NSHC Tidal Working Group

Terms of Reference

Approved by NSHC38, 8-9 April 2025
As proposed by TWG27, 4-5 February 2025

1. Objective

To provide technical advice and promote co-ordination on tidal issues especially within the North Sea Hydrographic Commission (NSHC).

2. Authority

The Tidal Working Group (TWG) is a subsidiary of the NSHC and its work plan is subject to NSHC approval. Subject to approval by NSHC the TWG is especially involved with the regional interpretation and implementation of tidal issues as identified by Tides, Water Level and Currents Working Group (TWCWG).

3. Procedures

a. The TWG should:

1. work according to the agreed NSHC work plan
2. monitor and report the progress of the work plan
3. propose new work plan items for consideration by the NSHC.
4. invite meteorological, oceanographic and geodetic experts to the working group as contributors as appropriate.

To support the identification of new work plan items deemed relevant for the NSHC, the TWG should:

5. liaise with relevant Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) working groups, such as TWCWG.
6. Exchange views and experiences concerning tidal issues like unifying vertical datum, analysis, modelling and related issues like sea level rise and surge.
7. Coordinate the implementation of S-104 Water Level and S-111 Surface Currents and report on the progress to NSICCWG.

b. The TWG will conduct its business mainly by correspondence. Meetings and workshops should be scheduled as deemed necessary for the accomplishment of the work plan.

4. Composition and Chair

1. The TWG shall comprise representatives of the NSHC Member State and expert contributors if applicable.
2. Decisions should generally be made by consensus, if a majority is required each Member State has one vote.
3. External contributors can contribute to the work plan but are not entitled to vote.
4. The Chair will be nominated by the TWG and approved by the NSHC Conference.
5. The Chair should monitor and report on the work plan to the NSHC.