

CHAPTER 5 - WATERBORNE COMMERCE STATISTICS

5-1. Purpose. This chapter establishes the policy on the collection, compilation, publication, and dissemination of USACE Waterborne Commerce Statistics and the collection, compilation, and reporting of data on waterway traffic through locks and regulated canals by the Navigation Data Center (NDC).

5-2. Policy. It is the policy of the Corps of Engineers that:

a. Waterborne commerce statistics pertaining to rivers, harbors, and waterways shall be collected, compiled, and published in accordance with the Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1922 (42 Stat. 1043) as amended and 33 CFR, Part 207.

b. A NDC has been established under the Director, Water Resources Support Center (WRSC). The specific groups of data for which the NDC is responsible are listed in Chapter 5 of EP 1130-2-520, including information on the Dredging Statistics Program data requirements and general data collection schedules. The USACE policies on the collection, editing, maintenance, and analysis of data collected at channelized waterways, regulated man-made canals, and all Corps-owned and operated locks is provided in Chapter 6 of this regulation, "The Lock Performance Monitoring System." The purposes of the NDC is:

(1) planning, developing, and evaluating navigation data collection and processing systems;

(2) ensuring that national and regional data bases are adequately integrated and efficiently operated and maintained; and

(3) assessing the efficiency of data dissemination technology and procedures.

c. The Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center has been established under the Director, Navigation Data Center, and is responsible for collecting, compiling, printing, and distributing all domestic waterborne commerce statistics for which the USACE has responsibility in accordance with policies approved by the USACE. Data coding, collection format requirements, publications produced, and all methods of data analysis are described fully in Chapter 5 of EP 1130-2-520.

d. Any data or information which has been furnished by vessel operators and others upon the understanding that it shall not be disclosed to the public shall be held in strictest confidence in accordance with 33 CFR 209. Release of any data to the public which shall identify specific individual firms or persons supplying these data to the USACE shall be considered disclosure.

e. Proposed changes to the area serving as the basis for each statistical table contained in the annual regional publications shall be submitted for prior approval to the Director, NDC, through the appropriate District and MSC commanders, together with a statement of justification, unless the change is prescribed by a River and Harbor Act. Inclusion in the publications of statistics for new areas other than those established by River and Harbor Acts shall require a similar approval. Specific guidance on requesting changes to port area definitions or other tables used in preparation of the Waterborne Commerce of the United States, Parts 1-5, are provided in Chapter 5 of EP 1130-2-520.