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## Island Resources Mailing Lists for the Insular Caribbean and Global Islands Communities

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Island Resources Foundation set up e-mail groups for several active programs, including biodiversity conservation, coastal zone and watershed management, and environmental information systems. As part of our legacy environmental information program, the Foundation owns or moderates dozens of separate mailing lists subscribing more than 3,000 individuals and groups. These e-mail groups are all more than five years old.

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The general rules to **SUBSCRIBE** to one of these automated e-mail groups, mostly run through the Yahoogroups platform are:

To join/subscribe to a Group via email:

1. Send a blank email to:

<groupname-subscribe@yahoogroups.com>

Make sure to replace "groupname" with the actual name of the Group (e.g.,

<caribbean-biodiversity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com>).

2. Within a day or two, you will receive a subscription confirmation message. Just reply to the confirmation message and your subscription will be complete.

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Alternatively, you can also **SUBSCRIBE** on-line at the Yahoo Groups web site and search for the group that you desire <http://www.yahoogroups.com>.

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To join, or subscribe to, a Group via the Yahoo! Groups web site <groups.yahoo.com>:

1. Locate a Group by browsing the categories listed on the Yahoo! Groups home page, or by using the search box on any page.
  2. Once you've found a Group that interests you, click its name to view the main Group page for more information.
  3. Click on Join this Group!. In addition to joining, you will be able to set your membership options.
  4. If you haven't **REGISTERED** or signed in, you will be prompted to do so.
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**REGISTRATION** is different from **SUBSCRIBING**. You can subscribe to an e-mail group and receive and send text messages to and from the group forever without registering.

In order to use the advanced features of the YahooGroups web site, however, including access to a searchable list of archived messages, lists of members, and

archived text files, you MUST REGISTER. This can only be done on-line at the YahooGroups web site: <<http://groups.yahoo.com/>>.

Each person (well, technically, each e-mail address) needs to register ONLY ONCE with Yahoo---no matter how many separate groups you join---for example, I currently subscribe to over 80 YahooGroups, but I have only registered once.

To control what future advertising messages that Yahoo! sends to you, after you are registered, go to the "Marketing Preferences" page --- I think this page will get you there:

<<http://subscribe.yahoo.com/showaccount>>.

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MEMBERS of each list are encouraged to post directly their own messages about what's going on in the Caribbean, or what they have questions about. Once subscribed any list member can address all list members just by sending a message to

<groupname@yahoogroups.com>,

where you substitute the actual groupname for groupname, such as

<caribbean-biodiversity@yahoogroups.com>.

There is no moderation on messages directly posted to these groups.

We occasionally post the same information to more than one list, but not usually. The facilities for these mailing lists maintained by the "yahoogroups.com" organization include archiving all of the messages posted to the list, calendars, databases, polling, an archive of down-loadable files and a variety of other services which can be explored at their web site at <<http://groups.yahoo.com/>>. To access the web site, usually you have to register your e-mail address and a password of your own devising with yahoogroups.com.

Several of these public lists are described below.

**Caribbean Biodiversity Conservation** -- this list was founded 18 years ago to support our Biodiversity Conservation and NGO Development Office in Antigua. The list membership includes scientists, researchers, and students working in the region and natural resource planners and managers. The list has a large number of bird experts enrolled. To subscribe simply send a blank e-mail to <[caribbean-biodiversity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:caribbean-biodiversity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>. There are currently about 375 subscribers.

**Caribbean Civil Society Forum for Sustainable Development.** This Forum provides a space for discussion of sustainable development issues in the Caribbean, especially among individuals and organisations in the non-governmental sector. It is intended to enable information sharing about programme planning, implementation, and management among individuals and civil society organisations in the region. This list is open to all interested persons and groups in the Caribbean; members may post messages directly in Spanish, French, or English. To subscribe send a blank e-mail to <[carib-ngo-forum-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:carib-ngo-forum-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>.

The **Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) membership group.** This group of

over 200 subscribers is open to all interested conservationists -- it is moderated on in memory of the CCA, and addresses general regional environmental topics, with special focus on those for which the CCA has historically focused, including topics such as whaling, multilateral environmental agreements, environmental NGOs and institutional capacity building, biodiversity conservation, and information exchange.< [CCA-members-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:CCA-members-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>

**Caribbean Assessment** and Reporting Mailing List. The list concentrates on tools and information sharing for conducting state-of-the-environment reports, policy analyses and similar high-level environmental policy topics. To subscribe send a blank e-mail to <[carib-assessment-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:carib-assessment-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>.

**Caribbean GIS Users** -- News of interest to 300+ regional users and implementers of geographic information systems and remote sensing applications. The longest-running GIS list in the region. We also forward some GIS job postings to this list. To subscribe send a blank e-mail to <[carib-gis-users-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:carib-gis-users-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>.

**Sustainable Tourism** Mailing List—encompasses private sector, governmental bodies, and the scientific and conservation communities which seek to promote the development of a sustainable tourism for the Caribbean, to enhance the ethical management of our natural and cultural resources and to protect the health of our people and guests. Originally established for the Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Tourism (CAST). To subscribe or send an e-mail to <[sustainable-tourism-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:sustainable-tourism-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>.

**Caribbean Coral Reefs.** This list was set up with the World Resources Institute to help coordinate coral reef information exchange throughout the Wider Caribbean in support of the 2004 publication of Caribbean Reefs at Risk, an update of the UNEP/WRI/ICLARM 1998 global Reefs at Risk assessment. It has about 240 members. To subscribe send a blank e-mail to <[carib-coral-reefs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:carib-coral-reefs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>.

**Grenada's Story:** This e-mail list complements the Grenada-history web site at <<http://www.grenada-history.org>>, which was originally sponsored by Alister and Margaret Hughes in order to stimulate a restoration of community awareness and concern by all Grenadians and well wishers. Subscribe with an e-mail to: <[grenada-history-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:grenada-history-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>. We will be announcing the release of additional parts of Alister Hughes' published and never-before printed writings on this list.

**EIA on Islands** -- Subscribe with a blank message to <[Island-EIA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Island-EIA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>. This 150-member group combines several previous groups to focus on issues of governance and empowerment in the Environmental Impact Assessment process in the Virgin Islands, Caribbean regional, and global levels. It is also where most of the posts about integrated coastal zone management are published.

**San Andres Research** Mailing List. This list is maintained to support a network of researchers interested in research about the people, reefs, and banks of the Colombian Archipelago of San Andres, Old Providence, and Santa Catalina. To subscribe send a blank e-mail to <[san-andres-research-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:san-andres-research-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>.

The "**Caribbean Territories**" discussion list is organized to promote communication and information exchange among the dependent small islands in the Caribbean, especially the US, British, French and Dutch dependencies. Subjects include governance and environment. To subscribe: send a blank, no subject message to <[carib-territories-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:carib-territories-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>.

**IRF Member Newsletter** — this 200-subscriber list provides Island Resources Foundation members, friends, and Program Associates with current news and opinion about events of environmental consequence in the world of small islands, and among the Foundation's major stakeholders and friends. To subscribe, send a blank e-mail to <[irf-members-news-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:irf-members-news-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>.

In addition to these e-mail groups, the Foundation has been active in support of two global small-island-focused web sites:

1) The **Global Islands Network** <<http://www.globalislands.net>> which was founded at the same time as SIDSNet on behalf of the worldwide community of those working to support sustainable development in small islands. The Global Islands Network has **THE BEST** archive of small island pertinent news clippings of any other source.

2) **ISISA**—this is the 500-member list for the **International Small Islands Study Association** (join the group by sending the blank e-mail to <[ISISA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ISISA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>. ISISA is unique in its worldwide scope and the way it combines participation by international experts and academics and island residents. ISISA also has an excellent web site hosted by the University of Hawaii, Maui Campus <<http://isisa.maui.hawaii.edu>>

In addition to the groups described above, Island Resources was instrumental in setting up the **GLISPA-Discuss** (GLobal ISlands PArtnership) e-mail discussion group on the Googlegroups forum. This was established at the request of Kate Brown, the GLISPA Coordinator, is currently managed by Jessica Roberts of Media Impact and has about 500 members.

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Yahoogroups list owner-moderator: Bruce Potter <[bpotter@irf.org](mailto:bpotter@irf.org)>

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