Missing attributes and raised questions about wtwgag

General Discussions

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Jun '18

At the IEEG meeting it becomes clear that for bridges and wtwgag's attribute information is missing.
For wtwgag two important levels are registered in the FC
vcrlev (O) Name of vertical river datum reference
sdrlev (O) Name of Sounding datum reference level

but the attributes that should register the value of those levels are missing : vcrval and sdrval.

Anyway vcrval and sdrval are mentioned in the figure attached to the encoding instruction of wtwgag.

(For EU the missing attributes vcrval and sdrval 'll also have impact on the RISindex , I suppose)

Preparing a CR I have some questions

Since vcrlev (O) and vcrval ; sdrlev and sdrval important for encoding VERCLR of ie a bridge I really don't understand why the other levels are needed to encode.

hignam (O) Name of relevant high water level
higwat (O) Value at relevant high water level
lownam (O) Name of relevant low water level
lowwat (O) Value at relevant low water level
meanam (O) Name of relevant mean water level
meawat (O) Value at relevant mean water level

Could someone explain this for me?
From my point of view this information wil not used by skippers.

Another question is: why is verdat as attribute needed in wtwgag . The problem is that verdat is used for sounding information and also for vertical clearance , but these are addressed already by vcrlev and sdrlev

Bernd
Jun '18

Dear René,
the information about reference high, mean and low water levels is not used for the calculation of the geodetic height of the bridge, but e.g. for the planning of a voyage it is important to know if the difference between low water level and mean water level is just 20 cm or 3 m.
The Information is also important for the skipper if he gets the information that the water level at a specific gauge is e.g. 234 cm. Looking at the values of the high, mean and low reference values he can see whether 234 cm is a low or a high water level.

I think you are right that the verdat attribute is not necessary and could be deleted. But we loose backward compatibility if we delete elements. I would therefore propose to keep verdat for an edition 2.5 and to delete it in the FC of S-401.

Your comment has led to another point: the attributes vcrlev and sdrlev are currently defined as free text attributes. Page I.3.4 of the Encoding Guide recommends to enter a level from the list of verdat values, but allows to use different entries. We should clarify whether we have to enter only the number of a verdat value or the name of a verdat value (e.g. "34" or "Equivalent height of water (German GlW)") and whether we should change these attributes to list attributes with the same enumerations as verdat in S-401. On one hand I would prefer a machine readable list attribute, on the other hand we would create additional work for the transformation of existing IENCs to S-401 IENCs.

Best regards
Bernd

ReneVisser
Jun '18
Dear Bernd

Thank you for your answer.

I do understand and agree your remark about comptability in relation to the attribute verdat for wtwgag.
I suppose to add some text about this in the encoding guide .
or better? not mentioned verdat anymore irt wtwgag.

Your remark on information of high mean and low waterlevels is clear.
In the Netherlands , I suppose , we are a bit spoiled. Waterlevel actual information (and prediction) at gauges is available and that was the source of my conclusion that skippers have no need of these static encoded values of the levels in the wtwgag feature.
It is more likely that voyage planning tools 'll make use of those actual waterlevel services than the static encoded values.
But I think these kinds of services 'll be not available everywhere.

I suppose in the Netherlands this static level information 'll be available as well

Thank you
BR René