

Aaron Hutchins

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## EDUCATION

Masters of Environmental Management, Duke University, Durham, NC

Bachelors of Science, Civil Engineering with a Minor in Ecology, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Freelance Consultant and Associate of Geographic Consulting**, US Virgin Islands. 2016- Present.

Science driven environmental consulting for management and nature-based services for communities.

- Lead project development, management and reporting.
- Design and perform scientific marine, benthic and terrestrial surveys and assessments.
- Provide natural resource restoration services and climate change policy to practice functions.
- Develop and implement outdoor recreational and sustainable tourism projects.

**Virgin Islands Bike and Trails**, St. Croix, Virgin Islands. 2009 – Present.

**Founder, Owner and Operator**, bike shop and sustainable tour company.

- A company showcasing island nature and culture and providing bicycle-related community services.
- Top rated shore excursion for cruise lines making port calls to St. Croix. 2014—Present.
- 10,000+ tours provided with a 5-star participant experience review grade.

**The Nature Conservancy (TNC)**, Virgin Islands.

**Program Director**, Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico Program. 2008 – 2015.

- Directed operations and conservation strategies in the US and British Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.
  - Developed and launched new conservation Program and opened first office in Puerto Rico.
  - Deployed TNC's first applied conservation projects in the British Virgin Islands.
  - Created a framework to collaborate internationally across the three jurisdictions.
  - Secured five, multi-year cooperative funding agreements and several grants with US Government.
  - Identified, cultivated and stewarded private donors and recruited new Trustees.
- Actively represented the Caribbean Program on internal teams and formal external collaborations.
- Recruited and managed multiple talented staff and volunteers deployed throughout numerous islands.

**US Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources**, Virgin Islands

**Environmental Program Administrator**, Office of the Commissioner. 2007 – 2008.

- Provided senior technical and policy positions to the Commissioner of the Department.
- Coordinated the Department's natural resource damage response and assessment activities.
- Coordinated the Department's marine research activities across multiple agencies.
- Managed large multidisciplinary projects across multiple agencies.

**Director**, Division of Environmental Protection. 2004 – 2007.

- Directed all activities applicable to the implementation of all Environmental Laws applicable to the VI.
- Managed \$15M in annually applied across two regulatory offices with ~60 employees.
- Developed and implemented formal environmental policies of the US Virgin Islands.
- Led the effort to successfully establish the Nation's first coral biocriteria under the Clean Water Act.
- Provided professional and expert testimony and presentation to numerous and varied audiences.

## CURRENT BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

- **Virgin Islands Trail Alliance**, Co-Founder and President
- **Trust for Virgin Islands Lands**, Board
- **Caribbean Landscape Conservation Cooperative**, Protected Area Conservation Action Team