

**International Hydrographic
Organization**



**United States - Canada
Hydrographic Commission**



International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)
United States-Canada Hydrographic Commission (USCHC)
Charting Advisors Committee (CAC) Teleconference

February 26 & 27, 2014

Chairs: Geneviève Marquis and Katie Ries

Participants

NOAA	CHS
Kathryn Ries, OCS Deputy Director	Geneviève Marquis a/Director Products and Services
Julia Powell, Staff, MCD	Sean Hinds, Senior Advisor
Jonathan Justi, OCS International	Doug Brunt, Senior Advisor

Executive Summary

Prior to the meeting, and upon review of the agenda, the co-Chairs decided to limit the scope of the meeting and the number of participants, given the low number of technical items on the agenda and the limited number of active collaborations between the two organizations.

The objectives of the meeting were, therefore, to:

- a) Exchange of high-level information;
- b) Review outstanding action items from past meetings; and,
- c) Identify key items in need of further effort, particularly in preparation for USCHC 37.

All these objectives were met and the follow-up actions can be found in Appendix A. In addition to the discussions towards meeting those objectives, some other key points included:

- a) A recognition from both agencies of the need to better communicate trans-boundary ENC information between each other and with clients;
- b) The Beaufort Sea ENC overlap situation; and,
- c) The future of the CAC as a standing committee of USCHC. It proposed that the CAC in its present form be de-activated, at least, until there is a sufficient volume of mutual technical issues and/or collaborative project to warrant a full meeting of all production managers and subject matter experts. However, it was recognized the CAC has been an effective body (e.g. trans-boundary ENCs) and provides a rare occasion for personnel from the agencies to interact, albeit virtually.

1. Introductions and Welcome..... Marquis/Ries
2. Approval of Agenda..... Marquis/Ries
3. Organizational and Personnel Update..... Marquis /Ries
 - Canadian Hydrographic Service
 - CHS is expecting the new Director General (DG) to be on station around the middle of March 2014.
 - It would be good to set up a teleconference between the new DG and RDMLGlang as early into his tenure as possible.
 - Subsequently there will be other actions to fill temporarily staffed positions.
 - Office Coast Survey
 - Sam Debow (contractor) is the production manager for the Print on Demand (POD) service.
 - The POD service will support paper chart carriage requirements. PDF versions of the paper charts are now available on-line for free.

ACTION OCS will provide an INF brief on its move to POD at USCHC 37.

4. Review the CAC and USCHC outstanding actions.....Marquis /Ries
 - USCHC items 36-3 and 36-4 will be addressed though better communication between US and Canadian production units. Ideally, prior to the start of any new production in a trans-boundary area the other country should be consulted. A call list of US and Canadian production manager counterparts will be compiled and distributed.
 - A longer range solution would be to have current product coverage information for both countries available in a planning environment (e.g. on-line and/or GIS).

ACTIONCHS (Brunt) to provide NOAA with list of regional production managers.

ACTION CHS and OCS to explore better ways to communicate and share ENC trans-boundary product information.

- CAC 2013 item 2: CHS must update S-11

ACTION CHS (Hinds/Brunt) to update S-11 as soon as possible and send this on to the IHB and at the same time remind the IHB that the US has already submitted their updates and the IHO needs to update its information.

ACTION Justi/Brunt to update CAC 2013 and USCHC 36 action items lists.

5. Status of Overlapping Products (If any)Powell

- Beaufort Sea ENCs
 - Julia explained the resolution worked out in collaboration with Laura Colombe of CHS C&A region. This complete solution was based on the same methodology used in other trans-boundary areas.
 - CHS must now brief the Department of Foreign Affairs, Development, and Trade (DFATD) to secure their approval to proceed.

ACTION CHS to brief USCHC 37 on status of interaction with DFATD.

6. Arctic.....Hinds

- Review ARHC-5 Actions
 - Will there be a submission from ARHC to the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME) working group in September including the status of Arctic bathymetry?
 - Do US and CA wish to take the lead on preparation of this submission?
 - Can CA supply technical support? If not, CA to let the US know as soon as possible.
 - Can the Operations and Technology Working Group (OTWG) be tasked for some of this work?
 - Work on the table of contents of required data can begin at any time.

ACTION CHS (Hinds) to inform US as soon as possible if it cannot offer technical support.

ACTION CHS (Hinds with Mike Hecimovich and Mike Gonsalves (?)) to start to build a “table of contents” of the data required.

ACTION OCS (Ries) to discuss with RDML Glang level of US involvement.

ACTION CHS (Brunt) to ensure ARHC is an item on the USCHC 37 agenda.

- Other
 - The USCG Healey will be operating in the western Arctic, so there may be an opportunity of CHS to buy some ship time.
 - There is a UNH hydrographer candidate who would be interested in joining a Canadian cruise, if the opportunity presents itself. Andy Armstrong (UNH) is the point of contact for this and the previous items.
 - Information related to the two above items has been forwarded on to Schlagintweit and Hecimovich of CHS C&A office (by Brunt).

7. Preparations for IRCC 6 (Paris, May 2014).....Marquis/Ries

- Review IRCC 5 Actions
 - Regional Hydrographic Commission’s (RHC’s) strategic performance indicators (SPIs) and the working level indicators (WLIs) are overdue.
 - RHC annual reports are due to the IRCC by 28 April.

ACTION Justi/Brunt will update the USCHC Strategic Performance Indicators (SPIs) and the Working Level Indicators (WLIs) and send them to IHB by 7 March. They will update the IRCC-5 Actions table in the process.

ACTION Justi/Brunt will prepare a draft USCHC report (using the same format as the ARHC report) for discussion at USCHC 37.

- IRCC-6 Participation
 - CHS and OCS are unsure of the level of participation at IRCC 6.
 - Registration forms are to be submitted no later than 21 April.
 - It was unclear if the IRCC 6 participation limitation was for 2 representatives from each member state or 2 representatives from each RHC.

ACTION(Justi) Seek clarification on number of participants from IHB

- Other IRCC-related subject
 - US and CA to review the FR proposal to EIHC 5 regarding the implementation of the WEND principles in preparation for discussion at USCHC 37. If there are areas of common agreement, a unified response may be drafted.
 - It was agreed that it is important for Sean and Julia to participate (virtually) in the upcoming WEND WG meeting.

ACTION CHS (Brunt) to add discussion of EIHC 5 proposals to the USCHC 37 agenda.

ACTION Hinds to ask WEND WG if they have any data/information available which relates to how/where ship owners get their ENC's and whether they are happy with the distribution services, as provided. He will also research other potential sources of this type of information.

ACTION Powell/Hinds convene a post WEND WG meeting de-brief 20 March and prepare a paper on ways to possibly improve WEND WG efficiency and effectiveness for discussion at USCHC 2014.

ACTION US to provide CA with proposals/information for HSSC reorganization from IHO correspondence group (CG) including the US report on draft terms of reference (TOR).

8. Preparations for EIHC 5
[Placeholder for USCHC 37]

ACTION US and CA will review all proposals to EIHC 5 in preparation for discussion at USCHC 37. Comments on the proposals to EIHC 5 are due no later than 8 May (see CCL 08).

9. Informational Items and Status Reports

- Canada and US Update on Continuous Vertical Datum Projects.....CHS/OCS

ACTION CA (Marquis) to provide US with the point of contact for the vertical datum project.

- Ship Survey Plans.....CHS/OCS
 - OCS is planning survey in the Arctic in 2015.

ACTION US and CA to exchange ship survey plans.

- NOAA released its ENC Online product recently.
 - It is a continuous ENC viewer (from ESRI) where you can see the data as it would be presented in an ECDIS – but not download it. It can be found at:
 - <http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/ENCOnline/enconline.html>
 - An update will be forthcoming that will allow the user to adjust some of the viewing parameters.
 - The portfolio on the site is updated weekly and includes ENC updates.
 - Ideally, this should also contain the products in all trans-boundary areas.

ACTION US to demo ENC Online at USCHC as an INF item.

10. Recommendations/Actions to the USCHC 37..... Marquis/Ries

- USCHC will take place during CHC 2014; Wednesday, April 16th 1100-1530.
 - A room, projector, and internet connection have been requested.
 - Video teleconferencing capabilities may be required for those unable to attend in person.

ACTION CA (Brunt) to confirm logistical requirements.

ACTION CA (Brunt) to provide OCS (Justi) with draft USCHC 37 agenda for review.

- US proposed that the CAC in its present form be de-activated, at least, until there is a sufficient volume of mutual technical issues and/or collaborative project to warrant a full meeting of all production managers and subject matter experts.
- It was recognized, however, that with travel restrictions such as they are (especially to the US and CA hydrographic conferences) there are fewer and fewer opportunities for personnel from each organization to “meet” and exchange ideas and share experiences. The organization should try to keep the lines of
- In the absence of a formal CAC, one alternative could be to schedule a short (e.g. couple of hours) “technical exchange” via video teleconference call. The same people who would normally attend a CAC meeting would be invited to participate in a discussion related to 1-3 items of relevant to that level and of mutual interest.
- One or two presentations on a particular topic could serve as a back drop to the discussions.
- For example, the issue of improving the communication and sharing of trans-boundary product information may make a good topic.
- The fall of the year was suggested as an appropriate time of the year for such a call.

11. Review CAC Meeting Actions.....Brunt/ Justi

DRAFT

Appendix A

CAC 2014 Actions

Item Number	Action	Who	Status
CAC2014-1	OCS will provide an INF brief on its move to POD at USCHC 37.	OCS	
CAC2014-2	CHS to provide NOAA with list of regional production managers	Brunt	
CAC2014-3	Explore better ways to communicate and share ENC trans-boundary product information	OCS/CHS	
CAC2014-4	CHS to update S-11 as soon as possible and send this on to the IHB and at the same time remind the IHB that the US has already submitted their updates and the IHO needs to update its information.	Hinds/Brunt	DONE
CAC2014-5	Update CAC 2013 and USCHC 36 action items lists.	Justi/Brunt	DONE
CAC2014-6	CHS to brief USCHC 37 on status of interaction with DFATD regarding the ENC overlap in the Arctic.	Fadaie	
CAC2014-7	CHS to inform US as soon as possible if it cannot offer technical support for ARHC submission to PAME.	Hinds	
CAC2014-8	Start to build a "table of contents" of the data required for PAME submission.	Hinds/Hecimovich/Justi	
CAC2014-9	OCS to discuss with RDML Glang level of US involvement.	Ries	
CAC2014-10	Ensure ARHC is an item on the USCHC 37 agenda.	Brunt	DONE
CAC2014-11	Update the USCHC Strategic Performance Indicators (SPIs) and the Working Level Indicators (WLIs) and send them to IHB by 7 March. They will update the IRCC-5 Actions table in the process.	Justi/Brunt	DONE – Pending USCHC approval
CAC2014-12	Prepare a draft USCHC report to IRCC for discussion at USCHC 37.	Justi/Brunt	
CAC2014-13	Seek clarification on number of participants to EIHC from IHB.	Justi	DONE
CAC2014-14	Add discussion of EIHC 5 proposals to the USCHC 37 agenda.	Brunt	DONE

CAC2014-15	Ask WEND WG if they have any data/information available which relates to how/where ship owners get their ENC's and whether they are happy with the distribution services, as provided. He will also research other potential sources of this type of information.	Powell/Hinds	
CAC2014-16	Convene a post WEND WG meeting debrief 20 March and prepare a paper on ways to possibly improve WEND WG efficiency and effectiveness for discussion at USCHC 2014.	Powell/Hinds	DONE
CAC2014-17	US to provide CA with proposals/information for HSSC reorganization from IHO correspondence group (CG) including the US report on draft terms of reference (TOR).	US	
CAC2014-18	Review all proposals to EIHC 5 in preparation for discussion at USCHC 37. Comments on the proposals to EIHC 5 are due no later than 8 May (see CCL 08).	US/CHS	DONE
CAC2014-19	CHS to provide US with the point of contact for the vertical datum project.	Fadaie/Marquis	DONE
CAC2014-20	Exchange ship survey plans	OCS/CHS	
CAC2014-21	Demo ENC Online at USCHC-37 as an INF item.	OCS	
CAC2014-22	Confirm logistical requirements for USCHC-37	Brunt	DONE
CAC2014-23	CHS to provide OCS (Justi) with draft USCHC 37 agenda for review.	Brunt	DONE