



IHO File No S1/1900

CIRCULAR LETTER 34/2026

21 June 2026

2026 RECIPIENT

THE EX ABYSSIS AD ALTA – IHO AWARD FOR HYDROGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE

- References:
- A. *IHO Resolution 1/2024 as amended – The Ex Abyssis ad Alta – IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence*
 - B. *IHO CL15/2025 dated 16 March 2026 - The Ex Abyssis ad Alta – IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence – call for nominations*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Circular Letter in reference called for nominations for potential recipients of *The Ex Abyssis ad Alta – IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence* in this calendar year.
2. The Secretariat received 3 nominations from 3 Member States. The IHO Secretariat convened the Award Board in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Resolution in reference and agreed unanimously on the selection.
3. The 2025 *Ex Abyssis ad Alta – IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence* recipient for is:

Jennifer Jencks

United States of America

4. Jennifer Jencks has dedicated her career to the global hydrographic community. Leading the Ocean and Coastal Mapping Team at NOAA's National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, National Centers for Environmental Information, Jennifer Jencks has expertly bridged the intersection of national data stewardship and international mandate through her role as the Director of the IHO DCDB. During her tenure in this position, the data holdings of the DCDB have grown to over 70 terabytes of bathymetric data forming the core element of the most detailed global ocean map available.
5. Jennifer Jencks is the current Vice-Chair of the IRCC, ex officio member of the GEBCO Guiding Committee, and Chair of the Crowd Sourced Bathymetry Working Group. She is currently leading a capacity development program between the Maldives and Sri Lanka to expand their hydrographic capacity.

On behalf of the Secretary-General

Yours sincerely,

Dr John E. Nyberg
Director