

H13793

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Ocean Service

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey: Navigable Area

Registry Number: H13793

LOCALITY

State(s): Massachusetts

General Locality: Cape Cod Bay

Sub-locality: Provincetown Harbor

2023

CHIEF OF PARTY
LTJG Mark Meadows

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

Date:

HYDROGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

H13793

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

State(s): **Massachusetts**

General Locality: **Cape Cod Bay**

Sub-Locality: **Provincetown Harbor**

Scale: **10000**

Dates of Survey: **09/27/2023 to 10/02/2023**

Instructions Dated: **04/12/2023**

Project Number: **S-A928-NRTNL-23**

Field Unit: **NOAA Navigation Response Team - New London**

Chief of Party: **LTJG Mark Meadows**

Soundings by: **Multibeam Echo Sounder**

Imagery by:

Verification by: **Pacific Hydrographic Branch**

Soundings Acquired in: **meters at Mean Lower Low Water**

Remarks:

Any revisions to the Descriptive Report (DR) applied during office processing are shown in red italic text. The DR is maintained as a field unit product, therefore all information and recommendations within this report are considered preliminary unless otherwise noted. The final disposition of survey data is represented in the NOAA nautical chart products. All pertinent records for this survey are archived at the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) and can be retrieved via <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/>. Products created during office processing were generated in NAD83 UTM 19N, MLLW. All references to other horizontal or vertical datums in this report are applicable to the processed hydrographic data provided by the field unit.

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Descriptive Report to Accompany Survey H13793

Project: S-A928-NRTNL-23

Locality: Cape Cod Bay

Sublocality: Provincetown Harbor

Scale: 1:10000

September 2023 - October 2023

NOAA Navigation Response Team - New London

Chief of Party: LTJG Mark Meadows

A. Area Surveyed

The survey area is located south of Provincetown, MA, and to the west of the Cape Cod Peninsula. The inshore limit of the survey area was the charted 12 foot contour, or the inshore Navigable Area Limit Line (NALL), defined by 3.5 meters or the limit of safe navigation. The survey covers approximately 6.7 square nautical miles.

A.1 Survey Limits

Data were acquired within the following survey limits:

Northwest Limit	Southeast Limit
42° 3' 16.66" N 70° 13' 35.04" W	41° 59' 23.26" N 70° 7' 4.16" W

Table 1: Survey Limits

Survey coverage did not fully extend to the survey limits.

A.2 Survey Purpose

Wellfleet Harbor and Provincetown Harbor are both in need of a modern hydrographic surveys. The charted data in these areas are from 1933. In Wellfleet Harbor, the USCG and the harbormaster have both requested a survey due to vessels running aground and the new data updating the charts. Also, the data from this survey will help the USCG with the placement of aids to navigation. Survey data from this project is intended to supersede all prior survey data in the common area.

A.3 Survey Quality

The entire survey is adequate to supersede previous data.

The Grid QC tool within QC Tools was used to analyze multibeam echosounder (MBES) data density. The MBES surface meets the HSSD data density requirement.

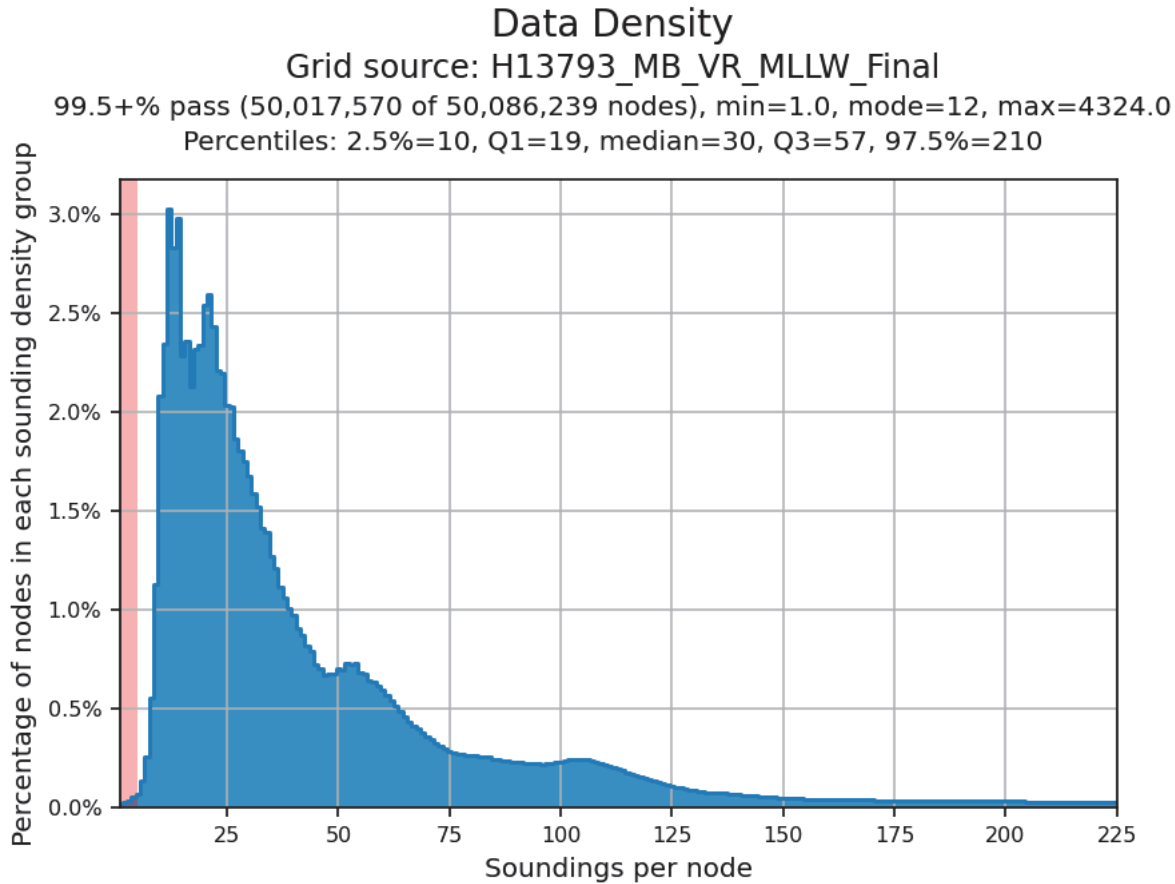


Figure 1: Pydro derived histogram plot showing HSSD complete coverage compliance of H13793 MBES data within the CUBE VR surface.

A.4 Survey Coverage

The following table lists the coverage requirements for this survey as assigned in the project instructions:

Water Depth	Coverage Required
All waters in survey area	Complete Coverage (Refer to HSSD Section 5.2.2.3)

Table 2: Survey Coverage

Survey coverage was in accordance with the requirements listed above and in the HSSD with some exceptions. Pydro Explorer's Flier Finder found 56 fliers within the H13793 VR surface. These fliers were investigated and found to not be real. Pydro Explorer's Holiday Finder found 6 holidays, which were all small in size and within waters deeper than 18m, and do not appear to contain any navigationally significant features. Pydro Explorer's VALSOU Checks tool also flags one feature, however, the VALSOU of the feature and the VALSOU of the finalized surface are the same, so the feature should not be flagged.

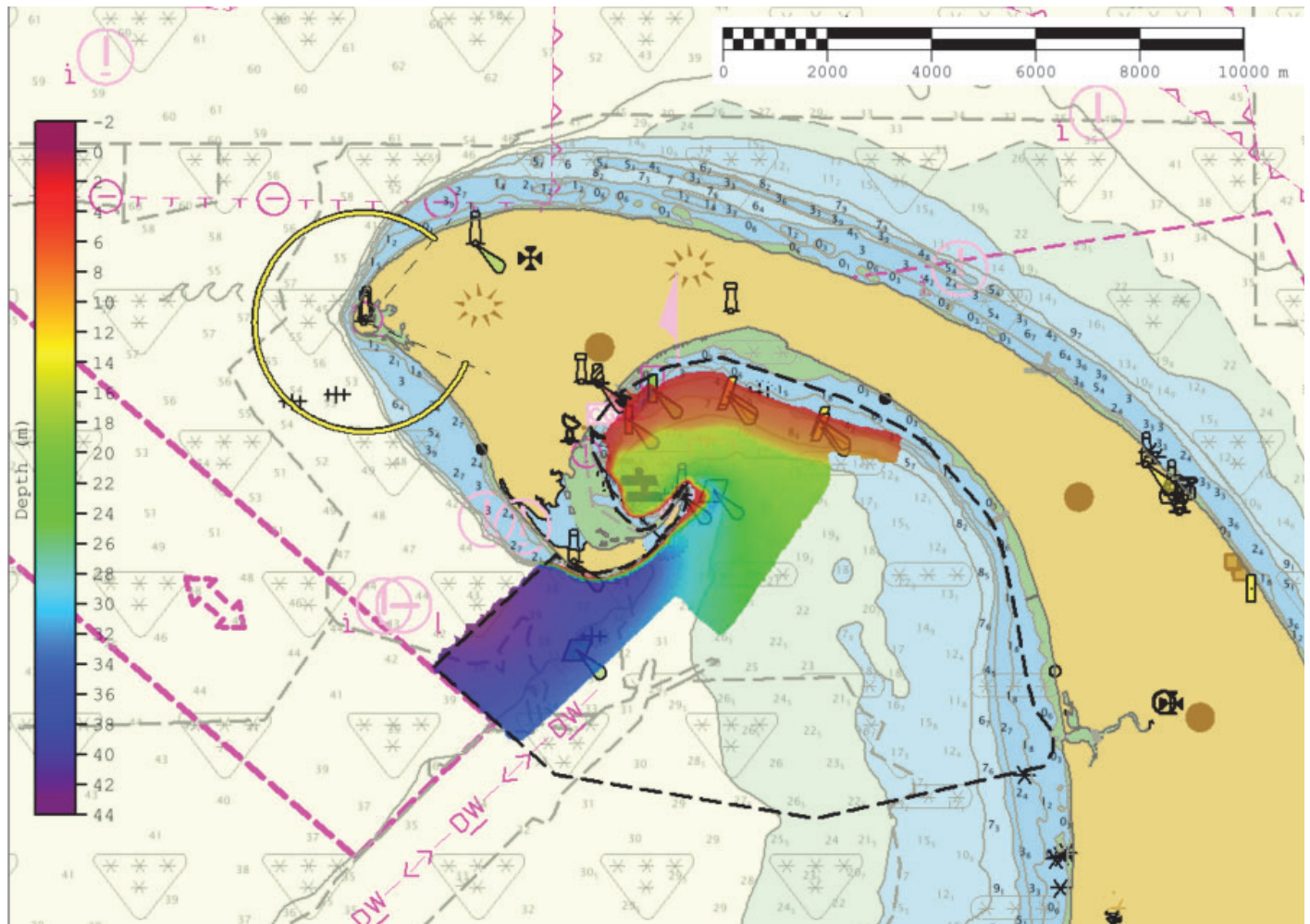


Figure 2: Survey coverage of H13793.

A.6 Survey Statistics

The following table lists the mainscheme and crossline acquisition mileage for this survey:

	HULL ID	<i>S3007</i>	<i>Total</i>
LNM	SBES Mainscheme	0.0	0.0
	MBES Mainscheme	318.8	318.8
	Lidar Mainscheme	0.0	0.0
	SSS Mainscheme	0.0	0.0
	SBES/SSS Mainscheme	0.0	0.0
	MBES/SSS Mainscheme	0.0	0.0
	SBES/MBES Crosslines	5.08	5.08
	Lidar Crosslines	0.0	0.0
Number of Bottom Samples			0
Number Maritime Boundary Points Investigated			0
Number of DPs			0
Number of Items Investigated by Dive Ops			0
Total SNM			6.68

Table 3: Hydrographic Survey Statistics

The following table lists the specific dates of data acquisition for this survey:

Survey Dates	Day of the Year
09/27/2023	270
09/28/2023	271

Survey Dates	Day of the Year
09/29/2023	272
09/30/2023	273
10/01/2023	274
10/02/2023	275

Table 4: Dates of Hydrography

B. Data Acquisition and Processing

B.1 Equipment and Vessels

Refer to the Data Acquisition and Processing Report (DAPR) for a complete description of data acquisition and processing systems, survey vessels, quality control procedures and data processing methods. Additional information to supplement sounding and survey data, and any deviations from the DAPR are discussed in the following sections.

B.1.1 Vessels

The following vessels were used for data acquisition during this survey:

Hull ID	<i>S3007</i>
LOA	10.38 meters
Draft	0.6 meters

Table 5: Vessels Used

B.1.2 Equipment

The following major systems were used for data acquisition during this survey:

Manufacturer	Model	Type
Kongsberg Maritime	EM 2040C	MBES
YSI	CastAway-CTD	Conductivity, Temperature, and Depth Sensor
AML Oceanographic	Micro SV-Xchange	Sound Speed System
Applanix	POS MV 320 v5	Positioning and Attitude System

Table 6: Major Systems Used

B.2 Quality Control

B.2.1 Crosslines

Multibeam crosslines acquired for this survey totaled 1.59% of mainscheme acquisition.

A 4m CUBE surface was created using only mainscheme lines and a second 4m CUBE surface was created using only crosslines. These surfaces were then input into the Pydro Tool "Compare Grids". The comparison passed HSSD specifications.

Comparison Distribution

Per Grid: MS_4m-XLs_4m_fracAllowErr.csar

99% nodes pass (60795), min=0.0, mode=0.1 mean=0.1 max=6.7

Percentiles: 2.5%=0.0, Q1=0.0, median=0.1, Q3=0.1, 97.5%=0.3

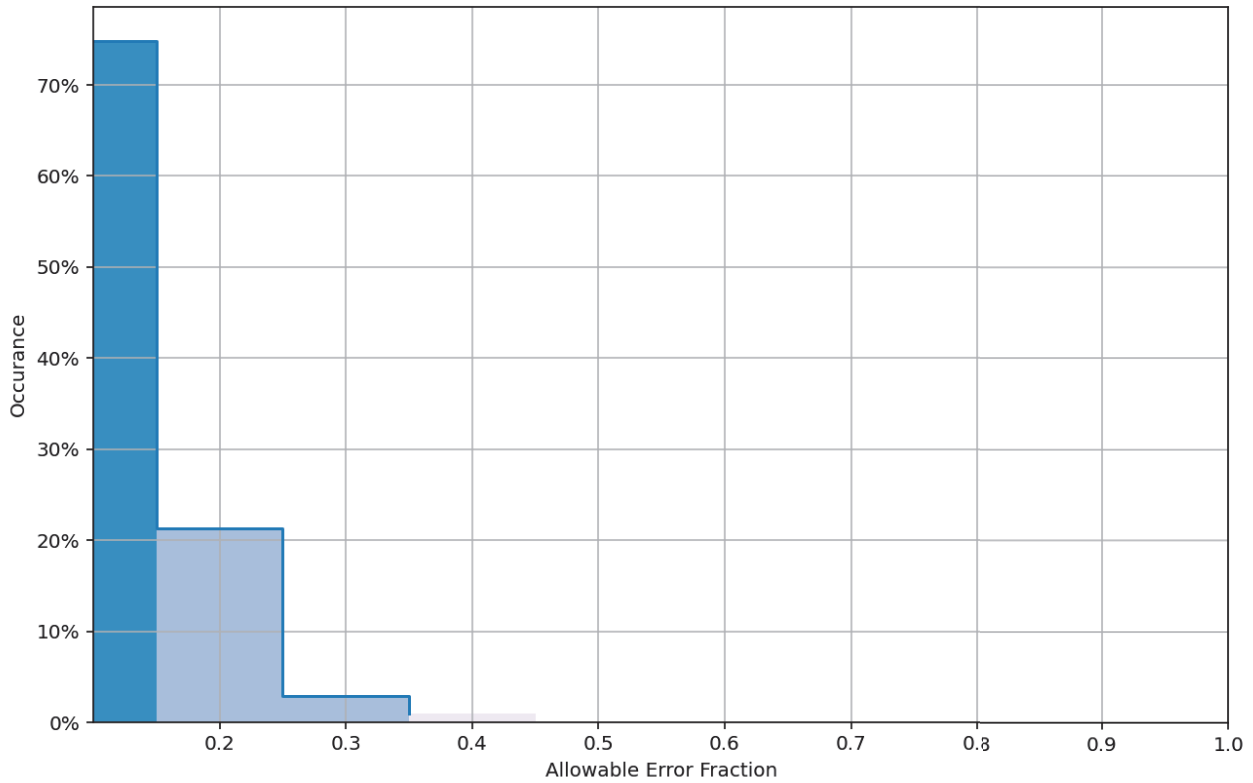


Figure 3: Pydro generated graph showing comparison between mainscheme and crosslines in H13793.

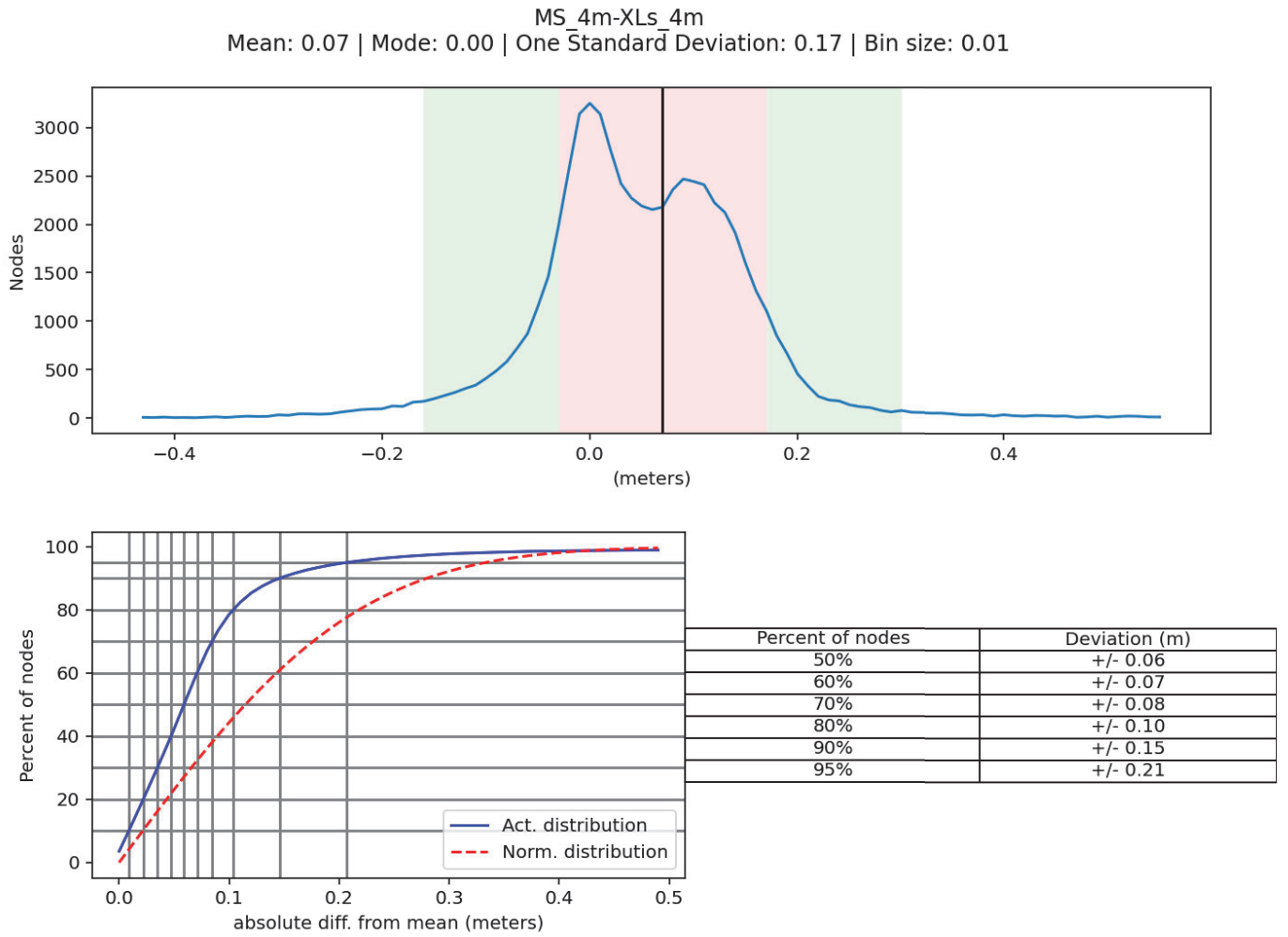


Figure 4: Pydro generated graph showing comparison between mainscheme and crosslines in H13793.

B.2.2 Uncertainty

The following survey specific parameters were used for this survey:

Method	Measured	Zoning
ERS via VDATUM	0.0 meters	0.129 meters

Table 7: Survey Specific Tide TPU Values.

Hull ID	Measured - CTD	Measured - MVP	Measured - XBT	Surface
S3007	2 meters/second	0 meters/second	0 meters/second	0.2 meters/second

Table 8: Survey Specific Sound Speed TPU Values.

Total Propagated Uncertainty (TPU) values for H13793 were derived from a combination of fixed values for equipment and vessel characteristics, as well as field assigned values for sound speed uncertainties. The uncertainty for the VDatum model was provided to the field units in the Project Instructions. This value (0.129m) within CARIS is found under the "GPS Sounding Datum" field, and not within the "Zoning" field as listed above. A visual inspection of the Uncertainty layer revealed the areas of higher uncertainty occur in the outer beams, and a visual inspection of the Density layer revealed the areas of lowest density are in the deepest areas of the survey.

In addition to the usual a priori estimates of uncertainty, some real time and post processed uncertainty sources were also incorporated into the depth estimates of the survey. Real-time uncertainties from the Kongsberg MBES sonars were incorporated and applied during post processing. Uncertainties associated with vessel roll, pitch, gyro, navigation, and heave were applied during post-processing. All of the aforementioned uncertainties were applied in CARIS. As stated, H13793 is an ellipsoidally referenced survey (ERS) and the tidal component was accomplished with a separation model.

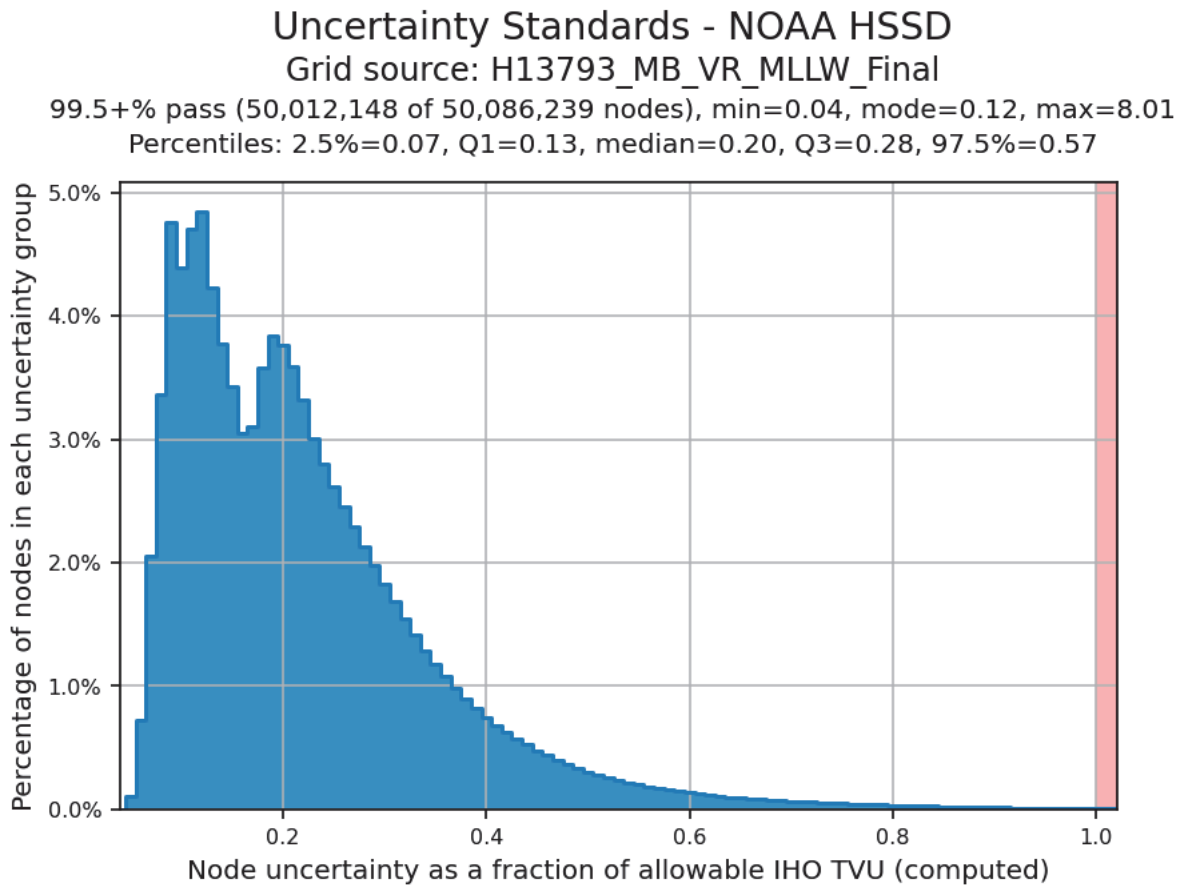


Figure 5: Pydro generated graph showing compliance of uncertainty standards for H13793.

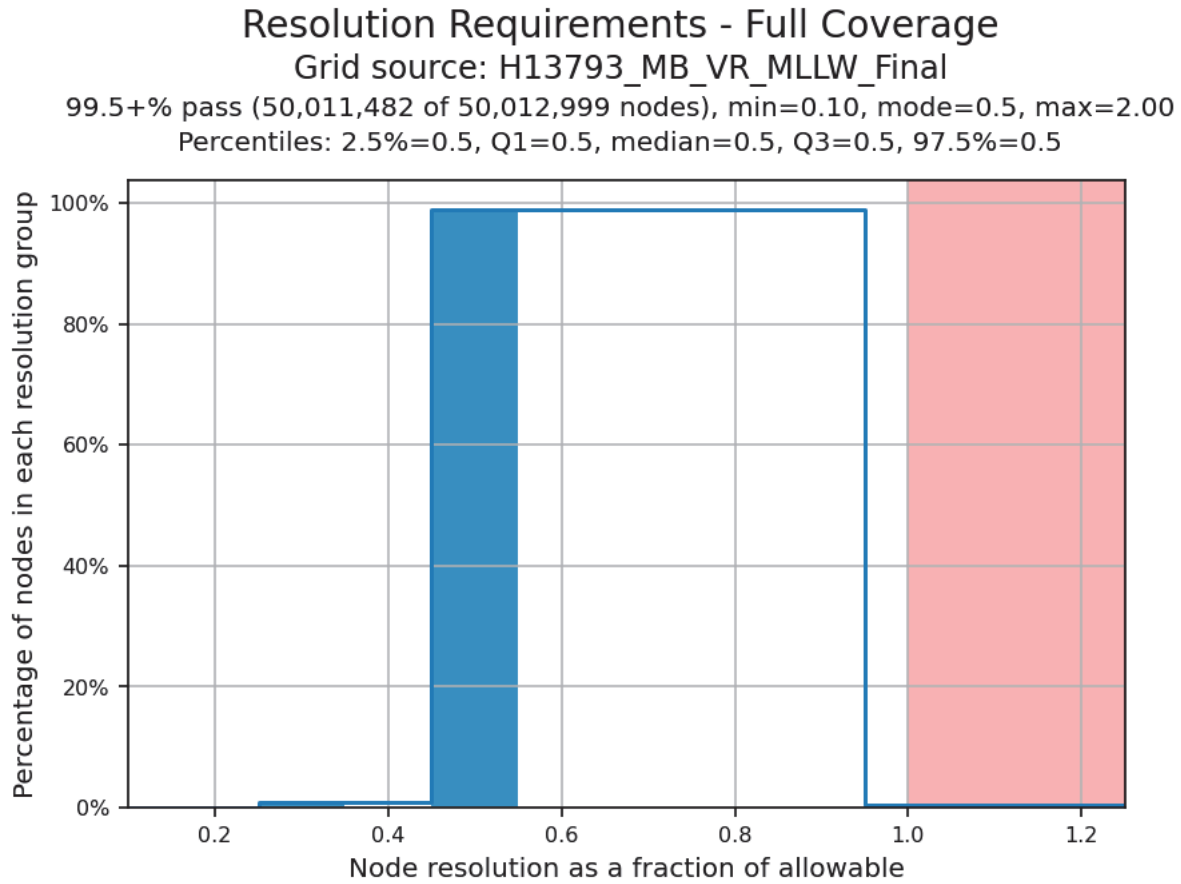


Figure 6: Pydro generated graph showing compliance of resolution requirements for H13793.

B.2.3 Junctions

There are no contemporary surveys that junction with this survey.

B.2.4 Sonar QC Checks

Sonar system quality control checks were conducted as detailed in the quality control section of the DAPR.

B.2.5 Equipment Effectiveness

Error Reading Profile 5250 from Process Depths of Line

Line 0117 creates an error message when any nodes are changed that states "Error Reading Profile 5250 from Process Depths of Line". Besides the error message, the line appears to be working correctly.

B.2.6 Factors Affecting Soundings

There were no other factors that affected corrections to soundings.

B.2.7 Sound Speed Methods

Sound Speed Cast Frequency: At least once every 4 hours.

SVP casts were taken at least once every four hours in the deepest water nearest to the survey area being worked on. The SVP casts were applied to the MBES lines in CARIS using the "nearest in distance within time of 4 hours" method.

B.2.8 Coverage Equipment and Methods

All equipment and survey methods were used as detailed in the DAPR.

B.3 Echo Sounding Corrections

B.3.1 Corrections to Echo Soundings

All data reduction procedures conform to those detailed in the DAPR.

B.3.2 Calibrations

All sounding systems were calibrated as detailed in the DAPR.

B.4 Backscatter

All equipment and survey methods were used as detailed in the DAPR.

B.5 Data Processing

B.5.1 Primary Data Processing Software

The following Feature Object Catalog was used: NOAA Profile Version 2022.

B.5.2 Surfaces

The following surfaces and/or BAGs were submitted to the Processing Branch:

Surface Name	Surface Type	Resolution	Depth Range	Surface Parameter	Purpose
H13793_MB_VR_MLLW	CARIS VR Surface (CUBE)	Variable Resolution	-0.238 meters - 43.135 meters	NOAA_VR	Complete MBES
H13793_MB_VR_MLLW_Final	CARIS VR Surface (CUBE)	Variable Resolution	-0.238 meters - 43.135 meters	NOAA_VR	Complete MBES

Table 9: Submitted Surfaces

C. Vertical and Horizontal Control

Additional information discussing the vertical or horizontal control for this survey can be found in the accompanying HVCR.

C.1 Vertical Control

The vertical datum for this project is Mean Lower Low Water.

ERS Datum Transformation

The following ellipsoid-to-chart vertical datum transformation was used:

Method	Ellipsoid to Chart Datum Separation File
ERS via VDATUM	S-A928_VDatum_100m_NAD83-MLLW_geoid12b

Table 10: ERS method and SEP file

C.2 Horizontal Control

The horizontal datum for this project is North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83).

The projection used for this project is Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Zone 19.

The following PPK methods were used for horizontal control:

- RTX

WAAS

The Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) was used for real-time horizontal control during data acquisition.

D. Results and Recommendations

D.1 Chart Comparison

D.1.1 Electronic Navigational Charts

The following are the largest scale ENC's, which cover the survey area:

ENC	Scale	Edition	Update Application Date	Issue Date
US5MA1KP	1:20000	1	08/24/2022	08/24/2022
US5MA1KQ	1:20000	1	08/24/2022	08/24/2022
US5MA1LP	1:20000	1	08/24/2022	08/24/2022
US5MA1LQ	1:20000	1	08/24/2022	08/24/2022
US5MA1LR	1:20000	1	08/24/2022	08/24/2022

Table 11: Largest Scale ENC's

D.1.2 Shoal and Hazardous Features

Due south of Provincetown Harbor is Long Point. This point is correctly charted, and no Danger to Navigation Reports were submitted for this survey.

D.1.3 Charted Features

All charted features are discussed in the FFF. Charted soundings and H13793 soundings generally agree in value.

D.1.4 Uncharted Features

Some uncharted features do exist and are discussed further within the FFF.

D.1.5 Channels

No channels exist within the survey limits.

D.2 Additional Results

D.2.1 Aids to Navigation

All ATONs were found to be on station and serving their intended purpose.

D.2.2 Maritime Boundary Points

No Maritime Boundary Points were assigned for this survey.

D.2.3 Bottom Samples

No bottom samples were required for this survey.

D.2.4 Overhead Features

No overhead features exist for this survey.

D.2.5 Submarine Features

No submarine features exist for this survey.

D.2.6 Platforms

No platforms exist for this survey.

D.2.7 Ferry Routes and Terminals

Ferry routes and/or terminals exist for this survey, but were not investigated.

D.2.8 Abnormal Seafloor or Environmental Conditions

No abnormal seafloor or environmental conditions exist for this survey.

D.2.9 Construction and Dredging

No present or planned construction or dredging exist within the survey limits.

D.2.10 New Survey Recommendations

No new surveys or further investigations are recommended for this area.

D.2.11 ENC Scale Recommendations

No new ENC scales are recommended for this area.

E. Approval Sheet

As Chief of Party, field operations for this hydrographic survey were conducted under my direct supervision, with frequent personal checks of progress and adequacy. I have reviewed the attached survey data and reports.

All field sheets, this Descriptive Report, and all accompanying records and data are approved. All records are forwarded for final review and processing to the Processing Branch.

The survey data meets or exceeds requirements as set forth in the NOS Hydrographic Surveys Specifications and Deliverables, Field Procedures Manual, Letter Instructions, and all HSD Technical Directives. These data are adequate to supersede charted data in their common areas. This survey is complete and no additional work is required with the exception of deficiencies noted in the Descriptive Report.

Approver Name	Approver Title	Approval Date	Signature
LTJG Mark Meadows	Chief of Party	01/25/2024	MEADOWS.MARKJUDE.1571877895 Digitally signed by MEADOWS.MARKJUDE.1571877895 Date: 2024.01.25 14:39:12 -05'00'
PST Michael Bloom	Sheet Manager	01/25/2024	BLOOM.MICHAEL.GRAHAM.1029463049 Digitally signed by BLOOM.MICHAEL.GRAHAM.1029463049 Date: 2024.01.25 12:07:34 -05'00'

F. Table of Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
AHB	Atlantic Hydrographic Branch
AST	Assistant Survey Technician
ATON	Aid to Navigation
AWOIS	Automated Wreck and Obstruction Information System
BAG	Bathymetric Attributed Grid
BASE	Bathymetry Associated with Statistical Error
CO	Commanding Officer
CO-OPS	Center for Operational Products and Services
CORS	Continuously Operating Reference Station
CTD	Conductivity Temperature Depth
CEF	Chart Evaluation File
CSF	Composite Source File
CST	Chief Survey Technician
CUBE	Combined Uncertainty and Bathymetry Estimator
DAPR	Data Acquisition and Processing Report
DGPS	Differential Global Positioning System
DP	Detached Position
DR	Descriptive Report
DTON	Danger to Navigation
ENC	Electronic Navigational Chart
ERS	Ellipsoidal Referenced Survey
ERTDM	Ellipsoidally Referenced Tidal Datum Model
ERZT	Ellipsoidally Referenced Zoned Tides
FFF	Final Feature File
FOO	Field Operations Officer
FPM	Field Procedures Manual
GAMS	GPS Azimuth Measurement Subsystem
GC	Geographic Cell
GPS	Global Positioning System
HIPS	Hydrographic Information Processing System
HSD	Hydrographic Surveys Division

Acronym	Definition
HSSD	Hydrographic Survey Specifications and Deliverables
HSTB	Hydrographic Systems Technology Branch
HSX	Hypack Hysweep File Format
HTD	Hydrographic Surveys Technical Directive
HVCR	Horizontal and Vertical Control Report
HVF	HIPS Vessel File
IHO	International Hydrographic Organization
IMU	Inertial Motion Unit
ITRF	International Terrestrial Reference Frame
LNM	Linear Nautical Miles
MBAB	Multibeam Echosounder Acoustic Backscatter
MCD	Marine Chart Division
MHW	Mean High Water
MLLW	Mean Lower Low Water
NAD 83	North American Datum of 1983
NALL	Navigable Area Limit Line
NTM	Notice to Mariners
NMEA	National Marine Electronics Association
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOS	National Ocean Service
NRT	Navigation Response Team
NSD	Navigation Services Division
OCS	Office of Coast Survey
OMAO	Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (NOAA)
OPS	Operations Branch
MBES	Multibeam Echosounder
NWLON	National Water Level Observation Network
PDBS	Phase Differencing Bathymetric Sonar
PHB	Pacific Hydrographic Branch
POS/MV	Position and Orientation System for Marine Vessels
PPK	Post Processed Kinematic
PPP	Precise Point Positioning
PPS	Pulse per second

Acronym	Definition
PRF	Project Reference File
PS	Physical Scientist
RNC	Raster Navigational Chart
RTK	Real Time Kinematic
RTX	Real Time Extended
SBES	Singlebeam Echosounder
SBET	Smooth Best Estimate and Trajectory
SNM	Square Nautical Miles
SSS	Side Scan Sonar
SSSAB	Side Scan Sonar Acoustic Backscatter
ST	Survey Technician
SVP	Sound Velocity Profiler
TCARI	Tidal Constituent And Residual Interpolation
TPU	Total Propagated Uncertainty
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USCG	United States Coast Guard
UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator
XO	Executive Officer
ZDF	Zone Definition File