



**Covering Aids to Navigation, Bridges, & Chart Updating Activity with
Accuracy - Credibility – Professionalism and Service to the Coast Guard & NOAA**

SEPTEMBER 2012 - NAVIGATION SYSTEMS NEWSLETTER



It's a great pleasure to work with a tremendous bunch of Aid Verifiers in First Northern. You certainly pulled out all the stops in August.

547 PATONs were verified leaving only 248 to complete in 2012.

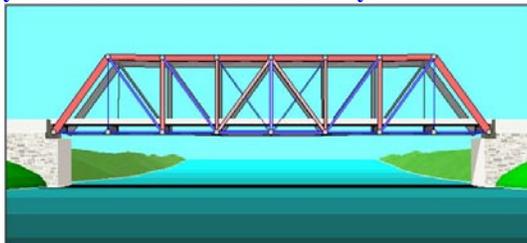
96 out of 197 bridges have been surveyed leaving 101 to do by the end of the year.

These are certainly doable numbers. Check out the detail summaries below

The latest **95 Bridges To Do List** is summarized below:

AUX DIV	Total Bridges	Area	Surveyed to date	To Do
1	9	ANT Southwest Harbor, ME	8	1
2	47	ANT South Portland, ME	14	33
3	13	Merrimack River, MA	5	8
4	13	North Shore, MA	1	12
5	41	Boston	33	8
6	12	Buzzards Bay	0	12
7	16	Narragansett Bay, RI	16	Completed
9	15	Connecticut River, MA	2	13
11	18	Cape Cod	13	5
12	7	South Shore, MA	1	6
TOTAL	191		93	95

We have a good distance to go. Check out the remaining balances and offer your assistance where you are able. I would love to put “**Completed**” next to your Division next month. Remember that many bridges can be surveyed by private auto. **It only takes a few minutes to do a survey.**



242 PATONs To Do. Schedule is summarized below.

<p>Southwest Harbor – Division 1 – 81 to go.</p> <p>PAT-1N Completed PAT 1S 12 to go. PAT-2 Completed PAT-3 Completed PAT-4 3 to go. PAT-5 2 to go. PAT-6 1 to go. PAT-7 3 to go. PAT-8 22 to go. PAT-10 38 to go</p>	<p>Scott Warner is working on the northern aquaculture aids. As we guessed, there are a lot of problems to resolve in this AOR and 72 Aqua facilities to check. The 12 PATONs in Camden Harbor are yet to been verified.</p>
<p>South Portland – Division 2 – 53 to go.</p> <p>SP-BH 25 to go. (013-02-05) Boothbay SP-CB 27 to go. (013-02-01) Casco SP-SB Completed (013-02-04) Saco SP-PH 1 to go. (013-02-08) Portsmouth</p>	<p>Portsmouth Harbor and Saco Bay are pretty much wrapped up for 2012. AV Homer is working with the Aquaculture facilities and owners on the Damariscotta and the aids on the Cathance River.</p>
<p>ANT Boston 16 to go.</p> <p>Division 3 – Completed. Division 4 – 10 to go. Division 5 – Completed Division 9 – Completed. Division 12 – 6 to go.</p>	<p>Divisions 4 and 12 are working on wrapping a bunch of swim buoys and regulatory buoys, most of which have never been verified before so they have to get done this year.</p>
<p>ANT Woods Hole Division 6 – 25 to go.</p> <p>WH-D 9 to go. 013-06-03) WH-E 16 to go. (013-06-05) WH-F Completed. (013-06-05)</p>	<p>Division 6 has made a great recovery getting their backlog down to 24 last month. Most of the remaining aids have never been done before so they also have to be verified this year.</p>
<p>Woods Hole – Division 11 – 51 to go.</p> <p>WH-AE 6 to go. (013-11-01) WH-AN1 1 to go. (013-11-06) WH-AN2 Completed WH-AW 1 to go. (013-11-01) WH-BE 37 to go. (013-11-08) WH-CS1 Completed (013-11-02) WH-CS2 Completed (013-11-02) WH-CW Completed. (013-11-06) WH-MV 6 to go. (013-11-02) WH-NAN Completed (013-11-07)</p>	<p>Most of the Patrol Areas in Division 11 are down to a few PATONs. Bravo East has had the most PATONs to do each year and have been knocking off PATONs consistently throughout the season. They are currently down to 37. Gil Paulin and Bob Nolan have done a great job in this Patrol Area. The other Patrol Areas in Division 11 have only a few to do. Three Patrol Areas are completed.</p>
<p>Bristol – Division 7, 8 and 10 – 16 to go.</p> <p>CG ANT Completed (ANT Bristol) CH-C 3 to go. (Narragansett Bay Central) CH-E 3 to go. (Narragansett Bay East) CH-W 3 to go (Narragansett Bay West) Foxtrot 5 to go (Westport) PJ-O 2 to go (Point Judith / Block Island)</p>	<p>The ANT Bristol AVs have done a super job this year. Currently, there are only a few PATONs to wrap up which will be completed this month.</p>

Overall, 547 scheduled PATONs were verified and reported in August. This does not include the unscheduled PATONs that were observed with discrepancies and also reported. What a fantastic response and effort from the AVs in August.

We urge all AVs to focus on the remaining 242 scheduled PATONs only. You are asked to check on the other Private and Federal aids but to only report those that you observe with a discrepancy. Note these statistics are changing daily as new reports are submitted.



Here are some of the discrepancy photos that have been submitted. Pictures like these are great supporting evidence to your PATON reports. Photographic evidence always generates a quick response. There are no amount of words that could create the image that they portray. Any possible confusion regarding the problems are eliminated. Photos are one of the AV's best communication tools.



These three photos will be put into one of our PowerPoint training presentations.

Also, send us photos of your AVs in action and we will publish them in our newsletter. Don't forget the send along a list of the names of AVs in the photo.



We don't give out any prizes but it's always nice to show the other AVs how much fun you are having verifying PATONs, surveying Bridges or updating charts. Funny situations are great as long as they don't embarrass anyone.

NOTE to AVs:

Check the "Duration" on each PATON that you check from now on. Many private aids are pulled for the winter starting on September 30th. Most of these seasonal aids will be out of the water by December 1st. Please don't report seasonal aids as "missing."

Announcing another Navigation Systems Training Opportunity.

Date: Tuesday evening, October 2, 2012 – 8:00 to 10:00 PM.

Place: The comfort of your home.

Title: “*Everything you need to know about NOAA Charts***”**

Every Operational Auxiliarist should take this training. All of the elements of the NOAA chart will be explained at this session. ***Learn how the NOAA chart can enhance the accuracy of your GPS fixes, waypoints and routes.*** This training is a must for establishing waypoints and routes accurately, for proper chart update reporting, for fixing positions on a NOAA chart and for converting a depth to a charted datum.

New members, boat crew and coxswains, Aid Verifiers and AV Candidates will all benefit from this training. ***You can become a safer boat operator with this training.*** This session is open to everyone. Please spread this message to all your members.

Here are some of the training topics:

- **How charts are made.** Getting a sphere on a flat surface and the potential error it creates.
- **The implication of chart scales.** Small scale and large scale charts are reviewed. What they mean to the navigator.
- **Latitude and Longitude:** Formulating a position of fix on a NOAA chart.
- **Understanding all the features available on a NOAA Chart.** Meridians and Parallels, the General Information Block, the Compass Rose, Chart Number, and Cautionary Notes are explained.
- **Aids to Navigation.** How aids are portrayed and identified on a NOAA Chart.
- **Using On-Line NOAA Charts.** You will be shown how to use these on-line charts to save time keeping your charts updated and current and to verify the latest charted data.
- **Accessing Free NOAA Open CPM Charts.** You will also be shown how to download these free charts to your home PC and you will be taught how to keep them updated on a monthly basis.

Take this opportunity to become an expert on NOAA Charts and take advantage of the ***free charts*** that are available on the www.uscgaan.com web site.

Formal announcements will be published by e-mail and will also appear on the District Web Site with instructions for logging onto the WebEX System.



“It’s always a lot easier to respond to a boating accident that has already been prevented.”

This is the job of the members of the First Northern Navigation System Team.

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