## 8<sup>th</sup> ARHC MEETING Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Norway 11-13 September 2018

## Paper for Consideration by the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission

# Progress on the Resolution of Overlapping ENC Coverage in the Bering and Chukchi Seas

Submitted by:	United States (NOAA)	
Executive Summary:	The United States and the Russian Federation have made significant progress in reducing overlapping ENC coverage in the Bering and Chukchi Seas. There is only one area where overlapping coverage within the same usage band still exists.	
Related Documents:	None	
Related Projects:	None	

## Introduction / Background

In the past few years, the United States and the Russian Federation have made significant progress in reducing overlapping ENC coverage in the Bering and Chukchi Seas. Both countries have now adjusted the limits of their ENC coverage to eliminate almost all of the overlapping coverage within any single usage band.

### **Analysis / Discussion**

For some time there had been overlapping ENC coverage in the Bering and Chukchi Seas. Recent releases and planned releases of new ENC cells in this area will resolve almost all the overlapping ENC issues. The table below summarizes the status of the relevant ENC cells. The attached graphics show existing US and Russian Federation ENC coverage in this area.

Band	ENC Cells	Scale	Status
1	-		No overlapping coverage within band 1.
2	RU2OQ091	700 000	
	RU2O9091	700 000	
	RU2NI001	700 000	Already adjusted – no overlap, except for RU2MRYI1.
	RU2NGZ9	700 000	Overlap will be resolved with release of US2AK7XM.
	RU2MRYI1	700 000	
	RU2MRXR0	700 000	
	US2AKCGD	640 000	
	US2AK92M	700 000	Already adjusted – no overlap.
	US2AK95M	1 534 076	
	US2AK7XM	1 126 321	Newly adjusted cell planned for September 2018 release.
3	RU3OE090	180 000	These two cells will still overlap the adjusted US coverage.
	RU3O90B9	180 000	
	US3AK89M	315 350	Newly adjusted cell planned for September 2018 release.
4	RU4OH180	22 000	Already adjusted. Overlap will be resolved with release of US4AK8DM.
	US4AK8DM	100 000	Newly adjusted cell planned for September 2018 release.
5	US5AK8DM	40 000	No overlap exists, but a newly adjusted cell is planned for September 2018 release to avoid the possibility of future overlaps.
6	-		No overlapping coverage within band 6.

There are two matters where additional work remains to be done.

Two Russian Federation ENC cells and one US ENC cell still overlap in usage band 3. The US is releasing a replacement for its overlapping cell in September 2018. This will eliminate the overlapping coverage if the Russian Federation makes a similar adjustment to its two cells.

There is currently no overlapping band 1 US/RU coverage, because there are no Russian Federation band 1 ENCs in this area. However, the current US band 1 coverage extends significantly west of Little Diomede, Saint Lawrence, and Attu Islands. If the Russian Federation were to create band 1 ENCs in the Bering or Chukchi Seas there would be a substantial area of overlapping coverage.

The US is in the early stages of rescheming its entire ENC suite. When the Alaska band one ENC coverage is transformed to a set of regular, gridded ENC cells, the western limits of the cells will be adjusted to avoid the possibility of any future overlapping coverage.

#### Conclusions

The United States and the Russian Federation have made significant progress in reducing overlapping ENC coverage in the Bering and Chukchi Seas. There are only three overlapping ENC band 3 cells that overlap. Eliminating this potentially dangerous overlapping coverage from Saint Lawrence Island to the Bering Strait should be a priority.

### Recommendations

The United States and the Russian Federation should continue their work to eliminate existing overlapping ENC coverage and take appropriate actions to reduce the possibility of future overlaps.

### Action required of ARHC

The ARHC is invited to note the report.













