

September 5, 2019

To: Kathryn Ries
MACHC Chair
Deputy Director
NOAA Office of Coast Survey

From: Rear Admiral Tim Lowe CBE
Acting Chief Executive & National Hydrographer
United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO)

Two personnel from 42 Engr Regt (Geo), based on board RFA Mounts bay are currently providing geospatial advice and situational awareness to forward based military personnel off the Bahaman coast. They are currently in the vicinity of Nassau and will shortly be moving north to Abaco and Grand Bahamas to support recces and initial assessments. They are making links, albeit within the confines of the sensitive civ/mil relationship, with Map Action, a specialist NGO that has three personnel deployed in support of UNOCHR. We have provided them with survey and chart data to assist with their work. We hope to follow up after the event to see how useful the information provided was and if we can understand how better to provide data to such NGOs in future.

A small UK defence team is being set up, to conduct rudimentary data analysis, in preparation for potential future tasking.

We have also been approached by NOAA for contacts for Surveying and Charting matters and are standing by to respond to requests.

Will keep you updated as the situation becomes clearer.

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