# [***Alliance created to protect mangroves in Panama Bay and Parita Bay***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:661H-6311-JCG7-844W-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Body**

To collaborate with the conservation of Panama's ***mangroves***, National Audubon Society and Panama Audubon Society have created an alliance since last year to value, protect and improve the coastal natural capital of Panama Bay and Parita Bay with funds from the government of the United Kingdom, administered through the Natural Capital Laboratory of the Inter-American Development Bank, with support from the Ministry of Environment and the Embassy of the United Kingdom in Panama.

This project has as part of its priority interest the conservation of ***mangrove*** ecosystems, the establishment of a ***blue carbon*** baseline, the knowledge and dissemination of the importance of these two components and the strengthening of public policies that promote the conservation and restoration of ***mangroves***, so they will continue to strengthen this alliance to make these benefits effective.

The Panama Audubon Society reiterated that ***mangroves*** contribute to food security, filter the waters that flow into the oceans and reef systems and protect coastal communities around the world from storm surges, tsunamis, sea level rise and erosion, therefore, their conservation is a priority.

"The fish and crustaceans that grow in ***mangroves*** are sources of income for adjacent populations and have become an effective weapon in combating climate change thanks to the tons of carbon they capture. Teaching schools and the general public about the multiple benefits of ***mangroves*** allows us to continue adding allies that act in their protection and conservation," said Rosabel Miró, Executive Director of Audubon Panama.

Meanwhile, Julio Montes de Oca, of the National Audubon Society, said that ***mangroves*** are our first line of defense against climate change.

"Because of the coastal protection they provide and the services they provide to communities, we must redouble our efforts to conserve and restore them," said Montes.

The call for ***mangrove*** conservation by both organizations comes in the framework of the celebrations of the International Day for the Conservation of the ***Mangrove*** Ecosystem, which was celebrated last July 26.

To complement these actions, this Thursday, July 28, a virtual regional meeting will be held under the title '***Blue Carbon*** and ***Mangrove*** Conservation: Experiences from Panama and Colombia'.

Experts such as Julio Montes de Oca of the National Audubon Society (Costa Rica), Yenifer Díaz of the Panama Audubon Society, and María Claudia Díaz Granados and Fabio Arjona of Conservation International (Colombia) will participate in this meeting.

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