A 10-Year Projection of Maritime Activity in the US Arctic

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Review of Current U.S. Arctic Traffic

Kernel Density: 2012, July - November

Kernel Density: July - November, 2012

High: 109.431

US petroleum lease areas

Low: 0

Canadian lease areas

0 125 250 500 750 1,000 Km

66°N (Arctic circle)

69°N

Kernel Density: 2012, July - November
Economic Development Factors

1. **Business as usual growth**
2. **Diversion from other routes**
3. **Oil and gas exploration**

Assumption: Continued oil and gas exploration will increase vessel traffic

- Based on BOEM, NMFS, & industry projections
- Ranges from no growth (baseline 2011) to several exploration activities in the Beaufort and Chukchi in 2025
- Development scenarios were not included.
Projection Scenarios:

- Total number of vessels may be small relative to other larger shipping lanes
- Relative growth and potential impact could be significant

Error bars show the low and high projections for vessel numbers in 2025
Climate and Infrastructure

Ice diminishment will impact Arctic accessibility. Infrastructure will impact risk and response.
Summary and Next Steps

- **Wide range of potential growth for 2025**
  - 75-430% increase
  - 2000+ Bering Strait transits possible

- **Arctic routes accessible in summer months**
  - 100-150 days of possible access in 2025
  - Variability of access up to 70 days

- **Future NSAR Actions Assigned to CMTS**
  
  **Action 1.1.2:** 10-year prioritization framework to coordinate the phased development of Federal infrastructure identified by Departments and Agencies

  **Action 1.1.3:** Development of recommendations for Federal public-private partnerships
Thank you

Report available at:  www.CMTS.gov

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