



Dominica Maritime Administration (DMA) and the Lands and Surveys Division (LSD)

NATIONAL REPORT

23rd Meeting of the Meso-American and Caribbean Hydrographic Commission (MACHC) Meeting (28th Nov. to 2nd Dec. 2022)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Hydrographic Office/Service

The Dominica Maritime Administration operates under the Ministry of Tourism, International Transport and Maritime Initiatives under the Government of Dominica. The national Lands and Surveys Division (LSD) - best suited for conducting hydrographic surveys and production of navigational charts - operates under the Ministry of Housing and Lands.

2. Surveys

The United Kingdom Hydrographic office (UKHO) is the primary charting service provider for Dominica. The most recent Nautical Chart was updated in 2019 to illustrate any feature changes ensuing the passage of Hurricane Maria in 2017.

LIDAR Surveys were conducted island wide.

New equipment attained includes 1 depth sounder, GNSS RTK kits, 4 CORS stations and 3 tide gauges (all three of which require repairs).

A recently developed online PIVOT system is now in place and facilitates RTK surveys with coordinates adjusted to the national Geodetic Framework (DOMGRF) through corrections received from CORS (bases) – all geo-referenced to the World Wide WGS84 UTM grid. This negates the need for setting autonomous base stations with corrections emitted through radio links.

CORS sites

<http://gnsscors.gov.dm/map/sensormap.aspx>

3. New Charts and Updates

Medium scale coverage is now provided by INT 4184 (chart 1042) published by France. New edition 697 Dec 2019 including two new full seafloor survey areas. Panel, Woodbridge Bay extended to cover pilot boarding point. LIDAR survey received 2019 and given CATZOC B but not yet fully included in the charting.

International Charts for navigation are done by UKHO. Electronic charts are not yet available.



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Capacity is gradually increasing for the lands and surveys division in data collection and software acquisition in order to conduct surveys of the seabed and to produce navigational chart, respectively. Training is required in electronic chart production.

4. New Publications and Updates

The UKHO is still the main body responsible for all updates and publications.

5. MSI

Maritime Safety Information is generated by the Dominica Meteorological Service and disseminated through National Radio Station DBS Radio, and by two commercial radio stations Kairi FM, and Q95 FM radio stations.

6. C-55

C 55 update			
Country:	Dominica		
Country Iso Code:			
Country SubCode:			
INT Region:	B		
Country/Depend:			
Last updated:	18/11/2022		
Provided by:			
Chart coverage	Passage (%)	Coastal (%)	Port (%)
INT	100	100	100
RNC	100	100	100
ENC	100	100	50
Status of Paper Charts			
Paper charts with depths in meters (%)			100
Paper charts referenced to a satellite datum (%)			100
Status of surveys	Adequate (%)	Resurvey (%)	No survey (%)
0-200m	9	2	89
> 200m	0	0	100

MSI	Y/N
Local warning	Unknown
Coastal warning	Unknown
Nav warning	Unknown



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Port warning	Unknown
GMDSS	Y/N
Master Plan	NO
Area A1	NO
Area A2	NO
Area A3	NO
NAVTEX	NO
SafetyNet	NO

C-55 updated Jan 2022

Coastal warnings are done occasionally after a disaster by the Office of Disaster Management due to the very deep coastal waters of Dominica. Shipping lanes have been established for several years.

Port warnings are issued by the Dominica Air and Sea Port Authority (DASPA).

7. Capacity Building:

Training is required to build capacity in the area of hydrography.

Additional hydrographic survey equipment is needed.

8. Oceanographic Activities

Tide gauges at 3 sites (Marigot, Woodbridge Bay and Portsmouth) are logging data but all require repairs.

Gauge sites

<http://www.ioc-sealevelmonitoring.org/station.php?code=ptmd2>

<http://www.ioc-sealevelmonitoring.org/station.php?code=rose>

9. Spatial Data Infrastructure

Development Needed.

10. Innovation

Appropriate provisions of SOLAS convention needs be domesticated, put into national law to provide legal basis to give full effect to this type of activity. This will be pursued commencing 2023.



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11. Other Activities

Met/weather stations have recently been installed.

The Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project (DVRP) officially launched in September 2014 with the establishment of a Project Coordination Unit (PCU). The PCU is charged with the responsibility of implementing the various activities under the DVRP. It is responsible for Prevention and Adaptation Investments, Capacity Building and Data Development Hazard Risk Management, Natural Disaster Response Investments, and Project Management and Implementation Support.

Magnetic and gravity surveys and needed in order to fully incorporate into the newly established geodetic control network.

12. Conclusions

Government and other Agencies collaborating with the governance are committed to building capacity, and proper implementation of best practices and use of equipment and technologies attained in order to for the Island to meet its international requirements as relates to updating of all hydrographic data, while we extend our thanks for the support received through the capacity building program of the MACHC.