

# **WildAruba: The First National Congress for the Preservation of Aruban Wildlife**

## **Action Planning Workshop**

**August 27-29 2008**

### **AGENDA**

**Goals of the Workshop:** To develop a five-year wildlife (flora, fauna and habitat) conservation action plan that includes workable and achievable goals to aid the preservation of the wildlife of Aruba, and a long-term vision on nature conservation and nature development for a lasting future.

**Purpose Statement:** This WildAruba Workshop is a national forum where we, the dedicated people of Aruba, will take action to preserve the local flora and fauna and their habitats.

#### **Desired Outcomes**

- An opportunity for all participants to express their thoughts about the strengths of, and threats to, Aruba's wildlife and habitats.
- An agreed upon long-term vision for nature conservation and nature development and a specific action plan, with accountability checkpoints, to guide in the achievement of that vision.
- Commitments by all participants, individually or in partnerships, to take action to conserve Aruba's nature.

#### **27 August**

AM

**Opening by Minister of Public Health, Environment and Administrative Affairs**

#### ***Introduction to Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) and the Workshop Process***

Overall workshop processes and working rules

Overview of agenda; Key components and attributes of conservation strategies

#### ***Plenary Session:***

Valuing the uniqueness and wonder of Aruba's nature: Recognize and document what makes Aruba's nature so special and valuable to the people of Aruba. Identify the key points to be included in the Vision. The themes arising from this exercise will become working group topics.

#### ***Overview Presentations*** (20 min each)

- Byron Boekhoudt: Summaries of Status report on Special Protected Area's and Wildlife, current wildlife legislation on Aruba and current nature practices.
- Patricia Portier: Summaries of symposia lectures and during lunchtime.
- Theo Oord: Physical Zoning Policy and land plan.

**Over lunch – a small Vision drafting group writes a draft Vision based on key points identified in the earlier exercise**

**PM**

**Plenary Session:** Report back from the Vision drafting group; discussion of suggested revisions  
Working group assignments and instructions - participants self-select into working groups based on the themes (key points) included within the Vision.

**Working Group Session:** Write a clear statement of your group's vision theme. Brainstorm threats to Aruba's wildlife and habitats related to your group's vision theme. This will be based in part on the information shared during the conference and the presentations given in the morning session. Consolidate and prioritize threats. Write clear statements describing your top priority threats. Prepare plenary presentation.

**Plenary Session:** Working group threats presentations  
Working group instructions: Goals

**Working Group Session:** Refine your description of threats, if necessary, based on feedback from the plenary session. Refine your group's statement of the Vision theme into a statement of the Goal(s) for the future of Aruba's wildlife. Specifying in your Goal(s) the targets you want to achieve in the near term (5 years). Check to ensure that your Goal(s) explain the key elements of your group's vision theme. Prepare a plenary presentation of your Goal(s).

**Plenary Session:** Group presentations and discussion of Goals  
Working group instructions: Objectives

## **28 August**

**AM**

**Working Group Session:** Develop specific Objectives that address your group's threats. Identify Objectives – those things that need to be accomplished to overcome the threats and reach each Goal.

**Plenary Session:** Group presentations and discussion of Objectives

**Working Group Session:** Complete work on Objectives. Incorporate comments from plenary and begin making Objectives specific – include the specific targets that we want to attain over the next 5 years. This is the time to check to ensure that your Goals and Objectives really reflect the Vision, and respond adequately to the threats to that Vision for the future of Aruba's wildlife.

**PM**

**Plenary Session:** Group presentations and prioritization of revised Objectives  
Working group instructions: Actions

**Working Group Session:** Begin work on Actions (See Actions Table on page 3)

For each Objective, develop a set of Actions needed to reach that Objective.  
Ensure that each **ACTION** meets the SMART criteria.

**S** = Specific

**M** = Measurable

**A** = Attainable

**R** = Realistic

**T** = Timely

***Synthesis Group:*** One person from each working group will meet to begin the final review and refinement of the Vision. Are we happy with the Vision now that we have defined goals and objectives for conservation of Aruba's wildlife and habitats? If not, the group will recommend revisions to the Vision.

## **29 August**

### **AM**

***Plenary Session:*** Group presentations of preliminary Actions for each Objective.  
Synthesis Group presentation  
Consensus on Vision and Goals for the future of Aruba's nature.

***Working Group Session:*** Further refinement and specification of Actions, including personal and/or partnership commitments and a follow-up mechanism. Review and edit working group reports.

### **PM**

***Plenary Session:*** Review the Vision, Objectives, and Actions to which the participants agree and are committed.  
Discussion on report editing and production, and next steps toward implementation

***Workshop Closing and Celebration***

## WildAruba WORKSHOP ACTIONS TABLE

|            |                    |                     |          |
|------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Objective: |                    |                     |          |
|            | Measurable outcome | Responsible parties | Timeline |
| Action 1:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 2:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 3:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 4:  |                    |                     |          |

|            |                    |                     |          |
|------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Objective: |                    |                     |          |
|            | Measurable outcome | Responsible parties | Timeline |
| Action 1:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 2:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 3:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 4:  |                    |                     |          |

|            |                    |                     |          |
|------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Objective: |                    |                     |          |
|            | Measurable outcome | Responsible parties | Timeline |
| Action 1:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 2:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 3:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 4:  |                    |                     |          |

|            |                    |                     |          |
|------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Objective: |                    |                     |          |
|            | Measurable outcome | Responsible parties | Timeline |
| Action 1:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 2:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 3:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 4:  |                    |                     |          |

|            |                    |                     |          |
|------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Objective: |                    |                     |          |
|            | Measurable outcome | Responsible parties | Timeline |
| Action 1:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 2:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 3:  |                    |                     |          |
| Action 4:  |                    |                     |          |

## Glossary

Components of a conservation strategy (adapted from working documents of the Species Conservation Planning Task Force of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the joint Conservation Planning Task Force of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and the SSC).

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Vision     | An inspirational description of what you want to achieve in the long term (50-100 years); a description of the desired future state.   |
| Threat     | Anything that might prevent achievement of the Vision and Goals (see below). This would include direct threats to the biological systems – such as invasive species, processes that destroy or degrade critical habitats, over-exploitation of species or resources, as well as indirect threats (or constraints) – factors such as lack of funding, knowledge, public awareness, appropriate laws and regulations, or political will that might inhibit the alleviation of the direct threats. Threats can also be current processes or can be processes that are foreseen to have a reasonable probability of having significant impact in the future. Threats are sometimes more generally described as “issues” to be addressed in a strategic planning process. |
| Goal       | A rephrasing of the Vision in operational terms to capture in greater detail what needs to be done. The Goals are a further explanation of the elements of the Vision – describing the key features, major areas, and important systems or processes to be protected in the Vision. The description of Goals should include a statement of the targets to be achieved over the next 5-10 years.  |
| Objectives | The activities that need to be completed to achieve the Goal[s]. The Objectives can be seen as the converse of the threats – that is, what will be done to prevent, counter, or reverse the threats, so that the Goals and Vision can be reached. The description of Objectives should include the targets to be achieved over the next 5-10 years.  |
| Actions    | The set of detailed steps needed to attain each Objective. Actions should be “SMART” – Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time-bound. Actions should specify the actors – who will carry out each action, and ideally also include a monitoring plan and possible contingency plans for alternative actions that would be implemented to achieve the Objectives in case the originally defined Actions cannot be completed or are not fully effective in completing the Objective.   |

Overall, the components of a conservation strategy are not completely discrete levels as much as they are a process for working from your most general vision down to the actions that are needed to realize that Vision. Your Vision for the future is further explained by your Goals; the Goals will be met by attaining Objectives that counter or reverse threats to your Vision; the Objectives are completed through a series of specific Actions. (Other strategic planning frameworks often use different terms for these same components.)