

EASTERN CARIBBEAN COALITION FOR
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OCEAN LIFE SYMPOSIUM

FORT YOUNG HOTEL, ROSEAU

COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA

22 TO 25 MARCH 2009

Ocean Life Symposium, organized by the Eastern Caribbean Coalition for Environmental Awareness (ECCEA) and the Pew Environment Group, in coordination with the Caribbean Environment Programme of the United Nations Environment Programme

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

ARRIVALS at Fort Young Hotel, Roseau and Registration of visiting participants.

19.30: WELCOME DINNER FOR VISITING PARTICIPANTS, FORT YOUNG HOTEL

In the presence of His Excellency Dr Nicholas J.O. Liverpool, D.A.H., President of the Commonwealth of Dominica, and Mrs Liverpool.

At the end of the dinner a 55-minute documentary film called "**Superfish**" by Rick Rosenthal & Katya Shirokow will be shown. It is expected that Rick himself will be there.

Rick Rosenthal is an EMMY award-winning cinematographer and marine biologist who has filmed some most challenging wildlife subjects on our planet over the past two decades.

Rick Rosenthal produced over 30 programs, including three award-winning one-hour shows on the great whales, Riddle Of The Right Whale, Humpback Whales And Sperm Whales - Back From The Abyss which he filmed for BBC, PBS and the Discovery Channel.

MONDAY, MARCH 23

9:00 - 9:30 Registration of local participants.

9.30 – 10.45: OPENING SESSION.

9.30 – 9.35 *Opening Remarks* - Elizabeth Thompson, Senator & former Minister of Environment, Barbados; Symposium Chair.

9.35 – 9.45 *Welcome Address* - Mona George-Dill, President of the ECCEA.

9.45 – 10.05 Introductory Addresses
- Pew Environment Group

- UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme

- 10.05 – 10.15** Feature Address
- The Hon. Roosevelt Skerrit, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica.
- 10.15 - 10.40** Closing Remarks, Overview & Adoption of Agenda
Symposium Chair
- 10:40 – 11:00** Coffee break.

11.00 – 13.00 MORNING SESSION – GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

- 11.00 - 11.20** The UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme and regional marine biodiversity: Long-term strategies for marine mammal and biodiversity conservation for the Wider Caribbean Region.
Presenter: Alessandra Vanzella-Khouri, Programme Officer, Special Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW), UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme, Kingston, Jamaica.
- 11.25 – 11.45** The status of Dominica's coastal marine ecosystems: distribution, threats, outlook.
Presenter: Dr Sascha Steiner, Director, Institute for Tropical Marine Ecology, Dominica.
- 11.50 – 12.10** An overview of fisheries and marine resources in the Eastern Caribbean.
Presenter: Professor Hazel Oxenford, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), University of the West Indies, Barbados.
- 12.15 – 13.00** *Discussion.*

14.15 – 18.15 AFTERNOON SESSION

- 14.15 - 14.45** Presentation of Lenfest Ocean Program project - global highlights and Caribbean research results.
Presenter: Lyne Morissette, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Guelph, Canada.
- 14.45 - 15.05** Whales and fish in the North Atlantic and Barents Sea: an overview.
Presenter: Peter Corkeron, Visiting Fellow, Bioacoustics Research Program, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.
- 15.10 – 15.40** Presentation of survey of fisheries cooperatives in Dominica.
Presenter: Dr Alexandra Burton-James, Ph.D., former President, UNESCO National Commission for Dominica.
- 15.45 – 16.10** Ocean Life and Marine Mammals: Atlas of Distribution patterns, Education and Research Programmes in the French West Indies, Guadeloupe.
Presenters: Stéphane Jérémie, President, Société pour l'Etude, la Protection et l'Aménagement de la Nature à la Martinique (SEPANMAR); Nadège Gandhion, President BREACH Guadeloupe and Mediterranean
- 16.10 – 16.45** Discussion.
- 16.45 - 17.00** Coffee break
- 17.00 – 17.20** Marine Conservation in the Western Africa Marine Eco-Region.
Presenter: Dr Mamadou Diallo, WWF West African Marine Eco-Region Office (WAMER), Dakar, Sénégal.
- 17.25 – 17.45** Revisiting hypotheses regarding interactions between whales and commercial fisheries in the light of climate change and industrial fishing of other pelagic top predators.
Presenter: Dr Mathieu Doray, Fisheries Scientist, Nantes, France.

17.45 – 18.15 Discussion

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

9.30 - 10.45 MORNING SESSION 1: PROTECTED AREAS AND MARINE MAMMAL SANCTUARIES

- 9.30 – 9.50** The French West Indies marine mammal sanctuary: “Agoa”.
Presenters: Louis Redaud, Direction de l’Environnement (DIREN), Guadeloupe, and Philippe Maraval, Chargé de Mission, “AGOA”, DIREN, Martinique.
- 9.55 -10.15** The Dominican Republic’s Silver Banks Whale Sanctuary and Marine Protected Areas.
Presenter: Oswaldo Vasquez, Asesoria y Tecnologia Marina (ATEMAR), Dominican Republic.
- 10.20 - 10.40** Marine mammals, Marine Protected Areas, and management objectives for the conservation of biodiversity in Venezuela: an NGO Perspective.
Presenter: Biol. Jaime Bolaños-Jiménez, Researcher, Sea Vida, Venezuela.
- 10.45 – 11.00** Discussion & Coffee Break

11.00 – 12.45 MORNING SESSION 2: NON-LETHAL USE OF CETACEANS, ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, MARINE MAMMAL WATCHING IN THE WILD AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES.

- 11.00 - 11.20** Sixteen years of whale-watching in the Eastern Caribbean: the Dominica experience.
Presenter: Dr Fitzroy Armour, CaribWhale, Dominica.
- 11.25 - 11.45** Whale-watching in St Vincent and the Grenadines: From hunting to watching.
Presenter: Hallam Daize, whale-watching operator, St Vincent.
- 11.50 - 12.10** The development of *non-lethal* use of cetaceans: the Latin American experience.
Presenter: Jose Truda Palazzo Jr, International Whaling Commissioner for Brazil.
- 12.15 - 12.35** Marine mammals in captivity: issues for the Wider Caribbean Region.
Presenter: Courtney Vail, Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, USA.
- 12.35 - 13.00** Discussion.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

9.30 – 11.00 MORNING SESSION 1: DOMINICA OVERVIEW.

- 9.30 – 9.50** Marine Species in Dominican Waters – Asset to Nature Tourism
Presenter: Simon Walsh, President, Dominica Water Sports Association
- 9.50 – 10.10** Overview of Dominica’s Protected Areas
Presenter: Dave Williams, Head of National Park Service, Dominica.
- 10.10 – 10.30** Dominica’s Nature Tourism: The Assets – The Challenges
Presenter: Atherton Martin, Proprietor, Exotica Cottage
- 10.30 – 10.50** Closing Address – The Hon. Ian Douglas, Minister for Legal Affairs & Tourism, Government of Dominica.
- 10.50 – 11.30** Coffee break. & Discussion

11.30 – 13.30 MORNING SESSION 2: *Wrapping-Up.*

11.30 – 11.50 Chair's summary.

11.50 – 13.30 Discussion and conclusions.