

The Park is a key nesting area for the Critically Endangered hawksbill turtle *Eretmochelys imbricata*. This new facility will support ongoing efforts to conserve and restore the nesting beach population of hawksbill turtles that formerly existed along this coast. This population and others in Panama were nearly extirpated by the tortoiseshell trade that resulted in the loss of hundreds of thousands of hawksbill turtles (mostly nesting females) before Panama became a CITES signatory in 1978. The field station will serve as headquarters for beach monitors, mostly members of the Indigenous Ngäbe-Buglé community of Salt Creek, to continue daytime and night-time patrols that document nesting and productivity. The presence of monitors along with MiAmbiente (the environmental ministry of Panama) Park personnel has minimized the take of hawksbill females and nests from the Park and has led to a 10-fold increase in the number of nests deposited since 2003. Construction of the new field station was made possible by the cooperation of MiAmbiente, which has jurisdiction over protected areas and has played a key role in protecting the Park's resources, especially sea turtles. Bastimentos Island National Marine Park was one of the first national marine parks with sea turtle protection as one of its primary goals. The new station was funded by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the Coastal Wildlife Club of Florida, the Lemmon Foundation, and Only One. The building was dedicated to Chencho Castillo, a former Bocas turtle fisherman, who along with multiple family members has worked diligently to protect sea turtles in the Bocas region since 1987. The station was built on the site of his former camp on the Small Zapatilla Cay.

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### The Critically Endangered dragonfly *Libellula angelina* is losing its habitat to urbanization in East Asia

The Critically Endangered dragonfly *Libellula angelina*, known as the bekko tombo, of central and northern China, Japan, western South Korea, and North Korea, was common before 1970 but has declined dramatically as a result of habitat loss caused by urbanization. In China, natural ponds and wetland parks have facilitated the survival of this species in megacities such as Beijing and Tianjin, but habitat degeneration in some cities appears to be resulting in further decline of the species.

The natural ponds around the Chentai Bridge in Beichen district, Tianjin, one of the historical habitats of the bekko tombo, suffered a severe drought from excessive pumping for irrigation in spring 2020, followed by excessive water

supplementation that increased the original water level in autumn 2020. In Tianjin Water Park, another habitat of the bekko tombo, sediment was dredged and reeds mowed, destroying habitat for the species' nymphs and imagoes, respectively, in 2020. During 15 April–15 May 2021, we surveyed for the bekko tombo in these two habitats on 18 occasions, concentrating on their preferred microhabitats in reeds and open grassland, but failed to find the species. Prior to this, the bekko tombo was commonly seen in these two areas in spring.

The prime habitat for the bekko tombo is unmodified, stable and organic-rich ponds with open water and moderate growth of emergent plants. Urbanization and habitat degradation, accompanied by reclamation, drought, contamination, sediment dredging, mowing of reeds and shrinkage of wetlands, are driving the collapse of the remaining populations of the bekko tombo. Measures are required to maintain the integrity of the species' habitat by protecting wetlands from urbanization and anthropogenic modification, with a halt to inappropriate dredging and mowing.

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### First records of the West African torpedo in Cabo Verde Archipelago, eastern Atlantic

Torpedo rays are small to large electric rays with a depressed circular disc, short snout, and tail with two dorsal fins. Most are benthic species living on soft sand and mud. They occur worldwide, from cool temperate to tropical waters, in the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans. The family Torpedinidae comprises two genera and 20 known species, of which two have been recorded in the waters of the Cabo Verde archipelago in the eastern central Atlantic: *Torpedo marmorata* and *Torpedo torpedo*.

The West African torpedo *Torpedo mackayana* is a small ray (maximum total length c. 50 cm) that lives at depths of 15–50 m, distinguished by a greyish brown dorsal coloration with white blotches irregularly scattered on its disc and tail. Its population is decreasing, and it is categorized as Endangered on the IUCN Red List. In the eastern central Atlantic, *T. mackayana* is known from Mauritania to Angola, including São Tomé and Príncipe, but has never previously been recorded in the Cabo Verde archipelago.

Here we report the first records of *T. mackayana* off Maio Island, east of Cabo Verde (Fig. 1). The first sighting was on 2 March 2019 whilst snorkelling off Bitxe Rotxa beach, Porto Inglês. Three individuals of < 60 cm total length were observed during 15.24–16.00, at different locations along the beach at 5–8 m depth, by SSR and CMS. The second