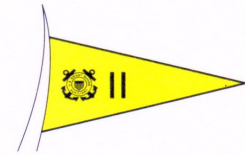


UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

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OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT STAFF OFFICER
NAVIGATION SYSTEMS

TO: Bruce Martin, District Captain 11N
Dean McFarren, COMO District 11N
Curtis Han, District Chief of Staff 11N
District 11 North Board & Staff

CC: ADSOs-NS
AV-PQS
Bill Wicks, DSO-NS 11S
Ed Martin, Auxiliary National NS Captain
Mike Salsman, PATON Administrator, D11

FROM: Michael Hay, DSO-NS 11N

DATE: May 8, 2022

Highlights:

NS Program underway for 2022

- 786 PATONs to verify
- 50 bridges to survey
- NOAA Chart eliminations in AOR

Waterways Management (dpw):

- Working multiple locations on Lake Tahoe for permit/buoy changes

National NS Work:

- BC-PNP hosting C-06 school in August 2022
- New 7054 approved and now available

Details:

- Surveyed 26 of 50 bridges - 50% complete
 - Note: Bridge Surveys are due May 31, 2022
- Verified 66 of 786 PATONs – 8.4% complete

- Upcoming for NOAA charts in 11N AOR to be cancelled effective 01 June 22:
 - **18605**-TRINIDAD HARBOR
 - **18626**-ELK TO FORT BRAGG
 - **18628**-ALBION TO CASPAR
 - **18647**-DRAKES BAY
 - **18686**-PFEIFFER POINT TO CYPRESS POINT (CARMEL BAY)
- Waterways Management:
 - Still waiting on Tahoe City to re-file permit. Permit and updating to occur upon receipt of new permit.
 - Researching Lake Tahoe changes for: Tahoe Keys Marina, Fleur d’lac and NASA buoys
- National NS Branch:
 - Enrollments for C-06 school progressing — three known and one potential District 11 enrollees at this point and six enrolls overall thus far – need 7 minimum for class to go
 - New drop down/fill in PDF for form 7054 now available from the Forms Where house.

Reports:

NS Report by Division:

DISTRICT 113 2022, BRIDGE, ATON, & CHART UPDATING SUMMARY TABLE											MAY 1 2022							
Div.	AIDS TO NAVIGATION				BRIDGES				Private Aids				Aid Verifiers					
	B	A	P	U	AOR	Check	%	NotCheck	AOR	Check	%	NotCheck	Trainee	PQS				
1	4	1	28		4	4	100%	0	105	28	27%	77	2	6				
3	21	1			15	15	100%	0	33		0%	33	0	4				
4					2		0%	2	68		0%	68	0	0				
5	5		6		11	5	45%	6	103	6	6%	97	0	6				
6	2		32		2	2	100%	0	69	32	46%	37	1	1				
8			4		1		0%	1	18		0%	18	0	1				
10					9		0%	9	55		0%	55	0	3				
11					0		NA	0	145		0%	145	0	3				
12					8		0%	8	194		0%	194	0	4				
Total	32	2	70	0	52	26	50%	26	790	66	8%	724	3	28				
Total Aids to Navigation					104				Number of members submitting an ATON or CU Reports				9					
Total Chart Updating 1/1/22 to 12/31/22					0				B=Bridge, A=ATON, P=PATON, U=Unauthorized									
Total ATON/CU Activity					104				C=Chart Update, CP=Coast Pilot Update, CCP=Charting Credit Points									
AUXDATA II 2022 Bridge & ATON Activity					1-May 2022		CHART UPDATING SUMMARY TABLE				MAY 1 2022		Type					
AUXDATA II 2022 Bridge & ATON Activity							Div.		113 Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2022		113 Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2023		Reports					
AIDS TO NAVIGATION		All NS Activits					Reports		0		CUP		Reports		0		CUP	
BV		BD		AD	PV	PD												
1					44*	10*	(*)											
							Trainee											
3	8	9	1				Counted											
4																		
5																		
6		2																
8																		
10																		
11																		
12																		
Total	8	11	1	0	0	0	AUXDATA											
Total Aids to Navigation					20		19%		Total		0		0		0		RC=26	
									# Member submitting NOAA-Coast Survey Report-ASSIST								0	

Change in AV-PQS/Trainees Year over Year:

	2021		2022	
Division	Trainee	AV-PQS	Trainee	AV-PQS
1	1	7	1	6
3	0	3	0	3
4	0	1	0	0
5	0	7	1	6
6	1	3	1	1
8	0	1	3	1
10	0	6	0	4
11	1	8	1	3
12	4	7	4	4
Totals	7	43	11	28
Result		Net Gain Trainees	4	
		Net Loss AV-PQS	-15	

This is a significant loss in AV-PQS personnel due to retirements, COVID impacts, REYR impacts and home location movement of personnel.

Around the Horn (District 11N):

- Three District Activities Reports submitted by Jim Duncan, Div 3
- Joint Fl 52/57 night PATON verification Patrol held on the Audrey L.
- Corrected PATON sheets received and allocated to NS qualified members in Division 11
- Welcome Kevin Quinn as new Division 4 SO-NS

DSO 11N Goals & Objectives:

- **COMPLETED:** Distribute all electronic and paper PATON verification sheets to SO-NSs in both 11N and 11S by mid-February 2022
- **COMPLETED:** Distribute all electronic and paper Bridge survey sheets to SO-NSs in 11N by end of January 2022
- Complete 100% of District 11N bridge surveys by May 31, 2022
- Complete 100% of District 11N PATON verifications by September 30, 2022

- Calculate and nominate AV personnel for NS awards at the end of the year
- Improve count of AV personnel in district 11N

Waterways Management (dpw) PATON Administration Goals:

- Stay current with all IATONIS changes approved during the year
- Input all PATON verification data into Access db and IATONIS on a timely basis
- Define and implement a feedback loop for Discrepant Aid follow-up
- Report updated progress monthly
- Eliminate roadblocks to institutionalizing new Access db for multi-user usage
- Support DSO-11S in enhancing their program
- Ensure currency of Class I and II PATON verifications for District 11

National Goals:

- Host C-06 School in Alameda during August 2022
- Teach one session of C-06 School
- Participate in drafting of program materials as needed
- Continue participation in CG Research department project to enhance Navigation Systems reporting requirements

Challenges/Obstacles/Opportunities:

In recognition of COVID impacts, serious weather conditions impacting outside activities, retirement and loss of AV personnel, loss of facility support and restrictions on mode of travel to do verifications, it is understood that 100% completion is a stretch goal for 2022. Consequently, priorities have been established to complete surveys and verifications in the following order: Bridges, Class I, Class II and then Class III PATONs

Photos:

None

Nav Notes:

Reprinted from Pam C-K, BC-PNC article “Time to Get Familiar with Electronic Charts”

Retirements of Raster (paper) charts and products

NOAA has retired 109 Raster charts (plus 26 SC/canoe charts) as of 5 May, 2022 and has scheduled 119 more through October. NOAA is updating the Pending schedule on a mostly monthly basis. The districts affected so far include D1S, D5S, D7, D8C, D9W, D11N, D11S, D13, D14, D17.

After their retirement date, NOAA considers those charts to be **outdated/invalid** for navigation. The last of all of the charts are scheduled to be retired by January 2025.

The Transition from Paper

The good news is that most boat owners have transitioned to using Chartplotters and navigation apps for the bulk of their navigation needs. The bad news is that not all systems provide all the

needed navigation information that was available on NOAA's paper charts, nor do all of them utilize Chart #1 ENC symbols.


Although some Print-On-Demand Vendors are offering paper product versions of the ENC charts, NOAA has not established any standards regarding what content is required in those paper products to satisfy even what the commercial vessels need (to satisfy their regulations). This is still a 'work in progress', and not being aggressively worked.

Working with ENCs/ECDIS

We are not alone with regards to coping with transitioning. Most all the commercial vessel traffic has been using Electronic Charts (ECDIS version) exclusively since 2016 domestically and 2018 internationally. The USCG gave their boat units authorization (ComdtNotice-011/20) to go 'paperless' since 2020.

Many Chart plotters and several navigation apps utilize NOAA's ENC files to populate the chart data. A couple programs allow you to download/update directly from the weekly updated NOAA ENC files, whereas other programs only update on a quarterly or annual basis. Additionally, if the provider is doing something other than a direct import to refresh their base map, you can have problems. (One example seen was a misinterpretation by *AquaMap* of a NOAA ENC symbol for a dolphin versus a mooring buoy. Another example seen was a very shallow 'controlling' depth for a maintained channel appeared as an occasional depth number along the channel, rather than a note that this was the controlling depth. (Seen on *Navionics*)

Note 1: You can freely view NOAA's ENC data online by using either the ENC Viewer or by opening/ utilizing NCC (NOAA Custom Chart).

Note 2: Symbols on ENC charts are covered in Chart #1, but they need getting used to. Sometimes it is easier to scroll to the location you are interested in, then click on the 'Maritime Identity' "M" in the upper left, thence the pin , then, click on a specific location to perform an "Object Query". There will be between ~4 and over 12 layers. Keep right-arrowing until you find the item you are interested in. In the example below, I wanted to find the updated "Controlling Depth" (least depth, Feature Code DRGARE) in the Swinomish Channel. The result showed 1.2 meters Note: (Depths are in meters! which converts to 4.1 feet in a 12-foot Project!) This is important navigation safety information! Does your chart plotter or nav app give you access to this Feature?

Additionally, NOAA's ENC Viewer doesn't make the Chart Datum (horizontal and vertical) viewable (except for the vertical on rivers above dams, where it generally references Normal Pool Level elevations above a Mean Sea Level in the coastal area). Mostly, you need to view Datums in a navigation program. And not all units will have this available. Be sure to check whether your chart plotter or nav app gives you access to the Datums (horizontal and vertical). Note: The ENC Viewer vertical datum can be accessed for water bodies above dams, where I have seen the datum either as one of the tabs in the Identifier Query (M_VDAT), or as a txt file in the M_NPUB tab.

