



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

Office of Coast Survey

Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

August 30, 2022

Dear Members of the Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission,

At ARHC-12, Mr. Steven Loy (US) was selected to succeed Mr. Corey Allen (US) as Chair of the Operations and Technology Working Group (OTWG). Mr. Loy has since assumed new responsibilities which preclude his continued service as OTWG Chair.

I am writing to formally nominate NOAA Corps Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Bart Buessler for the position of OTWG Chair. LCDR Buessler's outstanding expertise, leadership skills, and dedication to hydrography make him an exceptional candidate for this important role. His professional background, experience, and commitment to advancing the goals of the ARHC align well with the responsibilities of the OTWG.

LCDR Bart Buessler is a distinguished hydrographer with an exemplary career in both the maritime and hydrographic sectors. With 13 years of experience in various leadership positions within the hydrographic community at NOAA, LCDR Buessler has demonstrated a profound understanding of the challenges and opportunities in the Arctic region. He also recently completed an assignment as the Alaska Navigation Manager from which he developed intimate knowledge of local and regional conditions in the Arctic. His current role as Chief of the Atlantic Hydrographic Branch at NOAA's Office of Coast Survey has equipped him with comprehensive insights into operational and technological aspects relevant to the ARHC's mandate.

His tenure as Alaska Navigation Manager reflects his ability to collaborate effectively with diverse stakeholders, fostering partnerships that drive collective progress. He contributed to Coast Survey's first autonomous survey in the Arctic, where he coordinated closely with indigenous communities to communicate objectives and avoid conflict with subsistence activities. LCDR Buessler's professional background and technical expertise make him an ideal candidate to guide this group in addressing challenges related to navigational safety, hydrographic data collection, and emerging technologies.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

I look forward to discussing this matter at the ARCH-13, and wish everyone safe travels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ben Evans".

RDML Benjamin K. Evans
Director, NOAA's Office of Coast Survey

