



FEBRUARY 2011

We are defined by our Missions, our People, and our Heritage. Your dedication to our missions keeps our Nation safe and secure. Coast Guard men and women - Active Duty, Reserve, Civilian and Auxiliary - get the job done in the most demanding environments. And you continue to enrich our heritage with countless inspiring actions to save lives, enforce laws, protect citizens, and keep waterways clean.



R. J. Papp, Jr.
Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard

Getting ready for 2011

Believe it or not, the snow is going to go away. And, now it's time to start getting ready for the upcoming Navigation Systems season. Here are some things to consider . . .

1. ***Even if you went into REYR as an AV in 2010***, you can become current by submitting two ATON discrepancy reports, two bridge discrepancy or annual survey reports or two PATON verification reports by July 15, 2011. After that time, you will lose your access codes. We hope that you decide to become active in the AV program. ***We need your help to get this job done.***



2. ***Experienced AVs will be available at the April Awards Conference in Newport*** on Saturday and Sunday to answer your questions and check off AV Qualification items. There will be periodic seminars presented throughout the weekend on various Navigation Systems topics. You will be able to perform your PATON and Bridge reports on-line from the Navigation Systems booth to complete your AV qualifications.
3. ***We will be running AV Workshops this spring.*** There is an updated ***PATON System*** that has new screens and capabilities to discuss. We are in the process of shaking it down so that it will be ready to go this season. We also have an upgraded Bridge Reporting System with five screen options to (1) view the bridge's specifications and complete reported activity, (2) to report observed discrepancies, (3) to report annual bridge surveys, (4) to report corrections to the bridge's specifications, and (5) to

indicate when previously reported discrepancies are observed as corrected. It may sound complicated but these changes are making it much easier to submit your on-line reports. You will also want to know how to make on-line AUXDATA Activity reports with these new systems. Watch for the date of the AV Workshop in your area. We will be available all day Saturday and until 11:30 on Sunday at the April Awards Conference. Drop by our booth and speak to AVs about joining the D1NR Navigation Team.

4. ***Check out the First Northern Web Site at www.uscgaan.com.*** The ATON, PATON, Bridge and Chart Updating web pages have been updated. The training guides and PowerPoint presentations are updated. ***If you are out of touch with the new on-line Bridge and PATON systems,*** you can get updated very easily by reading the ***new training guides*** available on the Bridge and PATON web pages at the First Northern Navigation Systems Web Site at www.uscgaan.com. The upgrades make these systems very user friendly and it only takes a few minutes to get updated.

Latest Edition of the 2011 Light List has been released.

The [2011 Light Lists](#) are now available for download. They are updated to Local Notice (01-2011). The electronic versions of the Light Lists books are updated monthly, by the [first Friday](#) of each month, and are also available on the [NAVCEN website](#). If you have questions regarding this message, you may [contact the Navigation Center](#) (use “LNMs, Charts, Chart Corrections, or Light Lists” as the subject from the pull down menu).

Planning the 2011 PATON Program

Your DSO, ADSO and SO – NS are working on your 2011 Paton Plan. We are assigning each PATON to a specific Patrol Area or to a Flotilla and a Patrol Area depending on the AOR. We are planning to verify the PATONS that were missed last year for a total of one-third of the total PATONS in each AOR. You will be receiving EXCEL Spreadsheets that define the PATONS that are scheduled for verification in 2011.

We are planning PATON Workshops in each CG ANT. We will announce the dates by email. There are many new upgrades to the PATON System that you need to be updated on. Don't miss your workshop.

Photographs will be a large part of the 2011 PATON Program.

There are two types of photographs that will be included in the PATON program in 2011.

PHOTOS OF PATONS.

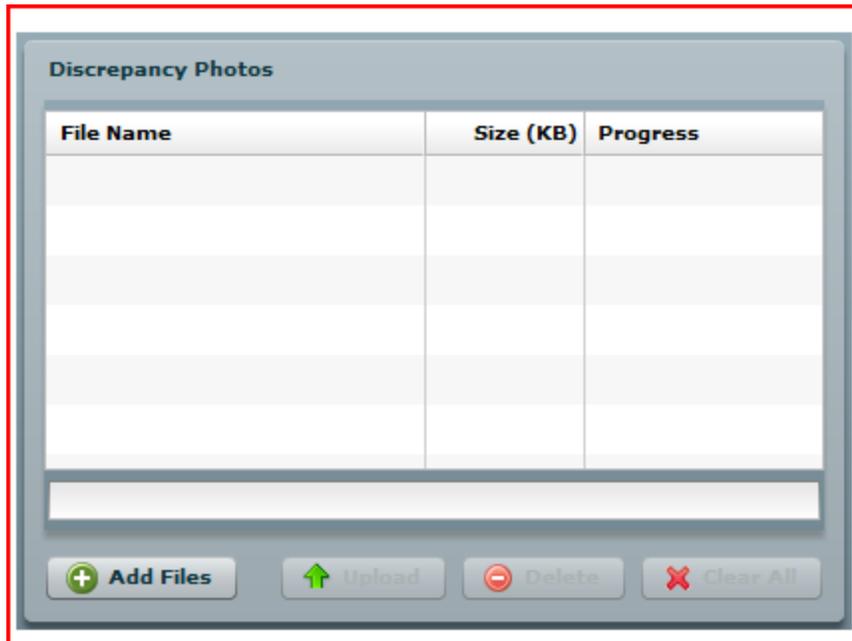
Two types of digital photos can be reported on the PATON System – the Official Photo of the PATON and photos of discrepancies observed on the PATON.

OFFICIAL PHOTO of the PATON.

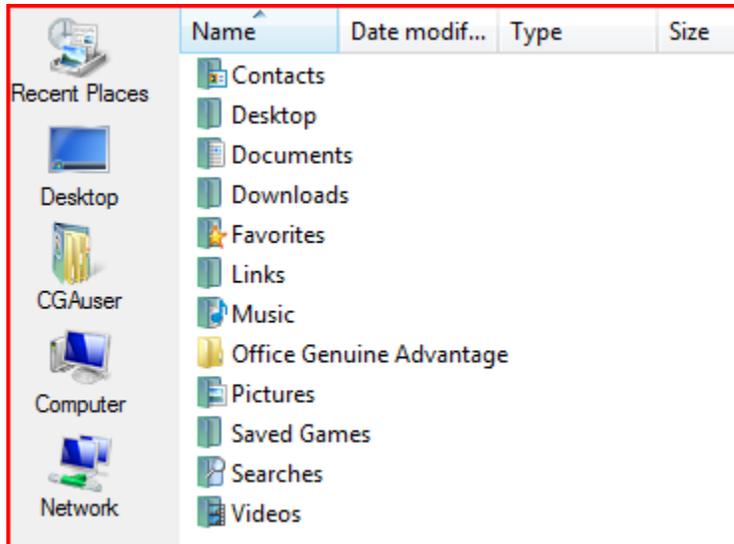
- a. This should be a photo of the aid as watching properly. *There should be no discrepancies appearing on the OFFICIAL digital photo for a PATON.*
- b. Label the photo with your Division Number, the LLNR or Aid Number of the PATON, and a brief description of the PATON.
 - E.g. **06-12345-Back_Riv_3** – represents the #3 on the Back River in Division 6. The LLNR was reported.
 - E.g. **03-20071436122_No_Wake** – represents a No Wake Buoy in Division 3. In this case there is no LLNR so the Aid Number was reported.
- c. Send your official photos of a PATON to the DSO-NS 013 at FrankJLarkin@verizon.net.
- d. Be sure to include all of the specified markings on the PATON in your photo.

DISCREPANCY PHOTOS of a PATON

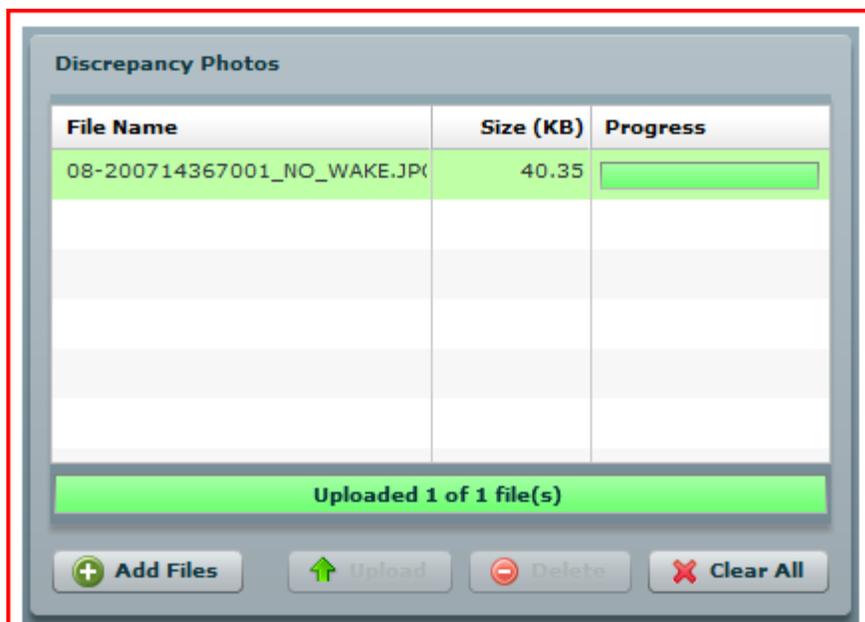
- a. The PATON System allows for the inclusion of multiple photos of discrepancies observed on a PATON.
- b. The Discrepancy File browser appears at the top right-hand side of the AV Discrepancy Report. See example below.



- c. Click on "ADD FILES" to select discrepancy photos from your computer. See sample below.



- d. Select the location where your PATON photos were stored. Click on the photo that you want to download to your report.
- e. The file name of the photo will appear in the Discrepancy Photo section. See example below.



- f. Click on the Green Arrow to upload the photo to your report.
- g. When you submit your Verification Report, a copy of the discrepancy photo(s) will be sent to the CG ANT as part of your report. This photo will be retained in the PATONs history file.



- h. Note the discrepancies showing on this PATON photo. The CG ANT may opt to send a copy of your photo to the owner as evidence of the discrepancy.

Items to watch out for while transiting First Northern.

Maine

BATH IRON WORKS – Dredging is being done at the Dry Dock Sinking Basing Pier 3 and Dry Dock Landing Grid #1.

CAMDEN – The Coast Guard has received a report of shoaling near Barred Islands, west of North Haven at 44-14.385N / 068-48.385W. The charted depth is listed as 13 feet and the shoaling depth at 2.5 feet.

KENNEBEC RIVER – in the vicinity of Doubling Point. A sand wave with minimum sounding of 19.7' MLLW was identified west of 43-53-15 N / 069-48-35 W. Mariners are advised is use caution when transiting this area and not to rely on charted depths.

Massachusetts

ANNISQUAM RIVER – MBCR RAILROAD BRIDGE at mile 0.7 will remain closed for emergency repairs from 12/1/2010 until **4/17/2011**. Vertical clearance on this bridge is **16 feet MLLW**. Vessels that can pass under this bridge without an opening may do so.

BASS RIVER, BEVERLY HARBOR – Severe shoaling has been reported on the Bass River from the Hall-Whitaker Bridge up to the Bass Haven Yacht Club. All Mariners are advised to use caution while transiting this area.

BRAINTREE YACHT CLUB – Until further notice, dredging at the Braintree yacht Club is still being performed. There are barges, dredge and small boat on scene.

CHARLES RIVER – CRAIGIE (MSGR O'BRIEN) BRIDGE - The Commander, First Coast Guard District, has issued a temporary deviation from the regulations governing the operation of the Craigie (O'Brien Highway) Bridge. Under the deviation the bridge may remain in the closed position from **November 1, 2010** through **April 26, 2011** during bridge repairs. During bridge lift span demolition from **November 1** through **November 14, 2010**, a work barge will block the channel under the bridge from vessel access.

During construction the bridge will provide a vertical clearance of 17.41 feet at normal pool elevation from **November 15, 2010** through **January 19, 2011**, and 10.25 feet at normal pool elevation from **January 20, 2011** through **April 26, 2011**. From **November 15, 2010** through **April 26, 2011**, vessels that can pass under the bridge in the closed position may do so provided they contact the contractor

CHARLES RIVER – LONGFELLOW BRIDGE - Bridge rehabilitation construction will commence on **August 1, 2010** and will continue through **August 31, 2011**, at the Longfellow Bridge, mile 1.5, across the Charles River at Boston. The Longfellow

Bridge has total of eight (8) spans. The center three (3) spans are the navigable spans. No more than two (2) spans will be rehabilitated at any time and one of the three (3) navigable spans will always be open to navigation at all times. Two - 20 by 40 foot Barges will be linked end to end and will be located under the bridge at the spans being rehabilitated. A work platform will also be suspended under the bridge at the spans being rehabilitated reducing the vertical clearance by two feet. The work platform will be lighted with red lights every fifty feet and the work barges will be lighted with white lights on four corners. The work barges will remain under the bridge at the spans being rehabilitated at all times

CHATHAM HARBOR – Mariners are advised that the Chatham Bar may have shifted and are urged to use extreme caution when transiting this area.

GREEN HARBOR, Marshfield - *Green Harbor Entrance channel* has sustained significant shoaling from a recent storm. Depths at low tide can be as shallow as 3.5 feet in the "Narrows" portion of the Federal Channel. Mariners should not attempt to transit this area until 2 hours into the flood cycle.

MARTHAS VINEYARD - Work is underway for the construction of a temporary highway bridge across *Lagoon Pond* at mile 0.0, between Tisbury and Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts. Work barges will be located in and around the bridge construction area. Working hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

MERRIMAC RIVER – US 1 BRIDGE – will be closed for painting from 2/15/2011 to 4/30/2011. Vertical Clearance will be reduced 1.5 feet during this period.

MERRIMAC RIVER – MAIN STREET / HINES BRIDGE located at mile 5.8 will be under construction from 11/18/2010 to **March, 2013**. A coffer dam will be built around the bridge center pier. A clearance reduction to 38 feet will occur. Working hours are 0700 to 1530 M-F.

MERRIMAC RIVER – New Bridge Construction at mile 16.5, commencing on 11/18/2010 until **Feb. 28, 2014**. Turbidity curtains and cofferdams will be located at various positions in the waterway. The main navigation channel will remain open to vessel traffic during the boating season from **April 15 to November 15** each construction year. During the winter months the channel may be blocked at various times.

MYSTIC RIVER – BOSTON - Bridge rehabilitation at the Route 99 Alford Street Bridge, mile 1.4 across the Mystic River at Charlestown, Massachusetts, will commence on **November 12, 2010** and continue through **May 31, 2013**. A 48' x 120' work barge will be located under the bridge from 7 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The barge will move out of the channel for vessel traffic requiring full channel width upon request by calling Mr. William Schurman at 978-265-7263.

NANTASKET ROADS, Boston Harbor – Approximately 50 feet of exposed pipeline is floating near or on the surface between Georges Island and Windmill Point. The pipeline is under repair and may be exposed. The pipeline is a black 4 inch diameter pipe located near the “10A” buoy in position 42-18.5N / 070-55.6W. Mariners are urged to use extreme caution while transiting this area.

NEPONSET RIVER – DORCHESTER - Bridge rehabilitation at the Neponset River Route 3A highway bridge, across the Neponset River, mile 1.5, between Boston and Quincy, Massachusetts, is underway and will continue through **March 2013**.

A waste containment platform is suspended under the entire bridge reducing the vertical clearance by approximately 5 feet.

NEW INLET – SCITUATE / MARSHFIELD – Shoaling has been reported from the North River Junction Buoy towards South River Buoy 2 (LLNR 12360). The depth was reported as approximately 3.5 feet at low water. Mariners are advised to use caution when transiting this area, especially during extreme ebb tides.

PAMET HARBOR, TRURO – Severe shoaling has been detected at the entrance to Pamet Harbor, including shoaling within the entrance channel. Mariners should avoid this area at low tide and attempt to navigate Pamet Harbor entrance channel only within three hours before and after high water,

SAUGUS RIVER – The Coast Guard has received reports of shoaling in the Saugus River between the Saugus River Buoy 5 (LLNR 24825) and Buoy 6 (LLNR 24830). Mariners are urged to use caution while transiting the area.

SAUGUS RIVER - Bridge construction of a temporary bridge to replace the existing Route 107 (Western Avenue) Bridge across the Saugus River at mile 2.5, between Lynn and Saugus, Massachusetts, is in progress and will be completed by **September 30, 2011**. Working hours will be from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. A crane barge, 40' x 200' and material barge, 35' x 110' will be located on both sides of the river but not in the main navigable channel.

TAUNTON RIVER - Painting operations are ongoing at the I-195 (Braga) Bridge at mile 0.4, across the Taunton River between Fall River and Somerset, Massachusetts. Painting operations will continue through **July 2011**. There will be a three (3) foot vertical clearance reduction under the bridge for the entire length of the bridge for paint containment. Working hours will be seven days a week 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mariners are advised to monitor VHF channel 22 for the latest bridge safety information. The bridge contractor, M & J Painting, contact person is Mr. Emanuel Gialousis at 330-719-1861.

Rhode Island

ALLEN HARBOR, NARRAGANSETT BAY – The Coast Guard has received a report that, due to excessive shoaling, a portion of the entrance channel to Allen Harbor, North Kingston, allows only four feet of clearance at low tide. Mariners are advised to use caution when transiting this area.

NARRAGANSETT BAY – EAST PASSAGE – Vertical reduction - Bridge painting operations and repairs are in progress and will continue through **June 30, 2012**, at the Newport Pell Bridge, mile 4.0, across Narragansett Bay East Passage at Newport, Rhode Island. A containment platform will reduce the vertical clearance under the bridge by approximately 4 feet. Two work barges 60' x 140" will be located under the bridge's west side intermediate spans but not in the navigation channel. Additionally, a tug and 50' x 30' barge will be located on the north side of the bridge but not in the navigation channel. Working hours are Monday through Saturday 6 a.m. through 10 p.m. Mariners are requested to reduce speed through the bridge construction area and should also exercise caution while transiting the area.

SAKONNET RIVER –Bridge Construction - Construction of the new ***Route 24 (Sakonnet River) Bridge*** at mile 12.2, across the Sakonnet River between Tiverton and Portsmouth, Rhode Island, has commenced and will continue until approximately **May 2011**. A temporary floating trestle system will be constructed across the waterway extending from the Portsmouth and Tiverton shorelines to the two main piers on each side of the navigation channel. A safe work zone has been established for construction activities to minimize risk to vessels transiting the area. The safety work zone begins, from the north, at the old railroad bridge and extends approximately 800' south of the old Route 24 (Sakonnet River) Bridge. The safety work zone will be delineated by white lighted buoys extending from each side of the channel to the shoreline. Three work barges will be located within the safe work zone: one 250 x 72 barge, two 150 x 50 barges. A temporary navigation channel has also been established to allow vessels to transit through the safe work zone. ***The temporary navigation channel is marked with green buoys (15A, 15B, & 15C) on the west side of the temporary channel, and red buoy (16A, 16B, & 16C) on the east side.*** Vessels transiting through the safe work zone must stay within the marked temporary channel and proceed at their slowest safe speed to minimize wake. The contractors, Cashman Equipment Corp and Cardi Corporation, workboats will be monitoring VHF channel 11 should you need to contact them. RIDOT's Project Engineer, Mr. Larry Bailey can be contacted at (401) 816-0991.



Look for Navigation Systems at the April Awards Conference.

Navigation System's will play a role at the April Awards Conference at the Newport, Marriott on April 8, 9 and 10. We will have two tables on Saturday and Sunday that will be manned by qualified AVs. We invite you down to discuss your involvement in the Navigations Systems Program for 2011. We will have experts on call for all of our five programs – Federal Aids-*ATONS*, Private Aids-*PATONs*, the *Bridge* Program, *Chart Updating* and *Small Craft Facility Reporting*. If you need check offs for your AV Qualification Guide, we can handle them for you. If you need to perform on-line PATON and Bridge reports to complete your AV qualification, we can handle it for you.

We will be holding brief seminars during the day on various PATON subjects. You can ask for specific presentations. We will have on-line connections to the internet and will be able to demonstrate live presentations of the latest updates to the Bridge Database and the Web-Based PATON Reporting System for you.

We will be there to communicate with you and provide you with all the information that you need about our programs. We will have the latest lists of PATON assignments to Division and Flotillas. We will also be able to explain the various patrol areas throughout the District.

New members are encouraged to visit our booth and learn about Navigation Systems. Look for our display of lighted Aids to Navigations.

"We are going to relentlessly chase perfection, knowing full well we will not catch it. But we are going to relentlessly chase it, because in the process we will catch excellence." Vince Lombardi

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