

NOAA Nautical Charting Calendar

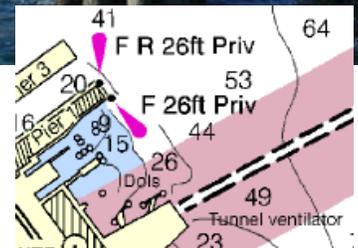
Dolphins

A “dolphin” is a mooring post or buffer placed at the entrance of a dock, alongside a wharf or in the middle of a stream. In the first and second instances it is used as a buffer. In the third it is used as a mooring post. Each dolphin is generally a series of heavy piles contiguous to each other, arranged in a circle, brought together and capped over the top. A construction permit is required from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to build such structures in navigable waters.

Dolphin information for charting comes from NOAA hydrographic and topographic surveys, field examinations, Coast Pilot inspections, photogrammetric revisions, USACE surveys and construction permits, Local Notice to Mariners, US Power Squadron and US Coast Guard Auxiliary reports, and government and private reports.

A dolphin is charted in its exact geographic position as depicted in the source material. The dolphin is charted as a solid line black circle with a line weight of 0.15 mm and a radius of 0.30mm, and labeled “Dol” except when bare at the sounding datum plane of reference on Great Lake charts where it is shown as a solid circle symbol. A Notice to Mariners is written for a newly applied or revised dolphin that is located near a channel, a frequently navigated area, or seaward of the blue tint curve on any chart.

The elimination of dolphin symbols to avoid illegible congestion of waterfront detail requires care. For example, when dolphins overlap one another, the most offshore or outermost dolphin of the cluster **MUST** be charted. This may mean showing only alternate dolphins for groups of three or more. This "thinning " procedure is done carefully to insure that the end dolphins of a group, and those toward the most navigable or heavily trafficked areas, are retained.



October 2008



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Prepared by the Office of Coast Survey, National Ocean Service, NOAA, www.NauticalCharts.NOAA.gov , 1-301-713-2770 Note: You can add your own information to the Charting Calendar using Adobe Reader 7 or later. The tools are found at the Tools -> Commenting, and Tools -> Drawing Markup features of Adobe Reader.			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	