

STEER Coastal Use Mapping Project



Results from:

**Participatory Coastal Use
Mapping Workshops**

**St. Thomas East End Reserves
(STEER), US Virgin Islands**

Bolongo Bay Beach Resort

May 22-23, 2012

Supplemental Map Product: Preferred Moorings

As a result of the increasing need for more designated mooring space, the mapping of current use patterns related to mooring and anchoring resulted in lengthy discussions for each group. Though not originally part of the list of uses to be mapped, during the workshop, the project team assisted participants in capturing ideas about preferred mooring areas for emergency, transient, and permanent use. Boaters would like to see additional moorings in already dominant areas, as well as mooring types different from those currently installed. These maps are not necessarily representative of a broad group of stakeholders and were not prepared with the same methods as the other maps. Further, the maps should only be used for management purposes in combination with further discussion and input from workshop participants and other interested individuals, businesses, and organizations. If used with care, the preferred mooring area maps will serve as an excellent starting point for future planning activities related to moorings.

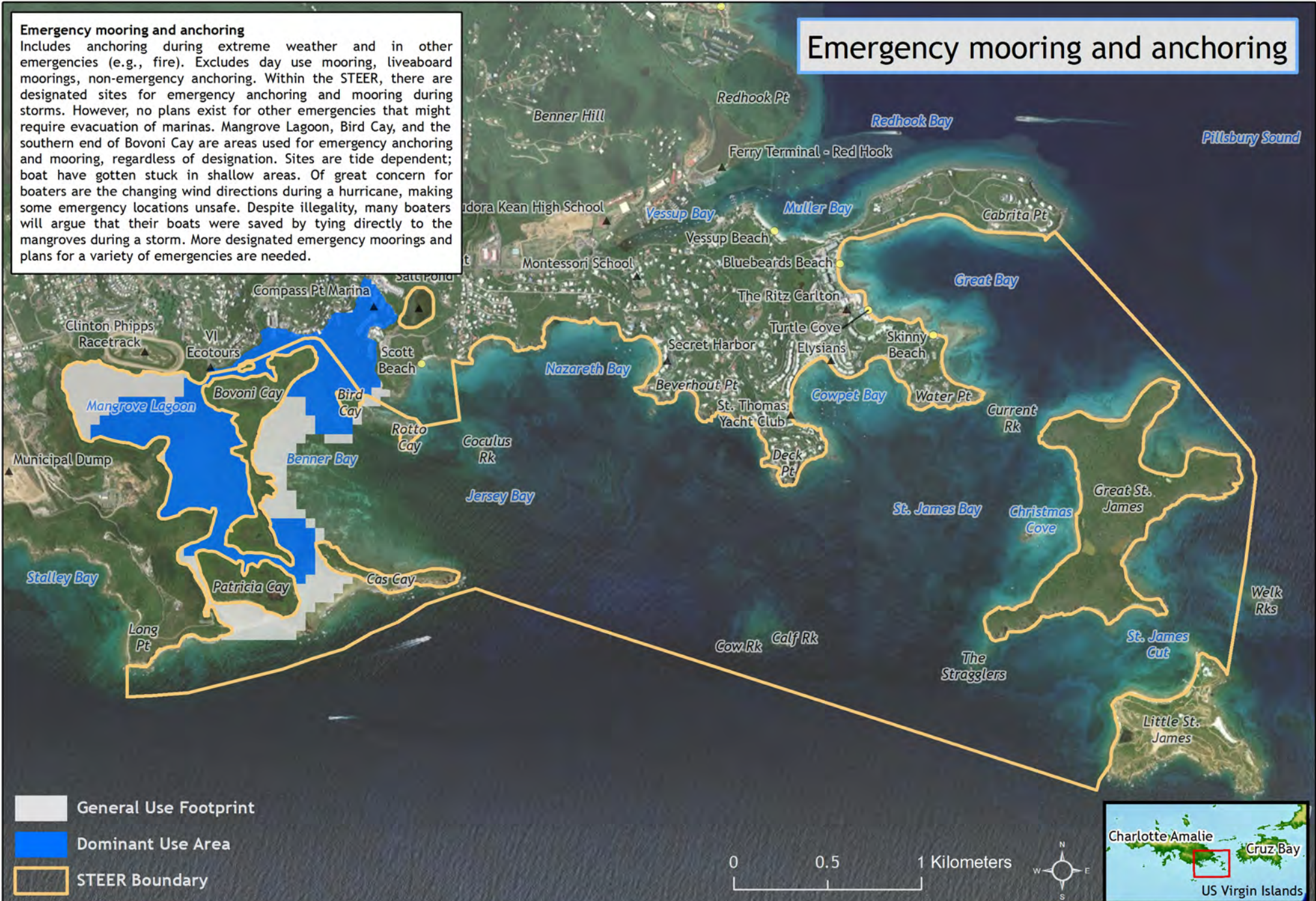


November 2012

Emergency mooring and anchoring

Includes anchoring during extreme weather and in other emergencies (e.g., fire). Excludes day use mooring, liveaboard moorings, non-emergency anchoring. Within the STEER, there are designated sites for emergency anchoring and mooring during storms. However, no plans exist for other emergencies that might require evacuation of marinas. Mangrove Lagoon, Bird Cay, and the southern end of Bovoni Cay are areas used for emergency anchoring and mooring, regardless of designation. Sites are tide dependent; boat have gotten stuck in shallow areas. Of great concern for boaters are the changing wind directions during a hurricane, making some emergency locations unsafe. Despite illegality, many boaters will argue that their boats were saved by tying directly to the mangroves during a storm. More designated emergency moorings and plans for a variety of emergencies are needed.

Emergency mooring and anchoring



- General Use Footprint
- Dominant Use Area
- STEER Boundary

0 0.5 1 Kilometers



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

Date: 11/19/2012

Preferred emergency anchoring and mooring

This map reflects preferred emergency anchoring and mooring use zones; these may or may not match up to existing use patterns. Includes anchoring during extreme weather and in other emergencies (e.g., fire). Excludes day use mooring, liveaboard moorings, non-emergency anchoring.

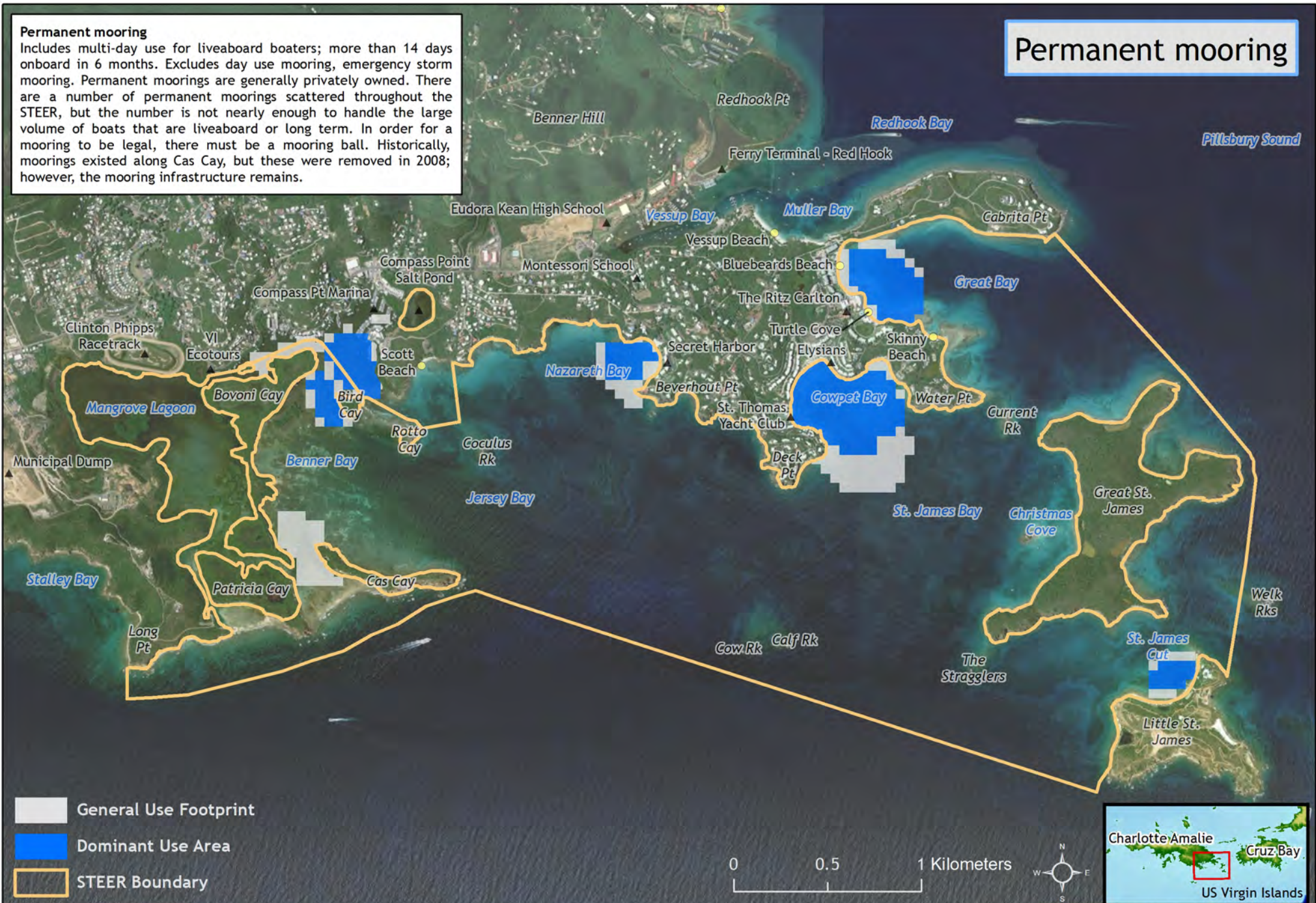
Preferred emergency mooring and anchoring



Permanent mooring

Includes multi-day use for liveaboard boaters; more than 14 days onboard in 6 months. Excludes day use mooring, emergency storm mooring. Permanent moorings are generally privately owned. There are a number of permanent moorings scattered throughout the STEER, but the number is not nearly enough to handle the large volume of boats that are liveaboard or long term. In order for a mooring to be legal, there must be a mooring ball. Historically, moorings existed along Cas Cay, but these were removed in 2008; however, the mooring infrastructure remains.

Permanent mooring



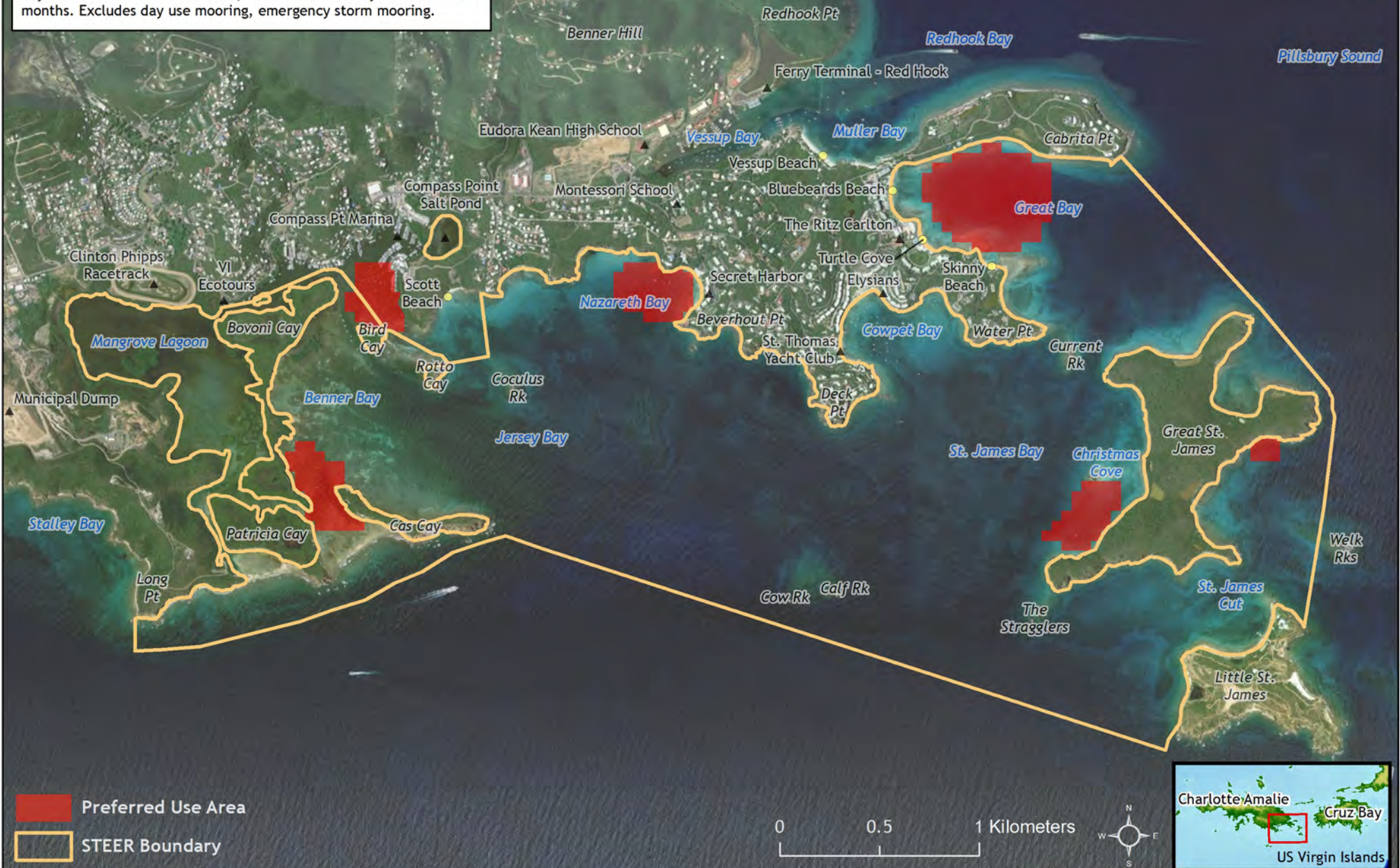
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Preferred permanent mooring

This map reflects preferred permanent mooring use zones; these may or may not match up to existing use patterns. Includes multi-day use for liveaboard boaters; more than 14 days onboard in 6 months. Excludes day use mooring, emergency storm mooring.

Preferred permanent mooring



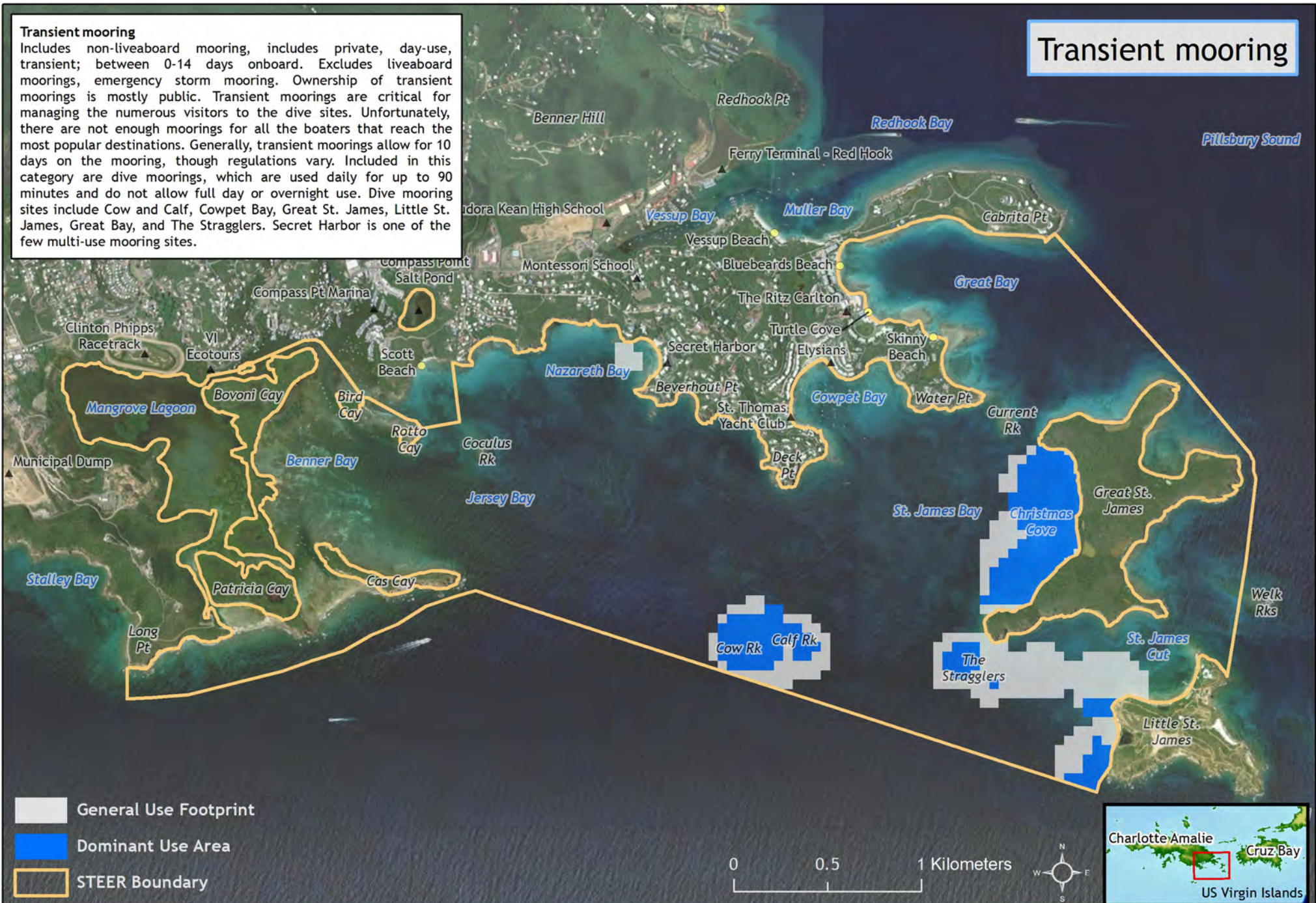
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Transient mooring

Includes non-liveaboard mooring, includes private, day-use, transient; between 0-14 days onboard. Excludes liveaboard moorings, emergency storm mooring. Ownership of transient moorings is mostly public. Transient moorings are critical for managing the numerous visitors to the dive sites. Unfortunately, there are not enough moorings for all the boaters that reach the most popular destinations. Generally, transient moorings allow for 10 days on the mooring, though regulations vary. Included in this category are dive moorings, which are used daily for up to 90 minutes and do not allow full day or overnight use. Dive mooring sites include Cow and Calf, Cowpet Bay, Great St. James, Little St. James, Great Bay, and The Stragglers. Secret Harbor is one of the few multi-use mooring sites.

Transient mooring



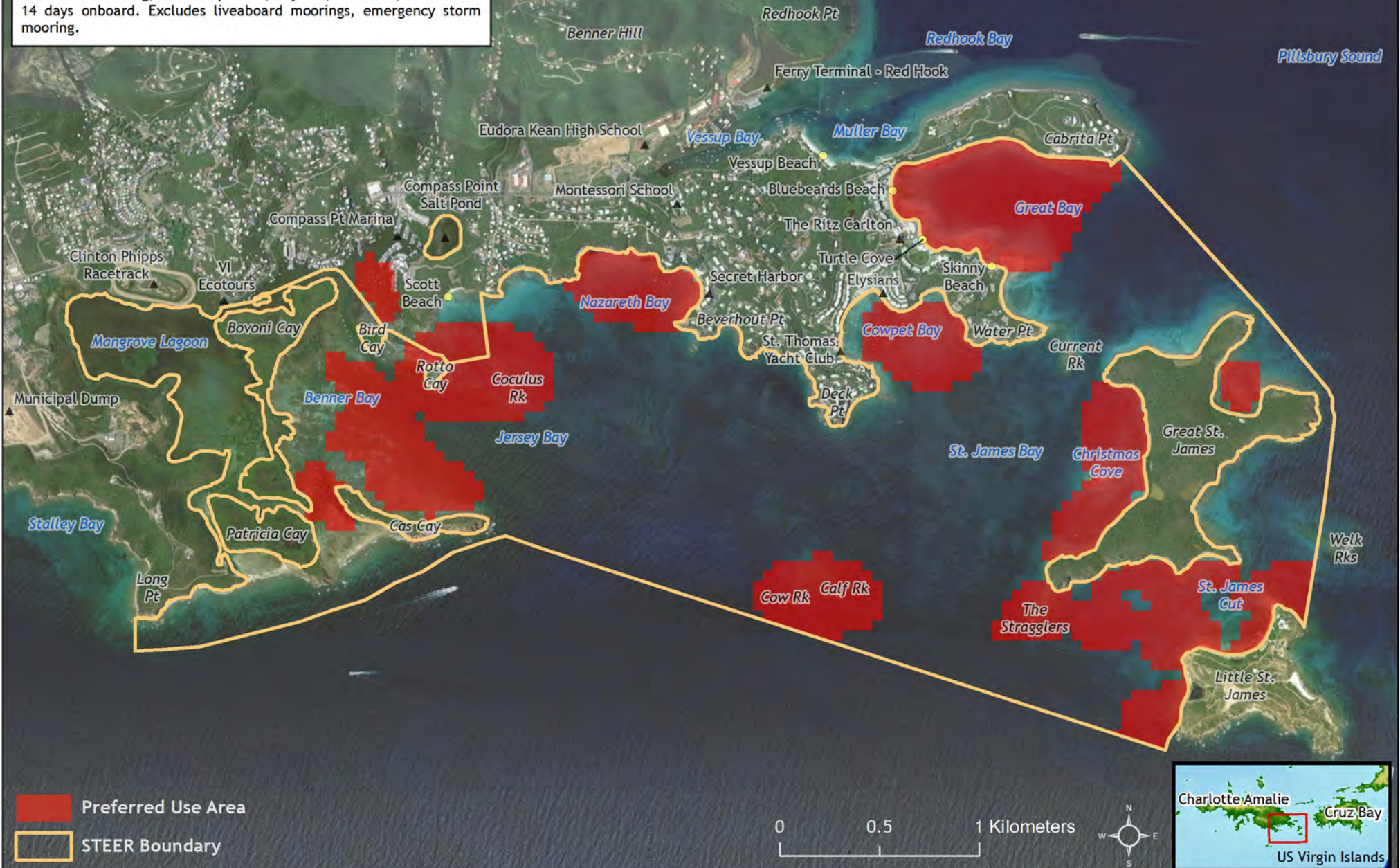
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Preferred transient mooring

This map reflects preferred transient mooring use zones; these may or may not match up to existing use patterns. Includes non-liveaboard mooring, includes private, day-use, transient; between 0-14 days onboard. Excludes liveaboard moorings, emergency storm mooring.

Preferred transient mooring



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