

**11<sup>th</sup> CSPCWG/1<sup>st</sup> NCWG Meeting  
Rostock, Germany, 27-30 April 2015**

**Paper for Consideration by CSPCWG**

Bathymetry in maximum draught areas

<b>Submitted by:</b>	ITALY
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	How to represent the maximum authorised draught defined by regulatory authority with respect to bathymetry and soundings.
<b>Related Documents:</b>	CSPCWG9-8.14A, CSPCWG Letter:13/2013, CSPCWG10-08.02A, CSPCWG Letter:13/2014
<b>Related Projects:</b>	

### **Introduction / Background**

With this paper we want to focus on some cases where the maximum authorised draught information, given by the local maritime authority within a regulated area, does not match with bathymetry and soundings from older surveys. In fact, the maximum draught defined by the local maritime authority could be a consequence of dredging operations carried out afterwards.

### **Analysis / Discussion**

The proposal presented by the Italian HO at CSPCWG9 (CSPCWG9-8.14A) on maximum authorised draught included the statement..... “As for a Fairway, soundings and depth contours or any other data should be included as appropriate”.

AU during CSPCWG10 (CSPCWG10-08.2A) suggested that this sentence was included: “Where the maximum authorized draught is strictly enforced, consideration may be given to removing all other depth information (ie soundings, depth contours and minimum depth values) from the area”. This sentence disappeared in CSPCWG Letter 13-2014 Actions 10-14 Follow-up to CSPCWG Letter 09.doc that defines symbology and colours to be used to represent both maximum draught and minimum depth.

Later, the Italian HO dealt with some cases, where the inconsistency between bathymetry and maximum authorised draught could be misleading for the users. (see CSPCWG Letter 13-2014 Actions 10-14 Follow-up to CSPCWG Letter 09.doc).

Since the local maritime authorities weren't able to provide us the minimum depth value and since the inconsistencies among depth contours, soundings and maximum draught were manifest, the Italian HO, together with the maritime authorities involved, decided to remove any reference to bathymetry, specifying only the maximum authorized draught.

### **Justification and Impacts**

The Italian HO maintains continuous relationships with maritime authorities to obtain not only the maximum authorised draughts for the areas of interest but also the minimum depth values, to provide all the information required for safe navigation.

However, as this topic affects also encoding data for ENCs and, as a consequence, ECDIS alarms, we think it would be better to provide some guidelines.

## Conclusions

Although the Italian HO agrees that complete and exhaustive information is crucial to safe navigation, for the time being we suggest that the following sentence be introduced at B-432.4 to emphasize that quoting only maximum draught without giving information about minimum depth must represent an exception:

Minimum depth and authorized maximum draught should both be quoted. In unusual cases, where the inconsistency between these data is manifest, only the maximum authorized draught may be represented.

## Action required of CSPCWG

The CSPCWG is invited to:

- a. endorse .....
  - b. agree .....
  - c. note .....
- etc.