

CS 352 Activity #2: Analysis of a Web Site

Note: This is an individual assignment, not a group assignment

You have a friend who fishes and crabs in Yaquina Bay near Newport Or. Being the local computer “guru” he asks you to use a new NOAA (1) tool to create custom nautical charts. He knows the charts cannot be used for navigation, but he simply wants to record successful and unsuccessful fishing/crabbing spots. His goal is to have a series of maps (2) that he can file away and use for future fishing trips!

The tool page is here: <https://noaacoastsurvey.wordpress.com/2018/04/11/online-noaa-custom-chart-lets-boaters-create-their-own-charts/>

He would like you to create an 8.5' x 11" map of Yaquina Bay. He never goes beyond the jetty (3) tips. Those are the two slender strands that go out to the west (i.e. left side of the area). Then he wants the chart to cover the area to the big right bend on the east (i.e. right) side of the map. He wants as much of the bay covered as possible.

For this activity you will go to the site and create the map for your friend. I warn you the task is not trivial. I can also tell you that knowledge of navigation and charts doesn't really help. I feel the problem is really a poorly designed UX.

1. Create the map for your friend. Submit a copy with your report. You don't need to print it.
2. Describe your process (sequence of steps) to produce the desired output.
 - a. Was it easy or straightforward? In what way?
 - b. Was it cumbersome? In what way?
 - c. Was it impossible? If so how?
3. Describe ways to improve the system, or at least remove obstacles.
 - a. This is a development site. Feel free to leave feedback with them.

This site has some issues. You should be able to come up with 2 pages of observations and discussion. Probably more than 2 pages. Remember that 1 page plus 1 line is not 2 pages. ☺ Also remember that we can change the font and margins and other configuration items too. So 16 point Helvetica font with 1.5" margins may not save your page count. You will likely need more than 2 pages.

1-NOAA is the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. In charge of charts and weather forecasting and other such things.

2-A chart is a geographic display used for nautical (and aeronautical) navigation. A map is a geographic display used for other purposes. While this output appears to be a chart, in reality it is a map and will be used for non-navigational purposes.

3- This jetty is a breakwater constructed to protect or defend a harbor, stretch of coast, or riverbank. In this case they are piles of large rocks.