Black-necked stilt.

The pearl of the Caribbean, Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay is awash with wildlife and natural beauty like the stunning sunsets of Glass Beach. NS Guantanamo Bay is located on the southeastern coast of the island of Cuba bordered by the Caribbean Sea. The station contains a variety of natural ecosystems that include salt flats, mud flats, marshes, estuaries, mangroves, tropical dry forest, palm woodlands and scrub habitat to name a few. This mixture of natural habitats is home to a diverse population of wildlife including a spectacular mixture of native and migrant bird species such as the black-necked stilt and American kestrel.

For the black-necked stilt shot, I used a Nikon D70 with a Nikon 300mm lens, and my exposure was 1/500th of a second at f/4. For the Glass Beach shot, I used a Nikon D70 with a Tamron 88-70mm lens, and my exposure was 1/2 of a second at f/22. For the American kestrel shot, I used a Nikon D70 with a Nikon 300mm lens, and my exposure was 1/350th of a second at f/4.

Paul Block • Ecologist • Naval Facilities Engineering Command Atlantic • paul.block@navy.mil

