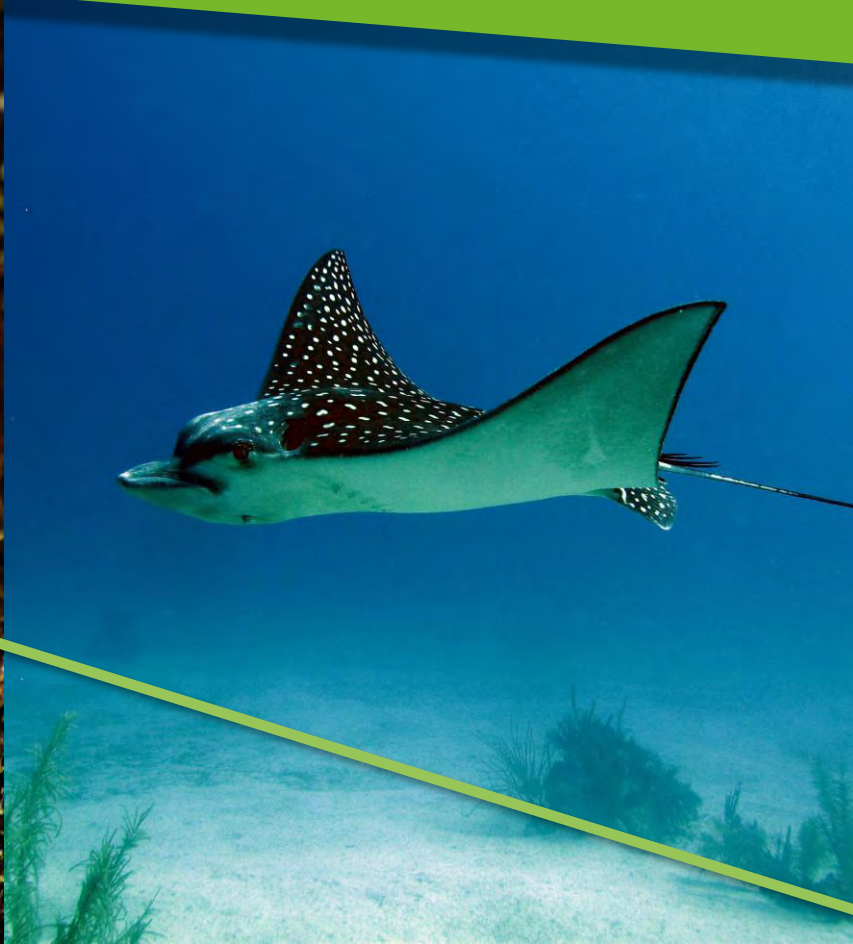


# HONDURAS





# OPERATION WALLACEA



**TOOK OUR FIRST EXPEDITION IN 1995**



**SINCE THEN WE HAVE COLLECTED DATA IN MORE THAN 19 COUNTRIES**



**RESULTING IN 66 NEW SPECIES TO SCIENCE**

- 4 BIRDS**
- 4 SNAKES**
- 3 LIZARDS**
- 1 FROG**
- 1 SALAMANDER**
- 1 SHREW**
- 1 BAT**



**INCLUDING**

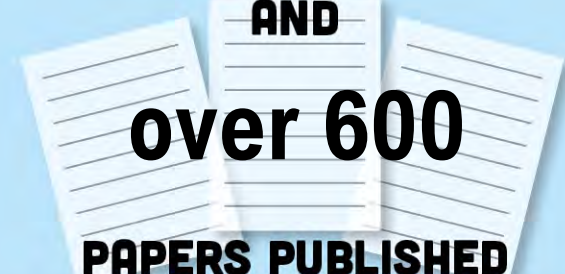
**15 VERTEBRATES**

**1 FUNGUS**

**45 INVERTEBRATES**

**5 PLANTS**

**AND over 600 PAPERS PUBLISHED**





# OPERATION WALLACEA – WHAT WE DO



**WE HAVE STUDENTS JOIN US TO:  
WORK WITH AMAZING SCIENTISTS, TAKE PART IN REAL  
RESEARCH, UNDERSTAND WHAT CONSERVATION AND  
RESEARCH ARE.**

1



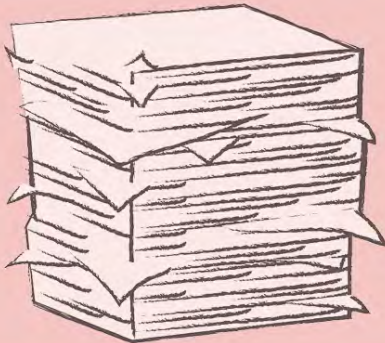
**MAKE THE ENTIRE PROGRAMME HAPPEN**

**BRING RESEARCHERS TO AREAS THAT ARE VULNERABLE, IN  
NEED OF PROTECTION OR HAVE LITTLE KNOWN ABOUT THEM  
AND THE ECOSYSTEMS THEY HOLD.**

2



3



**THIS ENABLES US TO:**

**USE OUR DATA  
FOR PUBLICATIONS TO...**

**WORK OUT THE BEST CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT GOALS  
AND WORK WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO MAKE SURE  
THESE AREAS WHERE WE STUDY AND THEIR SURROUNDING  
COMMUNITIES ARE PROTECTED.**



# OPWALL EXPEDITION LOCATIONS





Cusuco Forest Site

Cusuco National Park

Bay Islands Marine Site

Utila or Roatan marine research sites



# HONDURAS



Why is this place so important?

- Cusuco has been listed as one of the top 50 most irreplaceable forest sites
- More than 50% of Hondurans live below poverty levels
- Spectacular Caribbean coral reefs
- Honduras is the most mountainous country in Central America



# HONDURAS

## RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

What do we want to achieve?

- Monitoring data of key indicators is being used to evaluate the impacts of deforestation
- Allows us to plan best management practices to allow for conservation and protection





# HONDURAS

## RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

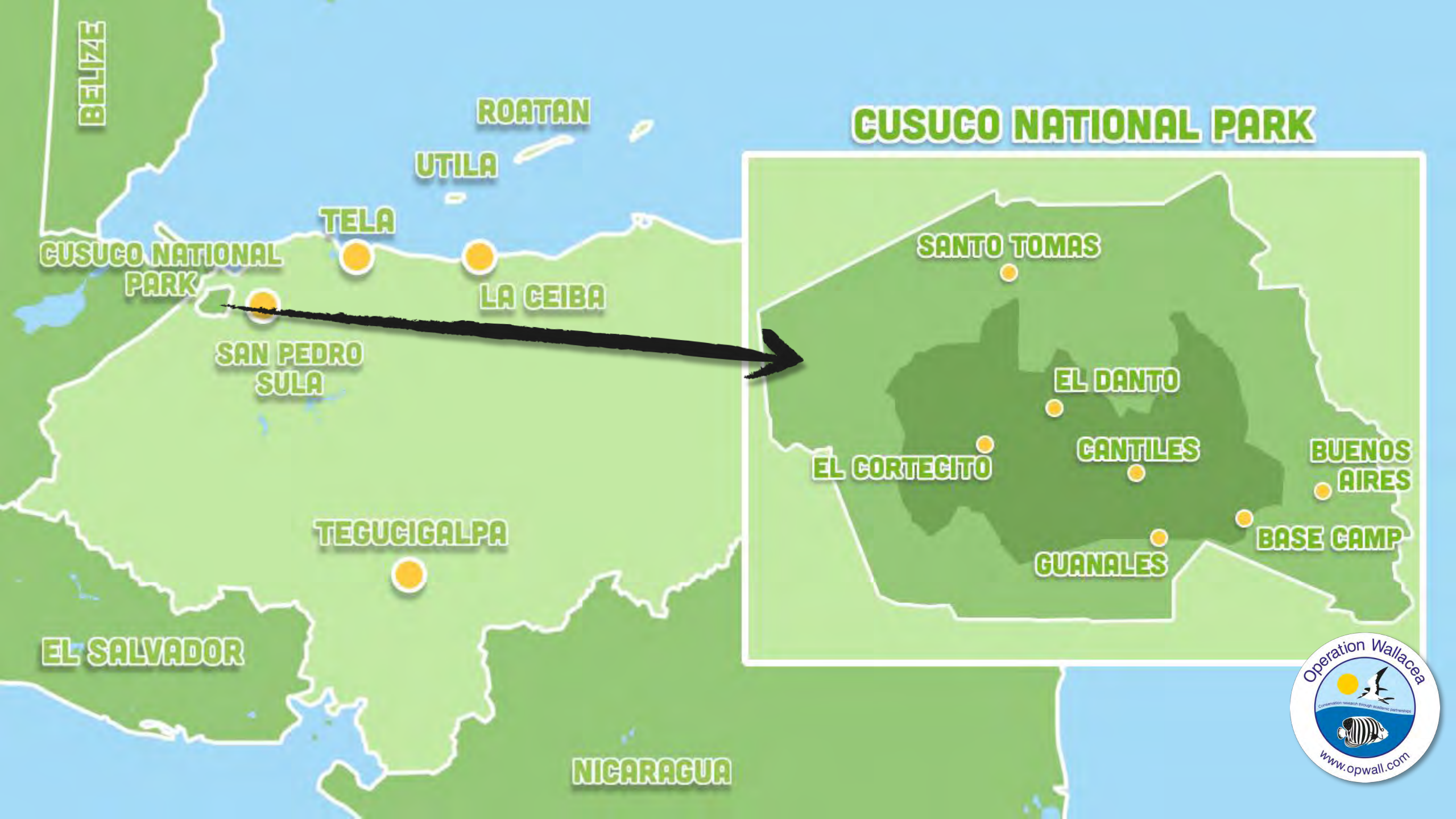
What do we want to achieve?

Bay Islands – Utila - Roatan

- Technological advancements to develop and change future approaches to coral reef research
- Monitoring data to assess temporal patterns and ecosystem change, alongside novel research to address key management priorities







BELIZE

ROATAN

UTILA

TELA

LA CEIBA

CUSUCO NATIONAL PARK

SAN PEDRO SULA

TEGUCIGALPA

EL SALVADOR

NICARAGUA

# CUSUCO NATIONAL PARK

SANTO TOMAS

EL DANTO

CANTILES

EL CORTECITO

GUANALES

BUENOS AIRES

BASE CAMP







# HONDURAS



## WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

- First week is spent in Cusuco National Park
- Rotate around each of the surveys
- Spend your week living between two camps, one in the core zone of the park





# HONDURAS



## WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

- Attend talks about the taxonomic groups we work with
- Attend practicals for each taxonomic group, learn about what we survey, how we do it and the intricacies of the study species





# HONDURAS

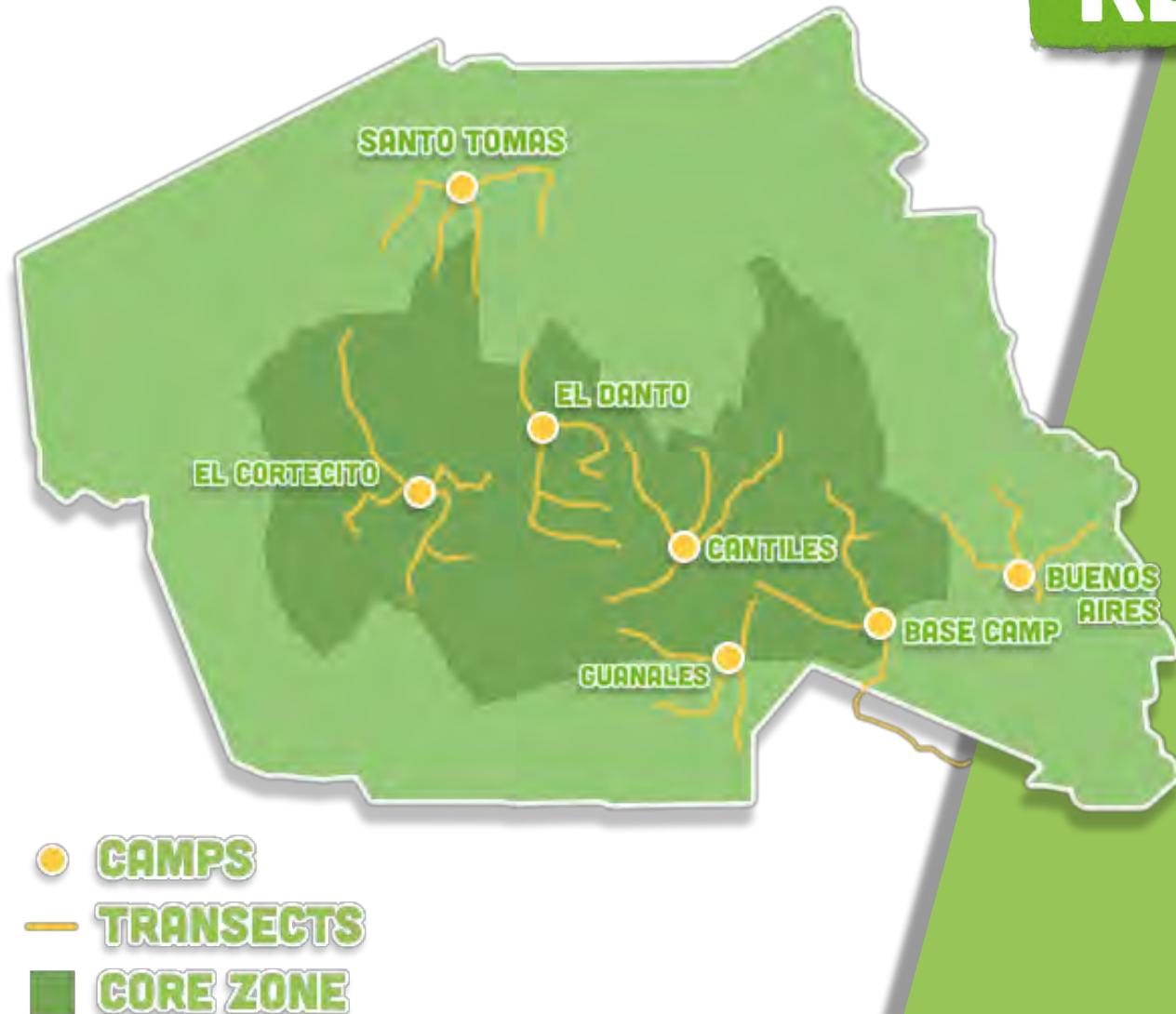


## WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

- Learn what makes research and conservation so important and what the data you have collected will achieve
- Exposure to a range of new skills
- Meet other students from schools and universities around the world



# CUSUCO NATIONAL PARK RESEARCH DESIGN



- 4 transects in each camp, each 2km
- 5 habitat plots located along each transect at 400m intervals, each 20m x 20m
- Fauna monitored along each transect
- Mean habitat variables from each plot used to characterise tree species composition and forest structure along each transect



# JUNGLE SKILLS

# CANOPY ACCESS

# NEOTROPICAL FOREST ECOLOGY COURSE





# MAMMALS

Network of camera traps and  
assessing transect routes  
Ungulates, felids and primates



# BIRDS

Mist netting and point counts



# DUNG BEETLES





# HERPETOFAUNA

Snakes



Reptiles



Amphibians





# LIGHT TRAPPING

Moths & Jewel Scarab beetles



# BATS

Mist netting



# HABITAT

Forest structure & carbon surveys





# ACCOMMODATION

## Cusuco camps





# HONDURAS

## WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

- Second week is spent in at one of the Bay island sites: Utila or Roatan
- Learn to dive – PADI open water course
- Complete the reef ecology course by snorkelling or diving





# LONG-SPINED SEA URCHINS

# MPA

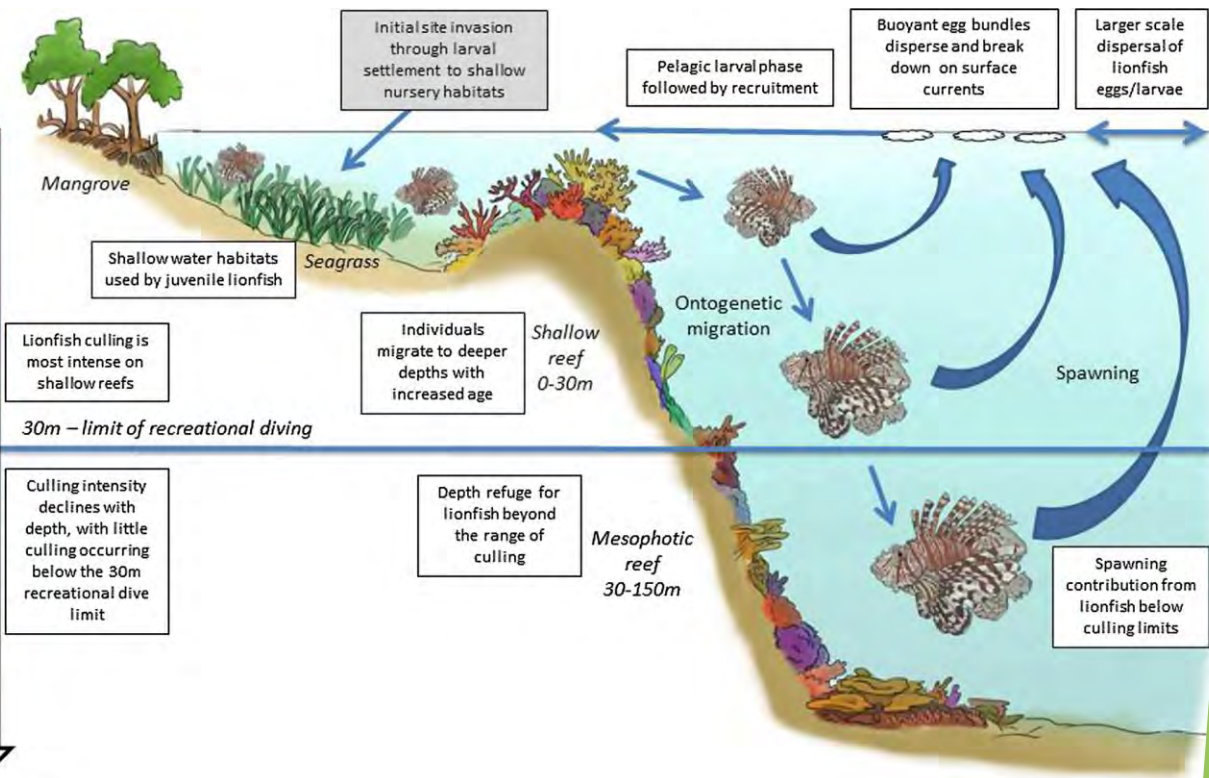
Assessing the efficacy of a newly created  
Marine Protected Area





# LION FISH SURVEYS

# 3D AND STEREO VIDEO SURVEYS





# ACCOMMODATION

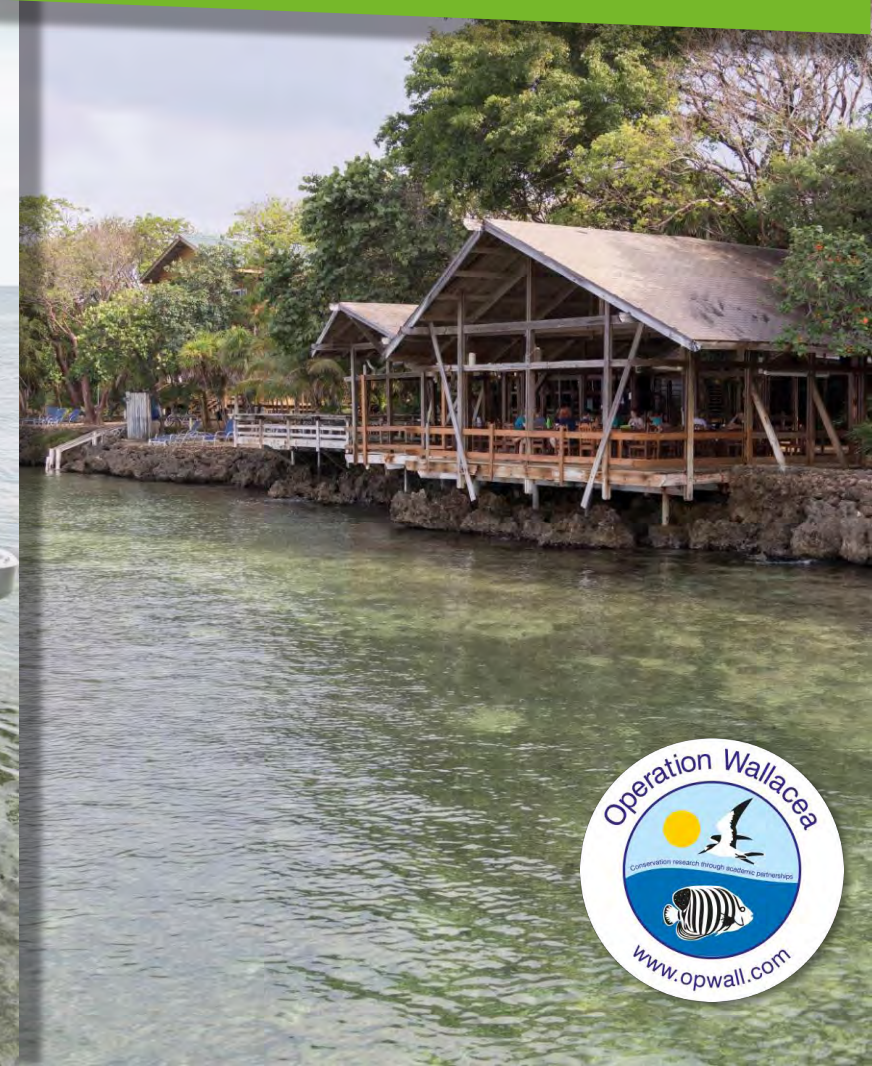
## Utila





# ACCOMMODATION

## Roatan





# FITNESS FOR THE FIELD

- In Honduras it is hot and humid
- Slow pace – stamina
- You will be trekking through the forest and carrying your day bag
- If you are fit you will be able to enjoy it much more- so get out and go walking/hiking/running/swimming!
- Make sure you are confident in the water and can swim at least 200m





# HEALTH & SAFETY

- Training of students in safety procedures
- Risk assessments and audits
- Medical cover
- Dive safety
- Communications
- Compliant with government safety standards
- Medical statistics published each year



**Dive Safety**  
Medical clearance may be required to dive for certain conditions (e.g. asthma)

**Allergies**  
Please inform us of any allergies as soon as possible



# COURSEWORK & UNIVERSITY ENTRY

- Lectures and practicals linked to the school curriculum
- Opportunities to use your expedition for school coursework (as an essay or using real data)
- University applications and interviews
- Visit [opwall.com](http://opwall.com) for more info





# COST



- Expedition cost paid to Opwall
- Travel and additional costs
- After the initial deposit is paid instalments can be made or monthly payments arranged
- A specific costing sheet and estimated total cost will be shown at the end of this talk





# FUNDRAISING SUPPORT

Full fundraising support available



BRGS students with teachers Peter Flynn and Sahar Stevenson-Jones

## A trip of a lifetime

A GROUP of 16 intrepid students will embark on a trip to Madagascar to work with Operation Wallacea.

The students from Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School will be collecting data on wildlife and habitats using pioneering techniques. They will get to trek in the dry forest at Mahamavo to document the local species unique to Madagascar.

Anna Cormack, 17, said: "I want to be a vet and we will be doing

will not embark until July 2020, they each have to raise £3,600 in order to spend two weeks on the island. Each student must aim to fund-raise at least half of this cost from grants, events and sponsorship.

Biology teacher Peter Flynn and chemistry teacher Sahar Stevenson-Jones will accompany the students.

Mrs Stevenson-Jones said: "This trip will give our students the chance to experience other cultures whilst

"Today's students are our next generation data scientists, Innovators and conservationists. They are going to be the people that change what is happening by seeing first-hand the destruction that humans are causing."

"The students have already undertaken a number of fundraising efforts, some have also taken up part-time jobs, and on April 6 members of the team have been sponsored to complete the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge.

the trip would be 'once in a lifetime' opportunity.

He has written to companies asking for donations and vouchers and is looking to hold a raffle and auction.

Erin Hargreaves, 16, said: "I have always been interested in wildlife and my granddad and I used to go bird watching together."

"Getting involved with this project has taught me the value of money - you have to work hard to earn it." To support the



The British School in Tokyo PTA

# BST Quiz Ni?ht

& Silent Auction Supporting Operation Wallacea

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November | 7-10pm

- \* Limited to 60
- \* ¥5000 per person
- \* Questions? P

www.opwall.com



# QUESTIONS?

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