

COPY NO. _____



NAVIGATIONAL AIDS PLAN

Tel: (284)- 494-3435
Email: bviports@bviports.org
Website: www.bviports.org
Mailing Address
PO. Box 4 Road Town
Tortola, VG1110
British Virgin Islands
Ver. 0.7 – May 2021

This document addresses the area of navigational aids within the specific context of designated Harbours within the Virgin Islands.

The British Virgin Islands Ports Authority (BVIPA) is a statutory Body created within the Virgin Islands with the responsibility for the management of Harbours. BVIPA endeavours to ensure the provision of adequate, industry standard aids to navigation as a means of assisting mariners as they navigate safely through the designated Harbours and within the Virgin Islands.

The objective is to provide:

1. Well-maintained aids to navigation in all designated Harbours.
2. Navigational aids that are similar or identical to those being utilized within Territorial Waters.
3. To ensure consistency in the maintenance of the aids to navigation.
4. Engage in regular dialogue consultation and offer support to the Virgin Islands Shipping Registry (VISR) as it relates to aids to navigation.

Every effort will be taken to alleviate any accidents that may occur because of an aid to navigation being unavailable. This will require constant vigilance and regular dialogue with the VISR to ensure mariners receive timely and accurate information to facilitate safe operations within designated Harbours.

Maintenance

Regular maintenance of the aids to navigation is critical to the safe navigation of mariners within designated Harbours. For this reason, the BVIPA finds it necessary to routinely review all aids to navigation on an annual basis. The routine maintenance incorporates a schedule which includes review, repair, and replace on a twenty-four-month cycle. The annual maintenance which commences one month before the hurricane season, provides an opportunity to closely inspect and repair and replace any part of or an entire navigational buoy as needs be. Then every twenty-four months, the navigational buoys are taken out of the ocean, transported to land where they are inspected and repaired and replaced as required.

The regular maintenance routine:

1. Chains are reviewed for wear and tear (if 40% of a chain is worn that chain is replaced).
2. The splices are replaced (if 40% of a splice is worn that splice is replaced).
3. Shackles are reviewed for wear and tear (if 40% of the shackles is worn it is replaced).
4. Tie wires are reviewed for corrosion.
5. Visual inspection of the buoys is conducted for any damages.

Every (2) two years all navigation buoys are extracted from the ocean and transported to land for thorough maintenance as noted below.

1. Bridle chain is replaced.
2. The bottom of the buoy is painted.
3. The top section is painted, and the water line mark refreshed.
4. General repairs to the body of the buoy, which may include fiberglass or welding work.
5. Battery and bulbs are inspected and replaced as needed.
6. The lantern is inspected to ensure it is operational.
7. Sun switch are inspected.
8. Solar panel are inspected for damage and to ensure a consistent supply of more than 6 volts or 12 volts is present to power to batteries.

Damage Assessment

After every storms or hurricane all navigation buoys are inspected as follows.

1. Location accuracy.
2. Operational capacity.
3. Corrosion or other damage to the chains.
4. Concrete block and sand screws are inspected and repaired or replaced as needed.
5. Mariners are provided information regarding any aids to navigation that may not be operational and guidance for safe navigation within Harbours.

Designated Harbours

1. Gorda Sound - Virgin Gorda
2. Spanish Town - Virgin
3. Road Harbour - Tortola
4. Sophers Hole - Tortola
5. Great Harbour - Jost Van Dyke

Generally, the British Virgin Islands Ports Authority can be contacted preferably on VHF Channel 94 or Channel 16. Additionally, contact Information is provided on below for key personnel with responsibility for aids to navigation.

Designation	Email	Number
Marine Manager	sdurrant@bviports.org	(284) 499-0863
Marine Supervisor	rytitley@bviports.org	(284) 440-3382
Director of Operations	dfahie@bviports.org	(284) 442-5600
Managing Director	omaynard@bviports.org	(284) 494-3435

Tel: (284)- 494-3435
Email: bviports@bviports.org
Website: www.bviports.org

Mailing Address

PO. Box 4 Road Town
Tortola, VG1110
British Virgin Islands