



Antigua and Barbuda's National Hydrographic Office - ADOMS

National Report Meso-American and Caribbean Hydrographic Commission (MACHC) Meeting – 30th November to 3rd December 2020

1. Hydrographic Office/Service

- .1 The National Hydrographic Office (NHO) operates under the auspices of the Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS), the Maritime Administration of Antigua and Barbuda.
- .2 The National Hydrographic Committee is yet to be fully functional and efforts continue to give it full effect. It is envisaged that this Committee will be a Sub-Committee of the National Ocean Governance Committee where all the principal stakeholders are already represented.

2. Surveys:

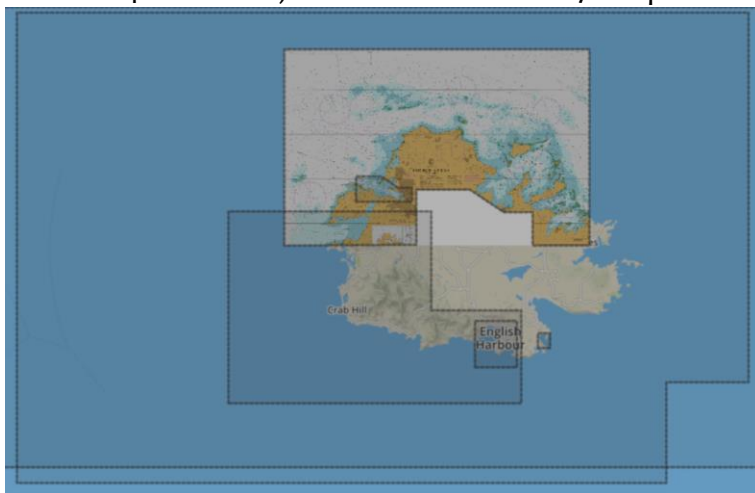
- .1 Dredging a part of the St. John's port harbor expansion and upgrade project is ongoing and it is expected that survey reports will be furnished upon completion.
- .2 Single beam hydrographic survey was completed around the West Indies Oil offshore terminal and its approaches to facilitate the night berthing of tankers due to increased storage capacity and trans-shipment activities
- .3 Nothing to report with regards to new technologies and/or equipment/ships.



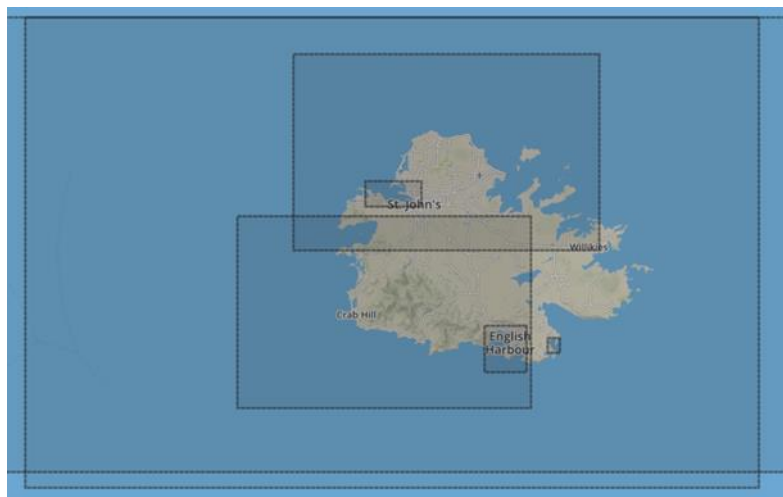
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3. New Charts and Updates:

- .1 The UKHO is responsible for the production of, and updates to, the charts pertaining to the waters of Antigua & Barbuda and approaches.
- .2 *Charts currently available:*
 - .1 Chart 2064 Scale 1:60,000 Last new edition 7th April 2016. No further NMs added.



- .3 *GB ENC's currently available:*
 - .1 Harbour band 5: GB52064B Scale 1:8,000 Base issued 01/04/2016 Edition 4/000.
 - .2 Approach band 4: GB402064 Scale 1:45,000 Base issued 01/04/2016 Edition 4/000.



.4 New Publications and Updates:

- .1 Currently undertaking the update for Antigua and Barbuda inputs for changes to the World Port Index and Sailing Directions.



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.5 MSI – latest updates

- .1 Maritime Safety Information is generated by the Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping in conjunction with the Antigua & Barbuda Port Authority and the Antigua & Barbuda Defense Force Coast Guard.
- .2 Nav area IV warning remains in effect until details of area are properly updated
051233Z DEC 19
NAVAREA IV 1049/19(25).
EASTERN CARIBBEAN SEA.
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA.
CHART 25575.
AIDS TO NAVIGATION FOR THE APPROACH TO ST JOHN'S HARBOR (17-07.6N 061-51.7W) ARE UNRELIABLE. MARINERS IN VICINITY ARE REQUESTED TO KEEP A SHARP LOOKOUT AND EXERCISE CAUTION

6. C-55:

- .1 The UKHO provides the information for the updating of the C-55 database.
- .2 C-55 entry for Antigua & Barbuda have been updated following review by UKHO cartographers.

7. Capacity Building

.1 Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda participated in: No training due to the COVID Pandemic

.2 Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda will be participating in:

- .1 The 21st Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission Meeting
- .2 CME Programme FY 20/21 Antigua and Barbuda Continuation Training – 3-week training in the operation the NORBIT portable multibeam survey equipment proposed for Jan-Mar 2021.

.3 Capacity Building Required:

- .1 Antigua and Barbuda is still in the process of establishing a robust national framework for applicable hydrographic services and would be most grateful for the following training opportunities:
 - .1 Hydrography Level 1 and 2
 - .2 MSI
 - .3 Aids to Navigation Maintenance



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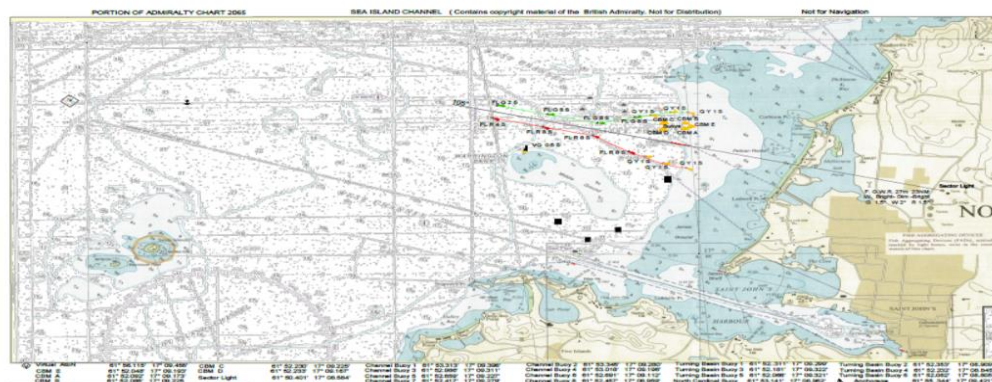
.4 Port Facilitates Development:

.1 The Antigua Port Authority Project is ongoing and includes dredging the main shipping channel, building a new seawall (harbor defense structure), new cruise berth (5th), land reclamation and renovation of the entire Heritage Quay area



.2 GPH (Global Ports Holding / 2004-founded, UK-based company, world's largest cruise port operator) signed a 30-year exclusive concession deal with Antigua and Barbuda for cruise port management and retail shopping operations

.3 The Port Authority in collaboration the West Indies Oil Company has completed a new channel and mooring for the West Indies Oil offshore terminal and facilities. It also includes a five buoy Conventional Buoyage Mooring (CBM) system.





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.4 McKennon's Salt Pond Development

The project involves a near \$100 million Marina with 200 slips in the McKennon's Salt Pond located in the northwestern section of the island. The also includes a 125 room 5-star hotel, a casino and 100 private residence in a gated community. A navigable channel will be opened to the sea with extensive dredging to accommodate mega yachts.





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8. Oceanographic Activities

.1 Tide Stations:

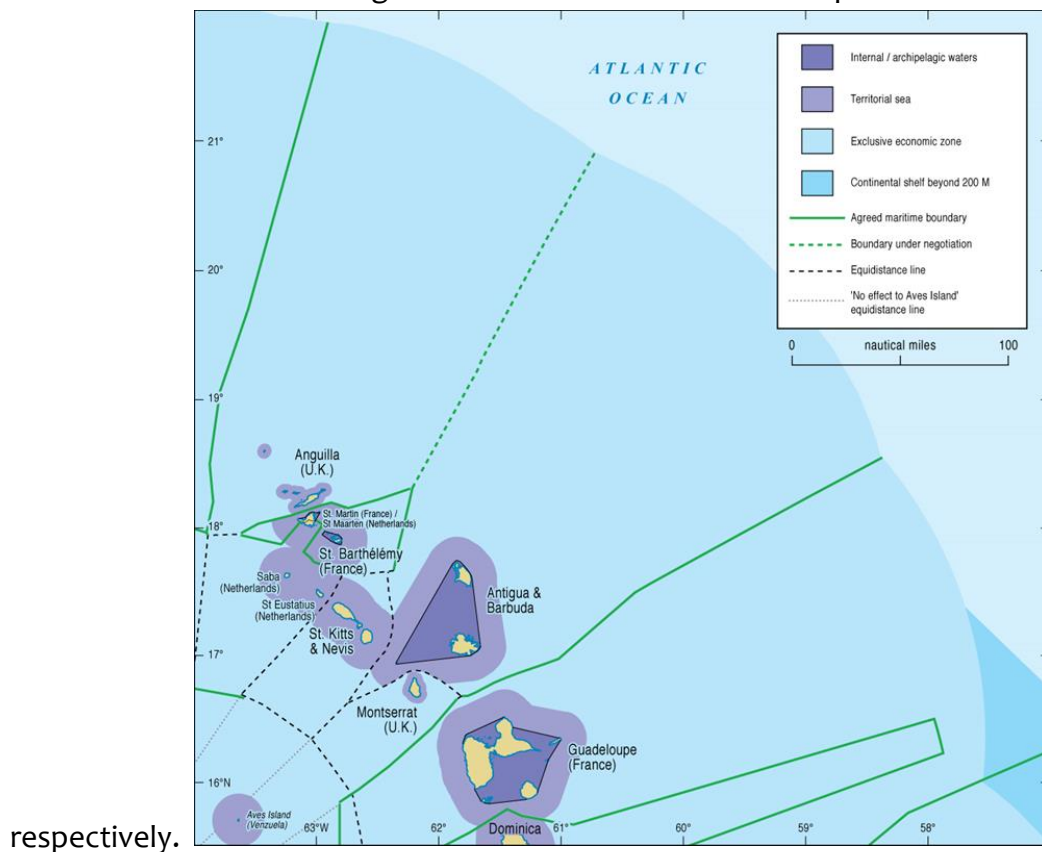
- .1 The Tide Station on the sister island of Barbuda is totally down since the devastation caused by Hurricane IRMA in 2017. The local Meteorological Office at VC Bird International Airport monitors this station and are presently pursuing its repairs or replacement.
- .2 The Tide Station at Camp Blizzard on the mainland of Antigua is operational.
- .3 The National Hydrographic Office is in possession of a portable tide station which can be deployed on demand to support specific hydrographic surveying operations.



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9. Other Activities:

- .1 **OECS Regional Hydrographic Initiative:** The OECS Ocean Governance Unit, OECS member States and the UKHO are committed to finalizing the national and regional reports by the end of the first quarter in 2021. The completion of the various report will inform the next phase of this initiative.
- .2 Antigua and Barbuda and the United Kingdom in respect of Anguilla, a depended state, completed the negotiations for Maritime Boundaries between Antigua and Barbuda and Anguilla. In 2017 Antigua and Barbuda completed negotiations with France for boundaries between Antigua and Barbuda and Guadeloupe and St. Barthelemy



respectively.

- .3 Government to lay independent/state owned (APUA) fiber optic cable. This multimillion-dollar project is expected to commence by the third quarter of 2021.



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.4 The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (5Cs - Belize) Lidar survey project for the Caribbean.

Coastal bathymetric and topographic data will be acquired using an airborne LIDAR system as part of this project scheduled to commence in the first quarter in 2021. The project is being undertaken with grant funding from the Caribbean Development Bank Fund for limited survey work in the borrowing member States of the bank.



10. Conclusions:

- .1 The Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping is committed to establishing a resilient national hydrographic framework to adequately meet Antigua and Barbuda's international obligations with respect to Hydrography and Aids to Navigation.
- .2 The National Hydrographic Office appreciates the tremendous support it continues to receive through the MACHC Capacity Building Program and various bilateral support from its members.