

# Charting of Transmission Lines & Obstacles on VFR Charts

FAA Control # ACF-CG RD 14-02-283



## AERONAUTICAL CHARTING FORUM Charting Group

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U.S. Coast Guard, FAA Liaison Officer



October 30, 2014

# Recommendation

We request that the Charting Group consider and approve updates of US VFR charts to provide more prominent markings of charted obstacle hazards to save lives and preserve property through improved pilot situational awareness and avoidance of charted obstacle hazards.



# Background

On July 7, 2010 a Coast Guard MH-60T Jayhawk helicopter struck power transmission lines and crashed off the coast of La Push, WA.



# Mishap Injury and Damage

- Three aircrew died; one survived with serious injury
- MH-60T replacement cost was \$30 million
- Ground power repair cost was \$366 thousand



# Causal Factor (one of several)

## Breakdown in Visual Scan

Lack of easily discernible wire hazard identification in accordance with FAA guidelines

- Structure Visibility (missing warning markers)
- Acquisition Policy (failure to maintain)
- Procedural Guidance (maintenance inspections)



# Coast Guard Vice Commandant Directed Actions

- Several actions focused on evaluation, design and maintenance of wire structures for FAA compliance
- “Coordinate with necessary stakeholders to put forth a change recommendation to the FAA to revise and model current U.S. VFR sectionals after Canadian VFR sectionals chart color contrast and hazard symbology.”



# VFR Chart Legends

## Power / Prominent Transmission Lines

US



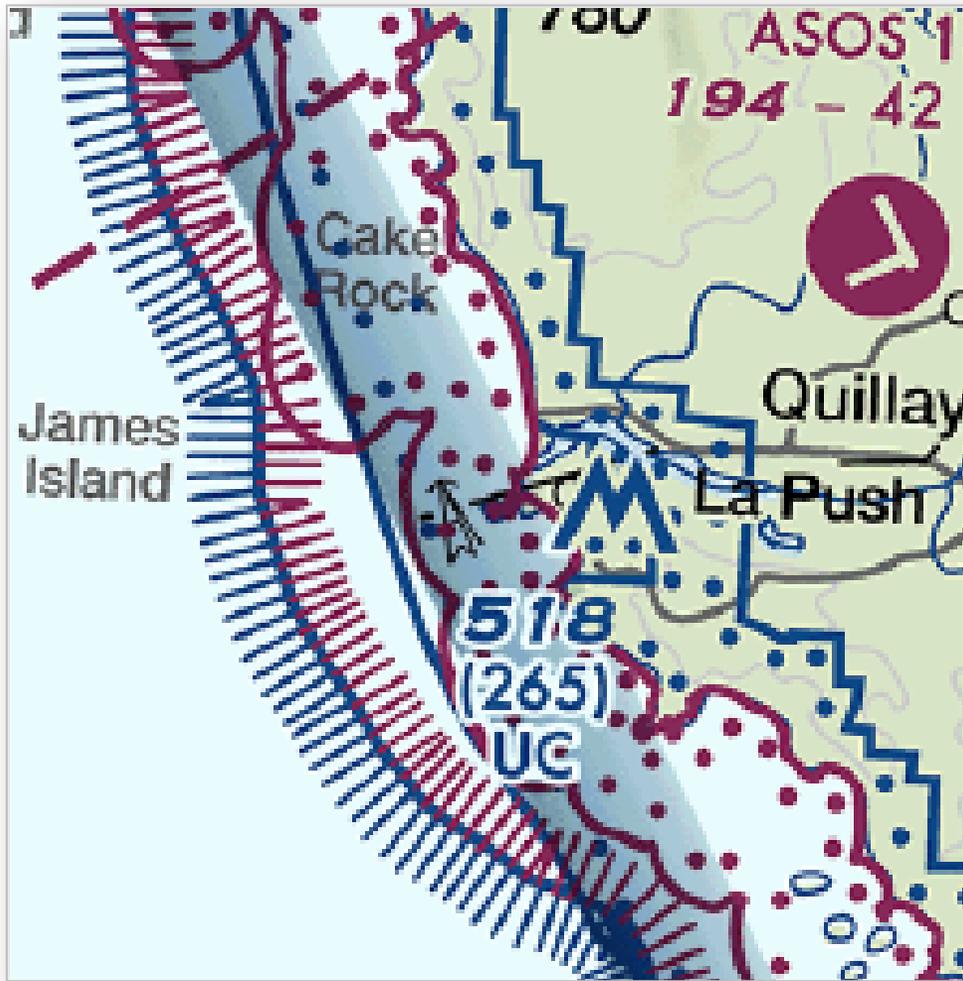
ICAO



Canada



# US VFR Sectional



# CA VFR Navigation Chart



# VFR Chart Wire Depictions

## US

## Canada

