



U.S. National Ice Center
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S. National Ice Center Welcomes New Director

November 2, 2018 SUTLAND, MD — The U.S. National Ice Center (USNIC) comprises elements of the U.S. Navy, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the United States Coast Guard (USCG). The Naval Ice Center (NAVICEN), a military unit under Commander, Navy Meteorology and Oceanography Command, is the largest component of the U.S. National Ice Center and the center's only independent command. The Commanding Officer of NAVICEN also serves simultaneously as the Director of USNIC.

Cmdr. Heather H. Quilinderino relieved Cmdr. Ruth A. Lane as commanding officer of NAVICEN during a change of command ceremony held at the NOAA Satellite Operations Facility (NSOF) in Suitland, MD.

During the ceremony, Cmdr. Lane motioned to the crew and said that one of her keenest regrets from this tour was that she “may not have told you often enough how great you are, how much value you add to high latitude domain awareness, maritime safety and security, and resource protection. Perhaps it’s a perk of a small command, but I have had the opportunity to get to know and to learn from each one of you. You are an amazing team.” Comparing changes of command to the regeneration process in the long-running science fiction television series *Doctor Who*, Cmdr. Lane mentioned that “when the Doctor mortally damages or wears out his current form, he regenerates into a new body and personality, but his mission remains constant. So I offer that you might think of this change of command as a regeneration of sorts. I have no doubt that Cmdr. Quilinderino will keep a steady hand on the wheel, and the Naval Ice Center mission will not falter.”

Cmdr. Lane has served as the Director of USNIC since June 2016, overseeing 48 military and civilian personnel who provide global to tactical scale ice and snow products, ice forecasting, and related environmental intelligence for the United States government.

The presiding officer of the ceremony was Capt. Christopher J. Sterbis, Commander, Fleet Weather Center, Norfolk. During his speech he mentioned that the mission of Naval Oceanography “is to shape relevant data into decision driving information.” Praising the assembled crew, Capt. Sterbis mentioned that in the execution of their mission, the men and women of USNIC have upheld all the priorities of Naval Oceanography – People, Capability, and Innovation – with “brilliance and precision.” With regard to Cmdr. Lane, Capt. Sterbis said that “her bright positivity and relentlessly positive attitude raise all boats higher than an astronomical high tide, and her selfless teamwork brings out the best in all of us. We should all be grateful for her leadership, and doubly grateful for the commitment of her dual military family.”

Cmdr. Lane is scheduled to report for duty as the Executive Officer, Fleet Weather Center, San Diego.

After assuming command, Cmdr. Quilenderino spoke to the crew stating that “never before has our mission been more critical to the safety and security of our nation. Your expertise is in demand more than ever. With humble gratitude, I am proud to lead this team and I am energized by our bright future together.”

Cmdr. Quilenderino most recently served as the Operations Officer for Fleet Weather Center, Norfolk.

To access daily products, weekly products, archival data and much more of our data in various formats, visit the USNIC webpage at: http://www.natice.noaa.gov/Main_Products.htm

For more information, please contact:

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The U.S. National Ice Center is a multi-agency center operated by the Navy, NOAA, and Coast Guard and provides global to tactical scale ice and snow products, ice forecasting, and related environmental intelligence services for the United States government.

