

JANUARY 2026 MARINE SOFTWARE UPDATE



In an ongoing effort to improve our products and provide enhanced features to existing users, we are excited to announce the Q1 2026 marine software update. This update provides improved functionality and new features throughout our marine systems.

The preferred update method is a free download using the ActiveCaptain® mobile app or from a computer with Garmin Express™ software. A preloaded update card is also available for purchase and will be shipped directly from Garmin. Click [here](#) for all update methods.

For the most up-to-date chart data available, visit our [chart update page](#) or check the [marine support](#) section on Garmin.com to find information on updating your device's charts, or tap the **Download Charts** option from the ActiveCaptain app to see what's available. For more information on available marine charts, visit our [marine chart viewer](#).

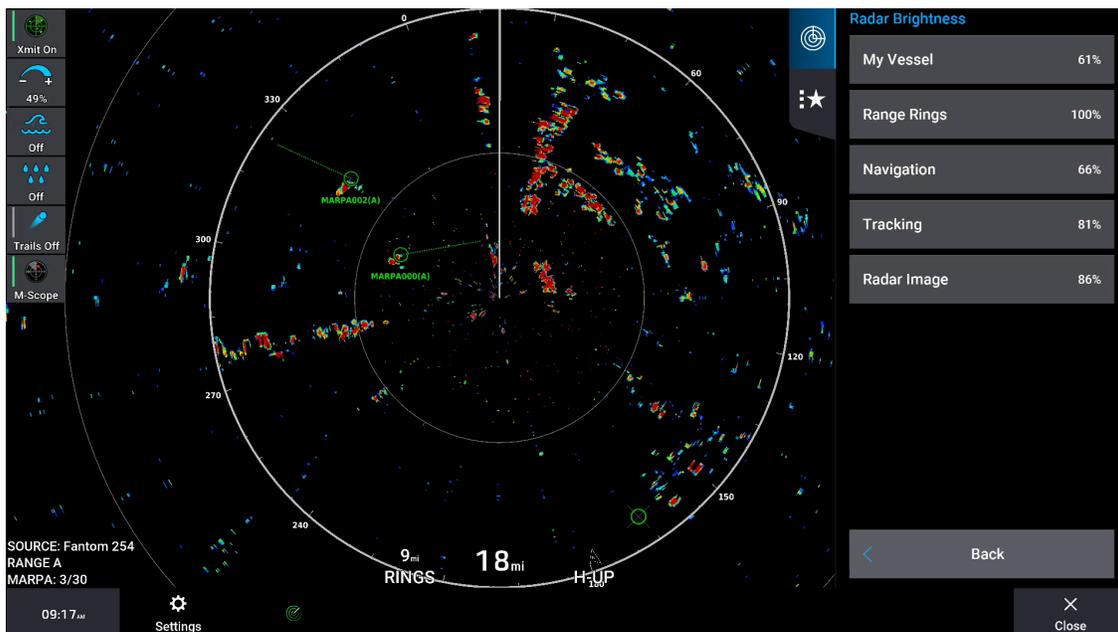
NEW FEATURES

Notable features in this software release include:

RADAR BRIGHTNESS IMPROVEMENTS

This update adds 2 new brightness control options — **Tracking** and **Radar Image** — to the existing **Radar Brightness** menu.

- Tracking allows users to adjust the display brightness of AIS/MARPA targets on the radar screen.
- Radar Image allows users to adjust the display brightness of radar echoes on the radar screen.



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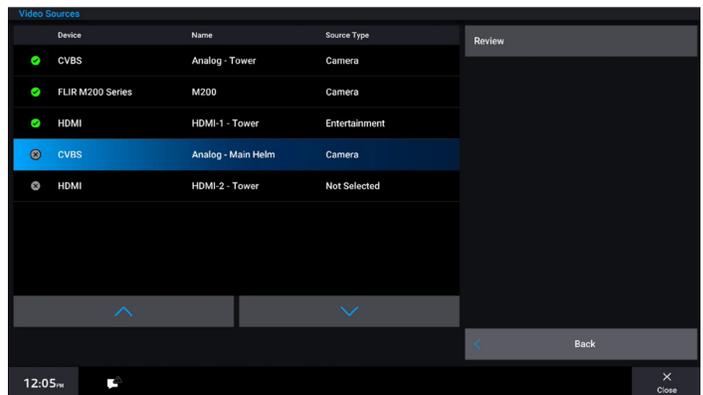
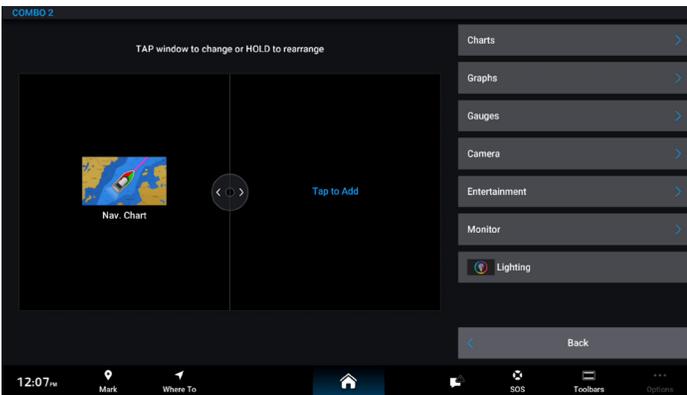
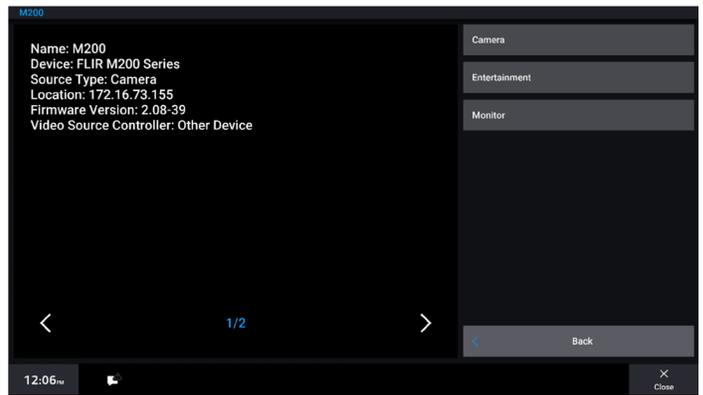
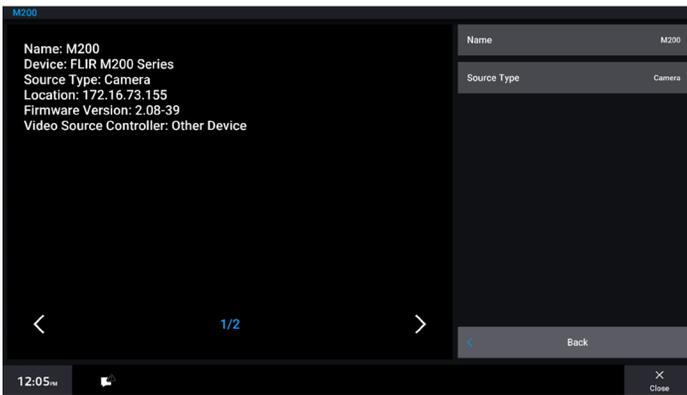
VIDEO SOURCE CLASSIFICATION

This update will:

- Allow users to categorize their video sources into 1 of 3 categories: **Monitor**, **Entertainment**, or **Camera**.
- Enable the system attempt to automatically assign a source type.
- When creating a combo, sort video sources by category instead of appearing in one large list.

Benefits:

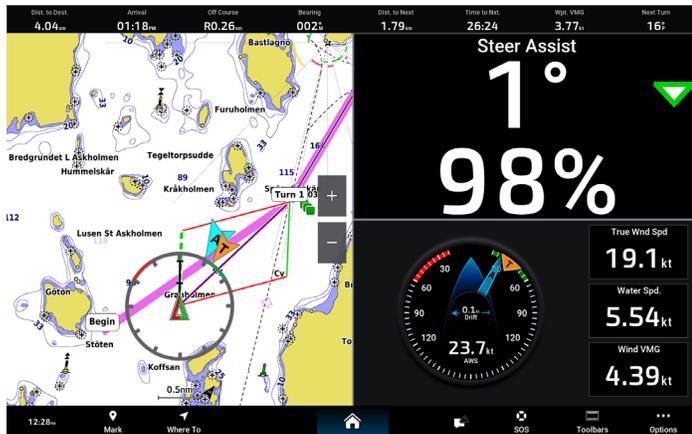
- Users can now more easily interact with the video sources on their boat and easily find relevant information about them.
- Users can now categorize their video sources, which will allow for different user experiences in the future for each category.



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SAILING FEATURES – STEER ASSIST AND POLAR DATA VISIBILITY

Steer Assist is a set of features that helps a sailor steer on the optimal course when sailing. It uses sensor data and polar table information to emphasize a target wind angle (laylines) or the bearing to waypoint and shows this information in various ways on the chart and in a data field. The laylines and bearing to waypoint on the chart have updated graphics and behaviors, and the data field shows the user how to correct the heading and if the boat is moving at the optimal speed toward the target.



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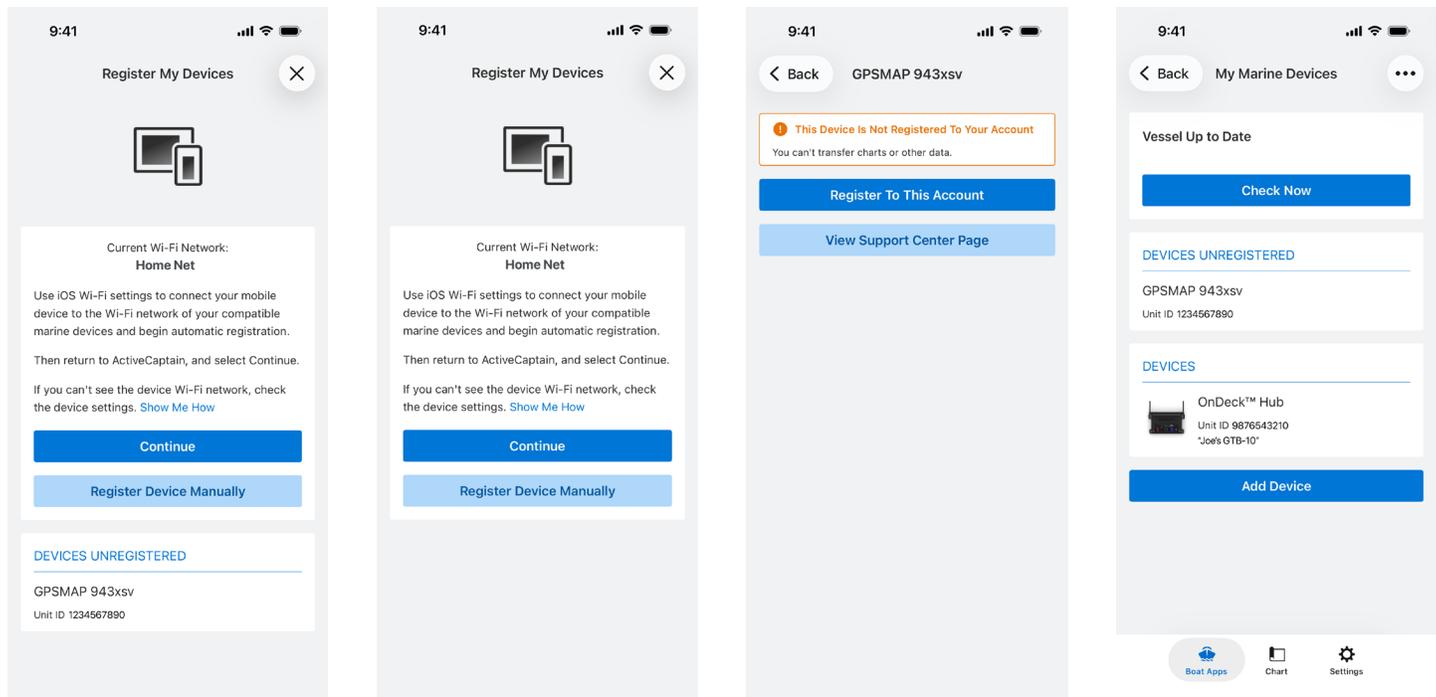
SUPPORT FOR AIRMAR® TRANSDUCERS

This update adds support for the SS175MW (GPSMAP® x3 series only), M265LM, B275MWHW and TM275MWHW Airmar transducers to enable auto detect and operation.

ACTIVECAPTAIN® DEVICE REGISTRATION IMPROVEMENTS

This update helps customers who accidentally unregistered an owned device and are struggling with getting it back into their account.

- Registering a device manually (by entering unit ID) is now more accessible and easier to find, with a new **Register Your Device** button.
- Previously unregistered devices are now listed in the **Add Device** flow and can easily be registered again.
- When the phone is connected to a boat that contains an unregistered device, that device is listed on the “My Marine Devices” page to make the user aware and provide an easy way to re-register.

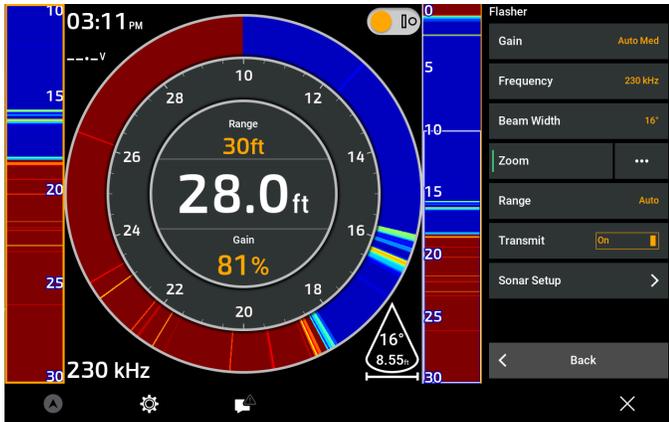


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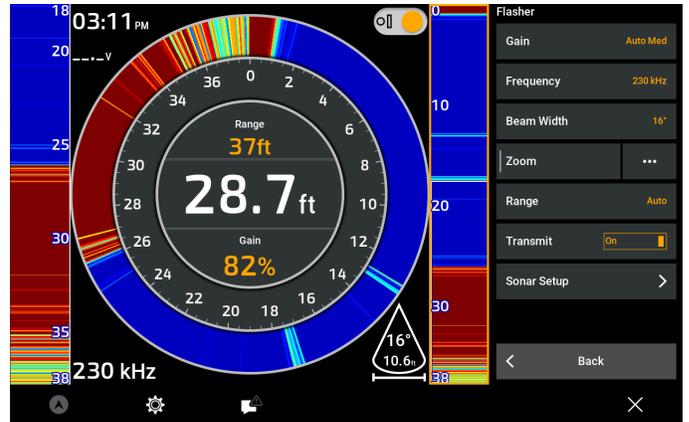
ICE FISHING ZOOM SETTINGS

This update adds a new menu button as a quick change for the flasher display. The yellow button toggles the **Zoom** setting.

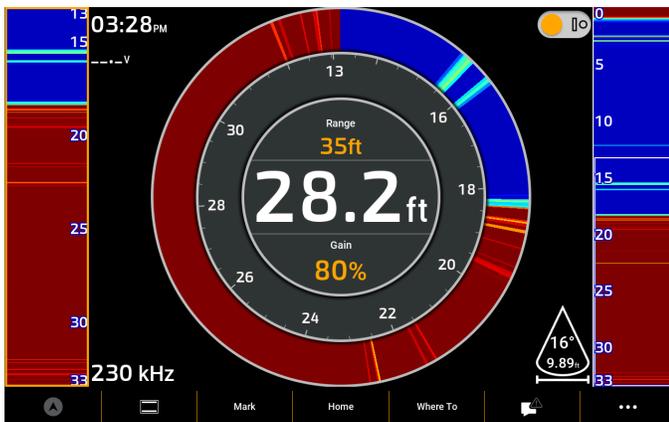
- When Zoom is enabled, the left A-scope and the flasher both display the zoomed dataset.
- When Zoom is disabled, the right A-scope and the flasher both display the full range of the sonar data.



With Menu – Zoomed



With Menu – Full Range



Full Screen – Zoomed



Full Screen – Full Range

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FORCE® CURRENT TROLLING MOTORS SPEED IMPROVEMENTS

This update helps you get to your spot even faster.

- The new Force Current software v2.40 increases top end speeds for kayaks running a 24-volt battery. The overall thrust rating remains the same, but the motor's maximum RPM limit has been increased by 25%.
- The power steer foot pedals now show a blinking white LED to indicate when the pedal is uncalibrated.

FORCE® TROLLING MOTORS SOFTWARE UPDATE

This update adds the following trolling motor update improvements.

All trolling motor models:

- Updates initiated from a chartplotter will wait until connected trolling motor peripherals finish updating to report that all updates are finished.

Trolling motor remote:

- An indicator ring and arrow were added for heading hold mode to indicate the current heading along with the requested heading.



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COMPATIBILITY

	GPSMAP® 9000 (19-27")	GPSMAP 9000xsv (10-17")	GPSMAP 9500 Black Box	GPSMAP 8600xsv (10-16")	GPSMAP 7x3/9x3 /12x3/15x3/16x3	TD 50	ECHOMAP™ ULTRA 2 (10/12/16")	ECHOMAP UHD2 (6/7/9" Touch)	ECHOMAP UHD2 (5/7" Key)
RADAR BRIGHTNESS IMPROVEMENTS	●	●	●	●	●	●			
VIDEO SOURCE CLASSIFICATION	●	●	●	●	●				
SAILING FEATURES – STEER ASSIST AND POLAR DATA VISIBILITY	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SUPPORT FOR AIRMAR® TRANSDUCERS ¹		●		●	●				
ACTIVECAPTAIN® DEVICE REGISTRATION IMPROVEMENTS	Available Using the Current ActiveCaptain App								
ICE FISHING ZOOM SETTINGS							●	●	●
FORCE® CURRENT TROLLING MOTORS SPEED IMPROVEMENTS	Available on Force Current Trolling Motors Running Current Software								
FORCE TROLLING MOTORS SOFTWARE UPDATE	Available During Force Trolling Motor Updates								

¹This update adds support for the SS175MW (GPSMAP x3 series only), M265LM, B275MWHW and TM275MWHW Airmar transducers to enable auto detect and operation.