

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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# San Juan National Historic Site

## Castillo San Felipe del Morro



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# San Juan National Historic Site

## City Wall



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# San Juan National Historic Site

## Castillo San Cristóbal



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# San Juan National Historic Site

## Fort San Juan de la Cruz (El Cañuelo)



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# San Juan National Historic Site



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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

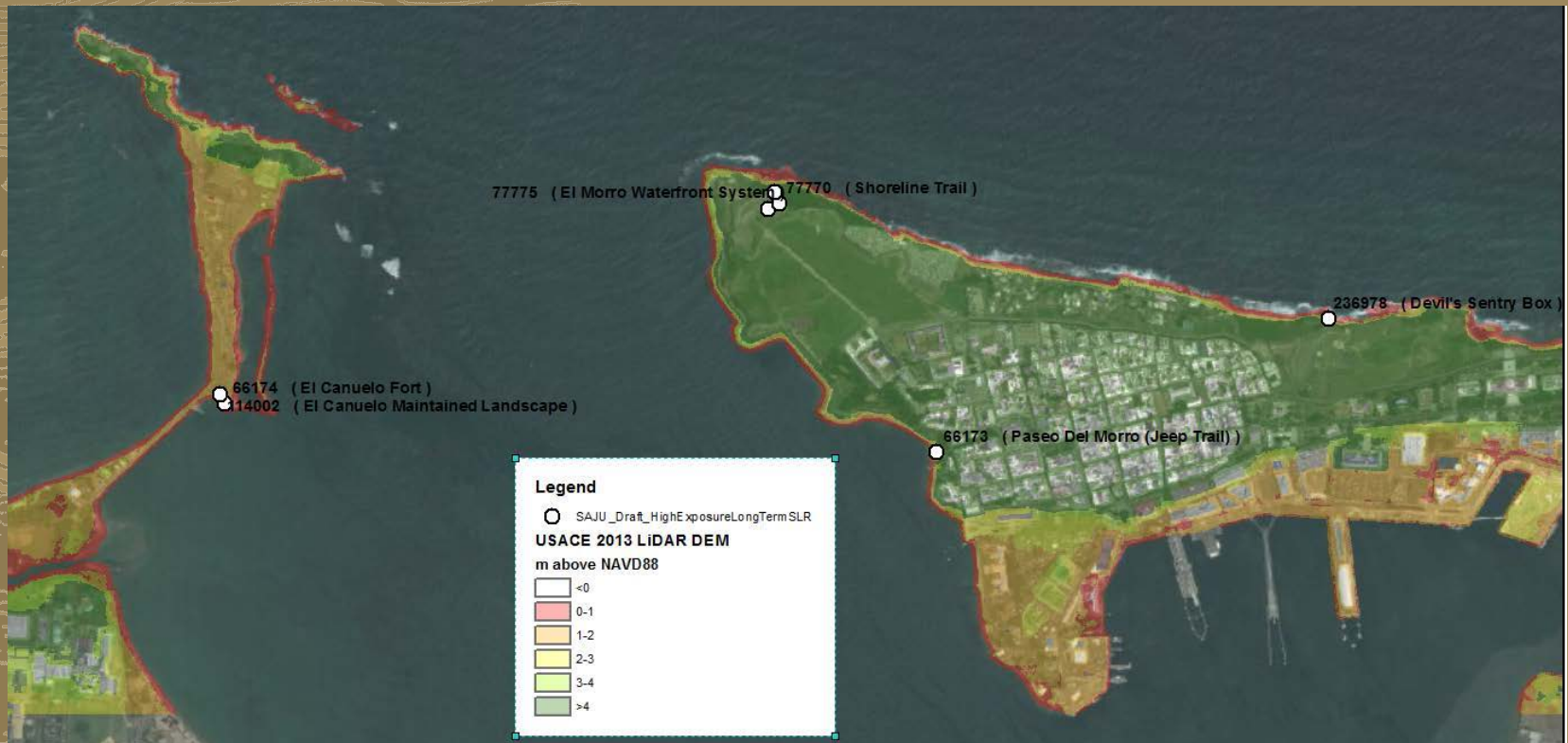
## Erosion



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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



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# Challenges- Invasive Species



Green Iguana



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# Challenges- Invasive Species



Feral Cats

*Daily News, 2008*



# 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](http://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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