Shipping & Transport – Ferry Routes and Terminals

description

Ferry services provide vital linkages for transporting people and freight in coastal British Columbia. This atlas page illustrates the linear extents of ferry routes in British Columbia. The information portrayed includes all British Columbia Ferry Services Inc. (BC Ferries) routes, as well as routes services by other ferry operators. Also shown are ferry terminals identified though Crown Land Registry system (Tantalis) as Land Act tenures on Crown Land. Ferry terminals on privately owned land are not displayed. Passenger ferries, together with cruise ships, are estimated to account for 56% of the annual vessel movements in Canada's Pacific waters (BC Ministry of Environment et al. 2006).

Of the 46 ferry routes mapped in British Columbian waters, the majority (25) are serviced by BC Ferries, one of the largest ferry operators in the world, based on passengers transported annually (21 million passengers and 8.3 million vehicles during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010) and transportation infrastructure (36 vessels and 47 terminals).

The original ferry routes dataset provided by the Coastal Resource Information Management System (CRIMS) was updated by the BC Marine Conservation Analysis (BCMCA) to include missing ferry routes and to rectify inaccurate data. For example, the route from Prince Rupert to Skidegate was corrected to portray travel through Edye Passage south of Stephens and Prescott Island rather than the inaccurate route more typically shown north of Stephens Island. Attribute data for number of annual round trips was gathered and a five level "frequency of use" scale was developed.

Level of use	Number of annual round trips
Very Low	0 to 100
Low	101 to 1,000
Moderate	1, 001 to 2,500
High	2,501 to 5,000
Very High	Greater than 5,001

For routes managed by BC Ferries, the number of round trips for each route was derived from published data in the British Columbia Ferry Services Annual Report of 2007/8. For all other ferry routes this number has been approximated based on the posted annual schedule for each route.

PHOTO: JEN LEMERCIER

PHOTO: CARRIE ROBB

data sources

- Routes:
  - Coastal Resource Information Management System (CRIMS), Province of British Columbia
- British Columbia Marine Conservation Analysis (BCMCA) route updates and annual round trip count from:
  - Digital Road Atlas (DRA) – BC Government, Integrated Land Management Bureau
  - 2007/08 Annual Report to the BC Ferry Commissioner, BC Ferries
  - Mariner Guide books
  - Ferry service provider web sites

- Terminals:
  - Province of British Columbia, GeoBC, Land and Resource Data Warehouse (LRDW)

data resolution

- Route data has been mapped against a coastline provided by the Canadian Hydrographic Service and is accurate to a scale of 1:250,000. However, routes mapped may not be the exact routes followed.

- Terminals: 1:20,000.

date compiled

- Routes: 2008 and 2010
- Terminals: October 2012

reviewers

- Not reviewed.

reviewer comments

- None provided.

caveats of use

- Crown Tenures used to portray terminals, are refreshed daily to the LRDW from Tantalis, the Crown Land Registry system.
- Terminals located on privately owned land are not depicted.
- The lines depict channels used and not necessarily the actual paths followed by the ferries. The information is not to be used for navigation.
- A number of ferry routes are not portrayed, including:
  - Three of the unregulated routes listed in the Coastal Ferry Services Contract:
  - Prince Rupert to Lax Kw'alaams;
  - Prince Rupert to Hartley Bay (and other ports: Metlakatla, Kitkatla, Oona River); and
  - Ahousat - Hot Springs Cove – Tofino.
  - Victoria Harbour Ferry Company (passenger only).
  - Marine Link Transportation Ltd: primarily freight services with a variable route from Campbell River to Mainland Inlets, Desolation Sound, and the Discovery Islands.
  - Several smaller or irregularly scheduled freight barging and water taxi services.

- Recommended date of expiry for use of these data in a marine planning context: None provided.

map, feature data and metadata access

- Visit *www.bcmca.ca/data* for more information.

references

- BC Ministry of Environment, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, University of Victoria, University of British Columbia, and Environment Canada. Alive and Inseparable: British Columbia's Coastal Environment. 2006. *www.env.gov.bc.ca/soe/bcce/*

- BC Land and Resource Data Warehouse (LRDW) can be accessed at: *https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/geometadata/home.do*

- The Coastal Ferry Services Contract is available at: *www.th.gov.bc.ca/marine/documents/Coastal_Ferry_Services_Contract.pdf*

Alaska

Nass River

Skeena River

Haida Gwaii

British Columbia

PACIFIC

OCEAN

Fraser River

Vancouver Island

Washington

BCMCA Atlas

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Ferry Routes and Terminals

Legend

Ferry Routes
(frequency of use)

— Very High
— High
— Moderate
— Low
— Very Low

◼ Ferry Terminals
(Crown Land)

Note:
- The size of the terminals has been exaggerated slightly to increase visibility at this scale.

Data Sources:
BC Marine Conservation Analysis (BCMCA),
Coastal Resource Information
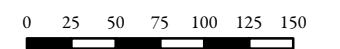Management System (CRIMS),
Province of British Columbia

Base Data:
ESRI Base Data, GeoBase, GeoBC,
NOAA, Natural Resources Canada,
USGS, Washington State Government

Thematic Data:
For more information on data sources
and methods please refer to the
facing page to this map

Projection: BC Albers NAD83

0 25 50 75 100 125 150
Kilometres

0 25 50 75
Nautical Miles

1:4,250,000 *
* Written scales are approximate and
are based on an 11 x 17 inch paper size.

Prepared for:

**BC MARINE
CONSERVATION
ANALYSIS**

Map template by Caslys Consulting Ltd.

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Inset Map

1:500,000*

Note: The inset has been provided to illustrate the level of detail available in the data. The inset is for illustrative purposes only and does not imply any significance to this region.