

Paper for Consideration by NIPWG

Reference to Discontinued Nautical Charts in Maritime Publications

Submitted by:	U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
Executive Summary:	NOAA has announced their intentions to discontinue production of Paper Charts
Related Documents:	
Related Projects:	

Introduction

NOAA has announced that a five year window for sunsetting paper chart production has been established to provide remaining raster and paper nautical chart users, paper chart print-on-demand agents, third-party providers of raster-based navigational products, and other stakeholders with the opportunity to make the transition to ENC's or ENC based products.

Background

In 2018, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) requirement for most commercial ships on international voyages to use ECDIS and ENC charts came into full effect. In 2016, the U.S. Coast Guard started allowing commercial ships on domestic voyages in U.S. waters to use ENC's in lieu of paper nautical charts. Both of these factors have contributed to the significant decline in the use of paper nautical charts and the rise in use of ENC's.

Analysis/Discussion

Ultimately all NOAA paper nautical charts and their corresponding raster chart products will be canceled, but this will not occur all at once. The early part of the transition will be including time for coordinating with partners and customers, as well as planning the many details of how the raster sunsetting process will proceed. The later part of the transition will include making the final modifications to websites, brochures, and other product promotional materials; updates to chart production specifications and databases; and other actions needed to reflect the commitment to enhancing and maintaining the NOAA ENC product. The Table above provides a general overview of the process.

Proposed Schedule:

2019 - 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult and coordinate with nautical chart data providers, print-on-demand agents, chart users, and other stakeholders. • Complete development of policies and procedures for the orderly cessation of raster chart production.
2020 - 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systematically cancel NOAA raster charts.
2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancel remaining NOAA raster charts. • Make final modifications to the chart production system and documentation for ENC-only production. • Make final changes to NOAA websites and other chart related informational and education materials, as required.

The criteria to cancel individual charts is still in development and are likely to change as the raster sunsetting proceeds. No schedule, list, or prioritization of chart cancellations will be published. However, the final new edition of each NOAA paper nautical chart will include a note stating that it is the last edition of the chart and that it will be cancelled on or about a certain month, usually 6-12 months from the final edition's publication date. The following criteria will likely be the basis for the order in which most chart cancellations take place.

Action Required of NIPWG

The NIPWG is invited to note this paper and consider the implications.

Note: FOR REASONS OF ECONOMY, DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REQUESTED TO BRING THEIR OWN COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING