

In 2012, eighteen (18) Protected Areas for the Wider Caribbean Region were listed under the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) as meeting regional criteria of special significance (see link: <http://www.car-spaw-rac.org/?Presentation-of-the-18-PAs-listed,412>). The list of protected areas is expected to grow as a regional cooperative programme developed for their support. The eighteen PAs included so far are:

- **Belize:** Hol Chan Marine Reserve and Glover's Reef Marine Reserve;
- **Colombia:** Sanctuary Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta and the Regional Seaflower Marine Protected Area in San Andrés and Providencia Archipelago;
- **Cuba:** National Park of Guanahacabibes, in Pinar del Río;
- **France:** Grand Connétable Island Nature Reserve (French Guiana), the National Park of Guadeloupe, the Réserve Naturelle Nationale of Saint-Martin, the Lagoon Ponds of St. Martin, the National Reserve of "Petite-Terre" (Gua

counterparts to address the lionfish issue in the Caribbean through preparation of a manual. The manual titled “*Invasive Lionfish: A Guide to Control and Management*” was developed in 2012 in English and is being translated in Spanish. This guide will serve as a crucial tool for managers in assisting with the control of the lionfish invasion and its impacts by providing practical solutions and recommendations. For more information, please visit (<http://lionfish.gcfi.org/manual/#?page=0>)

Contributions of the Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution Sub-Programme (AMEP):

Land-based Sources of Pollution

The Protocol concerning Pollution from Land -based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol) of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) entered into Force in August 2010 .With the ratification of this Protocol by the Government of Grenada in 2012, ten (10) countries of the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR) are now contracting parties to this Protocol.

Support continues to be provided through UNEP CEP to member countries of the Wider Caribbean Region to meet their obligations under the LBS Protocol. This is facilitated through a range of projects and activities such as the GEF funded Project “Testing a Prototype Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (CRew)” which seeks to establish innovative, financing mechanisms for cost-effective and sustainable financing of wastewater management in the WCR; to facilitate policy discussions, strengthen legislative frameworks; and to facilitate regional dialogue and knowledge exchange among the key stakeholders in the WCR.

GEF CRew is a four (4) year project managed and implemented by the Inter-American Development Bank and the United Nations Environment Programme. There are thirteen participating countries: *Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago*. The project also has four 4 pilot projects countries: Belize, Jamaica, Guyana and Trinidad & Tobago. The Project completed baseline assessments in all the participating countries to determine policy, legislative, capacity building and training needs for effective wastewater management. The baseline assessment reports are being finalized. Regional training workshops convened by the project included topics such as *Appropriate Wastewoh*

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for the activities that need to be developed and implemented within the WCR in order to mitigate, minimize and eventually eliminate the tra

papers were published in the Special Issue (# 12) o