



*Scott Perkins, Past Chair
Bill Hanson, Chair
Joyce Miller, Vice Chair*

March 28, 2016

Kathryn Sullivan, Ph.D.
Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 6217
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Dr. Sullivan:

The Hydrographic Services Review Panel convened March 15-17, 2016, in Galveston, Texas and enjoyed a productive meeting. Several recommendations from the panel will be forthcoming, but we would like to highlight this particular issue we believe is timely for your immediate consideration.

We acknowledge the excellent leadership Rear Admiral Gerd Glang, NOAA's Designated Federal Official for the HSRP, has provided to us collectively and individually. His clear vision of NOAA responses to current and future trends in hydrography and his firm guidance to the HSRP about our mission, have greatly enhanced our ability to provide timely and relevant recommendations to you. We will sorely miss his leadership and guidance as he retires this year. He has certainly been a credit to the Service and to the profession.

As we have all learned and appreciate, the position of Director, Office of Coast Survey requires extensive technical knowledge of hydrography, charting, geodesy and marine navigation. The position has correctly and clearly been defined as The U.S. National Hydrographer, a title that provides clarity and credibility in representing our national interests at domestic and international forums such as the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) which requires the broad background of a career hydrographer.

The HSRP recommends Glang's successor be an experienced hydrographer.

We are pleased to be of service to you and look forward to communicating additional recommendations.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Scott R. Perkins in blue ink.

Scott R. Perkins
Past Chair, HSRP

Handwritten signature of William Hanson in black ink.

William Hanson
Chair, HSRP

Handwritten signature of Joyce Miller in black ink.

Joyce Miller
Vice Chair, HSRP