# NOAA Okeanos Explorer Program

# MAPPING DATA REPORT

#### **CRUISE EX1202 Leg 1**

Exploration Mapping: Gulf of Mexico

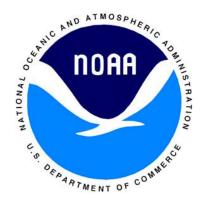
Feb 27 – March 14, 2012 Charleston, SC to Tampa, FL

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#### 1. Introduction





#### The Okeanos Explorer Program

Commissioned in August 2008, the NOAA Ship *Okeanos* Explorer is the nation's only federal vessel dedicated to ocean

exploration. With 95% of the world's oceans left unexplored, the ship's combination of scientific and technological tools uniquely positions it to systematically explore new areas of our largely unknown ocean. These exploration cruises are explicitly designed to generate hypotheses and lead to further investigations by the wider scientific community.

Using a high-resolution multibeam sonar with water column capabilities, a deep water remotely operated vehicle, and telepresence technology, *Okeanos Explorer* provides NOAA the ability to foster scientific discoveries by identifying new targets in real time, diving on those targets shortly after initial detection, and then sending this information back to shore for immediate near-real-time collaboration with scientists and experts at Exploration Command Centers around the world. The subsequent transparent and rapid dissemination of information-rich products to the scientific community ensures that discoveries are immediately available to experts in relevant disciplines for research and analysis

Through the *Okeanos Explorer* Program, NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER) provides the nation with unparalleled capacity to discover and investigate new oceanic regions and phenomena, conduct the basic research required to document discoveries, and seamlessly disseminate data and information-rich products to a multitude of users. The program strives to develop technological solutions and innovative applications to critical problems in undersea exploration and to provide resources for developing, testing, and transitioning solutions to meet these needs.

#### Okeanos Explorer Management – a unique partnership within NOAA

The Okeanos Explorer Program combines the capabilities of the NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer with shore-based high speed networks and infrastructure for systematic telepresence-enabled exploration of the world ocean. The ship is operated, managed and maintained by NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, which includes commissioned officers of the NOAA Corps and civilian wage mariners. OER owns and is responsible for operating and managing the cutting-edge ocean exploration systems on the vessel (ROV, mapping and telepresence) and ashore including Exploration Command Centers and terrestrial high speed networks. The ship and shore-based infrastructure combine to be the only federal program dedicated to systematic telepresence-enabled exploration of the planet's largely unknown ocean.

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#### 2. Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to briefly describe the mapping data collection and processing methods, and to report the major results of the cruise. For a detailed description of the *Okeanos Explorer* mapping capabilities, see appendix B and the ship's readiness report, which can be obtained by contacting the ships operations officer (ops.explorer@noaa.gov).

This report focuses on exploration of North Eastern region of Gulf of Mexico.

#### 3. Cruise Objectives

The exploration area for this expedition was chosen based on guidance from OER / Ocean Exploration Advisory Working Group (OEAWG) workshop results (Atlantic Basin Workshop, 2011) that identified high priority target areas for exploration in Gulf of Mexico (Figure 1) and input received from participating scientists from Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and University of New Hampshire (UNH).



Figure 1: Priority exploration targets identified during Atlantic basin workshop held in May 2011. Image created in Google Earth.

Most of the sites in the southern part of the Gulf of Mexico (Figure 1) were excluded from consideration for EX1202 Leg I as they are outside US EEZ and the time frame for this cruise

was considered too short to pursue any foreign clearances / permits. Focusing on Northern part of the Gulf, two exploration areas were chosen (Green polygon in Figure 2): West Florida Escarpment and DeSoto Canyon.

With in Exploration area identified, two mapping priorities areas have been identified (shown as red polygons, Figure 2). The compilation of existing data from National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) showed that the western Florida escarpment remains largely unexplored. The multibeam coverage obtained in this area during EX1105 and EX1106 during 2011 was extended adding lines in the Florida Escarpment priority area.

The DeSoto Canyon has been an exploration priority during last few decades. Previous work in this area has included studies of animal abundance (for example OER Operation Deep Scope, 2004) by NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research, mapping effort to map canyon heads to study the geomorphology and benthic reef habitats that occur in this area (Gardner et al., 2001) by USGS, and multibeam mapping by BOEM in 1990s of deeper portions of the DeSoto Canyon. The northern shallower part of the DeSoto Canyon remains unmapped and was the prime focus of mapping efforts during this cruise (Figure 3).

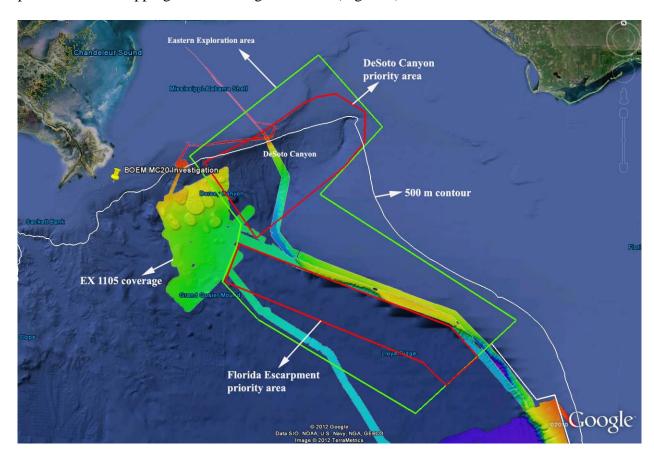


Figure 2: Mapping priority for EX1202 leg I. Red polygons: Focus mapping priorities for EX1202 Leg I, Green polygon: Exploration area, white line: 500 m contour line. Image created in Google Earth.

Coordinates of the broad exploration areas (Figure 1) are listed in the following table.

Exploration area coordinates					
Longitude	Latitude	Longitude	Latitude		
-88.3145	29.15689	-85.5064	27.95821		
-87.8598	28.65632	-87.1912	28.88899		
-87.8912	28.5023	-86.6647	29.40115		
-88.0088	28.22295	-87.2225	29.93578		
-87.7007	27.94604	-88.3145	29.15689		
-86.3576	27.25536				

Table 2: Coordinates of EX1202 Leg I exploration area.

A compilation of existing multibeam data in vicinity of DeSoto Canyon identified areas in depths of  $\sim 200-1000$  m that have not been mapped earlier (see Deep Unmapped and Shallow areas in Figure 4). Based on swath coverage and expected depths, it was decided to focus on the areas deeper than 400 m.

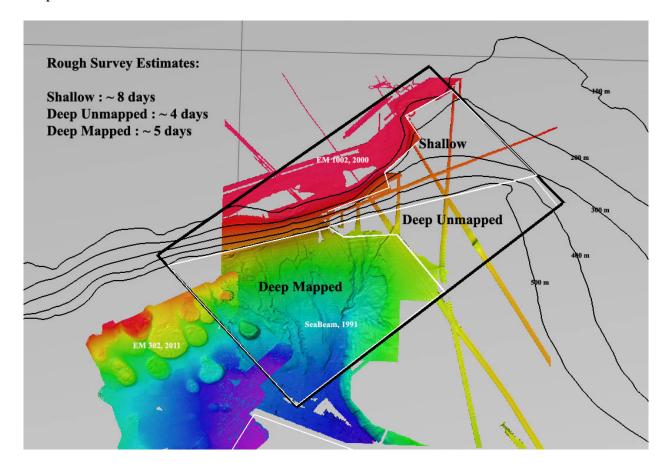


Figure 3: Mapping data compiled in vicinity of DeSoto Canyon. Earlier mapping efforts in this area show EM 302 (2011), Seabeam (1991) and EM 1002 (2000) data collected by NOAA OER,

BOEM and USGS respectively. Only EM 302 data collected in 2011 was collected with concurrent water column mapping.

Earlier multibeam work in this area did not collect water column data. The water column data by multibeam sonar can aid in the detection of gaseous seeps which are important benthic habitat in Gulf of Mexico. The deep area (Deep Mapped), although is already mapped, was therefore partially mapped for the purposes of detecting new gaseous seeps.

In summary the following were mission objectives for EX1202 Leg I (as per EX1202L1 project instructions, 21 February 2012):

1. Collect deep water multibeam sonar data (MBES)

Conduct 24-hr mapping operations during transit, with possible further development of exploration targets and collect bottom and water column data

The ship conducted 24 hr mapping operations during transit. Weather conditions prohibited collection of good quality data while heading directly into the seas.

2. Conduct training of new ST personnel in all data collection and processing procedures. Provide training to the interns (continuous throughout cruise).

The anticipated new hire of survey technicians did not materialize before the cruise.

Three mapping interns during this expedition were new to the EM 302 multibeam operations. Familiarization with the mapping system, data acquisition and processing was conducted at the beginning of the cruise. These personnel were then paired with experienced mapping watch standers who trained these personnel one to one in conducting and processing XBTs, data acquisition and processing.

3. Collect data from ancillary sonar systems as permitted by staffing / operational paradigm including EK60 single beam and Knudsen sub-bottom profiler.

EK 60 single beam data were collected throughout the cruise. Knudsen sub-bottom profiler data were collected from 0800-2000 each day of the cruise at minimum power level and pulse length settings to minimize noise inside the living spaces. EK 60 and Knudsen were able to collect data simultaneously with EM 302 with no interference observed between the three sonars.

This cruise was the first cruise onboard where Knudsen was operated for extended period of time. The data quality suffered adversely from the operators being not familiar with the system (loosing bottom extensively, loss of data due to wrong settings, unable to process the data fully due to inadequate data processing training). Based on lessons learnt during this leg, modifications to the operating procedures (SOPs) will be made.

Also the limitation of operating the system at minimum power level setting to minimize the noise created by Knudsen in the living quarters hampered the full possible penetration of the seafloor.

#### 4. CTD operations

One – three CTD full ocean casts are anticipated to collect oceanographic data to compare XBT and surface sound speed performance. Collection of additional water samples are being considered pending appropriate staff is available.

One CTD cast was completed during the cruise to depth of  $\sim 1000$  m for cross checking the sound speed estimates with the XBT sound speed profile. Minimal differences ( $\sim 2$  m/s) were observed. No water samples were collected.

Following image shows the comparison between the CTD and XBT data.

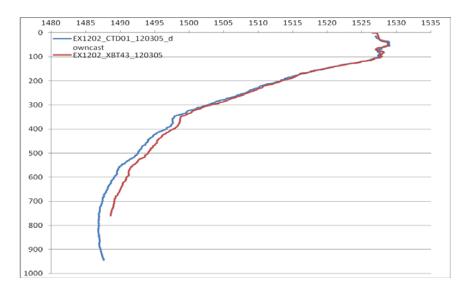


Figure 4: Comparison between sound speed profile inferred from CTD and XBT casts collected on 5 March 2012.

#### 5. XBT operations

A.XBT casts will be collected at regular interval of 4 hours

Regular XBT casts were collected at intervals of 2-4 hours. In shallower waters the interval for XBT cast had to be reduced to 2 hours to deal with the rapidly fluctuating oceanographic conditions.

#### 6. EM 302 soft start up – Hydrophone noise test

EM 302 is equipped with a soft start up feature (Mammal protection feature) that allows the transmitted power level to be increased slowly after the system is turned on. This feature is expected to provide a warning to the possible mammals in the vicinity of the ship. A hydrophone was used to test the functionality of this feature.

#### 4. Participating Personnel

NAME	ROLE	AFFILIATION
CDR Robert Kamphaus	Commanding Officer	NOAA Corps
LT Megan Nadeau	Field Operations Officer	NOAA Corps
Mashkoor Malik	Expedition Coordinator	NOAA OER / ERT Inc.
Mashkoor Malik	Mapping Team Lead	NOAA OER / ERT Inc.
John Doroba	Mapping watch leader	NOAA OMAO
Lillian Stuart	Mapping watch leader	NOAA OMAO
Elaine Stuart	Mapping watch leader	NOAA OER / UCAR
Allison Stone	Mapping watch stander	NOAA OER / UCAR
Anastasia Abramova	Mapping watch stander	NOAA OER / UCAR
Sean Denney	Mapping watch stander	NOAA OER / UCAR
Denise Gordon	Data manager	NOAA NCDDC

#### 5. Summary of Major Findings

During the six (6) days transit from Charleston, SC to DeSoto canyon, the ship mapped various geographic features within the continental shelf off the Carolinas and Florida including ledges and a known but unidentified wreck (Figure 1) and areas in vicinity of the Florida escarpment.

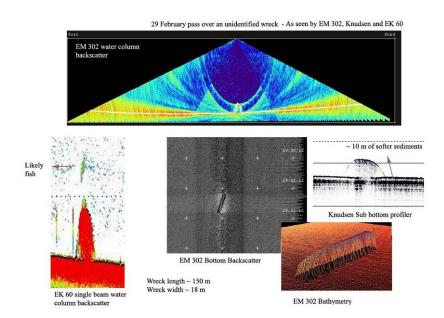


Figure 4: A known but un-identified wreck investigated by the *Okeanos Explorer* during her transit from Charleston, SC to Northern Gulf of Mexico. The wreck was imaged by EM 302 MBES, EK 60 and Knudsen SBP resulting in various distinct data sets as provided in the image.

The ship arrived in vicinity of DeSoto canyon, primary exploration area of this expedition, on 4 March and commenced mapping of the canyon using a Kongsberg EM 302 multibeam echo

sounder (EM302 MBES), Kongsberg EK 60 single beam fisheries echo sounder (EK60) and Knudsen sub bottom profiler (SBP).

The DeSoto Canyon lies approximately 100 km south-southwest of Pensacola, Florida. DeSoto Canyon's gradual gradients and unusual S-shape makes it distinct to its counterparts in the east coast encountered earlier by the ship (EX1201, Ship Shake Down and Patch Test). The canyon cuts through the continental shelf in the northern part of the gulf that results in an upwelling of deep nutrient-rich water, resulting in relatively high primary productivity in this area. The origin and distinct shape of the canyon has been debated to be a result due to presence of salt domes, erosion and deposition due to bottom currents, and subsurface structure possibly a salt ridge (Harbison, 1968) The bottom depths range from 800-1000 m.

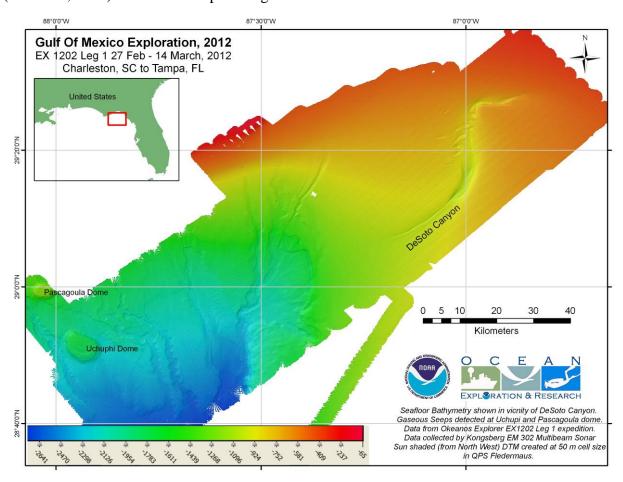


Figure 5: Bathymetric map of DeoSoto Canyon generated at 50 m grid cell size resolution based on preliminary data processing onboard during the expedition.

DeSoto canyon has been a subject of several earlier research and exploration activities including study of surface current (Wang et al, 2003), bottom currents (Hamilton et al, 2001), mapping the canyon heads with multibeam sonar (Gardner et al, 2003), underwater video and imagery exploration (OER expedition Operation Deep Scope, 2004), and, Seismic reflection surveys (Harbison, 1968). In spite of some previous efforts, there was no multibeam data currently

available publicly over the northern part of the canyon prior to this expedition. Additionally, the EM 302 MBES and EK 60 water column data were collected round the clock that can be used to detect anomalies such as assemblages of biomass in water or gaseous seeps.

The ship completed her mapping of the DeSoto canyon on 12 March, 2012 and started her transit towards Tampa, FL with adding coverage along the Florida escarpment to data previously collected by the *Okeanos Explorer* in the area (Figure 6).

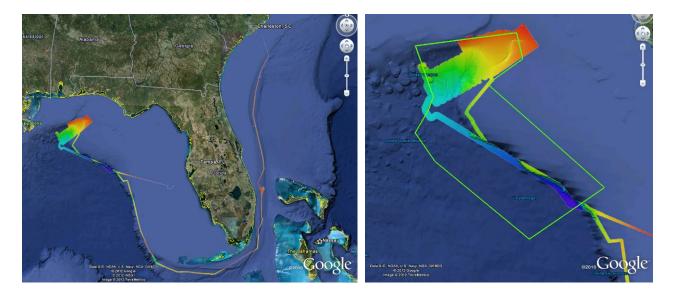


Figure 6: (Left) Overview of the mapping data collected from Charleston, SC to Tampa, FL. (Right) The overview of the data collected during this cruise in the Eastern Exploration area (refer to figure 3).

A major focus of the expedition was the identification of gaseous seeps in vicinity of DeSoto canyon. At the time of writing of this report, only two sites of gas seep like features were observed over the Pascagoula and Uchupi dome in the south western area of the survey (Figure 7). These two sites showed at least 3-4 individual seep like features.

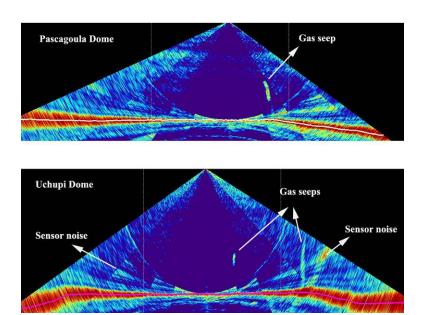


Figure 7: Images showing possible gas seeps as observed in the EM 302 water column data over Pascagoula and Uchupi dome.

#### **Hydrophone test**

A calibrated hydrophone was lowered to the side of the ship adjacent to the location of the multibeam sonar (EM302) transmitter. The ship was then turned on with soft start with -20 dB below the maximum power level with a ramp up time of 3 minutes.

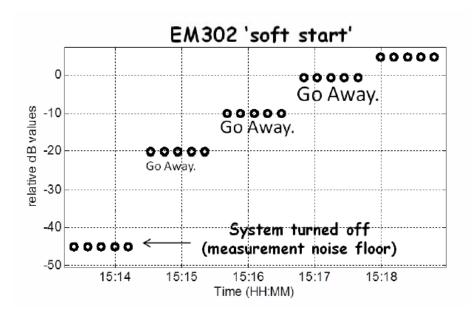


Figure 8: EM 302 soft start up results based on data collected on 5 March 2012. Image courtesy Dr. Tom Weber (CCOM, UNH).

The results of this experiment showed that the transmitted power level was  $\sim$  -18 dB lower than maximum power level at the time of starting the multibeam sonar which periodically was increased to the maximum power level during the 3 minutes ramp up time.

This feature is recommended by the manufacturer (Kongsberg Inc) to be used while working in an area where marine mammals can be present to provide a warning to the animals. However, to confirm the actual levels of transmitted power, the hydrophone test provide useful data.

#### 6. Mapping Statistics

Dates	02/27/2012-3/14/2012
Weather delays	0 days
Total non-mapping days	0 days
Total survey mapping days	17 days
Total transit mapping days	7 days
Line kilometers of survey	5705 km
Square kilometers mapped	14,914.60 sq km
Number of bathymetric multibeam files	280
Data volume of raw multibeam data files	40.6 GB
Number of water column multibeam files	277
Data volume of water column multibeam files	75.9 GB
Number of XBT casts	98
Number of CTD casts	1
Beginning draft	15'6'' (fwd) 14'5'' (aft)
Ending draft	14'6'' (fwd) 14'7''
Average ship speed for survey	8.0 kts

#### 7. Mapping Sonar Setup

The NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* is equipped with a 30 kHz Kongsberg EM 302 multibeam sonar. Appendix B contains a detailed description of sonar system functionality and technical specifications. For this cruise no changes were made to the standard setup of the mapping sonars onboard.

#### 8. Data Acquisition and processing summary

Multibeam sonar (EM 302) data were acquired using Kongsberg Seafloor Information System (SIS ver. 3.6.4). SIS system accounts for all the static offsets and biases during real time acquisition. The motion data from the POS MV 320 (Ver. 4.0.2.0) was directly fed into SIS during data acquisition to account for ship motion (i.e. heave, roll, pitch). Yaw data was provided by the TSS gyro-compasses located on the bridge. Also the real time sound speed near the sonar head (dually measured by Reson Sound Speed sensor and a CTD sensor installed in proximity to the EM 302 receiver) was fed into SIS and the most updated acquired sound speed profile was

used in real time to correct soundings for sound speed corrections during data acquisition. Unless there are problems observed in the data, there is no requirement to apply these corrections during post processing. The water column backscatter were collected all the time which were recorded into separate to bottom bathymetry and backscatter data as \*.wcd files.

CARIS HIPS/SIPS v. 6.3 was used to edit the bathymetric data from the EM 302 multibeam. Edited data was exported to ASCII text files and then imported to QPS Fledermaus Ver. 7.3.0c Build 968 for further processing, visualization, quality control, and product generation.

The QPS Fledermaus FMGT (Ver. 7.3.0c Build 968) software package was used for processing EM 302 bottom backscatter data.

EK 60 data were collected using Kongsberg GPT firm ware version 2.2.1 in the \*.raw data file format.

The QPS Fledermaus MidWater software package (Ver. 7.3.0c Build 968) was used to process EM 302 water column backscatter and EK 60 data and view the resulting Fledermaus SD objects. The programs are the best method available to the mapping department for water column data processing.

Sub-bottom profiler (SBP) data were collected using Knudsen Chirp 3260 v. 1.6.1. This was the first expedition where SBP was operated for a relatively longer period of time. Experimentation with different raw data file formats was conducted. Data in SGY, and KEB file format were collected on most of the days between 0800-2000 local ship time using minimum power level to minimize SBP noise inside the ship's living quarters. Available post processing software onboard, Sonar Wiz v. 4004.0034 was found to only work with SGY file format but was found not to take into account the scale changes resulting in images which were not corrected for the scale changes appropriately (Figure 9).

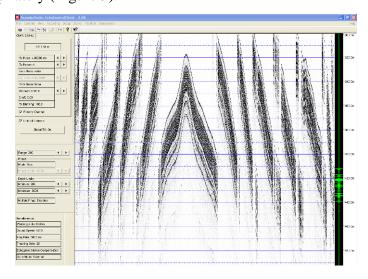


Figure 9: A screen grab of Knudsen SBP data acquisition screen. Figure 9 shows SBP data while passing over a shallow areas. SGY file format requires very small scales (typically < 100 m) to operate and therefore rapidly varying seafloor depths changes

dictate various changes in the scales which can supposedly be corrected for during post processing. Further work into investigating appropriate software for processing SGY files is recommended.

#### 9. Data Archival Procedures

All the data from the expedition has been submitted to NCDDC where the data are being prepared for onward submission to the archival centers. Following is the brief data pipeline excerpts from Data management plan, EX1202 leg1.

The multibeam survey data collected by bottom-looking and complementary sensors, data from the calibration instruments, and the products generated after the data are returned to and post-processed at shore will be archived at the NGDC. These data will be accompanied with a collection level metadata record for the NGDC as well as individual metadata records for each raw (level-0) file, each edited (level-1) file and each data product (level-2) and report (level-3) generated as a result. In addition, the submission to NGDC will include the following:

- raw (level-0) mapping survey and water column data files,
- CTD and/or XBT profile data used for calibration in multibeam survey,
- post-processed, quality assured, and edited (level-1) data files,
- specific data products (level-2) including cumulative GeoTIF images, gridded bathymetric files, KML files, Fledermaus output files, and an ArcGrid format, and
- comprehensive mapping survey data summary (level-3) report.

#### Multibeam Data/Products Pipeline

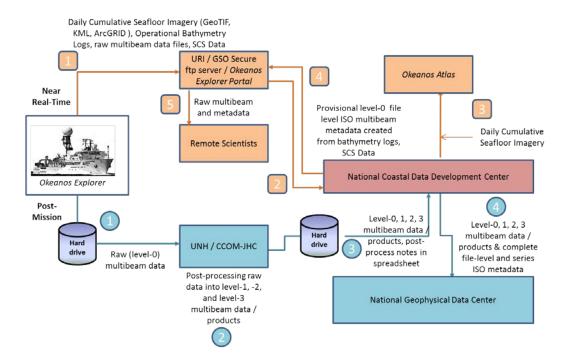


Figure 10: Multibeam Survey Data Archive Pipeline

#### **Near Real-Time**



The mapping survey team on the EX will include their operational processing spreadsheet in the folder that is targeted for synchronization to the SRS periodically throughout the day. As operational GeoTIFF images are created, these will also be saved to this folder.



The data management team at NCDDC pulls the GeoTIFF images, operational bathymetry processing spreadsheet and the SCS data streams for near real-time metadata generation and *Okeanos* Atlas update procedures.



Daily cumulative GeoTIFF images of the seafloor imagery are geo-located on the *Okeanos* Atlas by the GIS team at NCDDC.



Provisional metadata in an ISO format is generated for each raw (level-0) multibeam raw files using the SCS exported data, the operational processing spreadsheet and saved to the SRS.



Participating scientists wanting access to the raw multibeam in near real-time can pull the individual files with the metadata that provides operational and provisional processing steps and a disclaimer for non-QC status of the data.

#### **Post-Mission**

All bottom-looking sensor data and complementary data (water column and sound velocity) are saved to a hard-drive. This hard-drive will be either brought back or shipped to the University of New Hampshire Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping (UNH CCOM) for post-processing.

A full complement of multibeam data from a 30-day EX cruise on which the Kongsberg EM302 multibeam system runs continuously will produce 200-300 Gigabytes of raw multibeam (37.5% of total volume) and water column data (62.5% of total volume). At UNH, the mapping team will post-process the multibeam data through the following steps:

• The raw (level-0) data will be saved to the IOCM/ CCOM file servers, where they will be quality checked and post-processed.

- The edited level-0 data is saved as level-1 data files in a non-proprietary format ASCII xyz files (cleaned not gridded).
- The post-processing steps used to produce the level-1 data will be documented.
- Level-2 products will be generated from the level-1 data files.
- The post-processing steps used to produce the level-2 data products will be documented.
- The level-1 data, level-2 products, post-processing steps, and working data processing spreadsheets will be copied to the hard drive in a new folder. A processing spreadsheet for FY12 will contain the temporal and spatial limits of each file and any supplemental information documenting problems or issues that affected the quality of the data in that file.

The hard-drive will be shipped to the NCDDC within approximately 3 weeks from cruise end date.

At NCDDC, all multibeam related files will be post-processed through metadata generation procedures. Metadata will be generated for each individual survey track file (level-0 and -1), for accompanying CTD/XBT profile data sets, for composite xyz files, KMLs, GeoTIFs, png images, and Fledermaus output (level-2), and a set of data products and reports (level-3). The metadata will be added to the hard-drive and the hard-drive will be shipped to NGDC.

Following table provides details about multibeam survey metadata granularity and target archive dates:

Data Class	Instrument	Data Type	Format	Metadata Granularity	Archive Center
GEO	Kongsberg EM302 (30 kHz)	Multibeam Bathymetry, Bottom Backscatter, Water Column Backscatter (proprietary format read into MBSystem)	.all, .wcd (proprietary)	1 meta rec per .all file in Multibeam Data folder and subfolders	NGDC
GEO	Simrad EK60	Singlebeam (time,depth)	.txt, (ASCII), .raw (proprietary)	Included in the SCS feed	TBD
GEO	Knudsen CHIRP 3260 (3.5 kHz)	Sub-bottom profile	.sgy, .kea, .keb (proprietary)	1 meta rec = Subbottom Profile Data folder	NGDC
OCN	SeaBird SBE- 911plus	CTD Cast	.hex, .con (Proprietary); .cnv, .hdr, .bl, .jpg (processed)	1 meta rec = CTD folder	NGDC
OCN	Sippican MK- 21 eXpendable BathyThermog raph (XBT)	XBT	.edf (ASCII), .rdf (proprietary)	1 meta rec = XBT folder	NGDC
OCN	RESON	Sound Velocity (m/s)	TBD	1 meta rec = RESON folder	NGDC
OCN	Calculated	Sound Velocity (m/s)	.asvp (ASCII)	1 meta rec = Profile_Data/SVP or Profile_Data/ASVP	NGDC

## 10. Cruise Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
27 Feb	28 Feb	29 Feb	1 March	2 March	3 March	4 March
Departed	Continue	Continue	Continue	Continue	Arrive	Adverse
Charleston,	transit to	transit to	transit to	transit to	working	weather.
SC 1300	working	working	working	working	grounds	Continuing
EST	grounds	grounds.	grounds.	grounds	1600.	heading
		Rendered			Weather	towards
		assistance			picked up	DeSoto
		to USCG in				area
		search of				
		person in				
		water				
5 March	6 March	7 March	8 March	9 March	10 March	11 March
Arrive	Continue	Continue	Continue	Continue	Continue	Continue
DeSoto	mapping	mapping	mapping	mapping	mapping	mapping
canyon	DeSoto	DeSoto	DeSoto	DeSoto	DeSoto	DeSoto
working	Canyon	canyon.	Canyon	Canyon	Canyon	Canyon
grounds.		Due to				
Weather		weather				
conditions		started				
improve.		running				
Conduct		NW-SE				
CTD/XBT		lines in southern				
comparison.						
Hydrophone test to		portion of the survey				
analyze soft		area.				
start up.		area.				
start up.						
12 March	13 March	14 March				
Continue	In transit to	Arrived				
mapping	Tampa, FL	Tampa, FL				
DeSoto	r,	1100 EST				
Canyon.						
Broke off						
survey to						
transit to						
Tampa, FL						

#### 11. References

Office of Ocean Exploration Draft Workshop Summary, NOAA Workshop on Systematic Telepresence-Enabled Exploration in the Atlantic Basin, May 10-11, 2011, Coastal Institute Building, University of Rhode Island, Narragansett, Rhode Island, , September 19, 201. Available online at:

ftp://dossier.ogp.noaa.gov/OER/Atlantic\_Workshop\_2011/Individual\_Draft\_Summary\_Files/Atl\_Basin\_Workshop\_2011\_Summary\_Draft%2020110919.docx

Gardner, J.V, J. E. Hughes Clarke, L. A. Mayer, and P. Dartnell, 2003: Bathymetry and Acoustic Backscatter of the Mid and Outer Continental Shelf, Head of De Soto Canyon, Northeastern Gulf of Mexico, U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 03–7. <a href="http://geopubs.wr.usgs.gov/open-file/of03-007/">http://geopubs.wr.usgs.gov/open-file/of03-007/</a>

Wang, D.-P., L.-Y. Oey, T. Ezer, and P. Hamilton, 2003: Near-surface currents in DeSoto Canyon (1997–99): Comparison of current meters, satellite observation, and model simulation. *J. Phys. Oceanogr.*, **33**, 313–326.

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Lobecker, E., Malik, M., Nadeau, M. and Skarke, A., Mapping Systems Readiness Report 2012, NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer*, March 2012.

Office of Ocean Exploration and Research, EX1202 Leg 1, Gulf of Mexico Exploration, Data Management Plan, March 2012.

Office of Ocean Exploration and Research, EX1202 Leg 1, Gulf of Mexico Exploration, Project instructions, February 2012.

## 12. Appendices

# Appendix A: Tables of data files collected

# Table of Multibeam EM 302 files collected. File Name format: Line Number \_ Date\_Time\_CruiseID\_MB.all

0000_20120227_211024_EX1202L1_MB.all	0039_20120302_002749_EX1202L1_MB.all	0077_20120305_010405_EX1202L1_MB.all
0001_20120227_231024_EX1202L1_MB.all	0040_20120302_022749_EX1202L1_MB.all	0078_20120305_030406_EX1202L1_MB.all
0002_20120228_011024_EX1202L1_MB.all	0041_20120302_042748_EX1202L1_MB.all	0079_20120305_050405_EX1202L1_MB.all
0003_20120228_023626_EX1202L1_MB.all	0042_20120302_062749_EX1202L1_MB.all	0080_20120305_050814_EX1202L1_MB.all
0004_20120228_043626_EX1202L1_MB.all	0043_20120302_082748_EX1202L1_MB.all	0081_20120305_051906_EX1202L1_MB.all
0005_20120228_061412_EX1202L1_MB.all	0044_20120302_102750_EX1202L1_MB.all	0082_20120305_071905_EX1202L1_MB.all
0006_20120228_081412_EX1202L1_MB.all	0045_20120302_12749_EX1202L1_MB.all	0083_20120305_085125_EX1202L1_MB.all
0007_20120228_101412_EX1202L1_MB.all	0046_20120302_142748_EX1202L1_MB.all	0084_20120305_090630_EX1202L1_MB.all
0008_20120228_121413_EX1202L1_MB.all	0047_20120302_162750_EX1202L1_MB.all	0085_20120305_110630_EX1202L1_MB.all
0009_20120228_135835_EX1202L1_MB.all	0048_20120302_182748_EX1202L1_MB.all	0086_20120305_121058_EX1202L1_MB.all
0010_20120228_155834_EX1202L1_MB.all	0048_20120302_200617_EX1202L1_MB.all	0087_20120305_131209_EX1202L1_MB.all
0011_20120228_175834_EX1202L1_MB.all	0049_20120302_203521_EX1202L1_MB.all	0088_20120305_152150_EX1202L1_MB.all
0012_20120228_195834_EX1202L1_MB.all	0050_20120302_223524_EX1202L1_MB.all	0089_20120305_152555_EX1202L1_MB.all
0013_20120228_215834_EX1202L1_MB.all	0051_20120303_003519_EX1202L1_MB.all	0090_20120305_161723_EX1202L1_MB.all
0014_20120228_235833_EX1202L1_MB.all	0052_20120303_023520_EX1202L1_MB.all	0091_20120305_162329_EX1202L1_MB.all
0015_20120229_015834_EX1202L1_MB.all	0053_20120303_043519_EX1202L1_MB.all	0092_20120305_182327_EX1202L1_MB.all
0016_20120229_035835_EX1202L1_MB.all	0054_20120303_063520_EX1202L1_MB.all	0093_20120305_195644_EX1202L1_MB.all
0017_20120229_055834_EX1202L1_MB.all	0055_20120303_083519_EX1202L1_MB.all	0094_20120305_200739_EX1202L1_MB.all
0018_20120229_075833_EX1202L1_MB.all	0056_20120303_103519_EX1202L1_MB.all	0095_20120305_220739_EX1202L1_MB.all
0019_20120229_095834_EX1202L1_MB.all	0057_20120303_123521_EX1202L1_MB.all	0096_20120306_000115_EX1202L1_MB.all
0020_20120229_115833_EX1202L1_MB.all	0058_20120303_143520_EX1202L1_MB.all	0097_20120306_001232_EX1202L1_MB.all
0021_20120229_135832_EX1202L1_MB.all	0059_20120303_163518_EX1202L1_MB.all	0098_20120306_021232_EX1202L1_MB.all
0022_20120229_155833_EX1202L1_MB.all	0060_20120303_183520_EX1202L1_MB.all	0099_20120306_034006_EX1202L1_MB.all
0023_20120229_175833_EX1202L1_MB.all	0061_20120303_203523_EX1202L1_MB.all	0100_20120306_035022_EX1202L1_MB.all
0024_20120229_195834_EX1202L1_MB.all	0062_20120303_223520_EX1202L1_MB.all	0101_20120306_055024_EX1202L1_MB.all
0025_20120229_205435_EX1202L1_MB.all	0063_20120304_003520_EX1202L1_MB.all	0102_20120306_073704_EX1202L1_MB.all
0026_20120229_225435_EX1202L1_MB.all	0064_20120304_023521_EX1202L1_MB.all	0103_20120306_074727_EX1202L1_MB.all
0027_20120301_005435_EX1202L1_MB.all	0065_20120304_043521_EX1202L1_MB.all	0104_20120306_094726_EX1202L1_MB.all
0028_20120301_022749_EX1202L1_MB.all	0066_20120304_063520_EX1202L1_MB.all	0105_20120306_113848_EX1202L1_MB.all
0029_20120301_042750_EX1202L1_MB.all	0067_20120304_083519_EX1202L1_MB.all	0106_20120306_114916_EX1202L1_MB.all
0030_20120301_062750_EX1202L1_MB.all	0068_20120304_103520_EX1202L1_MB.all	0107_20120306_134916_EX1202L1_MB.all
0031_20120301_082750_EX1202L1_MB.all	0069_20120304_123520_EX1202L1_MB.all	0108_20120306_153745_EX1202L1_MB.all
0032_20120301_102750_EX1202L1_MB.all	0070_20120304_143517_EX1202L1_MB.all	0109_20120306_154938_EX1202L1_MB.all
0033_20120301_122750_EX1202L1_MB.all	0071_20120304_163520_EX1202L1_MB.all	0110_20120306_174937_EX1202L1_MB.all

0034_20120301_142749_EX1202L1_MB.all	0072_20120304_183519_EX1202L1_MB.all	0111_20120306_183921_EX1202L1_MB.all
0035_20120301_162749_EX1202L1_MB.all	0073_20120304_202803_EX1202L1_MB.all	0112_20120306_201642_EX1202L1_MB.all
0036_20120301_182751_EX1202L1_MB.all	0074_20120304_210605_EX1202L1_MB.all	0113_20120306_221642_EX1202L1_MB.all
0037_20120301_202750_EX1202L1_MB.all	0075_20120304_230606_EX1202L1_MB.all	0114_20120306_222145_EX1202L1_MB.all
0038_20120301_222748_EX1202L1_MB.all	0076_20120305_004859_EX1202L1_MB.all	0115_20120306_223329_EX1202L1_MB.all
0116_20120307_003330_EX1202L1_MB.all	0157_20120308_143926_EX1202L1_MB.all	0198_20120309_204835_EX1202L1_MB.all
0117_20120307_023331_EX1202L1_MB.all	0158_20120308_144503_EX1202L1_MB.all	0199_20120309_205757_EX1202L1_MB.all
0118_20120307_025136_EX1202L1_MB.all	0159_20120308_164504_EX1202L1_MB.all	0200_20120309_213801_EX1202L1_MB.all
0119_20120307_030335_EX1202L1_MB.all	0160_20120308_172429_EX1202L1_MB.all	0201_20120309_214635_EX1202L1_MB.all
0120_20120307_050335_EX1202L1_MB.all	0161_20120308_173502_EX1202L1_MB.all	0202_20120309_221409_EX1202L1_MB.all
0121_20120307_070335_EX1202L1_MB.all	0162_20120308_193503_EX1202L1_MB.all	0203_20120309_222626_EX1202L1_MB.all
0122_20120307_071101_EX1202L1_MB.all	0163_20120308_202226_EX1202L1_MB.all	0204_20120309_225128_EX1202L1_MB.all
0123_20120307_072131_EX1202L1_MB.all	0164_20120308_203218_EX1202L1_MB.all	0205_20120309_230054_EX1202L1_MB.all
0124_20120307_092131_EX1202L1_MB.all	0165_20120308_223215_EX1202L1_MB.all	0206_20120309_234952_EX1202L1_MB.all
0125_20120307_112133_EX1202L1_MB.all	0166_20120308_224825_EX1202L1_MB.all	0207_20120309_235348_EX1202L1_MB.all
0126_20120307_112701_EX1202L1_MB.all	0167_20120308_225918_EX1202L1_MB.all	0208_20120309_235731_EX1202L1_MB.all
0127_20120307_113716_EX1202L1_MB.all	0168_20120309_005918_EX1202L1_MB.all	0209_20120310_000230_EX1202L1_MB.all
0128_20120307_133713_EX1202L1_MB.all	0169_20120309_011611_EX1202L1_MB.all	0210_20120310_020229_EX1202L1_MB.all
0129_20120307_153714_EX1202L1_MB.all	0170_20120309_011614_EX1202L1_MB.all	0211_20120310_025845_EX1202L1_MB.all
0130_20120307_164744_EX1202L1_MB.all	0171_20120309_012528_EX1202L1_MB.all	0212_20120310_030010_EX1202L1_MB.all
0131_20120307_171032_EX1202L1_MB.all	0172_20120309_031916_EX1202L1_MB.all	0213_20120310_043409_EX1202L1_MB.all
0132_20120307_173109_EX1202L1_MB.all	0173_20120309_032902_EX1202L1_MB.all	0214_20120310_045432_EX1202L1_MB.all
0133_20120307_193110_EX1202L1_MB.all	0174_20120309_051958_EX1202L1_MB.all	0215_20120310_065432_EX1202L1_MB.all
0134_20120307_213109_EX1202L1_MB.all	0175_20120309_052931_EX1202L1_MB.all	0216_20120310_073845_EX1202L1_MB.all
0135_20120307_214724_EX1202L1_MB.all	0176_20120309_064312_EX1202L1_MB.all	0217_20120310_075424_EX1202L1_MB.all
0136_20120307_215008_EX1202L1_MB.all	0177_20120309_065401_EX1202L1_MB.all	0218_20120310_095425_EX1202L1_MB.all
0137_20120307_232243_EX1202L1_MB.all	0178_20120309_081307_EX1202L1_MB.all	0219_20120310_103934_EX1202L1_MB.all
0138_20120307_233319_EX1202L1_MB.all	0179_20120309_082415_EX1202L1_MB.all	0220_20120310_105806_EX1202L1_MB.all
0139_20120308_012057_EX1202L1_Mb.all	0180_20120309_090409_EX1202L1_MB.all	0221_20120310_125807_EX1202L1_MB.all
0140_20120308_013119_EX1202L1_MB.all	0181_20120309_091133_EX1202L1_MB.all	0222_20120310_135642_EX1202L1_MB.all
0141_20120308_030019_EX1202L1_MB.all	0182_20120309_094448_EX1202L1_MB.all	0223_20120310_141535_EX1202L1_MB.all
0142_20120308_031412_EX1202L1_MB.all	0183_20120309_100256_EX1202L1_MB.all	0224_20120310_161535_EX1202L1_MB.all
0143_20120308_044027_EX1202L1_MB.all	0184_20120309_120257_EX1202L1_MB.all	0225_20120310_184426_EX1202L1_MB.all
0144_20120308_045450_EX1202L1_MB.all	0185_20120309_124350_EX1202L1_MB.all	0226_20120310_190717_EX1202L1_MB.all
0145_20120308_060623_EX1202L1_MB.all	0186_20120309_144351_EX1202L1_MB.all	0227_20120310_190717_EX1202L1_MB.all
0146_20120308_060623_EX1202L1_MB.all	0187_20120309_150037_EX1202L1_MB.all	0228_20120310_213321_EX1202L1_MB.all
0147_20120308_060623_EX1202L1_MB.all	0188_20120309_160825_EX1202L1_MB.all	0229_20120310_215024_EX1202L1_MB.all
0148_20120308_060623_EX1202L1_MB.all	0189_20120309_161729_EX1202L1_MB.all	0230_20120310_235454_EX1202L1_MB.all
0149_20120308_085822_EX1202L1_MB.all	0190_20120309_170902_EX1202L1_MB.all	0231_20120311_001414_EX1202L1_MB.all
0150_20120308_090827_EX1202L1_MB.all	0191_20120309_172701_EX1202L1_MB.all	0232_20120311_022755_EX1202L1_MB.all
0151_20120308_102501_EX1202L1_MB.all	0192_20120309_181351_EX1202L1_MB.all	0233_20120311_024630_EX1202L1_MB.all

0193_20120309_190221_EX1202L1_MB.all	0234_20120311_045838_EX1202L1_MB.all
0194_20120309_192226_EX1202L1_MB.all	0235_20120311_052053_EX1202L1_MB.all
0195_20120309_193413_EX1202L1_MB.all	0236_20120311_073417_EX1202L1_MB.all
0196_20120309_195902_EX1202L1_MB.all	0237_20120311_075126_EX1202L1_MB.all
0197_20120309_200704_EX1202L1_MB.all	0238_20120311_101549_EX1202L1_MB.all
0254_20120312_091152_EX1202L1_MB.all	0269_20120313_081500_EX1202L1_MB.all
0255_20120312_092809_EX1202L1_MB.all	0270_20120313_111500_EX1202L1_MB.all
0256_20120312_122417_EX1202L1_MB.all	0271_20120313_141503_EX1202L1_MB.all
0257_20120312_124407_EX1202L1_MB.all	0272_20120313_171502_EX1202L1_MB.all
0258_20120312_154405_EX1202L1_MB.all	0273_20120313_201459_EX1202L1_MB.all
0259_20120312_163858_EX1202L1_MB.all	0274_20120313_231459_EX1202L1_MB.all
0260_20120312_165805_EX1202L1_MB.all	0275_20120313_013932_EX1202L1_MB.all
0261_20120312_182639_EX1202L1_MB.all	0276_20120313_033119_EX1202L1_MB.all
0262_20120312_185913_EX1202L1_MB.all	0277_20120313_035954_EX1202L1_MB.all
0263_20120312_201844_EX1202L1_MB.all	0278_20120313_052340_EX1202L1_MB.all
0264_20120312_203721_EX1202L1_MB.all	0279_20120313_062256_EX1202L1_MB.all
0265_20120312_223127_EX1202L1_MB.all	
0266_20120313_011011_EX1202L1_MB.all	
0267_20120313_021501_EX1202L1_MB.all	-
0268_20120313_051506_EX1202L1_MB.all	
	0194_20120309_192226_EX1202L1_MB.all 0195_20120309_193413_EX1202L1_MB.all 0196_20120309_195902_EX1202L1_MB.all 0197_20120309_200704_EX1202L1_MB.all 0254_20120312_091152_EX1202L1_MB.all 0255_20120312_092809_EX1202L1_MB.all 0256_20120312_122417_EX1202L1_MB.all 0257_20120312_124407_EX1202L1_MB.all 0258_20120312_154405_EX1202L1_MB.all 0259_20120312_163858_EX1202L1_MB.all 0260_20120312_165805_EX1202L1_MB.all 0261_20120312_165805_EX1202L1_MB.all 0262_20120312_182639_EX1202L1_MB.all 0263_20120312_185913_EX1202L1_MB.all 0264_20120312_201844_EX1202L1_MB.all 0265_20120312_203721_EX1202L1_MB.all 0266_20120312_203721_EX1202L1_MB.all 0266_20120312_223127_EX1202L1_MB.all 0266_20120313_011011_EX1202L1_MB.all

# EK 60 files Name format Cruise ID\_EK60\_Date\_Time.raw

Note: The EK 60 files were mistakenly named as EX1201. The names of the files will be corrected to EX1202L1 before submission to NGDC.

EX1201_EK60D20120228-T062502.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120301-T095539.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120303-T185254.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120228-T082812.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120301-T115932.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120303-T210441.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120228-T104340.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120301-T144538.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120303-T223846.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120228-T145949.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120301-T170151.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120304-T061505.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120228-T171046.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120301-T194915.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120304-T143000.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120228-T191708.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120301-T221854.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120304-T220427.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120228-T211907.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120302-T002143.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120305-T045321.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120228-T232817.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120302-T022609.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120305-T114841.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120229-T013629.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120302-T042638.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120305-T155954.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120229-T033801.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120302-T063134.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120305-T231710.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120229-T053945.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120302-T090533.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120306-T061801.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120229-T074731.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120302-T120926.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120306-T131816.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120229-T100218.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120302-T150037.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120306-T204841.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120229-T121850.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120302-T174106.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120307-T035317.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120229-T142519.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120302-T204052.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120307-T104213.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120229-T162810.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120302-T231504.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120309-T221423.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120229-T184057.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120303-T014410.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120310-T054110.raw

EX1201_EK60D20120229-T204719.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120303-T034415.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120310-T142836.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120229-T225301.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120303-T061027.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120310-T185523.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120301-T010224.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120303-T085323.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120311-T020703.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120301-T030814.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120303-T110240.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120311-T090620.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120301-T053053.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120303-T131539.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120311-T160508.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120301-T075939.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120303-T161738.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120311-T231057.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120312-T060224.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120313-T034148.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120313-T190642.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120312-T131302.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120313-T113032.raw	EX1201_EK60D20120314-T012611.raw
EX1201_EK60D20120312-T202111.raw		

# List of Knudsen SBP files (SGY Files)

Nome of CCV File	Date Collected	Nome of SCV Ette	Date Collected
Name of SGY File  EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_000.sgy	2/28/2012	Name of SGY File  EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_035.sgy	2/29/2012
			2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_001.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_036.sgy	
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_002.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_037.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_003.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_038.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_004.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_039.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_005.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_040.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_006.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_041.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_007.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_042.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_008.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_043.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_009.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_044.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_010.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_045.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_011.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_046.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_012.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_047.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_013.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_048.sgy	2/29/2012
EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_014.sgy	2/28/2012	EX1202L1_70870_3.5kHz_049.sgy	2/29/2012
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0012_2012_067_1850_70870_3.5kHz_244.sgy 3/7/2012 0021_2012_072_1300_70870_3.5kHz_258.sgy 3/12/2012
0016_2012_070_1343_70870_3.5kHz_246.sgy 3/10/2012

# List of Knudsen SBP files (KEB Files)

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EX1202L1_003.keb	3/1/2012
EX1202L1_004.keb	3/3/2012
EX1202L1_005.keb	3/4/2012
EX1202L1_006.keb	3/4/2012
EX1202L1_007.keb	3/5/2012
0011_2012_066_1410_000.keb	3/6/2012
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0013_2012_067_1858_000.keb	3/7/2012
0014_2012_068_1315_001.keb	3/8/2012
0015_2012_069_1326_002.keb	3/9/2012
0015_2012_069_2349_003.keb	3/10/2012
0016_2012_070_1343_000.keb	3/10/2012
0017_2012_070_2043_000.keb	3/10/2012

0018_2012_071_1228_001.keb	3/11/2012
0019_2012_072_1239_002.keb	3/12/2012
0020_2012_072_1255_000.keb	3/12/2012
0021_2012_072_1300_000.keb	3/12/2012
0022_2012_073_0115_000.keb	3/12/2012
0023_2012_073_1230_001.keb	3/13/2012

#### Appendix B: EM302 description and operational specs

#### **EM 302 : Ideal for Ocean Exploration**

There are several features of the *Okeanos Explorer's* 30 kHz multibeam that make it an excellent tool for ocean exploration. The following is a brief description of these features.

#### **Depth Range**

The system is designed to map the seafloor in water depths of 10 to 7000 meters. This leaves only the deepest parts of the deeper ocean trenches out of the EM 302's reach. Moreover, operational experience on the *Okeanos Explorer* has shown consistent EM 302 bottom detection at depth ranges in excess of 8000m. The optimal depth for EM 302 has been found to be > 150 m.

#### **High Density Data**

In multibeam data, the denser the data, the finer resolution maps you can produce. The system can operate in dual swath, or multiping mode, which results in increased along track data density. This is achieved by detecting two swaths per ping cycle, resulting in up to 864 beams per ping.

The *Okeanos Explorer* mapping team typically operates the multibeam in high density equidistant ping mode, which results in up to 864 soundings on the seafloor per ping.

#### **Full Suite of Data Types Collected**

The system collects seafloor backscatter data, which provides information about the character of the seafloor in terms of bottom type.

The system also collects water column backscatter data, which has the ability to detect gaseous plumes in the water column. The full value of this feature is still being realized.

FM chirp mode is utilized in water depths greater than 1000 meters, and allows for the detection of the bottom further out from nadir than with previous 30 kHz systems.

#### **Multibeam Primer**

The area of the seafloor covered, or ensonified, by a single beam within a pulse of sound, or ping, is called the beam footprint. This beam footprint is defined in terms of the across track and along track values. Both of these values are dependent on water depth and the beam width at which the sound pulse is transmitted and received. The across track beam width value is also dependent on the receive angle, or "listening" angle, of the system, and the angle from nadir which it is received from. The receive angle for the receive transducer on the *Okeanos Explorer* EM302 is 1°, which is the smallest possible angle currently available for the EM302 system. The further out from nadir a sounding occurs, the larger the footprint will be. For example, as seen in Table 1 below, in 2000 meters of water, a beam footprint will have a radius of 18 meters at nadir but 25 meters by the time it hits the seafloor at an angle 140 degrees out from nadir.

Calculated acrosstrack acoustic beam footprint for EM 302 (high density ping mode, 432 soundings/profile)

Water depth (m)	Angle from nadir			
50	1 deg RX center	90 deg	120 deg	140 deg
100	1	0.5	1	1
200	2	1	2	3
400	4	2	3	5
1000	7	4	6	10
2000	18	9	16	25
4000	35	19	32	-
6000	70	37	-	-
7000	105	56	-	-

Table 1. Calculated across track EM 302 beam footprint. Reference: Kongsberg Product description, Kongsberg document 302675 Rev B, Date 14/06/06, p. 17.

Calculated acrosstrack (high density ping mode, 432	sounding soundings/pi	density for	EM 302
Water depth (m)	Swath Wid	lth	
50	90 deg	120 deg	140 deg
100	0.2	0.4	0.9
200	0.5	0.8	1.7
400	0.9	1.6	3.5
1000	1.9	3.2	6.9
2000	4.6	8.1	17.4
4000	9.3	16.2	-

Table 2. Calculated across track EM 302 sounding density. Reference: Kongsberg Product description, Kongsberg document 302675 Rev B, Date 14/06/06, p. 17.

Acrosstrack sounding density describes the spacing between individual soundings on the seafloor in the acrosstrack direction. The maximum swath of the EM 302 is 150 degrees. At this swath, the sounding density will be the least dense, since the beams will be spread out over a larger horizontal distance over the seafloor. As the swath angle (width) is decreased, the sounding density will increase, as the same number of beams are now spread out over a smaller horizontal distance over the seafloor.

Calculated ping rate and alongtrack resolution for EM 302				
140 deg swath, one profile per ping				
	Alongtrack distance between profiles			

			(m)		
Water depth (m)	Swath Width (m)	Ping Rate (pings/second)	@4 kts	@8 kts	@12 kts
50	275	3.2	0.7	1.2	1.9
100	550	1.8	1.1	2.2	3.3
200	1100	1	2.1	4.2	6.3
400	2200	0.5	4.1	8.2	12.2
1000	5500	0.2	10	20	30
2000	8000	0.1	15.2	30.5	45.7
4000	8000	0.06	19.2	38.5	57.7
6000	8000	0.04	24.5	49	73.4

Table 3. Calculated ping rate and along track EM 302 sounding density, one profile per ping. Reference: Kongsberg Product description, Kongsberg document 302675 Rev B, Date 14/06/06, p. 15.

Calculated ping rate and alongtrack resolution for EM 302						
140 deg swath, two profiles per ping						
	Swath Width		Alongtrack distance between profiles (m)			
Water depth (m)	( <b>m</b> )	Ping Rate	@4 kts	@8 kts	@12 kts	
50	275	3.2	0.3	0.6	0.9	
100	550	1.8	0.6	1.1	1.7	
200	1100	1	1.1	2.1	3.2	
400	2200	0.5	2	4.1	6.1	
1000	5500	0.2	5	10	15	
2000	8000	0.1	7.6	15.2	22.8	

Table 4. Calculated ping rate and along track EM 302 sounding density, two profiles per ping. Reference: Kongsberg Product description, Kongsberg document 302675 Rev B, Date 14/06/06, p. 15.

Reference: Kongsberg Product Description: EM 302 multibeam echosounder.

#### Appendix C: Acronyms and abbreviations

BOEM: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

CCOM: Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping (UNH)

CTD: Conductivity, Temperature, Depth

EEZ: Exclusive Economic Zone

ERT Inc: Earth Resources Technologies, Inc GSO: Graduate School of Oceanography (URI)

JHC: Joint Hydrographic Center (UNH)

MBES: Multibeam Echo Sounder

NCDDC: National Coastal Data Development Center

NGDC: National Geophysical Data Center

NOAA: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

OER: Office of Ocean Exploration and Research OMAO: Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

SCS: Shipboard Computer System SOP: Standard Operating Procedure SST: Senior Survey Technician

ST: Survey Technician

UCAR: University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

UNH: University of New Hampshire URI: University of Rhode Island

USGS: United States Geological Survey XBT: Expendable Bathy Thermograph