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Data Acquisition & Processing Report

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State(s): Massachusetts
General Locality: Cape Cod Bay

2023

CHIEF OF PARTY
LTJG Mark Meadows

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Date:

Table of Contents

A. System Equipment and Software	1
A.1 Survey Vessels.....	1
A.1.1 NRT-NL.....	1
A.2 Echo Sounding Equipment.....	2
A.2.1 Multibeam Echosounders.....	2
A.2.1.1 Kongsberg Simrad EM 2040C.....	2
A.2.2 Single Beam Echosounders.....	3
A.2.3 Side Scan Sonars.....	3
A.2.3.1 EdgeTech 4125.....	4
A.2.4 Phase Measuring Bathymetric Sonars.....	5
A.2.5 Other Echosounders.....	5
A.3 Manual Sounding Equipment.....	5
A.3.1 Diver Depth Gauges.....	5
A.3.2 Lead Lines.....	6
A.3.3 Sounding Poles.....	6
A.3.4 Other Manual Sounding Equipment.....	6
A.4 Horizontal and Vertical Control Equipment.....	6
A.4.1 Base Station Equipment.....	6
A.4.2 Rover Equipment.....	6
A.4.3 Water Level Gauges.....	6
A.4.4 Levels.....	6
A.4.5 Other Horizontal and Vertical Control Equipment.....	6
A.5 Positioning and Attitude Equipment.....	6
A.5.1 Positioning and Attitude Systems.....	7
A.5.1.1 Applanix POS MV V5.....	7
A.5.2 DGPS.....	8
A.5.3 GPS.....	8
A.5.4 Laser Rangefinders.....	8
A.5.5 Other Positioning and Attitude Equipment.....	8
A.6 Sound Speed Equipment.....	9
A.6.1 Moving Vessel Profilers.....	9
A.6.2 CTD Profilers.....	9
A.6.2.1 SonTek CastAway-CTD.....	9
A.6.3 Sound Speed Sensors.....	10
A.6.3.1 AML Oceanographic Micro X with SV Xchange.....	10
A.6.4 TSG Sensors.....	11
A.6.5 Other Sound Speed Equipment.....	11
A.7 Computer Software.....	11
A.8 Bottom Sampling Equipment.....	11
A.8.1 Bottom Samplers.....	12
A.8.1.1 WILDCO Petite Ponar 6"x6" All Stainless Steel.....	12
B. System Alignment and Accuracy	13
B.1 Vessel Offsets and Layback.....	13
B.1.1 Vessel Offsets.....	13
B.1.1.1 Vessel Offset Correctors.....	13

B.1.2 Layback.....	13
B.2 Static and Dynamic Draft.....	13
B.2.1 Static Draft.....	14
B.2.1.1 Static Draft Correctors.....	14
B.2.2 Dynamic Draft.....	14
B.2.2.1 Dynamic Draft Correctors.....	15
B.3 System Alignment.....	15
B.3.1 System Alignment Methods and Procedures.....	15
B.3.1.1 System Alignment Correctors.....	16
C. Data Acquisition and Processing.....	16
C.1 Bathymetry.....	16
C.1.1 Multibeam Echosounder.....	16
C.1.2 Single Beam Echosounder.....	17
C.1.3 Phase Measuring Bathymetric Sonar.....	17
C.1.4 Gridding and Surface Generation.....	17
C.1.4.1 Surface Generation Overview.....	17
C.1.4.2 Depth Derivation.....	17
C.1.4.3 Surface Computation Algorithm.....	17
C.2 Imagery.....	17
C.2.1 Multibeam Backscatter Data.....	18
C.2.2 Side Scan Sonar.....	18
C.2.3 Phase Measuring Bathymetric Sonar.....	18
C.3 Horizontal and Vertical Control.....	19
C.3.1 Horizontal Control.....	19
C.3.1.1 GNSS Base Station Data.....	19
C.3.1.2 DGPS Data.....	19
C.3.2 Vertical Control.....	19
C.3.2.1 Water Level Data.....	19
C.3.2.2 Optical Level Data.....	19
C.4 Vessel Positioning.....	19
C.5 Sound Speed.....	20
C.5.1 Sound Speed Profiles.....	20
C.5.2 Surface Sound Speed.....	21
C.6 Uncertainty.....	21
C.6.1 Total Propagated Uncertainty Computation Methods.....	21
C.6.2 Uncertainty Components.....	22
C.6.2.1 A Priori Uncertainty.....	22
C.6.2.2 Real-Time Uncertainty.....	22
C.7 Shoreline and Feature Data.....	22
C.8 Bottom Sample Data.....	23
D. Data Quality Management.....	23
D.1 Bathymetric Data Integrity and Quality Management.....	23
D.1.1 Directed Editing.....	23
D.1.2 Designated Sounding Selection.....	24
D.1.3 Holiday Identification.....	24
D.1.4 Uncertainty Assessment.....	24
D.1.5 Surface Difference Review.....	25

D.1.5.1 Crossline to Mainscheme.....	25
D.1.5.2 Junctions.....	25
D.1.5.3 Platform to Platform.....	26
D.2 Imagery data Integrity and Quality Management.....	26
E. Approval Sheet.....	27
List of Appendices:.....	28

List of Figures

Figure 1: NRT-NL (S3007).....	2
Figure 2: EM 2040C sonar head and processing unit.....	3
Figure 3: EdgeTech 4125 towfish and rack mount processing unit.....	5
Figure 4: POS MV V5 system components: IMU, POS Computer System, and two GNSS antennas.....	8
Figure 5: CastAway-CTD.....	10
Figure 6: WILDSCO Petite Ponar.....	12

Data Acquisition and Processing Report

NOAA Navigation Response Team - New London

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A. System Equipment and Software

A.1 Survey Vessels

A.1.1 NRT-NL

<i>Vessel Name</i>	NRT-NL	
<i>Hull Number</i>	S3007	
<i>Description</i>	Aluminum Lake Assault	
<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>LOA</i>	10.38m
	<i>Beam</i>	2.59m
	<i>Max Draft</i>	0.60m
<i>Most Recent Full Static Survey</i>	<i>Date</i>	2016-04-27
	<i>Performed By</i>	Kevin Jordan, National Geodetic Survey



Figure 1: NRT-NL (S3007)

A.2 Echo Sounding Equipment

A.2.1 Multibeam Echosounders

A.2.1.1 Kongsberg Simrad EM 2040C

The EM 2040C operating frequency range is from 200 to 400 kHz with frequency selection in steps of 10 kHz, enabling the user to choose on the fly the best operating frequency for the application. The maximum depth range for a single head system in cold ocean water is 520 m at 200 kHz with a swath width up to 580 m. The angular coverage for 200 to 320 kHz is 130° with one sonar head, allowing coverage 4.3 times water depth. For frequencies above 320 kHz the angular coverage per head is gradually decreasing to 70° at 400 kHz. The nadir beam width is 1° x 1° at 400 kHz. The system has a maximum ping rate of 50 Hz with 400 soundings per ping.

Components of the EM 2040C include a sonar head, a processing unit, and a hydrographic workstation. Motion sensor and positioning data from the POSMV system, as well as sound speed profile data are input to the EM 2040C. All electronics are contained in the sonar head which is interfaced to the processing unit via GBit Ethernet. The processing unit also supplies 48 VDC power via the same cable. Operator control, data quality inspection, and data storage is handled by the hydrographic workstation running SIS software.

<i>Manufacturer</i>	Kongsberg Simrad				
<i>Model</i>	EM 2040C				
<i>Inventory</i>	<i>S3007</i>	<i>Component</i>	Sonar Head	Processing Unit	Hydrographic Workstation
		<i>Model Number</i>	Dual EM 2040C	Processing Unit 2U	HP RP5 Retail System Model 5810
		<i>Serial Number</i>	1435	20097	CZC5503RFP
		<i>Frequency</i>	200-400 kHz	N/A	N/A
		<i>Calibration</i>	2023-03-27	N/A	N/A
		<i>Accuracy Check</i>	2023-03-27	N/A	N/A



Figure 2: EM 2040C sonar head and processing unit.

A.2.2 Single Beam Echosounders

No single beam echosounders were utilized for data acquisition.

A.2.3 Side Scan Sonars

A.2.3.1 EdgeTech 4125

The EdgeTech 4125 dual-frequency (400/900 kHz) side scan sonar system is a frequency-modulated (FM), dual-frequency, side scan sonar that uses EdgeTech's proprietary Full Spectrum "chirp" technology to generate high-resolution side scan imagery. Frequencies are transmitted as linearly-swept, wide-band, high energy acoustic pulses, and the received echoes are processed into high signal-to-noise (SNR) images that can be directly displayed as shades of gray color on a computer monitor. Operating ranges are 150 m at 400 kHz and 75 m at 900 kHz. Horizontal beam widths are 0.46° at 400 kHz and 0.28° at 900 kHz. The vertical beam width is 50°. Across-track resolution is 2.3 cm at 400 kHz and 1.0 cm at 900 kHz.

Components of the 4125 system are a rugged stainless steel towfish and a rack-mounted topside processing unit. The towfish contains the sonar transducer arrays and the electronics required to transmit and receive the sonar signals; to receive the downlink commands from the topside processor; and to provide the uplink side scan data, sensor data, and status information to the topside processor. The rack mount interfaces with a user supplied computer over a 10/100BaseT Ethernet connection.

<i>Manufacturer</i>	EdgeTech			
<i>Model</i>	4125			
<i>Inventory</i>	S3007	<i>Component</i>	Towfish	Processing Unit
		<i>Model Number</i>	4125	4125 Rack Mount Topside
		<i>Serial Number</i>	40421	40257
		<i>Frequency</i>	400/900 kHz	N/A
		<i>Calibration</i>	2023-03-28	N/A
		<i>Accuracy Check</i>	2023-03-28	N/A



Figure 3: EdgeTech 4125 towfish and rack mount processing unit.

A.2.4 Phase Measuring Bathymetric Sonars

No phase measuring bathymetric sonars were utilized for data acquisition.

A.2.5 Other Echosounders

No additional echosounders were utilized for data acquisition.

A.3 Manual Sounding Equipment

A.3.1 Diver Depth Gauges

No diver depth gauges were utilized for data acquisition.

A.3.2 Lead Lines

No lead lines were utilized for data acquisition.

A.3.3 Sounding Poles

No sounding poles were utilized for data acquisition.

A.3.4 Other Manual Sounding Equipment

No additional manual sounding equipment was utilized for data acquisition.

A.4 Horizontal and Vertical Control Equipment**A.4.1 Base Station Equipment**

No base station equipment was utilized for data acquisition.

A.4.2 Rover Equipment

No rover equipment was utilized for data acquisition.

A.4.3 Water Level Gauges

No water level gauges were utilized for data acquisition.

A.4.4 Levels

No levels were utilized for data acquisition.

A.4.5 Other Horizontal and Vertical Control Equipment

No other equipment were utilized for data acquisition.

A.5 Positioning and Attitude Equipment

A.5.1 Positioning and Attitude Systems

A.5.1.1 Applanix POS MV V5

The POS MV V5 is a GNSS-aided inertial navigation system, which provides a blended position solution derived from both an Inertial Motion Unit (IMU) and an integrated GNSS receiver. The IMU and GPS receiver are complementary sensors, and data from one are used to filter and constrain errors from the other. This inter-dependence results in higher position accuracy and fewer errors. Position accuracy is displayed in real time by the POS MV software and is monitored to ensure that positioning accuracy requirements as outlined in the NOS Hydrographic Surveys Specifications and Deliverables (HSSD) were not exceeded.

In addition to position, the POS MV also provides accurate navigation and attitude data to correct for the effects of heave, pitch, roll and heading. When using differential correctors, the POS MV generates attitude data in three axes (roll, pitch and heading) to an accuracy of 0.02° or better. Heave measurements supplied by the POS MV maintain an accuracy of 5 cm or 5% of the measured vertical displacement (whichever is greater) for movements that have a period of up to 20 seconds.

<i>Manufacturer</i>	Applanix					
<i>Model</i>	POS MV V5					
<i>Inventory</i>	S3007	<i>Component</i>	PO Computer System	Primary GNSS Antenna	Secondary GNSS Antenna	Inertial Measurement Unit
		<i>Model Number</i>	POS MV V5	Trimble GA830	Trimble GA830	10006630
		<i>Serial Number</i>	5909	24027	24121	6614
		<i>Calibration</i>	2023-03-27	2023-03-27	2023-03-27	2023-03-27



Figure 4: POS MV V5 system components: IMU, POS Computer System, and two GNSS antennas.

A.5.2 DGPS

DGPS equipment was not utilized for data acquisition.

A.5.3 GPS

Additional GPS equipment was not utilized for data acquisition.

A.5.4 Laser Rangefinders

Laser rangefinders were not utilized for data acquisition.

A.5.5 Other Positioning and Attitude Equipment

No additional positioning and attitude equipment was utilized for data acquisition.

A.6 Sound Speed Equipment

A.6.1 Moving Vessel Profilers

No moving vessel profilers were utilized for data acquisition.

A.6.2 CTD Profilers

A.6.2.1 SonTek CastAway-CTD

The CastAway-CTD is a small, rugged CTD designed for profiling to depths of up to 100 m. The system achieves a 5 Hz response time, fine spatial resolution, and high accuracy, with sound speed measurements accurate within ± 0.15 m/s. It uses a six electrode flow-through conductivity cell with zero external field coupled with a rapid response thermistor to attain high measurement accuracies. The instrument is simple to deploy, does not require a pump and is hydrodynamically designed to free fall rate of 1 m/s.

Each CastAway-CTD cast is referenced with both time and location using its built-in GPS receiver. Latitude and longitude are acquired both before and after each profile. Plots of conductivity, temperature, salinity and sound speed versus depth can be viewed immediately on the CastAway's integrated color LCD screen. Raw data is downloaded via Bluetooth to the launch acquisition computer for analysis and to export into SIS.

<i>Manufacturer</i>	SonTek		
<i>Model</i>	CastAway-CTD		
<i>Inventory</i>	<i>Component</i>	CTD	CTD
	<i>Model Number</i>	400100	400100
	<i>Serial Number</i>	CC1433009	CC1433008
	<i>Calibration</i>	2023-02-16	2023-01-20



Figure 5: CastAway-CTD.

A.6.3 Sound Speed Sensors

A.6.3.1 AML Oceanographic Micro X with SV Xchange

The AML MicroX instrument with an SVXchange sensor-head provided surface sound speed data to the Kongsberg EM 2040C for beam forming and steering. The unit is mounted in a removable pole that is inserted into a bucket with water recently collected from the surface. This bucket is emptied and refilled if the sound speed has noticeably changed, a new area is getting surveyed, or when taking a CTD cast. Normally the probe would be installed on the transom between the outboards, however, due to frequent

sound velocity blowouts and an increased risk of losing the probe on an unstable mount, the bucket is the preferred method. The unit is configured to output an AML datagram to SIS.

<i>Manufacturer</i>	AML Oceanographic		
<i>Model</i>	Micro X with SV Xchange		
<i>Inventory</i>	S3007	<i>Component</i>	Sound Speed Sensor
		<i>Model Number</i>	Micro X
		<i>Serial Number</i>	206566
		<i>Calibration</i>	2021-03-18

A.6.4 TSG Sensors

No TSG sensors were utilized for data acquisition.

A.6.5 Other Sound Speed Equipment

No other surface sound speed sensors were utilized for data acquisition.

A.7 Computer Software

<i>Manufacturer</i>	<i>Software Name</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Use</i>
Teledyne CARIS	HIPS and SIPS	11.4.25	Processing
Applanix Corporation	POSPac MMS	8.9	Processing
NOAA, Hydrographic Systems and Technology Branch (HSTB)	Pydro Explorer	22.1	Processing
Xylem	HYPACK Survey	2023	Acquisition
Xylem	HYSWEEP	2023	Acquisition
Kongsberg Maritime	Seafloor Information System	4.3.2	Acquisition
EdgeTech	DISCOVER 4125D	42.0.1.109	Acquisition
Applanix Corporation	MV-POSView	11.26	Acquisition
SonTek	CastAway CTD	1.5	Acquisition
Fledermaus	FMGT	7.10.3	Processing

A.8 Bottom Sampling Equipment

A.8.1 Bottom Samplers

A.8.1.1 WILDCO Petite Ponar 6''x6'' All Stainless Steel

The WILDCO Petite Ponar is a Ponar type grab sampler, a commonly used sampler that is very versatile for all types of bottom sediments such as sand, gravel, and clay. This sampler features center-hinged jaws and a spring loaded pin that releases when the sampler makes impact with the bottom. It also includes an underlip attachment that cleans gravel from the jaws that would normally prevent lateral loss of sample. The top is covered with a stainless steel screen with neoprene rubber flaps which allows water to flow through for a controlled descent and less interference with the sample. It is constructed of stainless steel with zinc plated steel arms and weights. A simple pin prevents premature closing.



Figure 6: WILDCO Petite Ponar.

B. System Alignment and Accuracy

B.1 Vessel Offsets and Layback

B.1.1 Vessel Offsets

All vessel offset values are stored in the Lever Arms and Mounting Angles of the POS MV, and the values in the HVF have been input as zero with the exception of the TPU, Waterline, and Dynamic Draft Fields. Values in the POS MV are in the Applanix reference frame, while the HVF values are in the CARIS reference frame, which results in the X and Y values being swapped. The signs are flipped because the POS MV has values from the reference point (the transmit transducer phase center is defined as the Reference Point [RP] for hull S3007) to the IMU, while the HVF has values from the IMU to the transmitter.

B.1.1.1 Vessel Offset Correctors

<i>Vessel</i>	S3007			
<i>Echosounder</i>	Teledyne CARIS HIPS and SIPS			
<i>Date</i>	2023-03-27			
<i>Offsets</i>	<i>MRU to Transducer</i>		<i>Measurement</i>	<i>Uncertainty</i>
		<i>x</i>	-0.006 meters	0.020 meters
		<i>y</i>	-0.005 meters	0.020 meters
		<i>z</i>	0.347 meters	0.020 meters
	<i>Nav to Transducer</i>	<i>x</i>	0.864 meters	0.020 meters
		<i>y</i>	-4.225 meters	0.020 meters
		<i>z</i>	3.149 meters	0.020 meters
	<i>Transducer Roll</i>	<i>Roll</i>	0.000 degrees	

B.1.2 Layback

NRT-NL does not currently tow any SSS unit.

Layback correctors were not applied.

B.2 Static and Dynamic Draft

B.2.1 Static Draft

Static draft corrector values are entered in the Kongsberg SIS Installation Parameters window. In addition to being entered into the SIS Installation Parameters window, waterline values are also entered in the CARIS HVF. This waterline value in CARIS will only be used during Georeference Bathymetry. The Apply switch is also set to “No”. If it is set to “Yes”, the waterline value will be applied twice, once in SIS and again in Merge.

B.2.1.1 Static Draft Correctors

<i>Vessel</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Loading</i>	<i>Static Draft</i>	
			<i>Measurement</i>	<i>Uncertainty</i>
S3007	2019-05-01	0.015 meters	-0.545 meters	0.024 meters

B.2.2 Dynamic Draft

NRT-NL conducted an ERDDM test on the Thames River in New London, CT. This involved going at a starting speed of 3 knots for 2 minutes, then increasing the speed by roughly 1 knot for another 2 minutes, and so on, until 10 knots is reached. After the 10 knot speed, the vessel turns around and does the same speeds and time in the opposite direction. A SBET is created from the POS files logged, and run through AutoQC. Under the Dynamic Draft tab the dynamic draft values will be available. NRT-NL uses the Cubic Model.

B.2.2.1 Dynamic Draft Correctors

<i>Vessel</i>	S3007	
<i>Date</i>	2023-03-27	
<i>Dynamic Draft</i>	<i>Speed (m/s)</i>	<i>Draft (m)</i>
	0.00	0.00
	0.50	0.01
	1.00	0.02
	1.50	0.02
	2.00	0.03
	2.50	0.04
	3.00	0.05
	3.50	0.08
	4.00	0.11
	4.50	0.16
	5.00	0.22
<i>Uncertainty</i>	<i>Vessel Speed (m/s)</i>	<i>Delta Draft (m)</i>
	0.50	0.03

B.3 System Alignment

B.3.1 System Alignment Methods and Procedures

Patch Test values were acquired using methods recommended by the manufacturer. All system alignment correctors are stored in the Lever Arms and Mounting Angles of the POS MV. To avoid double applying patch test values, all corresponding values in the CARIS HVF are input as zero. Patch test values input into POS for the 2023 field season are -0.08° for pitch (Y), 0.04° for roll (X), and 0.25° for yaw (Z), whereas in the CARIS HVF (see below) each value is 0.

B.3.1.1 System Alignment Correctors

<i>Vessel</i>	S3007		
<i>Echosounder</i>	Kongsberg EM 2040C		
<i>Date</i>	2023-03-27		
<i>Patch Test Values</i>		<i>Corrector</i>	<i>Uncertainty</i>
	<i>Transducer Time Correction</i>	0.000 seconds	0.001 seconds
	<i>Navigation Time Correction</i>	0.000 seconds	0.001 seconds
	<i>Pitch</i>	0.000 degrees	0.020 degrees
	<i>Roll</i>	0.000 degrees	0.020 degrees
	<i>Yaw</i>	0.000 degrees	0.020 degrees
	<i>Pitch Time Correction</i>	0.000 seconds	0.001 seconds
	<i>Roll Time Correction</i>	0.000 seconds	0.001 seconds
	<i>Yaw Time Correction</i>	0.000 seconds	0.001 seconds
	<i>Heave Time Correction</i>	0.000 seconds	0.001 seconds

C. Data Acquisition and Processing

C.1 Bathymetry

C.1.1 Multibeam Echosounder

Data Acquisition Methods and Procedures

Multibeam data from the EM 2040C on S3007 were monitored in real-time with the acquisition software, SIS (Seafloor Information System). Data were displayed using 2-D and 3-D data display windows in the real-time screen display. Mainscheme data were acquired using either planned lines, or an adaptive line steering approach, whereby the coxswain viewed a real-time coverage map in Hysweep and accordingly adjusted line steering to ensure coverage requirements were being met.

Data Processing Methods and Procedures

Following acquisition, multibeam sonar data were processed either using CARIS HIPS and SIPS manually or by using the automated Pydro Explorer application, Charlene, to perform the same steps. The standard data processing steps are as follows:

1. Convert raw Kongsberg (.all) data to the HDCS data format

2. Load delayed heave
3. Load SBET and RMS corrections
4. Computer Georeference Bathymetry
 - a) Load and apply sound velocity corrections
 - b) Compute GPS tide to transform data from the ellipsoid to the tidal datum using a VDatum separation model
 - c) Merge data to apply position attitude, and dynamic draft correctors to bathymetry and compute the corrected depth of each sounding
 - d) Compute Total Propagated Uncertainty (TPU)
5. Create CUBE grid(s)
6. Data quality control and analysis

C.1.2 Single Beam Echosounder

Single beam echosounder bathymetry was not acquired.

C.1.3 Phase Measuring Bathymetric Sonar

Phase measuring bathymetric sonar bathymetry was not acquired.

C.1.4 Gridding and Surface Generation

C.1.4.1 Surface Generation Overview

Surfaces are generated in CARIS using the CUBE gridding method. Resolution is determined by the Project Instructions and the HSSD.

C.1.4.2 Depth Derivation

Depths are derived by using models provided to the field unit, usually in the form of a VDatum separation model. Flier Finder within QC Tools is used to help identify fliers to help clean the data.

C.1.4.3 Surface Computation Algorithm

Gridding parameters and surface computation algorithms used are consistent with HSSD specs and guidance from HSD.

C.2 Imagery

C.2.1 Multibeam Backscatter Data

Data Acquisition Methods and Procedures

Backscatter data is acquired concurrently with multibeam data. When backscatter is a priority, special care is taken to not adjust MBES settings during acquisition as adjustments to the sonar can cause issues within the backscatter mosaic.

Data Processing Methods and Procedures

NRT-NL uses FMGT for backscatter processing. GSF files are created by combining backscatter files (.all) and processed depth files (HDCS data). Once paired, a mosaic can be created and exported as a floating point geotiff.

C.2.2 Side Scan Sonar

Data Acquisition Methods and Procedures

The SSS towfish is attached to a Universal Sonar Mount Pole on the port side of S3007. Data is acquired at both 400kHz (low) and 900kHz (high), and is visualized in real-time within the Discover II software. Set line spacing is set by the range scale, which is determined by the depth of water. The towfish shall be operated with towfish heights above the bottom 8 percent to 20 percent of the range scale in use. Confidence checks are performed daily by observing features that are also captured within the MBES coverage, by known charted features, or found by subsequent SSS lines. Rub tests are conducted on the first day of survey, and periodically conducted if issues arise.

Data Processing Methods and Procedures

The JSF files are initially converted via Charlene and examined further within CARIS. All lines are examined within Side Scan Editor. The altitude is examined and manually digitized if need be, followed by recomputing towfish navigation. Data is then searched through for contacts greater than 1m in height, and if any are found are added to the SSS contact file. These contacts are then addressed in the field with MBES data. To find holidays, two mosaics are created with each representing a different 100% survey coverage. Any gaps in these mosaics will be considered a holiday and addressed with further survey acquisition.

C.2.3 Phase Measuring Bathymetric Sonar

Phase measuring bathymetric sonar imagery was not acquired.

C.3 Horizontal and Vertical Control

C.3.1 Horizontal Control

C.3.1.1 GNSS Base Station Data

GNSS base station data was not acquired.

C.3.1.2 DGPS Data

DGPS data was not acquired.

C.3.2 Vertical Control

C.3.2.1 Water Level Data

Water level data was not acquired.

C.3.2.2 Optical Level Data

Optical level data was not acquired.

C.4 Vessel Positioning

Data Acquisition Methods and Procedures

Attitude and Heave data were measured with the sensors described in Section A.5, and applied in post processing during SVP Correct and Merge in CARIS HIPS.

The POS MV on S3007 utilizes a heave filter integration method known as “TrueHeave” as described in Section 3.4.1.2 of the 2014 Field Procedures Manual. This filter almost completely eliminates the need for steadying up on lines before logging can begin.

TrueHeave data were logged throughout the day via the POS MV's ethernet logging feature. Each file has a unique identifier for the Julian day number, and the vessel number (ex. S3007_DN167.000). The multiple POS files that are created from logging in this way are each distinguished by the numbering found in the file type (e.g. 000, 001, 002, etc.). After regular CARIS data conversion, the TrueHeave file was separately loaded into HIPS, replacing the unfiltered heave values recorded in the raw data. TrueHeave is actually applied to the data, if the checkbox is marked, during the sound velocity correction process.

It is standard procedure to begin logging the POS MV Applanix .000 file at least 5 minutes before starting bathymetric data acquisition and letting it run for at least 5 minutes afterward. Although the filter that produces the true heave values by looking at a long series of data to create a baseline needs only 3 minutes

before and after the acquisition of bathymetric data, SBET processing which uses the same .000 file, requires logging for 5 minutes before and after bathymetric acquisition.

Timing and attitude biases were determined in accordance with Section 1.5 of the Field Procedures Manual, and are described in Section B of this report.

The POS MV on S3007 is configured to receive correctors from the Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS). WAAS corrects for GPS signal errors caused by ionospheric disturbances, timing and satellite orbit errors. The positioning data will be improved during post-processing.

Data Processing Methods and Procedures

NRT-NL uses Post Processed Kinematic (PPK) methods for the horizontal positioning of bathymetric data.

A Smoothed Best Estimate of Trajectory (SBET) is created using Applanix's proprietary SmartBase application. This software application generates a Virtual Reference Station (VRS) from a network of established reference stations surrounding the project area, generally the Continually Operating Reference Station (CORS) network. For the SmartBase method, an optimal network consists of six to eight reference stations evenly distributed around the surveyed area and separated by 50 to 70 km. A minimum of four stations are required for Applanix SmartBase processing. The resulting SBET file consists of GPS position and attitude data corrected and integrated with inertial measurements and reference station correctors. Reference station data is downloaded with the POSPac MMS download tool and usually available within 24 hours. These SBET navigation and attitude files are applied to all lines in CARIS and supersede initial positioning and attitude data.

C.5 Sound Speed

C.5.1 Sound Speed Profiles

Data Acquisition Methods and Procedures

NRT-NL uses the SonTek CastAway CTD attached to a line to acquire sound speed data. Sound speed casts were taken at a minimum of every four hours. When taking a cast while the vessel is at rest, a starting GPS location is recorded by using the LCD interface on the CastAway. The CastAway CTD would then be lowered just beneath the water surface for approximately 10 seconds to allow the sensors to stabilize to the water conditions. After waiting for the sensors to stabilize, the CTD would be allowed to free fall through the water column. When the CTD reaches the bottom, or when the the line is completely paid out, the CTD is retrieved to the surface at a rate of about 1 m/s. Once the CTD is at the surface, data collection is ceased and the ending GPS location is recorded.

SIS monitors changes in the surface sound speed vs. the value obtained with the last cast in real-time. The user is then warned for the need of a new cast by highlighting both the “SV Profile” and “SV Used numerical displays in yellow with a difference greater than 3 m/s and red for a difference greater than 5 m/s.

Data Processing Methods and Procedures

After the CastAway GPS location is recorded and the device is in range of the USB Bluetooth adapter inserted in the acquisition computer, the cast data is automatically downloaded into the CastAway CTD software. The data can then be exported to an ASCII format for import into Pydro's Sound Speed Manager application. Sound Speed Manager can then transmit this sound velocity data directly into SIS, and can convert the sound velocity files into a CARIS usable format.

All sound velocity profiles for CARIS are concatenated into a vessel-wide or sheet-wides files in order of ascending time/date. These concatenated file(s) are then applied to all HDCS data acquired with the option “Nearest in distance within time (4 Hours)” selected under the “Profile Selection Method”.

C.5.2 Surface Sound Speed

Data Acquisition Methods and Procedures

The multibeam systems utilized aboard NRT-NL require a sound velocity probe to be interfaced with the sonar acquisition unit for use in projector steering computations. During all survey operations, surface sound velocity probes are on at all times. In the event of a velocity probe failure, survey operations immediately cease until the failure is corrected.

An AML Micro X provided surface sound speed data to the sonar processing unit for beam steering and beam forming. The surface sound speed measurement unit is mounted in a removable pole that can be inserted into a bucket filled with surface water that is replenished frequently. The unit is configured to output an AML datagram to SIS, which is installed on the acquisition computer.

Data Processing Methods and Procedures

Speed data is processed within Sound Speed Manager within Pydro Explorer.

C.6 Uncertainty

C.6.1 Total Propagated Uncertainty Computation Methods

There are two places in CARIS where the user directly defines uncertainty values for use in CARIS to calculate TPU values, in the HVF and the direct input of SV and tide values during the TPU computation.

TPU values for all motion, navigation position and timing values are taken directly from Appendix IV (Uncertainty values for use in CARIS with vessels equipped WITH an attitude sensor) of the FPM. All timing values were set to 0.001 seconds as outlined for setups with Ethernet connections and precise timing. All offset values were chosen to be 0.02 meters based on the accuracy provided by professional surveys.

All MRU alignment values are derived from the patch test. The gyro value is taken directly from the standard deviation of the yaw values. The pitch/roll value is combined as one in the HVF and is computed as the square root of pitch standard deviation squared plus roll standard deviation squared.

C.6.2 Uncertainty Components

C.6.2.1 A Priori Uncertainty

<i>Vessel</i>	S3007	
<i>Motion Sensor</i>	<i>Gyro</i>	0.02 degrees
	<i>Heave</i>	5.00%
		0.05 meters
	<i>Roll</i>	0.02 degrees
<i>Pitch</i>	0.02 degrees	
<i>Navigation Sensor</i>	1.00 meters	

C.6.2.2 Real-Time Uncertainty

Real-time uncertainty was not applied.

C.7 Shoreline and Feature Data

Data Acquisition Methods and Procedures

In preparation for shoreline verification, the Survey Manager copies the project wide composite source file (CSF) and crops it to include only items contained on their assigned sheet. This cropped file is then saved as a HOB file named HXXXXX_Final_Features_File.hob. It is to this final features HOB file that any edits are performed.

Shoreline verification is conducted during daylight periods near predicted MLLW tides of +0.5m or less. A line is run along the shore approximating the position of the Navigational Area Limit Line (NALL). Features are examined in accordance with the limited verification guidelines in the FPM. In the field, CARIS HIPS

and SIPS is used to acquire DPs and/or modify S-57 attribution of existing features. The hydrographer both investigates assigned features and scans the area for new features to be addressed.

Data Processing Methods and Procedures

Features are generally documented and given S-57 attribution in real time. To increase efficiency during the limited shoreline window, the Survey Manager may forgo S-57 attribution with HIPS and SIPS while in the field and instead take thorough notes for later attribution.

C.8 Bottom Sample Data

Data Acquisition Methods and Procedures

Typically HSD Operations provides the field unit with a number of recommended bottom sample sites included as part of the shoreline project reference file (PRF). These proposed sample sites, which are encoded as S-57 SPRINGS, are examined and potentially culled based on the actual depths found during survey operations.

Samples are collected by launch using the bottom sampler described in section A.8 of this report. Once obtained, samples are analyzed for sediment type and classified with S57 attribution, with the most prevalent sediment type listed first. In the event that no sample is obtained after three attempts, the sample site's NATSUR is characterized as “unknown”. Samples are then discarded after field analysis is complete.

Data Processing Methods and Procedures

Bottom samples are added to the Final Feature File with S57 attributions per the HSSD.

D. Data Quality Management

D.1 Bathymetric Data Integrity and Quality Management

D.1.1 Directed Editing

The CUBE surface child layers: uncertainty, standard deviation, and node standard deviation were primarily used to help focus directed editing to soundings that were negatively affecting the BASE surface.

Another method to check the quality of sounding data prior to submission is the Pydro QC Tools “Flier Finder”. This software scans the CUBE surface for potential anomalous grid data. Lowering the flier height value will increase the sensitivity of the flier finder, resulting in more nodes being flagged. Fliers are then exported as .000 S-57 files that can be imported into CARIS HIPS and SIPS to aid in further cleaning. If desired, the user can set a new tolerance (“Flier height”) and rerun Flier finder.

D.1.2 Designated Sounding Selection

On occasion, the resolution of the CUBE surface may not be sufficient to capture the high point of a feature. In less than 20m of water, any feature where the most probable accurate sounding is shoaler than the CUBE surface by greater than one half the allowable error under IHO S-44 Order 1 is considered inadequately captured by the CUBE surface. In greater than 20m of water, this allowable error is expanded to the full Order 1 error allowance at that depth. Although missed shoal points may occur on irregular shoals or rock pinnacles, man-made features such as piles and wrecks are of particular concern. These features have very slender high points that extend far above the surrounding seafloor as well as the CUBE surface. To ensure that these features are properly represented, the shoalest point is flagged “designated” in CARIS.

During the “finalization” process, the CUBE surface is forced to honor all soundings which have been flagged “designated”. In the case of a survey where the high points of many features (i.e. a boulder field) are not being captured by the CUBE surface, the hydrographer may decide to produce higher resolution CUBE surfaces to ensure that these features are being honored. Any such deviations from standard procedures will be noted in that survey’s Descriptive Report.

D.1.3 Holiday Identification

Most holidays are identified and addressed while in the field. During data acquisition, the display of the real-time swath coverage is based upon the matrix file, a polygon with user defined geographic bounds and resolution set up prior to data collection. The resolution of the matrix is selected to match depth range of the polygon currently being worked on. The launch coxswain uses this matrix display to adjust the line as it is driven so that the swath currently being collected overlaps the grid of previously collected data. In this way, insufficient overlap can be seen and addressed immediately.

The Pydro QC Tools “Holiday Finder” is used to detect holidays in post-processing. This tool scans the grid, and any empty nodes surrounded by populated nodes are identified. The user can specify whether to search for holidays according to either Object Detection or Full Coverage requirements. In the event of finding any holidays in post-processing, small polygons are made in HIPS to direct data acquisition to fill them in.

D.1.4 Uncertainty Assessment

NRT-NL's primary bathymetric data review and quality control tool is the CARIS CUBE surfaces. The CUBE algorithm generates a surface consisting of multiple hypotheses that represent the possible depths at any given position. The CUBE surface is a grid of estimation nodes where depth values are computed based on the horizontal and vertical uncertainty of each contributing sounding.

Any individual sounding's uncertainty, or Total Propagated Uncertainty (TPU), is derived from the assumed uncertainty in the echosounder measurement itself, as well as the contributing correctors from sound speed, water levels, position, and attitude. TPU values for tide and sound velocity must be entered for each vessel during TPU computation, unless using TCARI, where uncertainty is added directly to survey lines by Pydro.

NRT-NL is currently using the following uncertainty values:

- Tide measured uncertainty is set to a value of 0.0 with use of a VDatum separation model.
- Tide zoning uncertainty is unique to the separation model in use.
- Measured sound speed uncertainty was set to a recommended value of 2 m/s as recommended by the FPM when 1 cast is taken every 4 hours.
- Surface sound speed value is dependent on the manufacturer specifications of the unit utilized to measure surface SV values for refraction corrections to flat-faced transducers. The AML Oceanographic Micro•X probe with an SV•Xchange sensor has a published accuracy of 0.025 m/s, however, a value of 0.2 m/s is used for surface sound speed uncertainty.

All other error estimates are read from the Hydrographic Vessel File (HVF). The HVF contains all offsets and system biases for the survey vessel and its systems, as well as error estimates for latency, sensor offset measurements, attitude and navigation measurements, and draft measurements. In addition, the HVF specifies which type of sonar system the vessel is using.

In addition to the usual a priori estimates of uncertainty, some real-time and post-processed uncertainty sources were also incorporated into the depth estimates. Real-time uncertainties from the Kongsberg EM2040C were recorded and applied in post-processing. Applanix TrueHeave files are recorded, which include an estimate of the heave uncertainty, and are applied during post processing. Uncertainties associated with vessel roll, pitch, gyro, and navigation are applied in CARIS HIPS and SIPS via a SBET and RMS files generated in POSPac.

D.1.5 Surface Difference Review

D.1.5.1 Crossline to Mainscheme

Cross-lines with a linear nautical total of at least 4% of mainscheme multibeam lines were run on each survey. A CUBE surface will then be created using strictly the main scheme lines, while a second surface will be created using only the crosslines. These surfaces are input into the Compare Grids tool in Pydro, and statistics are derived from a difference surface. These statistics are then documented within the Descriptive Report.

D.1.5.2 Junctions

Junction overlap areas are acquired so to be at least approximately one bathymetric swath width at the nominal depth of the junction, as per the HSSD. Junction areas are then evaluated to ensure they have met this overlap requirement and also to inspect the relative agreement of depths, including using the Compare Grids tool in Pydro to generate statistics. When junctions share a common grid resolution, it is chosen to perform the junction analysis.

D.1.5.3 Platform to Platform

Only one platform is used for NRT-NL surveys. If another platform were to be used, a visual inspection of the overlapping coverage would be used to identify any inconsistencies that need to be addressed.

D.2 Imagery data Integrity and Quality Management

Imagery data integrity and quality management were not conducted for this survey.

E. Approval Sheet

As Chief of Party, I acknowledge that all of the information contained in this report is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Please see the Descriptive Report for further information regarding survey completion.

Approver Name	Approver Title	Date	Signature
LTJG Mark Meadows	Chief of Party	01/17/2024	

List of Appendices:

<i>Mandatory Report</i>	<i>File</i>
<i>Vessel Wiring Diagram</i>	Copy of 2020 NRT5 Wiring Diagram.pdf
<i>Sound Speed Sensor Calibration</i>	AML-Certificate-of-Calibration-Sound-Velocity.pdf CC1433008_CTD_Cert_2023.pdf CC1433009_CTD_Cert_2023.pdf
<i>Vessel Offset</i>	Copy of S3007 Vessel Offset Report.pdf
<i>Position and Attitude Sensor Calibration</i>	NRTNL_2023_GAMS_POS_MV_Cal_Report.pdf
<i>Echosounder Confidence Check</i>	N/A
<i>Echosounder Acceptance Trial Results</i>	N/A