



COMDTINST 5740.5D
01 JUN 2021

COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 5740.5D

Subj: WORKING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) NATIONAL DATA BUOY CENTER
(NDBC) AND THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD (USCG); SUPPORT FOR
NDBC IN THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC AREAS

1. PURPOSE. Promulgates a revised working agreement between the Coast Guard and NDBC. The intended users are Area and District level cutter program managers and Commanding Officer's, for cutters involved with servicing National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data buoys.
2. ACTION. Area and District Commanders, and commanders of maintenance and logistics commands shall ensure compliance with the provisions of this Instruction. Internet release is authorized.
3. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. COMDTINST 5740.5C is cancelled.
4. DISCUSSION. The working agreement between the Coast Guard and NDBC has been updated (Enclosure (1)). The Headquarters Program Manager for the Data Buoy Program is Commandant (CG-NAV-1).
5. DISCLAIMER. This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule. It is intended to provide operational guidance for Coast Guard personnel and is not intended to nor does it impose legally-binding requirements on any party outside the Coast Guard.
6. MAJOR CHANGES. The number of days per fiscal year that NDBC requires Coast Guard assets to service data buoys systems decreased. Enclosure (1) combined two separate Area agreements into one joint agreement.

DISTRIBUTION – SDL No. 170

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NON-STANDARD DISTRIBUTION:

7. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS.

- a. The development of this Directive and the general policies contained within it have been thoroughly reviewed by the originating office in conjunction with the Office of Environmental Management, Commandant (CG-47). This Instruction is categorically excluded under current Department of Homeland Security (DHS) categorical exclusion (CATEX) A3 from further environmental analysis in accordance with the U.S. Coast Guard Environmental Planning Policy, COMTINST 5090.1 and the Environmental Planning (EP) Implementing Procedures (IP).
- b. This Directive will not have any of the following: significant cumulative impacts on the human environment; substantial controversy or substantial change to existing environmental conditions; or inconsistencies with any federal, state, or local laws or administrative determinations relating to the environment. All future specific actions resulting from the general policies in this Instruction must be individually evaluated for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions, Executive Order 12114, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) NEPA Policy, Coast Guard Environmental Planning policy, and compliance with all other applicable environmental mandates

8. DISTRIBUTION. No paper distribution will be made of this Instruction. An electronic version will be located on the following Coast Guard websites. Internet: <http://www.dcms.uscg.mil/directives/>, and CG Portal: <https://cg.portal.uscg.mil/library/directives/SitePages/Home.aspx>.

9. PROCEDURE.

- a. Area Commanders. Area Commanders must coordinate all data buoy support activities within their areas and maintain records necessary to execute this agreement and monitor resource utilization.
- b. Shore Infrastructure Logistics Center and District Commanders. The Mission Support Product Line, the Waterways Operations Product Line, and District Commanders must provide shore facilities and services called for in this agreement.
- c. Commanding Officers. Cutters conducting NDBC operations must record NDBC hours using the "ATON" Mission Code "NDBC" Employment Code, and include the number of sorties/hours used in the Asset Logistics Management Information System (ALMIS).

10. RECORDS MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS. This Instruction has been thoroughly reviewed during the directives clearance process, and it has been determined there are no further records scheduling requirements, in accordance with Federal Records Act, 44 U.S.C. 3101 et seq., NARA requirements, and Information and Life Cycle Management Manual, COMDTINST M5212.12 (series). This policy does not have any significant or substantial change to existing records management requirements.

11. FORMS/REPORTS. None.

12. REQUEST FOR CHANGES. Units and individuals may recommend changes through Commandant (CG-NAV-1).

/MICHAEL. D. EMERSON/
U.S. Coast Guard
Director of Marine Transportation Systems Mgmt

Encl: (1) Working Agreement between the National Data Buoy Center (NDBC) and the United States Coast Guard (USCG) for NDBC Support

**WORKING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE NATIONAL DATA BUOY CENTER (NDBC)
AND
THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD (USCG)
FOR NDBC SUPPORT**

Article I - Introduction

The USCG enters into this agreement pursuant to the authority of 14 U.S.C §701 and 717. This working agreement between the Director, National Data Buoy Center, and the Director of Marine Transportation Systems, United States Coast Guard, recognizes the support requirements of the NDBC within the NOAA/USCG overall agreement, dated 27 March 1972, and is in specific compliance with Article VII thereof. The National Data Buoy Center has been assigned the task of establishing and maintaining a meteorological/oceanographic data collection system in the Atlantic and Pacific Areas of Responsibility (AOR). The Coast Guard operates cutters, aircraft, and shore facilities for various missions and is authorized to use these resources to support other Federal agencies. The purpose of this agreement is to establish the support mechanism for the data collection system.

Article II - Responsibilities

A. Concept of Operations. Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area (LANTAREA) and Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area (PACAREA) must coordinate requests for NDBC support within their respective AOR. NDBC must request support through the appropriate Area Commander, or directly from the appropriate District Commander as authorized by the LANTAREA and PACAREA Commanders.

B. Support.

1. Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area and Coast Guard Pacific Area must:
 - a. Ensure cognizant District Commanders provide vessel support (scheduled and unscheduled) up to 125 days for each Area Command per fiscal year for deployment, maintenance, and recovery of data collection systems.
 - b. Provide vessel support in excess of 125 days per fiscal year from each Area Command, as mission priorities allow, only upon receipt of specific guidance from the Office of Marine Transportation Systems (CG-5PW), U.S. Coast Guard.
 - c. Provide aircraft and boat support in lieu of vessel support for minor maintenance missions.
 - d. Satisfy requests for unscheduled vessel deployment as practicable within constraints of Coast Guard mission priorities.
2. Shore Infrastructure Logistics Center (SILC) and District Commanders responsible to Area Commanders must provide as available:

- a. Notification to the cognizant Area Commander if unable to provide their portion of support to NDBC as required by the Area Commander.
 - b. Dockside space to allow NDBC personnel and NDBC support contractor personnel to perform buoy refurbishment, assembly and testing. Space will be provided when requested by NDBC.
 - c. Utility services dockside to accommodate refurbishment of buoys (including electrical power, fresh water, and FTS telephone) and material handling services using Coast Guard owned equipment.
 - d. Shore side storage space as agreed to between NDBC and Coast Guard.
 - e. Industrial support, as available, on a reimbursable basis to the SILC.
 - f. Contracting and purchase order service as available within Coast Guard resources.
 - g. Logistic support for staging and shipping NDBC equipment.
 - h. Site documentation, licenses, use agreements, design coordination and other approvals for installation on Coast Guard property as agreed upon between the Parties.
3. The National Data Buoy Center must:
- a. Establish firm ready-for-sea dates for all buoy operations and provide message confirmation to each Coast Guard Area Commander (or cognizant District Commander as authorized) two weeks in advance of the scheduled sailing time.
 - b. Make specific requests through the cognizant Area or District Commander for unscheduled vessel, aircraft, or boat support at the earliest possible date.
 - c. Provide all special material handling equipment required shore side.
 - d. Furnish technicians as required to repair and maintain buoys and associated equipment.
 - e. Submit any request for vessel support in excess of 125 days per fiscal year to the Office of Marine Transportation Systems (CG-5PW), U.S. Coast Guard. Requests must be made at least 30 days in advance of the requested sailing time.
 - f. Make every effort to reduce the amount of Coast Guard vessel support required and plan transportation requests in conjunction with Coast Guard missions when possible.

Article III - Term, Review and Modification

This agreement shall be effective upon signature of both approving officials and shall remain in effect until modified or terminated. This agreement may be modified upon the mutual written consent of the Parties. Unless modified earlier, the parties must jointly review this agreement

sufficiently in advance of each anniversary date to determine whether the agreement should be continued in its present form or be modified. This agreement may be terminated at any time by mutual agreement or unilaterally with at least one year advance written notice by either party. If this agreement is terminated, any pre-existing requests must be fulfilled.

The Point of Contact (POC) for this working agreement for the Coast Guard is the Office of Aids to Navigation and Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (CG-NAV-1), and may be reached via email at HQS-DG-1st-CG-NAV-1@uscg.mil. The POC for the NDBC is the CG-NDBC liaison, and may be reached via phone at (228) 688-2199.

This agreement is entered into and effective on 1 Jan 2021.

M. D. EMERSON
Director of Marine
Transportation Systems
COMDT CG-5PW

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THOMAS J. CUFF
Director (Acting),
National Data Buoy Center