



UNITED KINGDOM NATIONAL REPORT

13TH MESO AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (MACHC) MEETING

LA ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA
20th – 22nd November 2012

This report supplements the UK Generic National Report, posted on the UKHO website
(see www.ukho.gov.uk → About Us → Role & Purpose → UK National Report)
and describes UK's activities of direct relevance to the MACHC Region.

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1. UNITED KINGDOM HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE (UKHO)

UK Delivery of Hydrographic Services

1.1 The UK delivery of hydrographic services is described in the UK Generic National Report. However, it is worth highlighting the close liaison which exists between UK's hydrographic office (UKHO) and UK's maritime administration Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA) in providing a co-ordinated approach to hydrographic and maritime safety representation both nationally and internationally.

UKHO Governance and Targets

1.2 This is described in the UK Generic National Report, see www.ukho.gov.uk → About Us → Role & Purpose → UK National Report

UKHO Organisation



1.3 Details of the UKHO's organization are provided in the UK Generic National Report (section 1) together with general contact details. Specific contact details relevant to the MACHC region are included at the end of this report.

Production Systems

1.4 This is described in the UK Generic National Report.

Cooperation and Partnerships



1.5 The UK is committed to the bilateral arrangements which it has developed in cooperation with other international government hydrographic authorities, covering a range of topics, including the use of copyright data, and also promotes other forms of co-operation between the participants, helping to enhance international maritime safety and protection of the environment.

2. SURVEYS

2.1 Details of the management of civil hydrographic surveys in UK Home Waters are provided in the UK Generic National Report, and on the UKHO website. UK's National Hydrographic Committee (known as the UK Civil Hydrography Annual Seminar (CHAS)) meets on an annual basis and provides the necessary breadth of interests to ensure that all surveying requirements are taken into account when prioritizing the work of the Civil Hydrography Programme (CHP). CHAS was expanded in 2007 to include a much wider range of organisations which conduct hydrographic surveys, and has been considerable successful in promoting co-operation between these organisations.

2.2 Any requests for survey assistance from nations within the MACHC region will be assessed within the UK MoD, with advice from UKHO. UKHO can also contribute to project management of hydrographic surveys, and has a post dedicated to the phased development of new international survey activity and capability. It acts as the initial point of contact for UKHO involvement in direct overseas surveying schemes, including UK Overseas Territories and involvement in Regional Hydrographic Commission initiatives. Further information can be obtained from Mr. Bob Wilson (robert.wilson@ukho.gov.uk).

2.3 In 2012 HMS Protector surveyed in Antigua, covering 'Sandy Island Channel' in the approaches to Saint John's Harbour (Figure 1). This area is proposed for use by deeper draft cruise vessels. HMS Protector also surveyed an area on north west Montserrat around little bay (Figure 2).

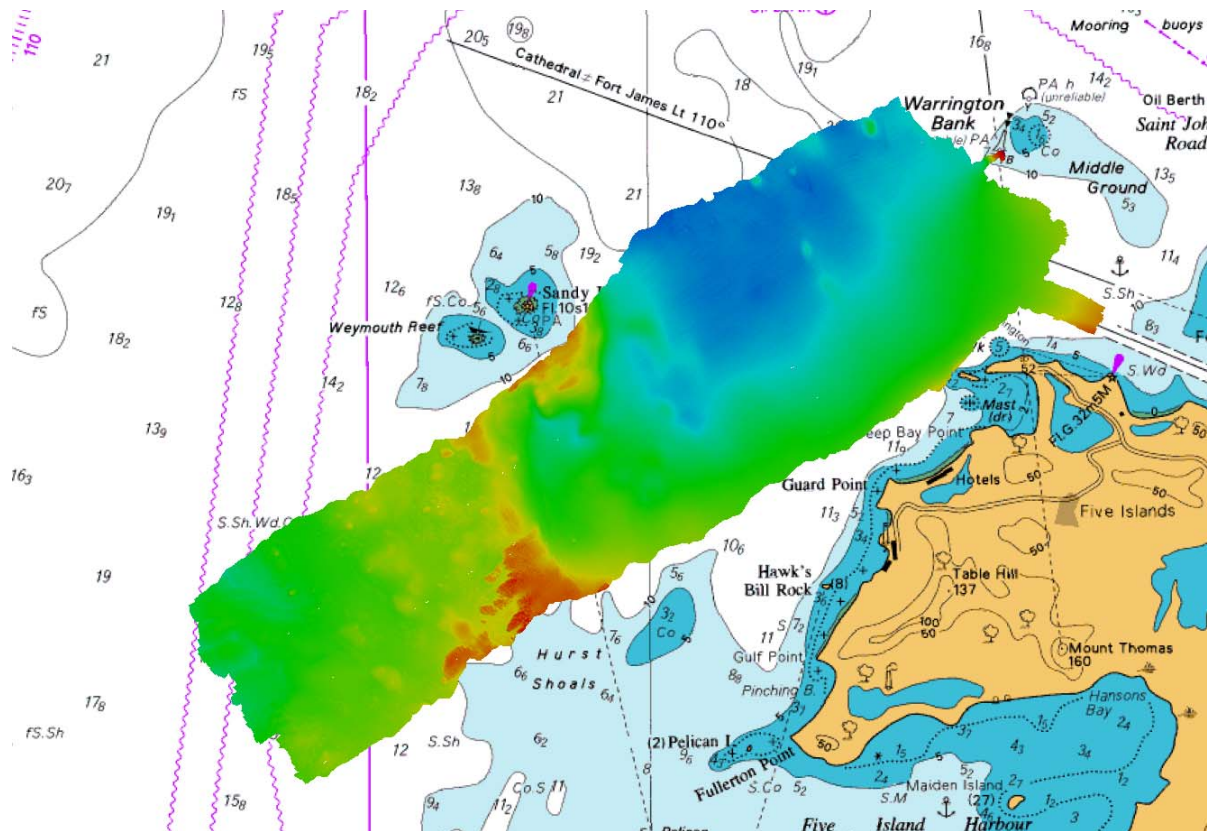


Figure 1 Survey of Sandy Island Channel, Antigua by HMS Protector

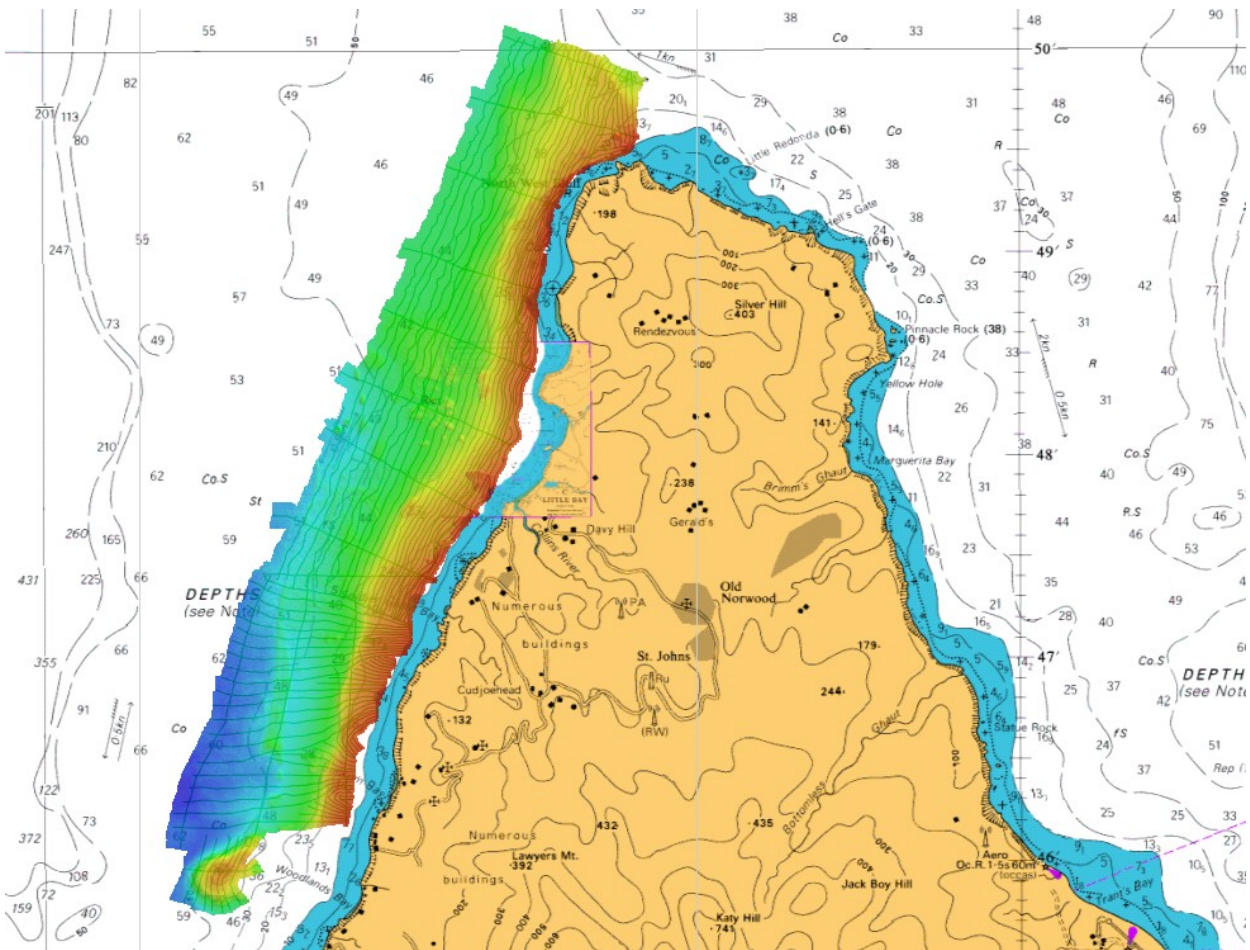


Figure 2 Survey off Little Bay, Montserrat by HMS Protector

3 CHARTS

3.1 UK's Generic National Report provides information on UK's portfolio of chart products and services. The following paragraphs provide information specifically relevant to the MACHC region.

Paper Charts



3.2 Information on UK's chart portfolio is provided on the UKHO website. The following paragraphs provide information specifically relevant to the MACHC region.

The following charts have been published since the last MACHC meeting as New Charts or full New Editions:

GB Chart Number	INT Chart Number	Title	Published
1520	-	Venezuela - Canal de Maracaibo - Northern Part	08/12/2011
1452	-	Bahamas - New Providence Island - Nassau	22/12/2011
2626	-	Mexico - East Coast - Bay of Campeche	05/01/2012

GB Chart Number	INT Chart Number	Title	Published
1276	-	Colombia - North Coast - Bahia Santa Marta to Punta Canoas	26/01/2012
1218	-	Caribbean Sea - Cuba to Miskito Bank	09/02/2012
1220	-	Central America - East Coast - Gulf of Honduras and Yucatan Channel	09/02/2012
1521	-	Venezuela - Canal de Maracaibo - Southern Part	22/03/2012
3851	-	United States - Gulf of Mexico - Ship Shoal to Pensacola Bay	22/03/2012
1938	-	Mexico - Pacific Ocean Coast - Ensenada and Approaches	17/05/2012
1944	-	Mexico-West Coast - Ports on the West Coast of Mexico	17/05/2012
2189	-	Brazil - Rio Amazonas - Canal do Norte	31/05/2012
2261	-	Colombia - North Coast - Puerto Barranquilla and Approaches	28/06/2012
398	-	Bahamas - Grand Bahama Island - Freeport Roads	19/07/2012
2434	-	Colombia - North Coast - Bahia de Cartagena	26/07/2012
3912	4151	Bahamas - North East Providence Channel and Tongue of the Ocean	23/08/2012
2626	-	Mexico - East Coast - Bay of Campeche	25/10/2012
3849	-	United States - Gulf of Mexico - Texas - Brazos Santiago to Galveston Bay	25/10/2012
1628	-	Venezuela - Puerto Cabello and Approaches	01/11/2012
2189	-	Brazil - Rio Amazonas - Canal do Norte	01/11/2012
2626	-	Bay of Campeche	27/10/2012
3849	-	Brazos Santiago to Galveston Bay	27/10/2012

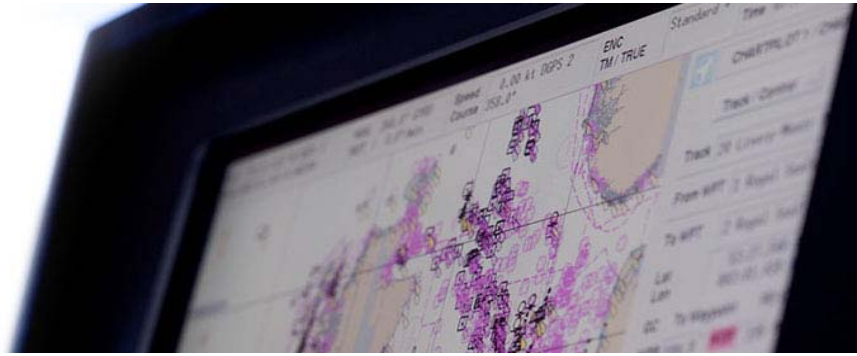
The following charts have been published since the last MACHC meeting as New Editions with revised magnetics /isogonals or converted to WGS84 Datum:

GB Chart Number	INT Chart Number	Title	Published
4811	811	Pacific Ocean - Central America - Mexico to Ecuador	23/02/2012
3867	-	West Indies - Cuba Western Sheet	15/03/2012
4013	13	North Atlantic Ocean Western Part	29/03/2012

The following charts are scheduled for publication in the next six months:

GB Chart Number	INT Chart Number	Title	Provisional Date
2497(1931)	-	Golfo de Nicoya	Mar 2013
3857	-	Southern Approaches to the Mississippi River	Dec 2012
1629	-	Ports and Anchorages on the Coast of Venezuela	Nov 2012
2189	-	Rio Amazonas Canal Do Morte	Nov 2012
1628	-	Puerto Cabello and Approaches	Nov 2012
2881	-	Key West and Approaches	Nov 2012

Digital Charts



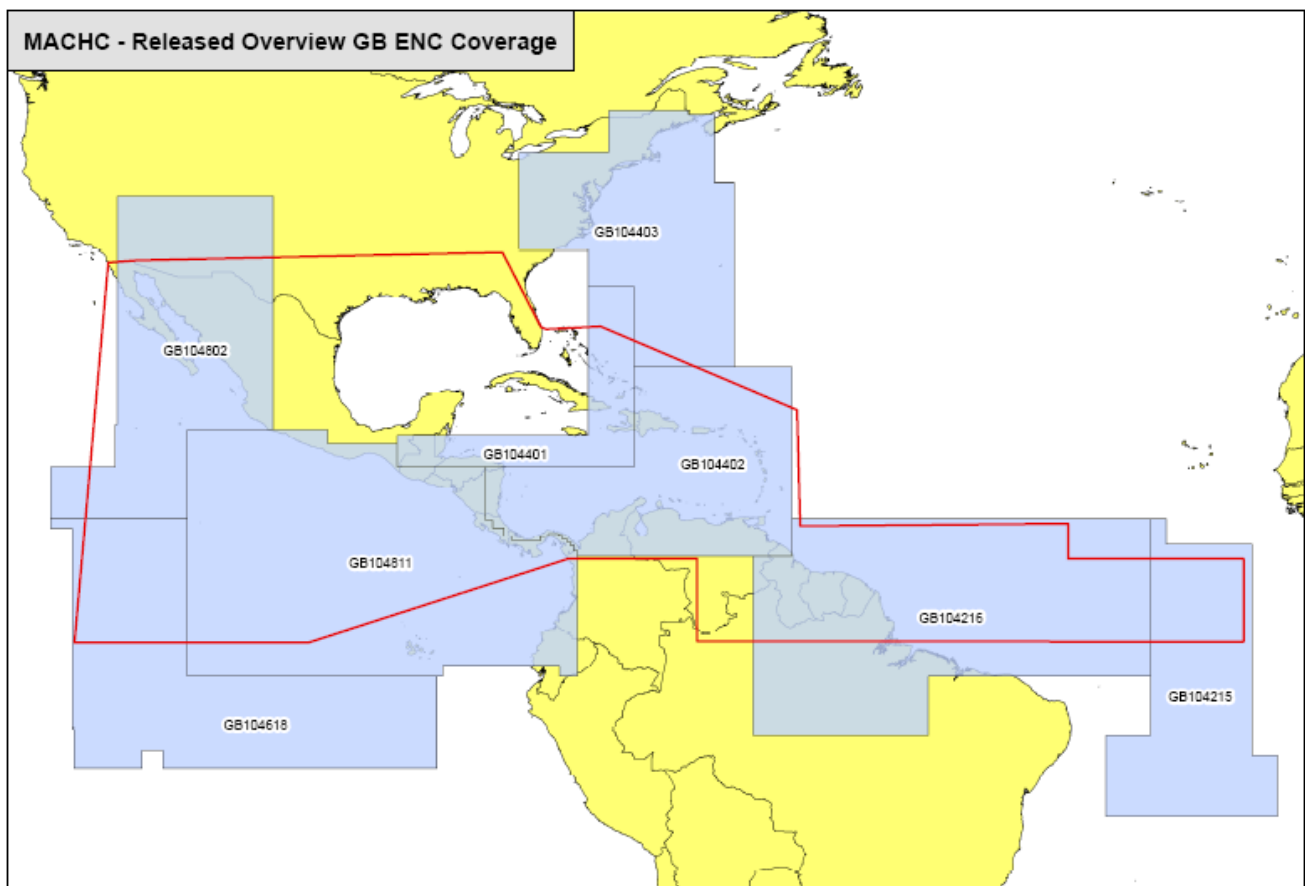
3.3 As noted in section 3.1, UK's Generic National Report provides information on UK's portfolio of chart products and services. The following paragraphs provide information specifically relevant to the MACHC region.

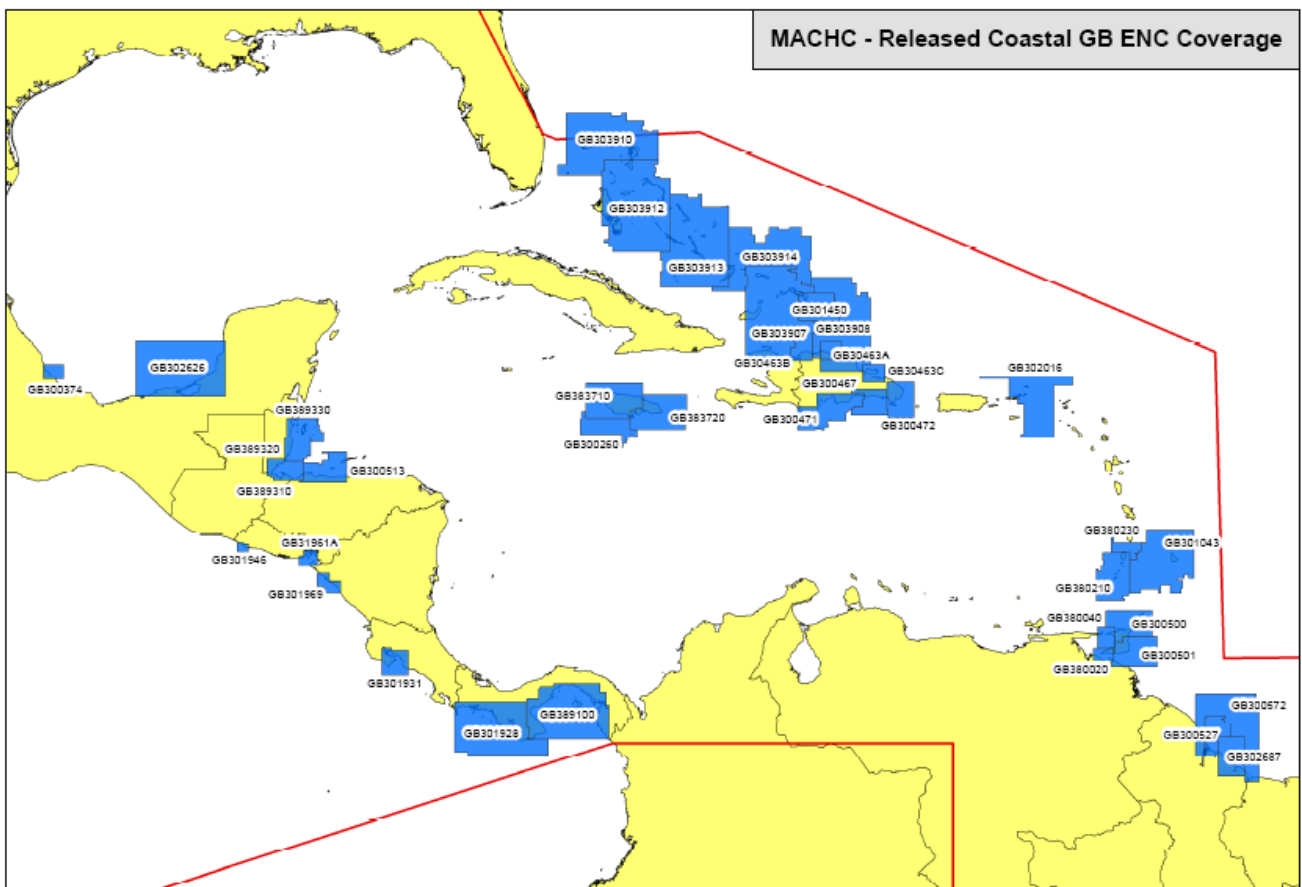
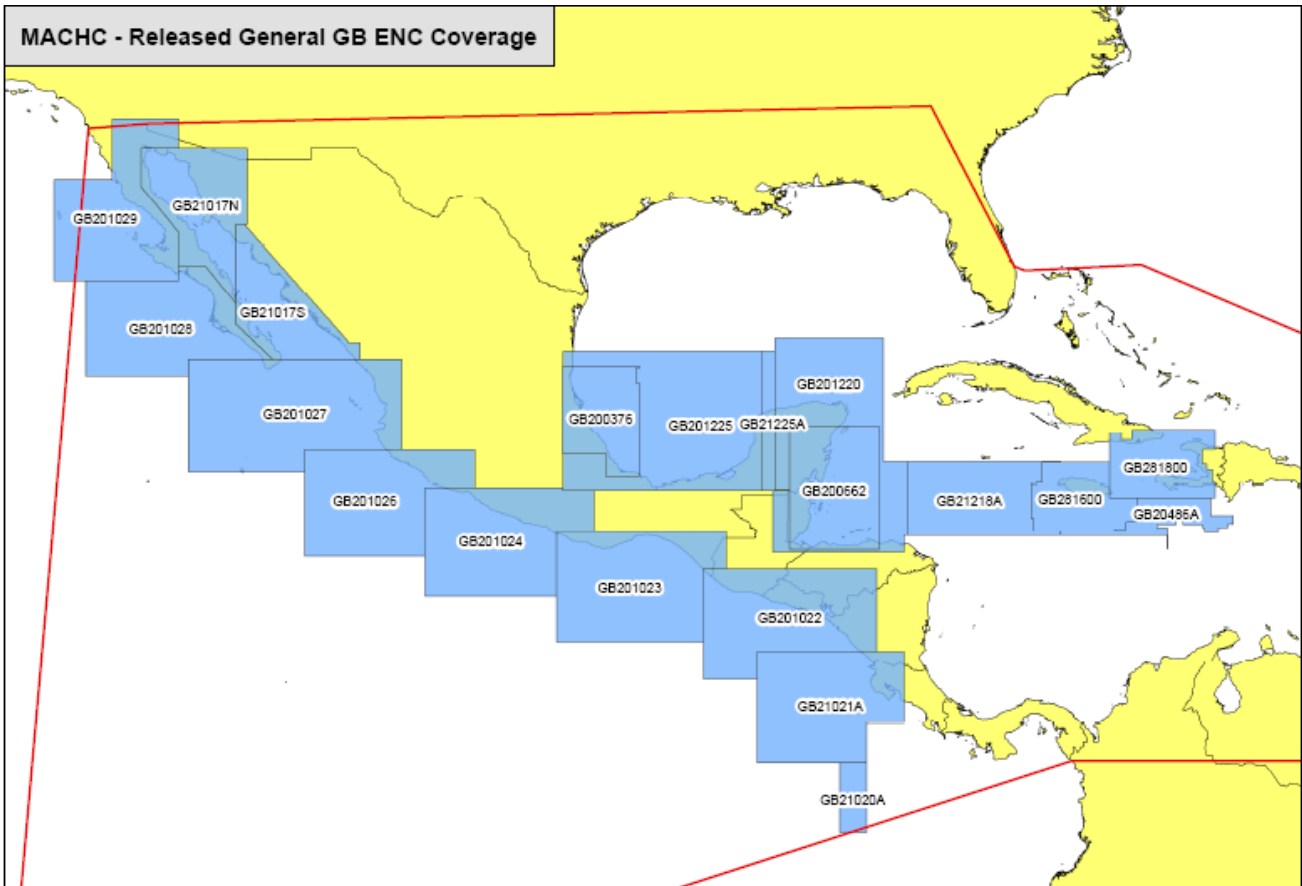
ENCs

3.4 Within the MACHC Region, UK has published 194 ENC cells and 0 cells are in progress. The breakdown by usage band is shown in the table below:

MACHC Region	
ENC Usage Band	Number of GB ENC's
Usage Band 1	8
Usage Band 2	20
Usage Band 3	39
Usage Band 4	54
Usage Band 5	73
Usage Band 6	0
Total Number of ENC'S	194

The diagram below shows the current coverage of UK ENC's within the MACHC Region.





ENC Distribution

3.6 The UKHO, along with other European hydrographic offices, was a founder member of the IC-ENC RENC. IC-ENC (International Centre for ENCs) concentrates its efforts on the validation and consistency of ENC data and leaves the marketing of ENCs to the shipping

industry to its value-added resellers and chart agents. Additional details can be found on the IC-ENC website (www.ic-enc.org).

4. PUBLICATIONS

4.1 Paper Publications



The current status of Admiralty Sailing Directions in the MACHC region is as follows:

NP5	South America Pilot Vol 1	(17th edition, 23/2011)
NP6	South America Pilot Vol 2	(18th edition, 50/2011)
NP7	South America Pilot Vol 3	(10th edition, 41/2009)
NP7A	South America Pilot Vol 4	(5th edition, 18/2010)
NP8	Pacific Coasts of Central America & United States Pilot	(12th edition, 29/2010)
NP69A	East Coasts of Central America & Gulf of Mexico Pilot	(6th edition, 23/2012)
NP70	West Indies Pilot Vol 1	(5th edition, 18/2012)
NP71	West Indies Pilot Vol 2	(16th edition, 06/2009)

New Editions to be published in next twelve months

NP7	South America Pilot Vol 3	(11th Edition, due Feb 2013)
NP7A	South America Pilot Vol 4	(6th edition, due May 2013)
NP8	Pacific Coasts of Central America & United States Pilot	(13th edition, due Sep 2013)
NP71	West Indies Pilot Vol 2	(17th edition, due Dec 2012)

These publications are all maintained on a continuous revision cycle with new editions approximately every three to five years.

The UKHO has recently published 2 new paper publications to assist the mariner with ENC's:

NP 5012 Admiralty Guide to ENC Symbols Used in ECDIS

- Comprehensive guide to ENC symbols used in ECDIS
- Based on the familiar layout of NP5011 Symbols and Abbreviations Used on Admiralty Charts

NP 231 Admiralty Guide to the Practical Use of ENC's

- Comprehensive reference document to give users a high level of understanding about the practical use of ENC's
- Includes information on ENC data, quality, accuracy and how this influences the display on ECDIS when combined with ECDIS display settings

4.2 Digital Publications



The UKHO continues to develop digital equivalents to its existing paper publications; these have advantages to the mariner of providing additional functionality and minimising the task of updating.

4.3 The Admiralty digital catalogue may be downloaded free from the UKHO website (www.ukho.gov.uk); it includes details of all paper and digital charts and publications and is updated weekly. It is a useful tool to check on the ENC coverage within the region and to show the latest edition dates of both charts and publications.

5. MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION



5.1 The UK's principal responsibility within the MACHC region is for its British Overseas Territories (BOT's – namely Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks & Caicos Islands), and those Commonwealth of Nations countries where the United Kingdom is the primary charting authority, including Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St.Kitts & Nevis, St.Vincent & The Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago. UK maintains close liaison with the NAVAREA Co-ordinators for NAVAREAs IV and XII which cover the MACHC area. Any information received at UKHO which requires urgent promulgation is passed to NAVAREAs IV or XII co-ordinators.

5.2 With the exception of the USA, GMDSS coverage in the MACHC region is generally sparse and administrations should be encouraged to develop their capabilities and infrastructure and to provide at least Phase One hydrographic capability to promulgate MSI in a timely and efficient manner. This can be achieved by utilising existing (or establishing new) National Co-ordinators for MSI within each littoral state in the region and fostering direct liaison with NAVAREA Co-ordinators for Navigational Warnings and with Regional Hydrographic Offices.

6. C-55 LATEST UPDATE

6.1 As described in the UK Generic National Report, the UKHO is committed to providing regular updates to the C-55 entries for UK Home Waters and its Overseas Territories, including Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and Turks & Caicos Islands, all within the MACHC area. For the latest update see C-55; we have incorporated the additional breakdown of chart coverage (percentage of metric and WGS84 charts) as requested in IHO Circular Letter 102/2008.

6.2 UK has also provided assistance to update C-55 entries to other countries, including Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Vincent & The Grenadines, and Trinidad & Tobago, where the UKHO

provides primary charting, recognising that local input remains critical to the maintenance of C-55 as an up-to-date and authoritative reference document.

7. CAPACITY BUILDING

7.1 UK fully supports the IHO CBSC strategy and particularly its emphasis on getting Phase 1 and appropriate Phase 2 capacity in place to enable coastal states to meet their obligations under SOLAS Chapter V Regulations 4 and 9. UK will continue to contribute resources to both CBSC initiatives and to providing bilateral assistance.

7.2 UK has participated in numerous technical visits and workshops, in several RHC regions. In the MACHC region UKHO and IHB joined forces to conduct a technical visit to the Dominican Republic in September 2012 and representatives from Guatemala and Mexico will participate in the SWAtHC's MSDI Workshop which will be hosted in Niteroi, Brazil, 25 November to 1 December 2012. In May (14-25th) UKHO provided the training team to deliver a 2 week Regional Training Course on 'Basic Electronic Navigational Charting (ENC) and Electronic Navigational Chart' in Mexico City. This course was sponsored by the IMO and SEMAR (Mexico HO) were responsible for all local arrangements. The following MACHC nations participated - Barbados, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago.

7.3 UKHO has a post dedicated to capacity building. Its key aims are to ensure that capacity building is properly considered in UKHO activity and that UKHO's capacity building activities are fully coordinated. It acts as the initial point of contact for UKHO involvement in capacity building activities, including UK involvement in regional hydrographic commission initiatives and IHO Capacity Building Sub Committee activities. It will have a particular responsibility for UK Overseas Territories and liaison with UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with overseas High Commissions to generate phased development of capability and new survey activity. Further information can be obtained from Mr. Jeff Bryant (jeff.bryant@ukho.gov.uk). Mr. Bryant is the Capacity Building Coordinator for the MACHC, SAIHC, NIOHC and RSAHC regions.

7.4 Cartographic Training provided by UKHO



A general description of training provided by UKHO is included in the UK Generic National Report. Further details of the training opportunities offered by the UKHO can be found on the UKHO website.

7.5 ENC Training and Assistance



The UKHO strongly supports the successful uptake of ECDIS using ENC, and is happy to assist other nations to produce, maintain and distribute ENCs. Details of courses, sponsorship, venues

and options for bespoke training provided by the UKHO are included in the UK Generic National Report.

The UKHO has recently introduced two training packages to assist the mariner in their understanding of ENC use.

CBT 231 Admiralty Guide to the Practical Use of ENCs – Computer Based Training

- Around 4 hours of training
- Supports NP231 to assist ENC users a high level of understanding about the practical use of ENCs
- Delivered on CD so not restricted by internet bandwidth

Training Course

- One day course based on train-the-trainer principle within maritime colleges.
- Educate trainers in ENC traits in order for them to pass onto mainers.
- Available at different locations worldwide on a case-by-case basis.

7.6 Survey Training at Flag Officer Sea Training - Hydrography, Meteorology and Oceanography (FOST-HM)

Nationally and internationally certified courses delivered by FOST-HM in Plymouth, are described in the UK Generic National Report.

8. OCEANOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

This is described in the UK Generic National Report.

9. OTHER ACTIVITIES

UK Celebrations for World Hydrography Day

The IHO theme for the 2012 World Hydrography day was “International Hydrographic Cooperation - supporting safe navigation”

The UKHO celebrated World Hydrography Day 2012 at a reception held Trinity House in London on 2nd October 2012, hosted by Mr Ian Moncreiff CBE (Chief Executive, UKHO) and Rear Admiral Nick Lambert (National Hydrographer, UKHO).



Dr Hideo Nishida, of the Japan Hydrographic Association, was presented with the Alexander Dalrymple Award at the World Hydrography Day ceremony in London on October 2. The award is a symbol of recognition for outstanding dedication and contribution to world hydrography and as such is an extremely prestigious award in this sector. It takes its name from Alexander Dalrymple who established the Hydrographic Office in 1795 and is regarded as a leading figure in the history of the development of hydrography.

Building on the theme of this year’s World Hydrography Day Celebrations, and in order to recognise the importance and significance of the contribution of Hydrographic Staff to the success and recognition of Hydrography, the UKHO hosted a celebration in recognition of its staffs’ contribution to the success of World Hydrography on Friday, 22nd June 2012.

10. CONCLUSION

The UKHO continues its commitment to carrying forward hydrographic activities through the work of the IHO’s Regional Hydrographic Commissions, and notes that each commission has its own particular opportunities and challenges.

UK has a strong commitment to the Meso-American and Caribbean Sea region, through its primary charting and through its continuing interest in developing regional hydrographic self-sufficiency through capacity building measures.

The UK, through the UKHO and the national maritime administration (MCA), continues to pursue opportunities to improve access to bathymetric data gathering in waters around British Overseas Territories, particularly to support Caribbean Sea cruise-ship traffic.

There is a continuing challenge to link the scarce local data gathering resources into a broad programme of prioritised chart compilations and new editions.

The provision of adequate ENC coverage, in support of the IMO carriage requirement for ECDIS that comes progressively into force from 2012, presents a significant challenge in the MACHC region as well as others.

With a diverse range of shipping interests in the Region, improving the effective distribution of hydrographic publications and updates remains paramount.

Taunton, November 2012

UKHO POINTS OF CONTACT

UKHO Website: www.ukho.gov.uk

The general UKHO address is:

United Kingdom Hydrographic Office,
Admiralty Way,
TAUNTON
Somerset
TA1 2DN
United Kingdom



E-mail: internationalrelations.ukho@ukho.gov.uk
Telephone: +44 (0)1823 337900
Fax: +44 (0)1823 284077

For further information on this report, UKHO representation in international fora, and UKHO activities in general, please contact:

Dr Rob Hensley,
Head of External Relations,

Telephone: +44 (0)1823 337900 ext 3119
E-mail: Rob.hensley@ukho.gov.uk

or
Mr Nigel Sutton,
International Relations Manager

Telephone: +44 (0)1823 337900 ext 4123
E-mail: Nigel.sutton@ukho.gov.uk

For bilateral arrangements and other international partnering matters within the MACHC region, please contact:

Mr Tim Lewis,
Head of International Partnering (Americas)

Telephone: 00 1 202 445 3956
E-mail: Tim.Lewis@ukho.gov.uk

Mr Jeff Bryant,
International Capacity Building Manager

Telephone: +44 (0)1823 337900 ext 3821
E-mail: Jeff.Bryant@ukho.gov.uk

For charting matters in the MACHC region, please contact:

Mr Ian Spurway,
Geographic Manager, Regional Team 6

E-mail: Ian.Spurway@ukho.gov.uk
Telephone: +44 (0)1823 337900 ext 3612

For Sailing Direction matters in the MACHC region, please contact:

NPs 5, 7, 7A
Mr David Vaughan
E-mail: David.Vaughan@ukho.gov.uk
Telephone: +44 (0)1823 337900 ext 3630

NP 8
Mr John Haynes
E-mail: John.Haynes@ukho.gov.uk
Telephone: +44 (0)1823 337900 ext4042

NP 6
Mr Norman Bamford
E-mail: Norman.Bamford@ukho.gov.uk

NP 69A
Mr Rod McDonald
E-mail: Rod.Mcdonald@ukho.gov.uk
Telephone: +44 (0)1823 337900 ext3928

NPs 70, 71
Mr Richard Dobson
E-mail: Richard.Dobson@ukho.gov.uk
Telephone: +44 (0)1823 337900 ext 4030