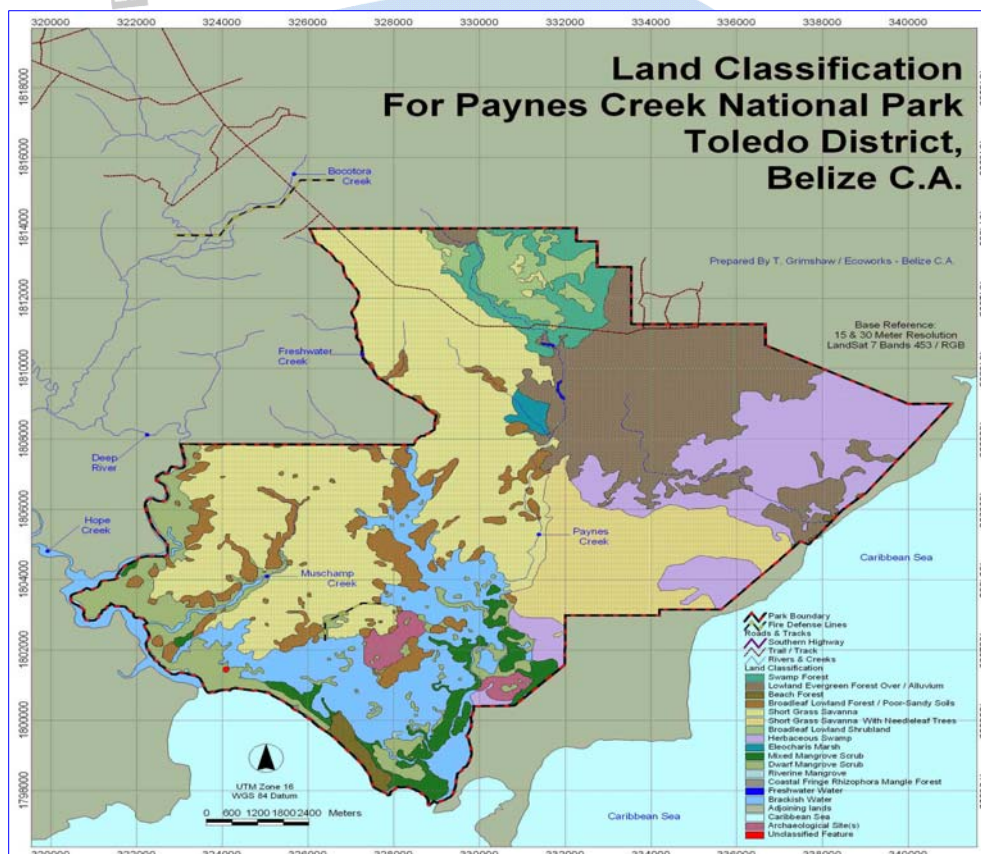
Land Utilization Act of 1992. The size of the MRSDA was extended and eventually through the assistance of the Forest Planning and Management Project it was declared a National Park in May of 1994 under the National Parks System Act of 1981. The designation was later amended in 2004 following the realignment of the PCNP boundaries which led to the inclusion of a few miles of the lower reaches of the Deep River watershed including its riverine mangrove forest and pine savanna excised from the Deep River Forest Reserve but also led to the exclusion of most of the coastal ridges and the Punta Negra Lake.

The area is rich in biodiversity with seventeen different ecosystems identified. It is home to several threatened or endangered flora and fauna species and serves as a natural ponding area for the Monkey River watershed thus playing an important role cleansing some of the waters emptying into PHMR and protecting the Monkey River Village during the rainy season. The estuary system with its extensive mangrove forests, which serves as a critical habitat for fisheries productivity and diversity, has been identified as a crucial nursery grounds for the endangered Goliath Grouper and includes some important commercial species extracted from PHMR.

TIDE has managed PCNP since 1998 until it entered into an official co-management agreement with the Forest Department. TIDE and the PCNP Management Committee have revised the Park's management implementing some activities to address the threats to the park identified in the management plan with its overriding objectives of conservation and sustainable use of its resources.

Size & Location:

*Ecosystem
s Map of
PCNP*



In its inception the acreage of PCNP was estimated to be 31,676 acres but with the realignment of the boundaries in 2004 the area increased to now approximately 37,680 acres. Situated in northeastern Toledo it is bordered on the North by the lower Bladen Branch of the Monkey River, East by the Monkey River Community, South by the Port Honduras Marine Reserve (PHMR), and west by the Deep River Forest Reserve.

Biological characteristics

Ecosystems:

Ecosystems identified in PCNP during the development of the management plan include:

- I. Tropical Evergreen Broadleaf Lowland Forest; over poor or sandy soils along the banks of Freshwater Creek and Muschamp Creek.
- II. Tropical Evergreen Broadleaf Forest; over alluvium situated in the northeastern section of the park extending westward from Monkey River.
- III. Tropical Evergreen Broadleaf Lowland Forest; over calcium-poor alluvium dotted across the savannas on either side of the upper reaches of Freshwater Creek.
- IV. Tropical Evergreen Broadleaf Lowland Swamp Forest; permanently waterlogged, this ecosystem stretches from Eleocharis Marsh up to and along the banks of Payne's Creek.
- V. Tropical Evergreen Broadleaf Lowland Swamp Forest; somewhat waterlogged is situated from the edge of the waterlogged forest northwards to the Park's boundary.
- VI. Dwarf Mangrove Scrub; occur in the park especially west of Punta Ycacos Lagoon.
- VII. Mixed Mangrove Scrub; a relatively narrow belt between stands of riverine mangrove forests and dwarf mangrove scrub mudflats.
- VIII. Coastal Fringe Rhizophora mangle-dominated Forest; can be seen along sections of the coastline west of the entrance to Punta Ycacos Lagoon.
- IX. Riverine Mangrove Forest; is found some 5-10m along water ways.
- X. Broad-Leaved Lowland Shrubland: Miconia Variant; occupies an area of about 800 acres in the northern portion of the park.
- XI. Short-grass Savanna with Needle-leaved Trees, and
- XII. Short-grass Savanna with Shrubs, are the two ecosystems that make up the savannas of the park and covers about half the Park's acreage.
- XIII. The Eleocharis Marsh; southwest of the swamp forest in a low-lying depression bordered to the north and west by short-grass savanna.
- XIV. Tropical Littoral Forest and Beach Communities; along the coastline west of the Punta Ycacos Lagoon entrance and often behind a narrow strip of fringing mangrove.
- XV. Tropical Lowland Reed-Swamp; east of the Ycacos Lagoon towards the coastline north of Punta Negra.

- XVI. Tropical Lowland Tall Herbaceous Swamp; extends from the eastern limits westwards to merge into short-grass savannas, estimated area of over 4000 acres.
- XVII. Rooted Underwater Communities of Flowing Water and Water Bodies; were noted along portions of Payne's Creek. Also included in this ecosystem are the lower reaches of Deep River including its tributary Muschamp Creek, the entire Punta Ycacos Lagoon System, and the upper and lower freshwater creeks.

Due to its diverse ecosystems the area is home to many species of Flora and Fauna some listed under CITIES or IUCN Red List as either threatened or endangered. The extensive tall herbaceous swamp serves as a natural ponding area for the Monkey River watershed providing protection from flooding in the rainy season to coastal buffer communities.

Fauna:

Some 28 species of mammals, 309 species of Birds, and 41 species of reptiles and amphibians, and 39 fish species were recorded during the development of the Park's management plan. Of the 28 species of mammals some 6 species are of international concern, with two species -Black-howler Monkey and Biard's Tapir- listed as endangered, one - the West Indian Manatee - vulnerable-the West Indian Manatee while three are listed as low risk/ near threatened- Jaguar, Puma and water opossum. Of the bird species listed, a number were highlighted for their status as species of concern either locally, nationally or internationally. These include: one endangered specie- Yellow-headed Parrot and three near threatened species- great curassow, Black Rail, and Black Catbird) and one CITIES



specie- the Jabiru Stork. The 41 species of Reptiles and Amphibians represents about 47% of all the species likely to occur within the park. The Goliath Grouper (Jewfish) listed as critically endangered is relatively abundant within the Lagoon system, though globally, populations are declining significantly. Each of the water bodies of the park was found to have a distinctive fish fauna, believed to be primarily determined by the salinity of the water, therefore the fish species represented a combination of freshwater, salt and brackish water species.

Flora:

A total of 152 plant species have been identified, representing 69 families in the Park. However, the total number of plant species is higher as the assessment that was done during the management plan development project focused on trees and predominant shrubs with limited coverage of herbaceous plants and grasses. The need for a more indebt study on the flora of the park is a must, to quantify the exact number of species, with emphasis on fruiting trees that serves as food source to the many wildlife species of the park.



Park Rules & Regulations:

National Parks are declared for the protection and preservation of natural and scenic areas of national significance for the benefit and enjoyment of the general public. Therefore, no person shall enter a National Park except for the purpose of observing the Flora and Fauna therein and for the purpose of education and scientific research.

Park Use:

Traditionally the area was used for logging, hunting and fishing up until the late 1990's even after the area was declared a National Park. Today the area is now used for recreational non-extractive purposes through eco-tourism as an alternative for income generation for the park and its buffer communities. These activities include kayaking, birding, manatee watching, nature trail hikes, camping and sport-fishing on a catch and release basis in the Ycacos Lagoon.

Park's Strategic Plan and Goals:

The PCNP Management Strategy is based on five major goals:

1. To protect the physical and biological resources of the park.
2. To provide Education and Research.
3. To preserve the value of the area for all its important genetic resources.
4. To develop recreational and tourism services to enhance the economic and social benefits of the area without causing environmental damage.
5. To strive for financial sustainability.

Legal Body Responsible for Establishing Regulations & Procedures:

Under the National Parks System Act of 1981 the Minister of Natural Resources is ultimately responsible for the establishment of National Parks; however the Forest Department is responsible for implementation. The Forest Department however entered into a co-management agreement with TIDE in January, 2004 for the PCNP.

Management of the park is delegated to a committee made up of various stakeholder groups around the protected area chaired by the TIDE representative on the committee. Roles of the committee include; to ensure regular revision of the Park's management plan, comment & recommend legislations and regulations, approve work plan, budgets, and decisions relating to research done in the area, assist with the development of a sustainable financing mechanism for the park and to ensure community participation in every aspect of management of the area.

PCNP STAFF:

PCNP is staffed with a manager-Mario Muschamp, head-ranger-Leonard Williams, two fulltime rangers-Wilfred Muschamp and Suzette Jacobs and temporary rangers from the community when the need arises. The staff comes from buffer communities - Monkey River, Punta Negra and Punta Gorda - to the park and is very knowledgeable of the area. They conduct patrols with an aim to mitigate illegal activities such as hunting and fishing, as well as, wild fires that have significant negative effects on the park. Rangers also enhance TIDE'S public relations by conducting community meetings, providing

information for the local radio show and newsletter, orient visitors to the park and play an active role in research conducted in and around the park. Rangers are also responsible for the maintenance of the Park's infrastructure and equipment.

PCNP Accomplishments 2007

Surveillance/Patrols

- A total of 321 regular patrols were conducted focusing on all areas of the park. During the dry months (Feb - May) the focus was land patrols covering the access route into the area from the southern highway to prevent illegal hunting and the setting of fires in the pine savannah. An area near the park where signs of vehicles and bicycles were entering to conduct hunting activities we believe is the origin of the huge wild fire in May that burnt the entire savannah on the west bank of the lagoon in the PCNP and the southern portion of the Deep River Forest Reserve.
- Several wildlife sightings were recorded during the surveillance activities that include White-tailed deer, a jaguar and hundreds of tracks and scats from other cats, Jabirus Storks, Muscovy Ducks and one new bird species was recorded for the area – the Solitary Sandpiper. Patrols were also conducted on the Punta Ycacos Lagoon, Deep River and the nearby PHMR coastline to monitor illegal and tourism related activities. No illegal activities were encountered on these water patrols in the park but one gill net was confiscated from within the general use zone of PHMR north of Punta Negra and was delivered to the rangers of the Marine Reserve. A total of 44 boats with guests via PG, Placencia and Monkey River were encountered conducting tourism related activities in the area (fly-fishing, manatee watching etc.), some 45 boats were encountered hand line fishing just outside the park boundary near entrance to the lagoon with local fishers from PG and nearby Cayes. 31 manatee sightings were recorded along with one sighting of a Southern River Otter and two Morlet Crocodiles in the Lagoon.
- One joint patrol with Belize Forest and Police Department personnel and the new managers of the Deep River Forest Reserve took place on May 15 to 17, 2007 covering the park and portions of the DRFR. One vehicle with residents of Trio Village was encountered carrying out hunting activities just outside park boundary line with DRFR; they were given park rules and regulations and were escorted out of the area to the highway. Some 37 joint patrols were conducted with BDF personnel and PHMR rangers covering the waterways of the park and the Port Honduras Marine Reserve, as a result of these patrols nine (9) gill nets and three (3) long lines were confiscated from the waters of the marine reserve. No illegal activities were encountered in park.

Maintenance

- The daily maintenance of Ranger Station and regular mowing of lawn near the ranger station were done keeping the area clean at all times. Regular servicing of PCNP boat and outboard engine were done according to maintenance manual schedules for the engine. Repairs were done to the bicycles to make them road

worthy, assist with patrols and servicing of mower was done to keep it in good working condition.

Trail Maintenance

- Some maintenance was done on trails from the edge of the Savanna through the broadleaf forest up to Payne's Creek preparing it for visitation purposes and for wildlife sightings for Morlet crocodile and Black Howler Monkeys.

Infrastructure Development

- Local contractor, Arnaldo Muschamp from Punta Gorda Town completed the construction of the first phase of a new docking facility at the park. Funding for the project was provided by PACT and USFWS. Also completed this year was the construction of the Fire Lookout Tower on the boundary line with the DRFR which will be used during the implementation of the PCNP fire



management plan. Funding for the construction was provided by PACT through the project presently being implemented and materials donated by Thomas Gomez & Sons Ltd.

Boundaries Demarcation

- In March 2007, Manager Muschamp worked along with surveyors demarcating park boundaries, transporting them to various markers along the Deep River, Punta Ycacos Lagoon and Upper Fresh Water Creek to take GPS readings using a GPS System that records coordinates every second bringing the accuracy to within centimeters. This was done to verify if survey lines were accurate. The lead surveyor developed a draft plan submitted to the Lands Department in April 2007.

Pine Savanna Management Plan Development

- Work continued on the development of the Fire Management Plan focusing on the development of burn units in the savanna between the lagoon and Deep River. A final assessment on the May 2006 fire damage was conducted in areas with pine. The conclusions indicated that all pine saplings less than six feet tall suffered in this fire and survival rate is far less than previously reported. A mere 25-30% in most pine stands is the actual figure and not the 60-70% that was reported in the preliminary assessment conducted one month after the fire.
- Fire expert, Steve Morrison from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Global Fire Initiative working for TNC Florida Chapter at the Tiger Creek Preserve and

Natalie Rosado - TNC Belize visited PCNP during May 15 to 17 2007. During that time they assisted with the completion of Fire Management plan for the pine savannahs of the park and visited sections of the savannahs and portions of the DRFR along with Dale Gomez from Gomez & Sons Ltd.- logging concessionaire. They also discussed implementing fire management as a tool in the areas adjacent to the park, the origin of the wild fires, to assist with controlling the wildfires Recommendations were to:

- Continue the cooperation with the logging concessionaire,
- Protect pine stands to establish regeneration and deal with the open grasslands,
- Conduct black lining to limit extent of wild fires,
- Develop an education and outreach program targeting hunters to address the issues of the wild fires,.
- Fire suppression in all pine stands for the next three to four years is essential to establish some regeneration then reintroduce fire through prescribed burns using a cool backing fire early in the dry season - late January early February or just at the start of the rains early June.
- Manager Muschamp attended the 2007 National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center Agency Administrator Workshop for Prescribed Fire held at the Royal Plaza Hotel, Walt Disney World Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida from November 4 to 9, 2007. The objective of the workshop was to get Line Managers from various agencies using fire as a management tool for forest management, to share experiences and participate in prescribed burns practice at Ocala National Forest and the Air Force Base at Avon Park. Manager Muschamp had the opportunity to spend a few days with the TNC staff at the Tiger Creek Preserve and Disney Preserve and looked at their fire program to get better understanding of the development and implementation of these programs so as to complete the fire management plan for PCNP and to be better prepared for its implementation.

Research

- **Archaeological**
 - Louisiana State University resumed their archaeological research in March for the 2007 field season focusing on site identification, collecting of samples from hardwood posts for identification and mapping of the sites. Several new sites were mapped bringing the total in the Lagoon to 89. One new finding was a jade gouge - tool used for digging or carving of artifacts. This artifact is presently in the US where the tool handle is being preserved.
 - LSU continued with their research on submerged Mayan sites in the Punta Ycacos Lagoon of the PCNP in July 2007 The work focused on mapping of sites, and collecting samples of wood from posts for species identification. Two new sites were discovered during the two weeks of work bringing the total number to now 91 sites in the Lagoon.
- **Yellow-headed Parrot monitoring**
 - PCNP staff was engaged in the monitoring of Yellow-headed Parrot nesting sites for the 2007 nesting season (Feb-May), a total of seven nesting sites were

monitored, a lot less than previous years. We believe this is due to the loss of several potential and nesting sites in the huge wildfires that burnt the savannahs in the dry season of 2005/06 in addition to inclement weather conditions we experienced during these months.

○ **Indian Hill Lagoon Project**

- Park staff continued to assist with the Indian Hill lagoon Project focusing on aquaculture operations in the area north of Monkey River. The project entitled “Protecting the resources of PHMR through the reduction of Land Based Pollution” was funded by NOAA to conduct a study on the effects of the effluents from the aquaculture operations in the area and see what can be done to mitigate the negative impacts of this activity. Deliverables of the project included the development of a restoration and management plan for the lagoon, make recommendations for best management practices of aquaculture operations in Belize and implement one recommendation for best management practice. PCNP staff was involved in biological assessment of the area, water quality monitoring, site visits to the aquaculture operations in the area and participated in community meetings to update local residents on findings and to get their input on what could or should be done to the area.

○ **WCS Goliath Grouper Research**

- Park staff worked closely with Wildlife Conservation Society on research presently being conducted in Southern Belize on Goliath Grouper, Sharks and Rays. The staff assisted with the research in the Punta Ycacos Lagoon and Deep River to set up monitoring stations for water quality monitoring, installing receivers for data collection of the movement of Goliath Groupers in the area and tagging of fish caught with acoustic tags to monitor movement in the area. The tagging and monitoring of the movements of the fishes came as a result of one fish caught in Mexico that was tagged in the Lagoon late last year.

Visitors to PCNP

- It is difficult to assess the number of visitors because of the many access routes into the park. There is still a continuous flow of visitors into the area via the Punta Ycacos Lagoon, fly-fishing the flats of the lagoon for permit, and manatee watching. They come from as far north as Placencia, Monkey River and the majority from Punta Gorda. A large number of tourists use Monkey River but we are not sure how many actually use the park. This will soon be addressed now that the boundaries are demarcated in the area used by the Monkey River Tour Guides and the renovation of the Monkey River Tour Guide Association office/visitors center, which will act as an outlet for tickets for entrance fees to the park. The Association keeps records of visitors to the area through a fee system for the use of their property adjacent to the park which will give us some idea of how many visitors are using this area. We were unable to get this data from them to include in this report. User fees system has not been implemented but sample tickets were sent to the Forest Department for approval.

In the Community

Education, Involvement in Research, Radio Show, Website

- Buffer community residents assisted with the WCS Goliath Grouper, the Indian Hill Lagoon Project and the LSU Archaeological research.

- PCNP staff assisted with TIDE'S annual summer camp logistics and gave presentation to campers, from Monkey River and Punta Negra Villages. They also assisted with transportation for field trips to PCNP and PHMR and continue to assist the Education Outreach Coordinator with community meetings held in Punta Gorda Town, Punta Negra, Monkey River, and Bladen Villages.



- The Rising TIDE Radio Show which airs on Mondays on the local Radio Station, Wamalali Radio, provides a fast and efficient way in which to capture a wider



audience. Park staff continued to provide information to the hosts of the show to share with radio listeners about the park. PCNP staff also appeared as guests on the radio show focusing on the issues of wild forest fires and appealing to the public to be careful when lighting fires during the dry season.

- The TIDE website at www.tidebelize.org also provides another avenue for reaching out to a wider audience. The website is updated periodically and an entire section is devoted to PCNP with information on the park and activities occurring in the park.

- PCNP staff participated in the TIDE@TEN CELEBRATIONS assisting with stage preparation for the MISS CONSERVATION Competition and developed a display on the park showcasing the area. A innovative opportunity to educate the public on the protected areas managed by TIDE.



- Park staff participated in the Annual Christmas Bird Count held on 19th December 2007 for the Punta Gorda circuit. Together with PLI staff they covered the Rio Grande and Moho Rivers. On the Rio Grande a total of 135 species were recorded while 115 was recorded on the Moho. The total count for the event for 2007 in the Punta Gorda circuit was approximately 260 species.

Park Improvement

Institutional Strengthening

- Head Ranger Leonard Williams, attended the National Tour Guide Training Course offered through UB Toledo Faculty that ran from March to July 2007.
- PCNP manager and head ranger participated in two training sessions with the Belize Institute of Management entitled “Advanced Supervisory Skills I & II”.
- Training for staff and buffer community residents in GPS use and basic surveying skills by consultant Mr. Alexis Fairweather hired to demarcate park boundaries.
- PCNP Head-Ranger and new Ranger hired as part of the USFWS project attended a two days training session facilitated by the Forestry Department in Belmopan on Law enforcement.
- Ranger Wilfred Muschamp attended a training course sponsored and facilitated by the Belize Marine Mammal Stranding Network held in Gales Point Manatee in March focusing on necropsy on Manatee and Dolphin to determine cause of death.
- In March PCNP manager conducted some in house training for Rangers on duty on how to conduct presentation to local schools in the communities.
- PCNP Manager and TIDE’S Development Director attended a one day training session hosted and co-funded by the Protected Areas Management Programme of the Forestry Department, funded by PACT and facilitated by Paul and Zoe Walker on the National Management Plan Framework at the George Price Building in Belmopan City
- TIDE Rangers participated in an Educational tour to different Marine Protected Areas in northern Belize. PA’s visited include Bacalar Chico Marine Reserve and National Park, Half Moon Caye/Blue Hole Natural Monument, Caye Caulker and Hol Chan Marine Reserves.
- Ranger Wilfred Muschamp attended a workshop on Solar Design and Installation at the Maya Mountain Research Farm, San Pedro Colombia Village in May 2007.
- PCNP manager formed attended an International Workshop on Integrated Fire Management in Tropical Pinelands of Latin America and the Caribbean held at the National School of Forest Science in Siguatepeque Honduras in January 2007. Participating countries included Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Mexico, Dominican Republic, and Belize. The workshop was organized and sponsored by The Nature



Conservancy's Global Fire Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean Program, ESNACIFOR, CICAFOR, and the US Forest Service.

- TIDE rangers and two YCT rangers participated in a one day training session focusing on outboard engine servicing and maintenance to improve the maintenance of the organizations outboard engines.



- PCNP manager, head ranger and only female ranger participated in a one day workshop on Report Writing sponsored and facilitated through the GOJoven Institutional Strengthening Programme.
- PCNP manager and head ranger attended a GIS training organized and sponsored by PACT and facilitated by Peter Esselman.
- PCNP and PHMR staff attended a short training with Fisheries Department, Punta Gorda Office personnel on Law Enforcement as it relates to the Fisheries Act.
- In November 2007 the PCNP Manager attended the National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center 2007 Agency Administrator Workshop for Prescribed Fire held at the Royal Plaza Hotel, Walt Disney World Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida.
- PCNP manager and head ranger attended a three days workshop in December 2007 as part of the GSW project entitled Participatory Management Training facilitated by Mrs. Dianne Haylock and organized by YCT.

- In December the Park staff attended a TIDE staff retreat and training in self esteem and good team work at the Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary facilitated by Mrs. Lucia Ellis.



- Rangers also participated in the TNC/TIDE/YCT Conservation Action Planning CAP workshops in addition to several sessions of strategic planning exercises charting the course TIDE would take over the next five years -2008-2012. Strategic Planning sessions were facilitated by consultants Jerry Enriquez and Marion Cayetano.

Networking

During the year 2007 TIDE and the PCNP management continued to collaborate with many stakeholders, government agencies and NGOs working within protected areas and more specifically those involved with forest management. These include, but are not limited to TIDE's donors, The Belize Forest and Fisheries Departments, Local and International NGOs, - TNC IUCN, OAS, Earthwatch Institute, YCT, FFI, GSWS APAMO, BAPA THFI SBWG Private Loggers

Financial Report

PCNP Income /Expenditure Statement 2007

Income

4001 · Grants	142,428.56
4004 · Other Income	1,251.49
4005 · Donation	<u>219.25</u>
Total Income	143,899.30

Expense

3005 Building	4,391.71
3001 Equipment	5,395.30
5001 · Salaries & Wages	82,428.12
5002 · Travel & Transportation	32,223.90
5006 · Insurance, Licensing & Permits	3,670.40
5008 · Professional Fees	1,265.00
5009 · Public Awareness & Env. Ed.	5,295.17
5010 · Repairs and Maintenance	5,449.99
5011 · Supplies	11,477.54
5012 · Training	4,096.27
5014 · Board/Advisory Board Expense	1,374.15
5016 · Telephone, Comm. & Internet	1,839.69
5017 · Bank Charges	21.80
5019 · Reserves & Parks Improvement	19,071.30
5020 · Net Working	140.00
5028 · Licenses & Permits	<u>205.00</u>

Total Expense **178,345.34**

Excess of Expense over Income **-34,446.04**

TIDE TEAM

TIDE Board of Directors 2007

Alistair King - Chairman- *Local Businessman (Texaco & Fabrigas)*
Robert Polonio - *Local Fisherman and Tour Guide in Punta Gorda*
Eloy Cuevas Sr - *Local Fisherman and Tour Guide in Monkey River*
Sebastian Choco - *Milpa Farmer*

Kamela Palma - *Retired*
Thomas Garbutt - *Tour Guide/Fisherman*
Elizabeth Enriquez - *Deputy Health Manager, Corozal District*
Gabriel Roches - *Department of Environment*
Celia Mahung - *Executive Director, TIDE*

TIDE Staff 2007

TIDE has increased its staff from 28 to 30 over this past year as it went through changes in leadership and other senior staff took on other responsibilities when some key staff positions were vacated, such as, PHMR manager, Director of Operations, Science and Stewardship Director and Marine Biologist.

Management Staff

Executive Director: Celia Mahung
Operations Director: Wilfredo Galvez
Development Director: Jonathan Labozzetta
Education and Outreach Coordinator: Norman Budna
Freshwater Initiative Coordinator: Joseph Villafranco
Communications Coordinator: George Emmanuel

Administrative staff

Office Manager: Stephene Supaul
Administrative Assistant: Angelica Williams
Receptionist: Patsy Rodriguez
IT Officer: Serjio Bricenio
Driver/Mechanic: Ernesto Caliz
Scholarship Program: Delonie Foreman

Part Time Staff

Development Director Assistant: Lumen Cayetano

Programmatic Staff

Payne's Creek National Park
Manager: Mario Muschamp
Head Ranger: Leonard Williams
Ranger Wilfred Muschamp
Ranger: Suzette Jacobs

Port Honduras Marine Reserve

Manager: Mario Muschamp
Marine Biologist: Juan Chub
Head Ranger: Marlon Williams
Ranger: George Sabula
Ranger: Janel Borland

Private Lands Initiative

Manager: Joe Villafranco
Forest Management Specialist: Eugenio Ah
Ranger: Carlos Bardalez
Ranger: Antonio Baki
Ranger: Skipworth Coleman
Ranger: Luis Ishim

Security/Janitor

Watchman: Mario Lemus
Cleaner: Estella Williams

PCNP Management Committee

Celia Mahung, Chairperson, TIDE
Mario Muschamp, PCNP Manager
Saul Cruz, Belize Forest Department
Punta Negra Village Council
Monkey River Tour Guide Association

Monkey River Village Council
Rio Grande Fishermen Coop
Punta Gorda Tour Guide Association
Punta Gorda Town Council
Thomas Gomez & Sons Ltd.

PCNP Donors

Protected Areas Conservation Trust (PACT)
US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

TIDE/PCNP CONTACT INFORMATION

Toledo Institute for Development & Environment (TIDE)
Attn. Payne's Creek National Park
1 mile San Antonio Road/PO Box 150
Punta Gorda Town
Toledo District
Belize, Central America

Telephone: (501) 722-2274/2431

Fax: (501) 722-2655

E-mail: info@tidebelize.org

Web: <http://www.tidebelize.org>



