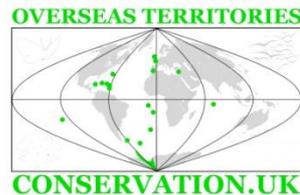


Wonderful Water

A Watery Environment

Wetland Ecosystems in the Turks and Caicos Islands Part 2:
Pupils' Text Images 2b

Supporting Information on
Biodiversity,
Population Size
Invasive Species



Silver buttonwood



Donkeys on Salt Cay. They were brought to TCI for the salt industry, then left in the wild.



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

Healthy coral reefs are important for biodiversity.



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

Buffy flower bat.



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

Spiders



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

Caicos barking gecko



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

Aristelliger hectii – restricted to the Caicos Bank

Greater Antillean bullfinch



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

Endemic sub-species

Coral Reef



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

Healthy coral reefs are very diverse.

Butterfly feeding on Heather



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

The butterfly feeds on, and pollinates the heather

Large numbers of flamingoes



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

mean that there is plenty of prey food for them

Water is a limiting resource.



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

Competition for resources



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

The large egret chasing the small one away to stop it fishing.

Casuarina is an invasive species



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

It poisons the ground and so stops the native vegetation from growing.

Invasive lionfish



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

This alien invader is a great threat to the coral reef ecosystem.

Caicos pines killed by an invasive scale insect



Photo © Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF

The invasive scale insect possibly came to TCI on imported Christmas trees.