Caribbean Challenge

An Update to the USCRTF

November 3, 2009

Aaron Hutchins

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Caribbean Challenge Launch: May 2008

The Bahamas,
Dominican Republic,
Jamaica,
Grenada and
St. Vincent and the Grenadines

- Pledge to protect at least 20 percent of their marine and coastal habitats by 2020.
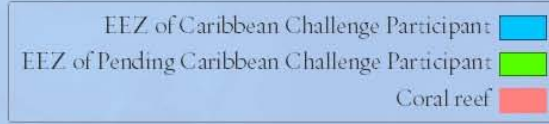
Caribbean Challenge Summary

- Conserve at least 20% of the Caribbean's coastal marine habitat (~20 Million Acres) by 2020

- **Provide dedicated, permanent funding for Caribbean protected area systems** through Protected Areas Trust Funds and the creation of NEW Sustainable finance mechanisms.

- Protect Caribbean biodiversity in the face of climate change through ecosystem-based adaptation strategies

- With other Marine Challenges helping protect 83 percent of all coral species and 82 percent all mangroves species worldwide

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CARIBBEAN CHALLENGE

Legend:
- EEZ of Caribbean Challenge Participant
- EEZ of Pending Caribbean Challenge Participant
- Coral reef

30°N

Gulf of Mexico

U.S.A.

The Bahamas

Atlantic Ocean

25°N

Cuba

Turks & Caicos Is.

Mexico

Cayman Is.

Jamaica

Haiti

Dominican Republic

BVI

Anguilla

Antigua & Barbuda

Belize

Puerto Rico

USVI

St. Kitts & Nevis

Guadeloupe

Dominica

Honduras

15°N

Martinique

St. Lucia

Caribbean Sea

St. Vincent & the Grenadines

Barbados

Nicaragua

Aruba

Netherlands Antilles

Grenada

Tobago

Costa Rica

Trinidad

10°N

Venezuela

Panama

Colombia

N
W   E
S

0   125   250   500 KM

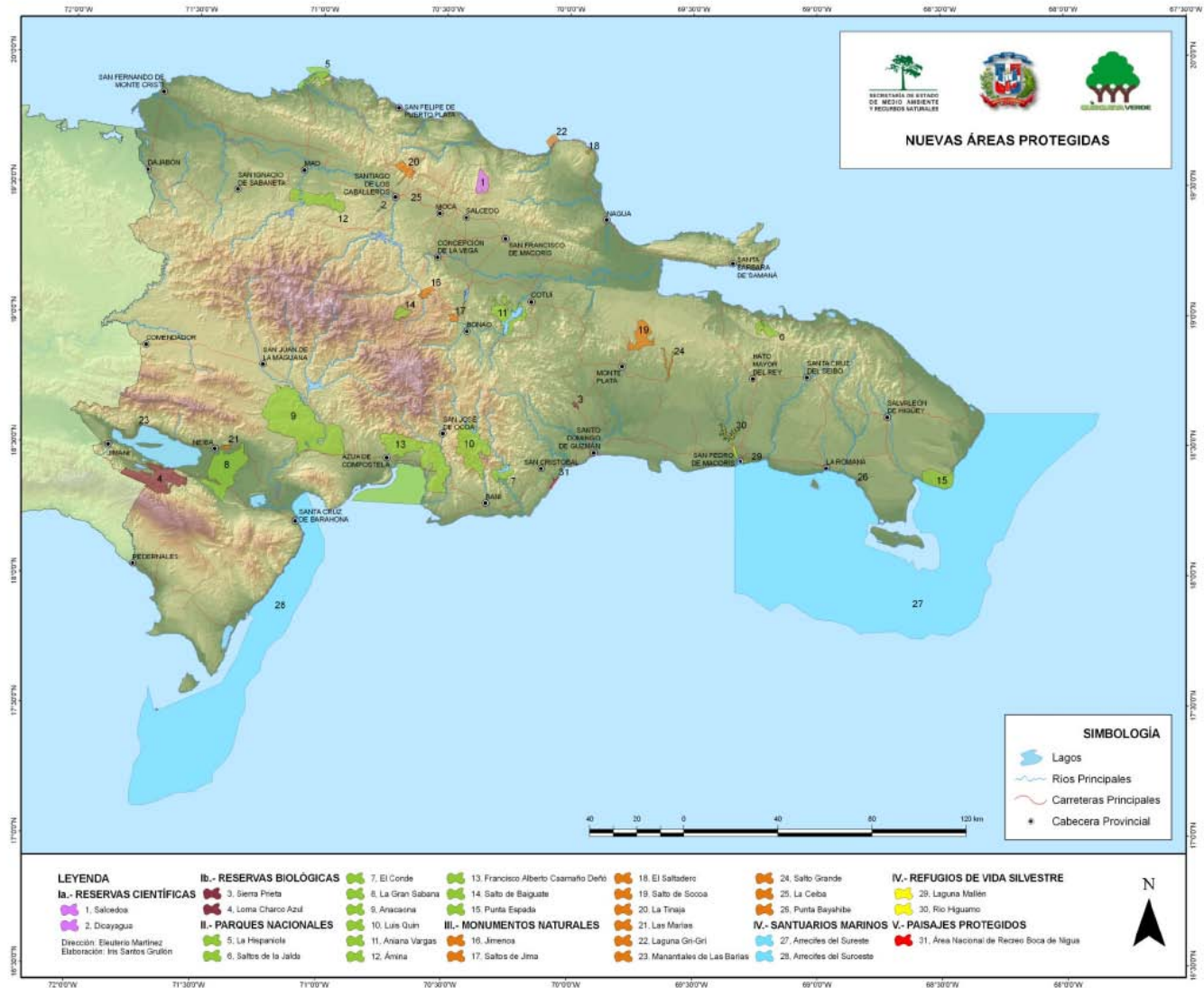0   140   280 MILES

80°W   75°W   70°W   65°W   60°W

Progress

- **July 2009: CARICOM endorses Challenge**

- **2009: $33 M to Caribbean Biodiversity Fund**

- **2009: $40 M for on the ground implementation**

- **October 2009: Dominican Republic- new protected areas**

- **October 2009: The Bahamas- new protected areas**

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NUEVAS ÁREAS PROTEGIDAS

October 2009
- **31 New Protected Areas**
- **Over 1.7 Million Acres**

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LEYENDA
Ia.- RESERVAS CIENTÍFICAS
1. Salcedoa
2. Dicayagua
Dirección: Eleuterio Martínez
Elaboración: Iris Santos Grullón

Ib.- RESERVAS BIOLÓGICAS
3. Sierra Prieta
4. Loma Charco Azul
II.- PARQUES NACIONALES
5. La Hispaniola
6. Saltos de la Jalda

7. El Conde
8. La Gran Sabana
9. Anacaona
10. Luis Quin
11. Aniana Vargas
12. Ámina

13. Francisco Alberto Caamaño Deñó
14. Salto de Baiguate
15. Punta Espada
III.- MONUMENTOS NATURALES
16. Jimenoa
17. Saltos de Jima

18. El Saltadero
19. Salto de Socoa
20. La Tinaja
21. Las Marías
22. Laguna Gri-Gri
23. Manantiales de Las Barías

24. Salto Grande
25. La Ceiba
26. Punta Bayahibe
IV.- SANTUARIOS MARINOS
27. Arrecifes del Sureste
28. Arrecifes del Suroeste

IV.- REFUGIOS DE VIDA SILVESTRE
29. Laguna Mallén
30. Río Higuamo
V.- PAISAJES PROTEGIDOS
31. Área Nacional de Recreo Boca de Nigua

SIMBOLOGÍA
- Lagos
- Ríos Principales
- Carreteras Principales
- Cabecera Provincial

The Caribbean Challenge - Phase One
The Bahamas

October 2009
• 3 New or Expanded National Parks
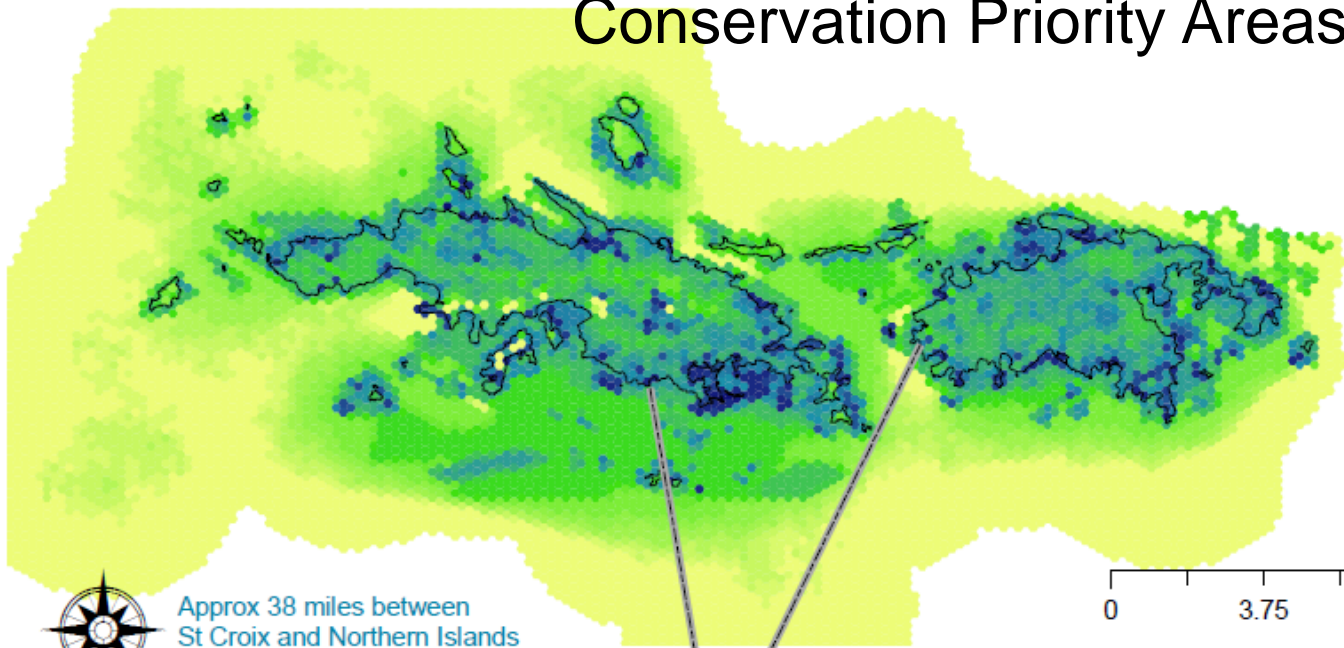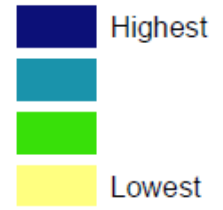• Potentially up to 1 Million acres

Next Steps:

- Completion of Protected Area Master Plans
  - Bahamas: complete
  - BVI: complete
  - DR: in progress
  - Jamaica: in progress
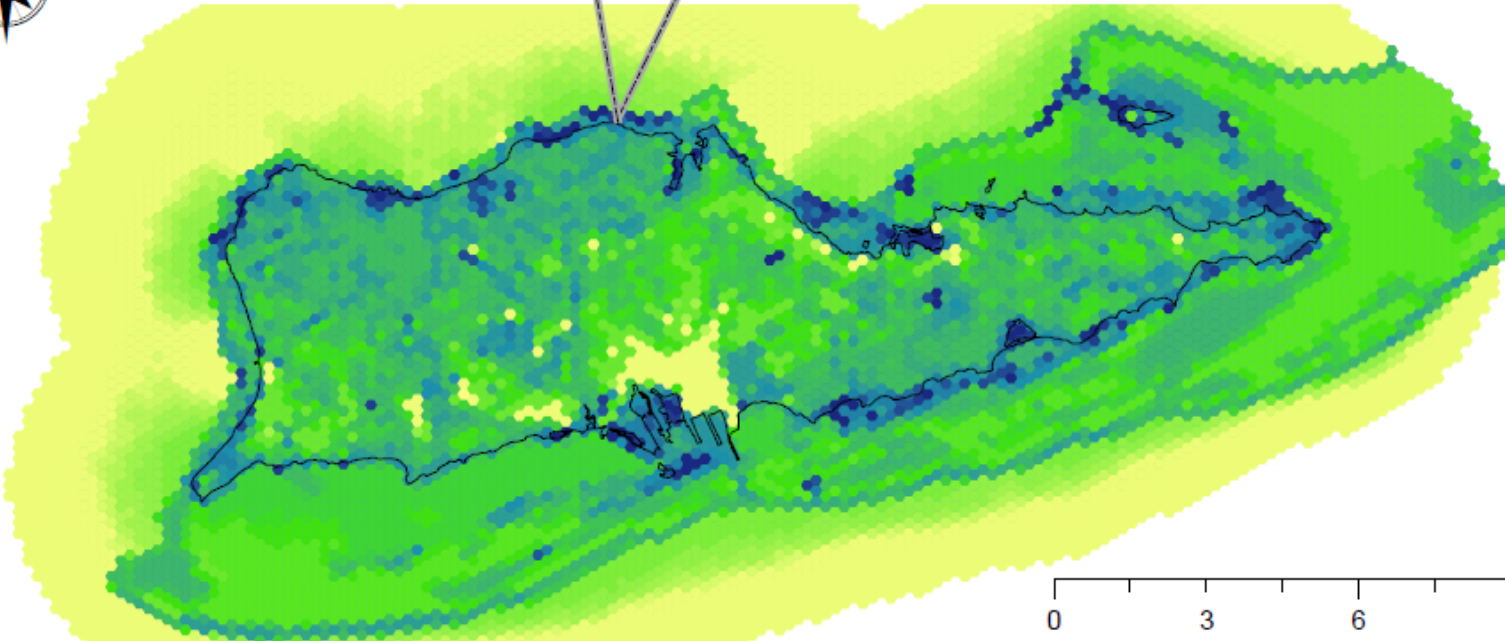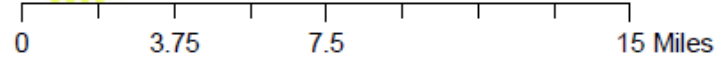 - E. Caribbean: in progress
  - USVI*: in progress

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Conservation Priority Areas

Conservation Value

- Highest
-
-
- Lowest

Approx 38 miles between
St Croix and Northern Islands

0   3.75   7.5   15 Miles

0   3   6   12 Miles

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Caribbean GIS (S.W. Margles)
Projection NAD 83 UTM 20N

Next Steps (continued):

- Finalize structure and implement regional protected area finance mechanisms (Caribbean Biodiversity Fund)

- Determine best mechanism for overseas territories (US, British, French and Dutch) to participate
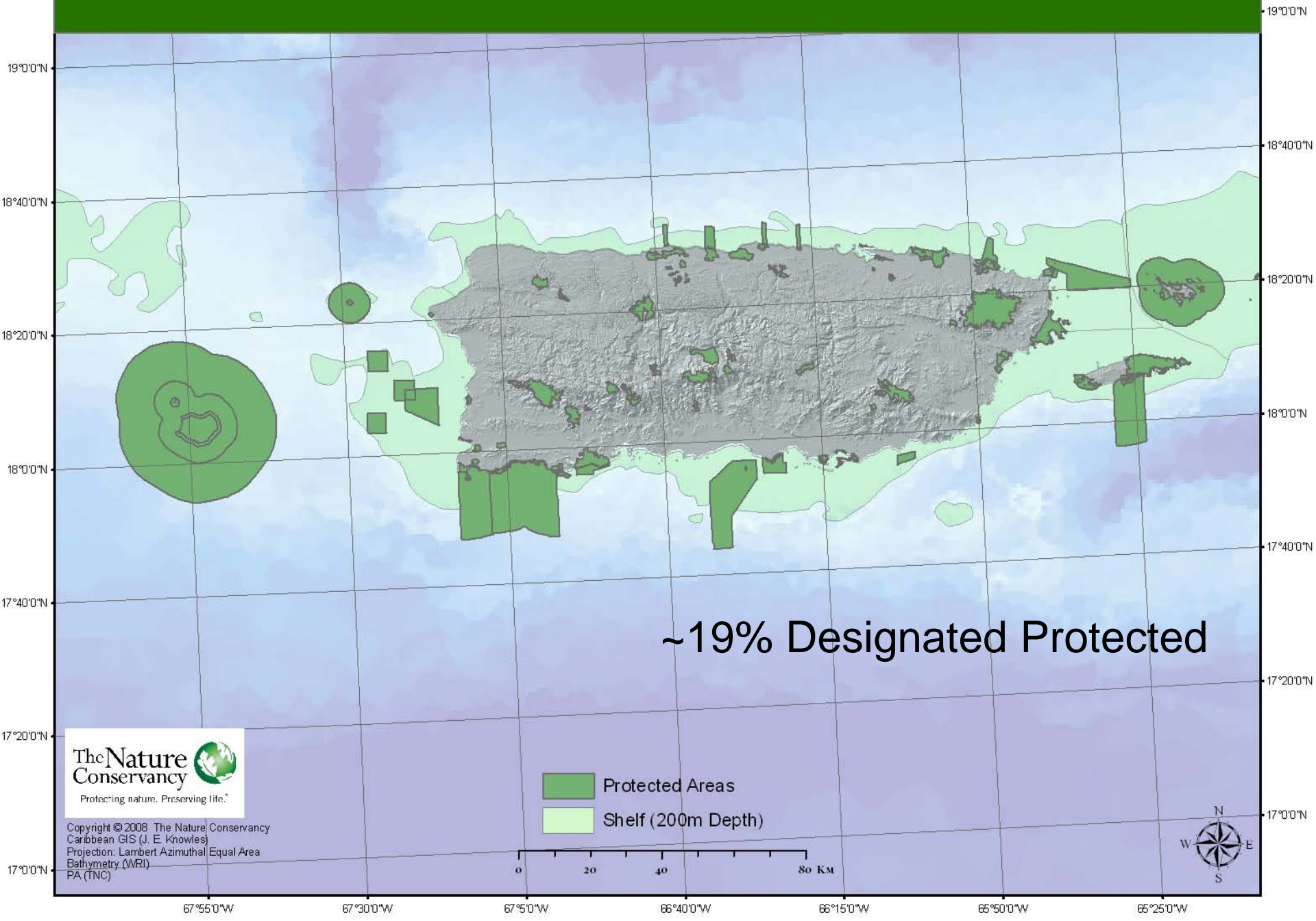
- Explore formal US / USCRTF endorsement

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Next Steps (continued):
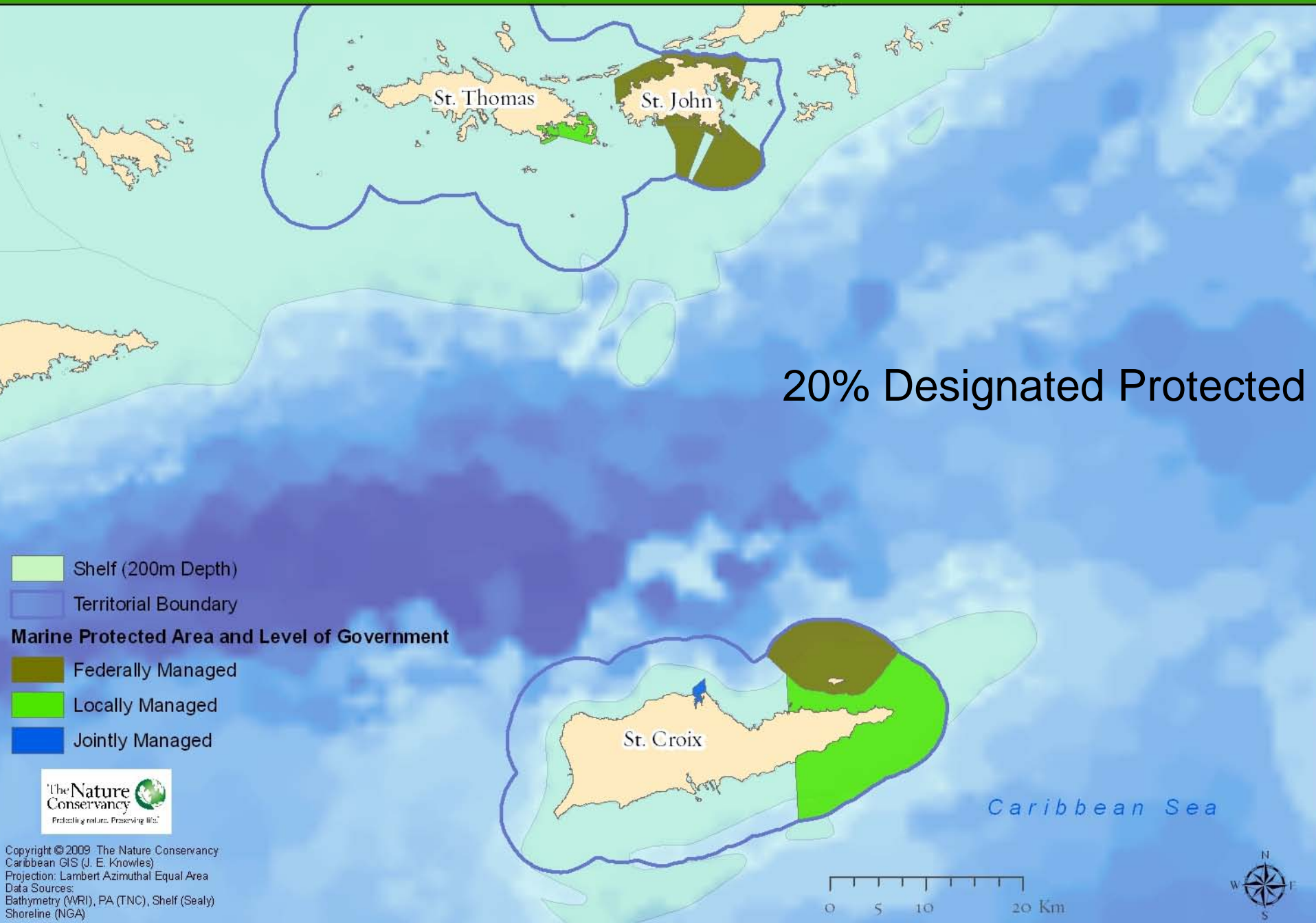
- Work with closely aligned jurisdictions:
    - Cayman Islands
    - British Virgin Islands
    - US Virgin Islands
    - Puerto Rico
    - St. Kitts and Nevis
    - St. Lucia
    - Antigua and Barbuda

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PUERTO RICO: PROTECTED AREAS

~19% Designated Protected

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Caribbean GIS (J. E. Knowles)
Projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area
Bathymetry (WRI)
PA (TNC)

Protected Areas
Shelf (200m Depth)

0   20   40   80 KM

Thank you!