



# Hydrographic Surveys Past, Present and Future in Jamaica

Presented to:

**GEBCO Symposium: Map the Gaps**  
Busan, South Korea

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**November 15, 2017**









# GEBCO Symposium: Map the Gaps



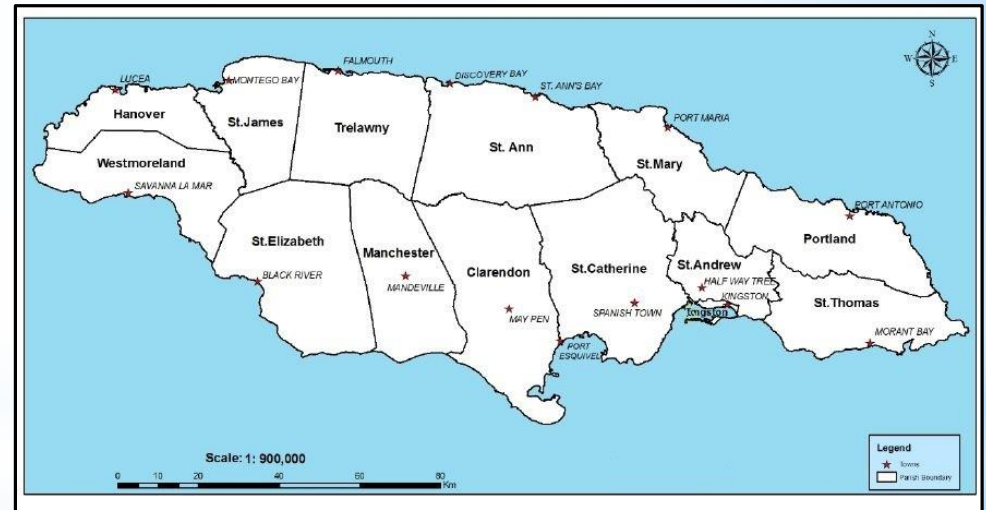
## Hydrographic Surveys Past, Present and Future in Jamaica

### Presentation Outline

-  The Island of Jamaica
-  Hydrographic Beginnings
-  Post Independence
-  Jamaica's obligations and Current Situation
-  Joint and Proposed Surveys
-  Future Prospects for Hydrography in Jamaica



# The Island of Jamaica



Population: 2,881,000

Area: 10,991km<sup>2</sup>

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<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8993917>

1655 - 1962 Jamaica was a  
British Colony



# The Island of Jamaica

Hydrographic Surveys using  
Lead Line by British Directorate  
of Surveys

Independence from England  
1962



Joint Surveys with Canadian Hydrographic  
Office to train Jamaican Surveyors in  
Basic Hydrographic Surveying

Two Hydrographic Survey Launches  
donated by Canada to Jamaica



# Post Independence

- 1962 Independence from England  
Hydrographic work by Survey Department
- 1988 First vessel lost during Hurricane Gilbert
- 1995 Second vessel decommissioned due to high repair costs
- 2001 National Land Agency (NLA)- Hydrographic Section
- 2006 National Hydrographic Committee formed



# Jamaica's obligations and Current Situation

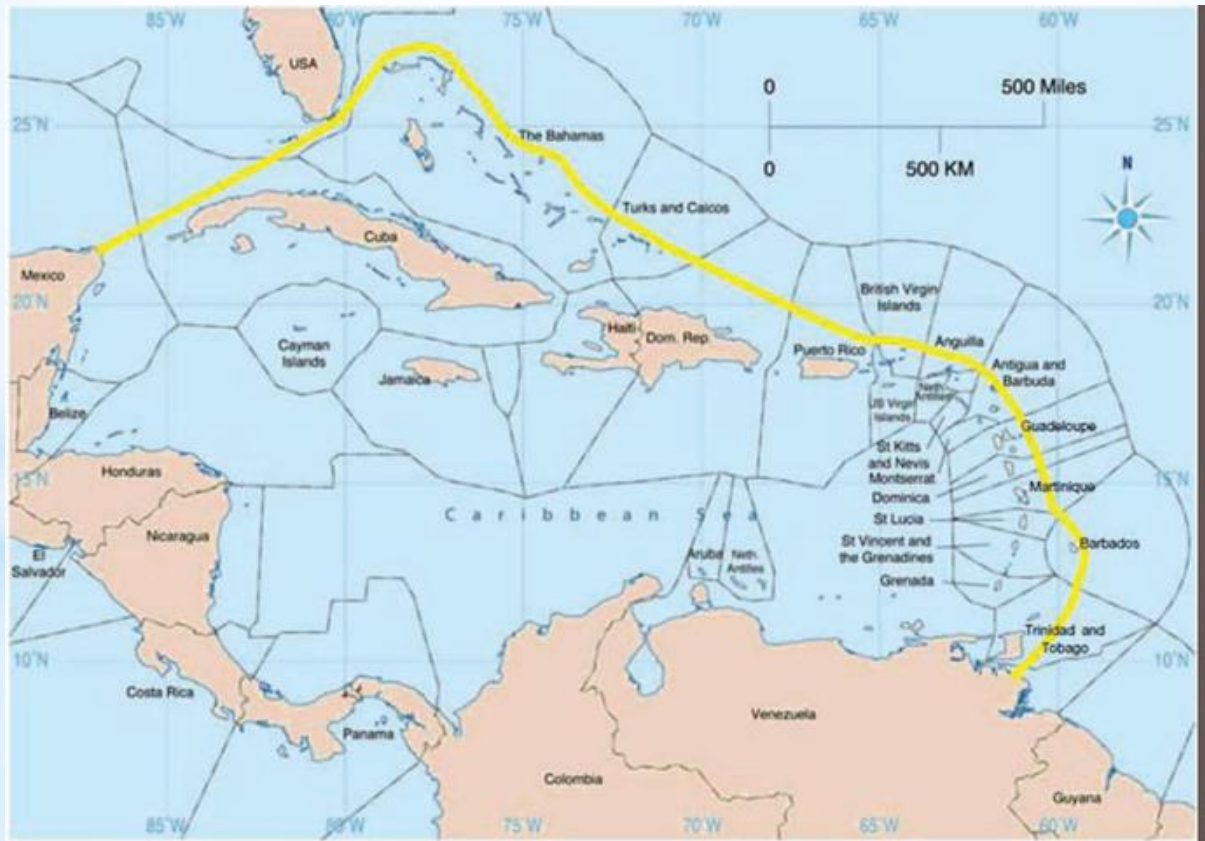
International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) in April 2000

Responsibilities are set out in:

- ✚ United Nations Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)
- ✚ United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)



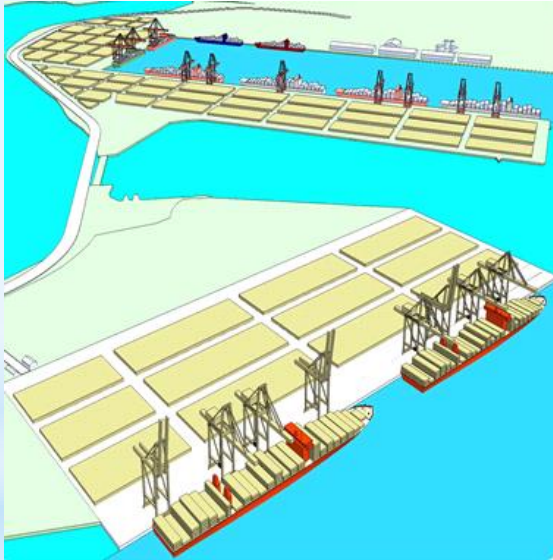
# Jamaica's obligations and Current Situation



Exploitation of resources within its EEZ



# Jamaica's obligations and Current Situation



Coastal Engineering

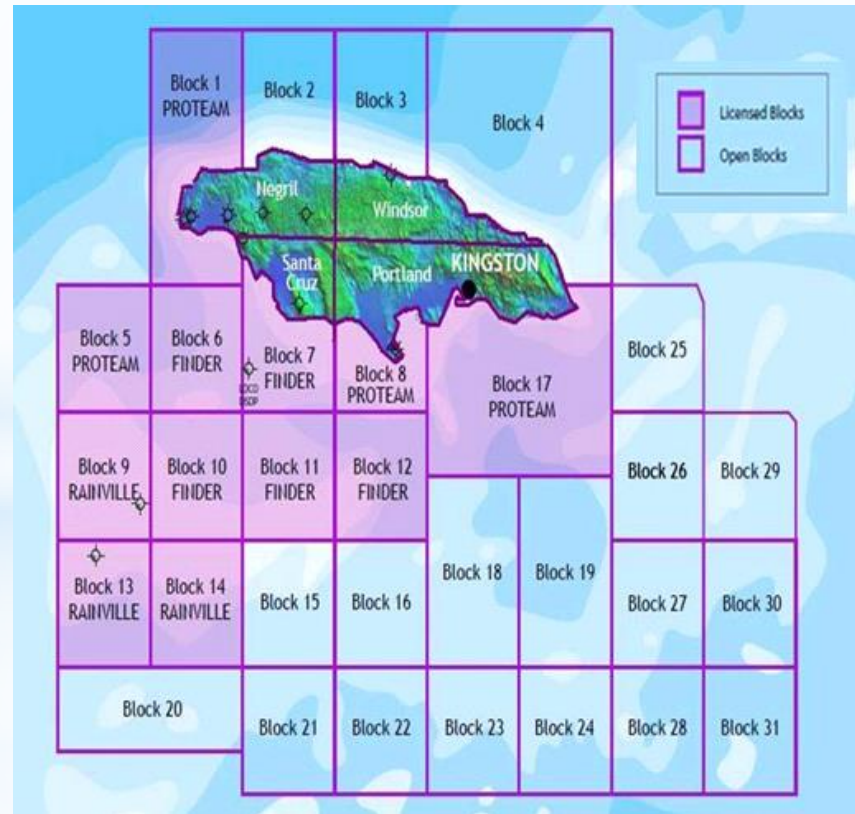
## Tourism and Recreation







# Jamaica's obligations and Current Situation



Oil and Gas Exploration



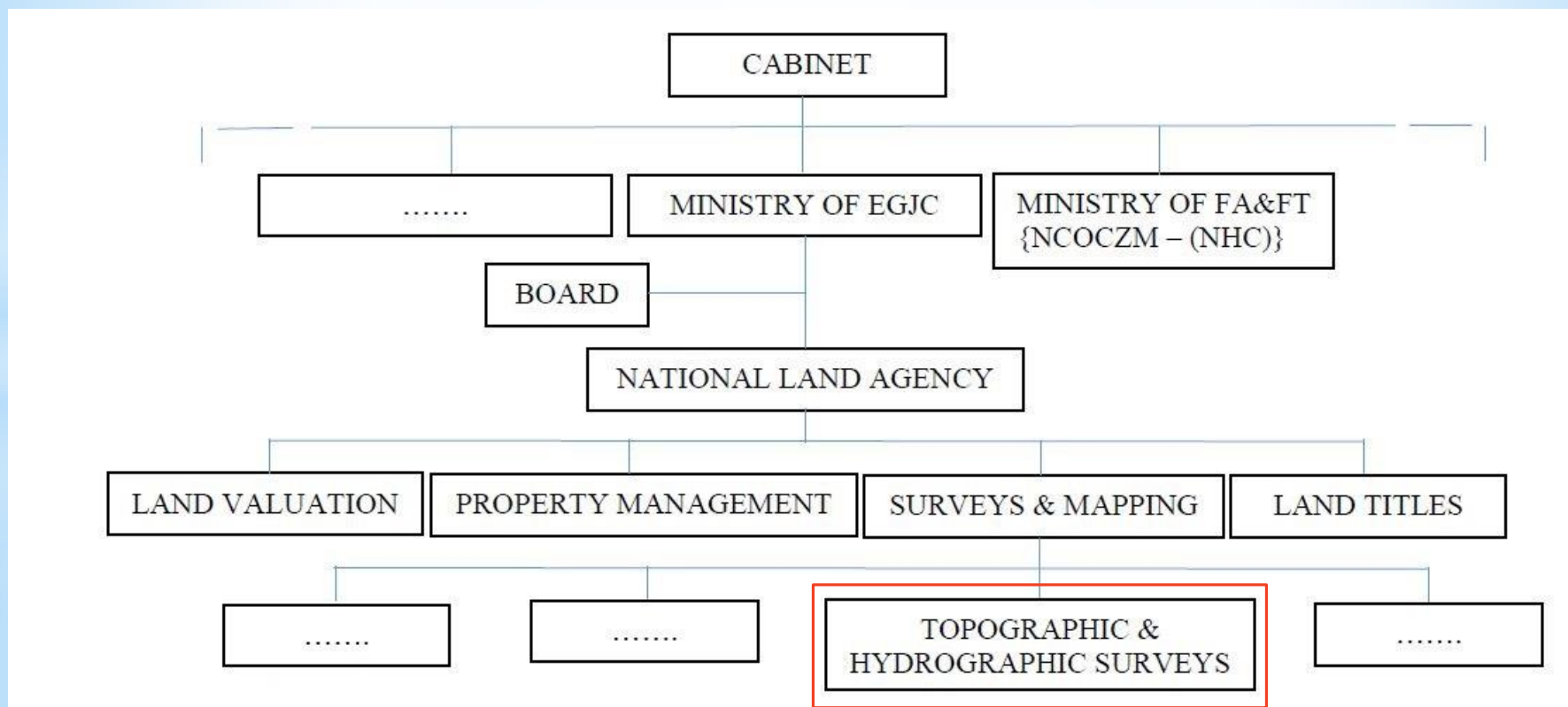
# Jamaica's obligations and Current Situation



Management of protected areas



# Jamaica's obligations and Current Situation



Location of the Hydrographic Survey Section



# Jamaica's obligations and Current Situation

## Hydrographic Staff Compliment:

- ✚ Chief Hydrographer
- ✚ Senior Hydrographer
- ✚ Hydrographic Surveyor
- ✚ Assistant Hydrographer x2
- ✚ Survey Technician (vacant)
- ✚ Coxswain (vacant)
- ✚ Boatman (vacant)



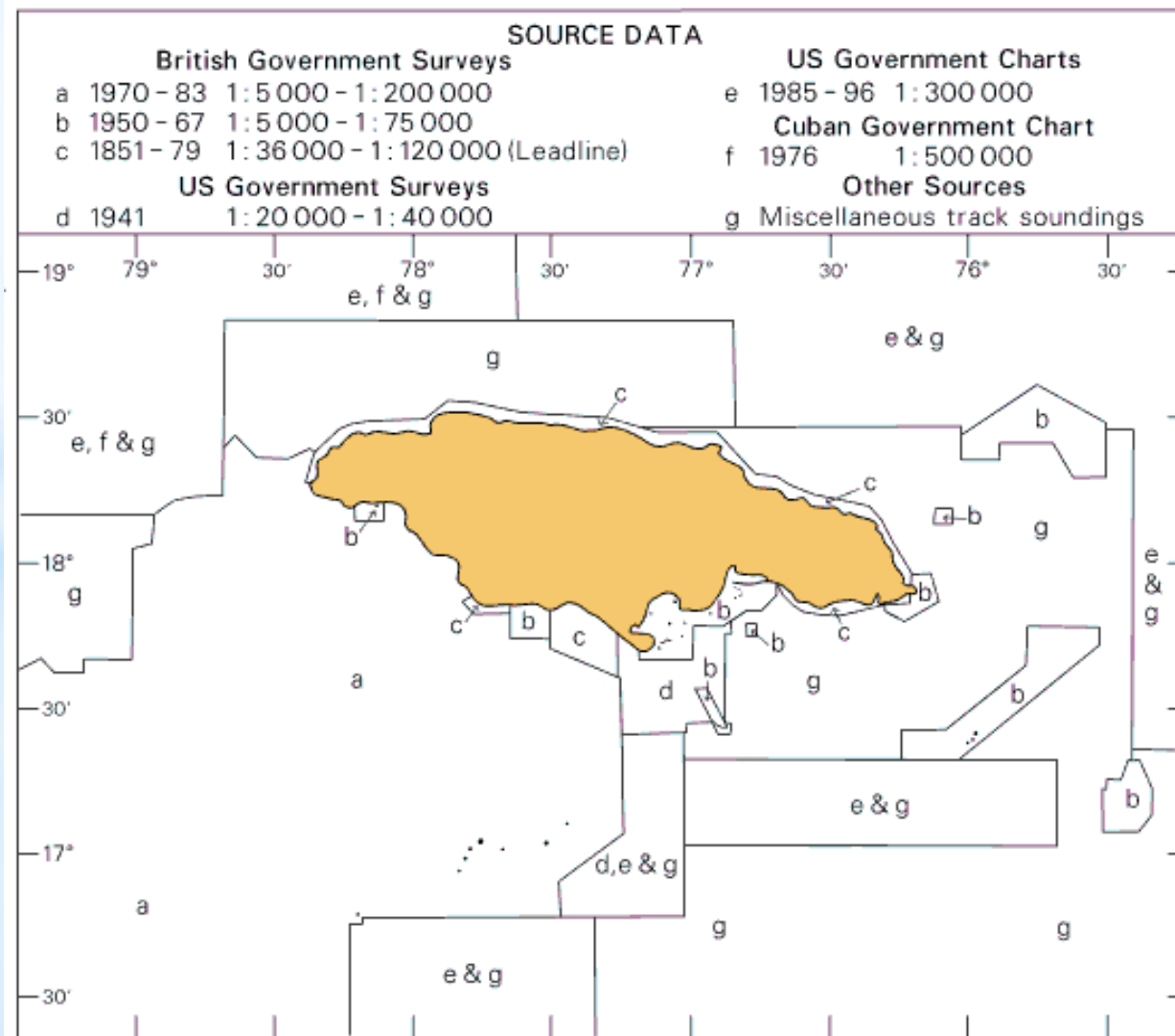
# Jamaica's obligations and Current Situation

## Equipment and Chart Production:

- ✚ Jamaica's Hydrographic Charts are produced by the UKHO
- ✚ No dedicated survey vessel
- ✚ Single beam Echo Sounder and GNSS receivers
- ✚ Uses Hypack Software
- ✚ No tide gauge or sound velocity profiler
- ✚ No multibeam or side scan sonar



# Jamaica's obligations and Current Situation

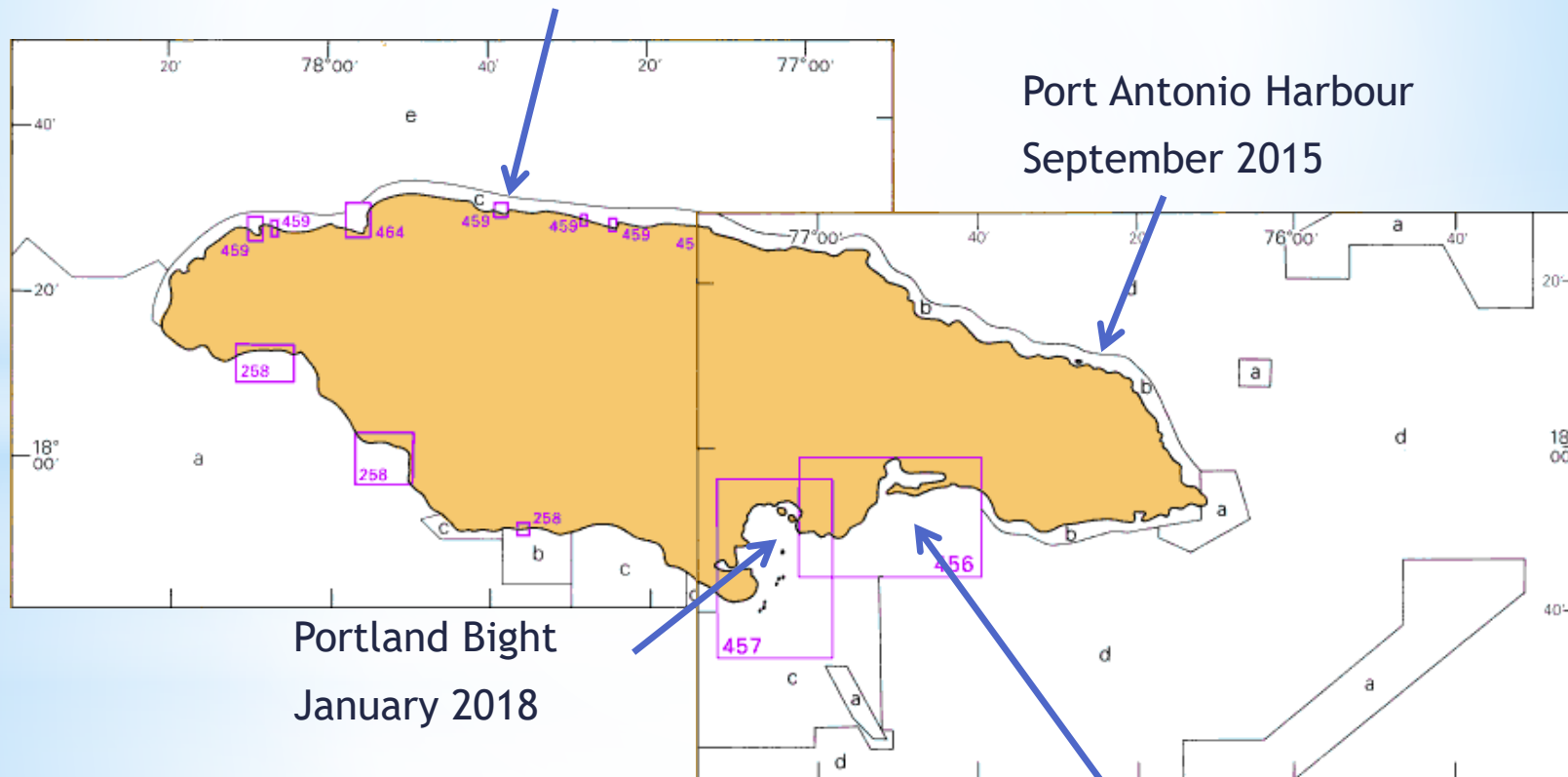




# Joint and Proposed Surveys

Falmouth Harbour  
October 2015

Port Antonio Harbour  
September 2015



Portland Bight  
January 2018

Kingston Harbour  
November 2017



# Future Prospects for Hydrography in Jamaica

Hydrography can be done in a sustainable way when:

- ✚ Policy holders recognize the importance of Hydrographic Data
- ✚ Activities are Mandated by policy changes
- ✚ Stakeholders Pool their resources to fund the work or;
- ✚ Government provides the funding to the NLA



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**End of Presentation**