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C. & G. SURVEY  
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Department of Commerce and Labor  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

## DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Hyd* Sheet No. *3317*

LOCALITY:

*December Pt. to the southern  
Entrance*

\_\_\_\_\_  
19*11*

CHIEF OF PARTY:

*R. B. Derickson*

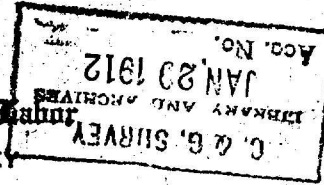
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POST-OFFICE ADDRESS:

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EXPRESS OFFICE:

3317



Department of Commerce and Navy  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

*Hyd. 3317*

S.E. ALASKA: WRANGELL STRAIT.

From December Point to Beecher Pass. *(No Hydro Pt.)*

Surveyed by party from Str. GEDNEY, R. B. Derickson,  
Asst., Commanding, on Str. COSMOS, Sept. and Oct., 1911.  
J. M. Coleman, Mate, in charge.

Scale: 1:5000

Note: Fathom curves from 1 to 15 fathoms are shown.

# 3317

## Descriptive Report to accompany Hydrographic Sheet

No. 8 of Wrangell Narrows, S.E. Alaska. C. & G. SURVEY.

Scale 1:5000

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Acc. No.

The work on this sheet extends from No Thorofare Point to December Point. The signals used in this work, are as follows: 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 67, 75, 63, 61, 59, and 57. These signals were old stations of the Army Engineers triangulation of 1906, which were recovered. Signals Tree, Hum, Bolt, and Gold are triangulation signals of 1910, which were recovered and used. Signals Light, Bat, Lock, are new signals established for the hydrography. "Light" is the center of light on the north end of Battery Id; "Lock" is the beacon at Point Lockwood; "Bat" is a built signal and is not marked. The position of these signals were determined by occupying the old triangulation stations with the theodolite and cutting them in.

### SOUNDINGS.

Most of the soundings on this sheet were made with the hand lead, and the lead line was checked frequently. On the southern end of the sheet, where the depth of the water was too great for the hand lead, the sounding machine was used, the dial reading zero when the lead was at the surface of the water. The usual method of two observers with sextants in the sounding boat, was used to determine each position.

### DANGERS.

There is a spit making out from the eastern shore opposite Point Lockwood beacon. This spit is dry at low tides, and the

outer end falls off abruptly into deep water. People in the locality say that this spit is building out. There is no mark on the end of this spit.

Point Lockwood Rock: This rock lies about 175 meters off shore near Point Lockwood. The COSMOS was anchored on the shoal and a thorough examination was made of the rock in the skiff. A black buoy marks this shoal but is more than 100 meters out from it.

There is another rock off Battery Island light, but near the west shore. This rock goes bare at mean low water. No special effort was made to locate this for the reason that the topographic party of 1910 located it with the plane-table by rod readings. From Battery Ids. north to Spike Rock the channel is clear with no dangers. Steamers navigating this part of the narrows usually pass Battery Ids. on the west side, but some of the larger steamers pass on the east side of Battery Ids at times. The channel to the east of Battery Ids is narrower than the one to the west, but is straight, and when two large steamers are meeting in this part of the narrows they sometimes take different sides of the islands to avoid passing too close.

#### CURRENTS.

The estimated velocity of the tidal currents in this part of the narrows, is from one to two and half knots.

#### ANCHORAGES.

There are no anchorages on this sheet for large vessels; a small vessel up to 75 feet will find good anchorage 300 meters

south of Point Lockwood beacon. There is very little current here and sticky bottom.

\* The records for this sheet comprise one volume tidal observations and ~~three~~<sup>five</sup> volumes of soundings.

During the progress of the work on this sheet, tidal observations were made on a plane staff in the vicinity of Point Lockwood. The staff is referred to the bench marks established near Keen Id. in 1910.

Sailing directions already written in the Alaska Coast Pilot hold good for this stretch of water.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) J.M. COLEMAN,

Mate, C. & G. Survey,

Hydrographer.

Approved,

Asst., Comdg.

\* The sounding records pertaining to this sheet include soundings extending from No Thorofare Point to Point Alexander, as it was originally intended to plot the entire work for this district on one sheet, here in the field.

The shore line for this sheet was executed in 1910 and the sheet forwarded to the office with all the data pertaining to that seasons work, and was therefore not available for transferring to this hydrographic sheet at this time.

*Jack Smith*  
Aid: Draftsman.

*Approved.*  
*R. B. Devotion*  
*Asst. Comdg. U.S. Navy*

# 3317

## STATISTICS

of Hydrographic Sheet No. 8, Wrangell Strait, Alaska.

Sept. and Oct., 1911.

Day.	Angles.	Soundings.	Miles.
c	112	259	5.0
d	178	591	4.8
e	346	895	15.5
j	354	806	14.8
k	208	403	8.3
l	348	534	15.9
m	76	77	3.2
s	114	326	4.3
u	88	147	3.0
v	172	211	7.0
w	16	40	2.0
Totals	2012	4289	83.8

"a" and "b" days are on the sheet at the northern end of the Strait, a small amount of work having been done there before this work was taken up, and the results sent in immediately.

The other days missing are on Sheet No. 9 of Wrangell Strait, as is also some of the work done on the days mentioned. This work has, however, been separated from the work on Sheet 8 in the above table.

For convenience' sake the work done from the skiff has been plotted with Green ink - that of the Cosmos being in Red.

STATISTICS (continued)  
Hydrographic Sheet No. 8, Wrangell Strait, Alaska.

SOUNDINGS OMITTED.

THE FOLLOWING SOUNDINGS WERE OMITTED ON THIS SHEET FOR LACK OF SPACE.

Positions.	Numbers.	No. omitted,	out of (No.)
c day:			
16-17	1st. sdg. omitted	1	5
27-28	2nd. " "	1	5
31-32	5th. " "	1	5
43	--- " "	1	1
44-45	2nd. " "	1	4
46	--- " "	1	1
47-48	1st. " "	1	3
49-50	1st. " "	1	4
50-51	1st. " "	1	5
d day:			
1-2	10 sdgs. omitted	10	23
2-3	1 " "	1	17
15-16	2 " "	2	13
16-17	7 " "	7	20
24-25	12 " "	12	22
26	sdg. omitted	1	1
26-27	5 sdgs. "	5	15
27-28	1 " "	1	3
28-29	5 " "	5	9
35-36	3rd. sdg. "	1	4
41	duplicated with 1st. sdg. between 53 and 54 c.	1	1
56-57	2nd? and 3rd. sdgs. omitted	2	3
57	--- sdg. omitted	1	1
64	--- " "	1	1
71-72	1st. and 2nd. sdgs. omitted.	2	3
e day:			
101-102	2nd. sdg. omitted	1	3
114-115	2nd. and 3rd. sdgs. omitted	2	5
115-116	1st. sdg. omitted	1	6
130	duplicated with 1st. sdg. between 64 and 65 e	1	1
171-172	10 sdgs. omitted	10	27
j day:			
7-8	5th. sdg. omitted	1	5
8-9	5th. " "	1	5
25-26	1st. " "	1	3
37-38	4th. " "	1	5
51	--- " "	1	1

## STATISTICS(continued)

## j day (continued):

57-58	2nd. sdg. omitted	1	4
60	--- " "	1	1
62-63*	3rd. " "	1	4
65-66	1st. " "	1	2
66	--- " "	1	1
76-77	2nd. " "	1	2
108-109	3rd. " "	1	3
109-110	1st. " "	1	3
112-113	2nd. " "	1	2
159-160	5th. " "	1	7
160-161	2nd. " "	1	6
163	--- " "	1	1
163-164	3 sdgs. "	3	7

## k day:

7-8	4th. sdg. omitted.	1	4
19	1st. " "	1	2
46-47	1st. " "	1	3
47-48	2nd. " "	1	4
55-56	3rd. " "	1	3
58	--- " "	1	1
66-67	3rd. " "	1	3
76-77	3rd. " "	1	3

## l day:

64-65	2nd. sdg. omitted	1	2
88-89	2nd. " duplicated with 1st. sdg. between 40 and 41 k	1	4
93-94	1st. sdg. omitted	1	3
107-108	1st. sdg. "	1	2
116-117	1st. " "	1	2
126-127	1st. and 2nd. sdgs. omitted	2	3
129	--- sdg. omitted	1	1
137-138	3rd. " "	1	4
140-141	2 sdgs. "	2	3

## m day:

17	sdg. omitted	1	1
31	" "	1	1

## s day:

13-14	1st. sdg. omitted	1	4
25-26	1st. " "	1	5
33	sdg. duplicated with sdg. on 14 s.	1	1
35-36	4th. sdg. duplicated with 5th. sdg., between 7 and 8 s	1	6



STATISTICS (continued)

--:4:--

s day (continued):

36-37	4th. sdg. omitted	1	6
76-77	5th. " "	1	8

This sounding is plotted on Sheet No. 9.

u day:

8	1st. sdg. omitted	1	2
9-10	3 sdgs. " "	3	3
11	--- " "	1	1
12-13	--- " "	1	1
17	--- " "	1	1
23-24	3 " rejected	3	3
30	duplicate with 3rd. sdg. between 95 and 96 l	1	1

v day:

128-129	1st. sdg. duplicated with 4th. sdg. between 51 and 52 d	1	2
129-130	3rd. sdg. omitted	1	3

w day:

3	--- sdg. omitted	1	1
3-4	2nd. " "	1	7

Total Soundings:- 4289

Total Omitted 138

Total Plotted 4151

M.D.H.  
Feb. 14, 1912.

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 3317

WRANGELL STRAIT, S.E. ALASKA / by Asst. R. B. Derickson.  
in 1911.

	Mitkof ft.
3 feet below lower low water or plane of reference on staff,	-2.6
Lowest tide observed	-3.0
Highest " "	19.4
Mean range of tide	13.0

Coast and Geodetic Survey  
FEB 15 1912  
TIDAL DIVISION

Hyd. Sheet No 3317

Nov. 6, 1912.

The work of the field party was very carefully  
and well done.

There is, apparently, no part of the area covered,  
which requires further development.

H. L. Sumner