

SUBMISSION TO THE NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

FOR

Information: X

Decision:

Issue: Summary of the 2015 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. Data from hydrographic surveys 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 2015:

1) Western Arctic Survey

Purpose: To collect modern bathymetry on an opportunity basis in Coronation Gulf, Queen Maud Gulf and Simpson Strait in order to facilitate enhanced navigational products to the benefit of vessels transiting this area. This work will be conducted 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 5th to 28th, 2015.

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 remaining lost vessel HMS *Terror* from the Franklin Expedition of 1846. All CHS data collected will be used to update or produce navigational publications. Note: The Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) vessel may also be tasked to conduct hydrographic operations prior to or immediately after this survey in the northerly portion of Milne Inlet, Baffin Island.

Platforms: Icebreaker CCGS *Sir Wilfrid Laurier*, CHS survey launches *Kinglett* and *Gannett* and a RCN vessel (Kingston Class), name to be determined.

Dates: August 28th to September 15th, 2015.

3) SW Foxe Basin Survey

Purpose: To collect modern bathymetry in vicinity of Southampton Island including but not limited to Coral Harbour, Fisher Strait, Roes Welcome Sound, Wager Bay, Repulse Bay and Frozen Strait. The data collected from this work will be used to update or produce navigational publications.

Platform: RCN vessel (Kingston Class), name to be determined.

Dates: August 10th to September 14th, 2015 (approximate).

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, 2015.

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Date: January 7, 2015