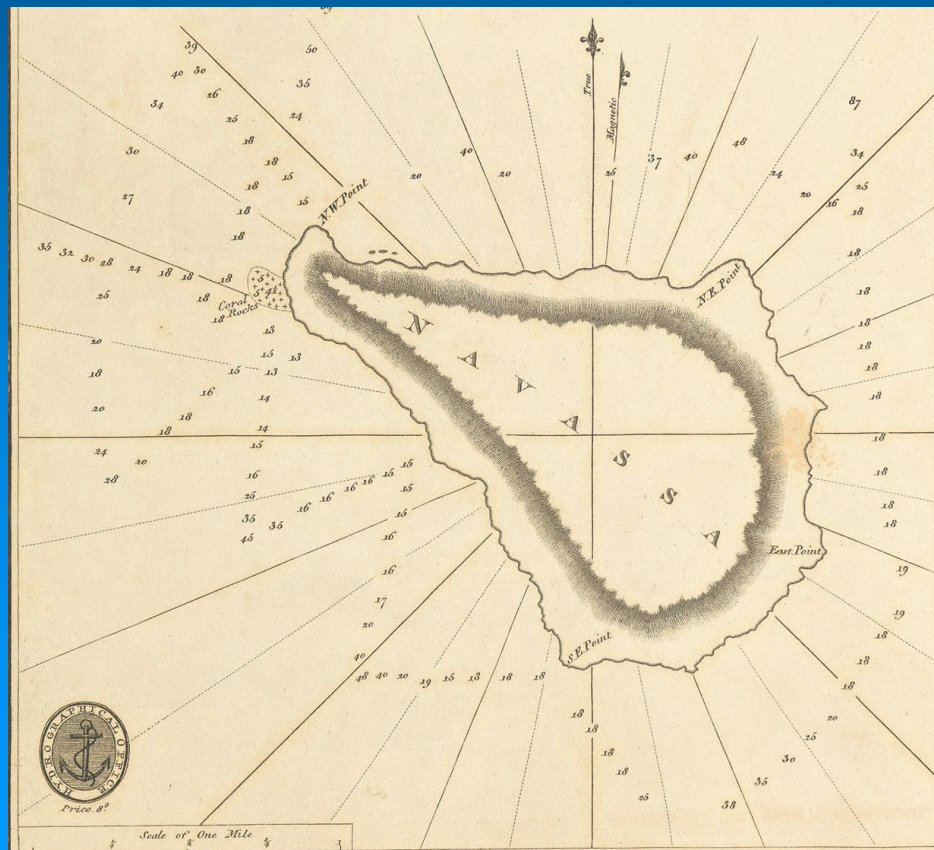


# Navassa Island The Farthest Refuge in the Caribbean



# Where is it????

- In the middle of no where
- **Coordinates** 18 25 N, 75 02W, in between Haiti, Jamaica and Cuba
- 160 km south of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
- Area - 5.2 sq km, or 2 sq. miles or nine times the size of the Mall in DC
- Territorial sea claimed by US - 12 nm
- EEZ - 200 nm, coastline 8 km, highest point 77 mt

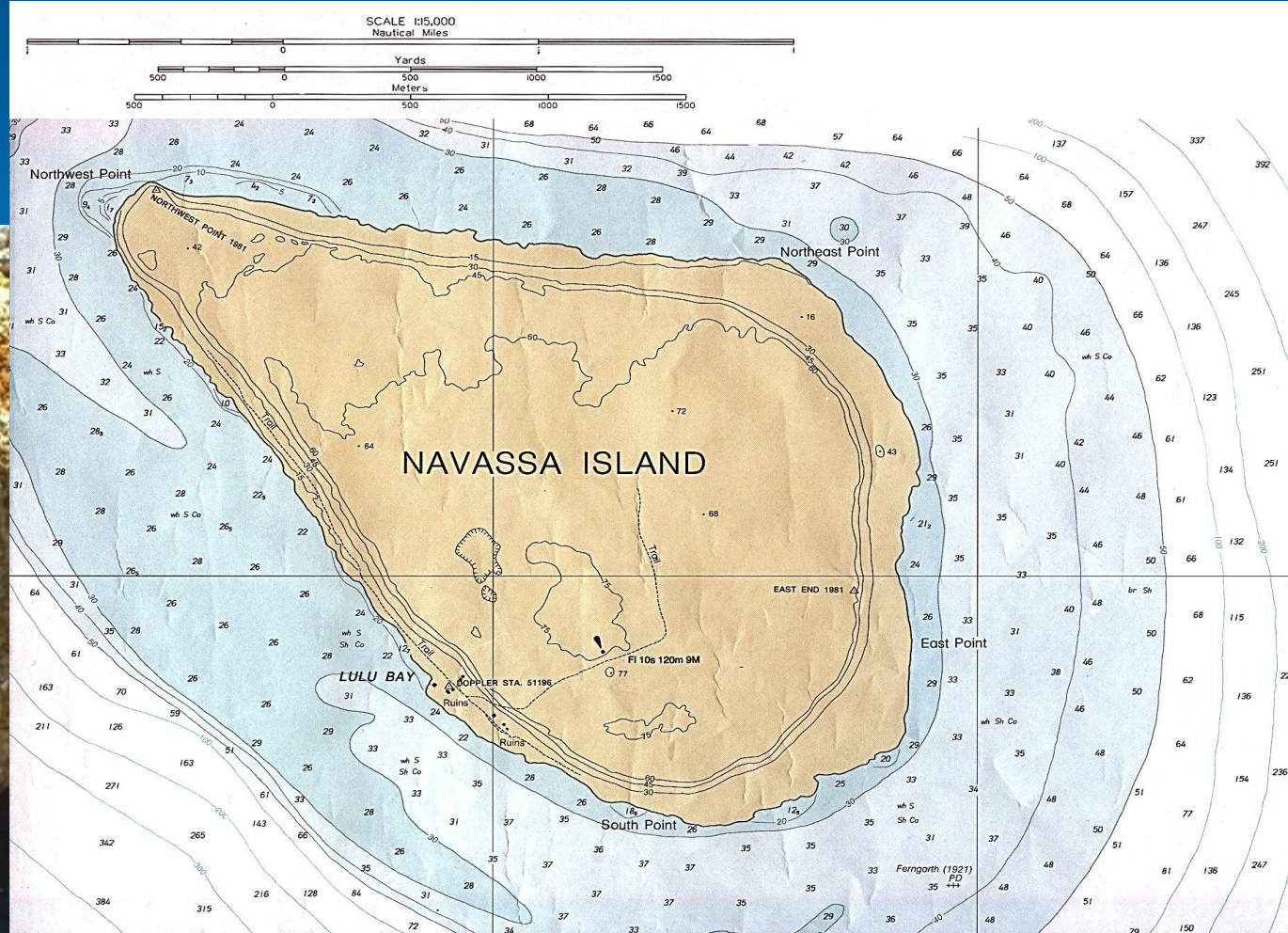
# Navassa Island

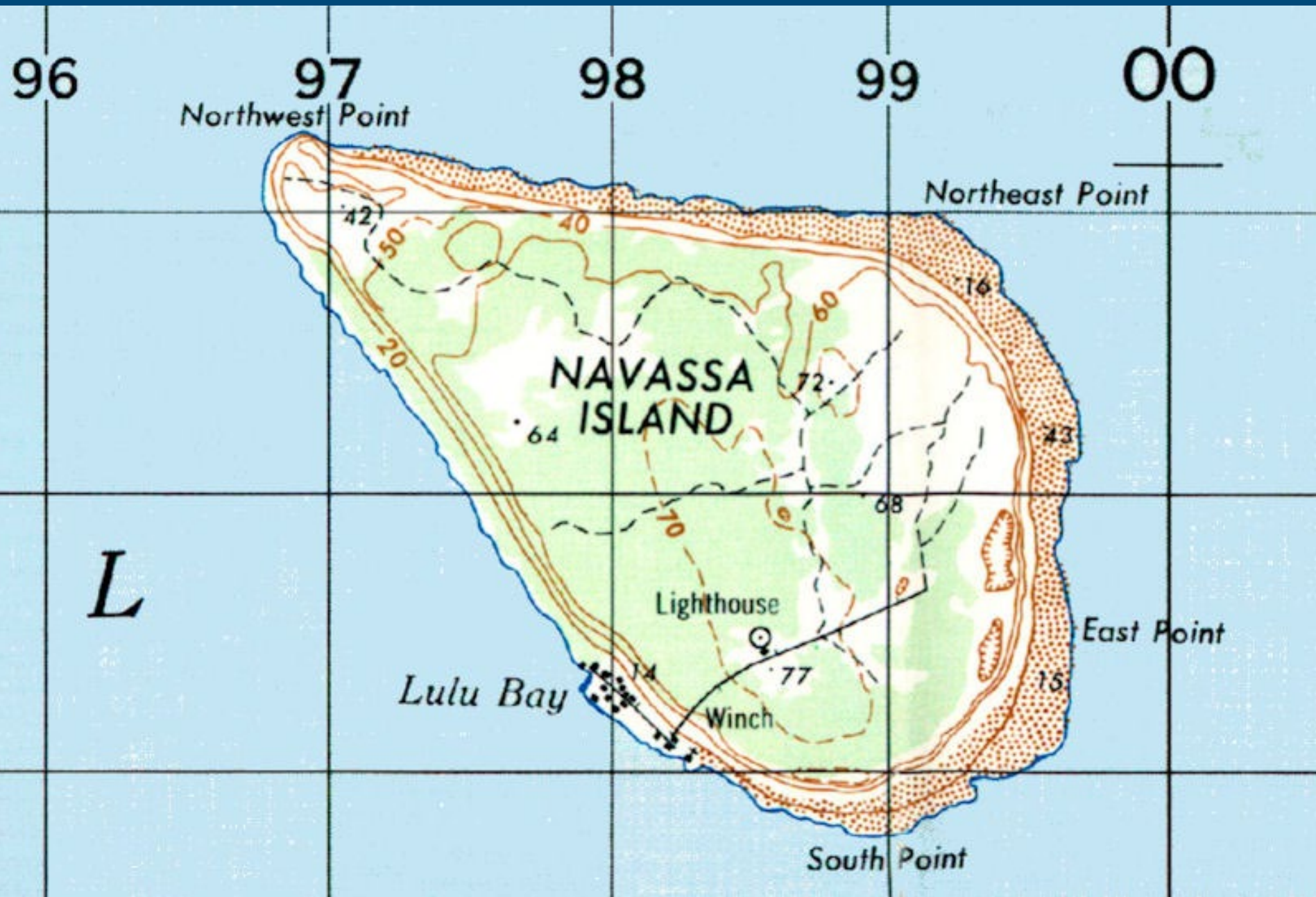


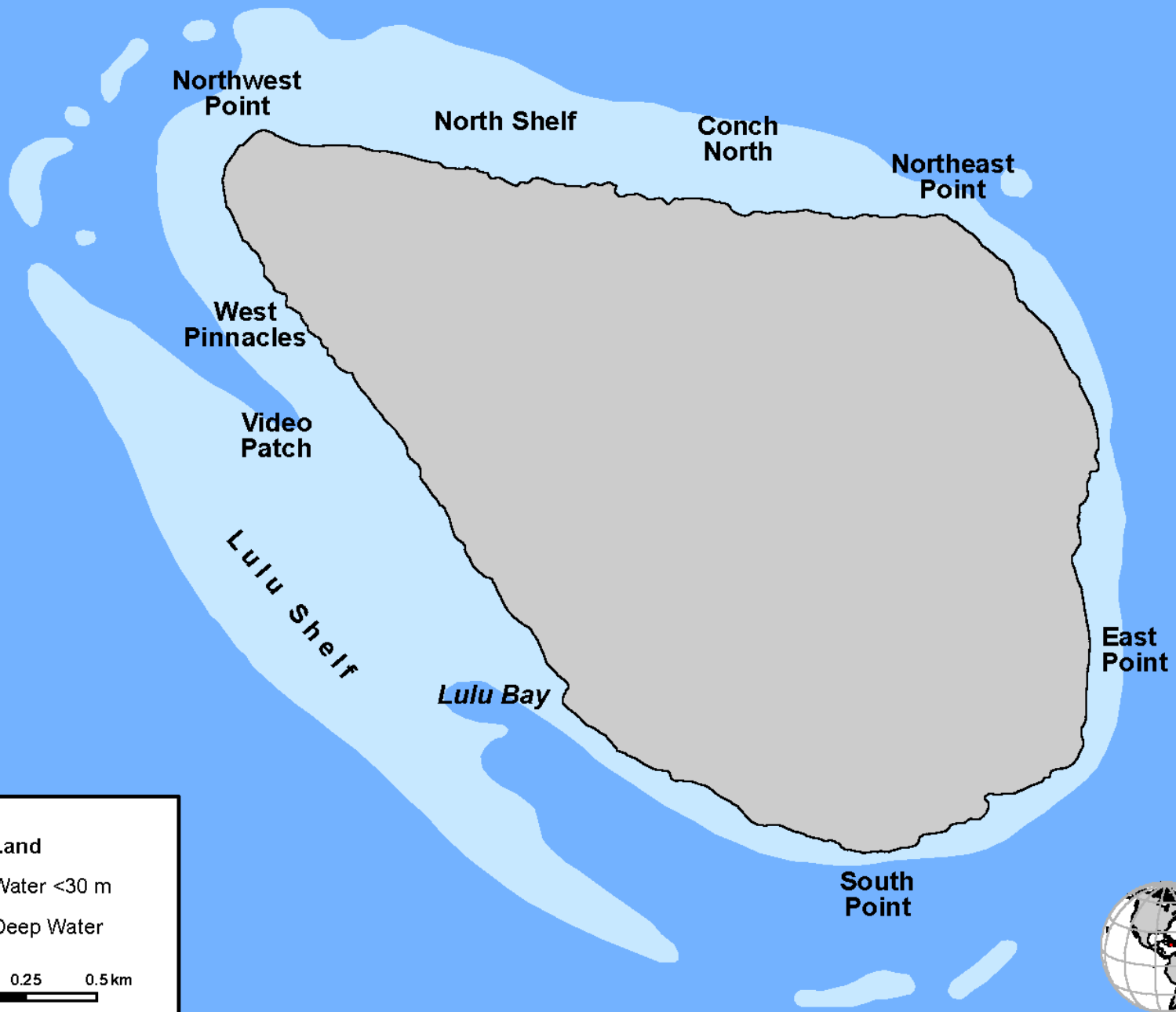
# Navassa Island



# Navassa Island





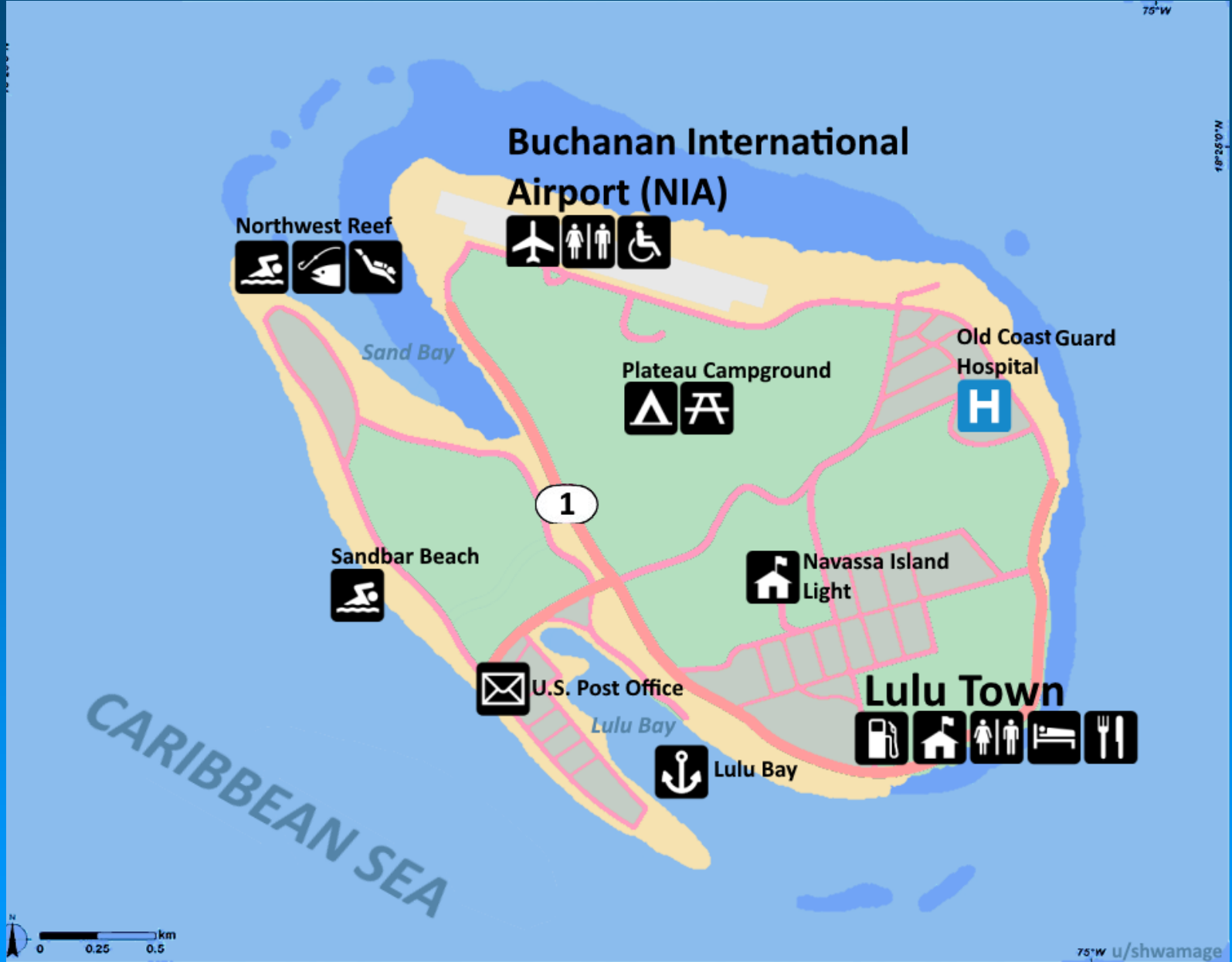


Legend:

- Land
- Water <30 m
- Deep Water

Scale: 0 0.25 0.5 km





**Buchanan International Airport (NIA)**  
 Northwest Reef  
 Sand Bay  
 Plateau Campground  
 Old Coast Guard Hospital  
 Sandbar Beach  
 Navassa Island Light  
 U.S. Post Office  
 Lulu Bay  
 Lulu Town







— THE —

# NAVASSA ISLAND RIOT.

ILLUSTRATED.

*Published by The National Grand Tabernacle, Order of Gallilean Fishermen, Baltimore, Md.*

PRICE, TEN CENTS.

[FIRST EDITION.]

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WASHINGTON

# Navassa Island



- **Picture from the CIA web page containing info on Navassa Island**
- **Claimed by Haiti, it is in Haiti's constitution; the waters around Navassa island are a source of subsistence for Haitian fishermen**



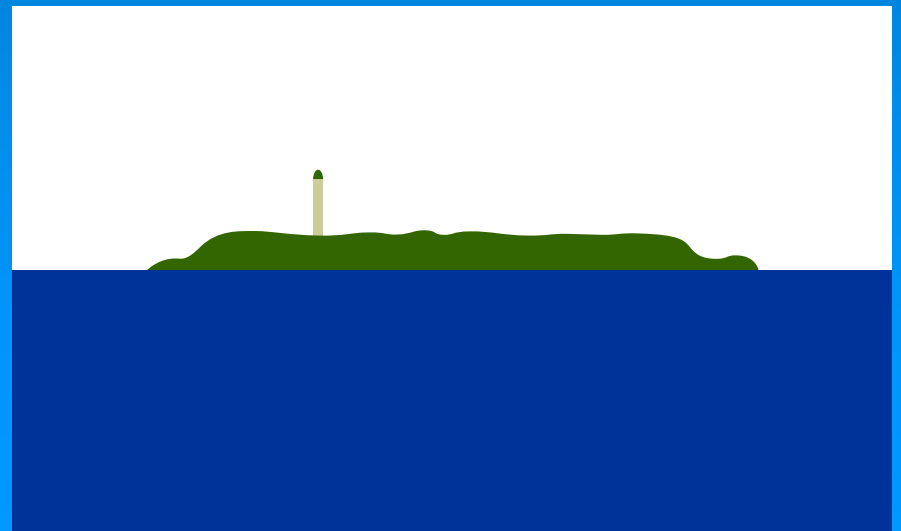
# How Did We Get It ??

- The Guano Act of 1856 authorized US captains to claim “abandoned and derelict” islands for the US.
- On July 1, 1857, Peter Duncan, visited the island, “a barren isle shaped like an oyster”
- On November 18, he wrote the State Department claiming the island for the US
- On December 8, 1859, the State Department recognized Navassa as belonging to the US.

- Haiti also claimed the island under their constitution
- Jamaica also claimed the island
- The US navy carried the argument
- Guano mining started soon after
- In January 17, 1916, to aid navigation to and from the Panama Canal, President Wilson issued a Proclamation reasserting US sovereignty for lighthouse purposes. A lighthouse was built in 1917. The U.S. Navy set up an observation post for the duration of World War II.

- The US Coast Guard administered the island since 1939 when it absorbed the US Lighthouse Service
- In 1996 USCG removed all equipment from the island
- Under USC 43 section 1458, DOI took charge of federal land not assigned to any other agency
- Secretary's Order 3205 January 16, 1997  
Navassa is placed under DOI Office of Insular Affairs

- By Secretary's Order 3210, December 1999, Navassa Island becomes a National Wildlife Refuge, managed by US Fish and Wildlife Service, Caribbean Islands National Wildlife Refuge Office in Boqueron Puerto Rico
- Haiti still claims the island
- So do others under the Guano Act



# Who has Jurisdiction in the Event of a Spill ??

The Seventh Coast Guard District, which includes the Panama Canal Zone; Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands; the U.S. naval reservations in the islands of the West Indies and on the north coast of South America; and the ocean areas.



# What's out there???

- Historical Structures:
- The Lighthouse
- Guano mining ruins
- Shipwrecks





# Wildlife, Sea Birds



# Sea Bird Nesting



# Other Wildlife and Vegetation

Fifteen island species are currently recognized as endemic and include land snails, lizards, vascular plants, and possibly a ground dove. Two endemic species, an iguana and curly tailed lizard found on the island during the last century, could not be located and may be extinct. Common on the island as late as 1928, only one specimen of the palm tree *Pseudopheonix sargentii saonae* var. *navassana* remains.



# Really Nice Coral Reefs



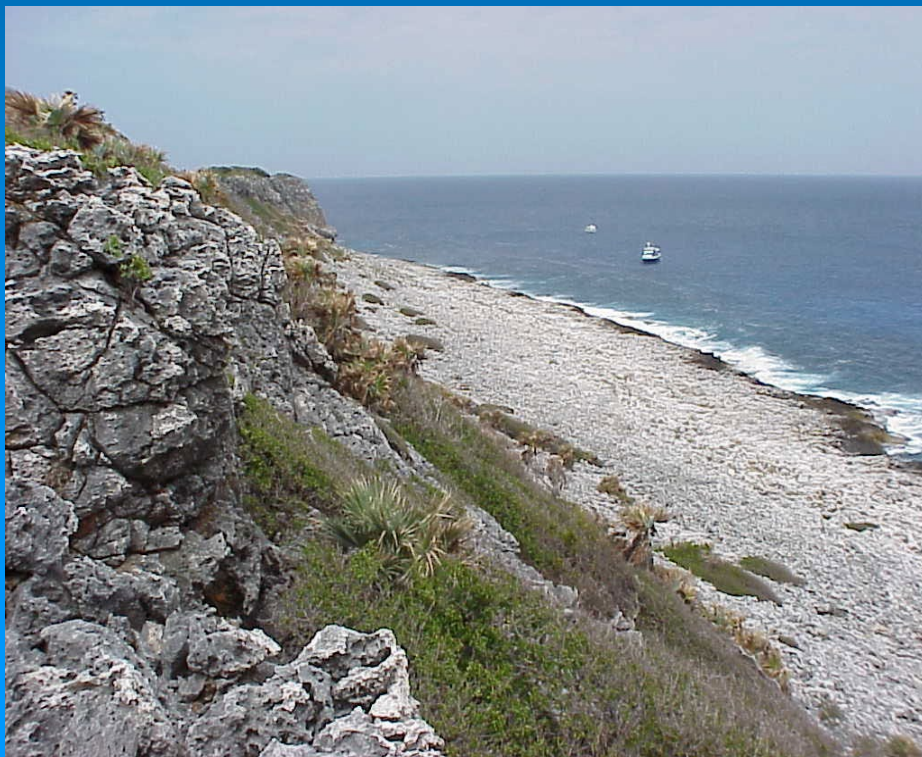
# ESI Shoreline Classification

- ESI 1 - Exposed rocky cliffs



# ESI Shoreline Classification

- ESI 2 - Exposed wave-cut platform



# Spill Issues

- Logistics, its in the middle of no where, closest US Base is GTMO
- Clean up difficult if not impossible due to shoreline characteristics
- Resources at risk will be mostly sea birds, sea turtles and coral reefs
- Wildlife rehabilitation on site will be impossible
- Need to have some preliminary plans in place in the event of an incident

# Navassa Island Oil and Hazardous Substance Contingency Plan



<https://www.nrt.org/site/download.ashx?counter=5740>