

Summary Record
Hydrographic Services Review Panel
December 16, 2009, 2:00 pm Eastern Standard Time
Public Meeting via Teleconference Call

Introduction

A public teleconference of the Hydrographic Services Review Panel (Panel) was held on December 16, 2009. Both members of the public and HSRP members participated in the meeting via teleconference and WebEx (to view meeting documents).

As stated in the Federal Register notice announcing the meeting (Vol. 74, No. 226, page 61662, published November 25, 2009), the primary purpose of the teleconference was to allow Panel members to discuss and vote on proposed revisions to an updated version of the Hydrographic Services Review Panel Federal Advisory Committee Special Report 2007, "HSRP Most Wanted Hydrographic Services Improvements.

Primary topics discussed in the meeting were:

1. Proposed revisions to updated Panel report
2. 2010 meeting locations and dates.

Meeting

Before the meeting started, the teleconference operator announced that the meeting was being recorded, and advised any participant with objections that they could withdraw from the conference at that time. At approximately 2:00 pm EST, the meeting was opened by the Designated Federal Official (DFO), Captain John Lowell. Capt. Lowell introduced himself, as this was his first meeting as the DFO. A roll call was done of the voting members, and then all other individuals introduced themselves. Capt. Lowell and Rebecca Arenson requested that members of the public indicate if they wanted to provide public comment later in the meeting; none did. Capt Lowell provided an update on a few topics. The 2010 Commerce, Justice, State appropriations will come out of conference and was passed by both the House and Senate. Also the new member process is moving along and NOAA hopes to announce the new members in early 2010. Capt. Lowell turned the meeting over the Chair, Tom Skinner. As Mr. Skinner was not at the Duluth meeting, he turned the meeting over to Ed Welch, Vice Chair.

Meeting Planning for 2010 and 2011

Mr. Welch discussed the spring 2010 meeting location and date and asked for comment from the Panel (Providence, RI in mid-March). He noted that NOAA staff indicated the next two regions the panel has not had an official meeting at are the Pacific Northwest and Hawaii/Pacific Islands. The fall 2010 meeting is scheduled for mid-September in Portland, OR and the spring 2011 meeting will be in Hawaii. There was brief panel discussion about the proposed meetings.

Duluth Recommendation Letter

Mr. Welch introduced the draft recommendation letter from the Duluth HSRP meeting; the letter which reflected the edits and changes suggested by members via e-mail (after viewing earlier drafts) and asked for comments. He asked for a motion to use the letter as the Duluth recommendation letter to Dr. Lubchenco. Adam McBride made the motion, which was seconded by Matt Wellslager. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. The letter will come from Ed Welch as the Acting Chair.

Revised Report

Mr. Welch introduced the report update and suggested that the group work through the materials chapter by chapter. Ms. Arenson requested one member per chapter to help with final minor word changes; Mr. Skinner clarified that this was for minor changes to ensure things were cleared by the HSRP. Members volunteered for chapters (1 – Ed Welch; 2 – Jon Dasler; 3 – Matt Wellslager; 4 – Larry Whiting; and 5 – Tom Skinner). Andrew McGovern requested that the record reflect the changes will be non-substantive. For each chapter, the group started with substantive changes and then minor changes. Changed or new text was highlighted to facilitate review of the material.

For Chapter 1 Mr. Welch recommended several small changes and the group discussed other minor changes. Additional more substantive edits were made to the sidebar for chapter 1. This change will be send to all members to review. For Chapter 2, the PORTS photo will either move to Chapter 3 or stay in Chapter 2. Also, if feasible, an existing image showing the location of multiple wrecks will be worked in as a full page image. Several edits were made to the Multiple Uses of Coastal Mapping Data sidebar; in addition, NOAA will look for good Alaska pictures to replace to current photos to reflect the reference to Alaska in the text. For the Integrated Mapping sidebar, adapted from an August 12, 2009 NOAA news release, the only change was to clarify the photo credit.

In Chapter 3 several edits were made. It was noted that the appropriations and funding information still needs to be updated. CO-OPS will write a few paragraphs about the impacts of the latest appropriations and then share the info with the HSRP (i.e. what does the funding pay for, where are the gaps, etc.) After discussion, the group assigned Ms. Arenson an action to update references to policy documents, for example the 2004 Ocean Action Plan. The photo of the USS Normandy was deleted and the text will be updated to reflect general ship size at different time frames (Mr. McGovern will provide size specifics). In addition, a paragraph needs to be created and then sent to the HSRP for review that mentions new ship sizes and the fact that the ultra-large ships cannot call at U.S. Ports. The Hurricane Ike sidebar was approved as is. But, rather than using the proposed sidebar dealing with habitat restoration (Nueces Restoration), CO-OPS will provide several ideas of other restoration uses of NWLON data to present to the HSRP.

Next the group moved on to Chapter 4 and suggested several edits. Mr. Welch requested that NOAA add a more specific example of NRT efforts, specifically in the Hudson River. Howard Danley will send information to Ms. Arenson to include in the text. There was also some

discussion of the description of the length of time before ports were opened post-hurricane landfall, with the text edited to reflect more appropriate wording. The recommendation text will also be edited to follow consistent format. Next the group discussed the Ike Response sidebar. Larry Whiting is working to shorten the text and sent it around for review. After discussion, for consistency with the rest of the document, the names of the contractors will not be included in the sidebar. Howard Danley will help track down a photo for the sidebar. The GPS and V-Datum sidebar will be revised to more accurately reflect the state of the technology being used and issues of accuracy; CO-OPS staff will do the editing. The Remote Sensing sidebar will be updated by NGS to reflect more recent hurricane response efforts as well as past ones.

Chapter 5 discussions included a need to work on general editing for better flow of the chapter text and the findings. Dick West and Mr. Skinner will work on the text flow. Next Mr. Welch asked if there was any public comment. No members of the public indicated they had comments.

Next the Panel discussed the others parts of the Report that need to be updated. Andrew McGovern will update the introduction. Larry Whiting asked Adam McBride for permission to use a specific wording he suggested as a quote. Adam McBride gave his permission and Larry Whiting will include this in the Chapter 4 Hurricane Ike sidebar.

Ed Welch then discussed a timeline for completing the edits. Panel members will complete their review and edit by the 22nd of December; chapter leaders will complete their review by then as well. The deadline for the requested NOAA provided updates is January 8, 2010. The Panel discussed approval of the text, layout, figures, and editing. The Panel voted to approve the text subject to minor edits. They will look at the figure/layouts aspect later (part of the general minor editing aspect) and comment via e-mail.

There was some discussion of the 5 members whose appointments are ending, and if they continued to serve until the new members are appointed or not. Members pointed out that on other FACA Panels they had continued to serve until new members replaced them and given the ongoing work on the report, there was is a compelling reason for them to continue serving on the Panel, as the text was approved by work is still on-going for layout and graphics. NOAA will look into this issue.

Ed Welch acknowledged the work of the retiring Panel members and adjourned the meeting.

Meeting Outcomes

1. Agreement on the locations of the next three HSRP meetings.
2. Approval of the Duluth meeting recommendation letter to Dr. Lubchenco.
3. Approval of Report text.

Actions:

1. HSRP member review and minor edits completed by December 22.

2. Requested NOAA information by January 8/early January.
3. NOAA to follow-up on issues of extending terms of retiring members.

Appendix A

Attendees

Voting HSRP Members

Tom Skinner, Chair	Senior Project manager, Durand & Anastas Environmental Strategies, Inc.
Edmund B. Welch, Deputy Chair	Independent Consultant for Maritime & Ocean Policy
Jonathan L. Dasler	Vice President, Director of Marine Services, David Evans and Associates., Inc.
R. Adam McBride	Port Director, Lake Charles and Terminal District
Ramón Torres Morales	Associate Professor, Interamerican University
Capt. Andrew McGovern	Pilot, Sandy Hook Pilots Association
Rear Admiral Richard D. West, U.S. Navy (Retired)	Past President, Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education
Larry Whiting	Hydrographer, TerraSond LLC (retired)
Matt Wellslager	Program Manager, South Carolina Geodetic Survey

Non-voting HSRP Members

Andrew Armstrong	Co-director, NOAA/ University of New Hampshire Joint Hydrographic Center
Juliana Blackwell	Director, NOAA's National Geodetic Survey

NOAA: Designated Federal Official (DFO) and Staff

Capt. John Lowell	Designated Federal Official
Rebecca Arenson	NOAA's Office of Coast Survey
Virginia Dentler	NOAA's Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services
Tiffany House	NOAA's National Geodetic Survey
Paul Bradley	NOAA's Ocean Service
Jack Dunnigan	Assistant Administrator, NOAA's Ocean Service
Mike Gibson	NOAA's Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services
Kristen Tronvig	NOAA's Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services
Eric Berkowitz	NOAA's National Geodetic Survey

Manoj Samant	NOAA's Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services
Howard Danley	NOAA's Office of Coast Survey

Others/Public

Toru Kajimura	JHOD
Ken Fleming	Fugro LADS
Katie Mildon	TerraSond
Scott R. Perkins	Wilson & Company
Thomas S. Newman	TerraSond
Brian Busey	TerraSond