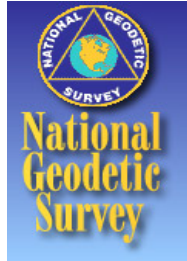


Welcome to the USCG Auxiliary Coast Pilot Program



The Coast Pilot program encourages the update of every NOAA Coast Pilot by any Auxiliarist at any time. There are no restrictions and any member can make Coast Pilot reports to NOAA. *“The Auxiliary may also help the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and National Ocean Service (NOS) in updating this publication.”* (Excerpted from Chapter 2, Section B3 of the Auxiliary Manual.) A Memorandum of Understanding exists between NOAA and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

1. The focus for the Auxiliary Coast Pilot program is on prevention, accuracy, credibility, and professionalism, and is directed toward raising your competence in the eyes of NOAA. There are specific guidelines for taking fixes and depths that require pre-underway validation of all equipment that is used to perform measurements, and for reporting quality control evidence for each on-scene observation and instrument reading. Also required are explanations of the technique(s) used to acquire any reported data. Observers are directed to define each Coast Pilot update task, list their on-scene observations, develop a conclusion from the collected evidence and make a final recommendation to NOAA. A fresh scientific approach is encouraged. Evidence can take the form of a fix taken with a GPS set using WAAS, depths corrected to the charted vertical datum, physical measurements, photographs, drawings, marked up chartlet, and printouts from the Internet. Any official document that supports your contention is great support evidence. The Internet can also supply great supporting data. In effect, you are pleading the case for acceptance of your premise as a Coast Pilot update to NOAA.

2. A new reward system: Auxiliarist submitting a Coast Pilot report to NOAA should have an attached chartlet showing location. Since the DSO-NS performs a quality control check on all Coast Pilot update reports before they are forwarded to NOAA, any sub-grade reports will be returned to the reporter for corrections and not sent to NOAA. Reports rejected by NOAA will be sent to the DVC-MN for review and corrective action. Think of this process as a training opportunity rather than a punitive act. Hopefully, it will provide insight into problems on the Auxiliaries part and the elimination of the reporting of items in which NOAA is not interested.

3. Coast Pilot and operating tools are provided and are available for download.

Coast Pilot Study Guides:

[NS-CU02-Chart Update Training Guide](#) (Adobe). This guide is full of illustrations and photos of the various items that are commonly found on a Nautical Chart that have the potential for correction and update. Each listing has a short explanation about the type of problem that can occur and the specific things to look for that commonly go wrong. For newer members, there are tutorials on Nautical Charts and the use of a GPS Set. Also, there are guidelines for pre-underway checks, taking depths, fixes, photos, planning a patrol, and much more.

The Coast Pilot Section starts on page 49 through 52 of this guide. The Coast Pilot links to **[NS-CU05- Coast Pilot Text Correction Worksheet \(EXCEL\)](#)** and **[NS-CU05A-Coast Pilot Text Correction Worksheet Field Explanations](#)** (Adobe) is also provided below.

Coast Pilot Needed Forms and Worksheets:

[NS-CU03-Chart Updating Form](#) (EXCEL). This form is directed at Chart Updating and Coast Pilot correcting. The (locating or Fixing) LAT/LON fields and depth fields have been expanded to include the necessary quality control reporting requirements associated with these operations. Space is provided for a task statement, comments and observations, and a final recommendation to NOAA based on the evidence reported. Also, there is a place on this form for ordering a NOAA Nautical Chart. However, be sure to note the rules associated with ordering and receiving free charts. This form is temporarily available in EXCEL until it is programmed in Adobe and added to the National Forms Web Site.

[NS-CU03A-Chart Updating Form Field Explanations](#) (Adobe) This is a brief explanation of each field on the **[CU03-Chart Updating Form](#)**. This document is temporarily available until it is included on the *NS-CU03-Chart Updating Form*.

[NS-CU05-Coast Pilot Text Correction Worksheet](#) (EXCEL) Use this worksheet to organize updates and changes to the United States Coast Pilot. This worksheet helps pinpoint the page and paragraph of your changes for NOAA. The existing and new Coast Pilot copy are included as part of the report presentation. This worksheet should always be computer generated to enhance the professionalism of your final CU Update Report and is always sent to NOAA as an attachment to the **[NS-CU03-Chart Update Form](#)**. This worksheet is temporarily available in EXCEL until it is programmed in Adobe and added to the National Forms Web Site.

[NS-CU05A-Coast Pilot Text Correction Worksheet Field Explanations](#) (Adobe) This is an explanation of each field on the **[CU05 – Coast Pilot Text Correction Worksheet](#)**. This document is temporarily available until it is included on the *NS-CU05-Coast Pilot Text Correction Worksheet*.

[NS-CU09 - Chart Updating & Coast Pilot Overview Training Presentation](#) (PowerPoint) Enhance your chart updating learning experience by reviewing this presentation in conjunction with the **[CU02-Chart Updating Study Guide](#)**. This training presentation provides an overview of NOAA's Chart

Updating Program. Ask your SO-NS or ADSO-NS for information on scheduled Chart Updating workshops in your Division.

NS-CU10- [Chart Updating & Coast Pilot Training Presentation](#) (PowerPoint) Enhance your chart updating learning experience by reviewing this presentation in conjunction with [NS-CU02-Chart Updating Study Guide](#). This presentation is used as the basis for Chart Updating workshops. Ask your SO-NS or ADSO-NS for information on scheduled workshops in your Division.

4. *If this Coast Pilot Program interests you*, talk to your FSO-NS or SO-NS. Each Division is urged to form a [Chart Updating & Coast Pilot Team](#) whose goal is to identify chart updating & coast pilot opportunities throughout their AOR and to establish a plan to perform the necessary observations and prepare the appropriate reports for submission to NOAA in order to correct the local Coast Pilot.

All of the information that you need is available from this [Coast Pilot Web Page](#).

Coast Pilot review is a year-round Auxiliary activity and you don't need a boat to participate. New members are encouraged to join. All we want is your skill, knowledge, and your desire to make a contribution. Plan to attend a CU Workshop soon.