

REGIONAL ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN *Managing* INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES THREATS

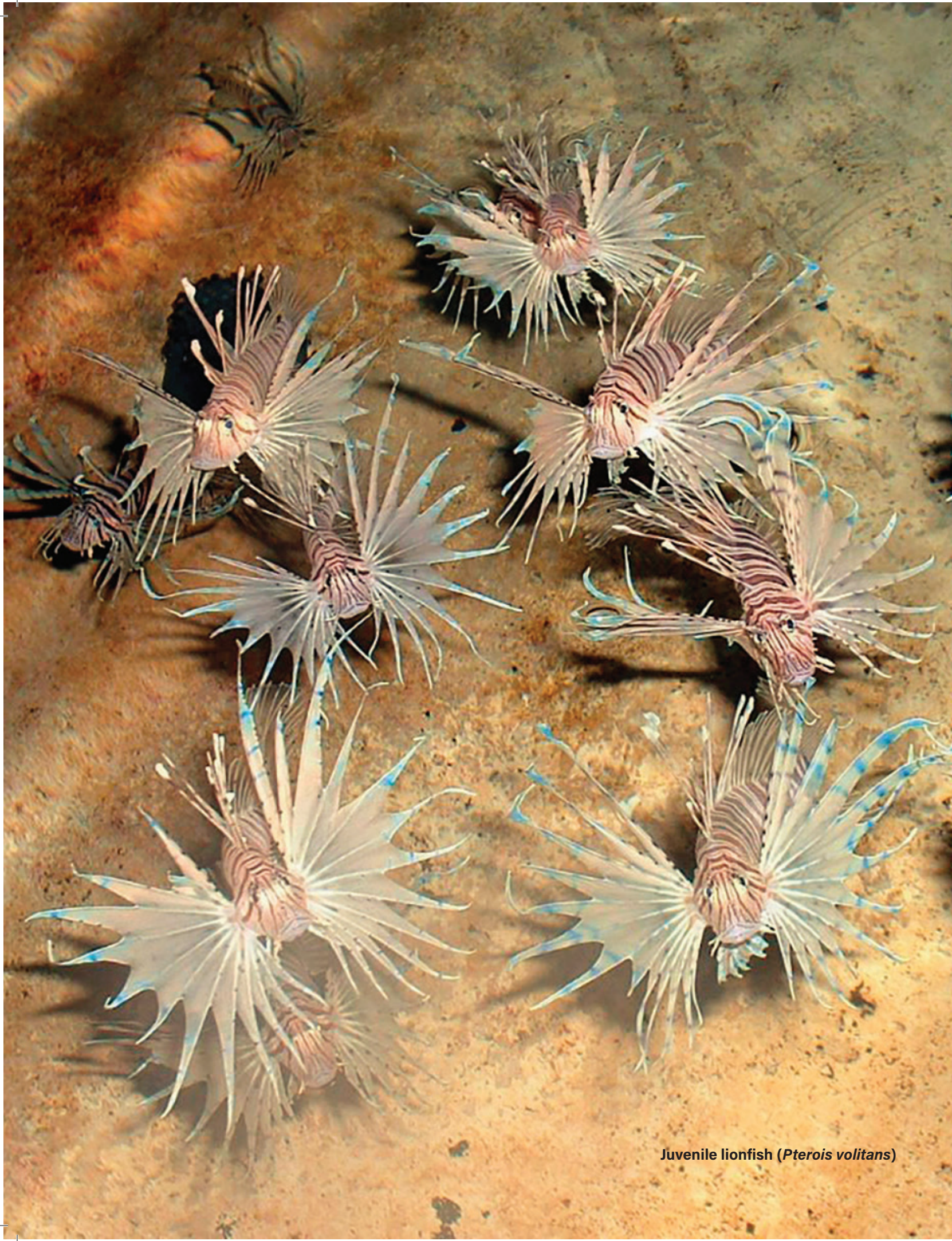
Preventing the Costs of IAS
in Barbados and the OECS



16

STORIES FROM
THE CARIBBEAN





Juvenile lionfish (*Pterois volitans*)

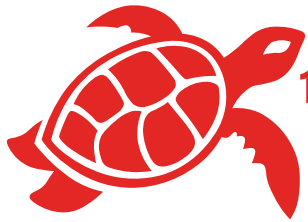
The Caribbean: a Biodiversity Hotspot



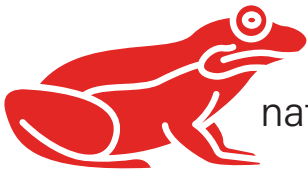
The Caribbean region, encompassing more than **700** islands, islets, reefs, and cays

The Caribbean region once supported **127** terrestrial mammal species, of which **23** are now considered extinct

Some **13,000** plant species have been identified of which **205** genera and **6,500** species are endemic



Today, **25%** of the **104** extant mammal species are globally threatened

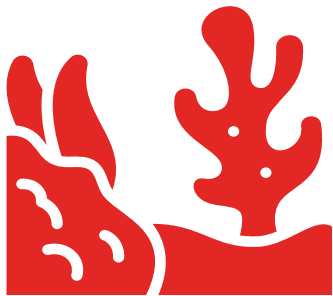


All **200** native amphibian species in the Caribbean are endemic



Of the **565** species of birds recorded in the Caribbean hotspot, **55** are currently listed as globally threatened

More than **600** native reptile species occur in the Caribbean, of which **82%** are found nowhere else on earth



The marine space, is also globally unique with endemism levels of **25.6%** and includes **the world's second largest barrier reef**