

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
San Juan National Historic Site



Resource Challenges at San Juan National Historic Site

Annual Meeting of the South Florida Caribbean
Cooperative Ecosystems Unit (SFC CESU),
Biscayne National Park, Florida

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Presented by: Félix J. López

San Juan National Historic Site

Castillo San Felipe del Morro



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City Wall



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Castillo San Cristóbal



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Fort San Juan de la Cruz (El Cañuelo)



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Important Dates

- Beginning of construction of Castillo San Felipe del Morro -1539
- English Attack led by Sir Francis Drake- 1595
- English Attack led by Sir George Clifford, Earl of Cumberland
- Construction of Fort San Juan de la Cruz (C.1601-1610)
- Beginning of construction of Castillo San Cristobal-1634
- Visit of Field Marshall Alexander O'Reilly-1765
- Encirclement of Old San Juan with a masonry wall is completed-1785

Important Dates

- British Attack of 1797 led by Sir Ralph Abercrombie
- Bombardment of the city of San Juan by Admiral William Sampson-1898
- Creation of the San Juan Military Reservation-1901
- Establishment of San Juan National Historic Site-1949
- Transference to NPS -1961
- World Heritage Site -1983 (with La Fortaleza, the Governor's Mansion)
- National Historic Landmark-2013 (as part of the Old San Juan Historic District)

Challenges: Climate Change

Erosion



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Challenges: Climate Change

Sea Level Rise

National Park Service, 2014

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Challenges: Climate Change

Increase in Vegetation Growth



Challenges- Invasive Species



Green Iguana



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Challenges- Invasive Species

Feral Cats

Daily News, 2008

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Documentation Needs

- Historic Structures Reports
- Archeological Assessments
- Cultural Landscape Inventories and Reports
- Condition Assessments for Museum Collections

Successful CESU Projects

- Historic Drawings Conservation Project 2007



CESU Agreement with the University of Pennsylvania.

Successful CESU Projects

- Metal Objects Conservation Project



Dr. Esteban Fachini, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus, working on the Metal Objects Conservation Program. Photo by César Piñero

References

- National Park Service. (2014). San Juan National Historical Park Climate Friendly Parks Workshop. *San Juan National Historical Park Climate Friendly Parks Workshop Summary* (p. 12). San Juan: National Park Service.
- The Associated Press. (2008, August 12). *Daily News Latino*. Retrieved October 10, 2016, from www.nydailynews.com:
<http://www.nydailynews.com/latino/cat-fight-brewing-san-juan-feral-felines-article-1.318544>
- All other photos are from the collection of the National Park Service, San Juan National Historic Site.

San Juan National Historic Site Cultural Resources Management



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