

GPS has become an essential component to marine navigation and is emerging as an important Search and Rescue with newer phones having GPS based positioning information.

In my experience in many locations in North America aids to navigation are being reduced (fewer buoys) or at reduced luminous range (lights) on the expectation that mariners are relying on GPS as "virtual buoys". Furthermore, when a GPS signal is degraded, operators may not realize that position displays may be old or estimates.

Since all the available evidence indicates the LightSquared system will cause interference with GPS, it seems a risky decision to proceed with approving this communication service. While demand for telecommunications has exploded, so has the dependence on reliable GPS signals. This is a safety issue, please take it seriously.

Respectfully

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