NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC OFFICE

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Warfighting Support Center

The Warfighting Support Center (WSC), a department of the Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVO-CEANO), provides special and expeditionary warfighters actionable environmental intelligence within the littoral and riverine battlespace. The WSC delivers information to the warfighter in time for use in operational and tactical decisionmaking.

The WSC performs detailed analyses of the coastal environment using satellite imagery, supplemented by open-source scientific studies and products from departments throughout NAVOCEANO, including computer models of the ocean and rivers and environmental databases.

The WSC tailors its deliverable—environmental knowledge of the battlespace—to the warfighter based on the mission type, platform and the required delivery format (e.g., text, pictorial, Web-based or geospatially enabled). Examples of information available include satellite images overlaid with nearshore bathymetry and indications of obstacles, text reports on the climatological nearshore current conditions or riverine studies indicating potential crossing points or hazardous rapids. The common parameters provided with imagery include:

- · Prevailing ocean currents
- · Near-shore obstructions

• Near-shore bottom characteristics including bathymetry and bottom composition (e.g., mud vs. sand vs. rock)

· Surf characteristics

 \cdot Dangerous marine life or aquatic vegetation in the area

• Sea surface temperature, with indications of swimmer visibility and hypothermia danger times

· Fishing practices common to the area

WSC products are designed for use by the tactical military operator in areas where little or no data exist. These are not products designed to support civilian navigation; rather they assist military forces in determining



the operational risk due to the environment of a littoral area and help planners to choose the time and place for riverine or across-the-beach operations.

Delivery times are dependent on the scope of the product and the availability of imagery in the interest area. Overview products for multimission planning may take a month or more to produce. Narrowly focused products or answers on specific environmental impacts in small areas may be done in hours to days.

For support, contact the NAVOCEANO Customer Service Desk 228.688.5176 (DSN 828) or see the Operational Products Web page at https://www.navo.navy.mil.

For more information, please contact NAVOCEANO Public Affairs at 228.688.5649 or visit https://www.navo.navy.mil.