

Q. Currents and Winds

Tidal currents were closely monitored during the course of this survey, since diving operations were planned to coincide with slack water whenever possible. Comparisons were made with the Tidal Current Tables 1984, Atlantic Coast of North America between the work area and station 5266, York River Ent. Channel (SE end).

In general, the times and strengths of maximum current and times of slack water agreed with the predicted times under normal conditions. However, this entire area is greatly influenced by the wind which results in nontidal currents which considerably prolong or reduce the tidal currents. Compared with the predicted tide current tables, the currents would generally run one hour longer when going with the wind and one hour shorter when opposing the wind. The strengths of maximum current flow were 1.0 to 1.5 knots greater than predicted under all conditions, even with calm winds of less than 5 knots.