5202

Form 504
Ed. June, 1928

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
R. S. Patton, *Director*

State: North Carolina

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Topographic ~~*Topographic*~~
Hydrographic } *Sheet No.* 5202
Field No. 2

LOCALITY

Chowan River

~~Upper~~

Hodges Creek to Tunis

19 32

CHIEF OF PARTY

C. A. Egner

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1930

Form 537
Ed. Dec., 1930

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

REG. NO. 5202

HYDROGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

The Hydrographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field No. 2

REGISTER NO. 5202

State North Carolina

General locality Chowan River

Locality ~~Upper part~~ Hodges Creek to Tunis

Scale 1:10,000 Date of survey May - June, 1932

Vessel M. V. NATOMA (Motor Launch)

Chief of Party C. A. Egner

Surveyed by Jack C. Sammons

Protracted by Paul Taylor

Soundings penciled by Paul Taylor

Soundings in ~~fathoms~~ feet

Plane of reference 0.5 ft. below Mean Water Level

Subdivision of wire dragged areas by

Inked by

Verified by

Instructions dated Jan. 21, 1932, 19

Remarks:

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1931

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

to accompany

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET NO. 2

CHOWAN RIVER, NORTH CAROLINA.

PROJECT NO. 94

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1. AUTHORITY:

The work on this sheet was done in accordance with the Instructions of the Director to the Commanding Officer of the Motor Vessel NATOMA, dated January 21, 1932.

2. LIMITS OF SHEET:

This sheet includes the Chowan River from the line joining Triangulation Stations CREEK and FLAG at the S.W. to the line joining Triangulation Stations TUN and STAND at the N.W. E

3. SHORE LINE:

The shore line on this sheet is very similar to that described in report for sheet No. 3. 5203 Near Triangulation Station CREEK there is a large grassy swamp land with only one or two lone trees. From Triangulation Stations BLUFF to ~~to~~ SAND there is a bluff extending down to the waters edge and the shore line is definite.

4. SURVEY METHODS:

All the work on this sheet was done by the usual launch hydrographic party. The Motor Launch used for most of the work, the Motor Sailer being used for some of the development near the shore line where the water was too shallow for the Motor Launch. The sheet is on a scale of 1:10,000 and the soundings were taken with a hand lead. The lines run

parallel to the shore line. It was possible to find natural ranges for the lines at almost all times. In cases where the lines were obstructed by fish nets the line was discontinued on a sextant fix and the launch run around the net and continued on the line from the opposite side of the net.

5. BARS AND CHANNELS:

There are no marked channels on this sheet. The controlling depth is around 15 feet near Triangulation Station HORN and the best water is usually found near the center of the channel. There is only one bar of any importance on this sheet and that is near Triangulation Station MARK,,here there is a mud flat extending out almost to the center of the river with 9 feet of water on the outer edge.

6. OBSTRUCTIONS:

Near the shore on either side of the river there are numerous snags and logs and stumps. Some of these extend above the surface of the water but many of them are submerged and as the water is nearly always discolored, it is impossible to see them when only a few inches under the water. Fish traps are very numerous all along the shore on both sides. They extend from the shore line to a third of the way across the river on either side. The central third of the river is free from these traps except for drift nets during the fishing season. The central third of the river is generally free from all obstructions except for an occasional snag which is washed out into the river. These are especially numerous after a hard storm.

7. TRIBUTARIES:

There are several tributaries flowing into the river within the limits of this sheet. They all have fairly deep water but are not used commercially to any large extent. They are occasionally used for floating out timber and as a refuge for small fishing boats. These small streams have numerous snags and logs which prevent them being used to any great extent at present. The shore line for the most part consists of cypress trees growing out in the water,and to establish control for surveying them would entail a large expense. It was not thought that the large expense of surveying these small streams was worth while. The topographic control was extended as far as possible from the river and reconnaissance hydrographic lines without fixes were run for a considerable distance beyond this control. These soundings are recorded in the record books but are not plotted on the smooth sheet as their location is not known.

Island Creek which in reality is not a creek, has topographic control established for its entire length and the sounding lines are fixed by this control.

Sarem Creem has good water for a long distance and was once used commercially to a large extent, however, good roads have made it commercially useless and the only boats that use it now are small fish boats.

Barnes Creek and Spikes Creek are used only for floating out timber.

8. GENERAL:

The same general remarks for sheet No. 3 apply to this sheet as well. The only boats that use this section of the river at present are local boats whose pilots are familiar with these waters and it is very doubtful if they will ever have occasion to refer to our charts. However, the river is very picturesque and beautiful and trout and other fish abound along the cypress shore lines and in all the small but deep tributaries and undoubtedly our charts showing the depths of the water will induce many yachtmen and nature lovers to visit this section of the river and be of great value to them.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack C. Sammons
Hyd. & Geod. Engineer

Approved and forwarded;

C. A. Egner
Hyd. & Geod. Engineer
Commanding M. V. NITOMA.

HYDROGRAPHIC STATISTICS
SHEET NO. 2

DATE 1932	DAY	VOLUME	BOAT	STATUTE MILES SOUNDINGS	NUMBER OF SOUNDINGS	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
5/13	a	1	Launch	7.5	387	88
5/16	b	1	"	15.0	517	93
5/17	c	1	"	24.1	1051	188
5/17	c	2	"	2.3	101	19
5/18	d	2	"	6.9	339	63
5/19	e	2	"	25.9	1021	218
5/20	f	2	"	4.7	213	53
5/20	f	3	"	11.9	477	108
6/1	a	3	M/S	1.7	67	17
6/2	b	3	"	6.0	261	74
			TOTALS	106.0	4,434	921

SECTION OF FIELD RECORDS

Review of Hydrographic Sheet No. 5202.
Hodges Creek to Tunis, Chowan River, North Carolina.
Surveyed May-June 1932.
Instructions dated Jan. 21, 1932 (Natomia).

Chief of Party - C. A. Egner.
Surveyed by - Jack C. Sammons.
Protracted and soundings plotted by - Paul Taylor.
Verified and inked by - R. J. Christman.

1. The records are neat and legible and conform to the requirements of the Hydrographic Manual.

2. The plan and extent of development satisfy the specific instructions except as to scale. The ten thousand scale which was used, is better adapted for showing the area in detail than the twenty thousand scale* recommended in the instructions.

3. Soundings are consistent. Cross lines are adequate and the depths are in good agreement. Fish traps encroach on the river channel from each bank.

4. Depths curves can be drawn satisfactorily. There is a little uncertainty in the 6 foot curve at the western entrance to Island Creek. The place is of little importance and the limiting depth at this entrance appears to be 7 feet.

5. A satisfactory junction with H. 5203 is made at the western end.

6. Sheet H. 5202 is a part of the basic survey of the Chowan River. Chart 1228 now shows a part of the area covered by this sheet but without soundings. The statements in the coast pilot (Sec. D, 1928 ed.) are not in conflict with the information on H. 5202.

7. The field drafting was completed as far as prescribed in the Manual except that the reference triangulation station and its coordinates were omitted. The drafting was generally good and the soundings neatly penciled. The errors in about two-thirds of the soundings revised (155 soundings revised) were due to erroneous plotting of positions (9 positions), the other errors were about equally divided between wrong spacing and wrong values.

8. Recommendation. This is the basic survey of part of the Chowan River. No further surveys are deemed necessary at the present time in the area covered by this sheet (H. 5202).

9. Reviewed by R. J. Christman, Dec. 21, 1932.

Inspected by R. L. Johnston, and E.P.Ellis Jan. 26, 1933.

Approved: L. O. Colbert, Chief, Field Records Section.

F.S. Borden, Chief Section Field Work

G.T. Rude, Chief, Division of [illegible]

Chief, Division of Charts

* The instructions (P8) call definitely for this sheet to be on the scale of 1:10000

7813

September 27, 1932

Division of Hydrography and Topography:

✓ Division of Charts:

Tide Reducers are approved in
3 volumes of sounding records for

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 5202

Locality **Hodges Creek to Tunis, Chowan River, N. C.**

Chief of Party: **C. A. Egner in 1932**
Plane of reference is **mean low water, reading**
3.1 ft. on tide staff at **Winton**
4.7 ft. below B. M. **1**
2.0 ft. on tide staff at Cannon Ferry
2.4 ft. below B.M. 1

> (The plane of reference is taken 0.5 foot below mean river level)

NOTE: See (*) below
Condition of records satisfactory except as checked below:

1. Locality and sublocality of survey omitted.
2. Month and day of month omitted.
3. Time meridian not given at beginning of day's work.
4. Time (whether A.M. or P.M.) not given at beginning of day's work.
5. Soundings (whether in feet or fathoms) not clearly shown in record.
6. Leadline correction entered in wrong column.
7. Field reductions entered in "Office" column.
8. Location of tide gauge not given at beginning of day's work.
9. Leadline corrections not clearly stated.
10. Kind of sounding tube used not stated.
11. Sounding tube No. entered in column of "Soundings" instead of "Remarks".
12. Legibility of record could be improved.
13. Remarks.

H A Marmer

Acting Chief, Division of Tides and Currents.

> (*) **There is practically no periodic tide in this locality and the plane of reference was taken 0.5 foot below mean river level as determined from observations by this party.**
This is in accordance with an agreement with the U. S. Army Engineers for the plane of reference in Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds.

Field Records Section (Charts)

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET No. 5202

The following statistics will be submitted with the cartographer's report on the sheet:

Number of positions on sheet	921
Number of positions checked	155
Number of positions revised	9
Number of soundings recorded	4434
Number of soundings revised	55
Number of signals erroneously plotted or transferred	—

Date: December 21st 1932

Cartographer: R. J. Christman