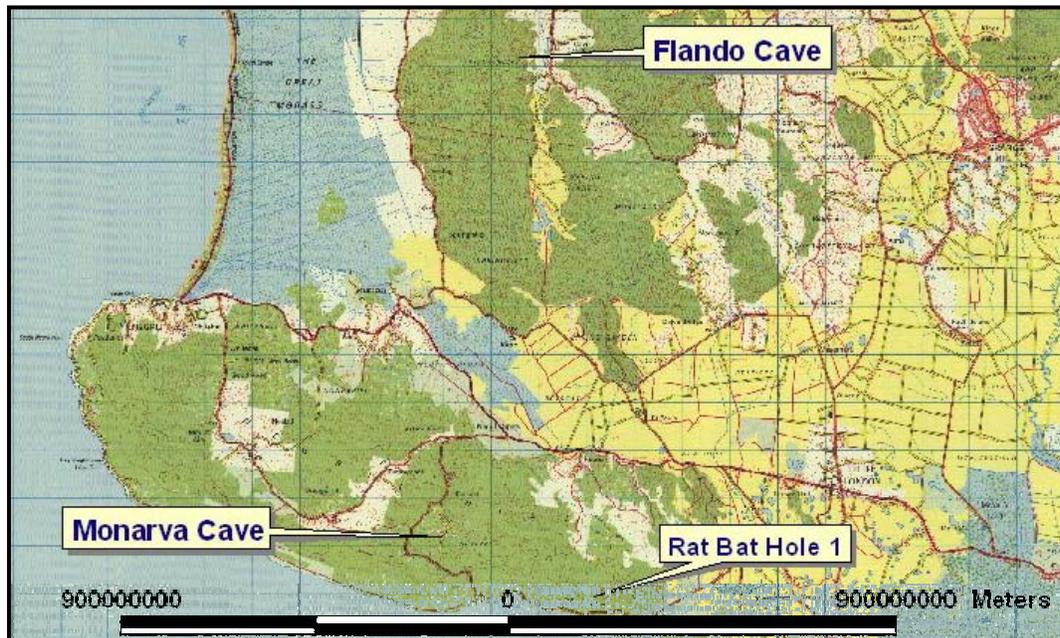


Extracted from
NEGRIL ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AREA
Freshwater and Cave Habitat Assessment
[March 2007]

Cave Assessment

The three caves were visited (Map 3). They were Monarva Cave located in Revival (Plate 4), Bat Hole 1 in Little Bay behind the Little Bay All Age School (Plate 5) and Flando Cave (named by citizens) in Cave Valley (Plate 6).



Map 3 Caves at which the bat population was sampled

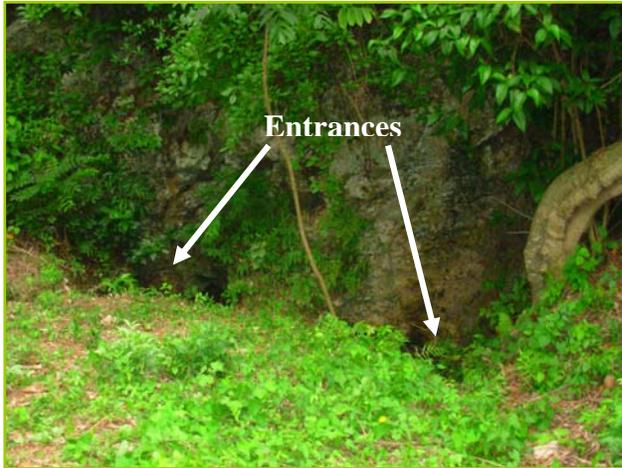


Plate 4 The Monarva Cave in Revival



Plate 5 The entrance to Bat Hole.



Location of one of the many entrances observed.

Base of the hillside

Plate 6 The NEPA team and community persons climbing to the entrance of the Flando Cave.

All the caves had bats; however, the team was only able to capture bat species from Monarva Cave, as the entrance to the other two caves made it difficult to set either the Harp Trap or the Mist Net. It was estimated that Monarva Cave has more than two thousand bats based on the emergence pattern observed. The emergence of the bats started at 6:52 p.m. and ended at 8:08 p.m. With each emergence more than five hundred bats exited. Only two species were thus caught; *Pteronotus maclearyii* and *Pteronotus quadridens* (Plate 7 & 8). A Jamaican Boa (*Epicrates subflavus*) [Plate 9] was observed near the cave mouth attempting to capture a bat.



Plate 7 *Pteronotus macleayii gresea* (Macleay's Mustached Bat)



Plate 8 *Pteronotus quadridens fuliginosus* (Sooty Mustached Bat)



Plate 9 A Jamaican Boa (*Epicrates subflavus*) exiting a crevices near the cave mouth.

During observations at Bat Hole-1 and Flando Cave it was noted that *Artibeus jamaicensis* is likely to be roosting in both caves. This conclusion was based on a fruit seeds (plant species not identified) near and within the first chamber of the cave. The area surrounding Bat Hole 1 appeared to have other roosting sites for bats, as the bats were observed coming from other locations than the cave being assessed.

The forest structure surrounding the Flando and Monarva Caves were similar in that there were an open/cultivated areas in front of the caves, however the areas leading to the caves was forested with patches of open areas. In the case of Bat Hole-1, the area surrounding this cave was forested but showed signs of disturbance. It was apparent that persons in the community

took visitors to the cave as an ecotourism activity. This was evident by the cleared a path into the cave.