# Press release - Save Black Johnson beach campaign 2022 - Call to Action

Our petition to the Sierra Leone Government was delivered to the High Commissioner 12.30pm in the High Commission in London on 26th May 2022.



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The campaign to Save Black Johnson Beach continues pledge your support here; <a href="https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/save-black-johnson-beach">https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/save-black-johnson-beach</a>

We want to tell you what we have achieved together.

One year ago we started the fight to Save Black Johnson beach. The Government of Sierra Leone wanted to turn it into a commercial fish harbour and fish-meal/oil plant.

We asked for your help and we received it. Thank you.

With your support we have;

- 1. <u>Exposed</u> a shady \$55 million deal between the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) and the Chinese government and established the grounds for a legal challenge
- 2. <u>Ensured</u> an Environmental Impact Assessment must be effected which has brought GoSL plans to a halt.
- 3. Mobilised a local campaign group
- 4. <u>Identified</u> the protected species and environments
- 5. Rescued two live, endangered, Green Turtles and returned them to the sea
- 6. <u>Produced</u> a reggae song / video made to promote our story
- 7. <u>Become recognised environmental monitors</u> working with a local group.

#### We need your help to win this fight once and for all.

GoSL knows it can't go ahead but it refuses to admit it, so the beach and environment are still in real danger.

**We could not let the petition be ignored.** It's important that GoSL knows the strength of feeling internationally.

We delivered it to the Sierra Leone High Commission in London on 26 May 2022. It's now officially in front of GoSL.

Help us to help the environment and the protected animals. Let GoSL know the world is watching. No fish farm. Save Black Johnson Beach

Enquiries - James 020 3556 6470 info@spco.org.uk
Twitter - @JohnsonOwners
ENDS

# Save Black Johnson beach campaign 2022 <u>Focus Protection</u>

The campaign continues with the focus on the environment, marine and land animals.

- 1. <u>Continue</u> our rescue, release, respect mission for all wildlife in this bay.
- What else are we doing:
  - 2. <u>Collect</u> evidence of endangered species in this bay and rainforest.
  - 3. Maintain and replant all the mangrove areas.
  - 4. <u>Campaign</u> to ensure the protection of endangered species and protected environments

| 5. | Launch the song - Save Black Johnson beach by Shuga Romantik |
|----|--|
|    | https://youtu.be/N32LcGHemhQ                                 |

Rescue, Release, Respect - Article

Please help us continue this important work.

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#### **FACT SHEET**

### <u>History</u>

One year ago we discovered that a secretive \$55 million deal had been made between the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) and the Government of the Peoples' Republic of China 252 acres of pristine rainforest, protected wetlands and beachfront at Black Johnson to build a commercial fish harbour and fish meal/oil factory.

GoSL stated the fish harbour is "to provide a facility for tuna vessels and other large fishing vessels to anchor" and also a facility to recycle marine waste into useful products i.e. fish-meal or oil.

We chose to stand our ground to protect endangered species and ecosystems that are present in Black Johnson beach.

Many are protected under international conventions and treaties and domestic law in Sierra Leone.

**Protected species** 

# Marine area

**Turtles** 

Leatherback

Green

Hawksbill

Loggerhead

Olive Ridley



Sharks

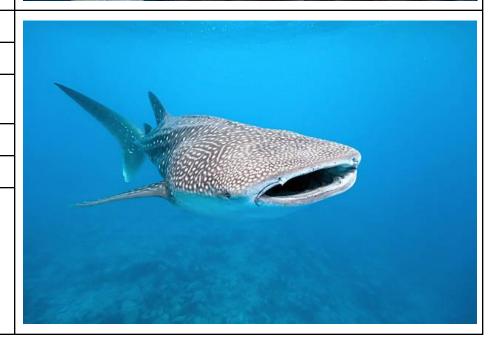
Oceanic white tip

Scalloped hammerhead

Whale

Silky

Thresher



| , . |
|-----|
|-----|

Devil

Manta



There are also Dolphins and Manatees, Humpback whales come to breed in the rainy season.

| Protected species  Land area    |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Pangolins                       |  |  |
| African Civets                  |  |  |
| Spotted otter                   |  |  |
| Marsh Mongoose                  |  |  |
| Bush Babies (<br>Senega Galago) |  |  |
| Potto                           |  |  |



Vervet Monkeys

Spotted nosed guenon

Monitor Lizards



There are different protected species of:

Frogs

| Snakes Lizards Crocodiles Butterflies Moths |  |
|---|--|
| Wetlands                                    | Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as   |
| Mangroves                                   | Waterfowl Habitat (known as the RAMSAR protection of wetlands), COP26 Leaders Declaration on Forest and Land Use (signed by                              |
| Rainforest                                  | President Bio himself just last year in Glasgow). The Constitution of Sierra Leone 1991 and the Environmental Protection Agency Act 2008 (Sierra Leone). |

## **Petition**

On May 26 2022 we delivered the petition to the Sierra Leone High Commission in London. This means the petition has now been officially sent to GoSL. This is important. Our experience this last year has shown that international outrage does make GoSL listen. <a href="https://www.change.org/p/president-julius-maada-bio-and-the-sierra-leone-government-save-black-johnson-beach-from-toxic-industrial-fish-factory">https://www.change.org/p/president-julius-maada-bio-and-the-sierra-leone-government-save-black-johnson-beach-from-toxic-industrial-fish-factory</a>