

Extract from The United Kingdom Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 2012 – Regulation 5:

“The sole objective of a safety investigation into an accident under these Regulations shall be the prevention of future accidents through the ascertainment of its causes and circumstances. It shall not be the purpose of such an investigation to determine liability nor, except so far as is necessary to achieve its objective, to apportion blame.”

As the full investigation report will not be published within 12 months of the accident date, this interim report is published, pursuant to Regulation 14(2)(b) of the Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 2012.

NOTE

This report is not written with litigation in mind and, pursuant to Regulation 14(14) of the Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 2012, shall be inadmissible in any judicial proceedings whose purpose, or one of whose purposes is to attribute or apportion liability or blame.

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Interim report on the investigation into the double fatality and subsequent loss of the small charter vessel *Calypso 2* near West End, Anguilla on 11 March 2023

The information contained in this interim report is based on the various aspects of the investigation completed to date. Readers are cautioned that there is the possibility new evidence may become available that might alter the circumstances as depicted in this report.

FACTUAL INFORMATION

At about 1015 on 11 March 2023, the Anguillan registered charter vessel *Calypso 2* (**Figure 1**) was swamped by rolling ground seas¹ shortly after entering a cove near West End, on the south-west coast of Anguilla (**Figure 2**). The four passengers and two crew, none of whom were wearing personal flotation devices, were ejected into the water. Three passengers and one crew member were rescued by the Anguillan emergency services with civilian assistance and taken to hospital; they have subsequently recovered from their physical injuries. One passenger was recovered from the water and the first mate was recovered from the base of the cliffs in the cove; both were deceased. *Calypso 2* broke up on the rocks, although some parts of the vessel were later recovered.

The vessel had departed from Rendezvous Bay, Anguilla about 30 minutes before the accident for a 4-hour trip around the island. Nearby tourists had spotted the crew and passengers in the water and raised the alarm.

INVESTIGATION

This investigation is being carried out by the UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) on behalf of the Governor of Anguilla in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the MAIB and the Red Ensign Group Category 2 registry, The Anguilla Maritime Administration. The investigation has considered various aspects of the accident to determine the causes and circumstances surrounding the swamping and subsequent loss of *Calypso 2*, including the assessment of the hazards and risks of the intended trip; the operational risks presented by small commercial craft in Anguillan waters; and the maritime rescue framework in place at the time.

ONGOING ACTION

The MAIB investigation is complete, and a draft of the report is being prepared and will be distributed to stakeholders for a 30-day consultation period in due course.



Figure 1: *Calypso 2*



Figure 2: The accident location

¹ Ground seas is a West Indian name for a swell that occurs in calm weather and without obvious cause, breaking on the shore in heavy roaring waves.

VESSEL PARTICULARS

Vessel's name	<i>Calypso 2</i>
Flag	Anguilla
Classification society	Not applicable
Official number	749978
Type	Motor vessel
Registered owner	Calypso Charters Ltd
Manager(s)	Calypso Charters Ltd
Year of build	2011
Construction	Glass reinforced plastic
Length overall	11.06m
Registered length	Not applicable
Gross tonnage	5.72
Minimum safe manning	1
Authorised cargo	Not applicable

VOYAGE PARTICULARS

Port of departure	Rendezvous Bay, Anguilla
Port of arrival	Rendezvous Bay, Anguilla (intended)
Type of voyage	Coastal
Cargo information	Not applicable
Manning	2

MARINE CASUALTY INFORMATION

Date and time	11 March 2023 at 1015 (UTC ² -4)
Type of marine casualty or incident	Very Serious Marine Casualty
Location of incident	Near West End, south-west coast of Anguilla
Place on board	Overside
Injuries/fatalities	2 fatalities, 4 people injured
Damage/environmental impact	Vessel broke up on impact with coast
Ship operation	In passage
Voyage segment	Mid-water
External & internal environment	Fine and clear; south-easterly winds force 3 to 4; slight seas, ground swells near coast.
Persons on board	6

² Universal time coordinated.