



Study Area: Terrestrial Ecology

Grand Cayman is **home to a diverse range of biological communities**, and the terrestrial ecology portion of the EIA examines the potential impacts of the proposed action on those natural resources.

Studying ecological resources starts with establishing baseline conditions to assess the current state of the different ecosystems within the EIA study area. The study then moves onto potential effects on biological communities both from construction activities and from future use activities. Notable ecosystems this section of the EIA is looking at include the Central Mangrove Wetland and the Mastic Reserve.

To EIA will start by establishing baseline conditions in these sensitive areas:



1 Central Mangrove Wetland

2 Meagre Bay Pond & Animal Sanctuary

3 Mastic Reserve

4 Little Sound Environmental Zone

5 North Sound Marine Reserve

6 Terrestrial protected species (flora and fauna)

7 Marine protected species (flora and fauna)

The EIA will analyse direct and temporary **impacts from the construction** phase as well as secondary, indirect, and cumulative impacts for the operation of the **EWA Extension**, including:

- ///** Habitat fragmentation or loss
- ///** Species disturbance
- ///** Restriction of animal migratory movements
- ///** Dust, roadway runoff, and traffic noise
- ///** Reduced hydrologic connectivity

The EIA will include recommendations to offset unavoidable impacts from the EWA extension and environmental enhancements and education to reach a goal of “no net loss of biodiversity.”