

**Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission (ARHC)
Intersessional VTC-01 Meeting
29 APR 2020**

**Arctic Regional Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group (ARMSDIWG) Report:
Summary of Calls with Arctic SDI in APR 2020**

On 16 & 30 APR 2020, c/ARMSDIWG met virtually with the lead for Arctic SDI's Strategy, Communication and Value Creation Working Group, and the lead for Arctic SDI's Data Working Group. In addition to updates on data and technical activities from ARMSDIWG, c/ARMSDIWG relayed the discussion and questions that arose from the ARHC-9 meeting, to the Arctic SDI representatives, regarding a more formal relationship between ARHC and Arctic SDI. Given the administrative and legal challenges presented by formalizing a relationship, it was determined that the current, informal way of cooperating has been effective and will suffice at this time. Meanwhile, ARMSDIWG will be focusing, in the near-term, on organizing and consolidating internally, to provide quality and authoritative geospatial web services of marine geospatial data for the Arctic Voyage Planning Guide and to meet the needs of Arctic Council working groups identified in the Norwegian-led *Better access to geospatial data for Arctic marine areas, User Survey Report*. Both ARMSDIWG and the Arctic SDI's working groups still seek to move forward with a *Arctic SDI and ARHC Joint Statement of Intent* approved by both the ARHC and Arctic SDI Board, as the executive-level coordinating bodies, which will serve as a tool to concisely describe their common goal and cooperative relationship for both organizations during outreach to their users and relevant bodies (e.g., IHO, UN, Arctic Council).

The draft version of the *Arctic SDI and ARHC Joint Statement of Intent* has been refined once more by Arctic SDI, and has been restructured to be directly between the Arctic SDI Board and the ARHC, rather than between their respective, subsidiary working group levels (see below).

Draft version (APR 2020) Arctic SDI and ARHC Joint Statement of Intent:

The Arctic SDI Board and the members of the Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission (ARHC), maintain a collaborative partnership to provide both the terrestrial and marine foundations in a regional SDI. The Arctic SDI and the ARHC endorse the efforts of the Arctic SDI Working Groups and the Arctic Regional Marine SDI Working Group (ARMSDIWG) to facilitate bringing land and marine data together in an infrastructure that connects users, across domains, to the spatial data valued to support research, planning and decision making in the Arctic.