

**Paper for Consideration by NCWG
Seagrass**

Submitted by:	Germany Hydrographic Office
Executive Summary:	Seagrass
Related Documents:	NCWG2-08.9; S-4 B 452.6 , INT 1 J 13.3
Related Projects:	none

Introduction / Background

Outcome of NCWG2:

Federico Yanguas Guerrero (ES) presented the paper. There was general support to approve a new INT abbreviation 'Sg' for seagrass. The proposed symbol was not approved (it is too complex), nor an alternative to use the marsh symbol (C33) as it is already also used for above water reed beds, which might be confusing to the chart user. It was also decided that Coralline Algae should remain at J10 (as far as the mariner is concerned, the difference is unimportant).

Action NCWG2/23: Secretary to circulate proposed revisions on seagrass to S-4 to WG for approval.

Action NCWG2/24: Chair to propose changes to definitions for seagrass and seaweed in S-32 to HDWG (and consider whether any related definitions, such as kelp, need adjusting).


Analysis / Discussion

In the meanwhile S-4 and INT1s have been corrected.



S-4 Version 4.8.0:

B-425.6 **Marine vegetation** may be divided into two groups: Algae (seaweed, of which kelp is a large species) and Plants (seagrass). Many source documents do not distinguish between these groups, referring to them both as 'Wd'. However, seagrass is increasingly being protected so, if the information is available, it should be distinguished from seaweed by using the **international abbreviation 'Sg'**. For associated protection measures, see B-437. For plants which rise above the sea surface, see B-312.2 (marsh and reed beds) and B-312.4 (mangroves and nipa palms).

ES INT 1 Edition 2018:

13.1	Wd	Hierbas marinas (incluyendo algas) Weed (including kelp)	† Alg	425.5
13.2				428.2
13.3	Sg	Pradera marina Seagrass		425.6

DE INT 1 Edition 2018:

13.1	Wd	Algen Weed (including kelp)		425.5
13.2				425.2
13.3	Sg	Seegrass Seagrass		425.6

As in German areas the symbol at J 13.2 is very common we kept it as national symbol for J 13.3.

Unfortunately about S-57/ S-101 nothing was recommended. Was an attempt started to change S-32? The current S-32 makes no difference between algae and plants:

seagrass

Any grasslike marine [alga](#). Eelgrass is one of the best known seagrasses.

The Data Classification and Encoding Guide (S-101, V.1.0.0) shows the following definition and attribution, in which the reference to J 13.3. and Seagrass is missing:

12.2 Weed/kelp

<u>IHO Definition:</u> WEED/KELP. Marine plants of the Algae class which grow in long narrow ribbons. (International Maritime Dictionary, 2 nd Edition).				
S-101 Geo Feature: Weed/kelp (WEDKLP)				
Primitives: Point, Surface				
<i>Real World</i>		<i>Paper Chart Symbol</i>		<i>ECDIS Symbol</i>
S-101 Attribute	S-57 Acronym	Allowable Encoding Value	Type	Multiplicity
Category of weed/kelp	(CATWED)	1 : kelp 2 : seaweed 3 : seagrass 4 : sargasso	EN	0,1
Feature name			C	0,*
Display name			(S) BO	0,1
Language		ISO 639-2/T	(S) TE	0,1
Name	(OBJNAM) (NOBJNM)		(S) TE	1,1
Scale minimum	(SCAMIN)	See clause X.X	IN	0,1
<p><u>INT 1 Reference:</u> J 13.1, 13.2</p> <p>12.2.1 Weed - Kelp (see S-4 – B-428.2)</p> <p>If it is required to encode marine weed or kelp, it must be done using the feature Weed/Kelp.</p> <p><u>Remarks:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the mariner, the presence of kelp is also generally an indication of the presence of submerged rocks. <p><u>Distinction:</u> Seabed area; vegetation.</p>				

Conclusions

Standards and documents should be updated and conformized based on S-4.

Recommendations

See under conclusions.

Justification and Impacts

HDWG, S100WG and project team for S-101 should be consulted to dissolve the deviations. HDWG should be asked about its actions to date.

Action required of NCWG

The NCWG is invited to note the deviations and to initiate further actions.