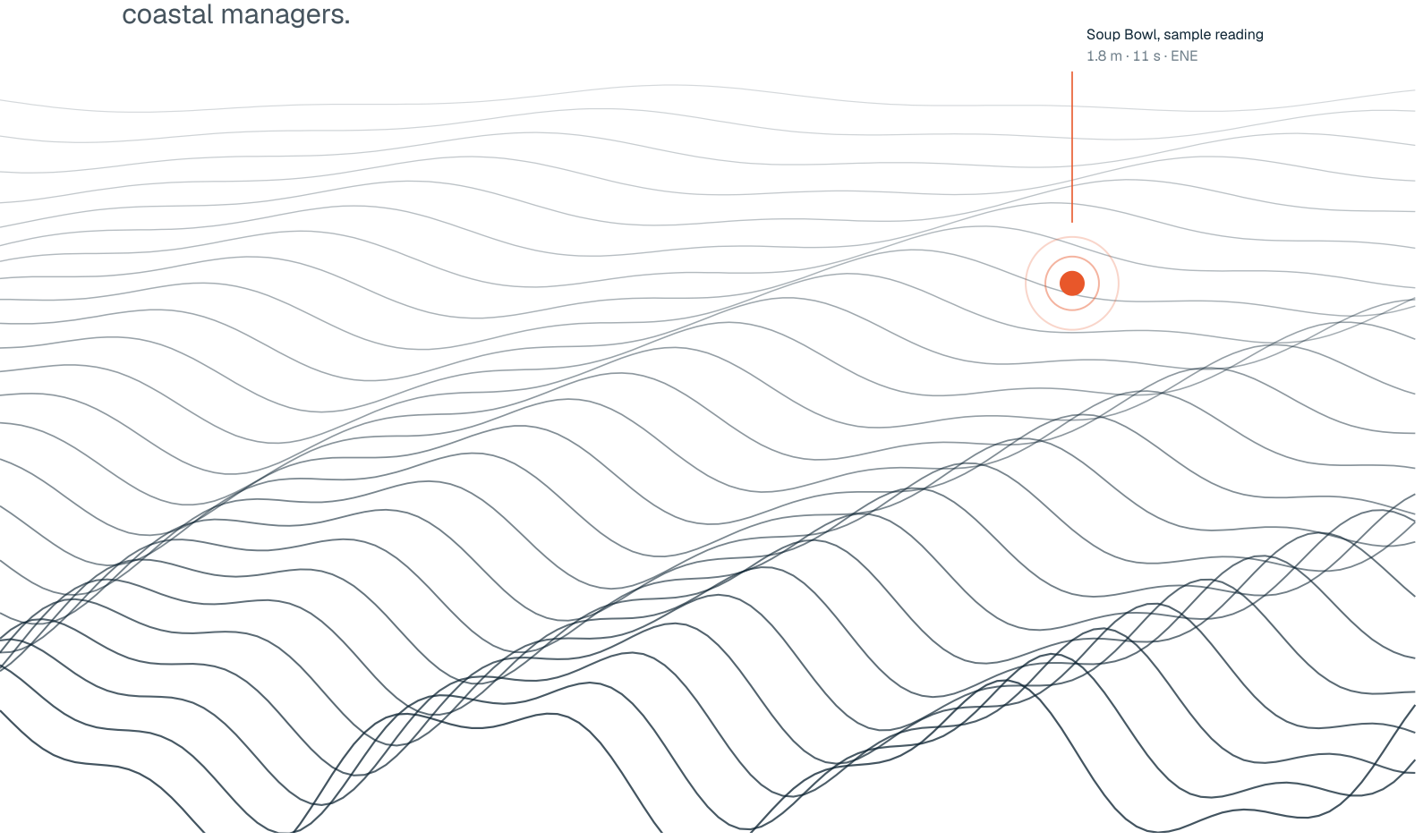
Fluctus
Barbados Swell Network

Project proposal
November 2026
Version 1.0

A real-time ocean observing network for Barbados

Live swell data for every coast of the island.

A proposal to install and operate three moored wave buoys at Soup Bowl, Maycocks and South Point, publishing open, real-time wave data for surfers, fisherfolk, mariners and coastal managers.



Prepared by Adam Worrell and Teddy Allen

Bridgetown, Barbados

00 Contents

What this proposal covers

Twenty-two sections in six parts: the case for the network, the equipment and sites, how the buoys are moored and deployed, what it costs, how the data is used and sold, and how it is phased, delivered and sustained.

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Currency

All figures are in Barbados dollars with United States dollars alongside, at the fixed rate of BBD 2.00 to USD 1.00.

Sources

Supplier prices are list prices at November 2026. Superscript numbers refer to the sources listed on page 24.

01 Executive summary

Three buoys.
One clear picture of the sea.

Four agencies have wave sensors around Barbados; none publishes a live reading. Fluctus will moor three solar-powered buoys, Soup Bowl first in 2027, and publish every reading free, within minutes.

Buoys	Phase 1, BBD	Three phases, BBD	Per year, BBD
3 + 1	**47.0K**	**99.5K**	**33.0K**
Three sites, one spare	USD 23,500	USD 49,700	USD 16,500

What we will build

Three Sofar Spotter wave buoys outside the surf zone at Soup Bowl, Maycocks and South Point, one phase each between 2027 and mid-2028. Between them they read every swell that reaches the island, including the north swell that wraps down the west coast.

Why this equipment

In a year-long side-by-side study the Spotter matched a research-grade Datawell buoy to within 6 cm on significant wave height.[3] It costs about a tenth as much, deploys from a small boat and runs on solar power.

Who it serves

Surfers and international surf events, fisherfolk deciding whether to put to sea, charter and pleasure craft operators, the Coast Guard, coastal engineers and researchers. Every reading is published openly, at no cost to the public.

How it pays for itself

Launch costs are raised through crowdfunding, sponsorship and grants. Running costs are covered by named buoy partners and a paid data service for commercial users, while public access stays free for good.

What we are asking for

BBD 46,996 for Phase 1 now, toward a BBD 99,468 network, and letters of support from the organisations that will use the data.

What we need from government

Agreement in principle from the agencies that approve moorings and marine research in Barbadian waters.

02 The gap

Forecasts without a measurement to check against.

Every public forecast for Barbados is a computer model. The readings that exist stay inside the agencies that collect them, so nobody on the water can check a forecast against the sea.

Open live feeds
0
No public live wave reading for any coast.[7]

Agencies with sensors
4
CZMU, BMS, CIMH, the Port. None publish live.[19, 22, 23]

Government buoys
2 of 3
CZMU deep-water buoys listed as inactive.[6]

Nearest open buoy
720 km
NDBC 41040, in the open Atlantic.[8]

Why models are not enough

Global models are good in open ocean but weak over the last few kilometres, where swell bends around the island and meets the reef. Without a local reading nobody knows if a model runs high or low.

How swell reaches Barbados

North Atlantic storms send winter ground swell from the north; it wraps around North Point and down the west coast. Trade-wind swell from the east runs all year. Storms add south swell from June to November.

What that costs Barbados

Fishers and charter skippers rely on models alone. Surf events have no verified wave data. Rescues have no live sea state. Storm swells pass unconfirmed, and no open nearshore record exists for planning.

Swell windows, and the buoy that reads each



03 The network

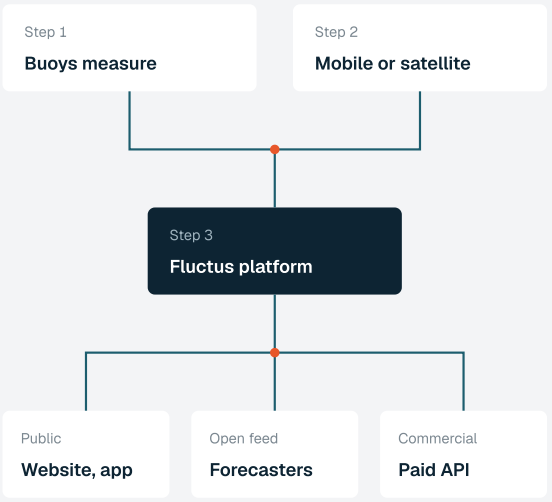
What Fluctus delivers.

Three buoys, one for each swell window, reporting the sea state every half hour to a public website and an open data feed.

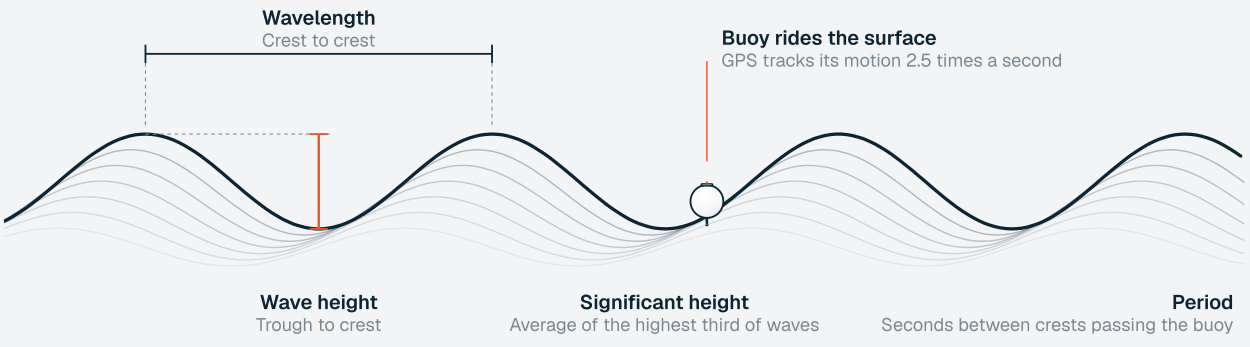
Each buoy measures

Wave height	Significant, maximum
Wave period	Peak and mean
Wave direction	Direction and spread
Wave spectrum	Swell versus chop
Wind	Derived speed, direction
Sea temperature	To within 0.1°C[2]
Air pressure	Early sign of weather

How the data reaches people



Reading the numbers



04 Who benefits

Built for surfers.
Useful to everyone on the water.

The same readings answer different questions for different people. That breadth is what makes the network worth funding publicly.

Surfers and surf events

The 2025 Barbados Surf Pro had 264 surfers entered, and the tourism authority put the previous edition's economic impact at about BBD 2.1 million.[11] Verified live conditions strengthen the island's standing as a surf destination.

Fisherfolk

About 260 vessels were active in 2025 as the fleet rebuilt after Hurricane Beryl, and the Fisheries Division is moving the fleet toward real-time ocean data.[12] Measured sea state helps decide when to go out.

Charter and pleasure craft

Catamaran cruises, dive boats, sport fishing charters and private yachts can check conditions on the exact coast they plan to work before leaving the dock, and adjust routes and timings to suit.

Coast Guard and emergency services

Live wave height and wind near an incident improve search planning and crew safety, and falling pressure gives early warning as storm systems approach the island.

Coastal management

Continuous nearshore records support beach erosion studies, coastal engineering and post-storm assessment, complementing the CZMU's existing deep-water programme.

Research and education

An open, long-term dataset for university research, school science projects and climate monitoring, collected and owned in Barbados, with the archive copied here.

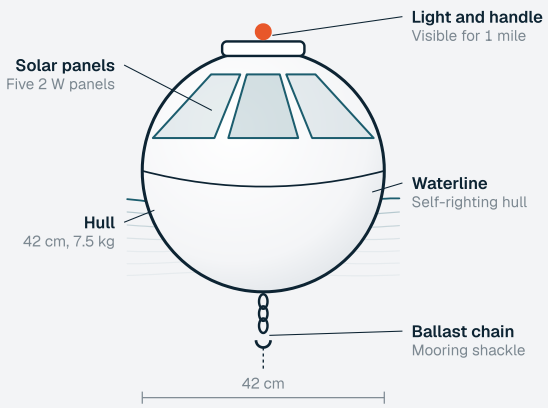
05 Choosing the equipment

Research-grade data at a fraction of the cost.

Three compact GPS buoys cost less than a third of one research-grade buoy and match its wave height within 6 cm; period and direction are less precise. The Port of Lyttelton in New Zealand has used one as its main offshore wave buoy since 2021.[14]

	Sofar Spotter, selected	Datawell Waverider	Self-built buoy
Class	Compact GPS buoy, 42 cm	Stainless hull, 0.7 to 0.9 m	Custom hull and sensors
Unit price	From USD 6,600[1]	About USD 65,000, 2022[4]	Low parts, high build time
Wave height	Within 6 cm of Datawell[3]	International reference	Unproven, needs testing
Power	Solar, no battery changes	Batteries, replaced	Varies
Live data	Mobile with satellite backup	Radio, mobile or satellite	Must be engineered
Deployment	Small boat, light mooring	Larger vessel and mooring	Depends on design
Track record	Ports and networks[14, 21]	Decades worldwide	None

Inside a Spotter buoy, simplified



Key specifications

Size and weight	42 x 31 cm, 7.5 kg
Solar power	Five 2 W panels
Battery	13,400 mAh lithium-ion
Data link	Mobile and Iridium
Wave height	Within 10% or 0.1 m
Sea temperature	To within 0.1°C
Air pressure	To within 0.5 mbar
Light	Visible 1 mile

Manufacturer figures; wind is derived from the waves.[2, 17]

06 Site plan

One buoy for each swell window.

Atlantic swell hits the east coast year-round, winter ground swells arrive from the north and wrap down the west, and south swells reach the south coast. Each window gets its own measurement, in phase order; the west coast is read upstream at Maycocks.



01 · East

Soup Bowl

Phase 1, 2027 beta

02 · North

Maycocks

Phase 2, late 2027

03 · South

South Point

Phase 3, spring 2028

Indicative positions

Positions from the 1999 LiDAR survey, pages 10 and 11; each is confirmed by a dive or drop camera.[27]

Agreed with authorities

Confirmed with CZMU, Port and Fisheries; clear of the BMS and CIMH buoys.

07 Site profiles

Three sites, four coasts covered.

Every buoy is moored on flat ground between 36 and 44 m, inside the 50 m a standard Spotter mooring is designed for. Positions are set from the government's 1999 LiDAR survey and shown on pages 10 and 11.[27] Sites are listed in phase order.

01 · East · Phase 1

Soup Bowl

Moored in	36 to 38 m, terrace
Offshore	1.5 to 1.8 km, NE
Serves	Surf events, fishers

The island's flagship wave and the cleanest read of Atlantic swell. The most exposed site, so it carries the heaviest mooring and goes in first to prove it. Launched from Tent Bay or Consett Bay.

02 · North · Phase 2

Maycocks

Moored in	36 to 38 m, shelf
Offshore	1.9 to 2.1 km, WSW
Serves	North and west coast

At the Harrison Point corner, first to see winter north swell and the west coast's early warning. Worked from Six Men's, and sited clear of the Arawak Cement jetty approach.

03 · South · Phase 3

South Point

Moored in	42 to 44 m, basin
Offshore	1.3 to 1.5 km, SSE
Serves	South coast, Oistins

Reads south swell and the trade wrap for the whole south coast. The seabed falls from 10 to 40 m in about 370 m, so the buoy sits on the flat basin beyond the wall.

West coast · No buoy

Covered upstream

Swell source	North swell, wrapped
Read by	Buoy 02, hours ahead
Also measured	BMS and the Port

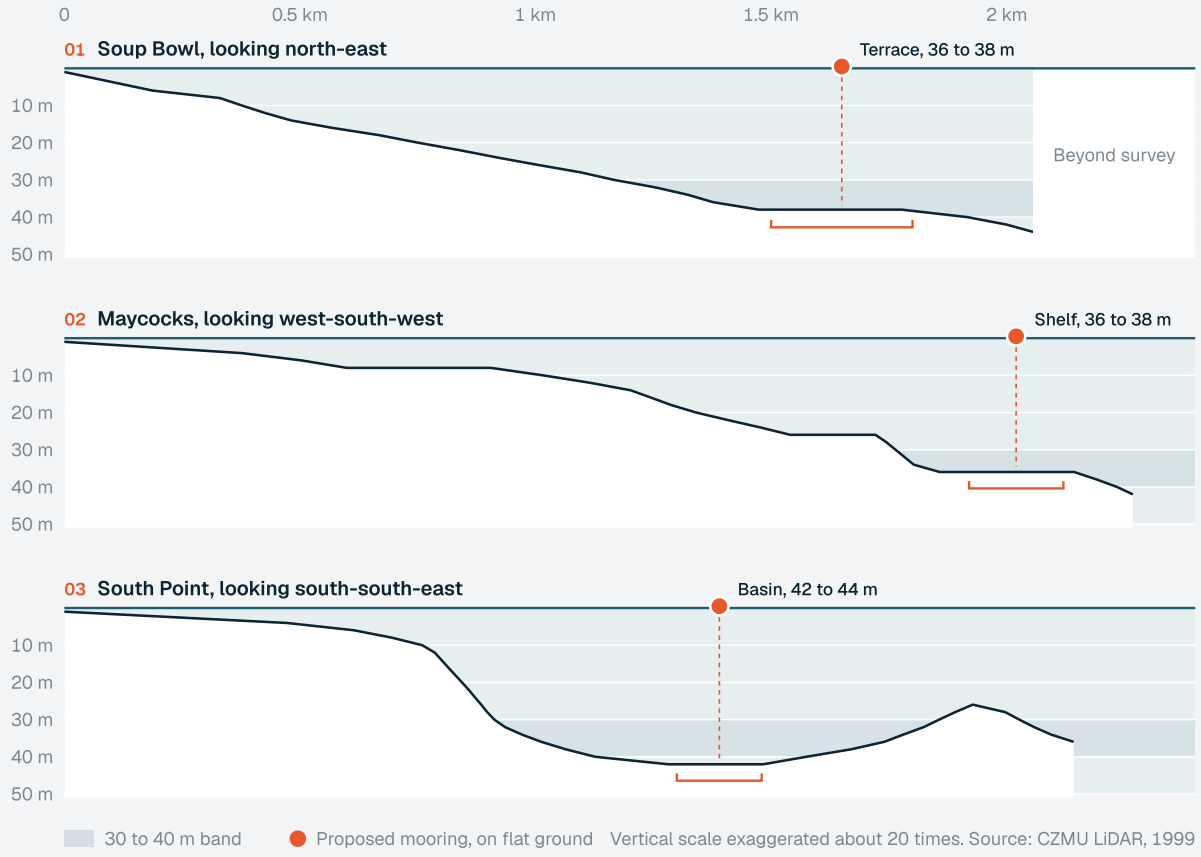
West coast surf is north swell that has already passed Maycocks, so buoy 02 reads it first. Local sea state is measured by BMS and the Port.[19, 22] A Sandy Lane buoy stays a costed option, about BBD 26,236, south of the Folkestone reserve, if demand or data access require it.[20]

08 How far offshore, and why

Outside the break, on flat ground.

The government's 1999 LiDAR survey shows each seabed in detail.[27] At Maycocks and South Point the 30 to 40 m band falls on a steep wall, so each buoy is placed on the flat ground beyond it.

Fig. 4 · Seabed profiles from each break, same scale



Rule 1

Clear of the surf zone

Spotter buoys must be moored outside the surf zone. Breaking waves corrupt the measurement.[5]

Rule 2

In open water

An unobstructed site records incoming swell. A buoy inside a bay records only local conditions.[5]

Rule 3

On sand, off the reef

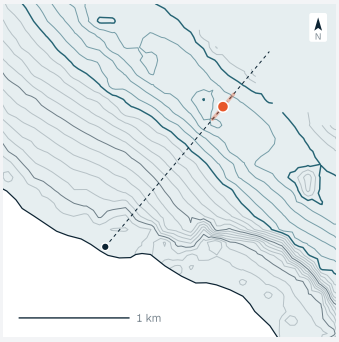
Anchors sit on flat sand, away from coral, slopes and shipping lanes. A standard mooring suits up to 50 m; ours sit at 36 to 44 m.[2, 5]

09 Seabed survey

Three moorings, placed on the survey.

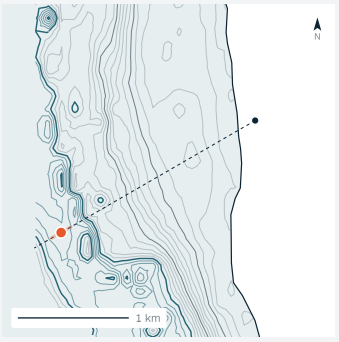
Contours every 2 m, with the 30 to 40 m band in blue. The dashed line is the profile on the previous page; the orange dot is the proposed mooring on the flat beyond the slope.

01 · Soup Bowl



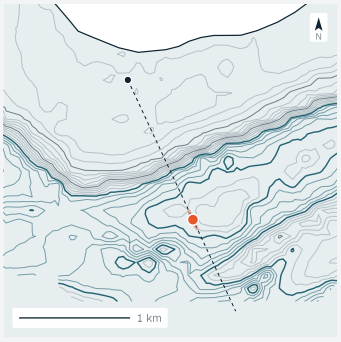
Steady slope to a broad terrace. The easiest site of the three.

02 · Maycocks



Shallow reef flat for 1 km, then a sharp drop to a shelf.

03 · South Point



A wall from 10 to 40 m in 370 m, then a basin before a second ridge.

Proposed mooring positions

Site	Depth	From the break	Ground
01 Soup Bowl	36 to 38 m	1.5 to 1.8 km, NE	Terrace beyond a steady slope
02 Maycocks	36 to 38 m	1.9 to 2.1 km, WSW	Shelf below the drop-off
03 South Point	42 to 44 m	1.3 to 1.5 km, SSE	Basin beyond the wall

The survey cannot tell sand from reef pavement and stops at 48 m. Each position is confirmed by a dive or drop camera before the anchor goes down.

10 Installation

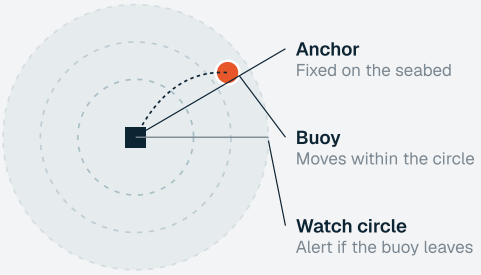
From survey to first reading.

Seven steps take each site from approval to live public data. The mooring specification and the full deployment procedure follow on the next two pages.

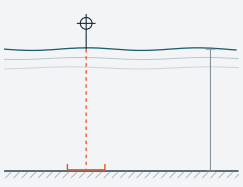
01	**Approvals and notice**	Consent from CZMU, Port and Fisheries
02	**Site survey**	True depth and a sand bottom confirmed
03	**Build moorings**	Anchor, chain, riser, floats, loops
04	**Bench test**	Each buoy reports before leaving dock
05	**Deploy**	Anchor set in calm seas, diver checks
06	**Commission**	72 hours checked, then feed goes live
07	**Maintain**	Cleaned every 6 to 8 weeks, rigging yearly

The watch circle

The buoy swings on its mooring within a circle around the anchor. The dashboard raises an alert if it ever leaves that circle.



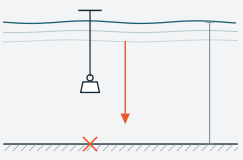
Sizes by depth are on the next page.



Survey trip

Fix the position

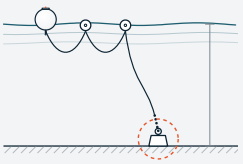
Sounder and camera confirm the spot.



Deployment, hour 1

Lower the anchor

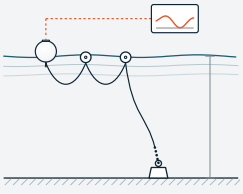
Hand over hand onto the surveyed spot.



Deployment, hour 2

Attach and check

Buoy clipped on; diver checks the anchor.



Within the hour

Live

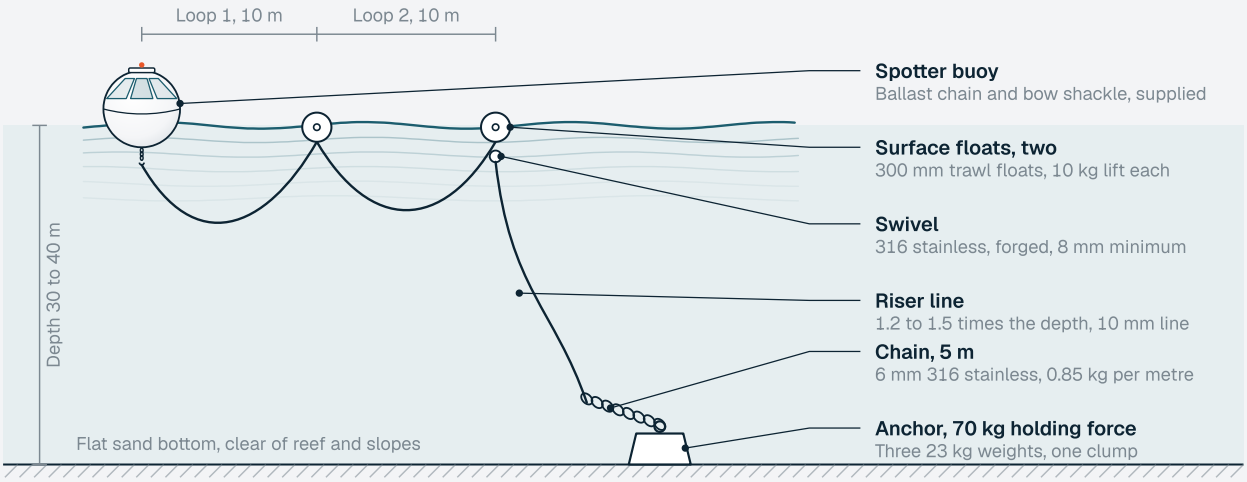
First reading online; then every 30 minutes.

11 Mooring specification

Light enough to follow the waves. Strong enough to stay put.

Each buoy is held by a double catenary mooring, the design Sofar recommends for open coastal sites with waves over 2 m.[5] Two slack loops let the buoy move freely with every wave, so the mooring never pulls it under or distorts the reading.

Fig. 5 · Double catenary mooring, one per buoy



Line: 10 mm three-strand polypropylene, sinking, lead-free. Hardware: 316 stainless, forged, 8 mm minimum.

Bill of materials, per buoy

Ballast chain	Supplied with the buoy
Swivels, two	Forged, 8 mm
Shackles, eight	Bow, 8 mm, moused
Thimbles, six	For 10 mm line
Line	10 mm 3-strand, sinking
Floats, two	300 mm trawl, 10 kg lift
Chain	6 mm, 5 m
Anchor	Three 23 kg kettlebells

Sizing by depth

Depth	Riser, m	Line, m	Radius
20 m	24 to 30	44 to 50	45 m
30 m	36 to 45	56 to 65	55 m
40 m	48 to 60	68 to 80	65 m
50 m	60 to 75	80 to 95	75 m

Riser is 1.2 to 1.5 times the surveyed depth. Line includes both 10 m loops. Radius is the largest watch circle. Exposed sites get a heavier anchor. All metal is 316 stainless, forged; never mix it with galvanised chain.[5]

12 Deployment procedure

One survey trip, one morning, in a calm window.

Everything is built, tested and documented on land. The morning on the water is then short and repeatable: a skipper, two crew and a diver, in seas under one metre, with the buoy reporting before the boat is back at the dock.

Prepare on land

01	**Measure and mark the riser**	1.2 to 1.5 times the surveyed depth
02	**Make every termination**	Eye splices with thimbles, pins moused
03	**Build the anchor**	Three kettlebells shackled to the 5 m chain
04	**Test the buoy**	Register, enable data, full system test
05	**Set the watch circle alert**	On the dashboard, from the sizing table
06	**File the notice**	Position to Port, Coast Guard, Fisheries

On the water

07	**Confirm the site**	Depth by sounder, bottom by diver or camera
08	**Flake the line on deck**	In order of deployment, free of tangles
09	**Lower the anchor**	Hand over hand, boat held up-current
10	**Pay out floats and loops**	Riser, float, loop, float, loop
11	**Attach the buoy last**	Switch to Run, clip on, release gently
12	**Watch, dive, record**	Diver or drop camera, GPS and photos logged

Maintenance schedule

6 to 8 weeks	Clean hull, panels and line
Every visit	Check shackles and chafe
12 months	Renew line and hardware
After storms	Inspect, confirm position

Rules and safety

Weather	Under 1 m seas, 15 kt wind
Crew	Skipper, two crew, diver to 30 m
Handling	Gloves on, stay out of bights
Position	Past the surf zone, flat sand

13 Launch budget

BBD 99,468 in three phases, BBD 46,996 to start.

Item	BBD	USD
Per buoy, installed		
Sofar Spotter wave buoy, delivered List price, freight and brokerage; about 90 days of transmissions included[1, 18]	13,700	6,850
Mooring hardware Anchor, chain, line, floats, stainless fittings	1,800	900
Import duty and VAT Duty assumed at 10%, ruling and waiver sought; VAT at 17.5%[13]	4,534	2,267
Installation Vessel and dive team, one day per site	2,100	1,050
Per buoy, one complete installed site	**22,134**	11,067
Phase 1, beta, 2027		
Soup Bowl, one installed site	22,134	11,067
Spare buoy on island, no mooring	17,708	8,854
Survey, permits and platform One site survey, applications, public website and feed	1,600	800
Contingency and card fees 10% of the phase subtotal, plus 3% on donations	5,554	2,777
Phase 1 total	**46,996**	23,498
Phases 2 and 3, one buoy each		
One installed buoy per phase Maycocks in late 2027, South Point in spring 2028	22,134	11,067
Site survey and permits	1,000	500
Contingency and card fees 10% of the phase subtotal, plus 3% on donations	3,102	1,551
Per phase total	**26,236**	13,118
Total funding target, three phases	**99,468**	49,734

If duty is waived, BBD 7,074 of duty and the VAT on it moves to the reserve. A fourth buoy at Sandy Lane would add about BBD 26,236. Mooring, freight, vessel and dive costs are planning estimates.

14 Operating budget and five-year cost

BBD 33,000 a year to keep three buoys reporting.

Annual item, full network	BBD	USD
Data transmission Mobile line, satellite backup line and fallback credits, USD 1,200 per buoy[18]	7,200	3,600
Cleaning and inspection visits Six per buoy per year, every 6 to 8 weeks[5]	9,000	4,500
Rigging replacement Lines, shackles and floats renewed yearly	2,400	1,200
Storm and swell callouts Two unplanned checks per buoy	4,800	2,400
Replacement reserve Builds toward replacing a lost buoy	7,000	3,500
Website, hosting and alerts Platform, storage, domain, messages	600	300
Public liability insurance Estimate, broker quote pending	2,000	1,000
Annual operating cost	**33,000**	**16,500**

Telemetry assumes mobile coverage with satellite backup, at Sofar's 2026 rates; satellite only would cost USD 1,470 to 2,700 per buoy a year. Local services include VAT. No salaries: management and the platform are contributed in kind.

Phase 1, one buoy

BBD 13,900

A year; telemetry from day 91

Per buoy, full network

BBD 11,000

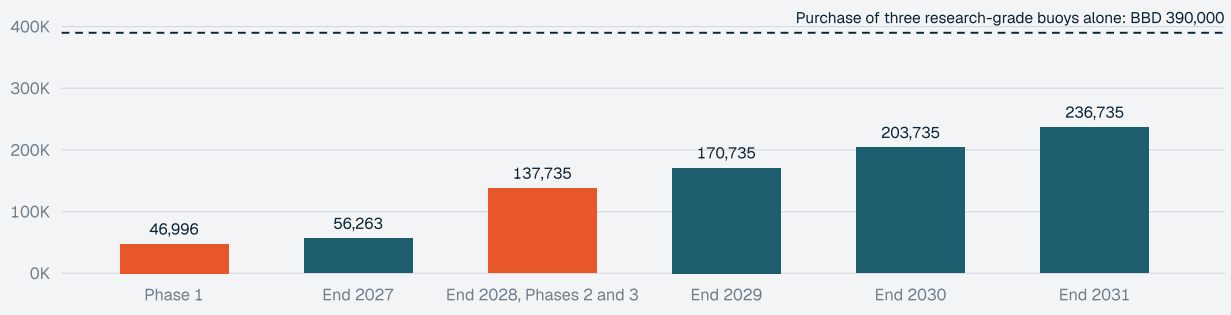
Shared costs spread over three

Per day

BBD 90

For the whole network

Cumulative cost, launch and running, BBD



15 Data access and sustainability

Free for the public.
Funded by those who build on it.

Public access stays free for good. Running costs are covered by organisations that build services on the data, and by partners who put their name on a buoy.

Tier 1 · Public

Free

- Live readings online
- Seven days of history
- Open government feed

Tier 2 · Commercial

Subscription

- Real-time data API
- Full spectra and archive
- Threshold alerts

Tier 3 · Partner

Naming

- Buoy named for partner
- Logo on live readings
- Annual impact report

Covering the running costs

Three buoy partners	22,500
Six Starter and two Professional API subscribers	13,200
One Enterprise agreement at BBD 500 a month	6,000
Annual income, BBD	**41,700**

Partners at BBD 7,500 a year; API tiers on page 19. Covers the BBD 33,000 operating cost. Targets, not commitments.

Data principles

Published within minutes of receipt

Archive owned here, shared free with government

Quality notes after every service visit

Commercial terms never restrict public or government access.

16 How we will use the data

One live feed.
A tool for every group.

Fluctus runs its own public website and app, then shapes the same readings into a different tool for each audience. Every product below is built on one open data feed.

Surfers

Live break pages

- Height, period, direction
- Swell arrival alerts
- Model against measured

Surf events

Contest dashboard

- Live data on the event page
- Call-day planning view
- Archive to pitch future events

Fisherfolk

Sea state, plainly

- Calm, moderate or rough
- WhatsApp alert at dawn
- Thresholds set with fishers

Charters, pleasure craft

Day planner

- Comfort rating per coast
- Widget for booking pages
- Pick the sheltered coast

Coast Guard, emergency

Operations feed

- Wave and pressure alerts
- Live sea state by API
- Report after every storm

Coastal management, research

Open archive

- Full history as CSV, free
- Event summaries for erosion
- Direct feed to CZMU and UWI

How it is built

Source	Buoy to Sofar cloud
Ingest	Pulled by API in minutes
Store	Owned by the project
Publish	Site, app, alerts and API

What it costs

Build, by the team	**In kind**
Setup and domain	**BBD 600**
Yearly hosting, alerts	**BBD 600**
Public access, always	**Free**

17 Paid data API

A paid API for businesses. Free for everyone else.

Companies that build products or services on the readings pay for a documented, reliable feed with service levels. Those fees fund the buoys. Public and government access stays free.

Starter

BBD 100 a month

- One site, every 30 minutes
- 30 days of history
- Attribution required

Professional

BBD 250 a month

- All three sites, real time
- Spectra, 1-year history
- Webhook alerts

Enterprise

By agreement

- Full archive, bulk export
- Widget and uptime SLA
- Custom thresholds, reports

What the API provides

Latest	Current reading, any site
History	Any range, hourly or raw
Spectra	Energy by period, direction
Alerts	Webhook on threshold
Status	Health, position, notes

Who would use it

Forecasters	Surf and marine forecasts
Operators	Catamaran, dive, fishing
Hospitality	Hotel apps, lobby screens
Media	Broadcasts, news graphics
Consultants	Coastal engineers, insurers

Licensing

Public data is released under an open attribution licence. Government agencies receive everything free with no restrictions. Commercial subscribers may not resell the raw feed.

Service levels

Readings published within minutes of receipt, a public status page, versioned documentation, and advance notice of any change to the API.

18 Phased rollout

One buoy first.
Then the network.

Soup Bowl goes in first, in the late-April to June 2027 lull, and runs as a public beta through the hurricane season. Maycocks follows for the 2027 to 2028 north-swell season and South Point before the 2028 hurricane season, each once the buoy before it has proved itself. Each phase is funded, approved and reported on its own.

Phase 1 · Beta, 2027

Site	Soup Bowl, east
Buoys	One, plus spare
Deploy	Apr to Jun 2027
Gate	End of Oct 2027
Launch	BBD 46,996
Per year	BBD 13,900

Phase 2 · North, 2027

Site	Maycocks
Buoys	One
Deploy	Nov 2027
Gate	March 2028
Launch	BBD 26,236
Per year	BBD 23,400

Phase 3 · South, 2028

Site	South Point
Buoys	One
Deploy	Apr to Jun 2028
Gate	Mid 2028
Launch	BBD 26,236
Per year	BBD 33,000

Test 1

Reliability

95% of half-hourly readings published within ten minutes of receipt.

Test 2

Survival

Mooring holds its watch circle all season, with every inspection logged.

Test 3

Accuracy

Readings compared with the BMS and CIMH buoys and the models; error report published.

Test 4

Adoption

Five hundred regular monthly users of the live page and one buoy partner signed.

The decision gate

At the end of October 2027 the organisers, the partners and CZMU review the beta against the four tests. Pass, and the Maycocks order goes in for the November window; a second review in March 2028 releases South Point. Fall short, and the beta is extended and fixed before another buoy is bought.

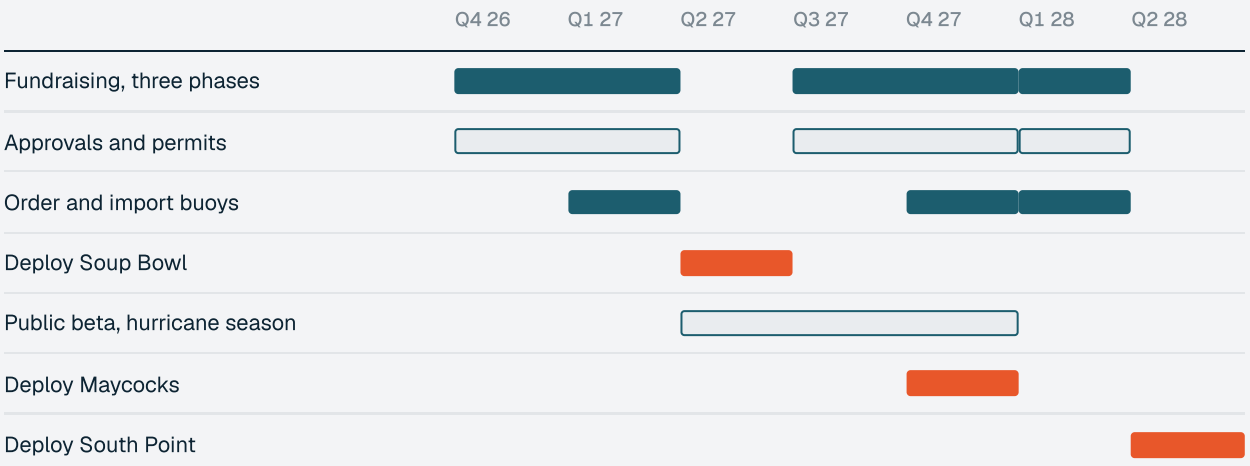
Why Soup Bowl first

It is the cleanest read of Atlantic swell, the island's flagship wave, and the most demanding coast to service. A mooring and a service routine that work at Bathsheba will work anywhere on the island, and the data is in place for the Barbados Surf Pro each March.

19 Delivery plan and approvals

In the water in three seasons.

Soup Bowl goes in during the late-April to June 2027 lull and runs as a beta through the hurricane season. Maycocks follows in November 2027, South Point in April to June 2028.



A

Coastal Zone Management Unit

Research permit, six weeks; Marine Spatial Plan lead.[15]

B

Barbados Port Inc.

Harbour approaches, Notice to Mariners, charting.[19]

C

National Conservation Commission

Launch-site access; partner in the BMS buoy work.[22]

D

Fisheries Division

Clear of fishing grounds and fish aggregating devices.

E

Barbados Coast Guard

Positions notified for safety and search and rescue.

F

Customs and Excise

Tariff ruling; a waiver is for the Ministry of Finance.

Governance

A registered non-profit CSO owns the buoys and data, holds the Sofar subscription and a dedicated account, and publishes annual accounts.

Reporting

Quarterly public updates on uptime, spend and incidents. An annual report to partners, funders and the agencies that approved the sites.

20 Risks and how we manage them

Planned for the sea we actually have.

Ten risks, each with a plan. Likelihood and impact are rated low, medium or high.

Medium likelihood · High impact

Hurricane or storm damage

Buoys recovered before named storms when safe. Spare held on island; reserve grows yearly.

Medium likelihood · Medium impact

Entanglement or boat strike

Positions agreed and published to mariners. Flashing light, GPS alert, and a marker float or radar reflector where the Port requires.

Low likelihood · Medium impact

Theft or tampering

Live GPS tracking traces any moved buoy. Fishing communities engaged as local stewards.

High likelihood · Low impact

Marine growth

Cleaning every 6 to 8 weeks is budgeted. The spare is swapped in so data never stops.

Medium likelihood · Medium impact

Overlap with agency buoys

BMS, CIMH and the Port run their own sensors. Sites are agreed with them before purchase, and Fluctus publishes what they do not.

Low likelihood · Medium impact

Equipment fault

Each buoy reports its own health. The spare replaces a faulty unit within days.

Medium likelihood · Medium impact

Slow approvals

Agencies approached before fundraising closes. Sites can go live one at a time.

Medium likelihood · High impact

Running costs not covered

Partners secured before launch. Year one costs less, giving time to build income.

Medium likelihood · Medium impact

Dependence on one supplier

Data flows through Sofar's cloud and subscription. Every reading is exported daily to our own archive and logged on the buoy's card.

Medium likelihood · Medium impact

Sargassum

Mats on the east and south coasts can load a mooring. Extra checks in sargassum season and a quick-release at the buoy.

21 Partners and how to support

Help put Fluctus in the water.

Six ways to take part, from funding a whole buoy to sharing a boat for a day. Phase 1 needs BBD 46,996 by March 2027.

01

Fund a buoy

BBD 22,134 installs one complete buoy, with naming rights.

02

Buoy partner

BBD 7,500 a year covers most of one buoy's running cost, under your name.

03

Grant funding

GEF Small Grants, up to USD 50,000, via a registered CSO.[16]

04

In-kind support

Vessel time, dive teams, storage, brokerage or legal services.

05

Data subscriber

Commit early to the commercial data service for your business.

06

Letter of support

From agencies, associations and businesses, for grant bids.

Proposed partners

To be approached. None has yet committed.

CZMU	Barbados Port Inc.
Fisheries Division	Coast Guard
Met Services	Surfing Association
UWI CERMES	Bellairs Institute

Project leads

Contact details to follow.

Adam Worrell	Co-organiser
Teddy Allen	Co-organiser
Email	
Phone	

22 Assumptions and sources

How the numbers were built.

Prices and rates

- BBD 2.00 to USD 1.00, fixed
- Sofar list and data prices, 2026
- Duty 10% pending ruling; VAT 17.5%

Estimates to confirm

- Mooring, freight, vessel and dive costs
- Offshore distances and depths
- Income figures on page 17

01 Sofar Ocean. Spotter product page and shop listing, from USD 6,600. sofarocean.com

02 Sofar Ocean. Spotter specifications: advised mooring depth 5 to 300 m, SST accuracy, visibility light. sofarocean.com

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12 Nation News (29 August 2025). Fishing sector steadily rebounding. nationnews.com

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22 Barbados Today (30 April 2025). Met Services unveil new tools for early warning: BMS Spotter buoy off the west coast and the USV Seawolf. barbadostoday.bb

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27 Coastal Zone Management Unit (1999). Airborne LiDAR bathymetry of Barbados, 2 m contours to 48 m, via AmeriGEOSS. data.amerigeoss.org