



## PSA-045-Caribbean Sea Turtle given to WFCRC

Vic Ferguson

The World Federation for Coral Reef Conservation 281.971.7703 P.O. Box 311117 Houston Texas 77231

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Below is a picture of the world famous sculptor *Michael Hall* presenting the first of a series (1 of 50) of the "Caribbean Green Sea Turtle" to the Executive Director of the The Federation for Coral Reef Conservation.



The small version of the Sea Turtle (pictured) is an exact copy of the life size Turtle which is 36" from nose to tail. The life size bronze turtle will be made available to all participating Caribbean countries to be use as an underwater diving attraction. The smaller version is available for purchase now and the life size version will be available later this year. Contact Vic Ferguson at:

[vic.ferguson@wfcrc.org](mailto:vic.ferguson@wfcrc.org) or  
[vferguson001@gmail.com](mailto:vferguson001@gmail.com) for further details.

The World Federation for Coral Reef Conservation in conjunction with Mission Blue and the United Nations Ocean Conference is creating its plans for our:

**"Changes in attitudes...Changes in latitudes"** St. Maarten Coral Summit 2017 and I want to share the plans with everyone in hopes of having you join us on November 14, 2017. Details and invitations will be coming soon, so connect with us for participation.

As a working partner with Mission Blue, The United Nations Ocean Conference, and many others, The World Federation for Coral Reef Conservation (WFCRC) is building upon [MB's hope sites](#). By identifying specific regions or areas of similar concerns and similar resources will provide a more holistic approach to conservations issues.



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WFCRC is proposing a “**Caribbean Ring of Hope Sites**” in the Caribbean. (see attached map) To add a geologic component to the selection process for Hope Sites creates a strong synergy of cooperation for between sites that produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects.

From a long term management perspective, to link Hope Sites together geographically makes a great deal of sense, in that it creates a continuous flow of support and knowledge sharing in areas with similar threats and similar solutions. By selecting other Hope sites along the flanks of the Caribbean basin establishes a network of knowledge



based data over a very large area and has an effect on a very large stakeholder base that is affected by similar events.

The socioeconomic aspect has long been a cohesive factor in any development for the Caribbean. For centuries there has been competition for trade and tourism. The development of **The Caribbean Ring of Hope Sites** will allow for equal participation in resource and information sharing. Plans are underway to create an underwater dive attraction by the way of a life size bronze sculpture to be placed at a site determined by each participating country in the Caribbean. (see ring of sites above). WFCRC is a member of and participates in [The United Nations Ocean Conference](#) held this year in New York City.

The Ocean Conference shall adopt by consensus a concise, focused, intergovernmentally agreed declaration in the form of a "Call for Action" to support the implementation of Goal 14 and a report containing the co-chairs' summaries of the partnership dialogues, as well as a list of voluntary commitments for the implementation of Goal 14, to be announced at the Conference.

You will have a chance to hang out with us at our 2017 Fundraiser/Gala. The event in St. Maarten will be The Fundraiser/Gala Event of the year for St. Maarten. The plans are for two hours of speakers and knowledge sharing about the value of maintaining the current status of coral reefs and coastal environments and how it pertains to



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keeping the local tourism business healthy. Then the evening meal, a silent auction then the entertainment. So mark your calendar and give a higher value to your vacation by being part of an event that help minimize man's effect on coral reefs and coastal environments.