

U.S. Committee on the Marine Transportation System

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CMTS Issues Updated Arctic MTS Infrastructure Table

The CMTS Arctic Marine Transportation Integrated Action Team (Arctic IAT) issued the report, *The 2021 U.S. Arctic Infrastructure Table Update* (April 2021), an updated inventory of vital marine transportation system (MTS) components in the U.S. Arctic. This table was originally introduced in the CMTS 2013 report, *U.S. Arctic Marine Transportation System: Overview and Priorities for Action*, and was updated as an appendix in 2018. This 2021 report includes over 40 substantial updates, changes, and additions to the original 2013 infrastructure table. As maritime activity in the US Arctic evolves and grows, it is necessary to understand the current state of infrastructure supporting the MTS.

"The 2021 Arctic MTS infrastructure table serves as a valuable repository of current Arctic marine transportation system infrastructure for federal agencies, Tribal representatives, and stakeholders to use as shipping steadily increases in a strategic region that has never been more relevant," noted Rear Admiral Richard Timme, Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy, U.S. Coast Guard and CMTS Coordinating Board Chair.

The CMTS was directed in the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 to coordinate transportation policy in the US Arctic for safety and security. The interagency Arctic IAT was subsequently formed and has since published a number of seminal documents including the <u>A Ten Year Projection of Maritime Activity in the U.S. Arctic (2015,2019)</u>, <u>A Ten Year Prioritization of Infrastructure Needs in the U.S. Arctic (2016)</u>, <u>Recommendations and Criteria for Using Federal Public-Private Partnerships to Support Critical U.S. Arctic Maritime Infrastructure (2017)</u>, and an <u>Inventory of Federal Communication Capabilities in the U.S. Arctic (2020)</u>. For more information on the work of the Arctic IAT, go to https://www.cmts.gov/topics/arctic.