

Future of NOAA Nautical Charting

NOAA Industry Day
Annapolis, Maryland

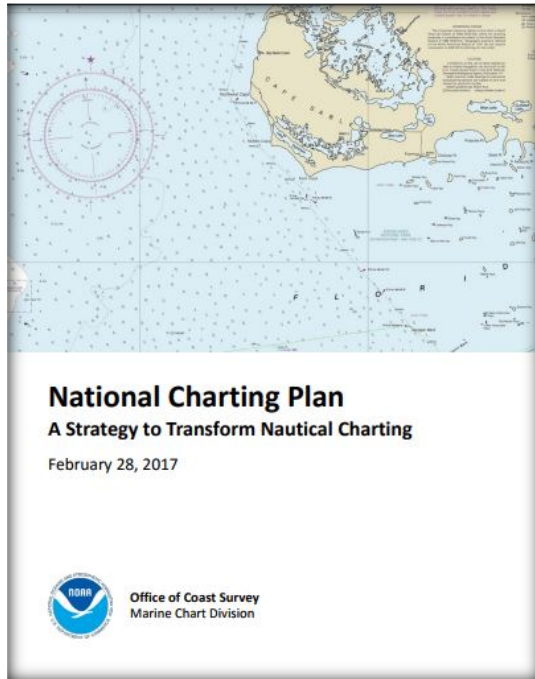
October 5 2018



Office of Coast Survey
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Charting Plan

- Changes to chart formats, scales, and data compilation
 - ENC Rescheming
 - RNC Channel Project Depths
 - Import USCG AtoN Data Directly
 - Resolve Charted Discrepancies
 - Compile ENC Depth Contours in Meters
 - Small Craft Chart Coverage Migration



New Charting Perspective

- Changing approach to maintaining paper and ENC product suites
- Increasing use of electronic marine navigation capabilities by both commercial mariners and recreational boaters
- Paper charts still used as a back-up, but electronic charts are increasing used as the primary means of navigation
- ENC updates can be made and distributed faster and more easily to users than through raster charts
- ENCs are considered NOAA's premier navigational product, not co-equal with paper charts as in the past



Changes to the ENC Suite (1 of 2)

- Updating ENCs will have the highest production priority
 - Information on paper charts may be up to one month behind
- Any new or larger scale coverage will be created through new ENCs only
- ENCs will continue to provide minimum “controlling” depths for federally maintained channels
 - Paper charts will only show the “project depths.”
 - Controlling depths can be shoaler than project depths



Changes to the ENC Suite (2 of 2)

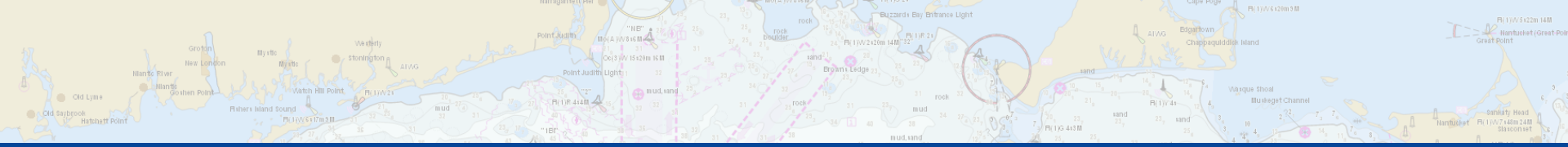
- **New regular, gridded ENC scheme being developed**
 - Will replace current assortment of over 1,200 irregularly shaped ENCs
 - ENCs will be recompiled into a dozen standard scales
 - Down from current mix of over 130 different scales
 - Depth contours will be recompiled into integer metric intervals
 - ENC rescheming is expected to take 5 to 10 years
- **Fewer scales enables more effective:**
 - Edge matching of adjacent ENCs
 - Checking consistency of data between scales



Changes to the Raster (Paper) Chart Suite

- No new paper charts will be added to the current suite of paper nautical charts
- Over time, a number paper nautical charts will be cancelled as their use diminishes
- In the future, only small scale paper charts may remain
 - For general overview and preliminary voyage planning
- New Web-based "NOAA Custom Chart" application is being prototyped
 - Enables users to select the location, extent, and scale of a customized raster (PDF) chart generated from ENC data





Thank you very much!

