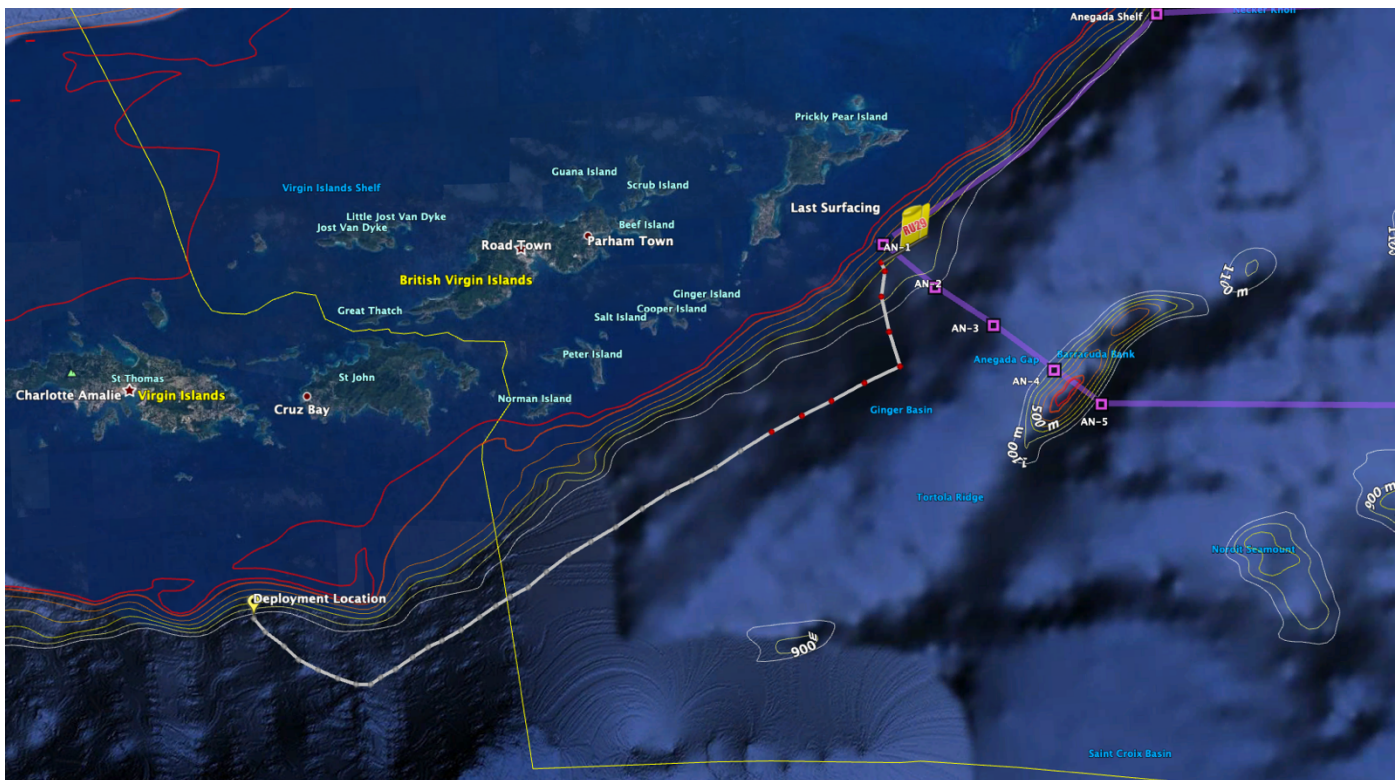


# International Challenger RU29 Mission Update

Update 8: 14 October 2019

## RU29 Back in the Water, Begins Leg II

On the afternoon of 10 October, RU29 began its second leg of the 2019 International Challenger Mission with a re-deployment about 15 km south of Red Hook, St. Thomas, in USVI waters. Batteries were recharged and sensors re-calibrated. Capt. Matt Driscoll on the Double Header took Chip Haldeman from Rutgers University and Elisha Brumant from UVI out to deploy on a perfect weather day. The map (from 1800 AST on 14 October) shows RU29's progress away from the shelf into deep water, then northeastward into the BVI towards the first station on the Anegada Passage section. The section will commence around midnight on October 14.



During Leg II we hope to complete the full regional loop (see chart in Update 2 at [http://ocovi.azurewebsites.net/documents/ru29\\_update\\_2019-09-09.pdf](http://ocovi.azurewebsites.net/documents/ru29_update_2019-09-09.pdf)) that was cut short in September as tropical storms Jerry and Karen passed (or threatened to pass) nearby. RU29 should have enough battery power to patrol the region through October.

The International Challenger RU29 Mission is a collaboration among Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ) Center for Ocean Observing Leadership, Ocean and Coastal Observing - Virgin Islands (OCOVI, an affiliate of the US Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) Caribbean Coastal and Ocean Observing System (CARICOOS)), and the University of the Virgin Islands. This mission will collect upper ocean data to improve hurricane forecasting models; study conditions in the Anegada Passage, an important region for NE Caribbean climate change; and build international cooperation for ocean observing and glider activities. The mission will work in the waters of the US Virgin Islands, British Virgin Islands, and Anguilla, under international Marine Science Research permit. Funding for the project comes from the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration through the IOOS, Rutgers University, and the G. Unger Vetlesen Foundation.