BookletChart™

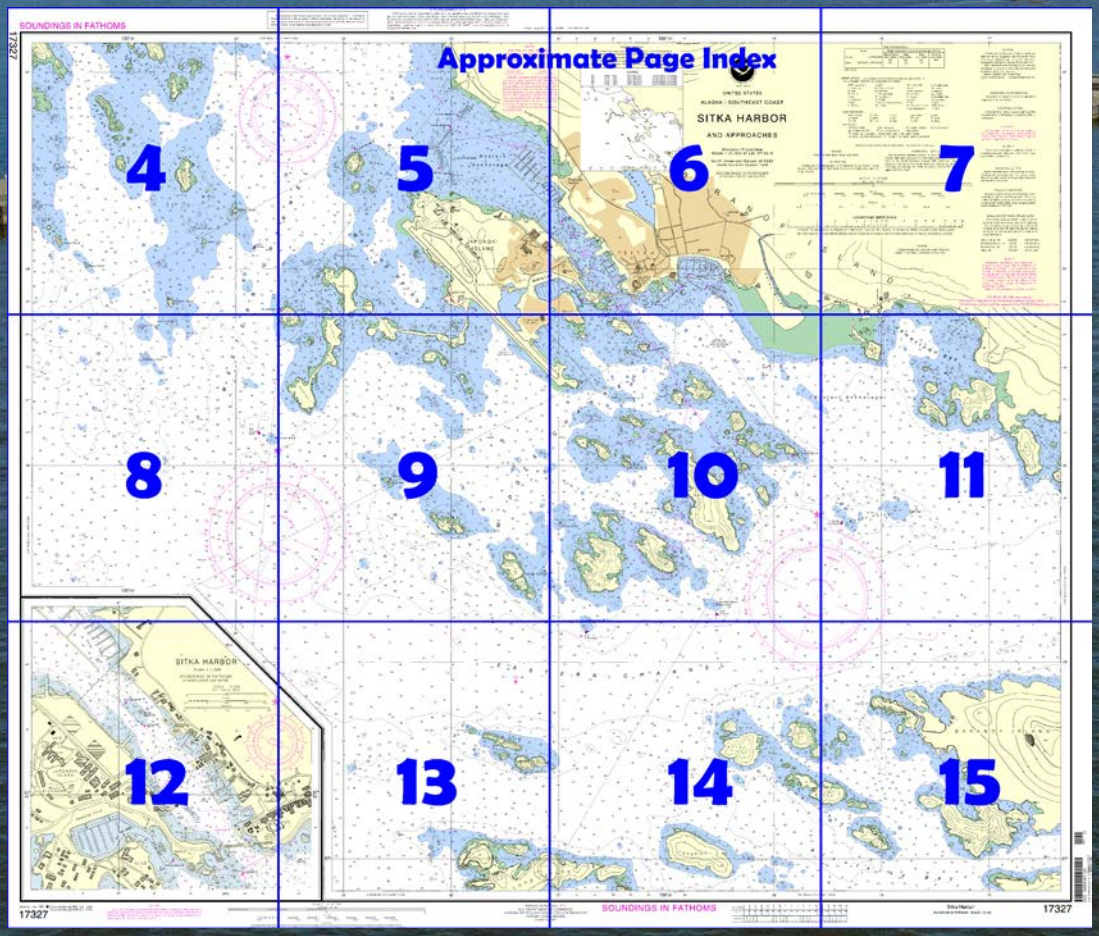
Sitka Harbor and Approaches

NOAA Chart 17327

A reduced-scale NOAA nautical chart for small boaters

When possible, use the full-size NOAA chart for navigation.

- *Complete, reduced-scale nautical chart*
- *Print at home for free*
- *Convenient size*
- *Up-to-date with Notices to Mariners*
- *Compiled by NOAA's Office of Coast Survey, the nation's chartmaker*



Published by the
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Ocean Service
Office of Coast Survey
www.NauticalCharts.NOAA.gov
888-990-NOAA

What are Nautical Charts?

Nautical charts are a fundamental tool of marine navigation. They show water depths, obstructions, buoys, other aids to navigation, and much more. The information is shown in a way that promotes safe and efficient navigation. Chart carriage is mandatory on the commercial ships that carry America's commerce. They are also used on every Navy and Coast Guard ship, fishing and passenger vessels, and are widely carried by recreational boaters.

What is a BookletChart™?

This BookletChart is made to help recreational boaters locate themselves on the water. It has been reduced in scale for convenience, but otherwise contains all the information of the full-scale nautical chart. The bar scales have also been reduced, and are accurate when used to measure distances in this BookletChart. See the Note at the bottom of page 5 for the reduction in scale applied to this chart.

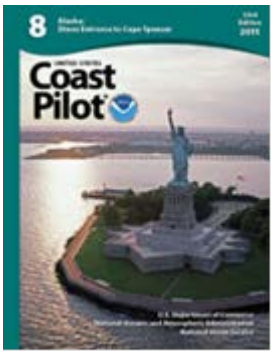
Whenever possible, use the official, full scale NOAA nautical chart for navigation. Nautical chart sales agents are listed on the Internet at http://www.NauticalCharts.NOAA.gov.

This BookletChart does NOT fulfill chart carriage requirements for regulated commercial vessels under Titles 33 and 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Notice to Mariners Correction Status

This BookletChart has been updated for chart corrections published in the U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency Weekly Notice to Mariners, and, where applicable, the Canadian Coast Guard Notice to Mariners. Additional chart corrections have been made by NOAA in advance of their publication in a Notice to Mariners. The last Notices to Mariners applied to this chart are listed in the Note at the bottom of page 7. Coast Pilot excerpts are not being corrected.

For latest Coast Pilot excerpt visit the Office of Coast Survey website at http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/searchbychart.php?chart=17327.



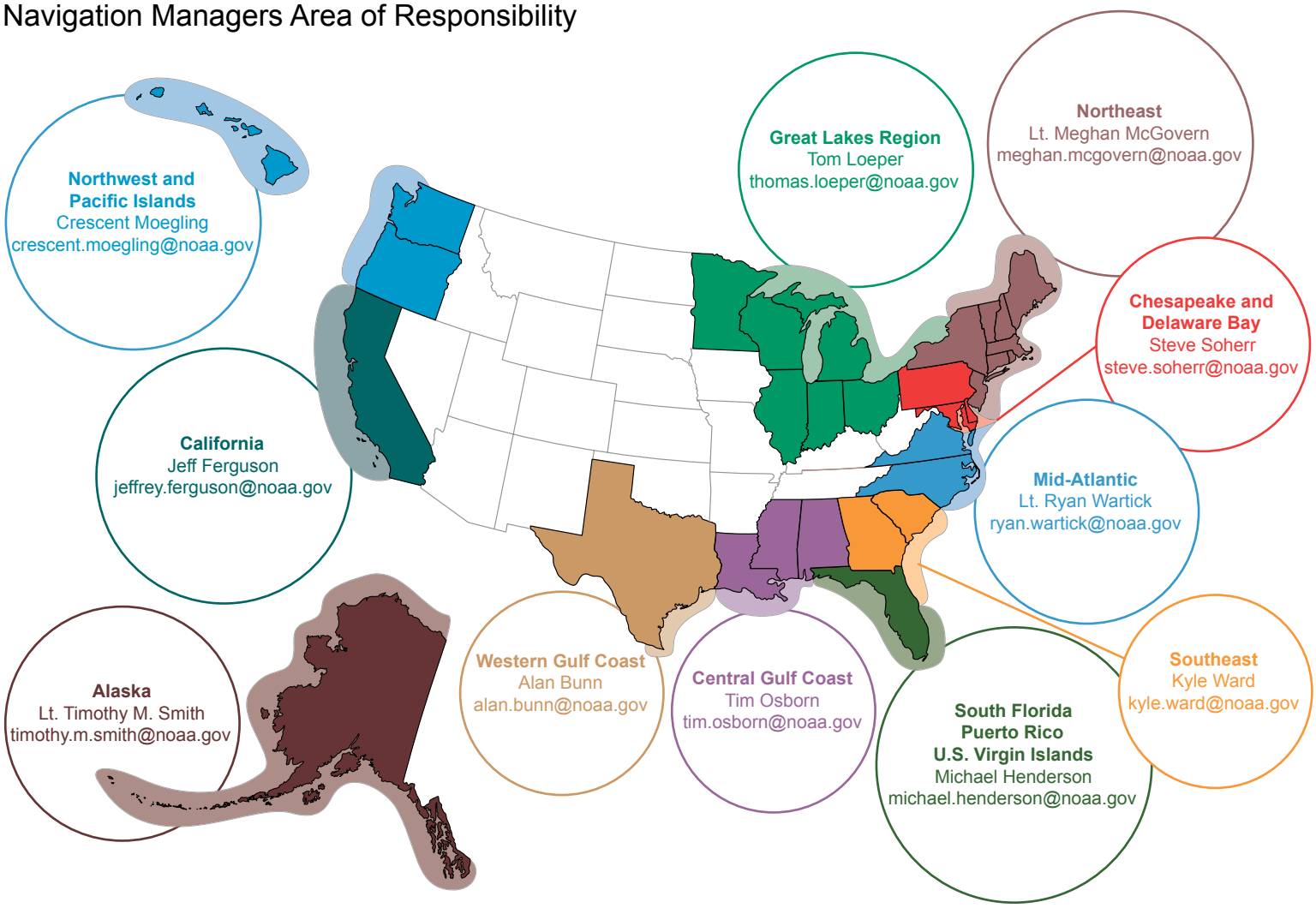
(Selected Excerpts from Coast Pilot)
Sitka Harbor and approaches
The greater part of the approaches to Sitka Harbor covers the NE side of Sitka Sound. The area is reef studded, with numerous islands and isolated shoals. These are charted and need no detailed description. Lights mark the principal islands in the approaches or at the turns in channels; buoys mark the reefs and shoals in way of the channels. The harbor is easy to approach, and with due attention to the chart and by following the aids, the navigator should have little difficulty in entering in clear weather.

Japonski Island, wooded, is the largest island in the approaches to Sitka. There is a wharf along its E side. **Sealing Cove**, a shallow basin off the SE end of the island, is formed by **Charcoal Island** and **Alice Island** on its SW and S sides, and by **Harbor Island** on its E side. The entrance to the basin is marked by a light and daybeacons. The submerged ruins of a pier are on the SW side of the entrance and extend more than half way across the entrance.
Sitka, the site of an early Russian settlement and once the capital of Alaska, is a major fishing port on the E side of Sitka Sound. Sitka is the main distribution point for the settlements in the NW section of SE Alaska. Two oil companies, a large pulpmill, and several seafood processing plants are here. Sitka also has a National Military Cemetery, a National Monument, and the Alaska Pioneer Home. The deepest draft of vessels calling at the port was 32 feet in 2002.
Channels.–From the sea, three natural channels lead to Sitka among islands and reefs on the NE side of Sitka Sound. **Eastern Channel** is the widest and main entrance; the principal dangers are marked by buoys.
Anchorages.–Anchorage in 5 to 25 fathoms, mud bottom, can be had at the **Eastern Anchorage** about 0.4 mile SW of the entrance to Jamestown Bay. The swell from outside makes this anchorage uneasy in S weather.
Anchorage in 5 to 7 fathoms, mud bottom, can also be had at the **Western Anchorage**, E of Channel Rock, just inside the lighted breakwaters. A submerged wreck in 57°03'34"N., 135°21'58"W., is about 0.4 mile NE of Light 3.
During the winter NE gales sometimes sweep across the Eastern Anchorage with considerable force and make it rather unsafe. In S gales the sea is felt considerably at both the Eastern and Western Anchorages.
Dangers.–There are numerous rocks, reefs, and shoals in the approaches to Sitka Harbor, all of which are charted; most are unmarked, but the principal ones adjacent to or in the three channels are marked.
Passage N of Simpson Rock and Tsaritsa Rock should be avoided, because of the numerous obstructions S of Kayak Islands, Whale Island, and **Bamdoroshni Island.**
Middle Channel has numerous shoals and dangers and should be used only by small vessels with thorough local knowledge. The passage between Kayak Islands and Whale Island is foul and the bottom very irregular. A rock, covered 1.2 fathoms, is in about 57°01'35"N., 135°21'08"W., and near the center of this passage.
Currents.–In the open sound the tidal currents are weak and somewhat rotary turning clockwise. Stronger currents may be expected among the islands.
In Sitka Harbor the flood sets NW and the ebb SE. Velocities are small. In midchannel off the wharves velocities of 0.5 knot were observed. (See the Tidal Current Tables for daily predictions.)
Pilotage, Sitka.–Pilotage, except for certain exempted vessels, is compulsory for all vessels navigating the inside waters of the State of Alaska. (See Pilotage, Alaska, indexed as such, chapter 3 for details.)
Vessels en route Sitka meet the pilot boat about 0.25 mile N of The Eckholms Light (57°00.9'N., 135°21.4'W.).
The pilot boat, a tugboat, can be contacted by calling "SITKA PILOT BOAT" on VHF-FM channels 16, 13, or 12.
Quarantine, customs, immigration, and agricultural quarantine.–(See chapter 3, Vessel Arrival Inspections, and Appendix A for addresses.)
Quarantine is enforced in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Public Health Service. (See Public Health Service, chapter 1.)

U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Center
24 hour Regional Contact for Emergencies

RCC Juneau	Commander 17th CG District Juneau, Alaska	(907) 463-2000

Navigation Managers Area of Responsibility

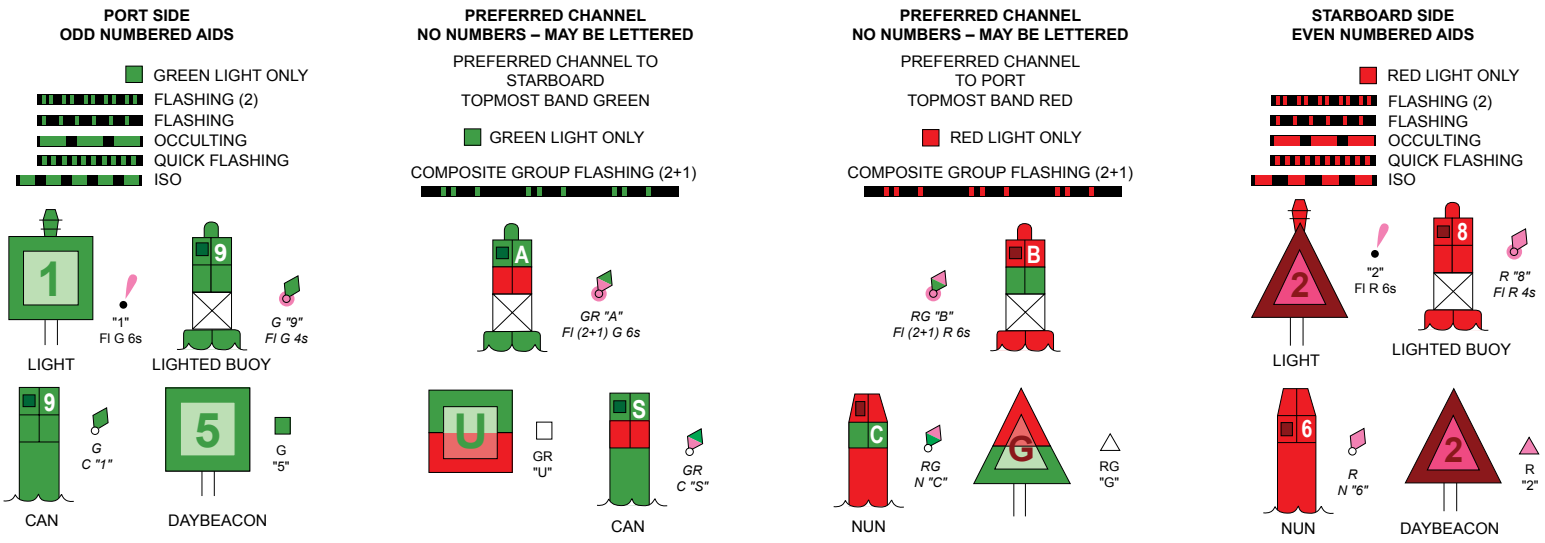


NOAA's navigation managers serve as ambassadors to the maritime community. They help identify navigational challenges facing professional and recreational mariners, and provide NOAA resources and information for safe navigation. For additional information, please visit *nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/service/navmanagers*

To make suggestions or ask questions online, go to *nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/inquiry*.
To report a chart discrepancy, please use *ocsdata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/discrepancy.aspx*.

Lateral System As Seen Entering From Seaward

on navigable waters except Western Rivers



For more information on aids to navigation, including those on Western Rivers, please consult the latest USCG Light List for your area. These volumes are available online at *http://www.navcen.uscg.gov*

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS

(FATHOMS AND FEET TO 11 FATHOMS)

NOAA encourag
about this chart at ht

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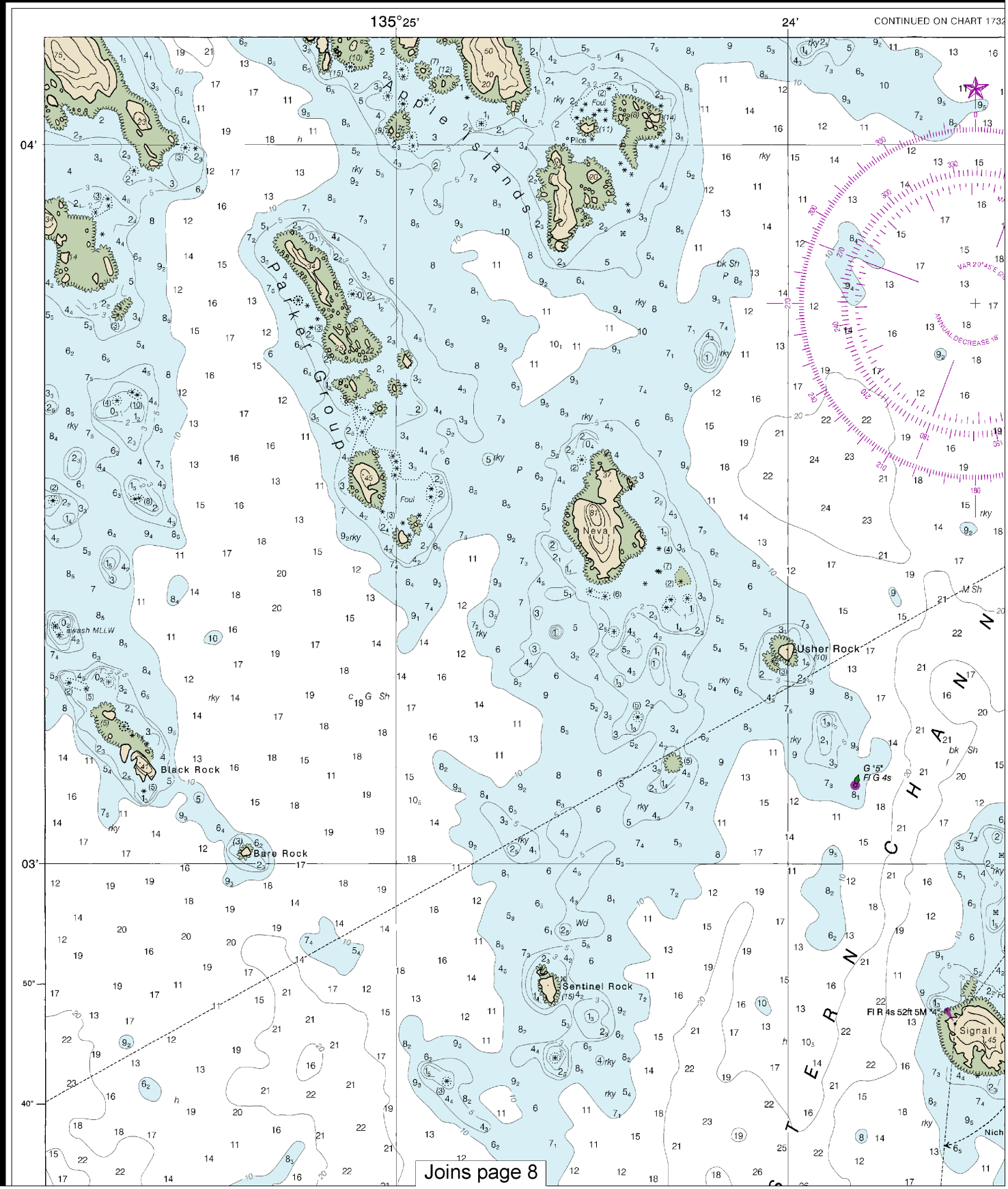


4

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.

Printed at reduced scale. ~~SCALE 1:10,000~~ See Note on page 5.

Nautical Miles

0

Yards

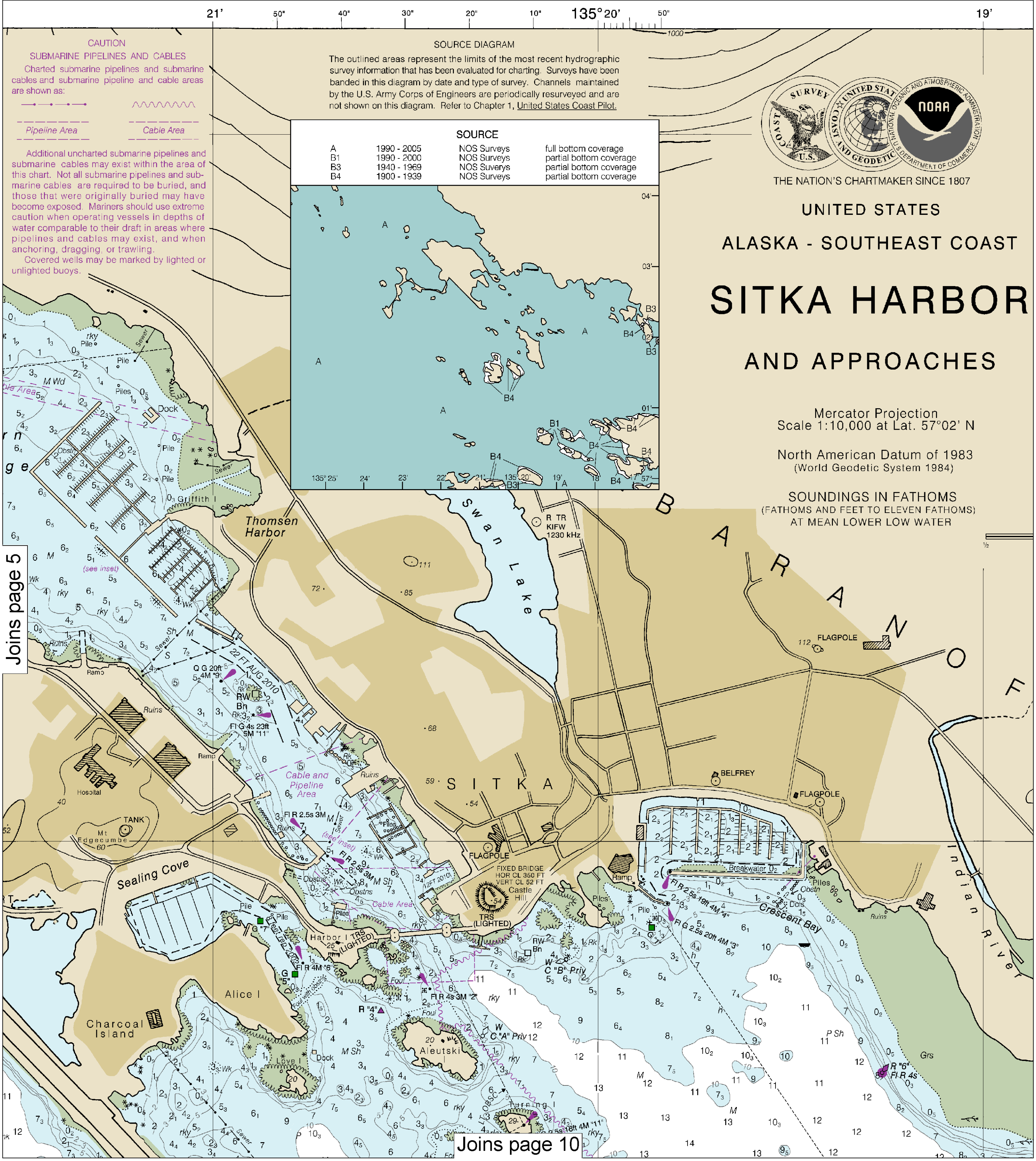
200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200

ages users to submit inquiries, discrepancies or comments
http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/contact.htm.

Formerly C&GS 8244, 1st Ed., Oct 1894 C-1940-535 K

This BookletChart was reduced to 75% of the original chart scale.
The new scale is 1:13333. Barscales have also been reduced and
are accurate when used to measure distances in this BookletChart.

Formerly C&GS 8244, 1st Ed., Oct 1894   C-1940-535 KAPP 2657



Printed at reduced scale. SCALE 1:10,000 See Note on page 5.

Nautical Miles

Yards

200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.

18'

17'

TIDAL INFORMATION

PLACE NAME	(LAT/LONG)	Height referred to datum of soundings (MLLW) Mean Higher High Water	Mean High Water	Mean Low Water
		feet	feet	feet
Sitka	(57°03'N/135°21'W)	9.9	9.2	1.5

Dashes (- - -) located in datum columns indicate unavailable datum values for a tide station. Real-time water levels, tide predictions, and tidal current predictions are available on the Internet from http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov.

(Dec 2010)

ABBREVIATIONS (For complete list of Symbols and Abbreviations, see Chart No. 1.)

Aids to Navigation (lights are white unless otherwise indicated):

AERO aeronautical
Al alternating
B black
Bn beacon
C can
DIA diaphone
F fixed
Fl flashing
G green
IQ interrupted quick
Iso isophase
LT HO lighthouse
M nautical mile
m minutes
MICRO TR microwave tower
Mkr marker
Mo morse code
N nun
OBSC obscured
Oc occulting
Or orange
Q quick
R red
Ra Ref radar reflector
R Bn radiobeacon
R TR radio tower
Rot rotating
s seconds
SEC sector
St M statute miles
VQ very quick
W white
WHIS whistle
Y yellow

Bottom characteristics:

Blds boulders
bk broken
Cy clay
Co coral
G gravel
Grs grass
gy gray
h hard
M mud
Oys oysters
Rk rock
S sand
so soft
Sh shells
sy sticky

Miscellaneous:

AUTH authorized
ED existence doubtful
Obstn obstruction
PA position approximate
PD position doubtful
Rep reported
Subm submerged

(21) Wreck, rock, obstruction, or shoal swept clear to the depth indicated.
(2) Rocks that cover and uncover, with heights in feet above datum of soundings.

Additional information can be obtained at nauticalcharts.noaa.gov.

HEIGHTS

Heights in feet above Mean High Water.

AUTHORITIES

Hydrography and topography by the National Ocean Service, Coast Survey, with additional data from the Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Coast Guard.

HORIZONTAL DATUM

The horizontal reference datum of this chart is North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83), which for charting purposes is considered equivalent to the World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS 84). Geographic positions referred to the North American Datum of 1927 must be corrected an average of 1.304" southward and 6.355" westward to agree with this chart.

SCALE 1:10,000

Nautical Miles

0 ½

Yards

200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200

Meters

200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200

CAUTION

Improved channels shown by broken lines are subject to shoaling, particularly at the edges.

CAUTION

Limitations on the use of radio signals as aids to marine navigation can be found in the U.S. Coast Guard Light Lists and National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Publication 117.

Radio direction-finder bearings to commercial broadcasting stations are subject to error and should be used with caution.

Station positions are shown thus:
⊙(Accurate location) ○(Approximate location)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Consult U.S. Coast Pilot 8 for important supplemental information.

AIDS TO NAVIGATION

Consult U.S. Coast Guard Light List for supplemental information concerning aids to navigation.

WARNING

The prudent mariner will not rely solely on any single aid to navigation, particularly on floating aids. See U.S. Coast Guard Light List and U.S. Coast Pilot for details.

CAUTION

Temporary changes or defects in aids to navigation are not indicated on this chart. See Local Notice to Mariners.

RADAR REFLECTORS

Radar reflectors have been placed on many floating aids to navigation. Individual radar reflector identification on these aids has been omitted from this chart.

POLLUTION REPORTS

Report all spills of oil and hazardous substances to the National Response Center via 1-800-424-8802 (toll free), or to the nearest U.S. Coast Guard facility if telephone communication is impossible (33 CFR 153).

NOAA WEATHER RADIO BROADCASTS

The NOAA Weather Radio stations listed below provide continuous weather broadcasts. The reception range is typically 20 to 40 nautical miles from the antenna site, but can be as much as 100 nautical miles for stations at high elevations.

Althorp Peak, AK	KZZ-86	162.425 MHz
Mt Robert Barron, AK	KZZ-87	162.450 MHz
Mt McArthur, AK	KZZ-95	162.525 MHz
Sitka, AK	WXJ-80	162.550 MHz

NOTE A

Navigation regulations are published in Chapter 2, U.S. Coast Pilot 8. Additions or revisions to Chapter 2 are published in the Notice to Mariners. Information concerning the regulations may be obtained at the Office of the Commander, 17th Coast Guard District in Juneau, Alaska, or at the Office of the District Engineer, Corps of Engineers in Anchorage, Alaska.

Refer to charted regulation section numbers.

COLREGS, 80.1705 (see note A)

International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972. The entire area of this chart falls seaward of the COLREGS Demarcation Line.

04'

03'

50"

40'

ISLAND

James ton

Cannon I

Obstn

M Sh

Pier

Piers

rky

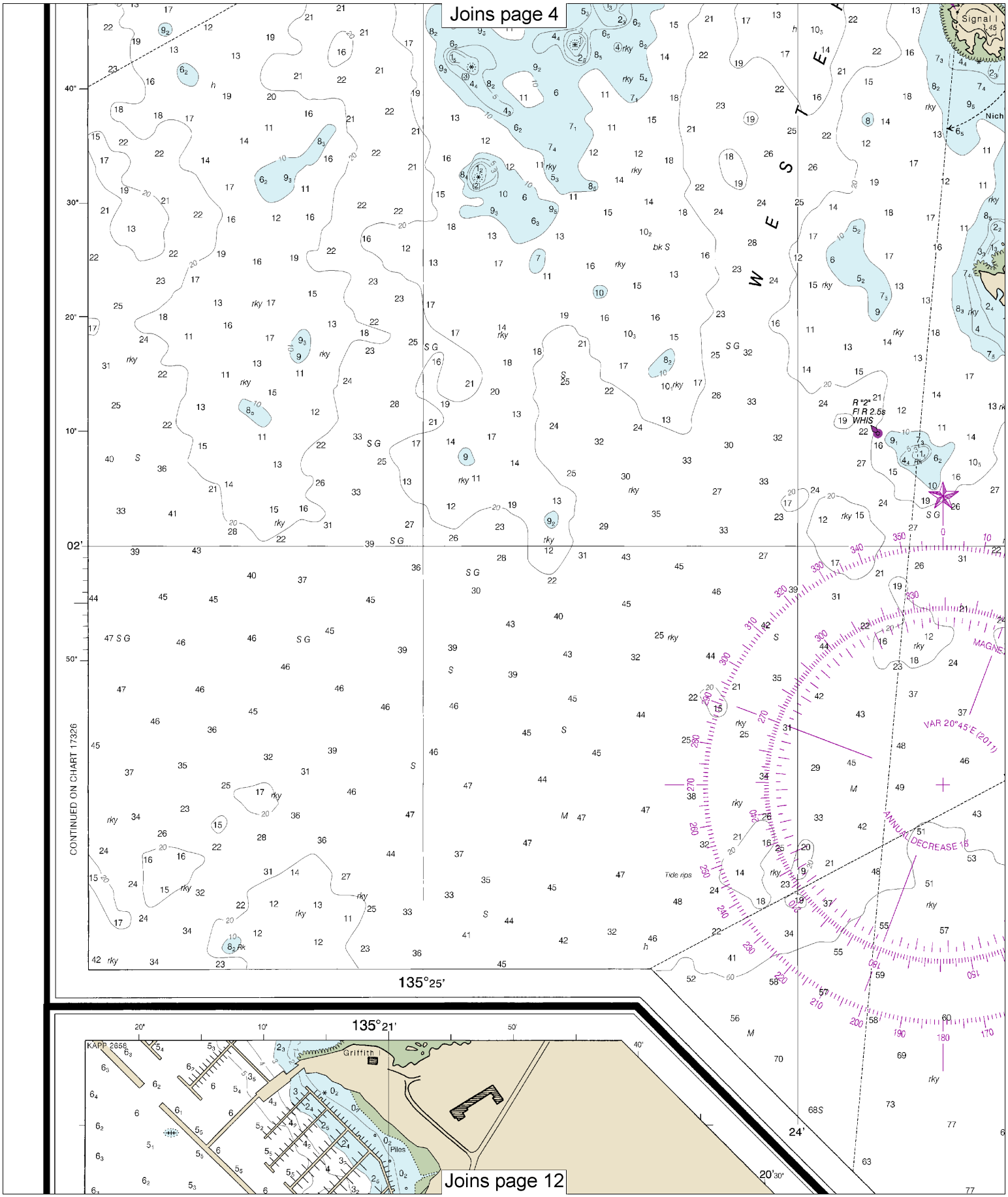
Bldg

Silo

Pk

500 400 300 200 100

Joins page 11



8

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.

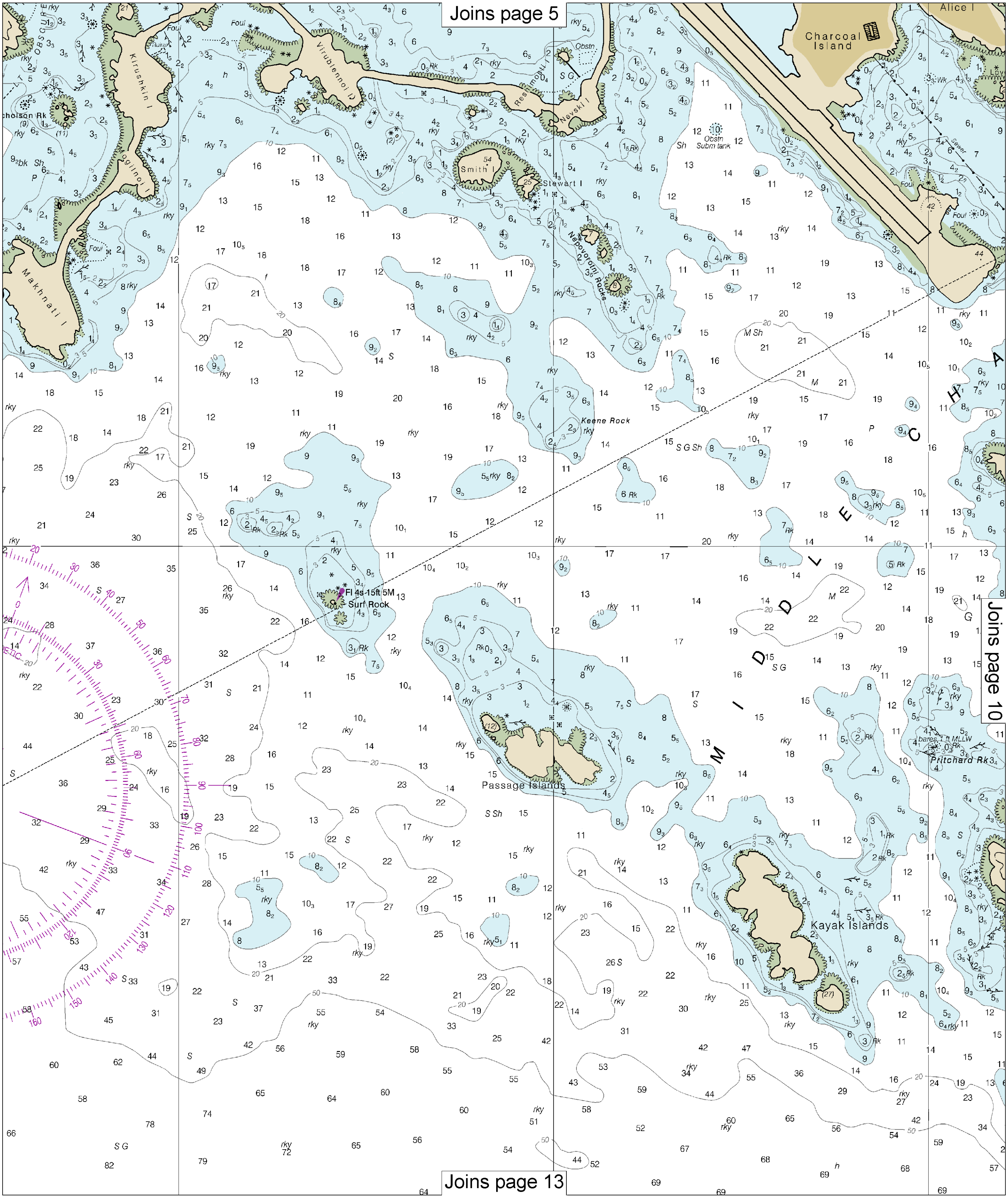
Printed at reduced scale. ~~SCALE 1:10,000~~ See Note on page 5.

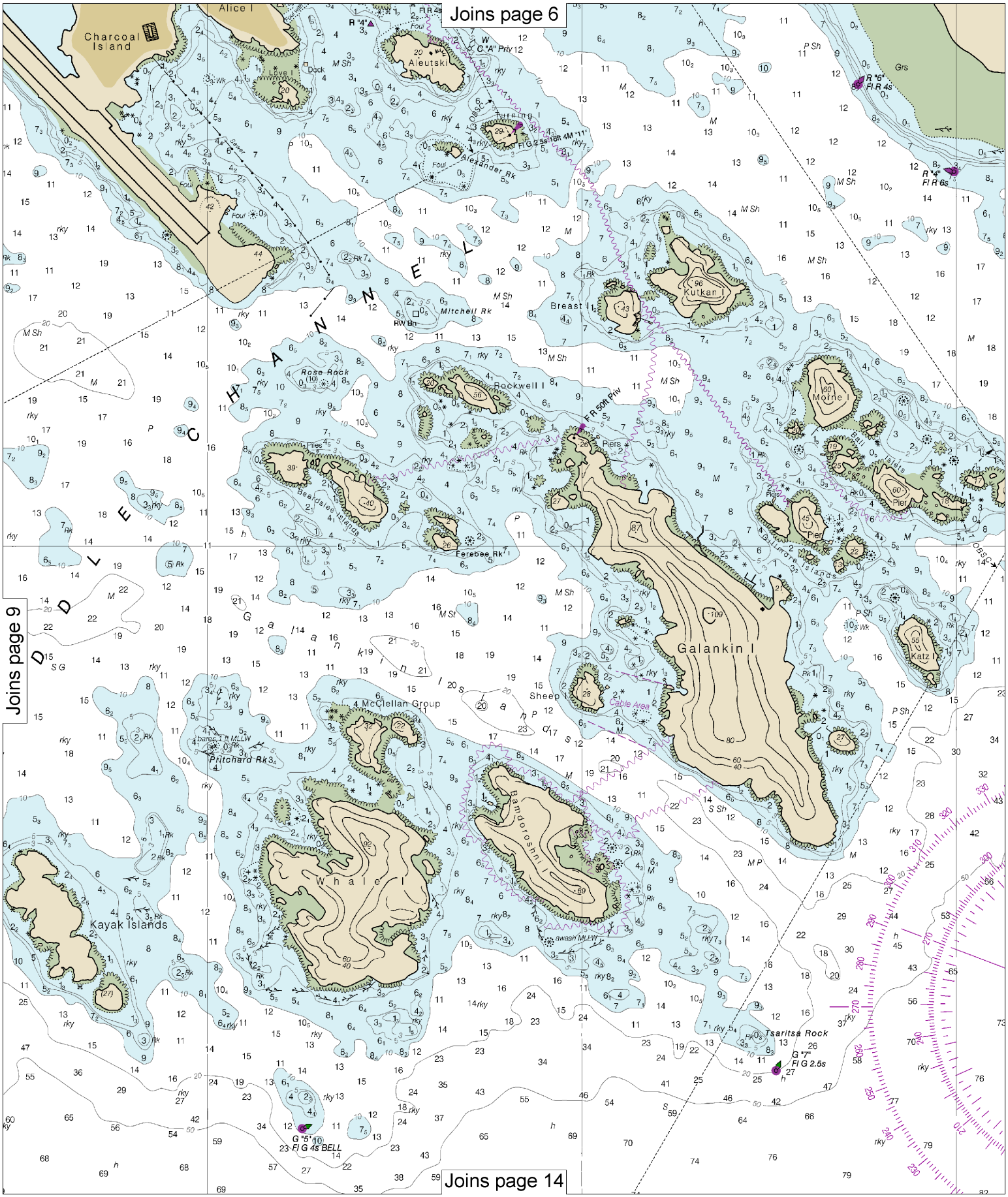
Nautical Miles

0

Yards

200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200


Joins page 5
Charcoal Island
Alice I
Kirushkin I
Virublennoi I
Reshimosti I
Nevski I
Smith I
Stewart I
Nepovorotin Rocks
Keene Rock
Makhnati I
Obstn
Subm tank
Fl 4s 15ft 5M
Surf Rock
Passage Islands
Kayak Islands
Pritchard Rk
MIDDLE CHANNEL
Joins page 10
Joins page 13



10

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.

Printed at reduced scale. ~~SCALE 1:10,000~~

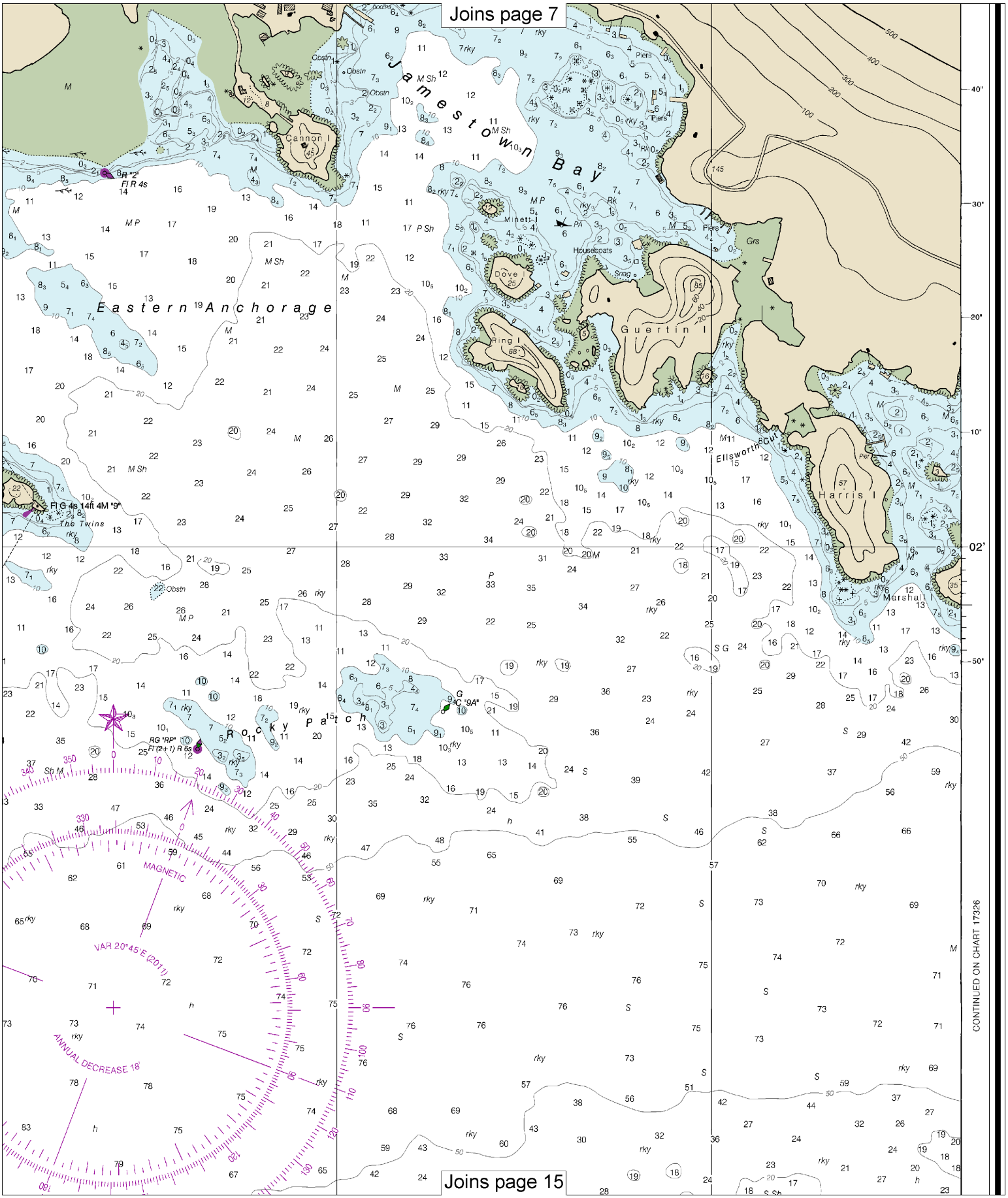
Nautical Miles

0

Yards

200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200

See Note on page 5.


Joins page 7
Jamestown Bay
Eastern Anchorage
Cannon I
Dove
Ring I
Guertin I
Houseboats
Harris I
Marshall I
Ellsworth Cut
Rocky Patch
The Twins
Fl G 4s 14ft 4M "9"
Fl R 4s
RG "RF"
Fl (2+1) R 6s
MAGNETIC
VAR 20°45'E (2011)
ANNUAL DECREASE 18'
Joins page 15
CONTINUED ON CHART 17326

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CAUTION

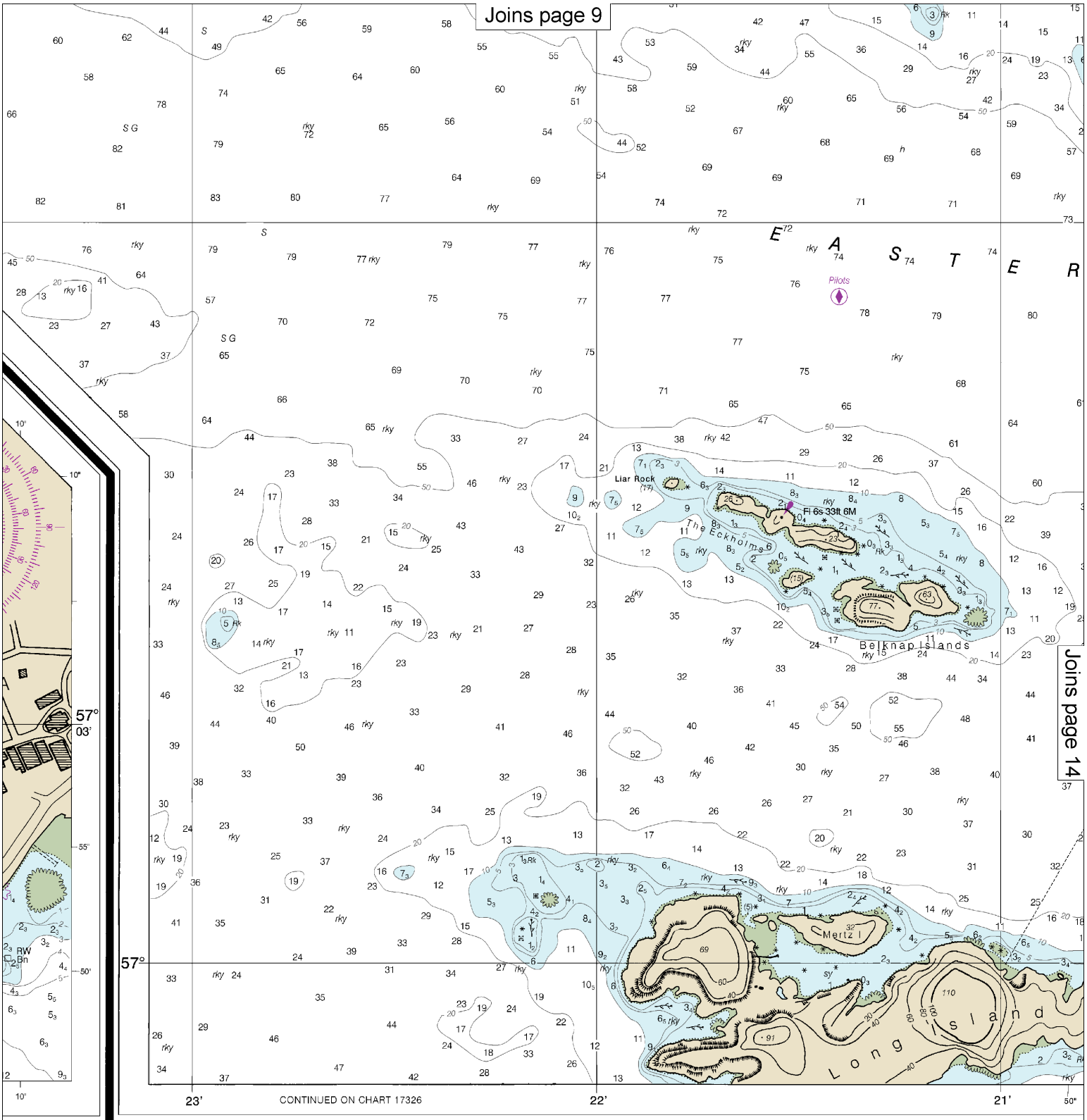
This chart has been corrected from the Notice to Mariners (NM) published weekly by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the Local Notice to Mariners (LNM) issued periodically by each U.S. Coast Guard district to the dates shown in the lower left hand corner. Chart updates corrected from Notice to Mariners published after the dates shown in the lower left hand corner are available at nauticalcharts.noaa.gov.

24th Ed., Jan. 2011. Last Correction: 12/12/2016. Cleared through:
LNM: 4916 (12/6/2016), NM: 5116 (12/17/2016), CHS: 1116 (11/25/2016)

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.

Printed at reduced scale. ~~SCALE 1:10,000~~ See Note on page 5.

Nautical Miles
0
Yards
200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200



SCALE 1:10,000

Nautical Miles

0 1/2

Yards

200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200

Meters

0 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200

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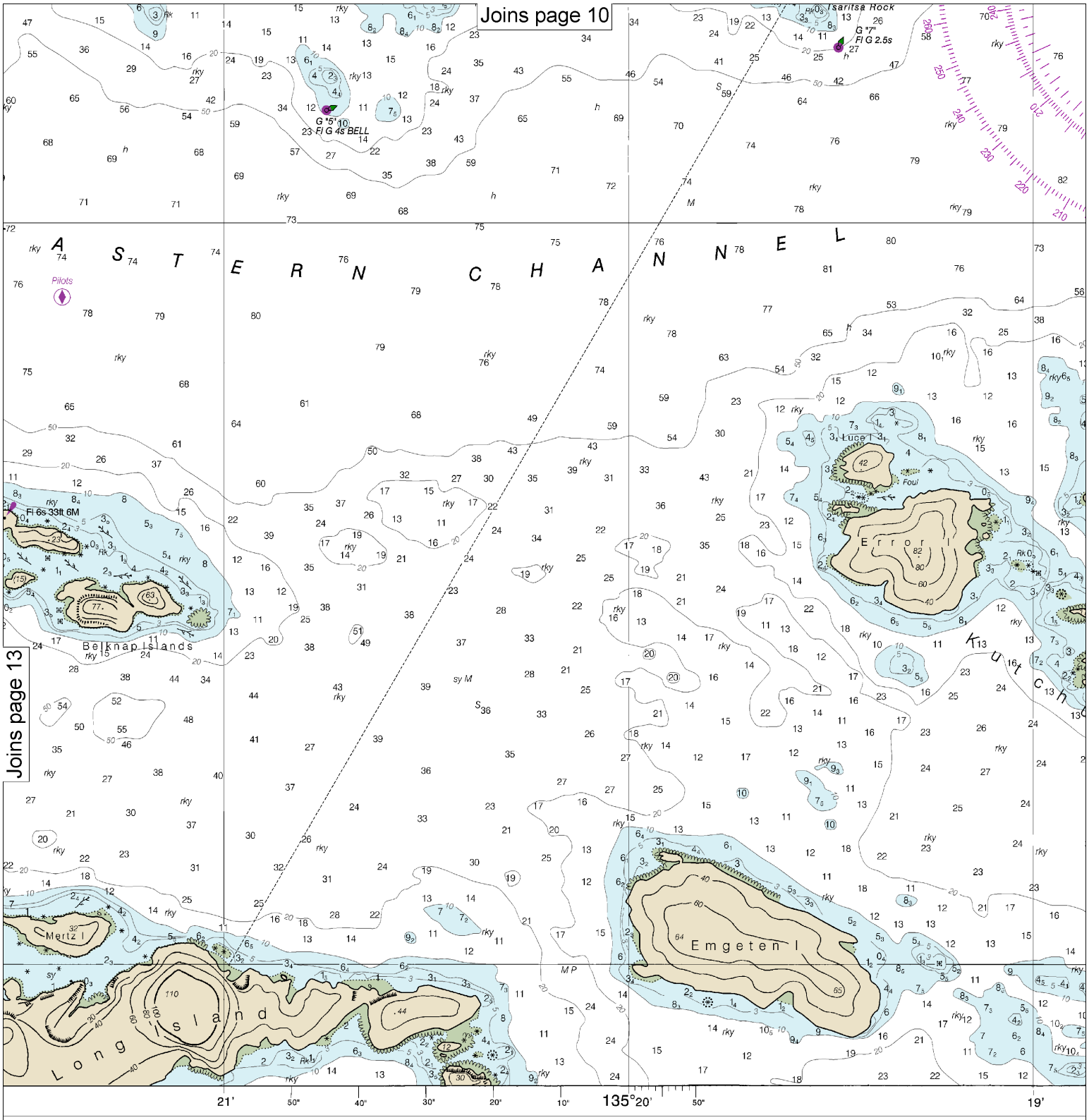
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRAT
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
COAST SURVEY



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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
COAST SURVEY

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS

(FATHOMS AND FEET TO 11 FATHOMS)

FATHOMS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
FEET	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	
METERS	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13							

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.

Printed at reduced scale. ~~SCALE 1:10,000~~

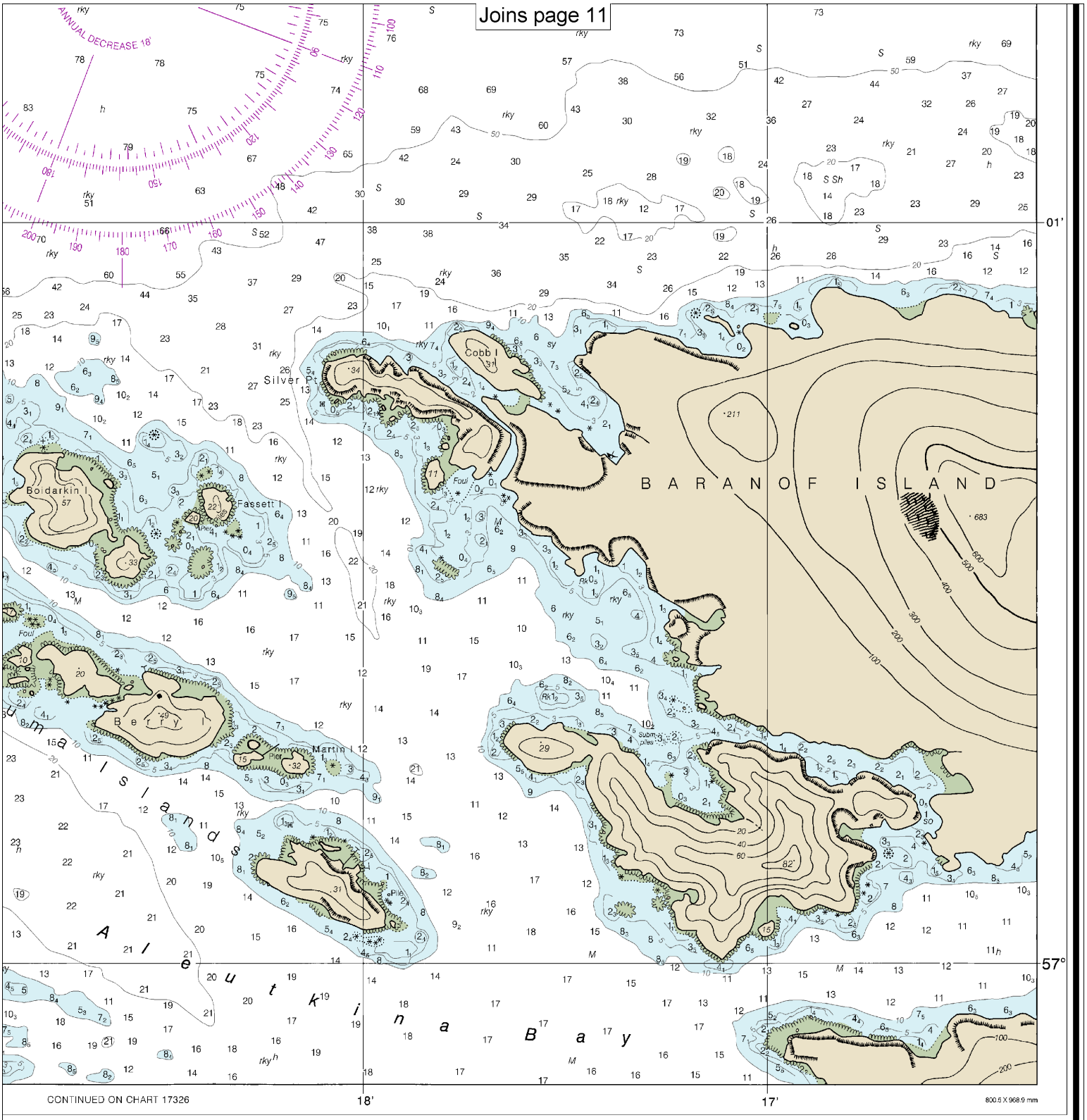
Nautical Miles

0

Yards

200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200

See Note on page 5.



Sitka Harbor

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS - SCALE 1:10,000

17327

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

VHF Marine Radio channels for use on the waterways:

Channel 6 – Inter-ship safety communications.
Channel 9 – Communications between boats and ship-to-coast.
Channel 13 – Navigation purposes at bridges, locks, and harbors.
Channel 16 – Emergency, distress and safety calls to Coast Guard and others, and to initiate calls to other vessels. Contact the other vessel, agree to another channel, and then switch.
Channel 22A – Calls between the Coast Guard and the public. Severe weather warnings, hazards to navigation and safety warnings are broadcast here.
Channels 68, 69, 71, 72 and 78A – Recreational boat channels.

Getting and Giving Help — Signal other boaters using visual distress signals (flares, orange flag, lights, arm signals); whistles; horns; and on your VHF radio. You are required by law to help boaters in trouble. Respond to distress signals, but do not endanger yourself.

Distress Call Procedures

- Make sure radio is on.
- Select Channel 16.
- Press/Hold the transmit button.
- Clearly say: "MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY."
- Also give: Vessel Name and/or Description; Position and/or Location; Nature of Emergency; Number of People on Board.
- Release transmit button.
- Wait for 10 seconds — If no response Repeat MAYDAY call.

HAVE ALL PERSONS PUT ON LIFE JACKETS!

All Hazards NOAA Weather Radio NOAA's National Weather Service

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/

Quick References

Nautical chart related products and information	—	**http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov**
Interactive chart catalog	—	**http://www.charts.noaa.gov/InteractiveCatalog/nrnc.shtml**
Report a chart discrepancy	—	**http://ocsdata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/discrepancy.aspx**
Chart and chart related inquiries and comments	—	**http://ocsdata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/inquiry.aspx?frompage=ContactUs**
Chart updates (LNM and NM corrections)	—	**http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/updates/LNM_NM.html**
Coast Pilot online	—	**http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/cpdownload.htm**
Tides and Currents	—	**http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov**
Marine Forecasts	—	**http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/home.htm**
National Data Buoy Center	—	**http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/**
NowCoast web portal for coastal conditions	—	**http://www.nowcoast.noaa.gov/**
National Weather Service	—	**http://www.weather.gov/**
National Hurrican Center	—	**http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/**
Pacific Tsunami Warning Center	—	**http://ptwc.weather.gov/**
Contact Us	—	**http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/contact.htm**

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This Booklet chart has been designed for duplex printing (printed on front and back of one sheet). If a duplex option is not available on your printer, you may print each sheet and arrange them back-to-back to allow for the proper layout when viewing.

NOAA's Office of Coast Survey The Nation's Chartmaker