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CITIZEN SOURCED DATA

HELP REVEAL THE DEEP AND SHARE YOUR DATA

CROWDSOURCED DEPTH INFORMATION

Commercially owned ships can participate in increasing our knowledge of the ocean by sharing depth measurements from navigation instruments while out at sea. Known as Crowdsourced Bathymetry (CSB), this information can help identify uncharted features such as seamounts and canyons, verify charted information, and help fill the gaps where no data exists.

CRUISE SHIPS

Many expedition cruise ships explore the world's oceans, often in areas where data is sparse, non-existent, or of poor quality. These are exactly the places where contributions to global seafloor mapping efforts can have the greatest impact.

To minimise effort on the part of the ship's crew, data collection and contribution of data can occur by using either built-in navigation software systems that are participating in the CSB initiative, or through a small hardware data logger that can be interfaced to the ship's NMEA data bus. Routinely measured parameters such as under keel depth and position, can then be stored, uploaded and contributed to local and global mapping initiatives. These contributions can also benefit navigational safety, detect unknown hazards, and aid other mariners and ocean scientists.

By contributing data, cruise ships can help avoid accidents, environmental damage and make the oceans a safer place for all. Additionally, participation in this global effort can be included in the cruise line's marketing materials highlighting the various ways they contribute to scientific endeavors.

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DR. MATHIAS JONAS
IHO SECRETARY-GENERAL

"Getting to know the ocean is the greatest mapping adventure of our times. Many underwater mountain ranges, volcanoes, canyons have yet to be discovered and named."

BECOMING A 'TRUSTED NODE'

The IHO's Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB) accepts CSB data contributions through organizations, companies or universities that serve as data aggregators and / or liaisons between mariners (data collectors) and the DCDB. These "trusted nodes" help the CSB effort in a variety of ways ranging from supplying data logging equipment or software, providing technical support to vessels, downloading data from data loggers, aggregating collected data and facilitating data transfer. The IHO DCDB will help identify the best-suited "trusted node" type for you.

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Contributed data should include depth, position and time stamp. While additional information is encouraged, data does not need to include vessel name, IMO number or anything else with the vessel identification prior to uploading to the IHO DCDB database. By contributing data to the IHO DCDB, the provider will not be held liable for the data submitted.

FIND OUT MORE

Further information about collecting or contributing data can be found at the IHO DCDB website **(ngdc.noaa.gov/iho/)** or by contacting representatives of the IHO Crowdsourced Bathymetry Working Group at **bathydata@iho.int**

Visit **seabed2030.org** to learn more about the Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 project, which aims to bring together all available bathymetric data to produce the definitive map of the **world ocean floor by 2030.**

NOAA's Bay Hydro II crowdsourced bathymetry test tracks in green overlaid on multibeam survey data demonstrates how changes can be detected.

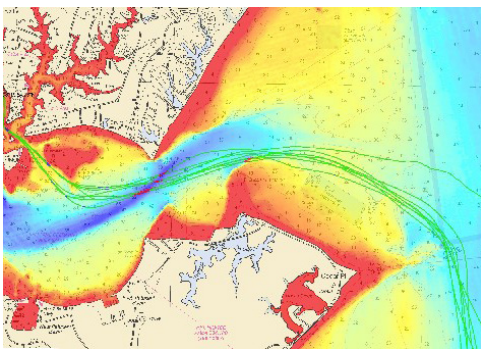
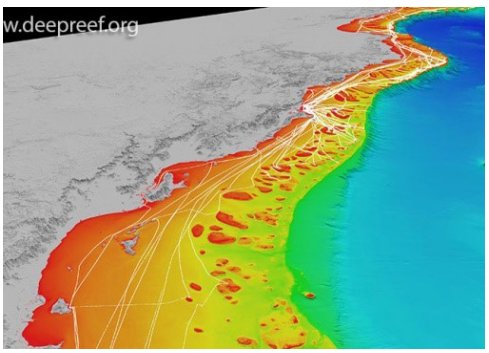


Image courtesy of NOAA

3D view of northern Great Barrier Reef showing all vessel tracks as of December 2019.



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1921–2021

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