ARHC9_B8_IS

National Report of Iceland

This report gives the summary of the activities that have taken place within the Icelandic Coast Guard - Hydrographic and Maritime Safety Department since the last report given at the ARHC8 meeting in September 2018.

1. Icelandic Coast Guard – Hydrographic and Maritime Safety Department

The name of the department as it is written in English has been changed to *Hydrographic and Maritime Safety Department (ICG-HMSD).* The department is within the Maritime division of the Icelandic Coast Guard.

Number of staff in the department has been the same for years, 8 persons. For the past one and a half year 2 persons have been on sick leave. This has in many ways affected the department. A few weeks ago it came clear that our Hydrographer, Mr Hilmar Helgason, will retire at end of December this year. Assistant Hydrographer, Head of Survey Section, Mr Bjorn Haukur Palsson did retire earlier this year. Plans are being made to hire new people to replace the ones retiring and also to strengthen the department further by increasing the number of staff from 8 to 10.

2. Hydrographic Surveys

Hydrographic surveys were planned for total of 85 days in 2019. The project of surveying in Breiðafjörður continued. The fourth survey season started in June and is planned to end around the middle of September. The project would last several years if all areas, both the areas that need resurveying and the numerous previously unsurveyed areas were to be completed. Plans to do so may have to be re-evaluated as there are other areas of equally high priority elsewhere. The southern part of Breiðafjörður was surveyed in the years from 1999 to 2002 using single beam echo sounder. The project which started in 2016 will focus on multibeam coverage of the northern and eastern parts of the bay.

Fig. 1 Location of Breiðafjörður in Iceland. The sea area of the bay is in the range of 4500-5000 km^2.

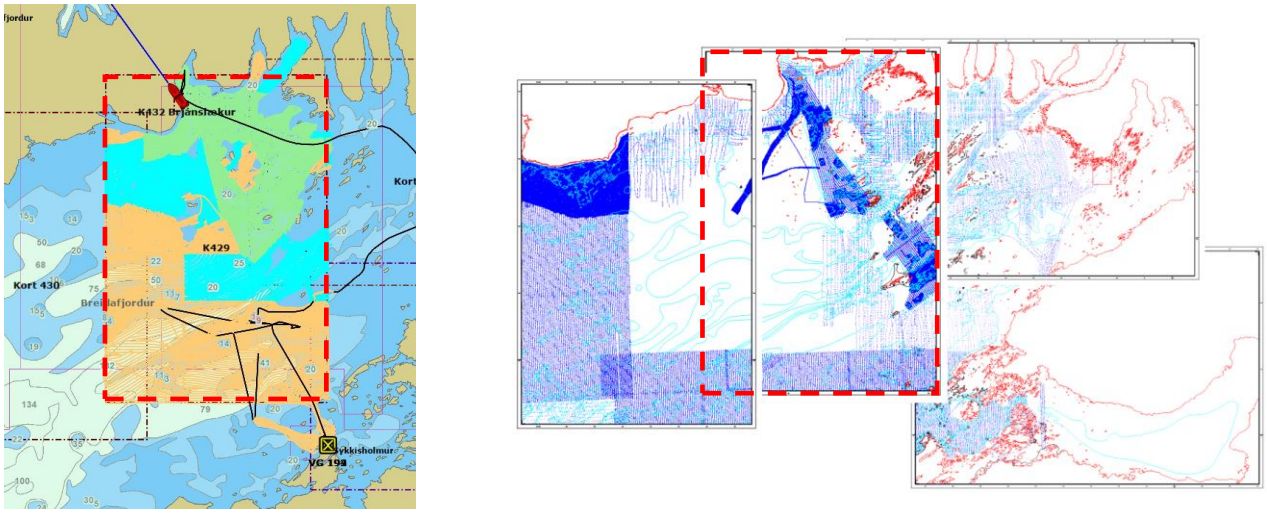
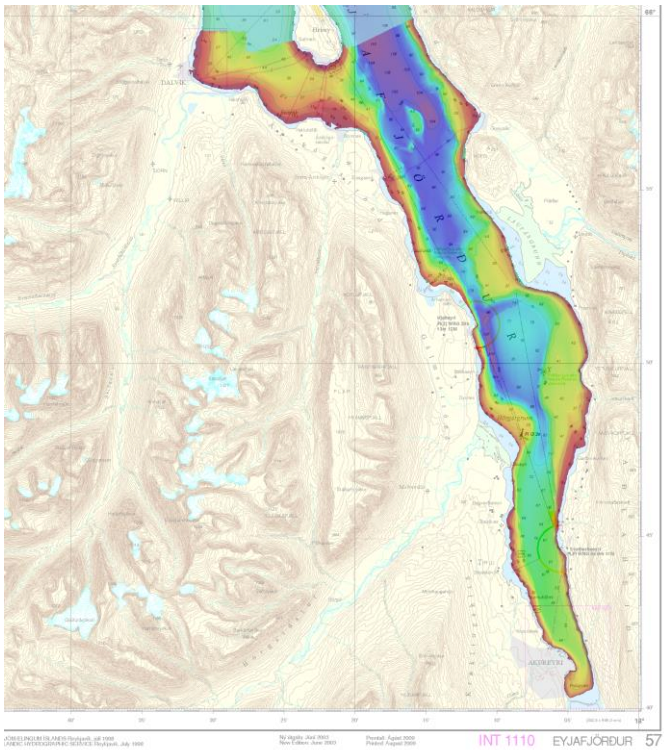
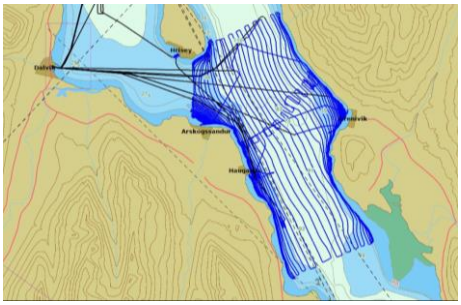


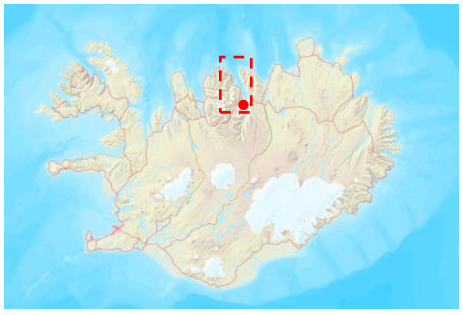
Fig. 2 Surveyed areas in Breiðafjörður in 2017 (green), 2018 (blue) and 2019 (orange) and planned 1:50000 charts of the northern and eastern part of the fjord. Existing depth data in blue. Oldest data from 1934.

In addition to the above mentioned survey activities contract work was carried out for the Port Authorities in Reykjavík. Some further surveying will be done this September. The approaches to the port of Akranes and part of Eyjafjörður in the northern part of Iceland were resurveyed in 2018.





Surveyed in 2018



Location of Eyjafjörður in Iceland

Fig. 3 Inner half of Eyjafjörður has been resurveyed in recent years. The town of Akureyri is at the bottom of the fjord.

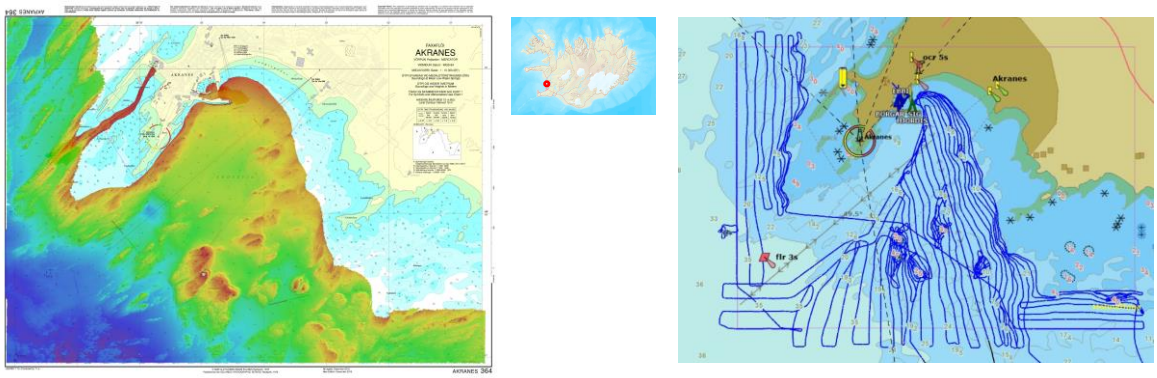


Fig. 4 New multibeam survey made in September 2018 of approaches to the port of Akranes.

3. New charts & updates

Printed charts

Five new editions have been published since last ARHC meeting. A new edition of the chart Akranes and two A3 size harbour plans of Sauðárkrókur and Siglufjörður. Two reprints were made*. New editions of the chart of Reykjavík and the approach chart for Reykjavík were published in June 2019.

National No.	Title	Scale	Pub. month
364	Akranes	1:10000	12/2018
519	Sauðárkrókur	1:10000	12/2018
522	Siglufjörður	1:10000	01/2019
73	Glettinganes – Hlaða*	1:100000	01/2019
365	Akranes – Hafnarfjörður*	1:40000	01/2019
362	Reykjavík	1:10000	06/2019
365	Akranes – Hafnarfjörður	1:40000	06/2019

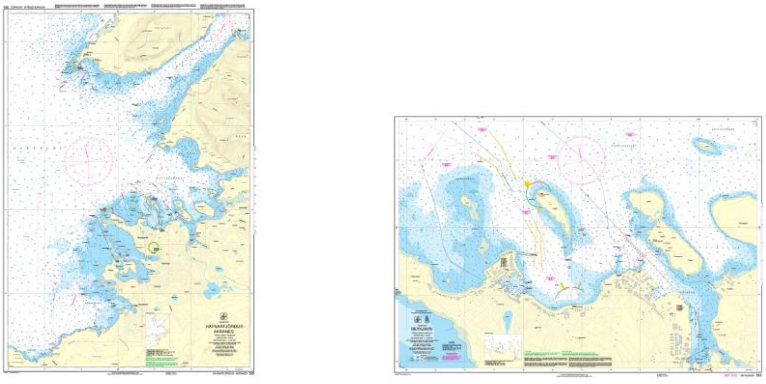


Fig. 5 New editions of 365 and 362, approach and harbour charts for Reykjavík, published in June 2019.

ENC production

One new cell was published, harbour cell for the ferry port Landeyjahöfn. The port connects the Westmann Islands off the south coast with the mainland. Seventeen new editions and 22 updates were made in 2018. In 2019, 4 new editions have been made and 6 updates. Iceland produces and maintains 73 ENC cells.

Plans for 2019 and 2020

The *CARIS GIS* to *CARIS Paper Chart Composer* (PCC) transition, which started in 2016, crossed the finish line in December 2018. All of the 80 paper charts have now been brought into the CARIS PCC 2.1 environment.

Next phase started in January 2019. QC Tests (Validation Checks) have to be run on all chart. First run of validation checks on the PCC files has been carried out and the autumn will see more work in completing QC tests.

Six charts have been fully completed so far in PCC2.1 and new editions published. Two new editions are planned in September. More will soon follow. A new chart in the Coastal chart series will be published towards the end of the year or early 2020. A number of harbour plans need updating. Many new editions will therefore be published in the second half of this year and the first half of 2020.

Work on incorporating *CARIS BASE Editor* (BE) in to the Chart Production process is progressing slower than anticipated. The plan was to pick up pace regarding BE in the autumn of 2018. This did not go as planned. The plan for the second half of 2019 is to continue work on incorporating *CARIS BASE Editor* (BE) into the Chart Production process. It is evident that the work will extend into the first half of 2020.

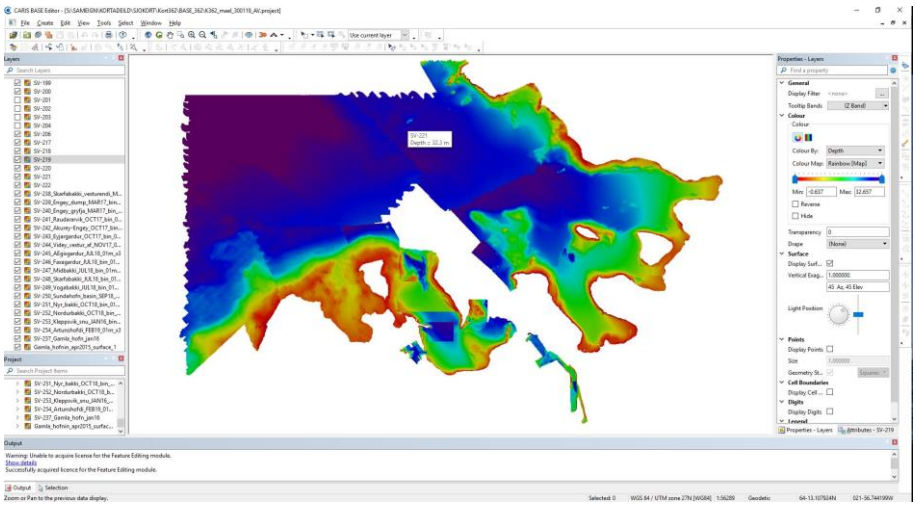


Fig. 6 Work on incorporating CARIS BASE Editor (BE) into the Chart Production process continues.

4. New publications & updates

The annual nautical publications, *Tide Tables 2019* and *Tide Almanac 2019*, where published in the autumn of 2018. The 2020 editions are being worked on and will be printed in September.

The pdf-publications, *List of Lights* and *Catalogue of charts* where updated in October 2018 and again in July and August 2019. Both are available for download at www.lhg.is.

Five issues of *Notices to Mariners* were published in 2018, 30 NMs in total. Three issues of NMs have been published so far in 2019, total of 21 NM.

5. MSI

The Icelandic Coast Guard runs VTS and MSI service is an integrated part of that operation.

6. C-55

Last update in November 2016. Planned update in October 2018 not carried out. New time for update TBD.

7. Oceanographic activities

Sub-bottom profiler has been installed in ICG survey vessel BALDUR as planned. It is a part of the project of surveying the EEZ of Iceland which the MFRI leads and ICG takes part in.

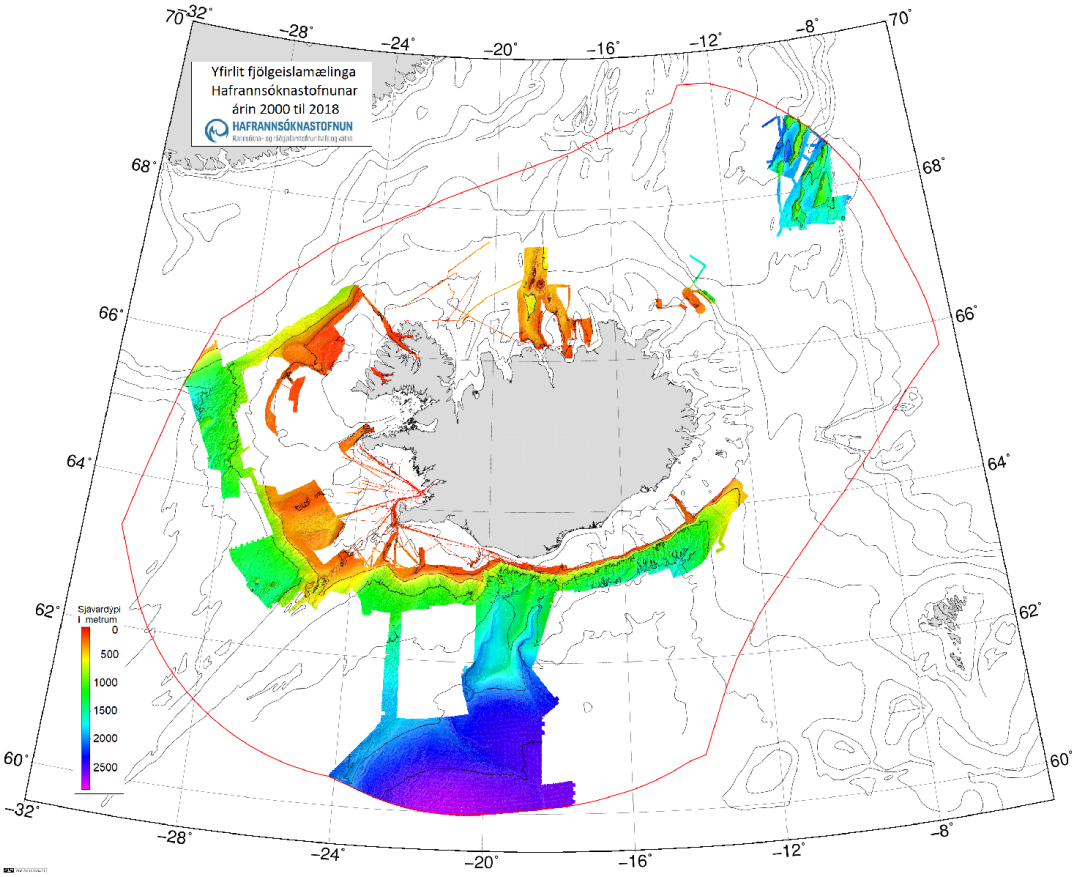


Fig. 7 Status of the project of multibeam surveying the EEZ of Iceland.

8. Capacity Building

A member of ICG-HMSD staff did a Hydrographic Survey CAT B course at Skilltrade in the Netherlands (January-April 2019).

9. Other activities.

IHO RHCs, WGs and other work
Members of ICG staff attended the following:

NHC Strategic Workshop, 20-21 March 2019, Malmö, Sweden.
NHC 63 meeting 9-11 April 2019, Helsinki, Finland.
IC-ENC Steering Committee meeting, 9-11 July 2019, Cape Town, S-Africa.

MSDI
Iceland hosted and participated in the ARMSDIWG3 meeting in April 2019. The meeting was held at the Coast Guard offices in Reykjavík. Joint Arctic SDI & ARMSDIWG meeting was held on April 4 2019 at National Land Survey of Iceland (LMI) in Akranes. Transportation from Reykjavík to Akranes and back was provided by the ICG.

Baseline for Territorial Waters
The Icelandic Parliament "Alþingi" passed law on Baseline, Territorial Limits etc. in June 2017. The band 3 ENCs and band 4 ENCs have been updated accordingly. New Editions of the transit and coastal paper charts affected will be published in the second half of this year and the first half of 2020.

A chart "Iceland – Maritime Limits" delivered in July 2019 to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Iceland for it to fulfil Article 16 of Section 2 of UNCLOS Part II, Territorial Sea and Contiguous Zone.

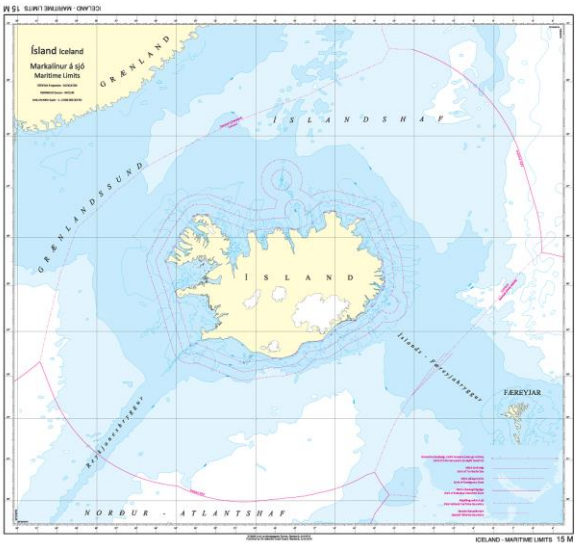


Fig. 8 Iceland Maritime Limits.

This report highlights the main activities of the Icelandic Coast Guard, Hydrographic Department since the last ARHC meeting.