

An aerial photograph of a tropical island with a large, shallow lagoon. The water in the lagoon is a vibrant light blue, while the surrounding ocean is a deeper blue. The island's coastline is irregular, with several small cays and peninsulas. The land is covered in dense green vegetation, and some sandy areas are visible along the shore. The text "Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park" is overlaid in the center in a large, red, sans-serif font.

# Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park

An overview for cruisers



Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

Image Landsat / Copernicus

# The Blue Sanctuary





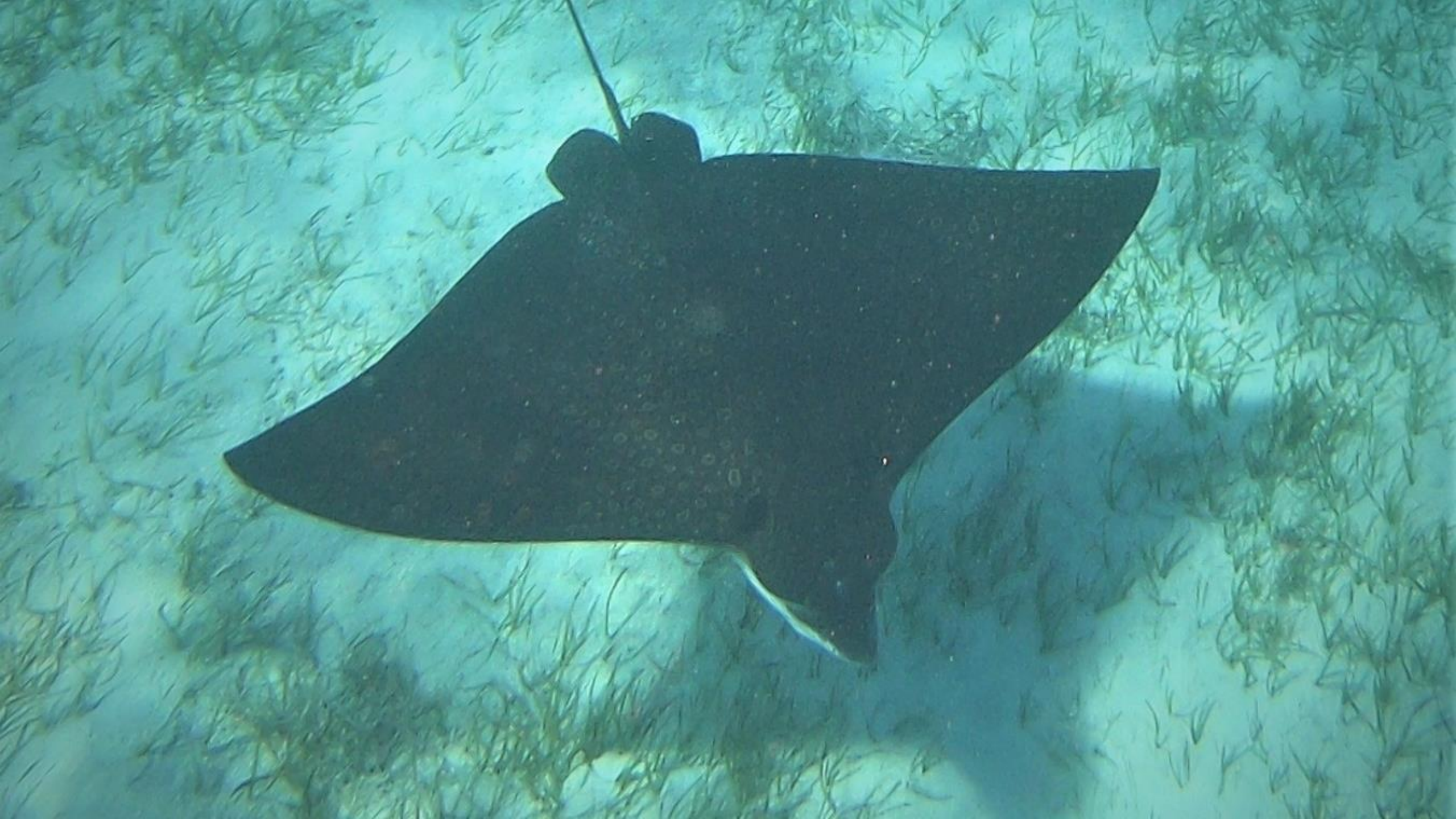
# ECLSP A few facts

- Created 1959
- One of many parks “managed” by Bahamas National Trust, a non-government entity.
- 176 square miles
- From Wax Cay cut in the north to Compass Cay cut in the south, and 4 miles either side.
- No take zone: no fishing, shelling, etc
- No fires, camping, etc
- Anchoring fees are new

# Park Creatures









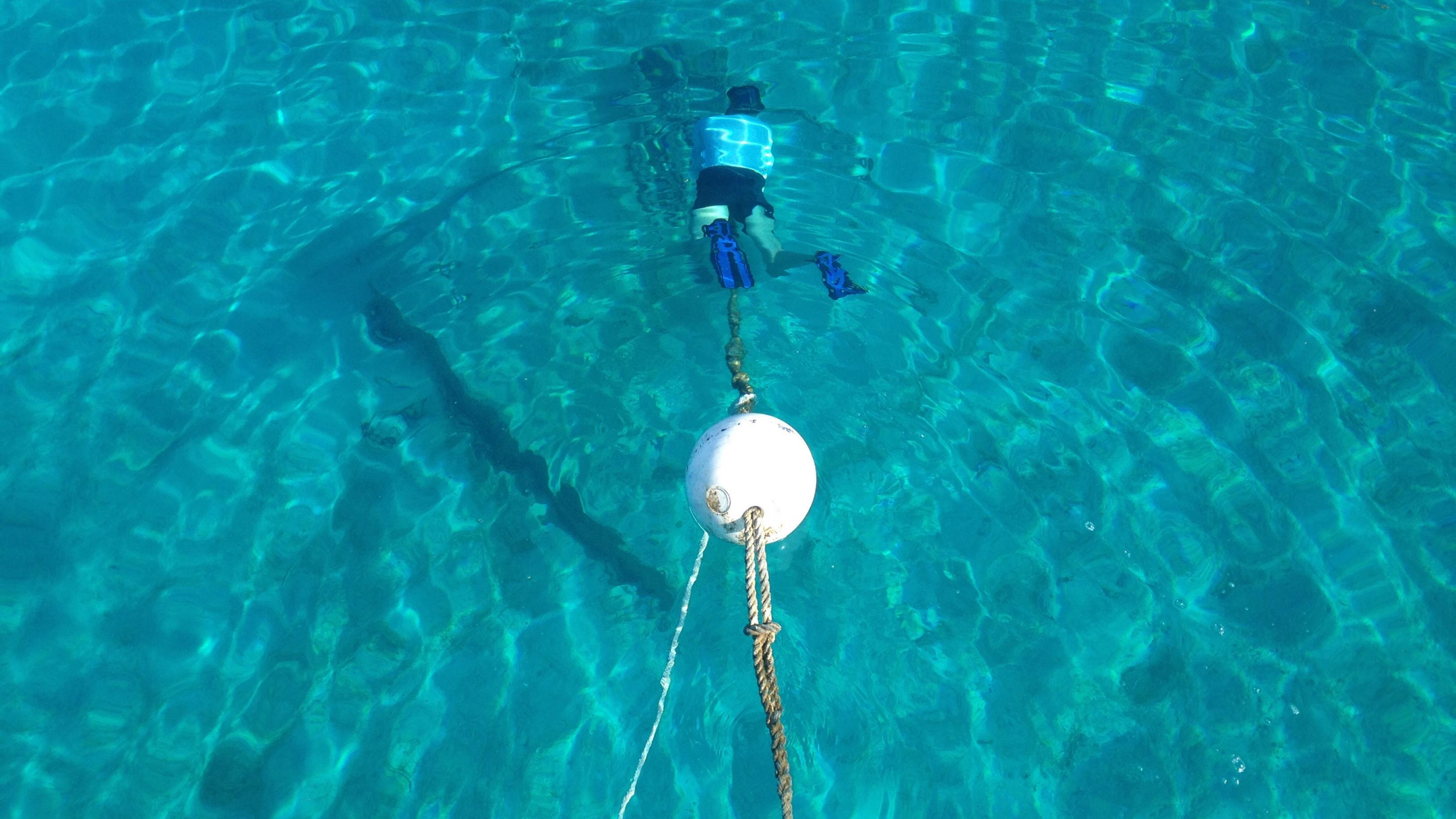






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# How to get a mooring:

- At the North field; aka park HQ, Horseshoe, Warderick Wells.
  - These moorings are controlled and assigned, see next slide
- Hog Cay; aka South field: controlled like North field
- Emerald Rock: FCFS, but you need to report which ball you take
- Cambridge, Hawksbill, Shroud and Obrien's: FCFS no reporting
- Some balls marked for large boats; this applies 24/7







# Getting a Mooring at North Field

- Begins with 9 AM general announcement on Ch16, then repeated on Ch 9
- First call is for all boats leaving the North Field today
- Next call is for boats requesting a mooring today
- Next call is for boats requesting to be put on the waiting list for tomorrow.
- At any other time, between 9 am and 5 pm (but not 12-1pm) boats can call for mooring that day or for waiting list for next day. Sunday 9-Noon.
- Support Fleet members move to the top of the waiting list











Waderick Wells Cay









# Hog Cay (aka South Field)

- Controlled like North field but never mentioned on the radio
- 1-2 balls here
- Strong current
- Best to arrive via Exuma Sound but you can get in from the banks with a little help with the tides
- Spectacular spot. You will likely be alone





Image © 2019 Maxar Technologies

Google Earth



# Cambridge Cay

- 3 large boat moorings (and no, KK58's don't qualify)
- 9 regular moorings
- FCFS no radio contact required
- May be volunteer Park host boat on one of the moorings. Will be monitoring Ch9 and 16
- Entrances from banks, north or south, or from Exuma Sound
- South entrance carries 5.5' at low, north entrance is deep but a bit exposed
- Pay the Host boat or on-line. Pay box if no host boat.
- Anchoring outside the field is OK







# Paying for your mooring

- On Line at [WWW.BNT.BS](http://WWW.BNT.BS); Parks; Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park
- In person at Warderick Wells HQ. Applies to North and South fields and Emerald Rock. Dinghy dock
- Pay station boxes at Shroud, Hawksbill and Cambridge
- At Cambridge, in season volunteer host boat will come by to collect
- Support Fleet members get two nights free mooring
- Join at [BNT.BS](http://BNT.BS); Donate \$100 for 50-60' boat







# When the cold fronts come...

- North Field: Can get rough, but relatively safe. Balls 16-22 exposed to fetch from the south. Balls 12-15 get more fetch from the west. Balls 4-11 get swell from north.
- South field (Hog Cay): Safe, but rough. Ball 1 gets most of northerly swell. Ball 2 protected from fetch and most swell but can get rough with wind opposing current (strong). You will ride over ball.
- Emerald Rock, Hawksbill and Shroud: all are exposed to the west and lee shores. Most are affected by swell from the south.
- Cambridge Cay: Better. Somewhat protected from west fetch but not wind. Avoid balls near north entrance. Anchoring OK.
- Obrien's Cay: 1 ball. Rough but somewhat protected























