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HCA Letter No. 01/2013

**IHO Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA)
Proposed Scheme for Maritime Shipping Routes in the South Orkney Islands**

To: HCA Members and Observers (see list at Annex A)
Reference: IHO Circular Letter 24/2013 rev1

Dear Colleagues,

Action HCA12/18 reported in Annex A to the reference tasked the Hydrography Priorities Working Group (HPWG), chaired by Mr. Andrew Willett, UKHO, to develop a Maritime Shipping Route (MSR) scheme for the South Orkney Islands.

A proposed scheme for the South Orkney Islands has now been prepared at the UKHO, together with an associated survey plan. These are provided in Annex B.

You are kindly requested to review the proposed scheme set out in Annex B and provide your comments **before 30 June 2013**. If there are no adverse comments or proposals for significant changes received, the scheme will be considered as adopted by the HCA after that date.

For your further information, another HCA letter will be circulated soon concerning the 13th HCA Conference in Cadiz, Spain, 3-5 December 2013. It will provide a draft agenda and logistical details for the conference.

Yours sincerely,

Robert WARD
IHB President and Chairman of HCA

Enclosures: Annex A – HCA Membership and Observer List
Annex B – Draft MSR and Survey Plan for the South Orkney Islands

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(April 2013)

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SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS

HCA SURVEY SHORT LIST AND MARITIME SHIPPING ROUTES (MSR)

DRAFT

Updated to April 2013Main corridors

MSR*	Name	Usage category	Survey category	Notes and INT chart coverage. Published and proposed.
1	South Orkney offshore route	C	B & C	INT 9140 <i>Partly surveyed by Argentina 2010-12</i>
2	Washington Strait	C	A	INT 9140 <i>Block surveyed by Argentina 2010-11</i>
3	Lewthwaite Srait	C	C	INT 9140 Unsurveyed
4	SE approaches to Signy Island	B	A & B	INT 9141 & INT 9140. 75% fully surveyed. <i>Block surveyed by UK 1997</i>
5	SW approaches to Signy Island	B	B	INT 9141 & INT 9140 Modern survey required. Last surveyed in 1966

Branch corridors and approaches

MSR	Name	Usage category	Survey category	Notes and INT chart coverage. Published and proposed.
A	Scotia Bay	B	A	100% surveyed, INT 9142 & INT 9140 <i>Blocks surveyed by Argentina in 2010-12</i>
B	Approaches to Uruguay Cove	C	C	INT 9140
C	Iceberg Bay and Shingle Cove	B	A+C	INT 9141 1000% <i>Blocks surveyed by UK in 2001</i>
D	Marshall Bay	C	B & C	INT 9141. <i>Block surveyed by UK in 1964</i>
E	Norway Bight and Approaches	C	C	INT 9140 Unsurveyed
F	Borge Bay and approaches	A	A	INT 9141 100%. <i>Block surveyed by UK in 1997</i>

Categories

Category	Usage
A	Frequent
B	Regular
C	Infrequent

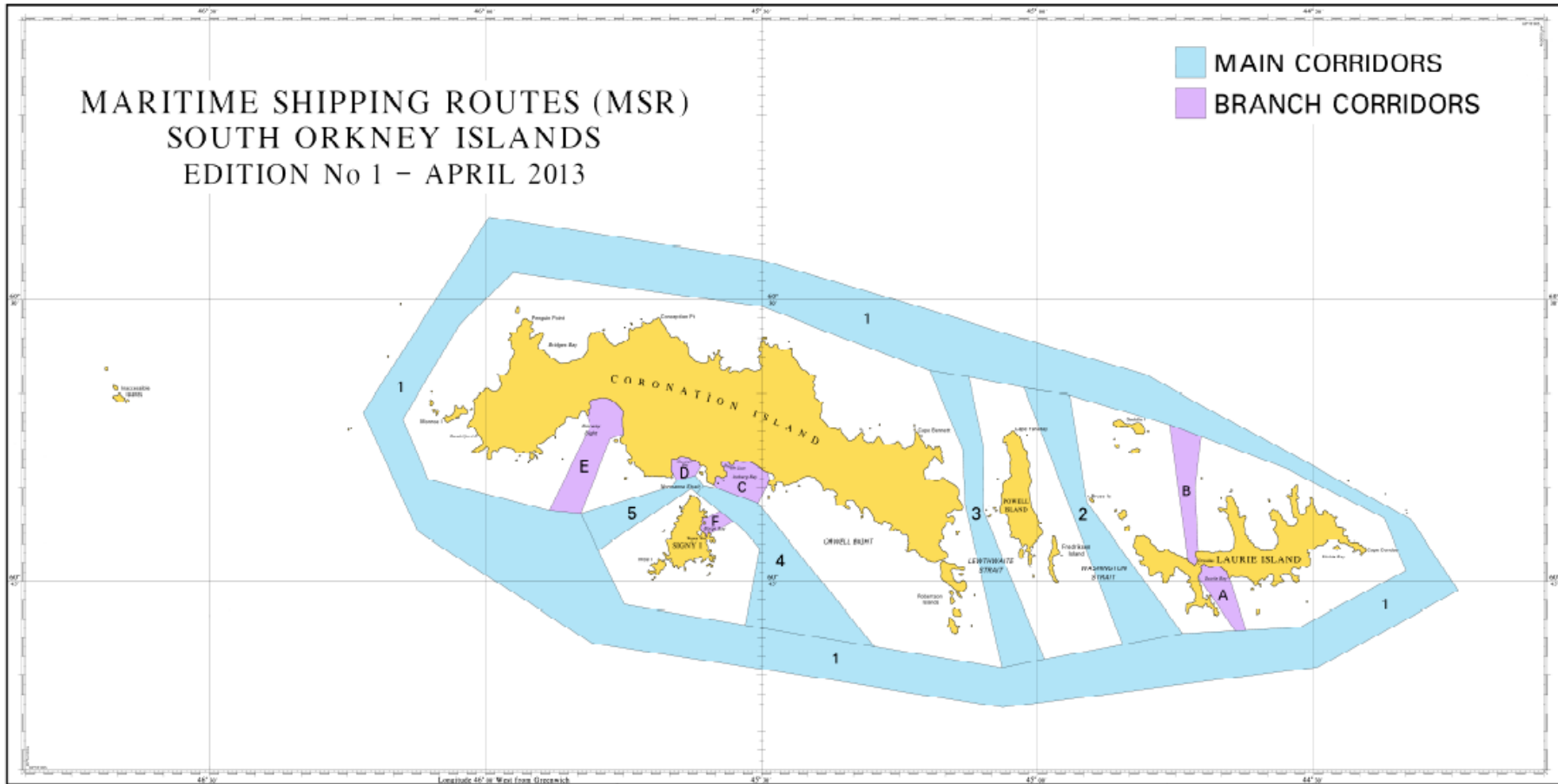
Category	Current survey status
A	Adequately surveyed
B	Requires re-survey at larger scale or to S-44 standard
C	Has not been systematically surveyed/Unsurveyed

* MSR = Maritime Shipping Route. The figures / letters in this column are shown on the MSR diagram which is on the following page.

NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

MARITIME SHIPPING ROUTES (MSR)
SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS
EDITION No 1 - APRIL 2013

- MAIN CORRIDORS
- BRANCH CORRIDORS



NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION