



# Antigua and Barbuda's National Hydrographic Office - ADOMS

## National Report

### Meso-American and Caribbean Hydrographic Commission (MACHC) Meeting

30<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

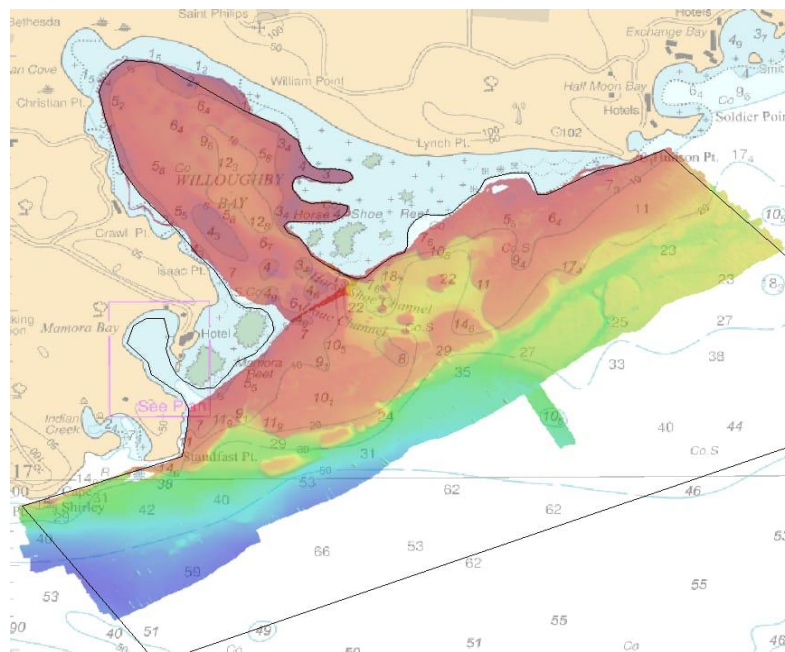
---

## 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 Expecting a post dredge survey of St. John's harbour on the completion of the ongoing dredging of the main channel and turning basin to accommodate the Oasis Class Cruise Ships.
- .2 A multi beam hydrographic survey was completed for Willoughby Bay and its approaches under the CME Programme with technical assistance from the UKHO on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021.





## Antigua and Barbuda's National Hydrographic Office - ADOMS

- .4 Nothing to report with regards to new technologies and/or equipment/ships.

### 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 its approaches.

### 4. New Publications and Updates:

- .1 The Department is currently undertaking the update for Antigua and Barbuda's inputs for changes to the World Port Index and Sailing Directions.

### 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
- .3 (Local warning) published as a Marine Notice on 11 February 2021 regarding Dredging, Reconstruction and Piling Works – access channel and turning basin at St. John's Harbour, Antigua.
- .4 (Local warning) published as a Marine Notice on 18 August 2021 regarding a dangerous wreck in Deep Bay, St. Johns

### 6. C-55:

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

### 7. Capacity Building

#### .1 Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda participated in:

- .1 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021: QINSy Training/MBES Theory and Operation (NORBIT).



## Antigua and Barbuda's National Hydrographic Office - ADOMS

.2 18<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> March 2021: CARIS Training.

.3 Practical Survey – UKHO.

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

.1 The 22<sup>nd</sup> Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission Meeting.

.2 IMO MSC 105 – 20<sup>th</sup> April to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

### **.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

### **.4 Port Facilitates Development:**

.1 The Antigua Port Authority Project to modernize the commercial port facilities is ongoing, and includes dredging the main shipping channel, building a new seawall/harbor defense structure, and land reclamation for the construction of a yacht marina.



.2 Global Ports Holding, a UK-based company, the 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. Under this agreement they have earlier this year completed a new cruise berth for the Oasis Class Vessels to the North of the existing Heritage Quay Pier. The berth is expected to be commissioned before the end of 2021 when the first ship is scheduled to call.



## Antigua and Barbuda's National Hydrographic Office - ADOMS

### 8. Oceanographic Activities

#### .1 Tide Stations:

.1 The Tide Station on the sister island of Barbuda is totally down currently as it was destroyed by Hurricane IRMA. The local Meteorological Office at VC Bird International Airport monitors this station and are still awaiting information on its repairs or replacement.

.2 The Tide Station at Camp Blizzard on the mainland of Antigua is operational.

### 9. Other Activities:

.1 Antigua and Barbuda and Anguilla (United Kingdom) signed a Maritime Boundaries Delimitation Agreement in July 2021.





## Antigua and Barbuda's National Hydrographic Office - ADOMS

- .2 **The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (5Cs - Belize) Lidar survey project for the Caribbean:** The Caribbean development Bank (CDB) is funding a coastal bathymetric and topographic data acquisition survey project using an airborne LIDAR system for selected areas of Antigua and other OECS Member States. The surveys are planned for the period January to June 2022.



- .3 Antigua and Barbuda with technical assistance from the UKHO under the CME Programme completed a draft *Implementation Plan for Developing Antigua and Barbuda's National Hydrographic Capability* on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021. The overall aim of this Implementation Plan is to create a cooperative agreement across the Antigua and Barbuda government, facilitating the coordination and sharing of resources, data collection activities and to deliver outputs supporting the Strategic Action Plan of the National Ocean Policy.

### 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.