Blackadore Caye Environmental & Social Benefits

Acquired by Leonardo DiCaprio with the vision to create the greenest luxury development ever built.

**Mangrove Reforestation**

We will be engaging in a mangrove expansion program along the coast of the island since most of the island's natural mangrove has disappeared.

Approximately 20,000 red mangroves will be planted to stabilize and buffer the shore in collaboration with mangrove.org who currently work in Belize.

In addition sea grass and other aquatic vegetation will be introduced where possible. Our efforts will stop the erosion, return health to the littoral forest zone and bolster its defenses against most small to medium storm surges restoring the nursing habitat of important species including Bonefish and Permit.

Conservation and habitat restoration is an essential part of the ethic and purpose of the development and will happen both on-island and off-island. Blackadore 'looks' like an undeveloped island but that is an illusion due to 'shifting baselines' of what appears healthy. In reality the island has had significant impacts, especially during the colonial era and modernization.

Blackadore has seen significant deforestation of its mangrove and tree canopy. Invasive species have been introduced and the flora and fauna impacted. Now the Island is under dire threat due to coastal and soil erosion and salinization of soils leaving large and growing dead patches. A lack of coastal shading has destroyed natural fish nurseries and sea grass is missing.

A healthy Blackadore marine ecosystem will support greater aquatic diversity. Today's aquatic ecosystem around Blackadore is notable for its lack of diversity, high levels of sediment and a sea floor dominated by sand and algae. The project's efforts to reduce erosion, plant Mangrove and replant seagrass will help improve water quality, increase oxygen uptake and support greater aquatic diversity.