

SUBMISSION TO THE NUNAVUT WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT BOARD

FOR

Information: X

Decision:

Issue: Summary of the 2014 Hydrographic Survey Plan for the Arctic.

Background:

It should be noted that the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) conduct hydrographic surveys with the primary goal of updating official Government of Canada navigational products to the benefit of enhanced navigation safety. Our bathymetric data has additional utility for those conducting everything from fisheries research, coastal zone management, to geo-hazards analysis.

Here's a summary of the CHS plans for the Arctic in 2014:

1) Western Arctic Survey:

Purpose: To collect modern bathymetry in the shallowest portion of the Northwest Passage (Dolphin and Union Strait) in order to facilitate enhanced navigational products to the benefit of vessels transiting this area. Additional work will be conducted on an opportunity basis in Coronation Gulf and Simpson Strait while the Coast Guard are conducting their annual Aids Maintenance program.

Platforms: Icebreaker CCGS Sir Wilfrid Laurier, CHS survey launches Kinglett and Gannett.

Dates: August 6th to 28th, 2014.

2) Victoria Strait Survey:

Purpose: CHS will expand the modern hydrographic data coverage through Victoria Strait as a result of participating in a multi-departmental initiative led by Parks Canada whose aim is to locate the lost vessels HMS Erebus and HMS Terror from the Franklin Expedition of 1846.

Platforms: Icebreaker CCGS Sir Wilfrid Laurier, CHS survey launches Kinglett and Gannett and Royal Canadian Navy vessel HMCS Summerside.

Dates: August 28th to September 15th, 2014.

3) Milne Inlet / Eric Bay Survey:

Purpose: To collect modern bathymetry in all of Milne Inlet and Eric Bay (Southerly shore of Eclipse Sound) in anticipation of increased vessel traffic as a result of iron ore shipments from the head of Milne Inlet to European markets.

Platforms: Icebreaker CCGS Radisson, CHS survey launches Petrel and Harlequin.

Dates: September 3rd to 29th, 2014.

4) ArcticNet Opportunistic Survey:

Purpose: To opportunistically collect a modern bathymetric data swath along the vessel's track as she transits through the whole of the Arctic in support of a broad Science agenda coordinated through the ArcticNet network of centres of excellence.

Platform: Icebreaker CCGS Amundsen

Dates: July 8th to October 12th, 2014.

Prepared by: George Schlagintweit, Manager – Operations Division,
Canadian Hydrographic Service, Fisheries and Oceans
Canada (Central and Arctic Region)

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