

NAUTICAL CHARTS AND GPS

The importance of navigation tools in the maritime
industry

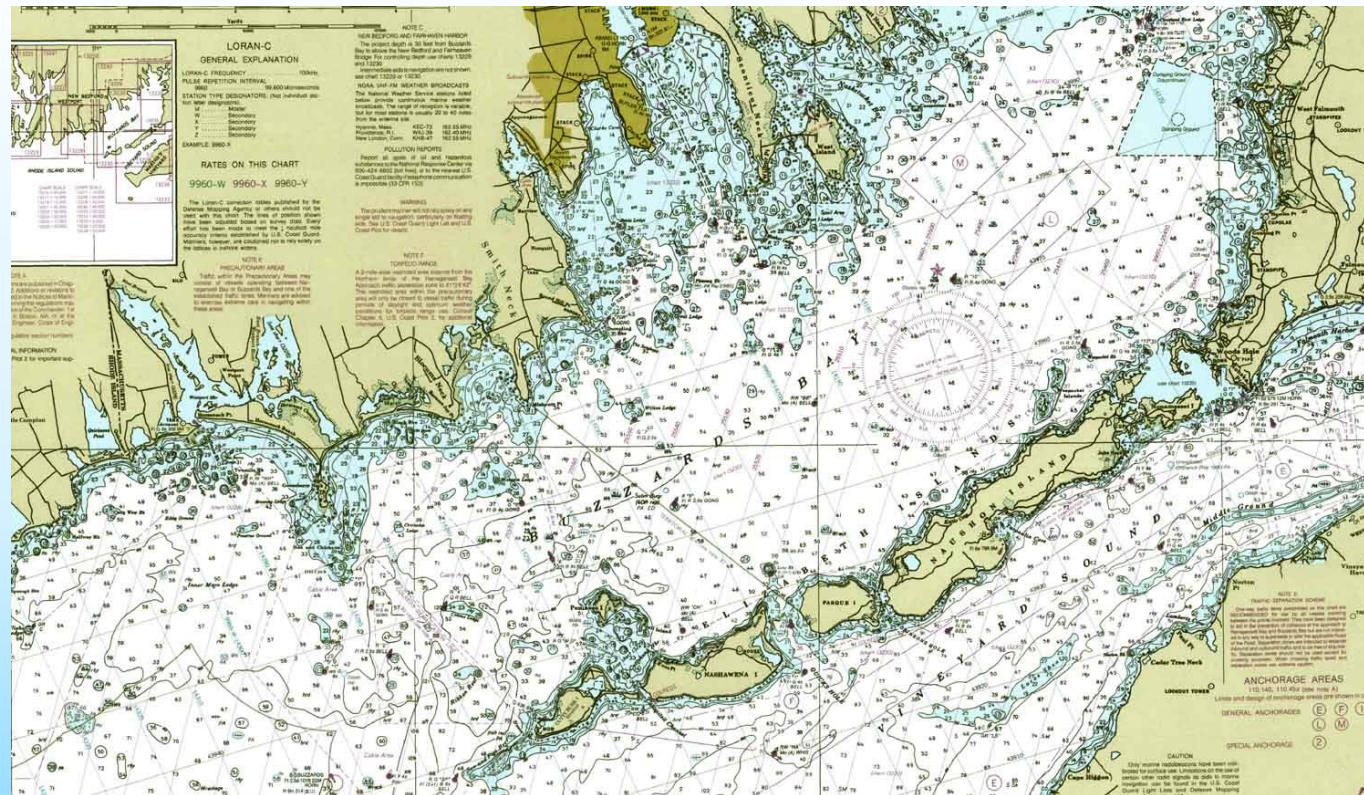


NAMEPA's Mission

- Preserve and **protect** the marine environment
- Demonstrate **maritime commitment** to environmental protection and pollution prevention
- Support the **marine industry**
- Engage maritime businesses, government and public to **"Save our Seas"** by promoting sound environmental practices
- **Educate** on importance of protecting marine resources



Nautical charts have been a crucial tool to guide ships for mariners of all types, whether they are recreational boaters, large tanker captains, or pilots in harbors.



Charts are paper representations of an area that indicate land, water depth, shipping lanes, dangers, and guides to navigation. They assist the navigator in arriving to their destination in a particular area safely and easily.



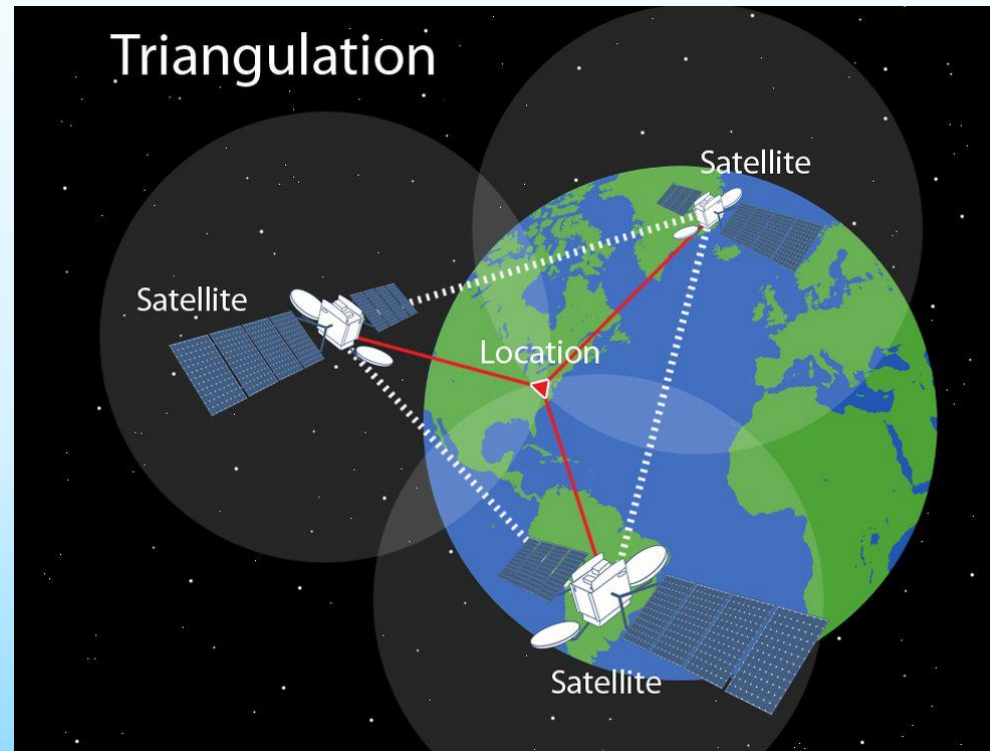
Charts were initially printed on sheepskin, but have been on paper for generations. They even have electric charts!



Most modern ships have electronic charts that make navigation much easier. This is called Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS). ECDIS works in conjunction with the Global Positional System (GPS) to track ships and update their surroundings onboard.



Today, there are thirty-two fully operational satellites that make up the GPS network. GPS works so efficiently because it utilizes satellite triangulation to pinpoint the ship's location, speed, and direction any time of the day in any weather.



GPS is not only used for positioning, but it is also used for underwater surveying as well. This has helped us to develop our understanding of the oceans we are sailing upon.

