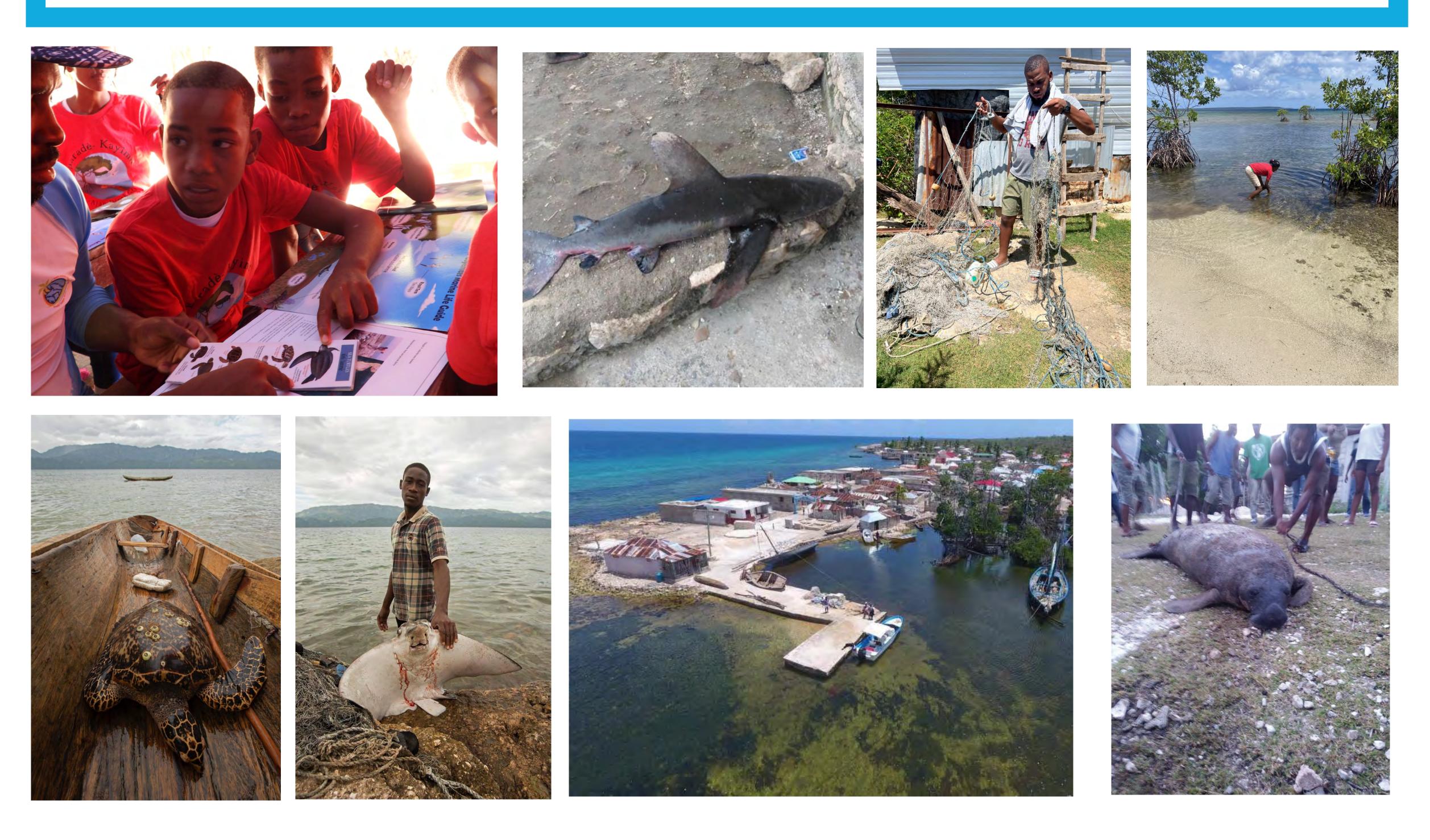




ABSTRACT

The Baraderes-Cayemites Marine Protected Area is an ecologically diverse part of southern Haiti, that includes habitats like coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass beds. These ecosystems support diverse marine life, including a deep-water nursery for the critically endangered oceanic whitetip shark and nesting sites for the critically endangered hawksbill sea turtles, and are key natural environments for other endangered species such as sperm whales and spotted eagle rays. These ecosystems and species are at great risk due to a combination of unsustainable fishing and poverty, which has led to a significant strain on marine resources. The direct use of charcoal production is responsible for large-scale mangrove removal and degradation, which damages fish nurseries and feeding areas. To preserve, better manage and restore the marine ecosystem in the Baraderes-Cayemites MPA, we have established a multi-level approach that includes conservation, education, research, and ecotourism activities involving the locals who live in the targeted communities. These activities include educating locals on the value of healthy marine biodiversity, training fishers to identify and document marine megafauna through a monitoring network and bringing local stakeholders together to develop a community-based management plan for the MPA. Through a realistic and holistic approach, we work alongside local community leaders, fishers, women, and children to facilitate community-led sustainable solutions that protect endangered marine megafauna and their ecosystems while empowering local communities and enhancing their quality of life. Engaging community members in these conservation efforts help to increase their capacity, encourages environmental stewardship, and engages their long-term support for marine biodiversity protection.



For more information: www.haitioceanproject.org

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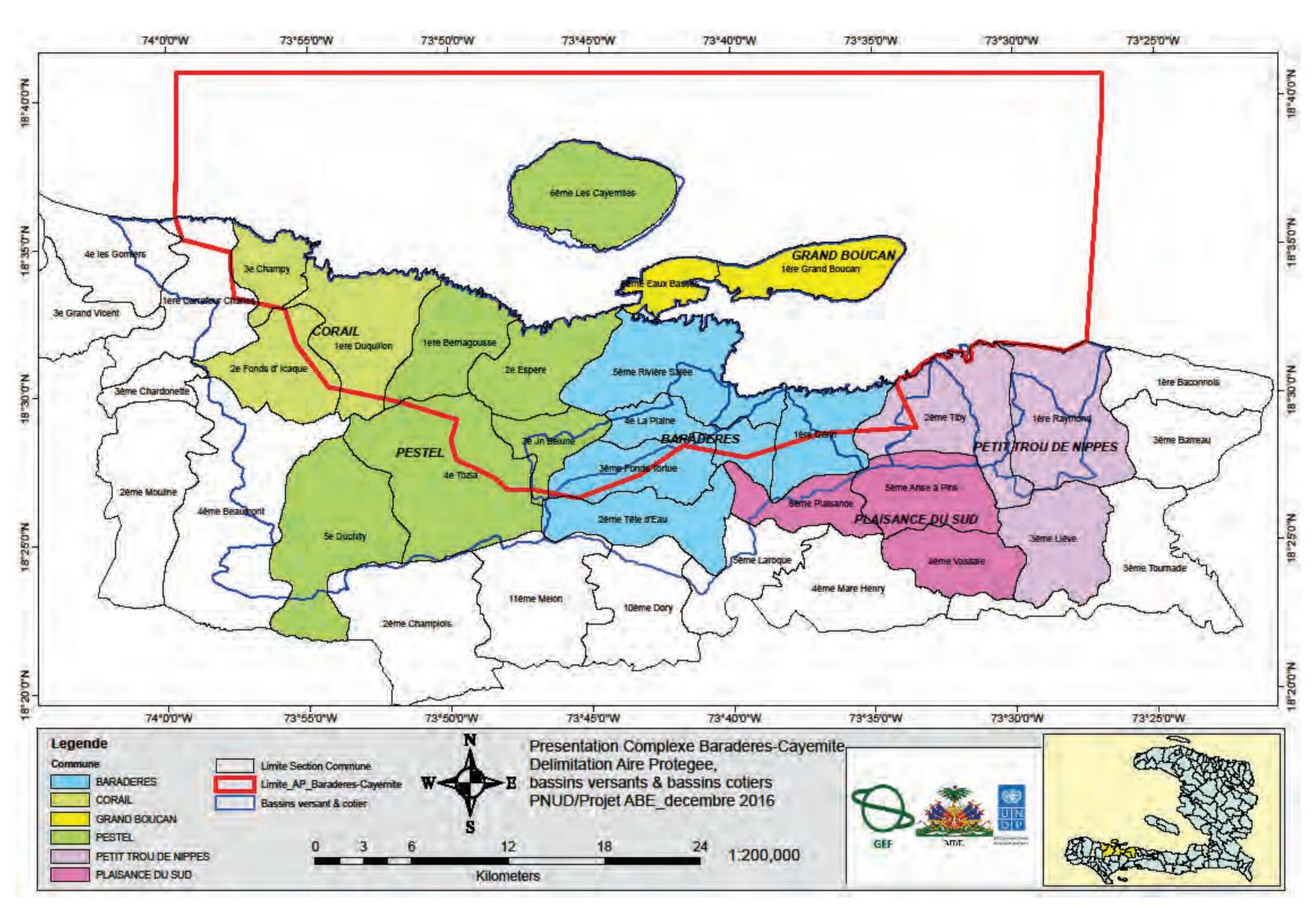
Preserving Haiti's marine ecosystems and endangered marine megafauna through community-based conservation, education, research, and ecotourism initiatives in the Baraderes-Cayemites Marine Protected Area

The primary mission of Haiti Ocean Project is the conservation and protection of high-profile marine life such as marine mammals, sea turtles, sharks, and stingrays through education of youth, research and data collection, community awareness, public policy, and ecotourism.

AUTHORS: Jamie Aquino¹, Courtney Vail², Charlens Calixte³, Cleeford Joseph⁴, Francklin Barbier⁵ ¹Haiti Ocean Project, West Palm Beach, Florida

jamieaquino@yahoo.com ²Haiti Ocean Project, Phoenix, Arizona ^{3,4,5}Haiti Ocean Project, Petite Riviere de Nippes, Haiti

Baraderes-Cayemite marine protected area (MPA)



Title: Building Community Resilience and Preserving the Marine Ecosystem of the Baraderes/Cayemite area Funded by The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA)

Title: 2021 METT Assessment Baraderes-Cayemite Marine Protected Area Funded by The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA)

Title: Strengthen fisheries management and support local capacity-building efforts at Baraderes-Cayemite MPA Support from The Nature Conservancy (TNC). The primary donor was Boeing Community Investment Fund

Title: Establishment of manatee conservation, education and research programs in Haiti Funded by CAR-SPAW-RAC

Title: Establishing sustainable community support for Hawksbill sea turtle conservation in Haiti Funded by National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) with support from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



*Established by Presidential Decree on April 7, 2017. *Extends over 157 km of the coastal zone and encompasses 87,303.5 hectares of marine and coastal ecosystems, 51% marine, and 49% terrestrial. *Includes habitats like coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass beds that support diverse marine life, including a deep-water nursery for critically endangered oceanic whitetip sharks, nesting sites for critically endangered hawksbill sea turtle and habitat for the vulnerable sperm whale, endangered manatee, and near threatened spotted eagle rays. *Managed by Haiti's National Agency for Protected Areas (ANAP). Haiti Ocean Project is the co-manager of the Baraderes-Cayemite MPA with ANAP.

Our projects in the Baraderes-Cayemite MPA













