

Part B - 8

LEAD AGENCY/BUREAU AND/OR SUBCOMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP REPORT
(Agencies with Lead Responsibilities Assigned under the new Circular A-16 in
Appendix E - <http://www.fgdc.gov/publications/a16final.html#appendix>) (Please provide a separate report for each activity for which you have the lead)

1. Program/Activity Name: **Ocean Depth (Bathymetry) Data**

2. What are the specific federal programs this data supports?

NOAA/NOS Office of Coast Survey Nautical Charting Program

3. Uses of Data: How does your data benefit customers and support agency missions?

Provides bathymetric data for a variety of users beyond traditional nautical charting including coastal zone management, geological process analysis, and fisheries habitat characterization.

4. Charter/Plan: Do you have a current charter or plan for collection? If so - please describe (include how recently the charter/plan was implemented and whether it is in need of update).

A new NOAA Hydrographic Survey Priorities document was just approved on October 26, 2004 and is available on the internet at <http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/NHSP.html>.

5. Performance Measures: Does your agency have performance measures for your data theme? If so, please list the measures and whether you achieved your goals.

Milestone 1: Oversee the acquisition of hydrographic survey covering 1800 square nautical miles (SNM) within the Critical Survey Area and 200 SNM of other navigationally significant areas. FY 04 results: The total SNM of each area surveyed were 1648 and 205. The shortfall was due to an unanticipated mechanical breakdown of the main NOAA ship in Alaska for one month.

Milestone 2: Award two contracts providing hydrographic surveying services and issue five task orders against these and other contracts. FY 04 results: Two contracts were awarded and ten task orders were issued.

Milestone 3: Process 50 in-house and contract hydrographic surveys as well as surveys from outside sources. FY 04 results: 58 surveys were processed

Milestone 4: Issue Letter Instructions or Statements of Work for 30 hydrographic survey projects. FY 04 results: 38 Letter Instructions or SOW's were issued.

6. Metadata Status: Is metadata discoverable and served through the NSDI Clearinghouse? What percentage of this theme's data has metadata and is in a Clearinghouse node?

Yes –100 percent.

7. Standards: What is the status of this theme's data, process, transfer, and classification standards?

Work continued on the Geospatial Data Accuracy Standards, Part 5 - Accuracy Standards for Hydrographic Surveys and Nautical Charts as well as coordination with the FGDC Elevation Subcommittee.

8. Progress: List FY 2004 activities/progress to date (quantify where possible).

Progress is captured in performance measures for FY 2004. See response to question 5.

9. Participation: List Participating Federal Agencies.

Some bathymetric data sharing has begun with the U.S. Geological Survey

10. Planned Activities. What are your planned activities for FY05.

The major planned activities for FY 05 include overseeing the acquisition of hydrographic survey data over 2700 square nautical miles and processing 55 surveys.

11. Policy: Do you have a formal agency policy in place for full and open access or data sharing? Are you able to fulfill this policy and provide public access with your current agency financial resources as allocated or are you in pursuit of collaborative federal partnerships to support data access?

All NOAA bathymetric data has full and open access through our data distribution center at the National Geophysical Data Center in Boulder, Colorado.

12. Are there areas or issues regarding lead responsibilities for spatial data themes that require attention, or lessons-learned that you would like to share with others? Please describe.

There is a need to be able to simultaneously analyze depth data and elevation data along the coast. This is made difficult by the differing vertical datums used by each data type. A method must be designed to enable this analysis. NOAA has developed a prototype program called V-Datum that needs to be expanded in its applicability to the entire U.S. coastline.