Sand Key to Rebecca Shoal
NOAA Chart 11439

A reduced-scale NOAA nautical chart for small boaters
When possible, use the full-size NOAA chart for navigation.

- Complete, reduced-scale nautical chart
- Print at home for free
- Convenient size
- Up-to-date with Notices to Mariners
- Compiled by NOAA’s Office of Coast Survey, the nation’s chartmaker
Nautical charts are a fundamental tool of marine navigation. They show water depths, obstructions, buoys, other aids to navigation, and much more. The information is shown in a way that promotes safe and efficient navigation. Chart carriage is mandatory on the commercial ships that carry America’s commerce. They are also used on every Navy and Coast Guard ship, fishing and passenger vessels, and are widely carried by recreational boaters.

What are Nautical Charts?

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What is a BookletChart™?

This BookletChart is made to help recreational boaters locate themselves on the water. It has been reduced in scale for convenience, but otherwise contains all the information of the full-scale nautical chart. The bar scales have also been reduced, and are accurate when used to measure distances in this BookletChart. See the Note at the bottom of page 5 for the reduction in scale applied to this chart.

Whenever possible, use the official, full scale NOAA nautical chart for navigation. Nautical chart sales agents are listed on the Internet at http://www.NauticalCharts.NOAA.gov.

This BookletChart does NOT fulfill chart carriage requirements for regulated commercial vessels under Titles 33 and 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Notice to Mariners Correction Status

This BookletChart has been updated for chart corrections published in the U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency Weekly Notice to Mariners, and, where applicable, the Canadian Coast Guard Notice to Mariners. Additional chart corrections have been made by NOAA in advance of their publication in a Notice to Mariners. The last Notices to Mariners applied to this chart are listed in the Note at the bottom of page 7. Coast Pilot excerpts are not being corrected.

For latest Coast Pilot excerpt visit the Office of Coast Survey website at http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/searchbychart.php?chart=11439

[Coast Pilot 5, Chapter 9 excerpts].

Smith Shoal is covered 11 feet and marked on its NE end by Smith Shoal Light (24°43'06"N, 81°55'18"W). The light also marks the N approach to the channel and is shown 54 feet above the water from a small black house on a white, hexagonal, pyramidal skeleton tower on piles. A relatively flat-topped coral head, covered by a least depth of 11 feet, is 3.3 miles WSW of the light. Currents are variable along the edge of the reefs, being influenced by winds, by differences of barometric pressure in the Gulf and the Straits of Florida, and by the tides. At times there are strong tidal currents through the passages between the keys.

Between Key West Harbor and Boca Grande Channel there is an extensive shoal area in which there are several small scattered keys. A small-craft channel, marked by private daybeacons, extends through the shoal area from Key West to the N side of Boca Grande Key. The channel has a depth of 5 feet except S of Mule Key, near Key West, where the controlling depth is 2 feet. Local knowledge is advised.

Boca Grande Channel has a depth of 11 feet from the Straits of Florida to the Gulf of Mexico and is marked by daybeacons, but is seldom used except by local boats of 6 feet or less draft. The channels through Key West Harbor are deeper and better marked, and offer a shorter passage from the Gulf to the Straits of Florida. Good anchorage is available 1 mile NE of Boca Grande Key for boats drawing less than 5 feet.

Currents.—In Boca Grande Channel the average velocity of the current is 1.2 knots; the flood current sets N and the ebb SSW. The velocity of the current is considerably influenced by the winds. The Marquesas Keys are 4 miles in extent and surrounded by a large shoal area.

Mooney Harbor is a central lagoon within Marquesas Keys. The main entrance, close W of Gulf Keys, was reported closed by shoaling. Good, protected anchorage can be found in 1 to 4 feet with good holding ground in a small lagoon close SW of Mooney Harbor Key. Another good anchorage was SE of Mooney Harbor with a 4-foot entrance marked by pipes and deeper water within. Entrance into the central lagoon is restricted by a shoal. The lagoon should be entered only during daylight hours and caution should be exercised.

Ellis Rock is covered 7 feet and surrounded by depths of 21 to 39 feet; the rock is marked by a light.

Danger zones of bombing and strafing target areas, centered on targets, are in the vicinity of Marquesas Keys.

A large shoal, the W part of which is known as The Quicksands, extends 18 miles W from the Marquesas Keys. The shoal has a least depth of 2 feet over its E part. A strong E to W current was observed in the area.

Shoal, covered 8 feet, is off the W end of The Quicksands. A wreck covered 6 feet and marked by a light is on the W edge of the shoal.

Currents.—In Boca Grande Channel the average velocity of the current is 1.2 knots; the flood current sets N and the ebb SSW. The velocity of the current is considerably influenced by the winds.

Danger zones of bombing and strafing target areas, centered on targets, are in the vicinity of Marquesas Keys. (See 334.620, chapter 2, for limits and regulations.)

A large shoal, the W part of which is known as The Quicksands, extends 18 miles W from the Marquesas Keys. The shoal is about 4.5 miles wide between the 18-foot curves and has a least depth of 2 feet over its E part. A strong E to W current was observed in the area of The Quicksands in 1975.

Currents.—Between Halfmoon Shoal and Rebecca Shoal at Isaac Shoal the current floods N with an average velocity at strength of about 1.0 knot and ebbs S with an average velocity of about 0.8 knot. The velocity of the current is considerably influenced by the wind.

The current S of New Ground Shoal has an average velocity of 0.7 knot with the flood setting NE and the ebb SW. The velocity and direction of the current are influenced considerably by the wind.
NOAA’s navigation managers serve as ambassadors to the maritime community. They help identify navigational challenges facing professional and recreational mariners, and provide NOAA resources and information for safe navigation. For additional information, please visit nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/service/navmanagers.

To make suggestions or ask questions online, go to nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/inquiry. To report a chart discrepancy, please use ocsdata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/discrepancy.aspx.

Lateral System As Seen Entering From Seaward
on navigable waters except Western Rivers

For more information on aids to navigation, including those on Western Rivers, please consult the latest USCG Light List for your area. These volumes are available online at http://www.navcen.uscg.gov.
VHF Marine Radio channels for use on the waterways:
- **Channel 6** – Inter-ship safety communications.
- **Channel 9** – Communications between boats and ship-to-coast.
- **Channel 13** – Navigation purposes at bridges, locks, and harbors.
- **Channel 16** – Emergency, distress and safety calls to Coast Guard and others, and to initiate calls to other vessels. Contact the other vessel, agree to another channel, and then switch.
- **Channel 22A** – Calls between the Coast Guard and the public. Severe weather warnings, hazards to navigation and safety warnings are broadcast here.
- **Channels 68, 69, 71, 72 and 78A** – Recreational boat channels.

**Getting and Giving Help** — Signal other boaters using visual distress signals (flares, orange flag, lights, arm signals); whistles; horns; and on your VHF radio. You are required by law to help boaters in trouble. Respond to distress signals, but do not endanger yourself.

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**NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR)** is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/

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**Quick References**

- Nautical chart related products and information — [http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov)
- Chart updates (LNM and NM corrections) — [http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/updates/LNM_NM.html](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/updates/LNM_NM.html)
- Coast Pilot online — [http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/cpdownload.htm](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/cpdownload.htm)
- Tides and Currents — [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov)
- Contact Us — [http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/contact.htm](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/contact.htm)

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This Booklet chart has been designed for duplex printing (printed on front and back of one sheet). If a duplex option is not available on your printer, you may print each sheet and arrange them back-to-back to allow for the proper layout when viewing.