

Developing Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Tools for the Turks and Caicos Islands.

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Dr Julian Tyne and Marcin Gorny are the SAERI project team based in the Turks and Caicos Islands since October 2019, working on Developing Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Tools for the Turks and Caicos Islands. We generally work from the Providenciales offices of the Department of Environment

and Coastal Resources (DECR), the Turks and Caicos Government (TCIG) department that are the main collaborators on this project, and who have been very helpful to us as we settle into life on the islands. The view from the office is quite something. In addition, we are collaborating with Economics for the Environment (eftec) and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC).

As part of the project we have been collecting and collating existing marine data, and we recently completed metadata training and four stakeholder workshops. The workshops were held on South Caicos, Grand Turk and two on Providenciales, this provided us the opportunity to meet with stakeholders to discuss and obtain their input on the MSP project, and who we will consult with on a regular basis throughout the project.

Whilst here we've seen native iguanas enjoying the beach, and while snorkelling we've come across turtles, stingrays, corals and many reef fish.

