

1272

# 6638

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Form 504  
Rev. April 1935  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

## DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

*Topographic* }  
*Hydrographic* } Sheet No. H-6638

U. S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY  
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

SEP 9 1941

Acc. No. ....

State Louisiana

LOCALITY

GULF of MEXICO

Mississippi River Delta

Passa Loutre to Main Pass

1934

CHIEF OF PARTY

G. C. Mattison

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

REG. NO. H6638

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. 25

REGISTER NO. H - 6638

State Louisiana

General locality Mississippi River Delta

Locality Pass a Loutre to Main Pass.

Scale 1:20,000 Date of survey Sept. - Oct., 1940

Vessel Ship HYDROGRAPHER ---- (Launch PARIS)

Chief of Party G. C. Mattison

Surveyed by E. B. Lewey

Protracted by W. R. Tucker

Soundings penciled by W. W. Feazel

Soundings in ~~fathoms~~ feet

Plane of reference Mean Low Water

Subdivision of wire dragged areas by -----

Inked by P.H. Andros

Verified by P.H. Andros

Instructions dated June 24, 1939, 19

Remarks: Proj. H.T. 236

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

TO ACCOMPANY HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET NO.H-6638

MISSISSIPPI RIVER DELTA - PAS a LOUTRE to MAIN PASS

SHIP HYDROGRAPHER

LAUNCH FARIS G.C.MATTISON COMD'G.

PROJECT HT-236 SEASON 1940

INSTRUCTIONS:

This survey was executed in accordance with The Director's Instructions for Project H.T. 236, June 24, 1939; October 13, 1939; July 1, 1939; January 31, 1940 and August 23, 1940.

CONTROL:

Control was afforded by triangulation stations established in 1921 and 1922, and by topographic stations established and located as a part of this survey.

SURVEY METHODS:

Standard hydrographic surveying methods were used throughout. All positions are from 3-point sextant fixes on shore stations.

A skiff was used for sounding in shoal depths and the Launch FARIS for sounding in deeper water. Soundings up to 12 feet were obtained with a sounding pole and all others with the leadline.

DISCREPANCIES:

No discrepancies were noted as regards locations of signals.

Crossings in general are excellent except as noted below:

1. At Lat.  $29^{\circ}14.8'$  and Long.  $89^{\circ}58.2'$  an 81 ft. sounding on position 79a (FARIS) falls on a 78 ft. sounding at 94a -2 (FARIS). The bottom here is irregular and the soundings are probably correct. It is recommended that the shoaler sounding of 78 ft. be used for chartering purposes.  
*shoaler sounding plotted*
2. At Lat.  $29^{\circ}14.8'$  and Long.  $89^{\circ}58.4'$ , 75 foot soundings on position 154 d and position 154d +1 (FARIS) plot on either side of a 69 ft. sounding on position 1d (FARIS) and a 70 ft. sounding on position 1d +1 (FARIS). Surrounding depths in the locality seem to indicate that position 1d as plotted is about 100 meters too far north, and it is recommended that this be taken into consideration in selecting soundings for chartering purposes. No attempt was made to correct for this discrepancy on the sheet. Pos. verified.  
*69 & 70 ft. sdgs at beginning of line were rejected. Adjacent sdgs in 10 ft. interval deeper water*
3. At Lat.  $29^{\circ}14.5'$  and Long.  $89^{\circ}58.6'$ , a 66 ft. sounding on position 238e (FARIS) plots about 30 meters north of a 61 ft. sounding at position 221d +2 (FARIS). The soundings  
*both sdgs appear OK and both were plotted*

are probably correct as plotted and it is recommended that both be used for charting purposes.

- 4. At Lat. 29°14.8' and Long. 89°58.9' a 70 ft. sounding at position 76a +1 (FARIS) falls on a 74 ft. sounding at position 210f (FARIS). A 73 ft. sounding at position 210f +1 also appears to be too deep by about 2 or 3 ft. Other soundings in the vicinity indicate that both the 74 ft. and 73 ft. depths are probably in error and their rejection is recommended.

*73 & 74 ft. sdgs were omitted*

DANGERS:

There are no dangers in the area covered by this sheet except for the very shoal water extending a mile or more off shore.

CHANNELS:

No channels are located in the area surveyed on this sheet.

ANCHORAGES:

No anchorages exist in the area surveyed on this sheet.

JUNCTURES:

This sheet joins sheet H-6637 (1940) 1:20,000 scale on the south approximately along Latitude 29°14.1' N. A satisfactory junction was accomplished and no adjustments were necessary.

Between Latitudes 29°14.0' N and 29°21.0' N, this sheet joins Sheet H-6551 (1:40,000 scale) on the east and north. This junction will be discussed as a part of the Descriptive Report for Sheet H-6551 (1940).

*See Item 4 of review*

On the north between Long. 89°05.0 W and Long. 89°10.2' W, this sheet joins Hydrographic Sheet H-4223 (80,000 scale) 1922, the current survey is shoaler by 2 to 3 feet throughout the coincident areas.

GEOGRAPHIC NAMES:


No new geographic names were used on this sheet.

STATISTICS:

Number of positions -----	1484
Number of soundings -----	7237
Statute miles of sounding lines -----	293.7
Area, in square statute miles -----	35.7

Respectfully submitted,

Forwarded  
  
 W.M. Scalls,  
 Commanding HYDROGRAPHER.

Charles W. Clark,  
 Aid.  
  
 James C. Tison, Jr.,  
 Jr. H. & G. E.

List of Signals  
to accompany  
Hydrographic Sheet H-6638

Triangulation Station:

Pas a Loure L.H., 1904 ( Lou)

Topographic Stations:

NAME	SHEET
Boy -----	T-6795b (1940)
Cubits Pas Main PassLight (lit) -----	T-6795b
Lee -----	T-6795a
Nor -----	T-6795b
Ram -----	T-6795a
Rap -----	T-6795a
Sim -----	T-6795a
U.S. Biological Survey Tower ( Bio ) -----	T-6795a
" " " " ( Cal ) -----	T-6795b
" " " " ( Log ) -----	T-6795b
Web -----	T-6795b

Hydrographic Stations:

Pel ----- see vol.1 Sheet H-6637

*also recorded in vol. 1 of present survey*

Surveys Section (Chart Division)

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY NO. **H6638**

Records accompanying survey:

Boat sheets <sup>one</sup>; sounding vols. <sup>(4)</sup>; wire drag vols. ....;  
bomb vols. ....; graphic recorder rolls ....;  
special reports, etc. ....

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

Number of positions on sheet	1484.
Number of positions checked	..23.
Number of positions revised	..2..
Number of soundings recorded	7237.
Number of soundings revised (refers to depth only)	..26..
Number of soundings erroneously spaced	..3..
Number of signals erroneously plotted or transferred	..0..
Topographic details	Time ..1..
Junctions	Time ..0..
Verification of soundings from graphic record	Time ..0..

Verification by *P.H. Andros*..... Total time *55 hrs* Date *July 3, 1942*

Review by *R.H. Carleton*..... Time *17 hrs* Date *July 8, 1942*

Remarks

Decisions

1		292891
2		
3		293891
4		292890
5		291890 U.S.G.B
6		
7		
8	Location of tide staff.	
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GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
 Survey No. **H6638**

Name on Survey	Source											
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	K			
Dead Women Pass												1
Gulf of Mexico												2
Main Pass												3
North Pass												4
Pass a Loutre												5
Mississippi River Delta.												6
												7
Fort Morgan, Ala.												8
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L Heck 6/18/42



# MEMORANDUM

## IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

SURVEY  
 DESCRIPTIVE REPORT  
~~PHOTO STAT OF~~

} No. H **H6638**  
~~No. H~~

{ received Sept. 9, 1941  
 registered Sept. 9, 1941  
 verified  
 reviewed  
 approved

This is forwarded in order that your attention may be directed to the matters as indicated below. Please initial in column 3 as an acknowledgement that your attention has been thus directed. The complete original records are available if desired. If you cannot give this your immediate attention, please initial, note, and forward to the next section marked, calling for the records at your convenience.

ROUTE		Initial	Attention called to
20			
22			
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62			
63			
82			
83			
88			
90			

RETURN TO

82	T. B. Reed
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*✓ JBR*

200  
HCE

## TIDE NOTE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET

Sept. 24, 1941.

~~Division of Hydrography and Topography:~~

✓ Division of Charts: Attention: Mr. H. R. Edmonston

Plane of reference approved in  
4 volumes of sounding records for

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 6638

Locality Pass a Loutre to Main Pass, Mississippi River Delta.

Chief of Party: G. C. Mattison in 1940  
Plane of reference is mean low water reading  
2.4 ft. on tide staff at Fort Morgan  
5.4 ft. below B. M. 1

Height of mean high water above plane of reference is 1.1 ft.

Condition of records satisfactory except as noted below:



Acting Chief, Division of Tides and Currents.

DIVISION OF CHARTS

SURVEYS SECTION

REVIEW OF HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY

REGISTER NO. 6638

Field No. 25

Louisiana, Mississippi River Delta,  
Pass a Loutre to Main Pass

Surveyed in September - October 1940, Scale 1:20,000  
Instructions dated June 24, July 1 and October 13, 1939:  
January 31 and August 23, 1940

Soundings: Sounding pole and hand lead      Control: Visual fixes on shore signals

Chief of Party - G. C. Mattison  
Surveyed by - E. B. Lewey  
Protracted by - W. R. Tucker  
Soundings plotted by - W. W. Feazel  
Verified and inked by - P. H. Andros  
Reviewed by - R. H. Carstens  
Inspected by - H. R. Edmonston

1. Shoreline and Signals

The shoreline and topographic signals originate with graphic control sheets T-6795a&b (1940) and topographic maps T-5405 (1932), T-5434 (1932), and T-5435 (1932). The location of hydrographic signal PEL is recorded in Vol. 1 of the sounding records of the present survey.

2. Sounding Line Crossings

Satisfactory.

3. Depth Curves

Satisfactory.

4. Junctions with Contemporary Surveys

The junctions with H-6637 (1940) on the south and H-6551 (1940) on the east and northeast will be considered in the review of those surveys. There are no contemporary surveys on the north. Where this survey joins H-4223 (1922) considerable change has taken place and for this reason no junction has been shown.

5. Comparison with Prior Surveys

a.	H- 715	(1860)	Scale	1:20,000
	H- 999	(1869)	"	1:40,000
	H-1152	(1872)	"	1:40,000
	H-2715	(1904-05)	"	1:20,000
	H-2715a	(1904-05)	"	1:20,000

The entire area of the present survey is covered by these earlier surveys. As would be expected in a region off the delta of the Mississippi River, extensive shoaling has taken place. Areas formerly covered by 5-6 fathoms of water have now shoaled to 1-3 feet, as illustrated by the flats in Lat.  $29^{\circ}17.0'$ , Long.  $89^{\circ}07.0'$ . In other portions of the survey the depth has decreased 10-25 feet as, for example, in Lat.  $29^{\circ}16.0'$ , Long.  $89^{\circ}02.0'$  where the survey depth is about 44 feet as compared to an earlier depth of 63 feet. Because of the shoaling the present survey should supersede the earlier surveys in the common area.

b.	H-3908	(1916-17)	Scale	1:40,000
	H-4223	(1922)	"	1:80,000

These prior surveys cover the greater portion of the present survey outside the 3-fm. curve. Depth agreement varies from 3-6 feet along the northwest limit of the survey to as much as 30 feet in spots in Lat.  $29^{\circ}14.5'$ , Long.  $88^{\circ}59.0'$ . Depth curves have, in general, progressed offshore  $1/4$  to  $1-1/2$  miles. Because of the general shoaling, the present survey should supersede these prior surveys in the common area.

6. Comparison with Chart 1272 (Latest Print Date 5-20-42)a. Hydrography

The charted hydrography within the limits of the present survey originates with the previously discussed surveys and needs no further consideration.

b. Aids to Navigation

The bell buoy located by this survey in Lat.  $29^{\circ}21.9'$ , Long.  $89^{\circ}12.6'$ , outside the limits of the smooth sheet, is 1.2 miles northwest of its charted position. In its survey position it does not satisfactorily mark the entrance to the Main Pass. The fixed aids to navigation are charted as shown on this survey.

7. Condition of Survey

Satisfactory.

8. Compliance with Instructions for the Project

Satisfactory. The depth curves could have been drawn with more confidence if the sounding lines had been run as called for in the original instructions, that is, at an angle of approximately 45° to the general trend of the curves.

9. Additional Work Recommended

None on this survey. For charting purposes new work should be completed on the north inside the 30-ft. curve.

10. Superseded Surveys

H- 715	(1860)	in part
H- 999	(1869)	" "
H-1152	(1872)	" "
H-2715	(1904-05)	
H-2715a	(1904-05)	in part
H-3908	(1916-17)	" "
H-4223	(1922)	" "

Examined and approved:



Chief, Surveys Section



Chief, Division of Charts



Chief, Section of Hydrography



Chief, Division of Coastal Surveys

Applied to chart 1272: December 7, 1942. L.A. McGinn  
" " " 1115 June 5, 1944 " "