



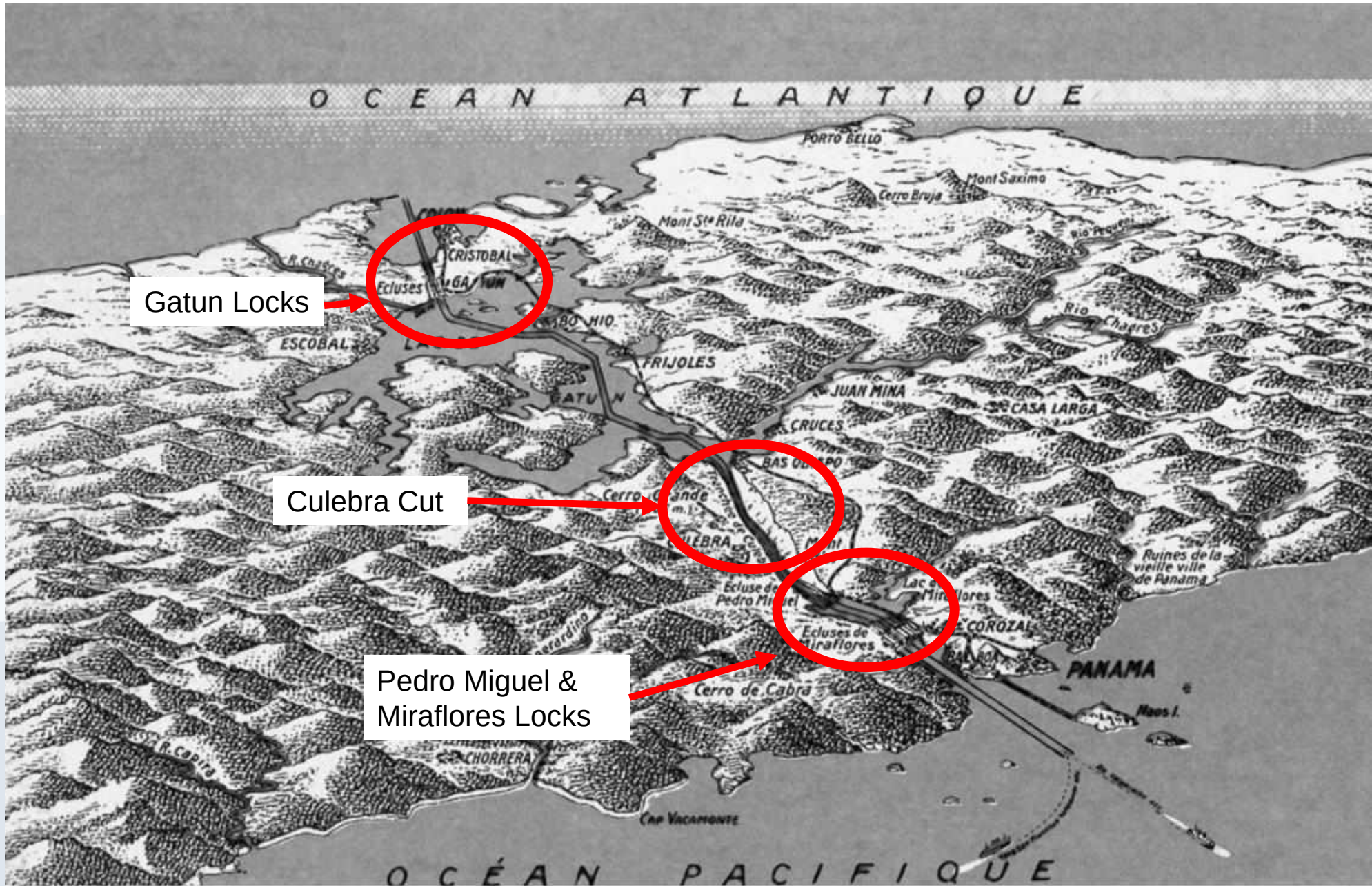
WORLD ARC 2026-27

TRANSIT BRIEFING

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Panama Canal Transit Briefing

- Historical Photos & Facts
- Transit Plan
- Before Departure
- Departure
- Rendezvous with Advisor
- Gatun Locks
- The Gatun Lake
- Pedro Miguel & Miraflores Locks
- Out into the Pacific – no going back now!



Gatun Locks

Culebra Cut

Pedro Miguel & Miraflores Locks

A Brief History

- French construction began **1881** – ended prematurely in **1889**
- **1902** The US bought rights to The French Canal Property.
- **1904** The United States signed a treaty with Columbian Government and began building canal across isthmus of Panama.
- Chief engineer John Stevens devised new techniques and changed the design from a sea-level canal to a lock canal.
- His successor, Lt. Col. George Washington Goethals, stepped up excavation efforts of a stubborn mountain range and oversaw the building of the dams and locks.
- Aided by elimination of yellow fever in **1906** by Dr William Crawford Gorgas
- Opened in **1914**, oversight of the Panama Canal was transferred from the U.S. to Panama on **31st December 1999**.



Abandoned French Dredging Equipment - 1906



Works start on Gatun Locks - 1906



Upper Gatun Locks looking to the Atlantic - 1912



Excavating the Culebra Cut



Deepest Point of Culebra Cut - 1913



Trains and Cranes at Pedro Miguel Locks - 1912



Installation of Lock Gates - 1913

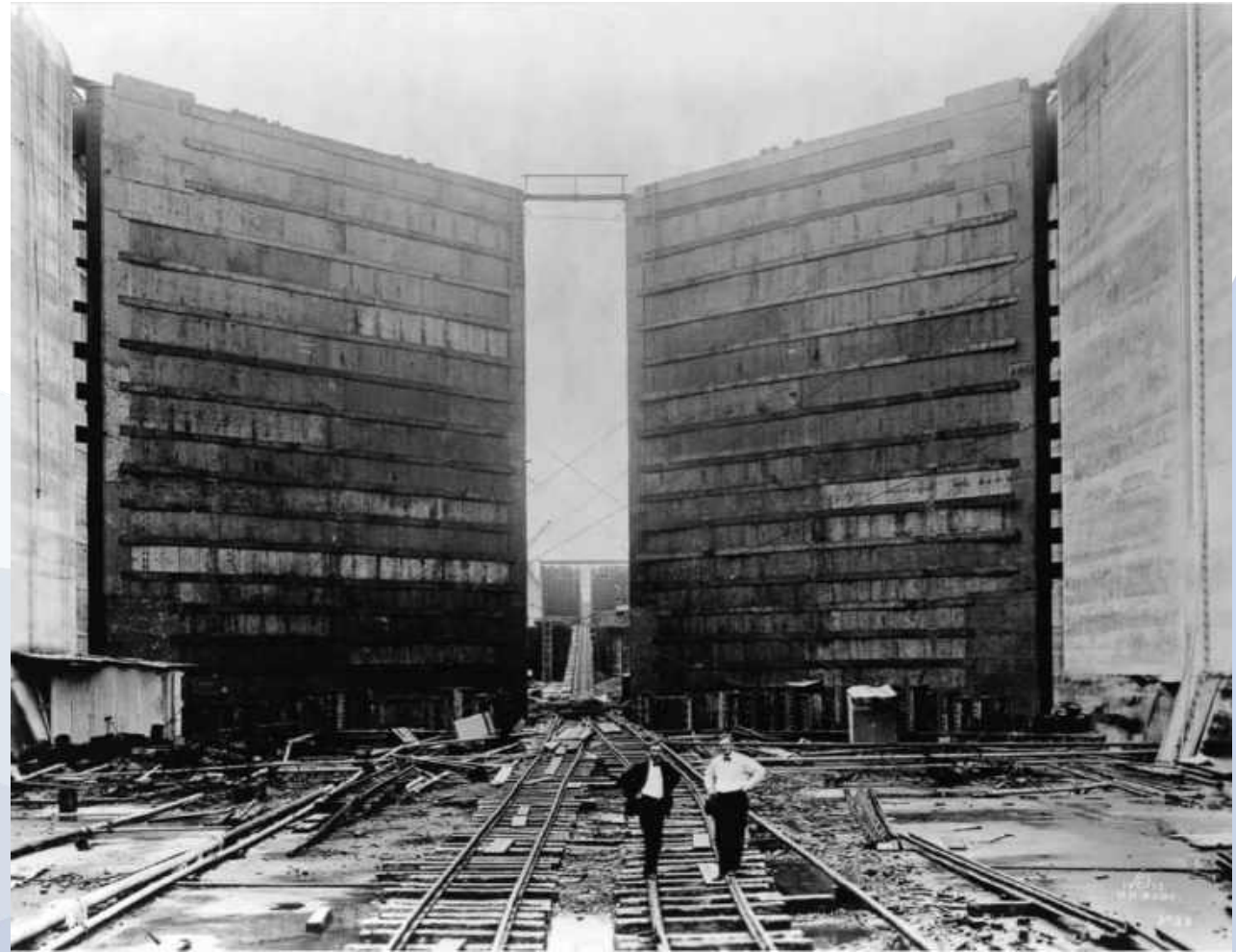
13 © 13
H.N. RYOD.



Construction of Miraflores Lower Locks - 1912



Man stands in Lock 1912



Engineers in front of Lock Gates 1913



Testing the Miraflores Locks -1913



U.S. Gatun first to transit the Gatun Lock - 1913

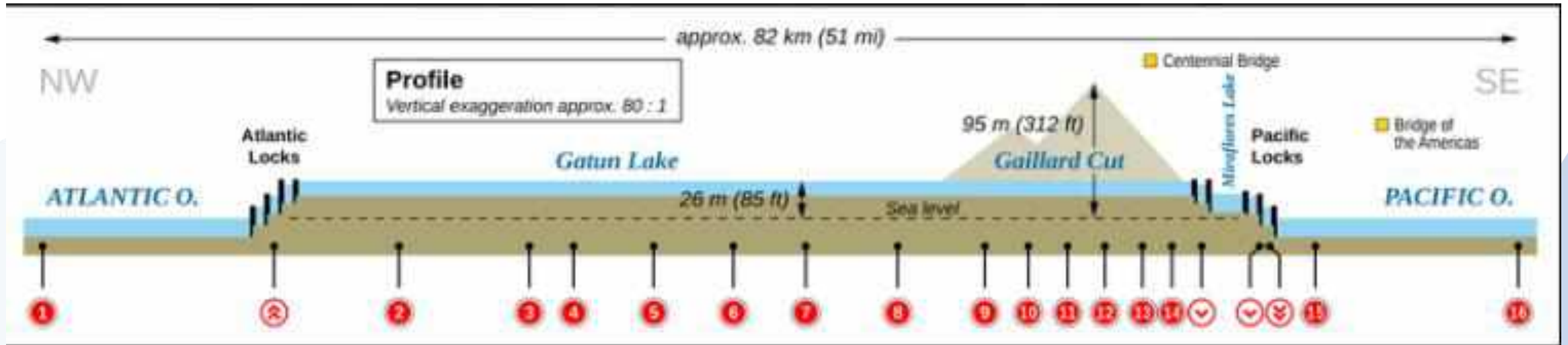
A Few Facts

Original Locks

- 110 feet (33.5 meters) in width
- 1.9 miles of locks
- 51 mile (82 kms) journey
- Gatun Lake 85ft / 26 metres above sea level
- Created Panamax Ship (965ft x 106ft)
- Average 22 ships per day

New Locks – Opened in 2016

- Ships are known as New Panamax or Neopanamax
- roughly 1.5x the size of original Panamax
- Average 6 ships per day



- 1 Atlantic Entrance
- 2 Trinidad Turn
- 3 Bohio Turn
- 4 Orchid Turn
- 5 Frijoles Turn
- 6 Barbacoa Turn

02/2017

PANAMA CANAL

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 7 Mamei Turn | 11 Culebra Reach |
| 8 Gamboa Reach | 12 Cucaracha Reach |
| 9 Bas Obispo Reach | 13 Paraiso Reach |
| 10 Las Cascadas Reach | 14 Balboa Reach |
| 11 Empire Reach | 15 Pacific Entrance |



Transit Group A

DIRECTION OF TRAVEL



PORT

CENTRE

STARBOARD

Group A			
NEST			
1	Aegle	Offbeat	Aurelia T
2	Sea Monster	Ruaj	Infinity
3	Civetta II	Golden Hind	Silver Moon
4	Salty Rascal	Nola	Sea Wisdom II

Transit Group B

DIRECTION OF TRAVEL



PORT

CENTRE

STARBOARD

Group B			
NEST			
1	Fisk	Gypsy Soul	Selkie
2	Lumni	Beyond I	Navigo
3	Take two	Cashew	Zadahan
4	Lovitana	Ganesha	

Yachts with Pilots Transit Group

Celeste of Solent

Manyeleti

Main Events

		AFTERNOON DEPARTURE Provisional Times
Issue Lines and Fenders (outside marina office) Fumigation		By 0900hrs, morning of departure. Organised by agent Erick Gálvez
Transit departs SBM		Departure between 1300hrs and 1645hrs in Transit order. To be confirmed 24hrs before
Receive Advisors		Between 1300hrs and 1700hrs. Either: In your berth at Shelter Bay Marina OR At 'The New Flats' anchorage Overnight Gatun Lake with all line handlers but not advisors
Receive Advisors on Gatun Lake		From 0600hrs next morning Advisor will disembark en-route to or in La Playita Marina
Arrive in La Playita Berth or Anchor		Afternoon of 2 nd day (1430hrs – 1700hrs)
Briefing & Drinks		Outside marina shop – timing to be confirmed

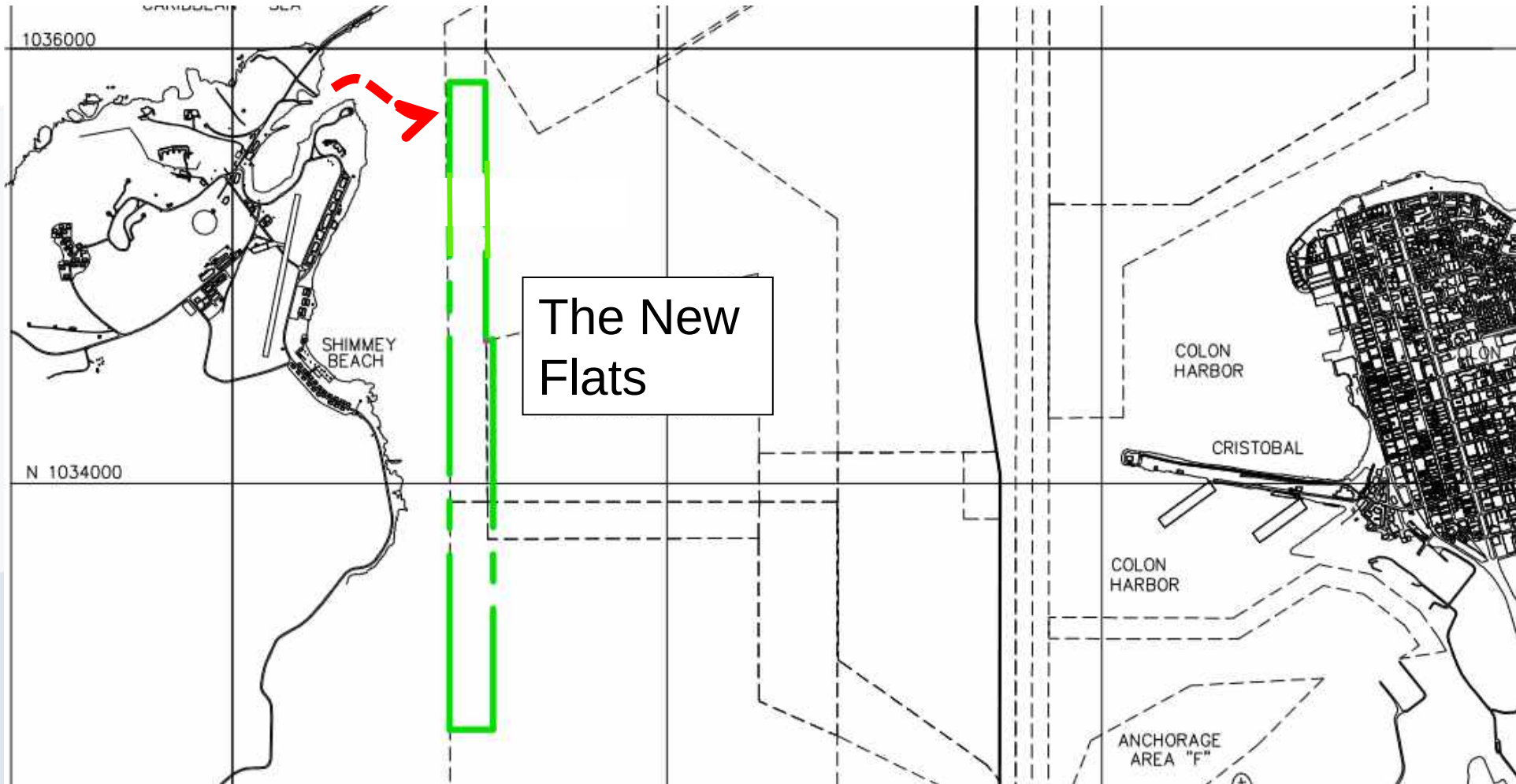
Pre Departure - Check List

- 1 skipper and 4 adult line handlers per boat
- Rafting - Speak with the other boats in the raft to coordinate dock lines and fenders for rafting. Discuss how to raft (where cleats are etc.)
- Check Engine
- Large Fenders - Outside boats have fenders issued by WCC Agent
- Lines - 4 heavy duty lines per boat issued by WCC Agent
- Protect vulnerable deck fittings and solar panels
- Prepare fenders and lines (1m bowline in the shore end of line)
- For Advisor & Paid Line Handlers - Water in bottles, Hot Meals, Sodas, Snacks, Head with soap, Shaded Area

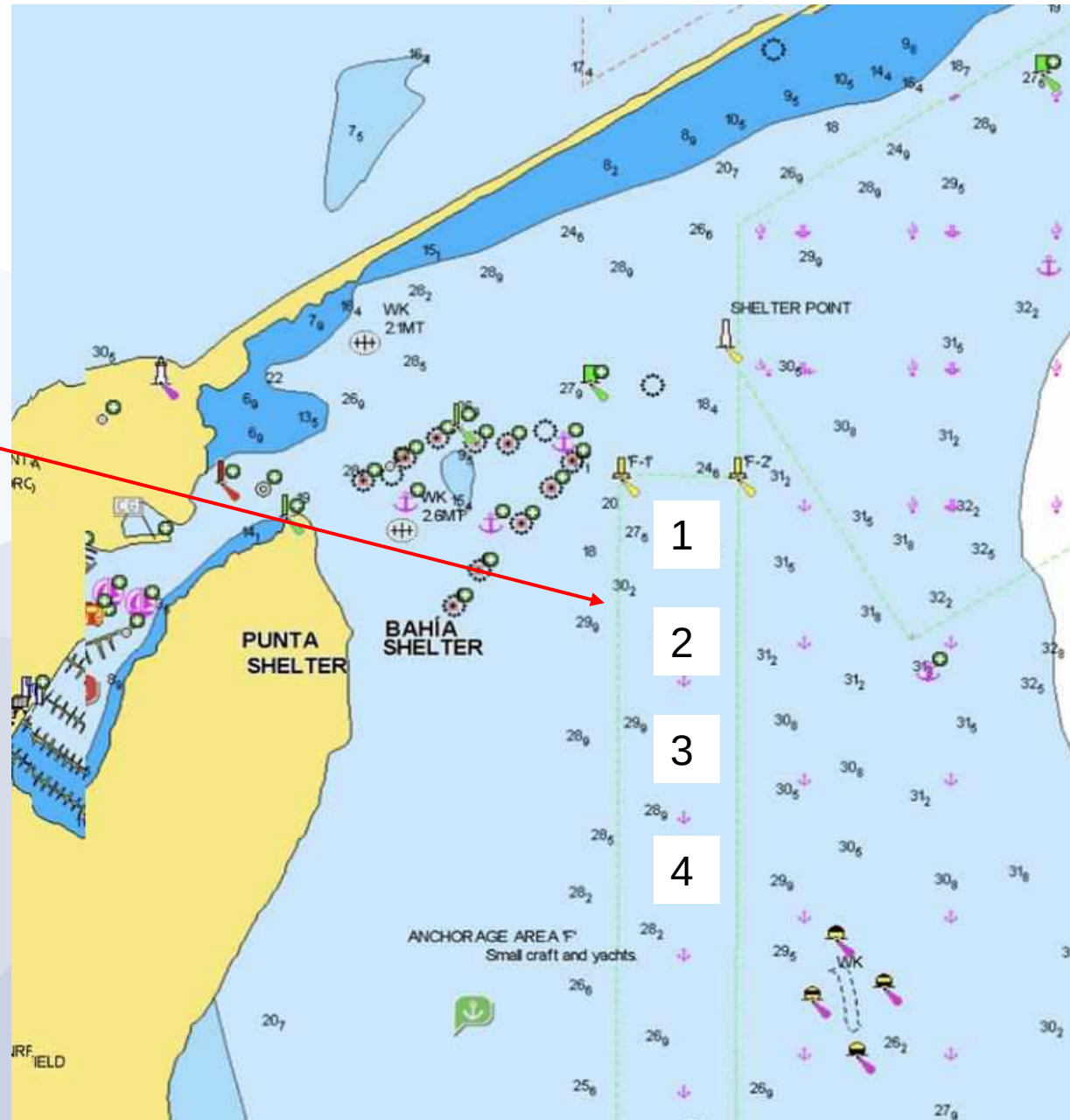
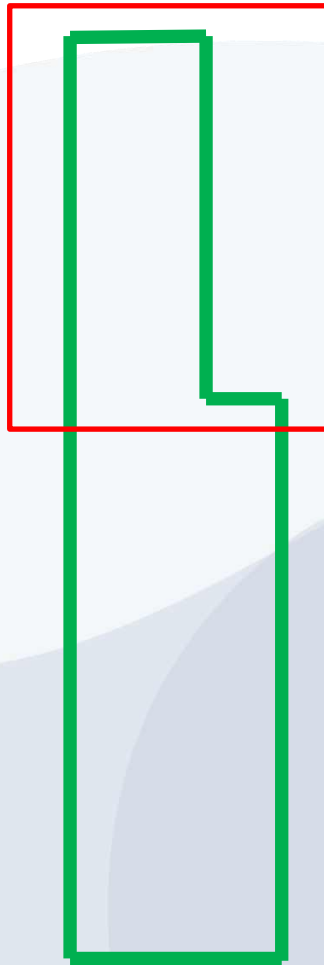
Departure

Either meet advisor :

- In the marina, at your berth, OR,
- At Anchorage ' The New Flats'
 - Maintain listening watch on Ch12 & Ch 77 then switch to Ch 12 when in the anchorage
 - Move to Anchorage F - "The New Flats"
 - 'Anchor' in sight of your Nest boats
 - Nests to form up North / South with 1st Nest to the North of the anchorage – ref diagram.



New Flats Anchorage



Receiving the Advisor





Rendezvous with Advisor

- **Ensure fixed and roving fenders ready (if meeting in the anchorage)**
- **Welcome the Advisor on board**
- **Discuss meal arrangements**
Between the Advisor boarding and the first lock is over an hour and they may have travelled from Panama City
- **Proceed to the first lock under supervision**

Approach to the Locks

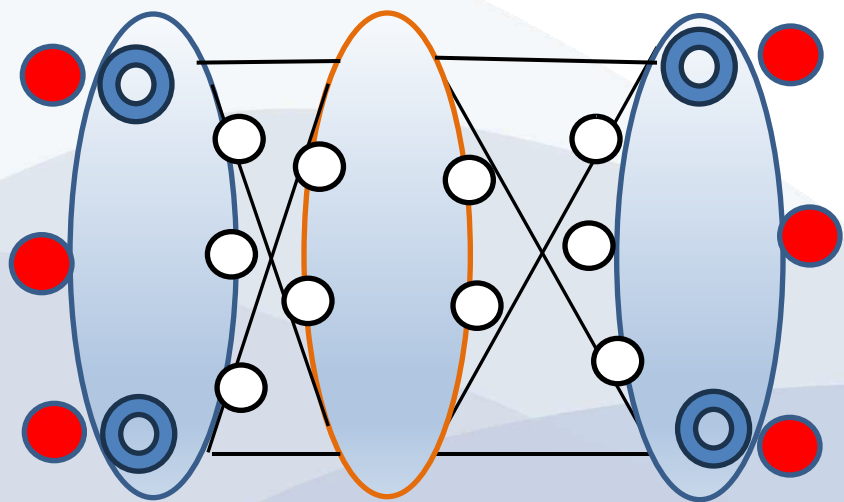


Gatun Locks



Three Yacht 'Nest'

Direction of Travel



Heaving line thrown
from the side of the lock

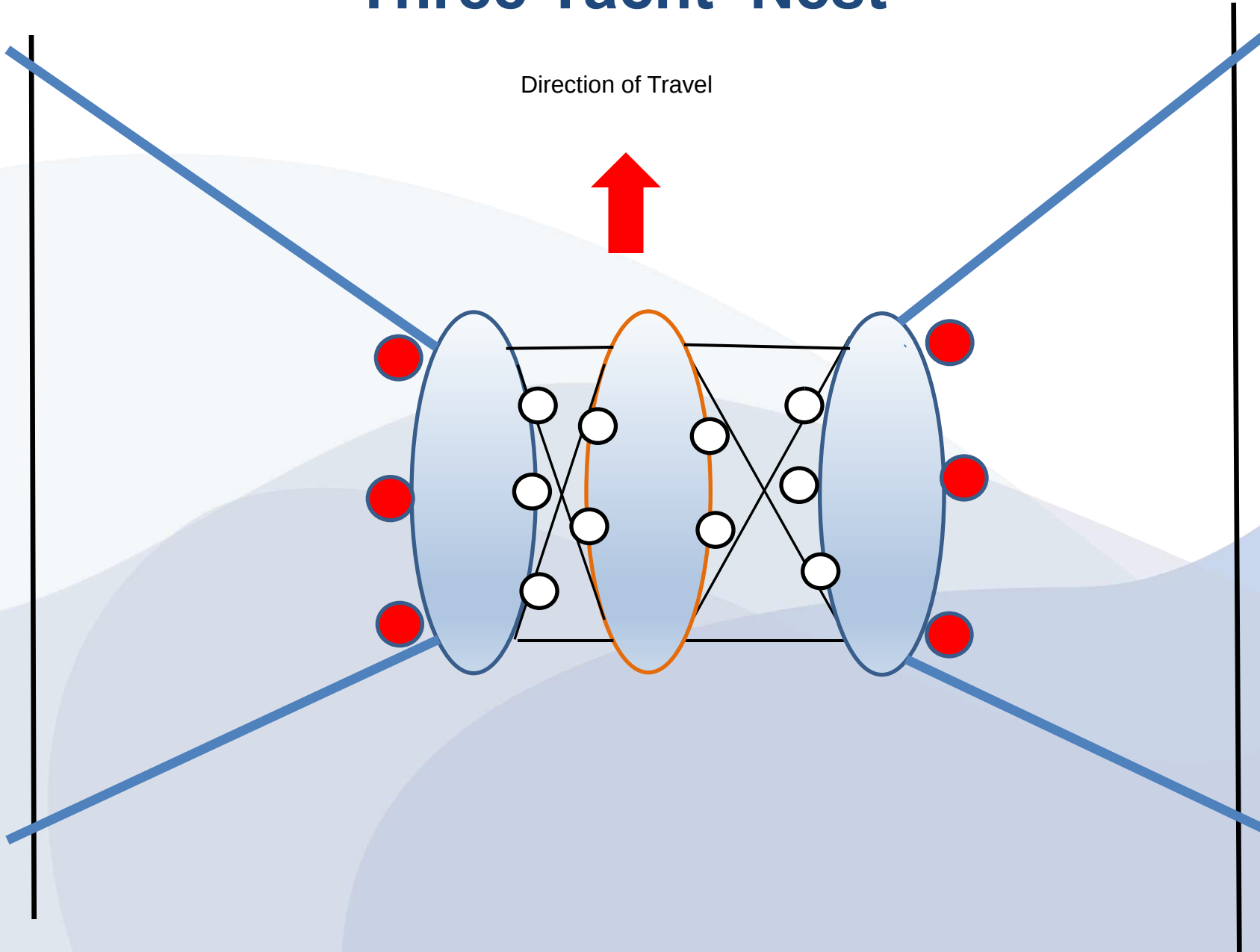






Three Yacht 'Nest'

Direction of Travel









Essential Tips

- Tying heaving line to a mooring line
- Protection of deck items & solar panels
- Line will be going sharply upward
- Use of cleats
 - Easing/taking-in without releasing or locking
 - Coordinate as a raft
 - Wear Gloves
- Line handlers practice session

Advisor **MUST NOT** be required to assist (but may)

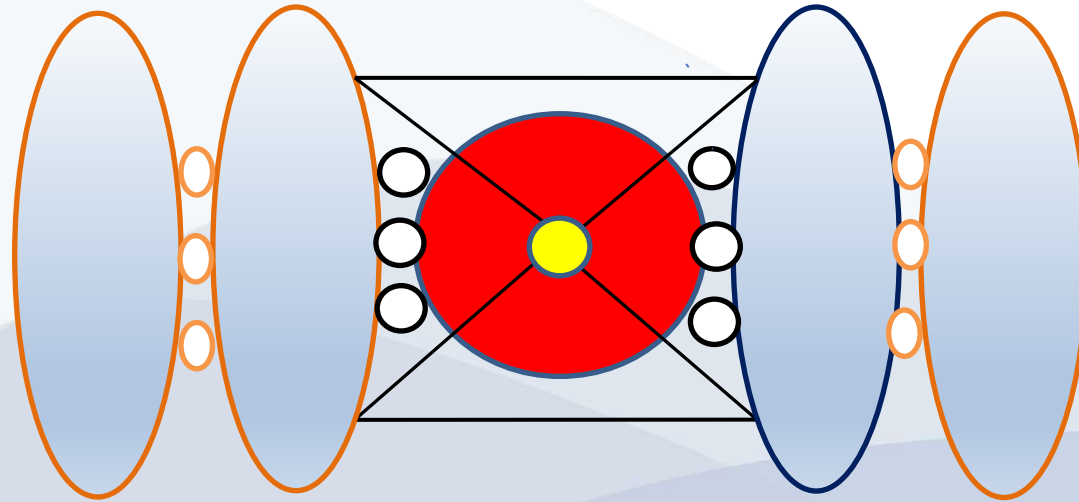
Gatun Lake





Rafting in the Lake

Biggest on the inside



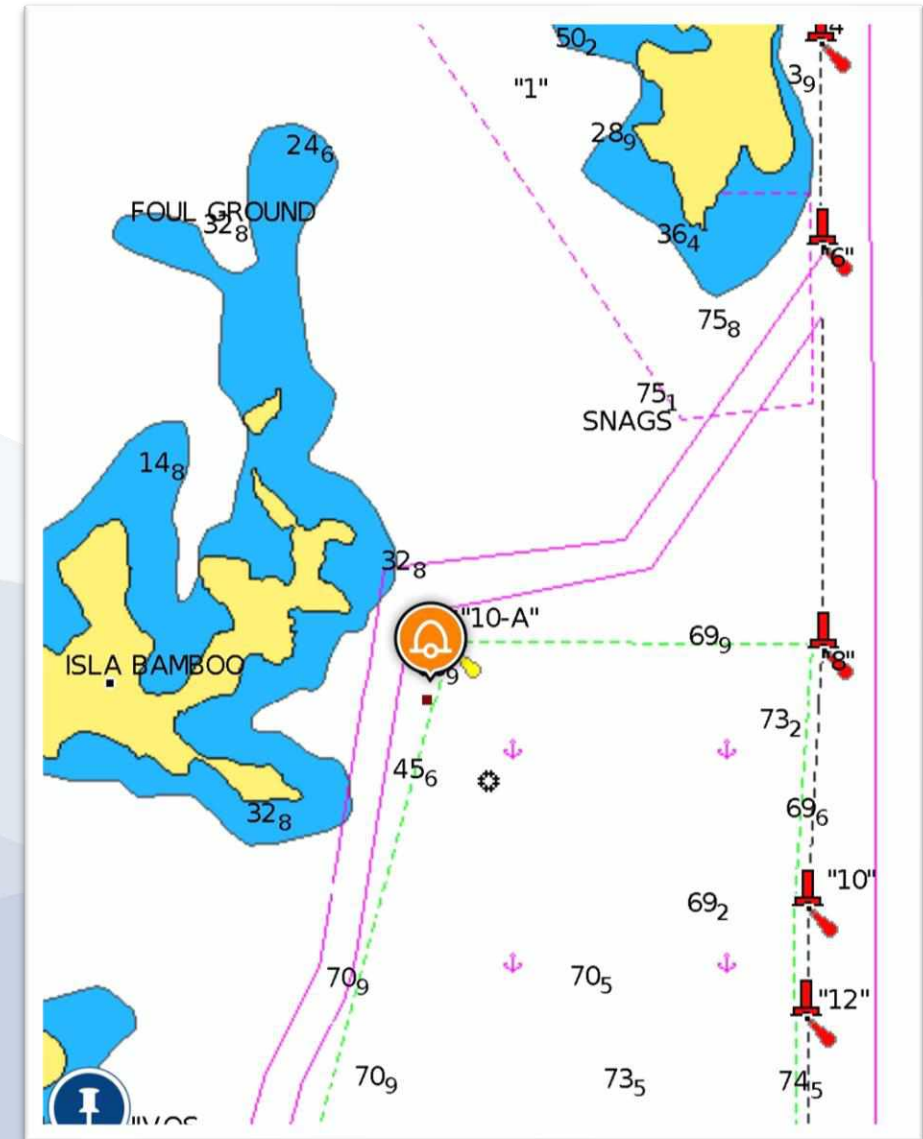




Gatun Lake Moorings

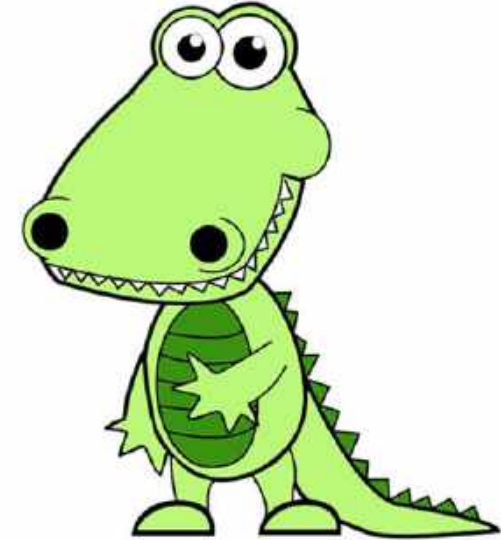
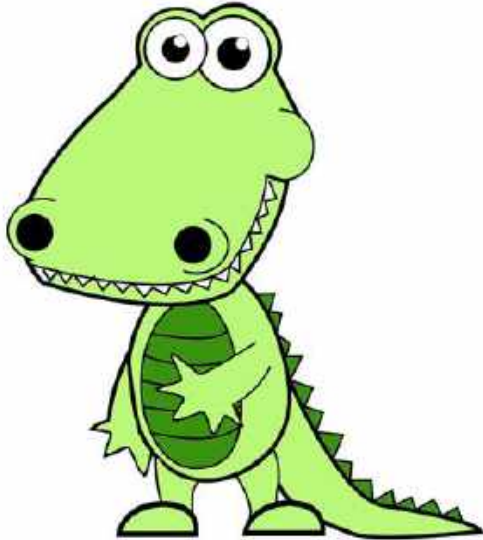
09° 14.27N 079° 55.97W

May also use Gamboa Lake





Gatun Lake



Day Two

- Advisors return early (approx 0600 TBC)
- Be ready to leave as soon as they arrive
- Have two hot meals for the Advisors & line handlers

Canal Web Cams – tell your friends!

All locks now have web cams and can be found using:
<https://multimedia.panama-canal.com/>

Lock Names:

From Atlantic - Gatun

Down to the Pacific - Pedro Miguel then Miraflores

The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 11:53:11 2014
Miraflores Locks - Hi-Res



The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 11:54:52 2014
Miraflores Locks - HI-Res



The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 11:55:59 2014
Miraflores Locks - Hi-Res



The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 11:56:28 2014
Miraflores Locks - Hi-Res



The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 11:57:08 2014
Miraflores Locks - Hi-Res



The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 11:57:43 2014
Miraflores Locks - HiRes



The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 11:58:44 2014
Miraflores Locks - Hi-Res



The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 12:06:02 2014
Miraflores Locks - HI-Res



The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 12:07:49 2014
Miraflores Locks - Hi-Res



The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 12:09:34 2014
Miraflores Locks - Hi-Res



The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 12:10:30 2014
Miraflores Locks - Hi-Res



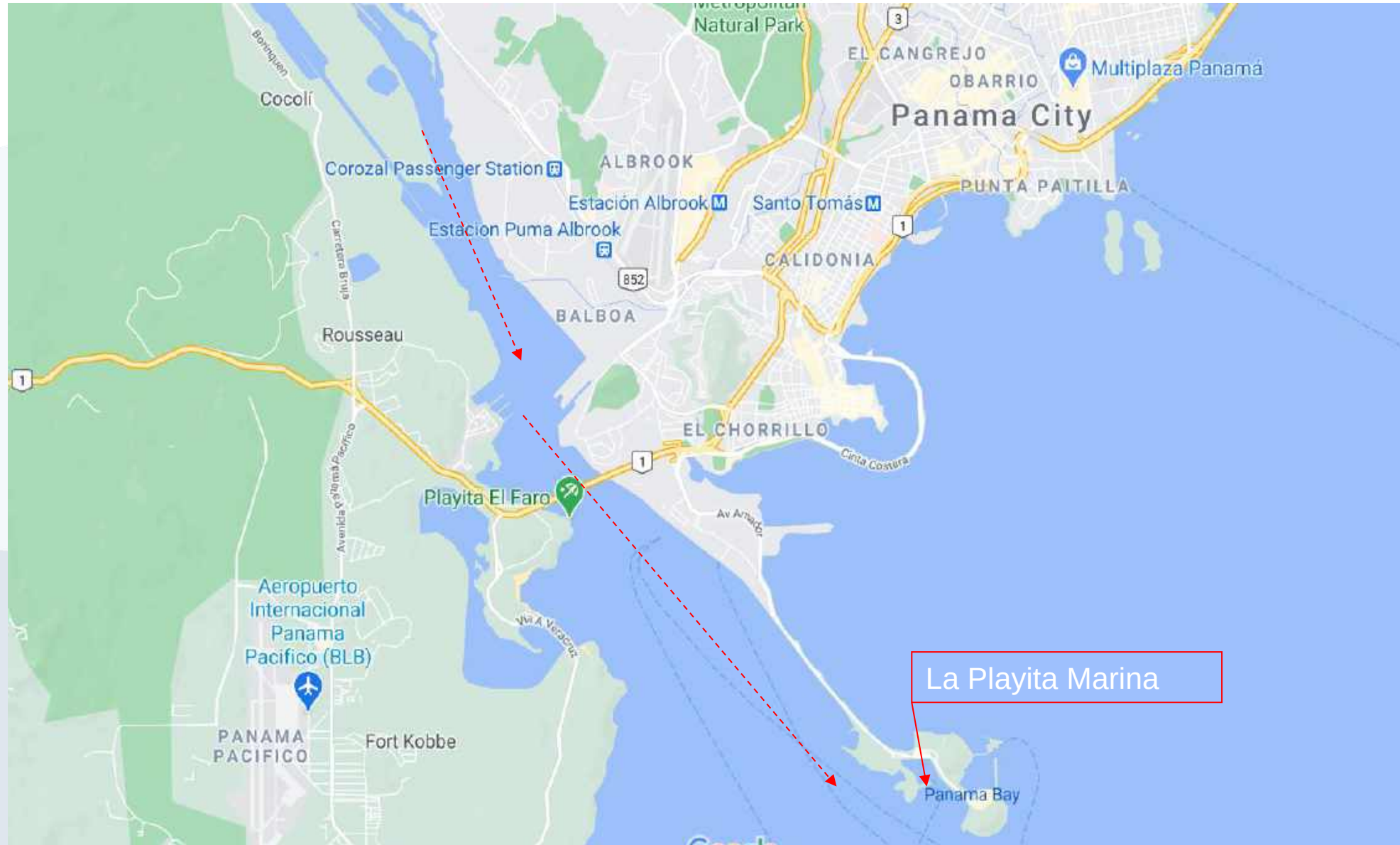
The Panama Canal, Sun Jan 26 12:12:56 2014
Miraflores Locks - Hi-Res

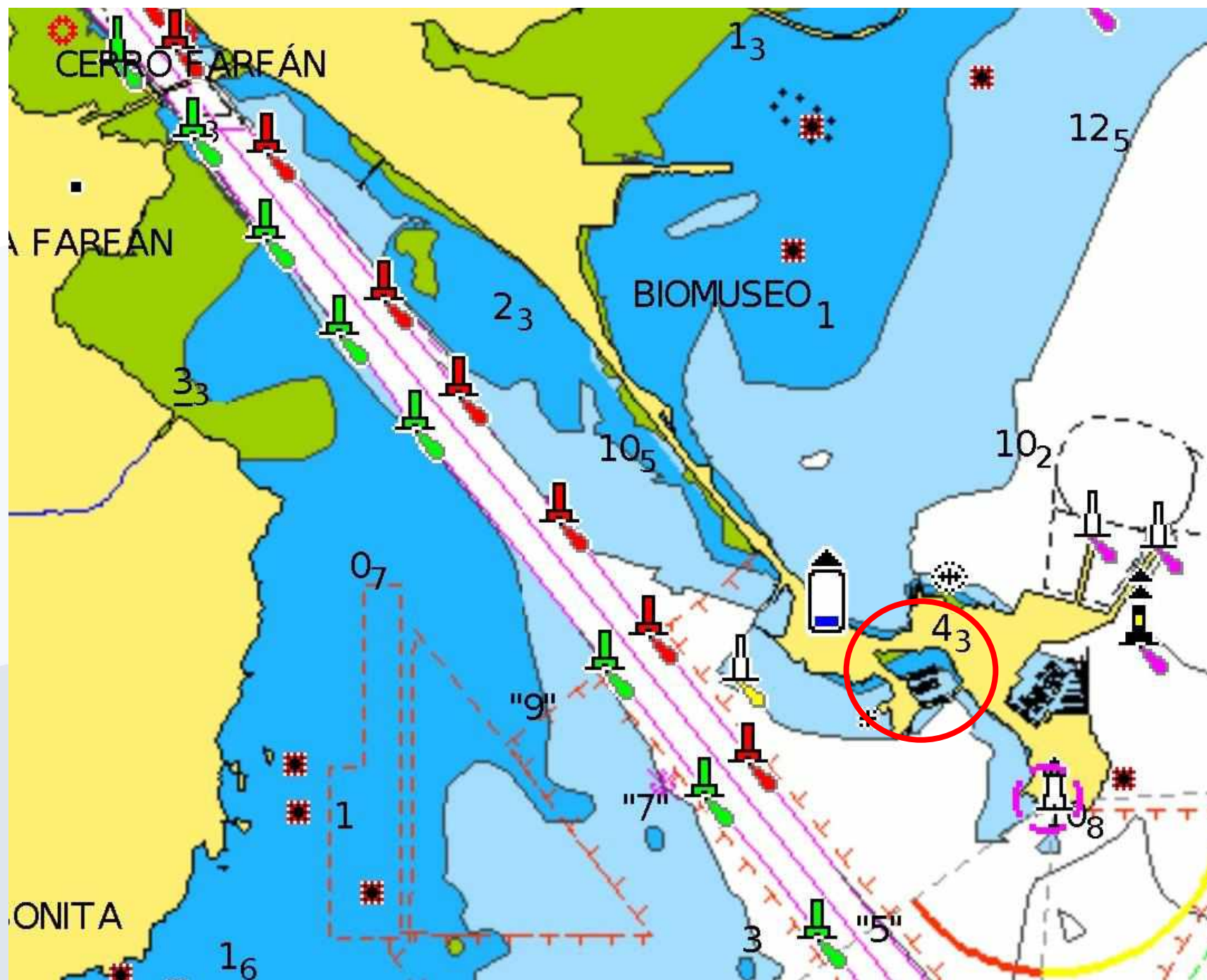






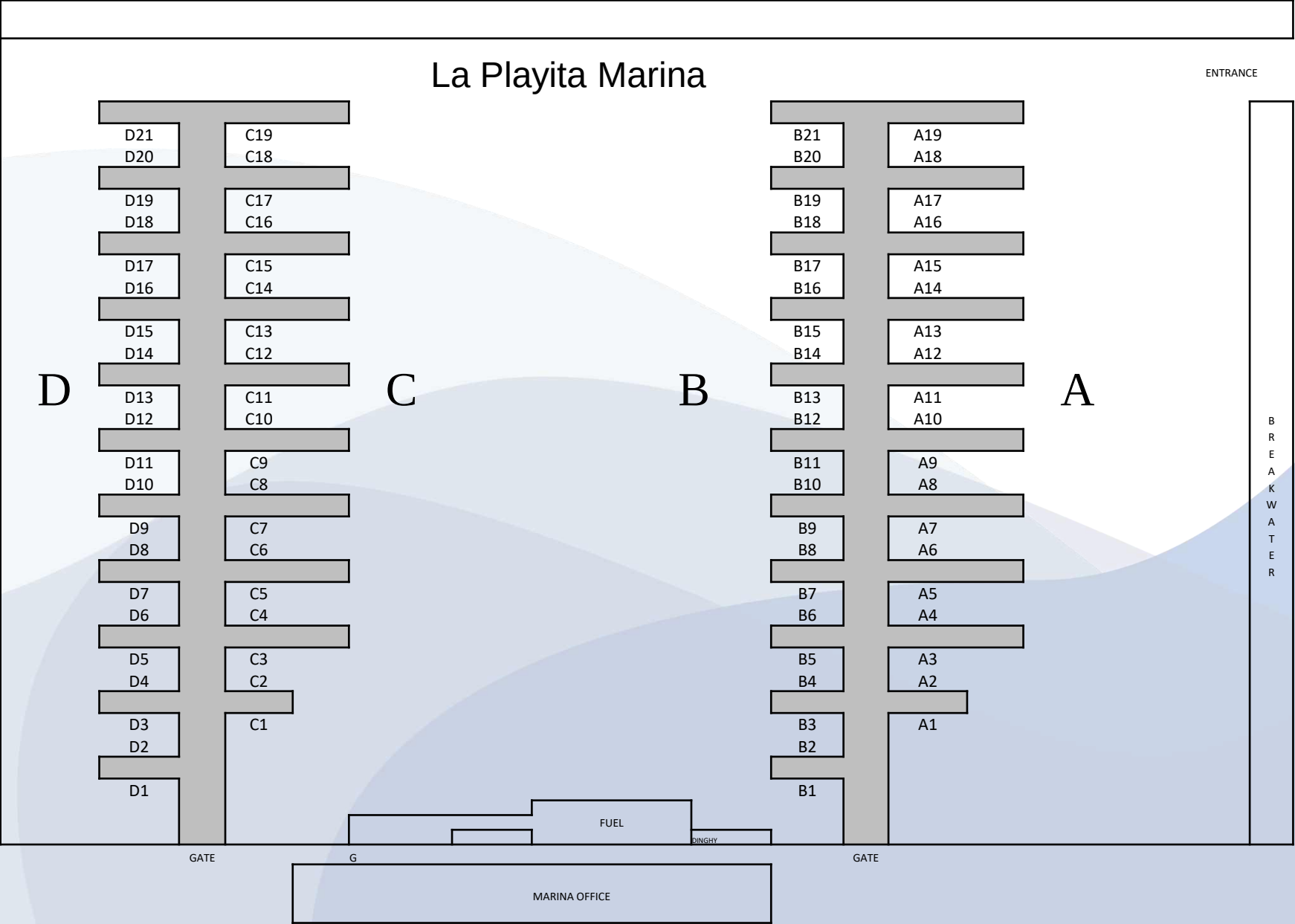
Last Lock to La Playita Marina











La Playita Marina

- Rally Control VHF Ch 77 on arrival
- Marina available on **VHF Ch 09**– Jose is the Dockmaster
- Two Entry Cards per yacht. Extras available with deposit (Lost cards \$45 + 7%)
- Diesel – Go to Marina office to book your fuelling slot
Fuel dock is tidal.
- TIDES: Up to 6m at Springs
- Dinghy charges (when at anchor) US\$40 per week
- Please assist returning lines and fenders to our agent

La Playita Marina

- **Electricity**

- 50 Amp (Larger) 220V
- 30 Amp 110V
- Both connections USA
- Only 60Hz
- (Some adaptors available – deposit required)

- **Rubbish**

- Recycling available by showers
- Beware of Racoons – cute but feisty

- **Toilets and showers** (not always hot water)

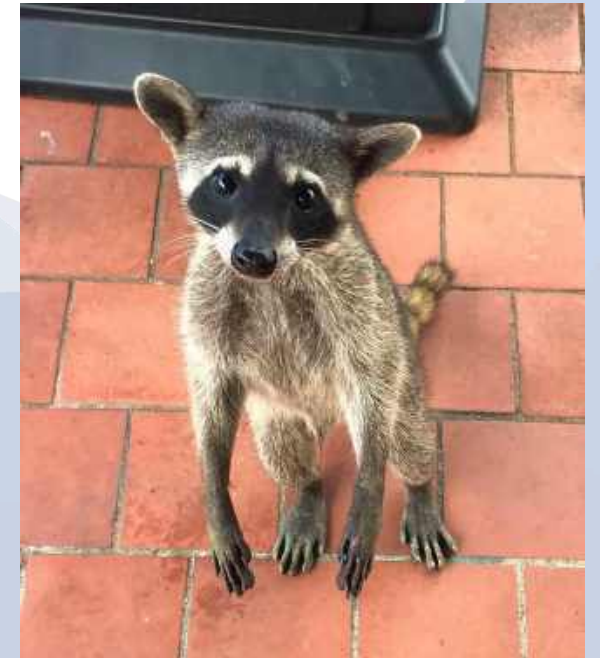
- **Dress code:** shorts and t-shirt

- **Laundry**

- Wash & dry \$2/cycle - only accepts quarters (25c)

- **Gas** – Available – taken by taxi

- **WiFi** – only really works next to the office



La Playita Marina

Divers In La Playita

- \$300 per boat.
- Book with Rally Control before transitting

Berthing

- Monohull \$ 1.50 per night/foot plus tax
- Multihull \$ 2.00 per night/foot plus tax

Panama City Programme

Half Day Panama City Tours \$45 – starting on Monday 2nd Feb. Book before transitting

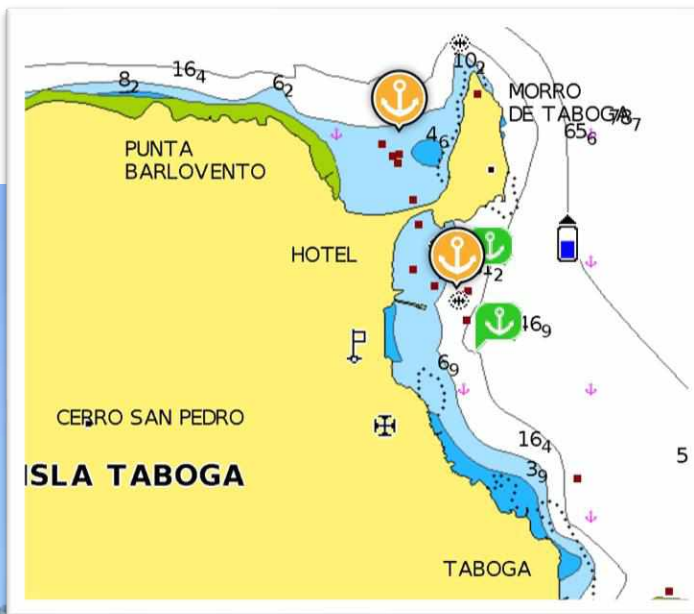
Clearances out from the Cruise Ship Terminal on Isla Perico with World ARC Agent Erick Galvez. 10 minutes from La Playita Marina. No clearances in Las Perlas.

Berthing availability limited – Priority given to boats arriving from Canal

Free Sailing Taboga and Las Perlas

Las Perlas Rendezvous 10 February at Contadora

Taboga



Panama Admin

- Provisioning
 - Albrook Shopping Mall (Super 99/Super Xtra)
 - Albrook Town (Super Carnes, Rey)
 - Multiplaza (Riba Smith)
- Chandlers
 - Equipsa
 - Flamenco Marina Chandlers
 - Narval Marine
 - Pesqueros Sport (Fishing Shop)

LAS PERLAS

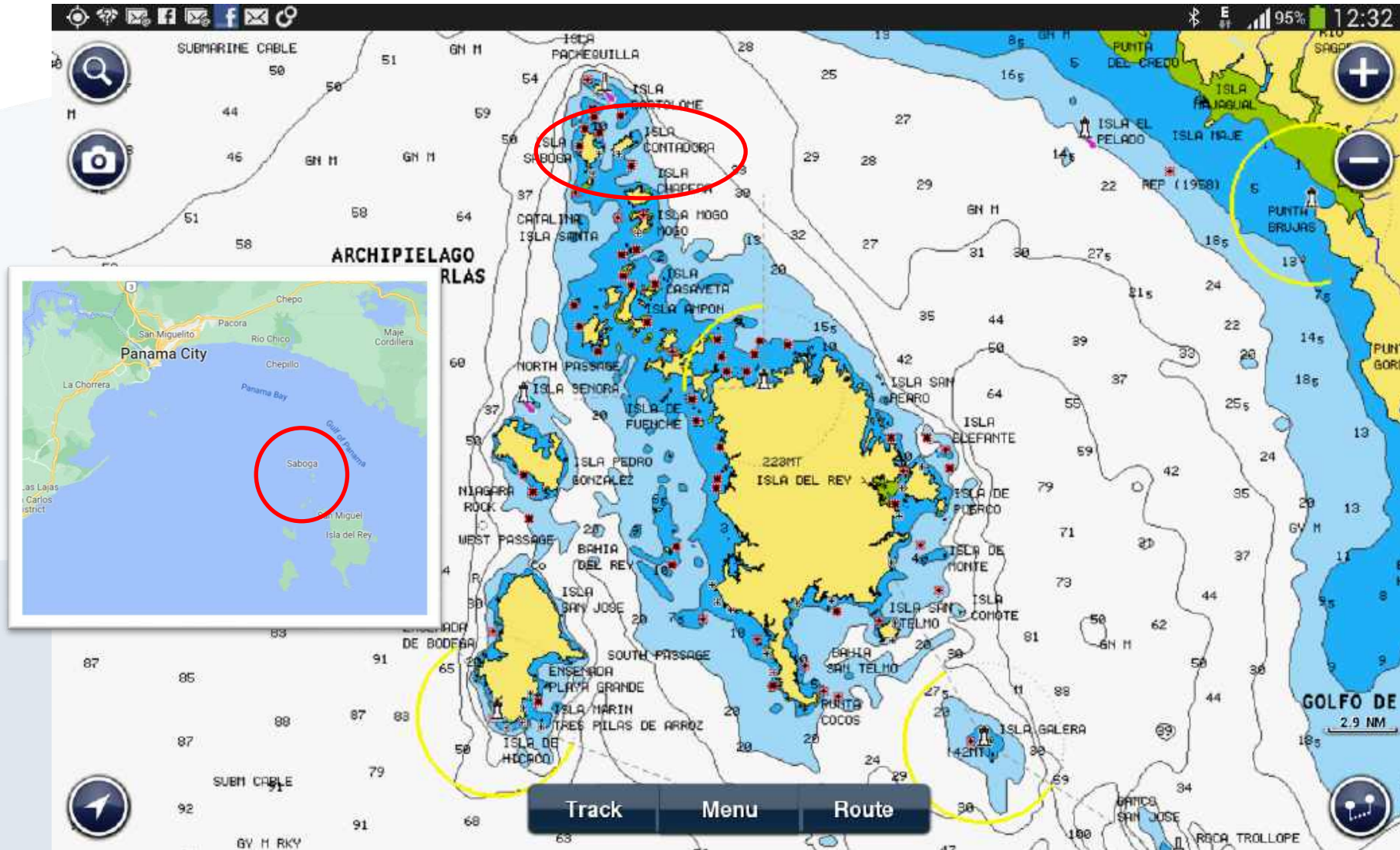
Tuesday 10 Feb - Rally Control available from midday at **Hotel Mar y Oro, Contadora**

08°37'25N, 79°02'10W

EVENTS IN LAS PERLAS

- Tuesday 10 Feb 17.00 - Prize Giving on the beach side venue
- Wednesday 11 Feb 15.00 - Skippers' Briefing for Leg 3 in the school hall
- Thursday 12 Feb 12.00 - Start for Galapagos

Contadora



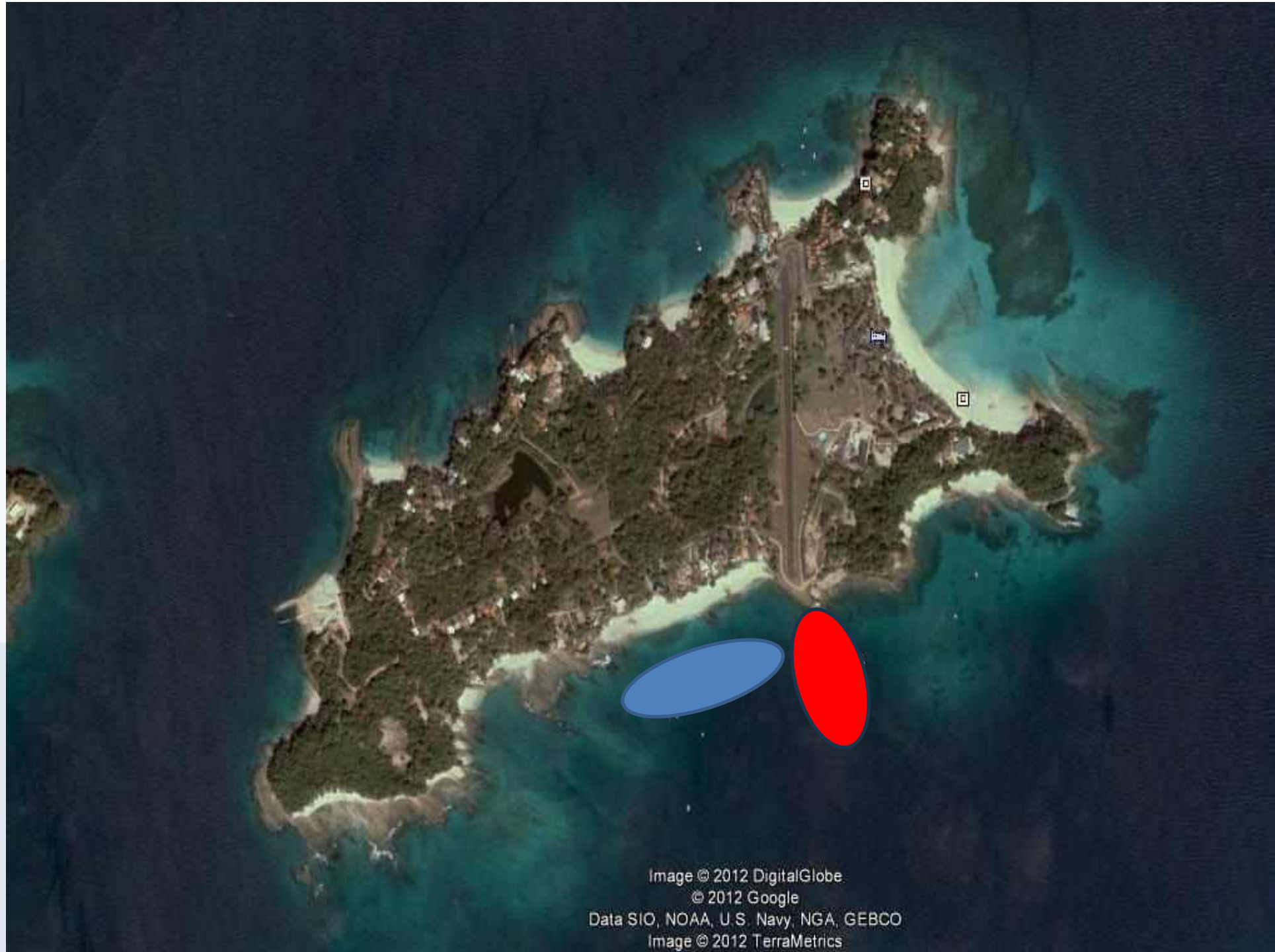


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Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image © 2012 TerraMetrics





Restricted
Anchorage
area



GALAPAGOS

Hull Cleanliness

- Substantial fines can be issued, plus re-entry fee to national park
- Rally Control would like copy of all certificates
- Garbage Bags (with labels being provided)
 - General rubbish & two types of recycling
- Eco soap and detergents
- List of Food

Cash for on arrival

\$240 per boat, \$270 per adult. (less for children and MERCOSUR nationalities)

Re-read advice in Rally Handbook and in members area



WORLD ARC 2026-27

INTO THE PACIFIC !

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