

# 45<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the US - Canada Hydrographic Commission

National Report by  
United States of America



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# Personnel Transitions: incoming since USCHC44

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RDML Benjamin Evans - Director, Office of Coast Survey

Lorraine Robidoux - Deputy Director, Office of Coast Survey

RDML Ronald Piret - Hydrographer of the Navy

CAPT Dwight Smith - Director, NGA Maritime Office



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# Main Achievements during the Past Year

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- Intersessional work
  - External Source Data sharing discussions and data licensing presentation at the CHS Executive Committee meeting, April 2022
- NGA created first U1 ENC and disseminated to customers – June 2021
  - Pass-through CHS and NOAA ENC's since January 2021
- Transboundary collaboration
  - Monthly meeting between CHS-Central and NOAA-Pacific/Great Lakes Branch to discuss Great Lakes Transboundary Issues
  - Initial meeting set up with CHS-Atlantic and NOAA-Atlantic Branch - April 2022
    - Coordination will continue, will likely turn into another monthly meeting once rescheming in the area ramps up
  - Initial meeting set up with CHS-Pacific and NOAA Pacific/Great Lakes - May 2022
  - Schedule A - U.S. entering into Canadian waters when surveying along the Detroit River



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# Main Challenges and/or Obstructions

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- COVID challenges persist
  - VTC used for continued communication
  - Getting back to in person meetings!
- NOAA operated on a Continuing Resolution through mid-March, 2022. This delayed NOAA's ability to execute contract hydrographic survey work
- NGA maintenance of dual digital chart products – ENC and DNC. Hoping to develop full ENC portfolio in the next few years



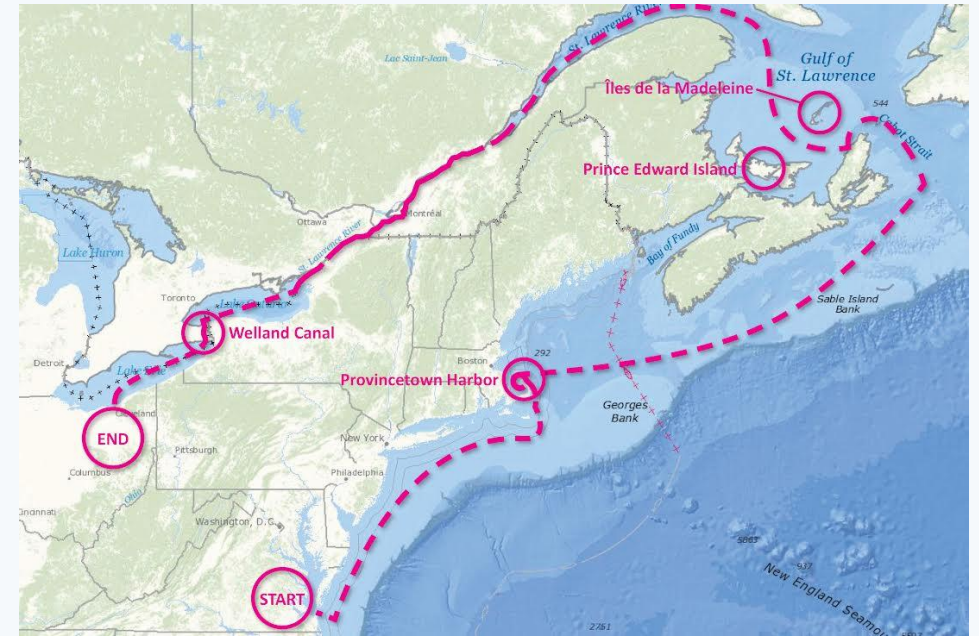
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# Progress on Surveys

- NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson 2022 field season will be spent in the Great Lakes in the vicinity of Cleveland, Ohio and the Detroit River
- Coast Survey's Navigation Response Team will survey in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron in 2022
- NOAA Contractor will survey within the newly designated Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary in 2022
- NBS/Data Licensing & St. Lawrence CHS data sharing



NOAA Ship *Thomas Jefferson* transit route



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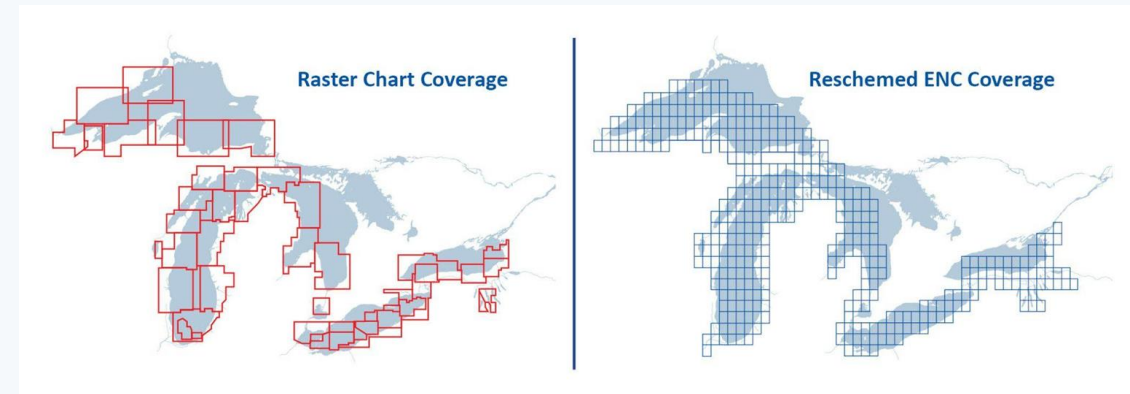
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# Progress on Charting

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- NGA created Worldwide ENC grid for use in building ENC portfolio – about 35% of cells in work or complete
- NOAA has begun raster sunset process; 66 charts canceled, 145 in last edition; all will be canceled by Jan 2025
- NOAA ENC rescheming 11% complete, most of the work continues in Great Lakes and Atlantic Coast
- NOAA Custom Chart v. 1.3 release date scheduled for June 2022
- NOAA has a high level S-101 transition plan drafted. New S-101 transition manager will arrive on MCD Staff in July



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# Contributions to the IHO DCDB and GEBCO

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## Crowdsourced bathymetry

- Within US waters, CSB data is being made available via the IHO DCDB. The DCDB is hosted, managed, and supported by NOAA NCEI
- US supporting CSB globally via support to the IHO DCDB
- US continues to provide interagency support of the IHO CSBWG

## Seabed 2030

- US supports the IHO DCDB use within the Seabed 2030 project. Many enhancements underway for data discovery and accessibility
- US is working with CHS to keep both Nations' Gap Analysis coordinated and as consistent as practicable given our respective national needs
- USCHC rep to Seabed 2030, [andy.armstrong@noaa.gov](mailto:andy.armstrong@noaa.gov)



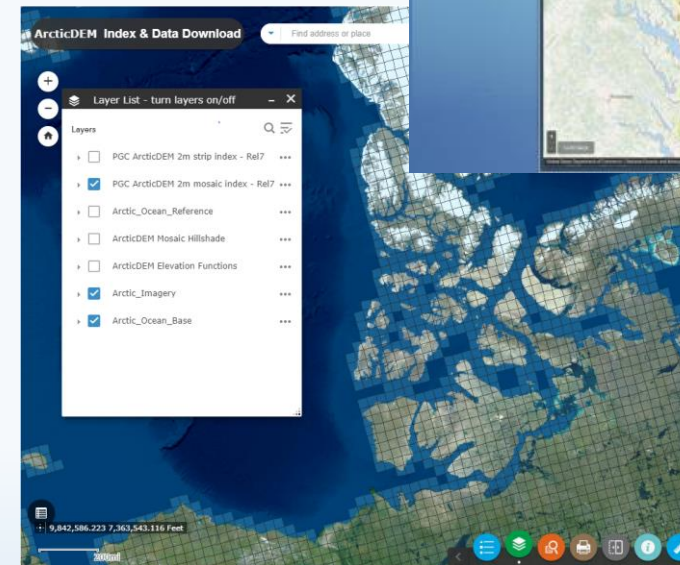
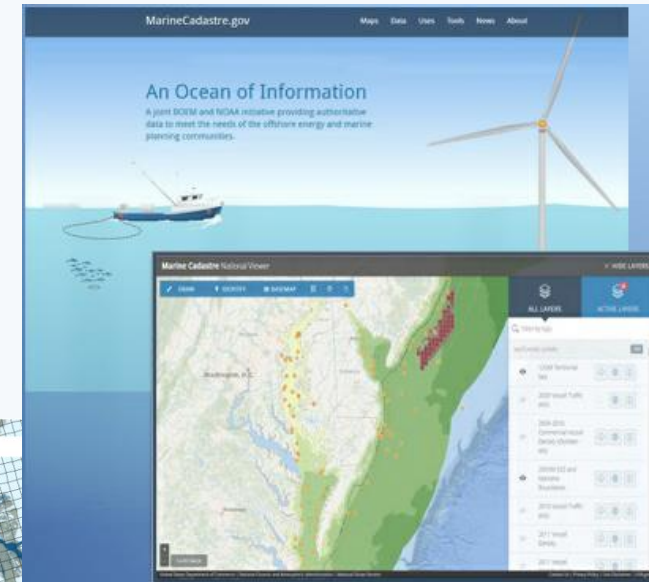
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# Progress on MSDI

- Policies and Governance
  - IHO MSDI WG + regionally-focused MSDI WGs, UN-GGIM WG-MGI, OGC Marine DWG
- Standards
  - IHO S-100, Open Geospatial Consortium, Federal Geospatial Data Committee
- Information Systems
  - Product-centric to data-centric approach
- Data
  - MarineCadaastre.gov
  - NGA Arctic Digital Elevation Model (DEM)
  - Data.gov
- Federated MSDI Pilot



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# Plans that Affect the Region

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- Great Lakes surveying
  - There are multiple hydrographic mapping missions in the Great Lakes this field season aboard the NOAA Ship *Thomas Jefferson*, and with Navigation Response Teams and contracted assets to support critical updates to marine navigation products and services and provide modern data to the scientific and benthic mapping communities
- Raster chart cancellations - Lake Superior charts cancelled 12/30/21



NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson shown from the bridge wing of a passing ship outside of Montreal, Quebec. (Credit: St. Lawrence Seaway Pilots)



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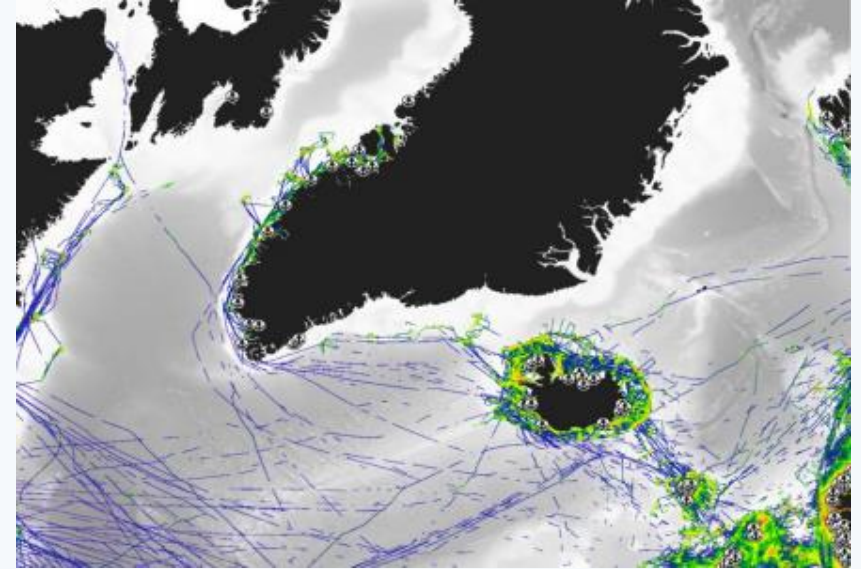
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# Success Stories to Share

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- Global Maritime Traffic Density Service (GMTDS) available to the public
- First NGA Certified Printed ENC's (CPENCs) to be available Summer 2022
- World Port Index (WPI) web application available with crowd sourcing ability
- U.S. support for the IHO and Canada's Empowering Women in Hydrography Project
  - Hosting three candidates during 2022 survey season



Global vessel traffic density data released to the public in 2021



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# Thank you!



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