



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Navigation Systems



D1NS Program Update for January 2010

Attn: PATON Workshop Attendees – January Conference

We had a full house at the January PATON Qualification Workshop and we promised to get back to you with information on how to complete the qualification process. In the meantime, a project to standardize the training and qualification process throughout the First District was initiated. The good news is that we have come to agreement on the process and have submitted a proposal for final approval. There is more good news that the work that you have completed is part of the process. Here is a brief summary of the new process:

1. Pre-workshop readings have been established. You should have completed all of these readings except for a Bridge Program reading.
2. An open book test of 25 questions would be completed prior to the PATON Workshop. We are waiving this test for all the **AVC**-Aid Verifier Candidates who attended the January PATON Workshop.
3. Attendance at an all-day PATON Workshop. You have completed this task.

4. Completion of a 25 question post-workshop open book exam. We will be sending you this test. 20 questions will be about PATONs and 5 questions will be taken from the required Bridge readings. Passing grade is 96% or 24 out of 25.
5. All AVCs must complete three PATON verifications under the supervision of an AVQ-Aid Verifier Qualifier and report their observations on-line. The AVC will log you onto the system. The AVC must also submit reports of their PATON activity to the AUXdata System using an ANSC 7030 Activity Report – Mission Individual form.
6. Upon completion, within a six month window starting on May 15, a letter will be sent to DIRAUX to enter the AV qualification in your personnel record.
7. AVs that have not completed this training program by November 15 will lose their access code.

Hang in there! We need your assistance to get the 2010 job done. We will get you qualified.

New Currency Maintenance Rules for the First District AV Program

In the future, in order to maintain your AV qualification, each qualified AV must stay active in the program, and is required to have filed at least three ATON, PATON or Bridge reports within each two year period. The reports that are acceptable for currency maintenance are:

- **ATON** (Federal Aid) **discrepancy reports only**,
- **PATON** (Private Aid) **discrepancy or annual verification reports**, or
- **Bridge discrepancy reports or annual Bridge Survey reports**.

Failure to maintain the two-year currency requirement will result in going into REYR status. Failure to perform the currency procedures for five (5) consecutive years will result in loss of qualification. The member will then be required to meet the initial qualification criteria in order to regain qualification.

These new rules are currently working through the D1NR approval process.

2010 PATON Program Planning Process

A major PATON planning program is currently in process. The Coast Guard has established some new verification rules. First of all, all reports must be made on the PATON Database System. This practice insures that the reports are recorded on the PATON System. As was reiterated at the PATON workshop, it's not an official report until you hit the "submit" button.

Next, during the 2010 season, all PATONs that have never been reported on the on-line PATON System must be verified. Also, some Sectors are requiring that all PATONs in their AOR be verified this year. Any PATONs that cannot be verified by the Auxiliary must be verified by the Coast Guard. We don't want that to happen.

Each CG ANT will have a specific final plan showing all of the PATONs in the AOR. The AOR will be further broken out into natural Auxiliary patrol areas. Each patrol area will have an estimation of the number of patrols that will be needed to complete the annual plan and will have a local Auxiliarist appointed as the Patrol Area Leader and a list of the number of AVs that operate in the patrol area. Each leader must be a qualified and active AV.

There will be final planning and training meetings scheduled in each CG ANT later in the Spring to finalize patrol area plans and update any AVs who need access codes and training on the PATON Database System. We will also want commitments from each AV in every area.

We have a great commitment from Operations that they will provide any OPFACs that we will need. No obstacle will be tolerated while getting this job done. If needed, OPFACS will be moved between Patrol Area to insure every scheduled PATON is verified. We hope to identify all the problem areas and have a plan and a contingency plan in place by March 30th.

We invite every AV to participate this year. Here are the patrol areas that have been identified so far.

South West Harbor – Division 1

- 1 – Penobscot River Area.
- 2 – Northern and Eastern Penobscot Bay.
- 3 – Rockland Area.
- 4 – Blue Hill Area.
- 5 – Southwest Harbor.
- 6 – Jonesport Area.
- 7 – Machias Area.
- 8 – Eastport and Lubec Area.

South Portland – Division 2

- 1 – Boothbay.
- 2 – Casco Bay
- 3 – Saco Bay Area.
- 4 – Portsmouth Area.

Newburyport Area – Division 3

- 1 - Hampton Harbor.
- 2 – Newburyport / Merrimac River.
- 3 – Parker River
- 4 – Essex River.

Upper North Shore – Division 4

- 1 – Danvers River.
- 2 – Salem Sound Area.

Lower North Shore – Division 4

- 1 – Annisquam River / Ipswich.
- 2 – Gloucester / Cape Ann.
- 3 – Offshore Buoys.

Boston Harbor – Division 5 and 12.

- 1 – Boston Inner Harbor.
- 2 – Hingham and Quincy Bays.
- 3 – Dorchester Bay.
- 4 – Braintree / Weymouth.
- 5 – Offshore Buoys.

Upper South Shore – Division 5 and 12.

- 1 – Scituate Area
- 2 – New Inlet.
- 3 – Brant Rock.

Lower South Shore–Divisions 6 and 12.

- 1 – Duxbury Harbor.
- 2 – Kingston Harbor.
- 3 – Plymouth Harbor.

Connecticut River – Division 9

- 1 – Oxbow Area.
- 2 – Upper Connecticut River.

Coast Guard – Class 1 Aids

Canal Area – Divisions 6 and 11

- 1 – Barnstable Harbor / Sandwich.
- 2 – Buzzards Bay to Wareham.
- 3 – Wings Neck to Old Silver Beach.
- 4 – Sippican to New Bedford.
- 5 – New Bedford to Westport.
- 6 – Cuttyhunk

Nantucket – Division 11

Lower Cape East – Division 11.

- 1 – Harwich / Monomoy.
- 2 – Chatham / Orleans.
- 3 – Eastham.

Lower Cape West – Division 11.

- 1 – Provincetown Area.
- 2 – Wellfleet Area.
- 3 – Sesuit Harbor.

Mid Cape Area – Division 11

- 1 – Bass River.

- 2 – Yarmouth Area.
- 3 – Hyannis Area.
- 4 – Cotuit Area.

Upper Cape Area – Division 11.

- 1 – Upper Cape East.
- 2 – Upper Cape West.

Marthas Vineyard – Division 11

Coast Guard Aids – ANT Woods Hole

South Shore Area – Division 6

Block Island – Division 7

Narragansett Bay West – Divisions 7, 8 and 10.

Narragansett Bay Central – Divisions 7, 8 and 10.

Narragansett Bay East – Divisions 7, 8 and 10.

Offshore Aids – Divisions 6, 7, 8 and 10.

We are looking **AVs, AV Patrol Area Leaders, and support AVs for CG ANTs**. Where do you fit in this puzzle? Let us know where you can assist the Coast Guard this year. Let your local NS Staff officer know where you can assist. In the Northeast, we have a short verification window so we have to be ready to go in late May. Here are your contacts:

ANT Southwest Harbor – [Nancy Plunkett](#).

ANT South Portland – [John Dempsey](#) and [Tom Raynor](#).

ANT Boston – [Frank Larkin](#) and [Frank Senkel](#).

ANT Woods Hole – [Bob Nolan](#) and [Frank Larkin](#).

ANT Bristol – [Bob Pardi](#), [Chris Lawrence](#) and [Mike Quinn](#).

2010 PATON Program Planning Goals

PATONS that require verification this year will be designated in a Patrol Area Plan. Priority will be given to PATONS that have never been reported on the Database PATON System before. The second priority is for floating lateral aids with a seasonal duration. Third are fixed lateral aids. Fourth are security exclusion aids marking critical facilities. All lateral aids should be verified and reported by July 15th this year.

2010 Bridge Program

The new AV Program now includes bridges. You can report discrepancies on Bridges without being AV qualified but you must be AV qualified to perform annual safety equipment surveys on the bridges in the First District. Annual bridge surveys in our AOR will be included in the Patrol Area plans this year.

We need your assistance to get this job done for the Coast Guard this year. Let us know how you plan to assist so we can put you into the patrol schedule