

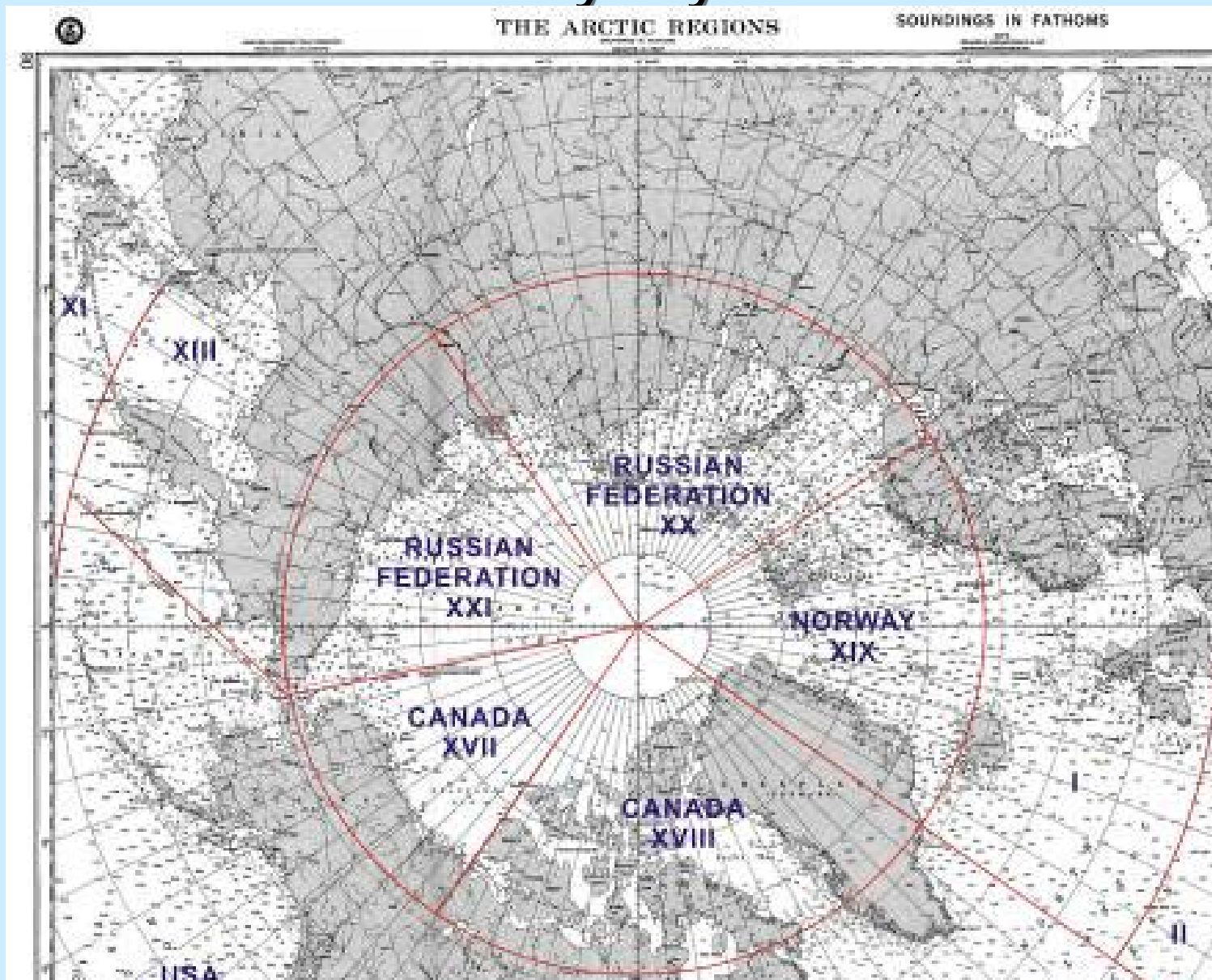
Introduction to Arctic METAREAs

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Global Maritime Distress and Safety Systems

METAREA
NAVAREA
Expansion
to the Arctic



Background

- Five new NAV and MET AREAs are being set up for the Arctic, in anticipation of increase in marine traffic
- The IHO, the IMO and the WMO are coordinating.
- Responsibility for broadcast of Arctic safety and marine weather forecasts and warnings for beyond coastal state obligations.
- Canada confirmed as coordinator for NAVAREAs in and METAREAs.
- Norway & Russia also confirmed NAV & MET AREAs.
- National services will ensure that marine forecasts are disseminated through the INMARSAT-C SafetyNET

Concerns in the Canadian METAREAs

- INMARSAT-C is the core of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System, but coverage is not to 90° North.
- Demand for forecasts will increase, due to reduced sea ice, economic drivers all improved technology.
- Initially, meteorological information already produced will be reformatted to adhere to specific protocols to be broadcast on INMARSAT. Also will consider HF systems
- Currently there is no data available in the high polar region of the proposed area on which to base data products and forecasts.
- Canada will implement METAREAs with data as far north as current satellites provide and then augment coverage as data becomes available

Benefits of Arctic MET AREAs

- Seen as an opportunity to strengthen marine safety, environmental protection and sustainable development for Northerners through the dissemination of Arctic meteorological information
- Weather services facilitates the safe and environmentally sound movement of ships through the Arctic, supporting economic activities as well as mitigating the risk of incidents and spills, loss of life and property, and damage to the marine ecosystem.
- The NAV and MET AREAs initiative will demonstrate our adherence to international public law and policy.

Next Steps - National

- **Canada**
 - Ice requirements will be met by NAIS
 - Weather requirements to be coordinated with US NWS Service
 - Communications will be provided through Canadian Coast Guard. Augmentation of HF capacity is being explored.
- **Norway preparing for 2010 implementation**
 - MetNo and Coastal Administration and Maritime Radio
 - plan for building HF capacity to supplement INMARSAT GMDS
 - tests starting as early as July 2009
 - Denmark will be a content supplier. Details to be determined
- **Russia**
 - Arctic-Antarctic Research Institute leads this effort

Next Steps - Generic

- Coordination in dissemination of marine safety information via radio met centres, e.g. Hamburg Pinnenberg
- Identify international and national publications where information on ice and marine weather providers and products are posted
- Ensure updates on changes concerning new METAREAs are promulgated in a timely fashion
- Understand developing user community and requirements in the very high latitudes
- Need to make ice information available through GMDSS web site (text and links binary formats)

Questions?

