



FREGATE ISLAND PRIVATE
SEYCHELLES



CONSERVATION & SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

March 2020

Hawksbill turtle season 2019/20 – many hatchlings and possibly the last Hawksbill turtle nesting for the season...

Here are some numbers:

Number of nests this season: 529

Number of turtles visiting our shores: 940

Turtles tagged this season: 62

Turtles previously tagged: 170

Number of hatchlings: > 6000



Here she is, the last nesting Hawksbill turtle of the 2019/20 season.





Training in preparation of next marine survey: At the beginning of the March, we took some time to train Jake, one of our volunteers, on fish identification and reef rugosity, (small scale changes in the reef structure). This gave Jake an opportunity to be an active participant in the data collection during the recent marine survey.



Marine survey for the SeyCCAT funded project:

This is the second phase of data collection for the team involved in this great project. This time 9 people participated in the underwater data collection which included; fish and invertebrate identification, coral recruitment count, LIT (Line Intercept Transect) and BRUV (Baited Remote Underwater Video). The project, *Marine Biodiversity Baseline assessment around Frégate Island, the eastern most Seychelles 'Inner' granitic island*, sees the collaboration of different partners such as The Green Islands Foundation, The University of Seychelles, with James Michel Blue Economy Research Institute and Coralive.org. The project partnership will continue for a total of 2 years, the surveys will be carried out twice a year, which will produce sufficient data to be analyzed to give meaningful information about Frigate Islands marine biodiversity.

Collecting data underwater



*The team:
Callum,
Luke, Jake,
Anna,
Holger,
Mariliana,
Leroy,
Stuart,
Kayle.*



*Preparing
to deploy
the BRUV*

Our sustainable guest amenities have arrived! It took us some time to source 100% sustainable amenities but our persistence has finally paid off. We are proud to offer our future guests the new sustainable amenities. The amenities include; bamboo toothbrushes, wooden combs, wooden earbuds, cotton wool pads, loofah, wooden razor kit including shaving cream in a tin, wooden nail files, biodegradable shower caps. All of these can go directly into our compost without harming our planet and they look very nice too... All the packaging is made of paper or cardboard. Zero plastic!



Beach clean ups are always ongoing : Our team is always cleaning up the beach from what gets washed onto our shores, unfortunately. However a beach clean up is not finalized until we have done the separation. Every day while patrolling our beaches for turtles and turtle nests (we are now expecting Green Turtles) we carryout a “plastic patrol”, we bring the flotsam to our waste management area where we segregate it into different bins for recycling. Well done Team!



World Wildlife Day : To celebrate World Wildlife Day, we organized a hike for our staff, for them to explore one of the trails we reopened the month before. Most of them had never been to beautiful Anse Felix. During the walk the team had the chance to learn about some of the nature on Fregate Island. We love sharing our passion!



A volunteer leaves the island...

Priyanka was with us for only a month but a very intense month it was. There was a lot for her to learn and to get done. Priyanka was a great help for the team, she was committed and not scared of the heat and hard work we were committed to doing everyday. Thank you Priyanka for your help.



A new volunteer arrives...

Callum Waldie, joined us from the UK just before the border to Seychelles closed to foreign visitors. Callum was literally thrown into action when he got off the boat, as he arrived on the island while the marine survey was ongoing, the turtle hatching season was in full swing and just when the dreaded virus was throwing the world into its current state of crisis.

Fortunately, regardless of the many challenges, Callum has managed to settle in well and is now receiving a thorough training as should have been the case when he arrived. Welcome to the team Callum!





Oopsy Daisy...

Jason the tortoise landed upside down, trying to charm a lady we suppose. Luckily, the team found him and managed to turn him the right way up ;)



Fairy tern, from one egg laid on a log or a post to the cutest chick you have ever seen



Did you know ghost crabs eat giant millipedes? Well they definitely do...



Maintenance of the caecilian transect: the team has been kept busy, maintaining the transect along Grand Anse road.



Faces of



FREGATE ISLAND PRIVATE
SEYCHELLES

*THANK YOU
TO ALL OF
YOU!*