

3295

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Form 504

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey *Hydrographic*
Field No. Office No. *3295*

LOCALITY

State *Virginia*
General locality *Fisherman*
Locality *and Smith's Island*

1941

CHIEF OF PARTY

S. Forney

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

DATE

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C. & G. SURVEY,
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
JUL 25 1911
Acc. No.

3295

Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

Superintendent.

State: *Virginia*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Hyd. Sheet No. *3295*

LOCALITY:

*Fisherman's and
Smith's island Islets
Ship Shoals
Eastern shore of the Va
peninsula*

1901

CHIEF OF PARTY:

S. J. Forney

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

Descriptive Report

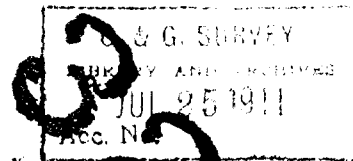
Hydrographic Sheet No. 1.

Fisherman's, Smith's Island,

and Ship Shoal Inlets.

Eastern Shore of the

Virginia Peninsula.



Fisherman's Island Inlet.

This inlet is only navigable for small motor and sail boats drawing 2 feet, at high water. The channels are so shallow and changeable that they cannot be depended upon, except at high tide, when small boats can cross the flats.

Smith's Island Inlet,

changes its depth and direction frequently during heavy N. E. and S. E. gales. With the wind and the sea from the N. E. and the S. E. it breaks from the southern point of Smith's Island all the way across to the "Isaacs". With the wind from the southward, westward and northward it is generally smooth on the bar, with breakers along each side of the channel. There is a black and white can buoy at the entrance to the inlet, and inside the channel is marked by three black and white-spar buoys, which were placed in position by the Light House tender May II, 1911. Nearly all of the oystermen in this locality, and the Life Saving crew at Smith's Island can pilot through the best water into Smith's Island inlet, which was 7 feet at M. L. W. April 1911. The best anchorage after you get inside is north of the U. S. Life Saving wharf.

Ship Shoal Inlet.

The main channel into this inlet has changed its depth and direction since the last survey was made. In April 1911, when I made the survey, it had 8 feet at M. L. W. on the bar. There were no buoys placed here. During easterly winds and swells it breaks clear across its entrance; during

westerly winds it is smooth on the bar, with breakers on each side of the channel defining its course. Nearly all of the fishermen and oystermen can pilot through the best water. This channel frequently shifts its position and changes its depths during easterly gales. When the last survey was made, the best channel ran along the beach to the southward; this is now closed, and the main channel runs out S. E. by E to the shoal water on the bar and then East (magnetic).

Stehman J. J. J.
Ant. C. J. J.
Chief of Party

VEC
Sep. 18, 1911

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 3295.

Smith Island Inlet and Sand Shoal Inlet, Virginia,
by Asst. Stehman Forney in 1911.

TIDES.

	Smith Island L.S.S. ft.	Cobb Island L.S.S. ft.
Mean low water or plane of reference on staff	3.2	2.6
Lowest tide observed " "	2.7	1.4
Highest " " " "	7.4	8.0
Mean range of tide	4.0	4.0

Coast and Geodetic Survey
SEP 20 1911
TIDAL SURVEYS.

Hyd Sheet No 3295

This work consists of a survey of Ship Shoal Inlet, Smith's Island Inlet and one line run through Wisnerman's Island Inlet.

The work in Smith's Island Inlet is not close enough to determine definitely, the run of the curves, therefore they are dotted, in the areas not sounded.

The line from pos 49 b to pos 50, which crosses the narrow channel just west of Cape Charles Light, shows 6ft as its maximum depth. This would close up the six foot curve at this point, but it probably misses the deepest part of the channel. By direction of Mr. Flower, the six foot curve was left open and the 5½ ft. sounding, on the line from ^{pos} 49 b to ^{pos} 50 b, was omitted. The crossings at this point are bad, due to the fact that the lines were running on the edge of the bank.

The position numbers are much too large on all these sheets.

R. L. Johnston

Mar 9th, 1912.

NAUTICAL CHARTS BRANCH

SURVEY NO. H-3295

Record of Application to Charts

DATE	CHART	CARTOGRAPHER	REMARKS
4-3-62	562	R. E. Elkins	Before After Verification and Review Added a few soundings and low-water points inside of Smith Island channel. Before After Verification and Review
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A basic hydrographic or topographic survey supersedes all information of like nature on the uncorrected chart. Give reasons for deviations, if any, from recommendations made under "Comparison with Charts" in the Review.