



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
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WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 5430.56A
N2/N6
19 Dec 2014

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5430.56A

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHY POLICY, RELATIONSHIPS, AND
RESPONSIBILITIES

Ref: (a) United States Navy Regulations, 1990
(b) SECNAVINST 5430.79C
(c) COMFLTFORCOMINST 5490.98

1. Purpose. To provide naval oceanography related policy and objectives, to establish organizational relationships, and to assign responsibilities for naval oceanography, part of the Information Dominance Corps. This instruction is being reissued with a new date, updated version, and signature authority to meet the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) age requirement for Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) instructions.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 5430.56.

3. Background. Reference (a) defines the Department of Navy organization and assigns responsibility for research, development, and acquisition; including oceanography and closely related matters to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (ASN) (Research, Development and Acquisition) (ASN (RD&A)). Reference (b) assigns the Chief of Naval Research (CNR) as the Navy's science and technology executive through ASN (RD&A). The Oceanographer of the Navy (OPNAV N2/N6E) implements the CNO responsibilities to naval oceanography and performs functions relating to external interfaces with national and international operations and research and development of oceanographic organizations and activities.

4. Definitions. Naval oceanography encompasses the areas of oceanography and meteorology, geospatial information and services, hydrography, and precise time and astrometry under the sponsorship of the CNO. Naval oceanography includes operational oceanography and the ocean science and technology program under the sponsorship of the CNR.

a. Operational oceanography encompasses real-time oceanographic influences as they apply to Naval and joint operations. Operational oceanography is planned and executed by Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command under oversight of Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (COMUSFLTFORCOM).

b. Ocean science and technology includes the ocean, atmosphere, and space programs sponsored by the CNR and various programs under other sponsors related to activities such as ocean engineering, deep ocean technology, deep submergence operations, salvage, diving, diving biomedicine, and environmental satellites. Ocean science is defined to include oceanic, atmospheric, and space environment related portions of the Navy's research, development, test, and evaluation - Navy budget activities (basic research program, the Navy's applied research program, and the Navy's advanced development program).

5. Statement of Policy. The basic policy of the Department of the Navy is to provide the oceanographic information, services, and the related oceanographic technological base necessary for the Department of Defense to fulfill its assigned mission.

6. Objectives

a. Primary. To advance the military application of oceanographic knowledge and technology by:

(1) Advancing and applying knowledge of the atmosphere, the oceans, the ocean floor, and the coastal areas to enhance the effectiveness of fleet operations, weapons systems, and sensors.

(2) Providing direct support during the design, development, and testing of military weapons, sensors, and platforms.

b. Secondary. To provide ancillary benefits to the national effort by:

(1) Advancing knowledge of the atmosphere, the oceans, the ocean floor, and the coastal areas for economic, social, scientific, and political gains.

(2) Cooperating in those national and international programs and projects that contribute to military oceanography.

(3) Monitoring national and international oceanographic activities and programs that relate to naval oceanography.

7. Special Provisions. The following points form the basis for Department of the Navy actions related to oceanography:

- a. National defense takes priority over other goals.
- b. Oceanographic efforts must be responsive to military needs and identified capability gaps.
- c. The Navy recognizes its position of leadership in and its obligation to support related non-military national objectives.
- d. In order to meet national, military, and other requirements, the Navy must maintain an independent, comprehensive, and responsive naval oceanography effort including surveys, research, application, and development, and adequate supporting ships, instrumentation, facilities, and personnel development.
- e. A large portion of the oceanographic information of interest to the Navy is not classified and may be releasable. The Navy encourages and cooperates in the continued mutual exchange of appropriate unclassified oceanographic data and knowledge commensurate with national and international organizations for naval goals and priorities.
- f. Consistent with its own established oceanographic effort, the Navy should cooperate with national organizations which attempt to provide a national focus to describe, understand, and predict oceanographic, atmospheric, and space weather phenomena. The Navy shall coordinate with all military departments to avoid duplication in satisfying these requirements.

8. Responsibilities and Relationships

a. The Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Dominance (CNO N2/N6) shall:

(1) Establish Navy strategy, policy, and guidance relative to information dominance, to include the development coordination and dissemination of Navy strategies, plans, and policies governing information management; information technology; information assurance; intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; command and control; networks; cyber; electronic warfare; maritime domain awareness; Navy space; and naval oceanography and knowledge of the environment.

(2) Exercise centralized authority, oversight, and responsibility for planning, organizing, staffing, and synchronizing implementation and transition to the naval network environment and Navy integrated information framework.

(3) Through OPNAV N2/N6E acting in coordination with COMUSFLTFORCOM and CNR, ensure that operational oceanography and the ocean science and technology program are balanced, appropriately integrated, responsive to the needs of the joint services, make maximum use of available assets, and fulfill Department of the Navy objectives.

b. OPNAV N2/N6E shall:

(1) Direct and coordinate the naval oceanography enterprise, including the long-term validation of ocean survey resource requirements for the Department of Defense as tasked in reference (c).

(2) Serve as the naval deputy to the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(3) Represent CNO in national, international, and interagency operational oceanography matters.

(4) Represent CNO for installation and environmental concerns.

(5) Ensure oceanographic, atmospheric, hydrographic, space weather, precise time, and astrometry needs are fully integrated within the command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance architecture, and the overall network-centric framework.

(6) Coordinate with COMUSFLTFORCOM and other activities to ensure near-term plans and long-term goals mesh to form a continuum.

(7) Serve as the Director of Navy's Task Force Climate Change.

(8) Issue directives, or delegate the responsibilities as required, to implement the provisions of this instruction.

c. The CNR shall:

(1) Manage and coordinate the Navy ocean science and technology program.

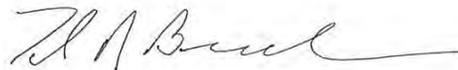
(2) Collaborate with the other appropriate program sponsors on ocean science and technology requirements and projects.

(3) Ensure the appropriate ocean science and technology programs are conducted to support naval warfare capabilities, weapon systems development and operation, and fleet safety.

(4) Assess, promote, and coordinate naval basic research, applied research, and advanced technology development with regard to oceanography.

d. Program sponsors within the Navy who do not report to OPNAV N2/N6E or the CNR shall keep the Oceanographer and or CNR informed of those aspects of their programs that contribute to or are impacted by the naval oceanography enterprise as defined in paragraph 4.

9. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.



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