

HYDROGRAPHIC NOTE
Form H102

Forwarding information for Notice to Mariner

Contact person		Date		
Address				
Tel/Fax/E-mail				
General Locality				
Subject				
Position	Latitude		Longitude	
Chart				
Publications affected				
Details:				
Name of Observer or person reporting				

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Mariners are requested to notify the NMSA by email on hydro@nmsa.gov.pg when you encounter the following;
 - New or suspected dangers to navigation are discovered,
 - Changes observed in aids to navigation, or
 - Corrections to publications are seen to be necessary.
2. Accurate position or knowledge of positional error is of great importance. Latitude and longitude should only be used to specifically position the details when they have been fixed by GPS. A full description of the method, equipment, time, estimated error and datum (where applicable) used should be given. Where position is derived from Electronic Position Fixing (eg LORAN C) or distances observed by radar, the raw readings of the system in use should be quoted wherever possible.
3. When **soundings** are obtained The Mariner's Handbook (NP 100) should be consulted. The echo sounding trace should be marked with times, depths, etc., and forwarded with the report. It is important to state whether the echo sounder is set to register depths below the surface or below the keel; in the latter case the vessel's draught should be given. Time and date should be given in order that corrections for the height of the tide may be made where necessary. The make, name and type of set should also be given.
4. **Reports which cannot be confirmed or are lacking in certain details should not be withheld.** Shortcomings should be stressed and any firm expectation of being able to check the information on a succeeding voyage should be mentioned.
5. Reports of **shoal soundings**, uncharted dangers and aids to navigation out of order should, at the mariner's discretion, also be made by radio to the nearest coast radio station. The draught of modern tankers is such that any uncharted depth under 30 metres or 15 fathoms may be of sufficient importance to justify a radio message.
6. Changes to Port Information should be forwarded on Form H.102A and any GPS/Chart Datum observations should be forwarded on Form H.102B together with Form H.102. Where there is insufficient space on the forms an additional sheet should be used.
7. Reports on ocean currents should be made in accordance with The Mariner's Handbook (NP 100) Chapter 4.