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Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

C. H. Tittmann
Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Hydrographic Sheet No. *2960*

LOCALITY:

*Kodiak Id., Kupreanof
Strait, Western part*

1908

CHIEF OF PARTY:

W. C. Hodgkins

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Descriptive Report

2960

to accompany Hydro Sheet No. 2960.

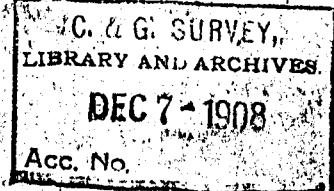
COAST AND
GEODETIC SURVEY

Western Part of Kupreanof Strait

DEC 5 4 05 PM 1908

Alaska

1908



FILE
RETURNED

The area shown on this sheet is generally deep and there are few outlying dangers.

Ledges extend a short distance from most of the projecting points of land, but with the exception of such places, it is generally possible to find reasonably good anchorage on either shore, under the shelter of the land, according to the direction of the wind. Reasonable caution in the matter of speed and in the use of the lead will avoid any risk of accident.

This sheet includes portions of Raspberry Island, Kupreanof Peninsula, and Ugavik Island, all of which are mountainous and nearly destitute of trees.

The shores are generally formed by rather low rock cliffs, bordered by beaches of heavy shingle.

Heavy winter gales from the westward no doubt send a heavy sea into this strait but in ordinary summer and autumn weather the sea here is much more moderate than a little further out in Shelikof Strait, where it is often uncomfortably rough.

Tide rips occur at times with strong tidal currents and heavy gales but are not of great magnitude as a rule.

There are no harbors within the limits of this sheet and the shores are entirely uninhabited, except for an occasional prospector making a temporary stay.

No fishing is carried on in this district and the only importance of this sheet of water is as a route of communication between Shelikof Strait and the eastern shore of Kodiak Island.

The chart will be the best guide in navigating these waters and the only directions necessary are to give the shores a reasonable berth and to slightly favor the Raspberry Island side of the Strait in passing to the eastward of Onion Bay.

Onion Bay is a narrow arm, extending into Raspberry Island.

The entrance is narrow and is much obstructed by shoals, some of which dry at low water.

The greater part of the bay is deep but it is subject to violent gusts of wind even in pleasant weather.

Except at slack water the tidal currents at the narrow entrance are very strong, probably running from three to five knots per hour.

With all of these drawbacks, the bay cannot be recommended as a harbor.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. Hodgkins

Assistant

Dec. 5, 1908

To the Superintendent

Coast and Geodetic Survey

Exact location of the tide gauges could not be determined from Station in the tide book. Note stating approximate locations applied to Sheet

Verification of Hyd. Sheet 2960 -

Development of shoal features and verification of seemingly doubtful soundings not complete. This is not of prime importance, however, as the area covered is generally deep and free from dangers.

Record is not always clear as to means used to determine depth. At times it is a matter of some uncertainty whether hand-lead or machine corrections should be applied to the soundings -

Corrections applied to reading of register on reel should not include irregularities due to piling effect of wire -

Location of tide staff should be indicated on all hydrographic sheets -

applied

All features on topographic sheet below plane of high water should be transferred to the hydrographic sheet and combined with the hydrography -



4-7-09

Applied to Chart No. —

8534, by James W. McGuire. (1935)