New Zealand Raster Navigational Charts: RNCs

Format, Availability

NZ*Mariner* is the product name of the official Raster Navigational Chart (RNC) folio for NZ and is published by Land Information New Zealand (LINZ). It is a digital coloured facsimile of NZ paper navigational charts and can be used in Electronic Charting Systems (ECS) and approved Electronic Chart Display & Information Systems (ECDIS). The RNCs are published in BSB version 3 format and are not encrypted.

LINZ issues a base file (Base Disk) for the whole folio of charts in a single zip file which is re-issued annually. Updates to the Base Disk are issued monthly (Update Disk), and contain updates in the form of full BSBs to replace charts which have been superseded in the 'Base Disk' and any new charts. The update file is a cumulative update which contains all the updates which have accrued since the initial Base Disk was published. These files can be downloaded from the LINZ website:

https://www.linz.govt.nz/sea/charts/information-about-charts

Installing Charts

Depending on your software, the location and how charts are stored on your system may vary. Please consult your software provider and documentation for the specific chart installation requirements for your software.

Updating Charts

1. Download the Update Disk zip file from the LINZ website to a suitable location.
2. Right click on the zip file you have downloaded and choose 'Extract to here'.
3. Copy the extracted charts from the BSB_ROOT folder, into the current chart folder for your chart viewer or navigation program, replacing any previous versions of files with the same name.
4. Reload the charts into the chart viewer or navigation program.
5. Verify if the new files are being used by looking at the Notices to Mariners date information for any charts replaced in the update procedure.

Raster Chart Viewing or Navigation Software

NZ*Mariner* is capable of being used in ECS/ECDIS which support BSB version 3 products and is a format widely supported by software manufacturers. Viewing software can be acquired from a number of popular suppliers.