St. Thomas East End Reserves (STEER) Coastal Use Mapping Project

Ocean Uses Map Book

Results from:

Participatory Ocean Use Mapping Workshops St. Thomas, USVI May 22-23, 2012

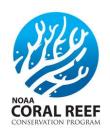






November 2012







St. Thomas East End Reserves (STEER) Coastal Use Mapping Project Ocean Uses Map Book November 2012

Introduction

This map book contains cartographic products derived from the St. Thomas East End Reserves (STEER) Coastal Use Mapping workshops conducted at the Bolongo Bay Beach Resort on May 22 and 23, 2012. This participatory mapping workshop was designed to gather spatial data on human uses of the coastal and marine environment in the U.S. Virgin Islands' STEER.



The STEER Coastal Use Mapping Project is a collaborative effort between coastal resource management agencies (territorial and federal) and non-governmental organizations. Additional partners include the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR), the STEER Advisory Committee, and several NOAA line offices including the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), National Ocean Service (NOS), and Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP).

Primary funding for the project is from NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program, with additional support provided by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Mapping and GIS technology for the workshop was facilitated by NOAA's MPA Center (OCRM). During the workshop, this expert team was shadowed by local facilitators from the USVI to facilitate a transfer of knowledge and technological skills.

During the two days of workshops, a total of 47 participants, seven facilitators, and seven undergraduate student observers were involved in the project. A total of 87 data sets for 22 uses were collected. Participants were selected based on expertise in the various human use activities that were mapped, as well as familiarity with the mapped region.

Targeted Uses

The uses mapped in the workshop included a variety of extractive and non-extractive activities. These uses are defined on the uses list that follows this document. The targeted uses and use descriptions were compiled with assistance from local stakeholders and resource managers.

Generalized Workshop Process

At the start of the workshop, all participants were assigned to a work group and an associated mapping station. With guidance from the facilitators, participants were asked to draw use

areas based on their knowledge of where this type of activity is known to occur. Each use was explicitly defined (see uses list) and participants were asked to map the general use footprint and dominant use areas, as described below. For some uses, additional areas were drawn to document seasonality, pulse events, temporal variability (day/night) and species-specific use areas. Participants also provided relevant supplemental information on uses (e.g., seasonality, social and cultural significance, historical patterns) that was compiled and added to the final use maps.

- **General Use Footprint**: The general use footprint includes all areas in which the use is *known to occur with some regularity* (over the past 3-5 years), regardless of its frequency or intensity. The general use footprint does not include areas where the use may occur once or twice or where it might *conceivably* occur now or in the future. For this step, all areas drawn will be included in the final data layer.
- **Dominant Use Areas:** Dominant use areas are defined as *ocean areas routinely used by most users most of the time* (within the seasonal patterns for that use). Dominant use areas must be drawn within the general use footprint. Participants worked together to draw dominant use areas as they occur throughout the study region. This step was designed as a group exercise and participants should work together to agree on which areas are dominant use areas and should be included in the final data layer.
- Supplemental Use Data: Participants were also asked to provide supplemental
 information on use patterns both spatially (on the map) and as additional notes
 collected after the workshop.

Maps

Data compiled during the workshop were processed to create maps documenting the use patterns as drawn by the workshop participants. The following maps show patterns for each use mapped in the workshops and include the general use footprint and dominant use areas, as well as a compilation of the supplemental data provided by participants throughout the mapping process. After initial data processing was completed, draft maps were presented for review to workshop participants and other interested stakeholders.

Contacts

For questions regarding this project or the derived products, please contact either:

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STEER Coastal Uses Mapping Project – St Thomas, US Virgin Islands

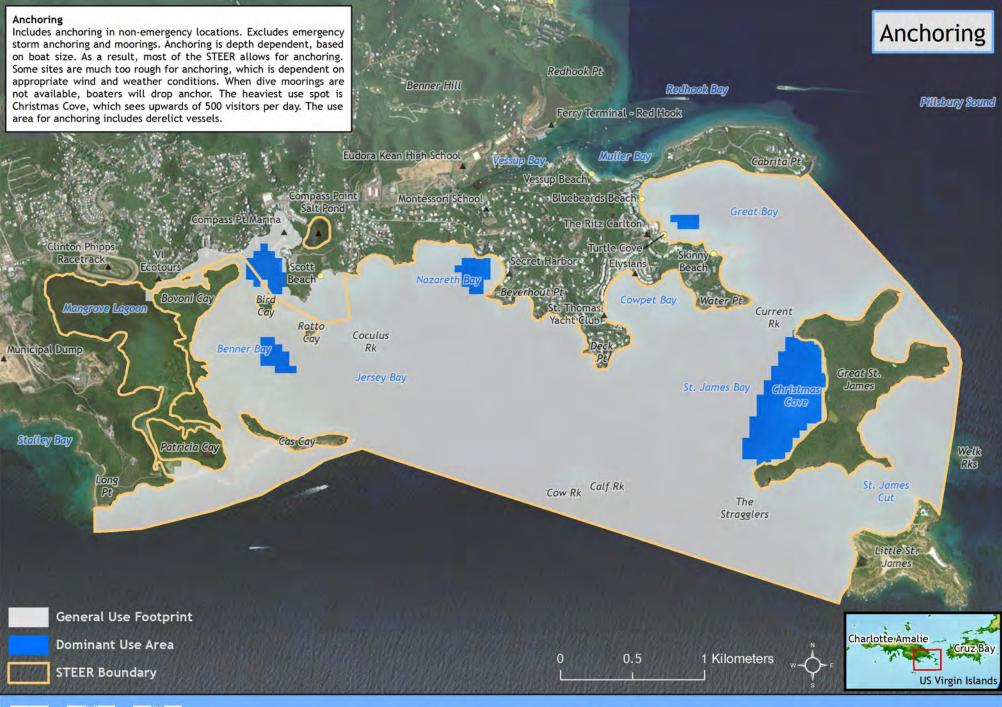
NON-EXTRACTIVE ACTIVITIES FOR PARTICIPATORY MAPPING			
Use type	Includes	Excludes	
Charter diving and snorkeling	Diving and snorkeling activities organized through a charter/commercial operator, including vessel and shore-based SCUBA, SNUBA, snorkel, freediving, kayak snorkel tours	Swimming, speardiving/extractive activities, non-charter diving and snorkeling, research activities	
Non-charter diving and snorkeling	Diving and snorkeling conducted independently, not through a charter operator, snorkel rental from hotels, local resident diving and snorkeling	Charter diving and snorkeling trips	
Day charter boat tours	Includes sunset sails, day trip, half day, dinghy tours	Recreational boating of personal vessels, multi-day outings	
Term charter boat tours	Multi-day/overnight boat charters	Day charter, sunset sails, half-day outings, dinghy tours, recreational boating of personal vessels	
Recreational boating	Recreational non-charter boating (e.g. Yacht Club, Ritz, other), sail or motor boats	Charter boat tours	
Thrill craft and high speed activities	Parasailing, jet skis and other forms of thrill craft rental	Non-motorized vessels	
Mooring	Non-liveaboard mooring, includes private, day-use, transient	Liveaboard moorings, emergency storm mooring	
Liveaboard mooring	Multi-day use for liveaboard boaters	Day use mooring, emergency storm mooring	
Anchoring	Anchoring in non-emergency locations	Emergency storm anchoring and moorings	
Emergency (storm) anchoring and mooring	Anchoring during extreme weather	Day use mooring, liveaboard moorings, non-emergency anchoring	
Paddling	Paddle- driven kayaking (non-commercial tours), SUP (stand up paddle)	Charter/commercial kayaking; use of motorized vessels	
Kayak tours	Commercial kayak tours	Non-commercial kayak outings, kayak rental (non-tour)	
Kite boarding and wind- surfing	Wind-driven board activities	SUP (stand up paddle), surfing	
Ferry transit	Ferry transit	Non-ferry motorized and other boating	
Swimming	Racing, general exercise, group or individual, triathlon	Free diving, snorkeling, wading	
Camping	Spending one or several nights outdoors for recreational purposes	Liveaboard boaters, living outdoors due to homelessness	

EXTRACTIVE ACTIVITIES FOR PARTICIPATORY MAPPING			
Use type	Includes	Excludes	
Bait fishing	Any collection of baitfish, includes fishing by hook and line and cast net	Other types of fishing targeting fish for non-bait purposes (e.g., aquarium collection)	
Handline fishing from shore	All shore-based handlining	Fishing from shore using nets, traps, and pots	
Whelk fishing	Any harvesting of whelk	Harvesting of fish, lobster, conch	
Lobster fishing	Any harvesting of lobster	Harvesting of fish, whelk, conch	
Conch fishing	Any harvesting of conch	Harvesting of fish, whelk, lobster	
Other fishing and marine resource harvesting	Fishing and marine resource harvesting not already documented in other categories, includes use of traps, pots, seine nets, gill nets, and lionfish hunting	Bait fishing, handline fishing, whelk fishing, lobster fishing, conch fishing	

STEER Coastal Uses Mapping Project

Non-Extractive Uses









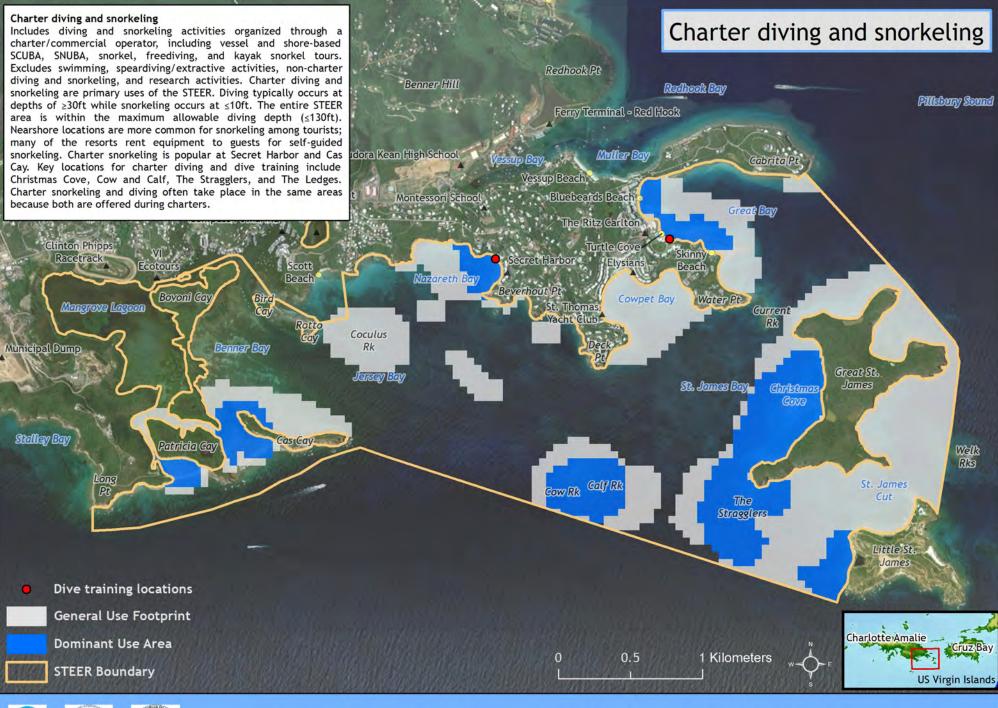








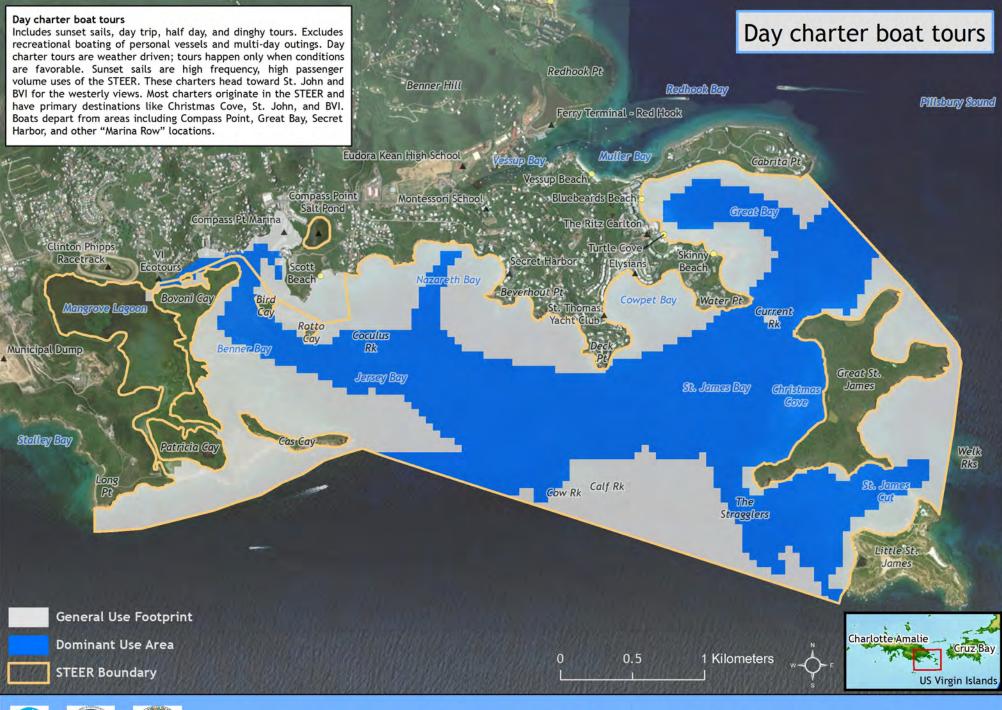








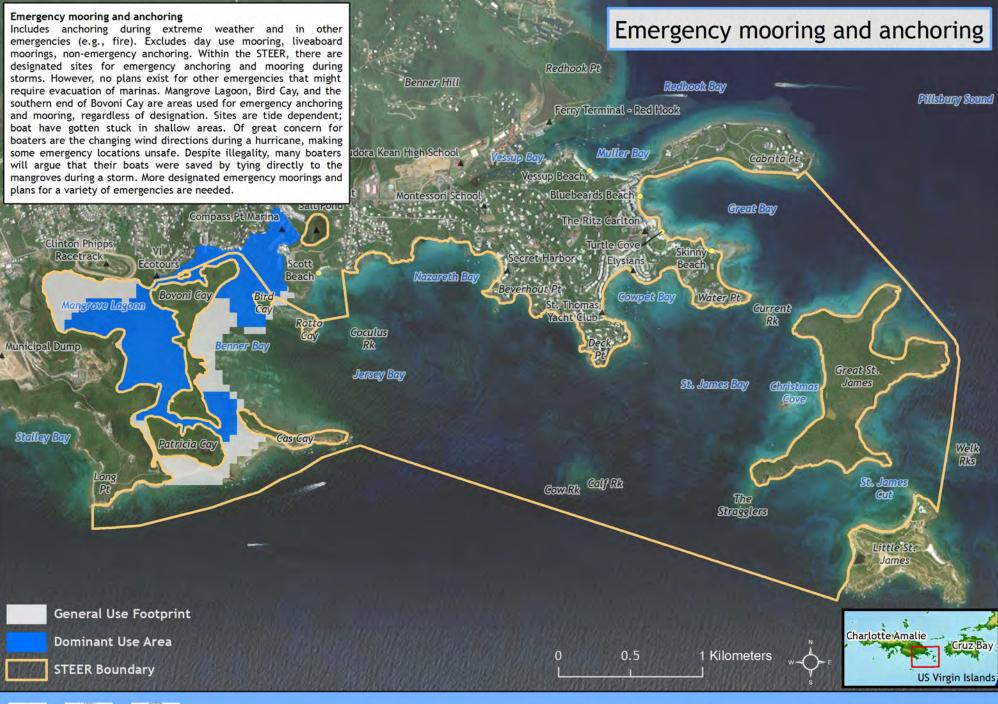








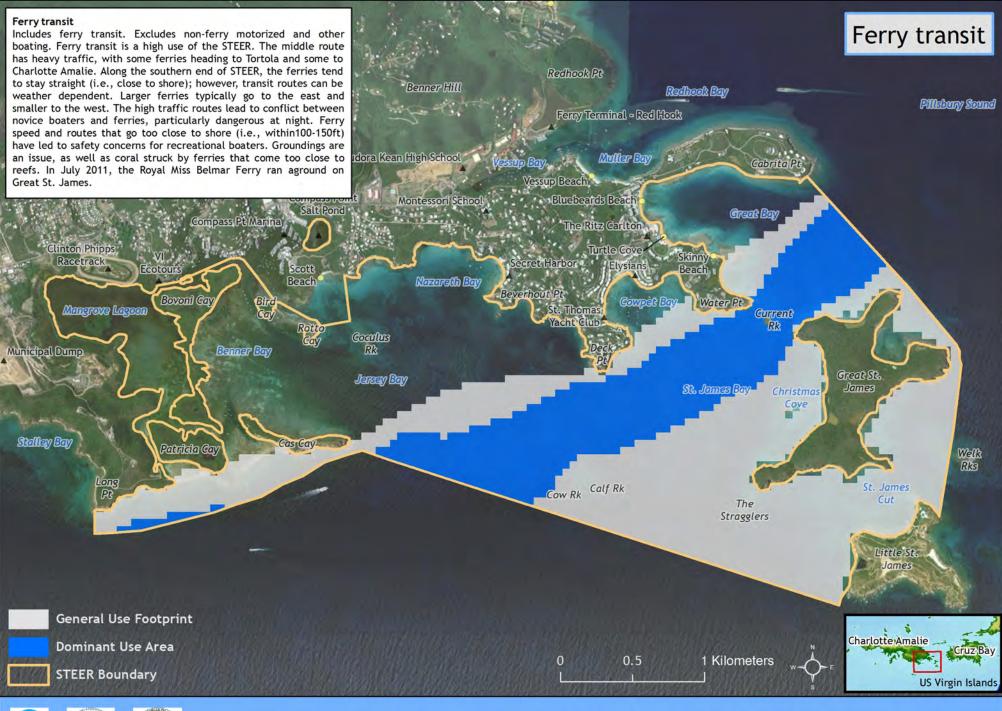










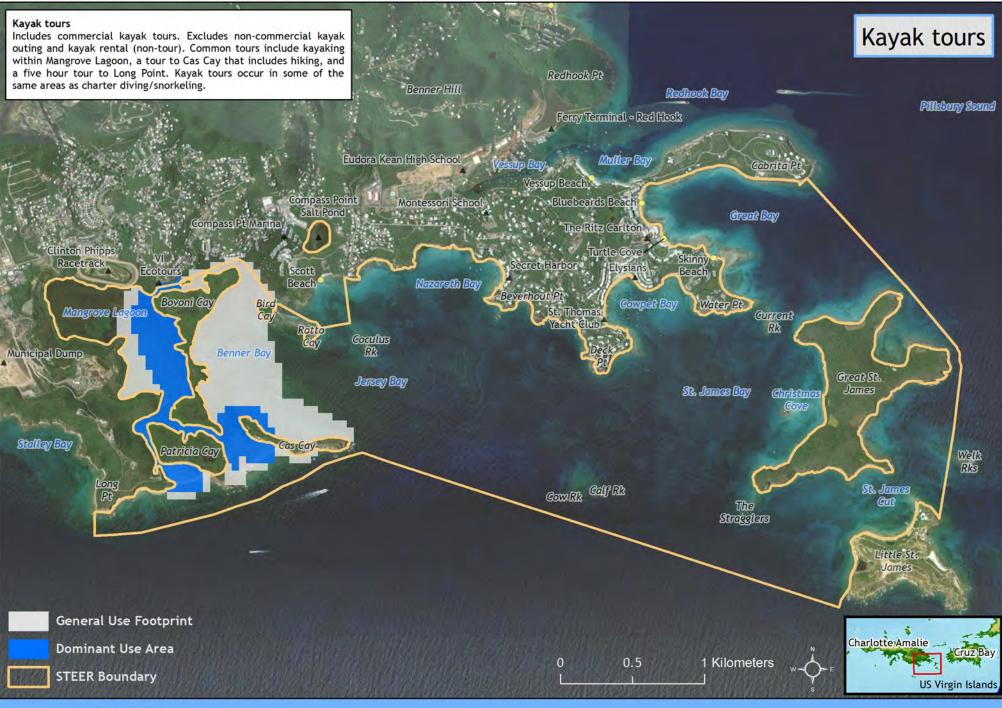








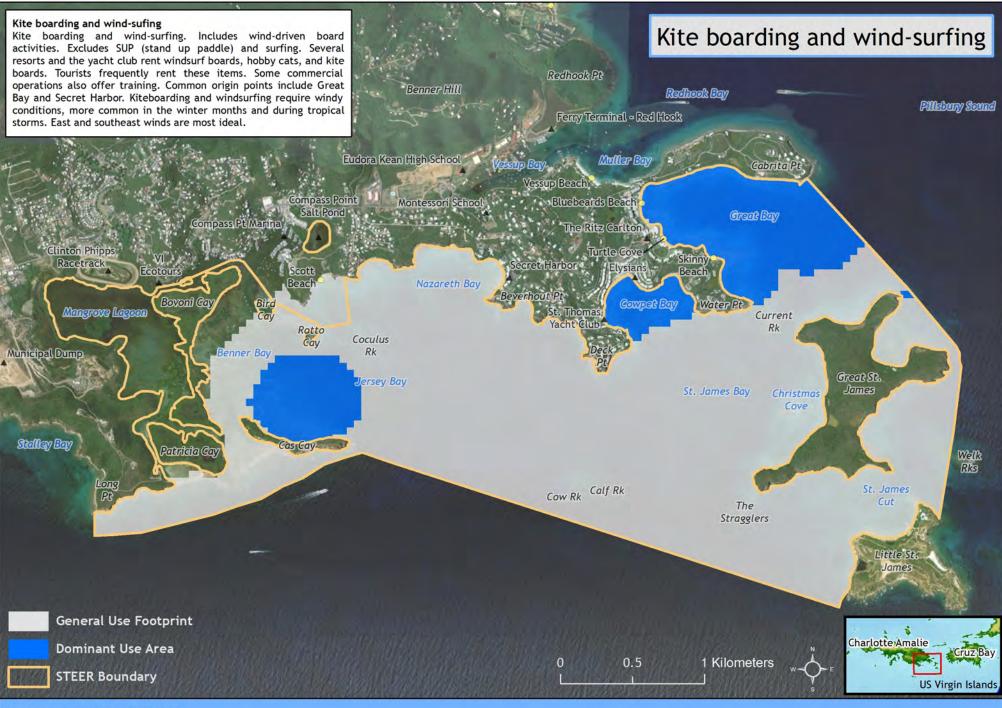
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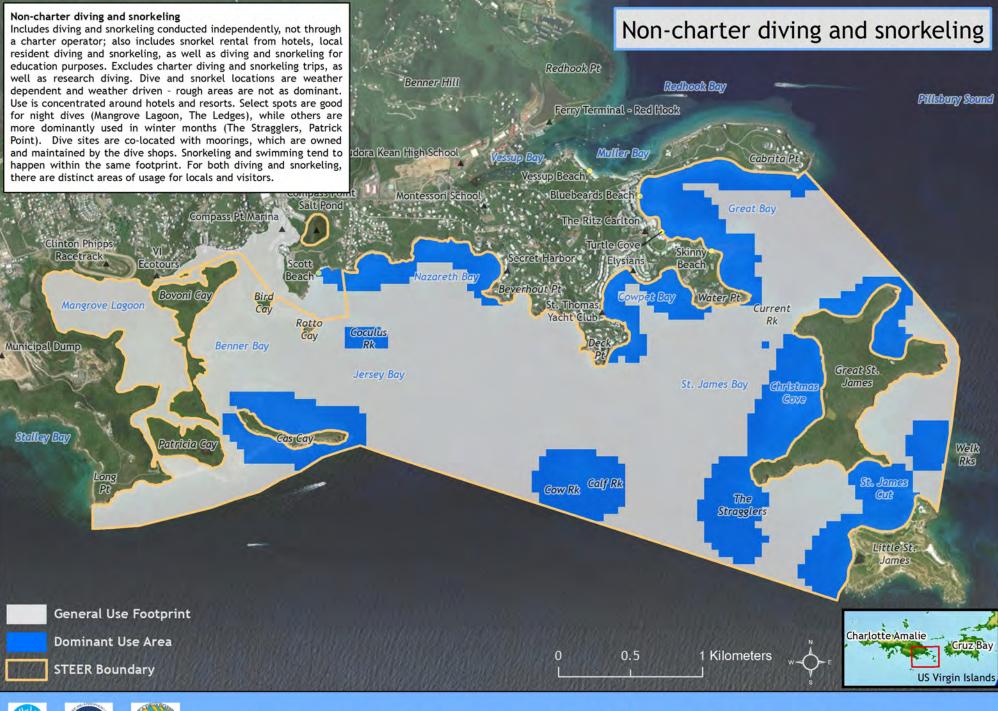
















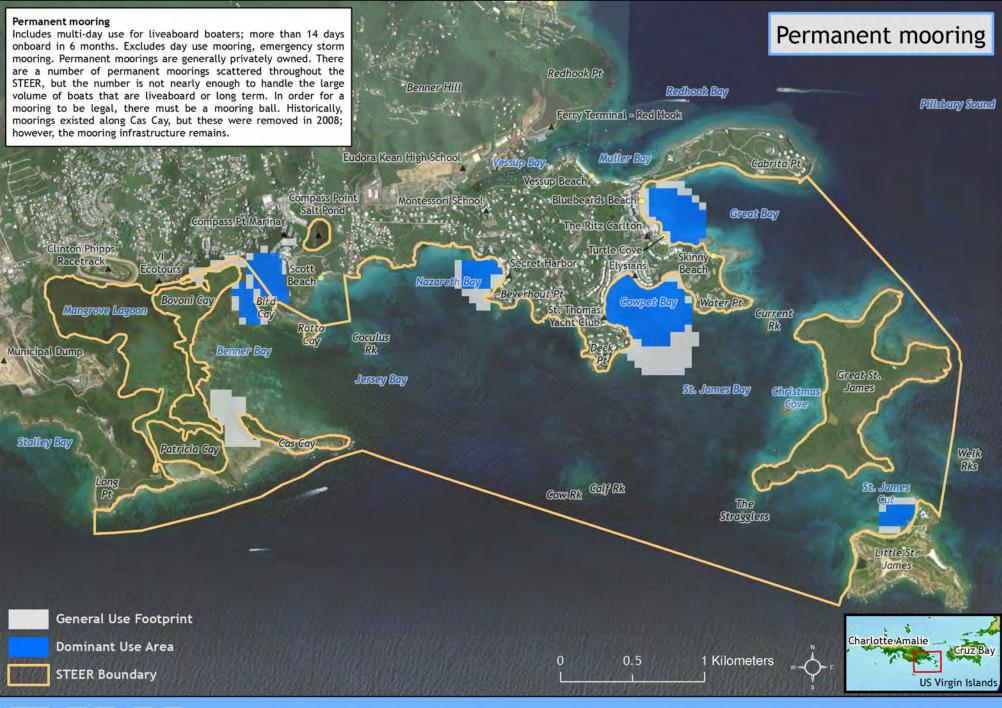








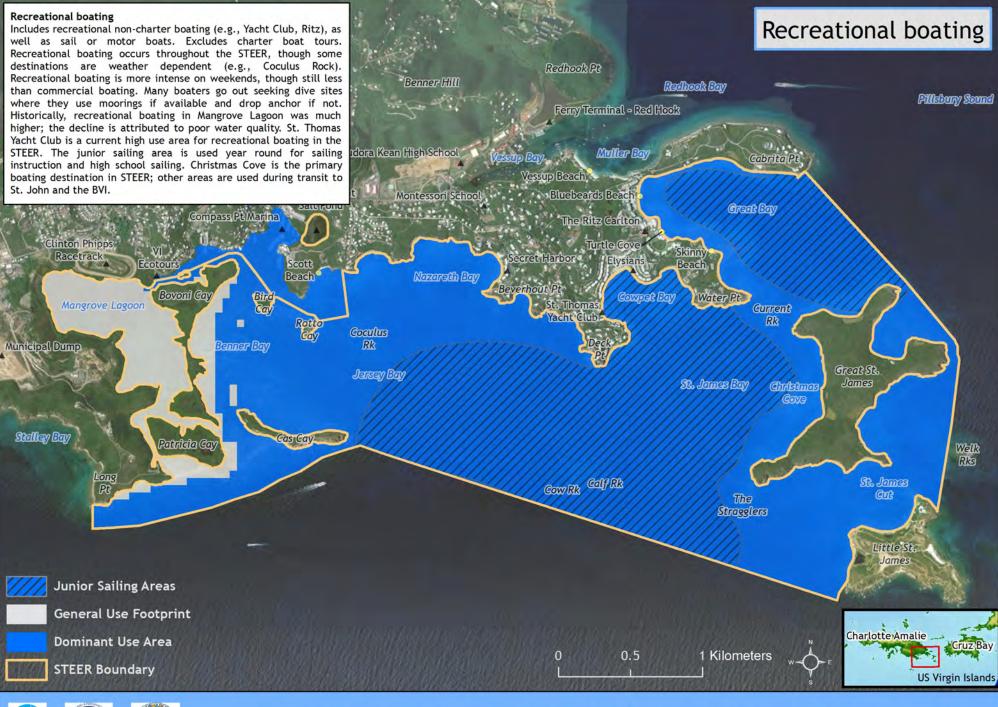










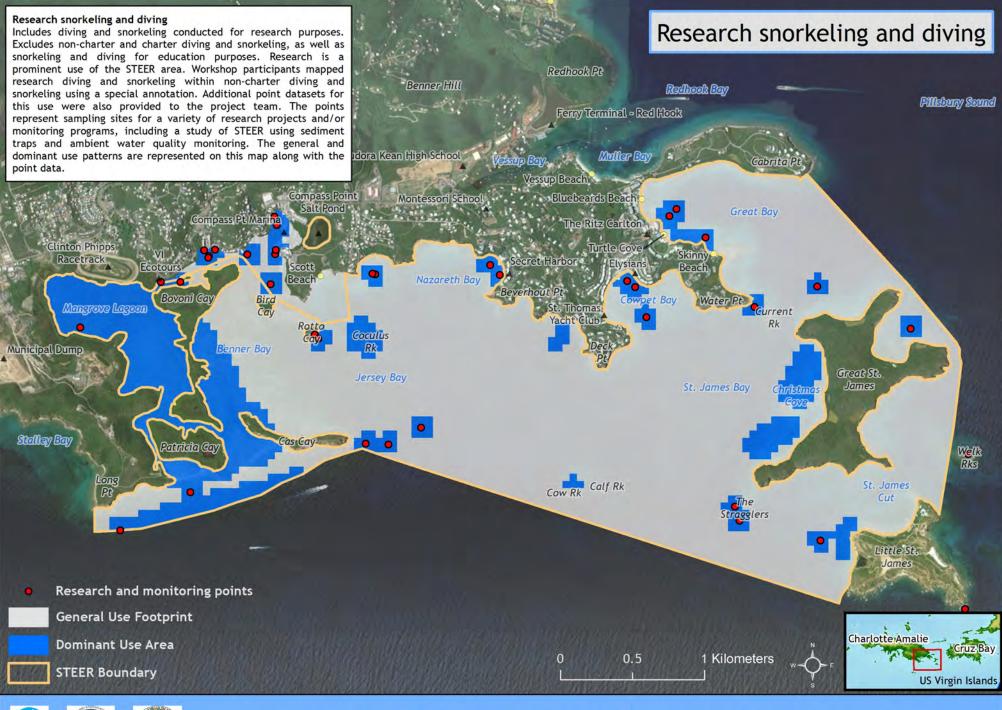








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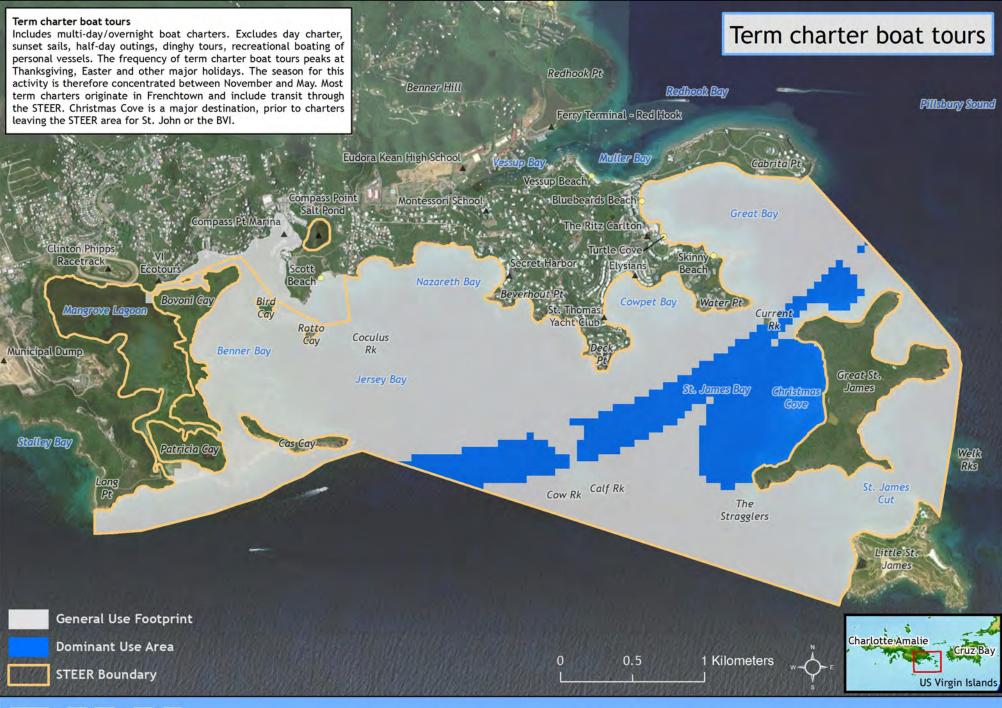


































STEER Coastal Uses Mapping Project

Extractive Uses









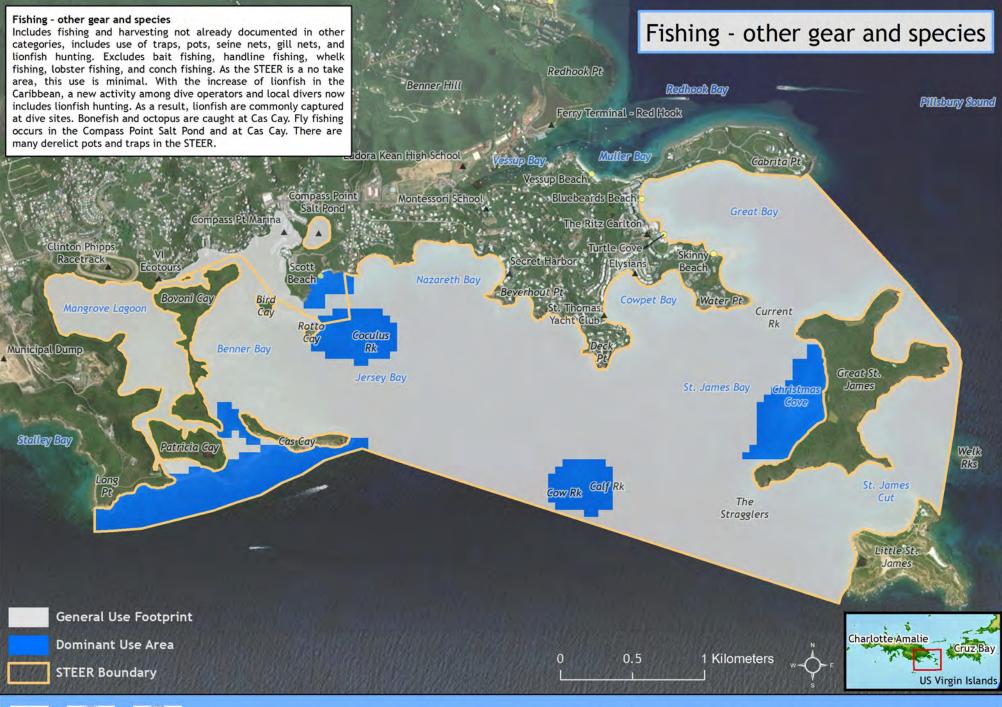








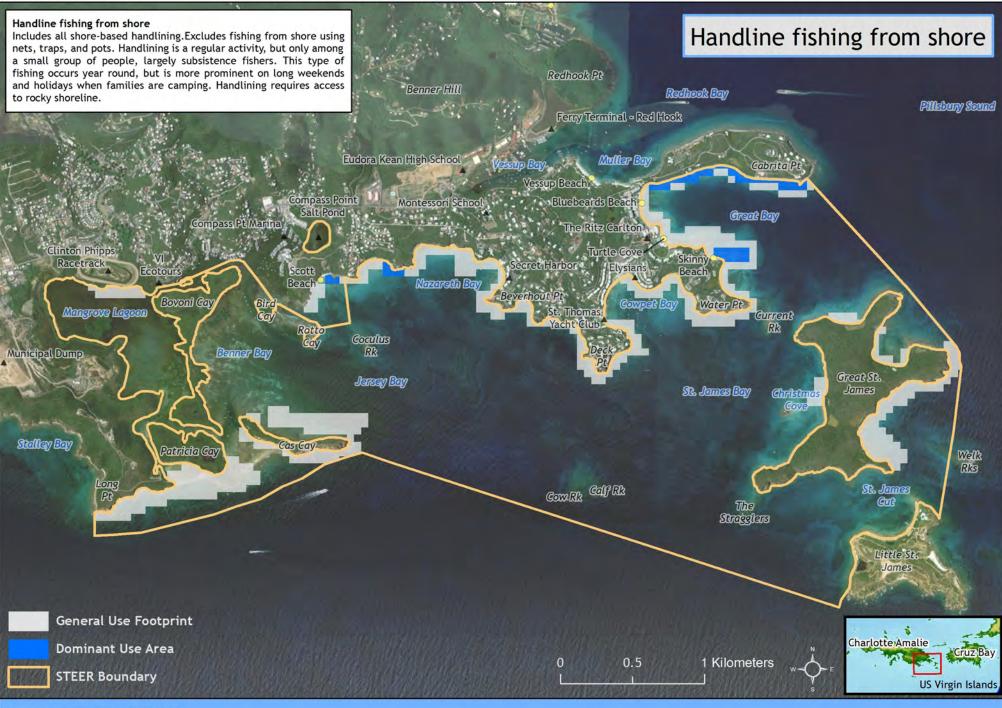








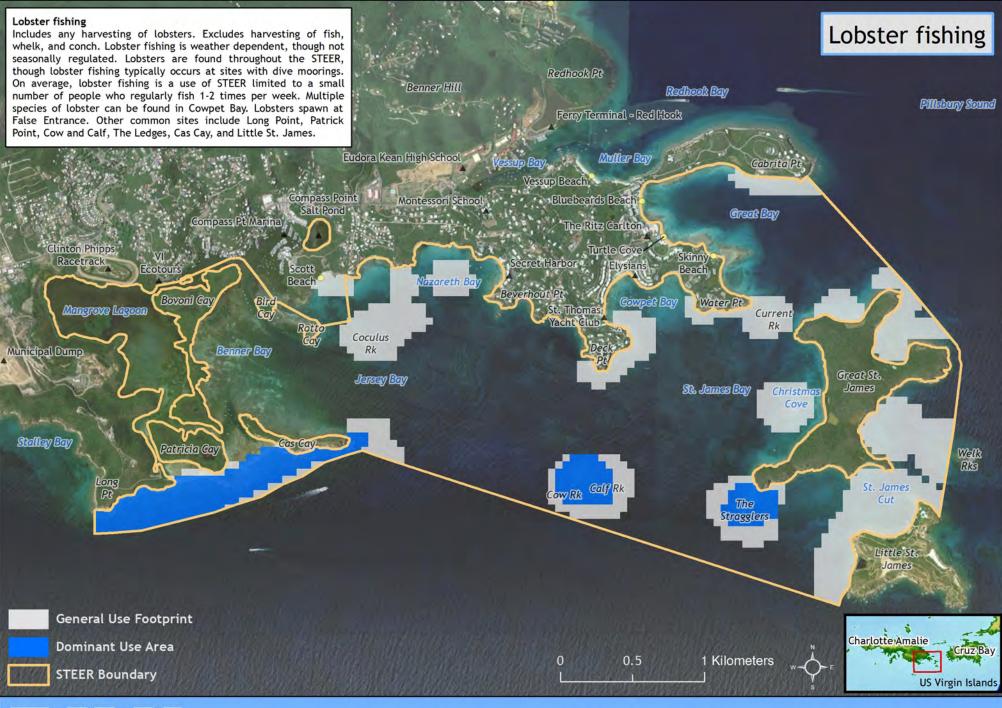


























STEER Coastal Uses Mapping Project

Heat Maps - All Uses



