# WILDLIFE PROTECTION ACT (WLPA)

PURPOSE OF THE ACT
APPLICATION AND SCOPESPECIES PROTECTION
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POWER OF DESIGNATED PERSONNEL
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# **Purpose of the Act**

Most important legislation affecting wildlife management.

Only statute in Jamaica specifically designated to protect species of animals and birds and regulates hunting in Jamaica.



# **Application and Scope**

# Provides a list of protected species (which include all birds) for which protection is given.



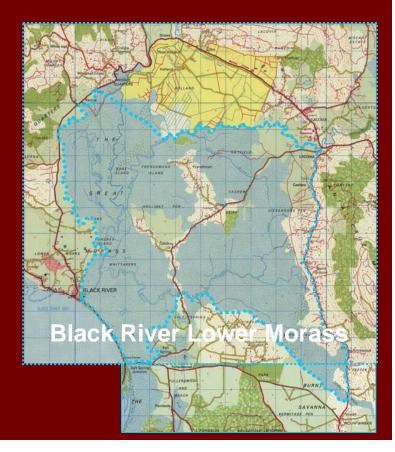
**Yellow-billed parrot** 



# **Application and Scope cont'd**

# Establishes two types of protected areas: Game Reserves (Private Lands) Game Sanctuaries (Crown Lands)





# A Game Reserve is a parcel of land, body of water or area comprising both land and water.

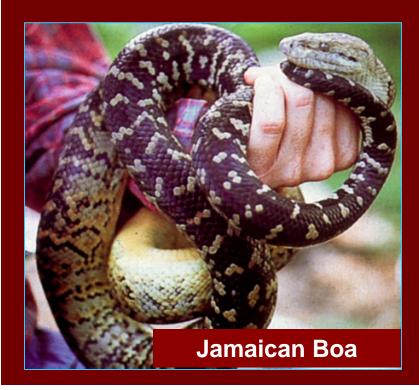
Within the Reserve the hunting of animals and birds, removal of eggs or the nest of any bird and the use of any dog, gun, catapult or any other weapon which can be used for hunting is prohibited

#### Penalty \$100,000.00

For each Game Reserve there is a fifty meter distant from the boundary. This is called the buffer zone. Hunters are required to recognize this zone and refrain from all shooting activities within such zones .Entry points to all Game Reserves are furnished with signs

# **Application and Scope cont'd**

Regulates the bird shooting season.
Provides for the appointment of Game Wardens.
Allows exemptions to keep protected species.





# **Species Protection**

 List protected animals and species include Turtles, Crocodiles, Jamaican Iguana, West Indian Manatee





# **Species Protection**

 All birds are protected except for 23 species
 Protected birds include, Black-billed Parrots, Parakeets, all hummingbirds, migratory birds

- Not protected include geese, House Sparrow, Budgerigars, Cattle Egret
- Game Birds are White-wing Dove, Bald-pate, Pea Dove, Short tail pea-dove.



## **Designated personnel**

#### Designated personnel under the Act [s.15]

- **Game Wardens**
- Fishery Inspectors
- Constables





## Powers of designated personnel cont'd

#### Power

If suspected that an offence is being committed or about to be committed any time of the day or night may enter, remain upon and traverse any land [s.15 (2)]

Search any person suspected of contravening the Act or its regulations [s.16];

Stop and search any vehicle, boat or other conveyance suspected to have protected animals, birds or fish or nest or egg any guns, catapults or other weapon or trap used to commit an offence [s.16].

# **Power of designated Officer cont'd**

Detain without warrant if suspected an offence is being committed [s.17]





# OFFENCES

- Sec 4 (1) In a Game Sanctuary, Its an offence to,
- hunt any animal or bird
- Take the nest or egg of a bird
- Take or allow a dog to enter
- Carry gun, catapult or other weapon for hunting.
- Penalty \$100,000 or one year.

Section 4 (2)
 Has in his possession protected animal or bird or its nest or eggs
 Penalty 100,000 or one year.

#### Sec. 6 (1)

- Hunt protected animal or bird
- Sec 6 (A)
- Possess all or part of protected animal or bird
- Sec 72(a)1
- Take or possess nest or egg of protected bird

Penalty \$100,000 or one year

 Sec. 7(2)a
 Hunt game bird in close season or on unauthorized days.
 7(2)b
 Possess hawks for sale, offer for sale or store game birds.
 Penalty \$100,000 or one year. Sec. 8
 Take possession or try to sell turtle eggs
 Hunt animal/bird in the Exclusive Economic Zone without a licence
 Penalty \$100,000 or one year.

 Sec 9
 Knowingly buy, sell, expose for sale, possess, kill, injure or take immature fish.
 Penalty \$50, 000 or two years

# ■ Sec (10)

 Use or cause the use of dynamite or explosive substance to kill or injure fish
 Use or allow to be used poison, lime or noxious material to take, kill or injure fish.  Sec 10 continued
 Unlawfully or maliciously , break, damage, destroy a dam, floodgate sluice to kill, trap or injure fish Use or allow the use of unauthorized trap in river, stream or canal

### Section (11)

- Cause or knowingly allow entry of trade effluent or industrial waste into any body of water with fish.
- Penaty 100,000 or one year





Sec (12)
 Knowingly buy, sell or possess fish killed or injured contrary to the Act Penalty 10,000 or one year

 Sec (15)
 Obstruct or deny entry to a Fishery Inspector, Game warden or a Constable during the execution of his duty
 Penalty 10,000 or one year. Sec (18)
 Give false personal information to authorized person
 Penalty 2,000 or one year.

## Sec (19)

 Assault, obstruct or hinder a fishery inspector, game warden or a constable or aid this action in the execution of his duty
 Penalty 10,000 or one year

# **Offences cont'd**

The End
Questions/comments
Thank you.

