

Coast Guard Updates Local Notice to Mariners Format

UPDATE #2 November 17, 2024

Dear AWO Members,

AWO met with the Coast Guard last week to clarify details and timelines for a planned transition to a new GIS based system that will change the format and delivery method for Local Notice to Mariners (LNM) and Light List (LL) scheduled to launch on Dec 2. AWO is working with the Coast Guard to ensure a smooth transition for operators and electronic chart service providers. This update adds to our AWO Member Alert issued Nov 8. This and further updates will be added to the same AWO Member Alert as new information is received.

The new system will display information on an interactive GIS (geographic based) map that will automatically update aids to navigation (ATONs) locations and LNM information every 15 minutes. LL information will be updated every 24 hours. Operators will still have the ability to generate PDFs similar to the current LNMs, however, the information is organized according to location now, rather than by chart number, as chart numbers are obsolete with the sunset of NOAA's traditional raster paper charts. There will also be options to filter information by district, waterway, or by zooming in on a selected area on the interactive app. The new format and more information is available on the [USCG Navigation Center website](#).

The Coast Guard is also working on updating their chart and publication carriage regulations to reflect the sunset of NOAA paper charts and this transition to a new LNM/ LL system. We will update members on these requirements as more information becomes available. Currently, carriage requirements can be satisfied by maintaining the necessary publications outlined in [33 CFR 164.72\(b\)\(2\)](#) or the equivalencies outlined in [NVIC 01-16\(CH2\)](#).

AWO has not heard from any members that the new format has affected their ENC systems from being able to pull the PDFs in automatically, but some local notice to mariners may not be displayed properly until the final version is launched. When the new application does launch, ATON and LNM information will be updated every 15 minutes and Light List information will be updated every 24 hours. ENC service providers will be able to subscribe to these updates to access the information and make it available on their systems. Operators not using equivalencies outlined in [NVIC 01-16\(CH2\)](#) will still be able to print out PDF versions of this information in the new format.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Liam Morcroft

lmorcroft@americanwaterways.com

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November 8, 2024

Dear AWO Members,

The USCG recently changed the format for Local Notice to Mariners. The changes may affect certain Electronic Chart Displays' ability to automate weekly chart corrections. To ensure operators are still receiving updates and necessary navigation safety information, AWO recommends operators who use electronic charts to navigate contact their service providers to ensure the update has not affected their systems.

AWO is currently in contact with the Coast Guard Office of Navigation Systems, advocating for the restoration of the legacy format to provide electronic chart service providers time to integrate the new format into their charting systems.

AWO reminds operators that they can comply with navigation publication carriage requirements outlined in [33 CFR 164.72](#) by carrying the necessary physical publications or the equivalencies listed in [NVIC 01-16\(CH2\)](#). These publications can be updated on a per-voyage basis.

Please contact [Liam Morcroft](#) with any questions.

Best Regards,

Liam Morcroft

lmorcroft@americanwaterways.com