

WPI

Coral BAE

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Problem Statement

The Summer's End Group, LLC, has proposed the construction of a mega-yacht marina in Coral Bay, St. John, USVI. This development would severely alter the socioeconomic and environmental landscapes of the region.

Environmental Effects

- Destruction of coral and seagrass ecosystems
- Decline in fish population
- Forced migration of endangered sea turtle species
- Pollution from the emissions of boats
- Turbidity of nearby waters from drilling



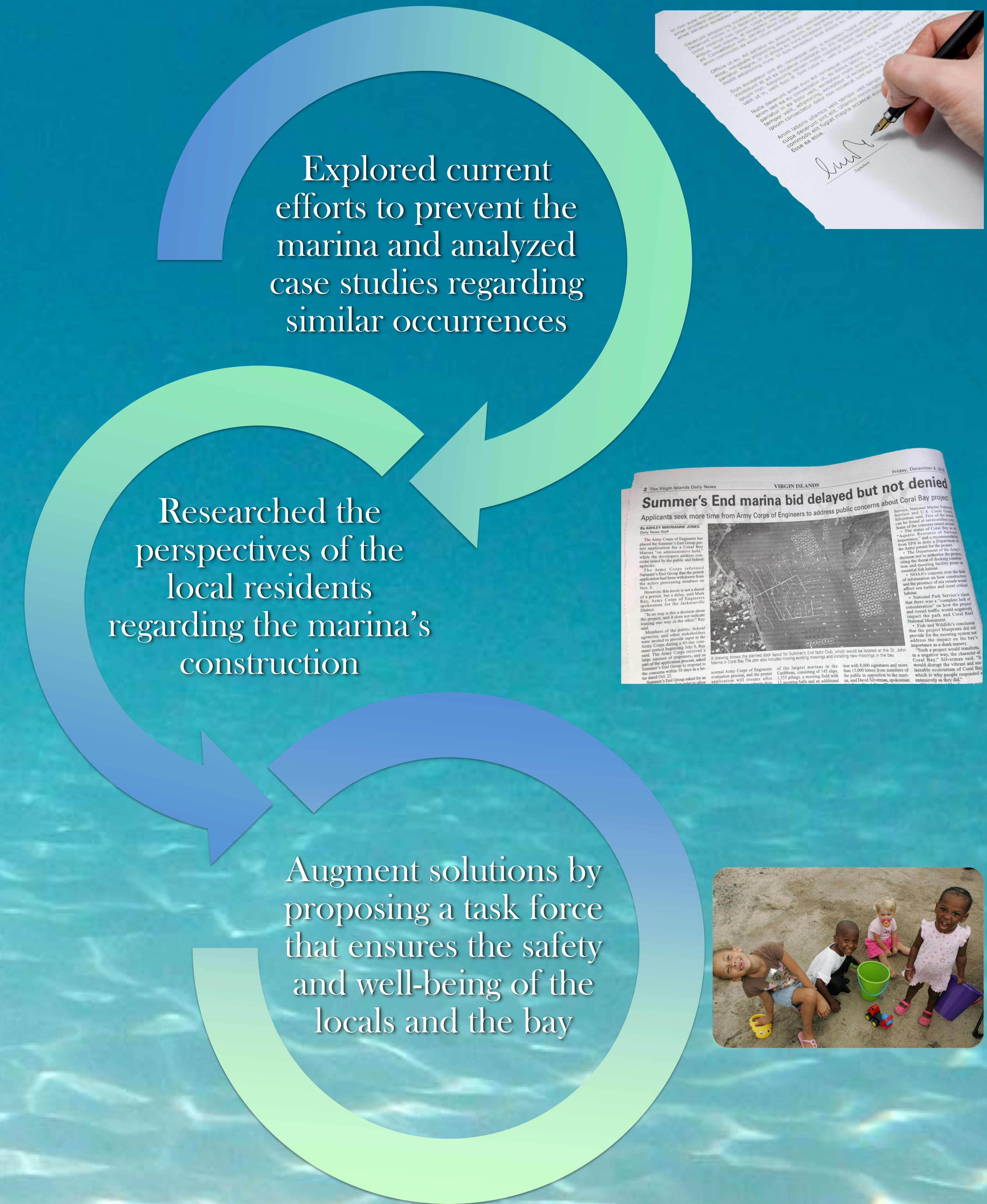
Project Goal

The goal of this project is to provide the residents opposed to the construction of the marina with the tools needed to gain the support of the local government and stop the proposal from being approved.



Coral Bay, St. John, USVI

Methods/Process



Socioeconomic Effects

- Will drive away the current tourists
- Years of disruptive construction
- Unaffordable property taxes
- Creates pressure for an expansion of the tourism industry
- Displaces jobs that rely on the bay



Background

St. John is the smallest and least developed of the three US Virgin Islands. The island has a population of around 5,000 people and is 2/3 Virgin Islands National Park. Many of the residents are fishermen and artisans that rely on the bay's ecosystem. Currently, tourism in Coral Bay is minimal and made up of villa rentals.

Solution

Create a citizen task force that will represent the residents that are opposed to the construction of the marina. This task force will research the resulting environmental and socioeconomic impacts. The information gathered will be clearly formed in a document that an appointed liaison will present to the local governor.

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