

Mariner Radio Activated Sound Signal (MRASS) Information Sheet

Coast Guard Sector Northern New England has installed MRASS at the following lighthouses in ME and NH

- Cape Elizabeth Light
- Goat Island Light
- Burnt Island Light
- Portland Head Light
- Spring Point Ledge Light
- Dog Island Light
- West Quoddy Head Light
- Egg Rock Light
- Heron Neck Light
- Fort Point Light
- Goose Rocks Light
- Browns Head Light
- Owls Head Light
- Two Bush Island Light
- Whitehead Light
- Marshall Point Light
- Seguin Light
- Whaleback Light
- The Cuckolds Light
- Wood Island Light
- Ram Island Light
- Pond Island Light
- Portsmouth Harbor Light
- Cape Neddick Light
- Moose Peak Light

What is MRASS?

MRASS enables mariners to activate the sound signal on lighthouses where the system is installed by using a VHF radio.

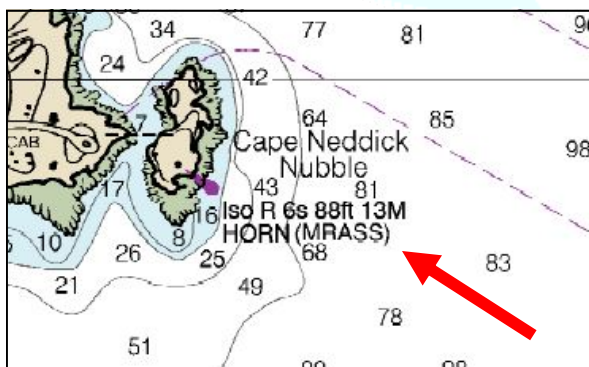
How can I activate the sound signal on a lighthouse where MRASS is installed?

Mariners can activate sounds signals by keying a VHF radio 5 times consecutively on channel 83A.

Do any other lighthouses currently have MRASS installed?

Yes. Many lighthouses around the country already have MRASS installed including the Great Lakes region, west coast, and New England, including Boston Light in Massachusetts.

How will the MRASS appear on a nautical chart?



Why did the Coast Guard convert lighthouses to MRASS?

The VM-100 fog detection system was antiquated, unreliable and inefficient. Spare parts were also extremely limited and no longer being manufactured.

Were there any changes to the light characteristics or sound signals at these lighthouses?

No. All light characteristics and sound signals remained the same. The only change is the way in which the sound signals are activated.

How did the Coast Guard notify mariners of this change?

All changes were announced via Broadcast Notice to Mariners, through local media campaigns, and in the Local Notice to Mariners at:

<http://www.navcen.uscg.gov>

Who should I contact for more information on this MRASS conversion project?

Interested parties should contact the Coast Guard Sector Northern New England Waterways Management Staff at NNEWaterways@uscg.mil.