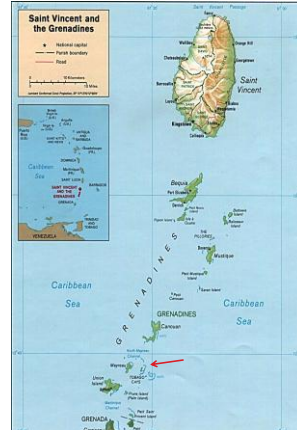


PRESENTATION ON 2010 WTP STUDY- EMPHASIS ON TCMP



Olando Harvey
Marine Biologist
Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP)
October 30th, 2011



Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP)

- 1987 - Designated as fisheries conservation area
- 1997 - Declared a Marine Protected Area
- 2006 - Re-launched w/ user fee system
- 2008 - Operating without Government subventions

TCMP Boundaries



WTP STUDY BACKGROUND

1. Survey conducted by CEPro Consultants Limited, St. Lucia
2. Work contracted through Ministry of Health and the Environment, GEF Focal Point (contracted 2009)
3. The WTP survey was conducted during first quarter of 2010 (Feb – March, 2010)
4. Final WTP report prepared in June 2010

STUDY OBJECTIVE

To assess the willingness of locals and tourist to pay to support effective management and conservation of parks, PAs and **biodiversity in SVG**

WHAT IS A WTP STUDY

- ▶ WTP is the maximum amount that an individual states that they are willing to pay for a **good or service** (DFID 1997)
- ▶ WTP study is design to answer the question "How much can we charge" (**not what should be charge**)
- ▶ WTP studies have been proven globally to be an effective methods to improve the financing required to manage PAs (Riley et al. 2006)

WTP STUDIES CONDUCTED AT MARINE PARKS

COUNTRY	PARK	YEAR	COMMENTS
St. Lucia	SMMA	2000 – 2001	Using 75% or 50% maximum WTP would increase revenue to US \$ 41, 550 and US \$58, 475 respectively
Bonaire	Bonaire National marine Park	1991 & 2001	2001 study used to increase fees in 2006
St. Eustatius	St. Eustatius Marine Park	2006	72 % of Divers willing to pay more to enter park

WTP STUDY PROCESS & BACKGROUND

- ▶ Representative sample of locals and visitors were interviewed
 - 12 enumerators, one exclusively for TCMP
- ▶ Sample size was 400 (160 locals and 240 foreign visitors):
 - interviewed 55 persons for TCMP
- ▶ Questionnaire (survey instrument) was divided into four sections;
 1. Socio-economic
 2. Determination of Park/PA visits
 3. Willingness to pay user fees for PA
 4. Willingness to pay for biodiversity and ecosystem services

FEE RANGES USED IN SURVEY (EC\$)

Fee Type	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
Entrance	1-2	3-5	6-10	11-15	16-20
Parking	-	1	2	3	-
Guide	-	5-10	11-20	21-30	-
Toilet	-	1	2	3	-
Dive	-	10-15	16-20	21-25	-
Snorkel	-	2-4	5-7	8-10	-
Biodiversity Conservation	-	<50	50-100	>100	-

1\$US = 2.7 SEC

GENERAL WTP FINDINGS

- ▶ 80.56% of responses to the survey were from persons who indicated they were WTP
- ▶ 92% of respondents indicated that they were concerned about environmental issues in SVG.
- ▶ All respondents preferred the option of a “single-site daily pass” payment method for accessing the various sites in SVG.
- ▶ The results showed that there was a strong positive relationship between a respondent’s interests in environmental issues and their WTP various fees.
- ▶ The mean maximum WTP to sustain the biodiversity of SVG ranged between EC\$74.87, and EC\$78.57

Activity Fees	Locals (EC\$)	Non Locals (EC\$)
Entrance	8.53	19.39
Tour Guide	18.13	39.25
Dive	14.61	35.92
Snorkel	4.58	12.28

MAXIMUM WTP FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Services	Mean annual Value (EC\$)	Payment Option – EC \$ Annually			
		L < \$50	M \$50 – \$100	H > \$100	Other amount
Clean beaches with good water quality	77.54	193	84	26	92
Live & diverse coral reefs, healthy with lots of fish	75.13	200	82	18	93
Health Wetlands with large fish populations, etc	78.57	201	64	25	102

1\$US = 2.7 SEC

MEAN WTP FOR TCMP (EC \$)

Visitor Types/other	Survey Results WTP TCMP		
	Entrance (per person)	Dive (per day)	Snorkel (per day)
TCMP: Locals	9.80	18.83	7.74
TCMP: Non Locals	24.90	47.23	19.21
National : Non locals	19.39	35.92	12.28
National: Locals	8.53	14.61	4.58
Current TCMP Rates	10 (per day)	\$10 (per dive)	0

1\$US = 2.7 SEC

COMPARISON WITH OTHER MARINE PARKS

Marine Parks	Entrance fee	Dive Fee	Snorkel fee	Yacht Mooring
TCMP	EC \$10	EC \$10	-	EC \$40 < 40ft
SMMA – St. Lucia	US \$ 2 (EC \$5.4)	EC \$13.50	EC \$3.00	\$40, 1-2 days
Scots Head– Dominica	US \$ 2 (EC \$5.4)	US \$ 2 (EC \$5.4)	-	-
St. Eustatius Marine Park – Netherlands	US \$ 2 (EC \$5.40)	US \$3 (EC\$8.10) Annual US \$15	US \$3 (EC \$8.10)	US \$10 nightly

Summary of Findings For TCMP

- ▶ Non locals placed a significantly higher value for snorkeling and diving
- ▶ Entrance Fees charged at TCMP is not unreasonable when compared to Dominica and St. Lucia MPAs
- ▶ Dive fees can be increased and still be within the range of other countries MPAs in the region (e.g. SMMA)
- ▶ Locals are not inclined to pay as much as non locals
- ▶ Consideration for a conservation tax that can be combined with entrance fees at some sites as part of departure tax.

WAY FORWARD/CONSIDERATIONS

- A case for increase price reduce negative impacts, earn more from less visitors and optimize management efforts.
- Seasonal price increase can also be considered.
- Improve collection efficiency, to cut out gaps/leakage
- Is there merit in charging a snorkel fee also ?
- Fee terminology: a case for renaming user fees ? e.g. coral conservation & conservation fee

Thank You!

