
DPR10S2\1007

Preserving endemic threatened wildlife populations through effective protected area management.

Pressures on Grand Cayman's natural environment remains high and populations of endemic wildlife are largely restricted to within Protected Areas (PAs).

This project will strengthen on-island capacity to support effective management of PAs through staff development, community engagement and a trained volunteer network. Conducting essential research and monitoring will fill knowledge gaps regarding endemic wildlife population sizes, threats, habitat use and establish sustainable Invasive Alien Vertebrate management, to target actions and outcomes that effectively safeguard these important wildlife areas.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name	Luke
Surname	Harding
Organisation	National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Tel (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name Luke
Surname Harding
Organisation National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)

Website (Work) [REDACTED]
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Charity/ trusts
Name	National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)
Phone (Work)	345 749 1121
Email	[REDACTED]
Website	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q3. Project title

Preserving endemic threatened wildlife populations through effective protected area management.

What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DPR10S1\1123

DPR10S1\1052

Q4. UKOT(s)

Which UK Overseas Territory(ies) will your project be working in?

Cayman Islands

* if you have indicated a territory group with an asterisk, please give detail on which territories you are working on here:

No Response

Q4b. In addition to the UKOTs you have indicated, will your project directly benefit any other Territories or country(ies)?

No

Q5. Project dates

Start date:

01 May 2022

End date:

31 March 2025

Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):

2 Years, 10 months

Q6. Budget summary

Year:	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
Darwin funding request (Apr - Mar)	£182,546.00	£139,590.00	£117,761.00	£ 439,897.00

Q6a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

Current staff time will be provided as match-funding by the National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI) and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

NTCI will support the funding for project M&E, auditing costs and staff-related costs for new positions (health insurance etc.).

NTCI and RSPB will provide some overhead costs as match-funding, such as office administration costs.

Q6b. Proposed matched funding as % of total project cost (total cost is the Darwin request plus other funding required to run the project).

Q6c. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you fund the project if you don't manage to secure this?

N/A

Section 3 - Project Summary and Conventions

Q7. Summary of Project

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan to undertake. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

Pressures on Grand Cayman's natural environment remains high and populations of endemic wildlife are largely restricted to within Protected Areas (PAs).

This project will strengthen on-island capacity to support effective management of PAs through staff development, community engagement and a trained volunteer network. Conducting essential research and monitoring will fill knowledge gaps regarding endemic wildlife population sizes, threats, habitat use and establish sustainable Invasive Alien

Vertebrate management, to target actions and outcomes that effectively safeguard these important wildlife areas.

Q8. Environmental Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Please detail how your project will contribute to the aims of the agreement(s) your project is targeting. What key OT Government priorities and themes will it address and how? You should refer to Articles or Programmes of Work here. You should also consider local, territory specific agreements and action plans here.

Letters of support from UKOT Government partners/stakeholders should also make clear reference to the agreements/action plans your project is contributing towards.

International Agreements:

CBD:

The project will work to support the Cayman Islands' responsibilities under Article 8(h) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), on Invasive Alien Vertebrates (IAVs); working to control and eradicate IAVs which threaten habitats or species in the PAs. Article 12 promotes research and training through the appointment of Field Officers and PA management, and Article 13, aligns with the creation of public education and awareness opportunities within this project to encourage understanding of measures required to conserve biological diversity on island.

SDGs:

This project will aim to deliver its outputs and outcomes against United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Goal 4: Quality Education and Goal 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth – training courses and volunteering opportunities to engage all the community and build skills and support future employment opportunities.

Goal 13: Climate Action – the project will develop and promote mechanisms such as long-term climate data collection to raise capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management.

Goal 15: Life on Land – a key project objective is to take action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats in PAs and thereby halt the loss of biodiversity and significantly reduce the impact of IAVs by the control or eradication of priority species so to protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.

Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals – the project partners will work to increase on-island capacity, creating sustainable development through sharing knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources.

Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas Wildlife (SPA) from the Cartagena Convention (UN Environment Programme) which supports work to protect rare and fragile ecosystems and the establishment and proper management of PAs.

Territory Priorities:

In addition to satisfying the priorities within the Cayman Islands' National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) and species & habitats action plans, this project will produce aims under Cayman Islands' Environment Charter 2001, which outlines the work of the NTCI in managing areas of environmental conservation including land reserve programmes, such as Salina Reserve. The project will ensure work will be mindful of NTCI priorities regarding the ongoing cataloguing of the diversity of life in the Islands, involving local contributors, scientists and other overseas contributors. The NTCI contributes under this multilateral environmental agreement through the acquisition, management and protection of 8 environmental reserves across the Cayman Islands.

Strategic Species Action Plan (2021-2026):

Monitoring and research of Grand Cayman blue iguanas will adhere to the current SSAP for this species. (Harding, L., et al 2021. Strategic Species Action Plan for the Grand Cayman Blue Iguana (*Cyclura lewisi*) 2021–2026).

National Conservation Action Plan (NCAP):

As a legal requirement of the National Conservation Law (NCL) 2013 under the Cayman Islands Government environmental legal framework, an NCAP for a Schedule 1 species, the Grand Cayman blue iguana will be produced.

NTCI's Natural Heritage Protection Strategy 2021 – 2030

The project will assist in the implementation of goals outlined in this strategy through more effective management of its reserves driven by increased scientific data on key endemic species.

Section 4 - Project Partners

Q9. Project Partners

Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Partner) and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development.

This section should illustrate the capacity of partners to be involved in the project. Please provide Letters of Support for the lead partner and each partner or explain why this has not been included.

N.B: There is a file upload button at the bottom of this page for the upload of a cover letter and all letters of support.

Lead Partner name:	National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)
Website address:	www.nationaltrust.org.ky
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	<p>Since 1987, the NTCI has provided scientific guidance, education and conservation to protect the environmental and historical heritage of the Cayman Islands. It is a non-governmental, nonprofit, membership-based organisation led by an elected Council.</p> <p>NTCI owns half of the 12% of protected land in the Cayman Islands. NTCI manages these Protected Areas (PAs) for the preservation of habitats, such as primary forest, shrubland, Buttonwood, sedge and mangrove wetlands, and endemic flora and fauna, such as the Grand Cayman blue iguana (<i>Cyclura lewisi</i>) and the Cayman parrot (<i>Amazona leucocephala</i> subspecies).</p> <p>The NTCI has managed a focused species conservation programme, Blue Iguana Conservation (BIC), formerly Blue Iguana Recovery Programme, for over 20 years, achieving species recovery and bringing blue iguanas to the forefront of terrestrial conservation on Grand Cayman through educational, community outreach, volunteer and tourism opportunities.</p> <p>The NTCI is highly engaged within the Cayman Islands' community through its 7 district committees (including the Sister Islands), representatives and volunteers, 1,500 annual memberships and its fundraising efforts. The NTCI works closely with Cayman's youth, offering educational school visits, both inside and outside the classroom, volunteering and internship opportunities and a Youth Stewardship Programme.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

1. Partner Name: Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

Website address: www.rspb.org.uk

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

The RSPB is a UK-based membership-based organisation with over a million members. It is the largest conservation NGO in the UK and has a considerable track record of successful high-profile projects, many funded by the Darwin initiative.

The RSPB has supported long-term conservation initiatives in the Caribbean most recently through the current project 'Restoring and Safeguarding wetlands of the Caribbean UKOTs' (DPLUS098), which covers the Turks and Caicos, Anguilla and Montserrat. The RSPB Caribbean Territories Programme Manager will provide guidance and facilitate training, mentoring and technical support from within the RSPB.

Two senior, experienced site management staff will support the project: Senior Reserves Ecologist and a Senior Site Manager. Both staff have existing experience provided technical support to Caribbean OT partner around PA management and monitoring. The Senior Reserves Ecologist supported a previous Darwin Plus funded project focussed on the Central Mangrove wetland and will directly support training and management capacity.

The Senior Site Manager continues to play an active advisory role in the current DPLUS098 project Restoring and Safeguarding wetlands of the Caribbean UKOTs. Overall, the RSPB has strong capacity to engage and support this project.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes

2. Partner Name: Cayman Island's Government Department of Environment (DoE)

Website address: www.DOE.ky

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

The Department of Environment (DoE) facilitates responsible management and sustainable use of the natural environment and the natural resources of the Cayman Islands through environmental protection and conservation, wise use, scientific research and public education.

The DoE will provide the NTCI with support throughout the duration of this project, regarding technical advice, policy and legislation, monitoring and management of Invasive Alien Invertebrates (IAVs), analysis of project data and results, and dissemination of the results into documents, publications, policies or laws to help establishing future conservation actions and management of PAs.

The DoE will also feed into training and development for local capacity building and will be active participants in training course and events to ensure skills and knowledge sharing.

The IAV management techniques will be shared across the islands and the citizen science mobile application will be adopted and utilised by the DoE on all islands, including the Sister Islands as an early warning indicator of IAV presence.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

3. Partner Name:

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)

Website address:

www.wcs.org

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

WCS, based at Bronx Zoo, has been an official off-island veterinary partner of the NTCI since 2001. The mission of WCS is to save wildlife and wild places worldwide through science, conservation action, education, and inspiring people to value nature.

WCS manages disease screening, analysis of veterinary results and offers other veterinary support for the work conducted by NTCI. For this project, WCS will be involved in disease screening within the protected areas and also assist with veterinary care, advice and support for the wild blue iguana population within and outside the PAs.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

4. Partner Name:

San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance (SDZWA)

Website address: www.sandiegozoowildlifealliance.org

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

SDZWA is an international nonprofit conservation organisation committed to integrating worldwide expertise in wildlife health and care, science, and education to develop sustainable conservation solutions to save species.

SDZWA has been an official NTCl partner since the inception of the (Blue Iguana Recovery Programme) conservation breeding facility in 2002. The Species Survival Plan breeding programme for Grand Cayman blue iguanas is managed by SDZWA, which also includes the off-island captive population held within accredited Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) institutions being maintained for long-term genetic diversity.

SDZWA uses genetic data provided by MSU to manage diversification of the blue iguana population and which informs conservation breeding at the BIC facility and release recommendations within the PAs.

SDZWA will support this project by continuing the genetic and demographic analysis of the subpopulations to optimise breeding and release strategies for success, as well as coordinate information and resource-sharing among the other iguana recovery programs in the region.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

5. Partner Name:

St. Matthews University School of Veterinary Medicine (SMU)

Website address:

www.stmatthews.edu

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

St. Matthew's University (SMU) is a private offshore medical and veterinary school based on Grand Cayman with a committed mission to develop highly skilled and socially responsible veterinary doctors. SMU became an official partner of NTCl in 2021 and is represented on the Blue Iguana Conservation Steering Committee.

SMU will provide the NTCl with on-island veterinary technical support and advice, assistance with sample collection for disease screening and with any post mortems or other required work that will be done within their licensed capacity. SMU will also build local, regional and international capacity through training NTCl staff, volunteers and their student base.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

6. Partner Name: Mississippi State University (MU)

Website address: www.msstate.edu





Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): MU has been a partner with NTCI since 2014.
MU provides NTCI with support by carrying out applied genetic analysis and monitoring of populations for target species such as the endemic Grand Cayman blue iguana (*Cyclura lewisi*).
MU will support this project by providing analysis on samples collected and checking for the potential risk of a hybridisation event or inbreeding. They will also provide technical advice and participate in the development of training materials for the course.





Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes

If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the Project, please use the text field below.

No Response

Please provide a cover letter responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable and a combined PDF of all Letters of Support.

 [Cover Letter - Stage 2 - DPR10 - Preserving endemic threatened wildlife populations](#)
 10/01/2022
 16:20:23
 pdf 476.83 KB

 [Letters of Support - NTCI DP Round 10 Stage 2](#)
 10/01/2022
 14:14:55
 pdf 2.41 MB

Section 5 - Project Staff

Q10. Project Staff

Please identify the key staff on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project. Further information on who should be classified as key project staff can be found in the guidance.

Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff, or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet to be filled. These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet. If your team is larger than 12 people please review if they are key project staff, or whether you can merge roles (e.g. 'admin and finance support') below, but provide a full table based on this template in the PDF of CVs you provide.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	Organisation	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Luke James Harding	Project Leader	National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)	32	Checked
Annick Jackman	Executive Director	National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)	2	Checked
Catherine Childs	Environmental Programmes Manager	National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)	11	Checked
Louisa Sax	Education and Public Outreach Manager	National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)	2	Checked

Do you require more fields?


Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	Organisation	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Lynn Merizalde-Orobio	Finance Manager	National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)	2	Checked
Viv Booth	Senior Ecologist	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	15	Unchecked
Charlie Butt	Project Support	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	10	Checked
John Badley	Site Manager	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	5	Checked
Wendy Kane	Senior Finance Officer	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	5	Unchecked
Unknown	Field Officer	National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)	100	Checked
Unknown	Assistant Field Officer	National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)	100	Checked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked


Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the Project staff listed above as a combined PDF.

Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.

 [CVs and JDs - NTCI DP Round 10 Stage 2](#)

 10/01/2022

 15:59:30

 pdf 1.46 MB

Have you attached all Project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 6 - Background & Methodology

Q11. Problems the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of environment and climate issues in the UKOTs.

For example, what are the specific threats to the environment that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems? How will your proposed project help?

Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in your additional attached PDF document which can be uploaded at the bottom of the page).

Protected Areas (PAs) are key to preserving Cayman's unique biodiversity and protecting natural habitat for climate resilience. Combined NTCI and Government (National Conservation Council) protected areas currently make up approximately 12% of the total land area of the Cayman Islands.

Threats to biodiversity, such as habitat loss, emerging diseases and IAVs, have already caused extinctions in the Cayman Islands and driven other species close to the brink such as the iconic blue iguana and Cayman Islands dwarf boa. The last remaining populations of wild blue iguanas and other endemic species reside within two key PAs, Salina Reserve (646 acres) and Colliers Wilderness Reserve (190 acres), therefore the effective management of these sites is critical.

Through the conservation planning process, key gaps were highlighted in our knowledge of how species such as blue iguanas use these PAs, what qualifies as important habitat and other key issues, such as survivability and dispersal within different age categories.

Annual monitoring in PAs by NTCI/DoE staff has shown a decline in the blue iguana population over recent years, likely caused by increasing pressure from IAVs, particularly feral cats and green iguanas, which have been recorded by the survey teams and on remote camera traps. Currently, NTCI only has a very limited number of camera traps, and a greater area of cover is needed to fully analyse the impact of IAV predation and measure the effectiveness of implemented management strategies. Green iguanas are already well established on Grand Cayman and have been proven to be carriers of a lethal *Helicobacter* bacterium that is fatal for blue iguana, so removing them from PAs is key to preventing population expansion and reducing the risk of hybridisation and disease transmission.

Regular monitoring, data collection, analysis and technical reporting is required to build a comprehensive picture of the extent of threats to endemic species within the PAs to elicit effective change through the implementation of robust PA management plans and IAV management strategies.

Technical and resource constraints prevent essential work being carried out and a shortage of human resource limits data gathering capability. Furthermore, community collaboration is required to enable long-term PA management and expansion; and the introduction of a comprehensive public education and outreach programme is key. The future success of any management strategies relies upon increased on-island capacity, including a trained volunteer network and experienced NTCI staff that have the skills and knowledge to manage, monitor and respond effectively to threats and their impacts.

To address these issues, this project will: establish effective IAV management within the PAs; monitor key wildlife populations to better target action and outcomes; enhance on-island capability through training and development of both NTCI staff and volunteers; utilise technology for research and community engagement and produce management plans for

both PAs that will be implemented and monitored effectively.

Q12. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome and contribute towards your Impact. Provide information on:

- How you have analysed historical and existing initiatives and are building on or taking work already done into account in project design. Please cite evidence where appropriate.
- The rationale for carrying out this work and a justification of your proposed methodology.
- How you will undertake the work (materials and methods).
- How you will manage the work (role and responsibilities, project management tools etc.)

(This may be a repeat from Stage 1 but you may update or refine as necessary)

NTCI has robust data on the blue iguana population within PAs (Salina and Colliers Wilderness Reserves) and has limited data on other key endemic species of flora and fauna.

Camera trap methodology for monitoring species abundance has been established in PAs over the last 2 years through pilot programmes, identifying a major threat from IAVs, especially feral cats. Despite identification of considerably higher than expected numbers (>2 cats per acre), limited data from the small-scale pilot programme prevents accurate estimation of feral cat population in PAs.

Limited IAV management trials (live trapping) have been tested within the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park (QEII BP), a controlled area containing a high volume of IAVs, showing population reduction due to sustained IAV management. Through trials, we are confident that the methodology will transfer suitably to the PAs. Additionally, due to minimal observed detections (<50), with continued effort it is believed green iguanas can be successfully eradicated from both PAs.

NTCI are responsible for overall project management with input from RSPB and other partners to achieve activities outlined in logframe. Meetings, reports and reviews will provide updates and assess project progress against the logframe; an external evaluation will be carried out at project end as detailed in M&E plan.

1. Enhanced in-Territory capability to restore, monitor and manage PAs.

NTCI will increase additional capacity through recruitment of a Field Officer and Assistant (FOs). FOs will help deliver and evaluate a training course, build local long-term capacity supporting succession planning for future project work using on-island expertise and project data to secure future funding. Training and support will be provided by RSPB.

FOs will perform bi-annual PA patrols to establish and maintain trail systems and boundaries and monitor encroachment utilising technology where appropriate to routinely survey large areas. Climate data from fixed weather stations in PAs will be collected frequently. Disease screening within PAs will determine presence of emerging diseases and WCS to analyse results.

2. PA management plans for Salina and Colliers Wilderness Reserves better protect natural habitat and guide targeted conservation actions for focal species the Grand Cayman blue iguana.

By project end, management plans will be developed and implemented for both PAs with assistance from project partners, reviewed regularly with defined criteria including level of site threat, condition informed by IAV impacts, priority species population trends and habitat intactness.

Camera traps will be used alongside established distance sampling survey methods to estimate blue iguana abundance by habitat type within and outside PAs. A minimum 20 iguanas from two vulnerable age groups (hatchling and subadult) will be radio-tracked to answer key data gaps (e.g., habitat preference; dispersal; survivability). Data will inform targeted conservation actions, quantify good habitat, identify potential wildlife corridors and generate an NCAP and an updated IUCN Red List assessment.

3. PA management improved to support blue iguana and other priority wildlife conservation through effective community

engagement and capacity building.

Using increased capacity and camera traps, targeted biodiversity surveys will be carried out within PAs, to increase robust data for endemic fauna and flora and IBA trigger species (Cover letter: NCL Protected Species List).

Camera traps will identify IAV activity and abundance and assess impacts of control efforts, capturing interactions with, and impacts of, IAVs on endemic wildlife to inform conservation management.

Placement of humane traps, set in schedules within established camera trapping grids will enable effective IAV population monitoring, capture and removal of IAV species (feral cats, rats and dogs). Trapping protocols previously outlined by NTCI/RSPB will be followed. Green iguanas will be monitored using foot patrols, camera traps, drones and targeted efforts will be used to remove and euthanise using government-licensed cullers to eradicate this target species from within the PAs.

Utilising local volunteers and students to assist, conservation education will bridge the gap between science and local community. Development and implementation of updated educational signage, and targeted community education and outreach programmes, will enhance environmentally driven thought processes, culture, behaviours, empowerment and knowledge across all age groups within the local community. Polls and surveys will be used to evaluate the education and outreach campaign and adhere to 50:50 gender sampling.

Local community engagement in PA management through a volunteer training programme will help increase required capacity for sustainable IAV and PA management, ensuring long-term benefits are sustained beyond project duration and building opportunities for professional development and skilled employment. This will be complemented by a citizen science species-identification mobile application, from which data will be analysed by NTCI and the aim is for 5000 users by project end.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, and references etc., as a PDF using the File Upload below.

No Response

Section 7 - Stakeholders and Beneficiaries

Q13. Project Stakeholders

Who are the stakeholders for this project and how have they been consulted (include local or host government support/engagement where relevant)? Briefly describe what support they will provide and how the project will engage with them.

Project stakeholders were consulted over various meetings.

- The Cayman Islands Government (DoE) have endorsed this project and are NTCI governmental partner. The DoE will be primarily engaged in project implementation and management of IAVs and PAs. This project will be mutually beneficial in improving skills, gathering data and capacity building on Grand Cayman.
- The NTCI membership/Cayman community will be engaged through public awareness activities, including outreach via the NTCI website, social media and in-person. The community will also receive volunteering and training opportunities.
- QEIIBP is co-owned by NTCI and the Tourism Attraction Board (TAB). Many of Cayman's native flora and fauna species are present and BIC's breeding facility is located at this site. IAV management trials have been underway since 2020 and this project will enable support for future IAV management, data sharing and training opportunities.
- TAB, a governmental organisation, recognises the importance of the PAs, nature walks and native wildlife to the economy. This project will provide current data to share on media platforms and tourism literature, reaching local communities and visitors with accurate and updated information about the efforts to save Cayman's biodiversity.
- Harrisburg University has been involved in designing the methodology for camera trap pilot studies in the PAs and data analysis. They will support this project through consultations and the work will feed into further fieldwork grants and publications.

Q14. Institutional Capacity

Describe the Lead Partner's capacity (and that of partner organisations where relevant) to deliver the project.

NTCI has a 35-year history of protecting a variety of habitats and endemic species; extensive experience maintaining strategic partnerships with government and NGOs and has strong connections within the local community and with other stakeholder groups. NTCI will be responsible for leading all on-island activities and delivering statistically robust results.

RSPB has supported the NTCI for over 10 years and will provide technical and project management support, and a wealth of experience regarding management of PAs and invasive species. RSPB staff bring >40 years of experience in managing and implementing IAV-related projects. RSPB will also be providing training to new and existing NTCI staff members and future volunteers to help increase capacity to ensure the work can be sustained after the end of the project.

The DoE is the formal governmental partner providing NTCI with technical advice and support in areas such as IAV management, environmental legislation and policy, logistics, species monitoring, habitat management and the interpretation and analysis of data and results.

WCS has supported NTCI/BIC since 2001. They described a novel pathogenic *Helicobacter* infection and set up new disease screening protocols and will assist with sampling and analysis of results for the project.

SMU will provide on-island year-round veterinary support assisting with sample collection and required post mortems.

SDZWA has extensive experience in population genetics, management and research. They will assist with technical advice to ensure the analysis of results feed into population viability assessment and management.

MU will provide genetic analysis on samples collected and technical advice.

Q15. Project beneficiaries

Who will your project benefit? You should consider the direct benefits as a result of your project as well as the broader indirect benefits which may come about as a result of your project achieving its Outputs and Outcome. The measurement of any benefits should be included in your project logframe.

Multi-level collaboration via this project, from grassroots to government, partners and stakeholders, will benefit the Cayman Islands through improved expertise, knowledge, economic opportunities and scientific research. Cayman's biodiversity will benefit from increased monitoring and data collection to guide future management plans for priority species and PAs.

The Cayman Islands will benefit from climate data that can be captured and monitored efficiently to determine emerging climate threats. The community, wildlife and economy will benefit both directly and indirectly through preservation of Grand Cayman's last remaining key terrestrial habitats and some of its key endemic species, such as the blue iguana and IBA trigger species.

Local capacity is paramount to project success and students and volunteers will be recruited from within Cayman. Inclusion of Cayman nationals will increase local knowledge, empowerment and responsibility. With emphasis on understanding of opinions from Grand Cayman's community, appropriate training will be pivotal to the success of the project and its future planning, providing opportunities for both personal and professional development.

The training course, mobile app, IAV methods and other technologies can be adapted for other regional species, enabling wider knowledge-sharing through relevant platforms with work presented at conferences, events and through the publication of project data.

Section 8 - Gender and Change Expected

Q16. Gender (optional)

How is your project working to reduce inequality between persons of different gender? At the very least, you should be able to provide reassurance that your proposed work is not increasing inequality. Have you analysed the context in which you are working to see how gender and other aspects of social inclusion might interact with the work you are proposing?

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands has a team that is gender-balanced (50:50). In the case of the project team, it

currently comprises 80% women, ranging from technical delivery, education and outreach to Finance Manager and Director level.

The Cayman Islands Gender Equality Law 2011 seeks to eliminate discrimination in employment, training and recruitment on the basis of sex, marital status, pregnancy and to promote the payment of equal remuneration to male and female employees who perform work of equal value; this will be adhered to at all times.

Training for staff, volunteers, students and interns will aim for an even gender split where possible and we will ensure flexible schedules to accommodate times, locations, meeting structures, languages and facilitation styles as well as group composition appropriate for gender-representative participation. Training materials will be adapted and made accessible to those with learning, visual or hearing impairments and remote access learning materials made available to increase accessibility for all learners and training participants.

We will strictly adhere to 50:50 gender-balanced sampling with our project questionnaires and polls and ensure that all resources developed from the project are accessible to everyone regardless of gender.

Q17. Change expected

Detail the expected changes this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended). Please describe the changes for the environment and, where relevant, for people in the OTs, and how they are linked.

In the short-term, this project will significantly enhance our knowledge on a key focal species, blue iguanas by filling in essential data gaps about the wild population and reducing the likelihood of its continuing decline. Knowledge gaps will be filled regarding dispersal and recruitment, allowing for more effective monitoring of threat impacts and the results of proposed control measures.

PA management plans will be developed and regular monitoring will allow assessment of biodiversity and climate changes and the impacts of management techniques. NTCI will benefit from increased capacity through recruitment of temporary staff positions and from additional expertise provided by the project partnership. Communities will be engaged in protecting these key areas and species by playing an essential role through an enhanced volunteer network. Given the increasing human population and the large amount of privately-owned land on Grand Cayman, this network is essential to effectively manage protected areas and build support for future land management and conservation plans.

Collaborating with new and existing partners over the long term will allow the project to provide enhanced data, improve knowledge and foster greater local and international support and participation.

The project will support NTCI, its partners and the local community to deliver effective and sustained conservation action through the development of effective IAV management techniques in remote areas, PA management plans across more locations, land acquisition priorities, future individual Strategic Species Action Plans and trained local capacity for employment and support. The project will also advise, impact and inform longer term, larger-scale decisions in key areas, such as threat mitigation strategies, environmental governance, inconsistencies in legislation, gain appropriate financial and logistical resources for conservation, encourage greater consideration of habitat in land-use planning, and enable environmental pre-planning to be applied to land-use decisions.

Q18. Pathway to change

Detail the expected changes this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended). Please describe the changes for the environment and, where relevant, for people in the OTs, and how they are linked.

IAVs and primary factors, such as predation by feral cats, are causing significant population declines in native species. Secondary drivers include emerging diseases, habitat loss and high road traffic mortality near PAs.

Conservation strategy proposals include:

- Establishing IAV management within PAs
- Carrying out annual biodiversity and population surveys to improve knowledge of impacts on native species
- Increasing knowledge base to monitor project impacts

- Enhancing capability with both local partners and the broader community.

Anticipated project outputs will create successful outcomes and positive changes, including:

- Reducing predation on native wildlife within PAs
- Developing management plans for PAs
- Improving our understanding of population dynamics and key species dispersal
- Highlighting the need for habitat corridors
- Identifying critical habitat not yet protected
- Increasing capacity through community collaboration.

Community education and participation, regular patrols and PA monitoring will lead to greater understanding of threats, such as, emerging diseases, combined with solutions that work, leading to successful delivery of the outcome.

By filling in knowledge gaps, improved PA management is expected to inform on-the-ground conservation action, effective local community engagement and involvement and secure local capacity which will result in PAs that preserve Cayman's unique biodiversity.

Q19. Exit strategy

State how the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point, and explain how the outcomes will be sustained, either through a continuation of activities, funding and support from other sources or because the activities will be mainstreamed in to "business as usual". Where individuals receive advanced training, for example, what will happen should that individual leave?

Effective PA management requires long-term commitments and having management plans in place helps ensure a structured approach to sustain the activities beyond the duration of this project, supported by the committed lasting partnerships established with the RSPB and DoE.

By the end of the project NTCI staff members, interns, local students and at least 30 volunteers will have the skills required for effective PA management, IAV controls and data analysis through the delivery of a focused training course led by the recruited Field Officer and assisted by all partners. The training materials developed will be utilised for continued capacity building for future staff and volunteers. Through the project's outputs, it is hoped that NTCI can show the value of increased capacity, training and research. Analysed data will be used towards applications to continue funding the new positions and address any research priorities identified.

The citizen science mobile application will remain in use to collect long-term data and work as a monitoring and early warning system for IAVs and the increased community knowledge and awareness from the project education and outreach, will strengthen local behaviour, culture and help protect these important wildlife areas.

Q20. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting Darwin's key principles for ethics as outlined in the guidance note. Additionally, are there any human rights and/or international humanitarian law risks in relation to your project? If there are, have you carried out an assessment of the impact of those risks, and of measures that may be taken in order to mitigate them?

The NTCI strives to meet the principles of good ethical practice in its dealing with local and international partners, aiming to work for a community in which the Cayman Islands' historic, cultural and environmental heritage is valued, supported and protected.

The NTCI is a nonprofit, statutory body with an established Council which is set up to manage the affairs of the NTCI, subject to NTCI Law 1987, to control, the income, capital, funds and NTCI property; keeping proper accounts, which conform with the best commercial standards, of its receipts, payments, assets and liabilities. Furthermore, this legislation, promotes the fostering of public interest in the purposes of the NTCI through public information and public education.

The NTCI has a proven track record of strong leadership working collaboratively with both international partners and local communities. Recruitment of local volunteers for this project is crucial to its success and they will play a key role in gathering data, working alongside field staff and conducting research, following an approach which ensures both

independence and integrity. Where required, Prior Informed Consent will be sought. The NTCI observes health and safety measures for staff or anyone associated with the project.

Liaison with other bodies such as the DoE will utilise and recognise the importance of traditional knowledge and respect the different opinions and challenges which exist from within local communities and manage these alongside the scientific approaches of the project team and its national and international partners.

Section 9 - Budget, Risk Management & Funding

Q21. Budget





Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. Note that there are different budget templates for grant requests under £100,000 and over £100,000.

- [Budget form for projects under £100,000](#)
- [Budget form for projects over £100,000](#)

Please refer to the [Finance Guidance](#) for more information.

Please ensure you include any co-financing figures in the Budget spreadsheet to clarify the full budget required to deliver this project.

NB: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. Darwin Plus cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

 [Budget - DPR10 -Preserving endemic threatened wildli
fe populations](#)
 10/01/2022
 15:17:05
 xlsx 77.2 KB

Q22. Financial Risk Management

This question considers the financial risks to the project. Explain how you have considered the risks and threats that may be relevant to the successful financial delivery of this project. This includes risks such as fraud, bribery or corruption, but may also include the risk of fluctuating foreign exchange, delays in procurement or recruitment and internal financial processes such as storage of financial data.

The NTCI is subject to the laws and regulations of the Cayman Island Monetary Authority as it is a Registered Charity under the Non-Profit Organisations Law, 2017 [Certificate #079]. This law ensures increased transparency and regulation to prevent corruption, money laundering and terrorism. NTCI payment policies require two signatories on all cheques and a Council Member (Bank A signatory) must approve all expenses over ██████████

The NTCI ensures best practice by endeavouring, where feasible, to obtain two / three independent quotes to ensure value for money for purchases over ██████████ and work where possible with established partners. Employment contracts for the positions employed under the grant will include a full refund of travel and permit expenses should someone leave before contract end date to ensure that a replacement can fill the position.

Any suspicious financial transactions must be brought to the attention of the Executive Director/Finance Manager immediately. Where necessary, the NTCI expects to absorb reasonable levels of foreign exchange losses. If such losses occur and are significant to the NTCI, efforts would be made to mitigate via benefactor gifts or other sponsorships.

Q23. Funding

Q23a. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)?

- Development of existing work

Please provide details:

NCTI/DoE and the project partners have continually worked towards breeding, monitoring population size and health of blue iguanas for over 20 years. The NCTI were awarded a Darwin Plus grant in 2019 which helped fund the Strategic Species Action Plan and highlighted key data gaps for this species.

NCTI has been trialling IAV management techniques within the managed habitat of the QEII BP. Two years of small-scale management has demonstrated that number of IAV can be drastically reduced and low numbers maintained if regular and structured IAV controls are in place. When scaling this up into the PAs and with additional resources to implement effective systems, there is confidence that IAV numbers within the PAs can be managed.

NCTI/RPSB have been looking into the development of PA management plans and the need to improve data gaps and effective management of PAs and support the recently produced Natural Heritage Protection Strategy. Initial plans have been created for the Cayman Brac Parrot Reserve (a NCTI-managed PA). This project will see similar plans developed for the two key PAs on Grand Cayman, which are highly important remaining biodiversity hubs.

Q23b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work?

- Yes

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be additional and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits.

The DoE is currently working in partnership with the RSPB on the Sister Islands (Little Cayman and Cayman Brac) to investigate the feasibility of IAV eradication on an island-wide scale. Data, methodology and results will be shared between projects even though each island poses different technical and logistical challenges.

DoE staff have been responsible for the control of green iguanas on all three islands since the early 2000s and have trialled different techniques including a government-funded culling programme with licenced members of the public, but the licensed cullers are not active within the PAs on Grand Cayman due to difficult terrain, logistics and permissions. Relatively low density of iguana detections compared to effort required don't make PAs financially viable business cases for cullers.

The work conducted during this project can help inform methodology and techniques on the Sister Islands, especially as they progress into more targeted work when numbers of IAVs decrease and remain within smaller isolated, difficult to access areas. The development of the citizen science mobile application utilised throughout this project will support the DoE's IAV work in the Sister Islands over time by providing a platform for early warning of IAV intrusion and continued community engagement.

Section 10 - Finance

Q24. Financial Controls

Please demonstrate your capacity to manage the level of funds you are requesting. Who is responsible for managing the funds? What experience do they have? What arrangements are in place for auditing expenditure?

The NCTI Executive Director and Finance Manager will have primary responsibility for managing all funds related to this project.

The Executive Director currently manages the NCTI's operating budget, liquid assets over \$ [REDACTED] per annum. Previously, she managed global business budgets (Latin America and National Promotions) as well as budgets for international events for the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism, ranging anywhere from CI [REDACTED] to over CI [REDACTED].

The Finance Manager is a qualified accountant, with over 30 years' experience. For the past 25 years, she has managed millions in liquid assets within the private finance sector.

The Treasurer of the NTCI Council is Mr. Dan Peterson who is a Senior Investment Advisor for CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank. Dan also served previously on the Cayman Islands Bankers Association.

As mandated by NTCI Law, the NTCI accounts are audited annually, carried out by global independent accountancy firm, Grant Thornton.

Q25. Balance of budget spend

Defra are keen to see as much Darwin Plus funding as possible directly benefiting OT communities and economies. While it is appreciated that this is not always possible every effort should be made for funds to remain in territory.

Explain the thinking behind your budget in terms of where Darwin Plus funds will be spent. What benefits will the Territory/ies see from your budget? What level of the award do you expect will be spent locally? Please explain the decisions behind any Darwin Plus funding that will not be spent locally and how those costs are important for the project.

The project aims to create sustainable, on-the-ground change for the Cayman Islands. NTCI estimates that █████ of the Darwin Plus funds will be spent directly in the Cayman Islands and will include costs for local staffing, accommodation and subsistence for visiting colleagues, experts and lectures. Training and capacity building for staff, interns, volunteers and students and the development of public outreach and education materials, signage and technology. Non-specialised equipment required for the project will be sourced and purchased on-island where possible in order to support the local economy.

Around █████ of the budget primarily made up of specialised equipment required to be imported from off-island, UK partners RSPB costs and training course lectures travel will be the funds spent outside Grand Cayman. However, all of the non-local spend will be directed to delivering local benefits and building future capacity through training and development. Imported specialised equipment will remain on island to provide data and be available for use as training aids long after the duration of the project.

Q26. Capital Items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin Plus funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

Capital costs are █████ due to the importation of required specialised equipment, the selected high-quality equipment is expensive compared to some cheaper market options but has been field-tested in Cayman to ensure it withstands the harsh environment and therefore ensures best and long-lasting value.

At the end of the project, all camera traps will remain property of the NTCI for future use and continued wildlife monitoring within Cayman's PAs.

The weather stations will remain in situ for 20 plus years and will continue to provide consistent climate data for use and publication.

The purchased GPS devices and laptops will remain property of the NTCI and be made available to support continued PA management and any future projects.

Telemetry equipment will remain with NTCI and be made available for future use and as a valuable resource for training courses to assist with capacity building at local and regional levels.

Q27. Value for Money

Please describe why you consider your application to be good value for money including justification of why the

measures you will adopt will secure value for money.

Salaries for the new staff positions reflect the high living costs on Grand Cayman, which are amongst the highest in the world, whilst offering a wage which attracts applications from suitably qualified candidates. The average salary for a comparison job role starts circa [REDACTED] (compared to around [REDACTED] in the UK (<https://www.ons.gov.uk>) and basic food costs such as 12 eggs is [REDACTED] compared to [REDACTED] in the UK (<https://caymanresident.com/move/cost-of-living-in-cayman>). However, major savings in the form of in-kind salaries and contributions to new staff cost have been made by project partners [REDACTED]).

Significant savings will be achieved in relation to normally expensive elements of the project such as PA disease screening and testing costs, capacity building and training, IAV management, which are all made possible through excellent, established partnerships and which will continue after the duration of the project.

All capital items of equipment purchased have been trialled over the last 2 years. The most cost-effective models have been identified with proven reliability and fit for purpose in the PAs, therefore, constituting good value for money and providing longevity of use after the project ends.

The NTCI has been able to secure in-part sponsorship from an app development company for the production and long-term maintenance of a citizen science mobile app, allowing NTCI to maintain lowered costs for community engagement and IAV monitoring and management. The development of a community volunteer network will enable long term capacity to assist with effective PA management.

Q28. Outputs of the project and Open Access

All outputs from Darwin Plus projects should be made available on-line and free to users whenever possible. Please outline how you will achieve this and detail any specific costs you are seeking from Darwin Plus to fund this.

Open access to data and the product of research is a general policy of the NTCI. All data, reports, leaflets, training materials, photographs, films, and other outputs from the project will be free to access, and available in digital format where possible and appropriate on the NTCI and Darwin Initiative website and through relevant social media channels.

The new mobile application will be published in the App Store and available via links to the website and will be free for use. All data collected from this app will be shared with the relevant partners and the results made available to the public in digital format and included in the Darwin Plus reports.

Resources and links to outputs created through the grant will also be shared in NTCI membership newsletter and educational newsletters. Educational materials will be donated free of charge to schools and public library.

The NTCI annual report will include reporting on programme and grant activities and is openly available online.

The NTCI anticipates at least two peer-reviewed papers to be published using open access journals and shared through international platforms, such as the IUCN SSC Iguana Specialist Group.

Section 11 - Safeguarding

Q29. Safeguarding

Projects funded through Darwin Plus must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place. Please confirm the lead organisation has the following policies in place and that these are available on request:

Please upload the lead partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF on the certification page.

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application	Checked
We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with	Checked
We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made	Checked
We share our safeguarding policy with downstream partners	Checked
We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle-blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised	Checked
We have a Code of Conduct in place for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviors - inside and outside of the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards	Checked

Please outline how you will implement your policies in practice and ensure that downstream partners apply the same standards as the lead organisation.

The Cayman Islands Labour Law governs legislation which protects against discrimination and any form of child abuse in the workplace. This law is overarching, and the National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI) is guided by it.

In addition, the NTCI handbook outlines the expected behaviour of staff to mitigate against any incidents of harassment and abuse and outlines what actions should be taken should such an incident occurs. Staff have also received safeguarding training specifically the Darkness to Light that focuses on the education and prevention particularly of child sexual and other forms of abuse.

NTCI confirms with all partners that they have, and adhere to, safeguarding practices.

Finally, there is a code of conduct that govern Council and volunteers in the NTCI.

Section 12 - Logical Framework


Q30. Logical Framework


Darwin Plus projects will be required to monitor (and report against) their progress towards their expected Outputs and Outcome. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.


- [Stage 2 Logframe Template](#)


Please complete your full logframe in the separate Word template and upload as a PDF using the file upload below – **please do not edit the template structure other than adding additional Outputs if needed as a logframe submitted in a different format may make your application ineligible**. Copy your Impact, Outcome and Output statements and your activities below - these should be the same as in your uploaded logframe.

Please upload your logframe as a PDF document.

 [Logframe - DPR10 - Preserving endemic threatened wildlife populations](#)

 10/01/2022

 15:22:38

 pdf 146.1 KB

Impact:

Grand Cayman's flagship Protected Areas thrive, through effective management, safeguarding key populations of endemic wildlife.

Outcome:

Improved condition of Protected Areas (PAs) harboring key endemic wildlife populations through effective management plans and additional capacity to implement them.

Project Outputs

Output 1:

Enhanced in-Territory capability to restore, monitor and manage PAs.

Output 2:

PA management plans for Salina and Colliers Wilderness Reserves better protect natural habitat and guide targeted conservation actions for focal species the Grand Cayman blue iguana.

Output 3:

PA management improved to support blue iguana and other priority wildlife conservation through effective community engagement and capacity building.

Output 4:

No Response

Output 5:

No Response

Do you require more Output fields?

It is advised to have less than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the Activity level.

No

Activities

Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

Output 1: Enhanced in-Territory capability to restore, monitor and manage PAs.

- 1.1 Recruitment of Field Officer and Assistant Field Officer positions by end of Q1 YR1.
- 1.2 Develop training course materials and content by Q2 YR2.
- 1.3 Minimum of 7 in-Territory staff, students and volunteers attend training course.
- 1.4 Samples are collected from target species within both PAs for disease analysis.
- 1.5 Disease samples are sent off island for detailed analysis and results reported and shared.
- 1.6 Two patrols are conducted in each PA annually.
- 1.7 Suitable fixed plots within each of the PAs are selected and cleared for installation of weather stations.
- 1.8 Weather stations installed in each PA and climate data is being recorded by end of YR1.
- 1.9 Trails established and maintained for each PA by Q3 YR1.
- 1.10 Boundaries clearly marked and accessible for monitoring in each PA by end of Q4 YR1.

Output 2: PA management plans for Salina and Colliers Wilderness Reserves better protect natural habitat and guide targeted conservation actions for focal species the Grand Cayman blue iguana.

- 2.1 Development and implementation of management plan for Colliers Wilderness Reserve by project end.
- 2.2 Development and implementation of management plan for Salina Reserve by project end.

- 2.3 Distance sampling survey carried out in Colliers Wilderness Reserve to monitor blue iguana population - Q4 YR2.
- 2.4 Distance sampling survey carried out in Salina Reserve monitor blue iguana population - Q4 YR3.
- 2.5 Camera trap grid designed and set up to monitor population abundance of blue iguanas within and outside of the PAs by end of Q4 YR 1.
- 2.6 Capture and tag hatchling iguanas for radio tracking for age and sex survivability and dispersal emigration.
- 2.7 Capture and tag subadults iguanas for radio tracking for age and sex survivability and dispersal emigration.
- 2.8 Use data collected from studies to identify preferred habitat type for hatchling iguanas.
- 2.9 Use data collected from studies to identify preferred habitat type for subadult iguanas.
- 2.10 Look at preferred habitat differences between wild born vs released iguanas.
- 2.11 Develop GIS database by Q3 YR3.
- 2.12 Analyse data and use results to quantify and identify land and suitable habitat options to expand, restore and establish PAs by end of project.
- 2.13 Use data collected to identify important wildlife corridors for blue iguana movement by Q2 YR3.
- 2.14 Update the Red List assessment for the blue iguana by the end of the project.
- 2.15 Complete National Conservation Action Plan for the blue iguana by the end of the project.

Output 3: PA management improved to support blue iguana and other priority wildlife conservation through effective community engagement and capacity building.

- 3.1 Determine and implement an appropriate trapping schedule for Invasive Alien Vertebrates (IAVs) within Salina Reserve in YR1.
- 3.2 Determine and implement an appropriate trapping schedule for Invasive Alien Vertebrates (IAVs) within Colliers Wilderness Reserve in YR1.
- 3.3 Complete presence and absence targeted biodiversity survey for endemic fauna and flora and IBA trigger species within both PAs annually for the duration of the project.
- 3.4 Design and implement a targeted education and outreach campaign to support the conservation of key endemic wildlife and better practices in the management of PAs by Q4 YR2.
- 3.5 Current volunteer programme is expanded by at least 10 new volunteers annually for duration of the project.
- 3.6 Updated signage to be designed and installed within both PAs and at other key NTCI sites to increase the knowledge of project and outcomes by the end of Q1 YR3.
- 3.7 Mobile application to be promoted and people encouraged and trained to use the app by the end of Q1 YR3.
- 3.8 Mobile application is used by at least 5,000 people by end of YR3.





Section 13 - Implementation Timetable

Q31. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the Word template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project, and upload as a PDF.

[Implementation Timetable Template](#)

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out.

-  [Implementation Timetable - DPR10 -Preserving endemic threatened wildlife populations](#)
-  10/01/2022
-  15:23:08
-  pdf 203.88 KB

Section 14 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q32. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe, referring to the Indicators, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E.

Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see [Finance Guidance](#)).

Internal M&E:

Firstly, a focus group (FG) will be established comprising key NTCI and RSPB staff for regular assessment of project progress against logframe indicators. The Project Leader will delegate responsibility of each logframe indicator to relevant staff to ensure that data for each indicator is collected and collated, including (but not limited to): stakeholder meeting reports, meeting minutes, datasets, draft plans and recommendations. The responsibility for the indicator will rest with the individual leading that work. The data will be compiled by the Project Leader, collaborating closely with selected staff, resulting in a project monitoring plan to be reviewed frequently by FG. Specific actions will be identified and assigned to address indicators that have not been achieved, and the monitoring plan revised accordingly.

Progress updates from the FG will be presented to expert panels associated with the NTCI, such as the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC), BIC Steering Committee and NTCI Council. These panels comprising expert individuals will assess and provide feedback on the work undertaken and advise on solutions, if required.

Annual project meetings will take place involving all named partners and key stakeholders and quarterly updates will be provided over email.

Additionally, the Project Leader will meet with the NTCI Finance Manager and Executive Director quarterly to review the budget throughout project duration to confirm that it is continually managed with the due diligence and follows NTCI/Darwin Initiative protocols.

Key monitoring areas and responsibilities:

Output 1. NTCI will be responsible for the recruitment of the two Field Officers (FOs) positions with advice, training and mentoring support provided from the RSPB. These recruits will conduct PA-related project work. A training course will be designed and implemented by all project partners and Project Leader will be responsible for ensuring access to materials and assessments.

Output 2. FOs will be responsible for drafting management plans with support from project partners in particular the Environmental Programmes Manager. Project Leader will assist the FOs in data collection and research. Project partners will help with data analyses and application of data into documents and plan as required.

Output 3. Community engagement will be led by NTCI Education and Outreach Manager and will be supported by the Project Leader and FOs. IAV management and management of the volunteer network will be led by the FOs and supported by NTCI staff and Project Leader. RSPB and DoE will feed into methodology and review data as required.

External M&E:

In line with the Darwin Initiative guidance and requirements for grants [REDACTED], the project will be financially audited during the third (final) year by an external auditor.

Internal M&E % time and cost:

[REDACTED]

External

[REDACTED]

Number of days for M&E:
Project team meetings: 15 days
Bi-annual FG meetings: 6 days
Annual reporting: 24 days

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)

██████████

Number of days planned for M&E

█

Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)

█

Section 15 - Lead Partner Track Record

Q33. Lead Partner track record

Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

Yes

If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
DPR7P\100049	Luke Harding	Transitioning the Blue Iguana Recovery Programme to sustain conservation success
No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?

If yes, please upload these on the certification page. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.

Yes

Section 16 - Certification

Certification

On behalf of the

trustees

of

National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI)

I apply for a grant of




I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.





(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, letters of support, budget and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application).
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.





Checked

Name	Annick Jackman
Position in the organisation	NTCI Executive Director
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 Annick Signature  10/01/2022  14:21:16  jpg 435.61 KB
Date	10 January 2022

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF.

-  [Safeguarding Policy 2020](#)
-  10/01/2022
-  09:37:03
-  pdf 209.69 KB

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

-  [National Trust Financial Statements](#)
-  10/01/2022
-  14:22:09
-  pdf 470.9 KB

Section 17 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance documents, including the "Guidance Notes for Applicants" and "Finance Guidance".	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked

I have provided actual start and end dates for this proposed project.	Checked
I have provided a budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that the budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached my completed logframe and timeline as a PDF using the templates provided.	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project staff identified at Question 11, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the Lead Partner and main partner organisation(s) identified at Question 10, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have included a signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts for the Lead Partner, or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Plus website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Plus website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in this application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the latest copy of the Privacy Notice for Darwin, Darwin Plus and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund available [here](#). This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information, but not personal data, may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead partner, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.

Information relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the 2004 Environmental Information Regulations and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).