

H13979

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

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey: Navigable Area

Registry Number: H13979

LOCALITY

State(s): Louisiana

General Locality: Approaches to Calcasieu

Sub-locality: 17 NM Southwest of Trinity Shoal

2024

CHIEF OF PARTY
Jonathan L. Dasler, PE, PLS, CH

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

Date:

HYDROGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

H13979

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): **Louisiana**

General Locality: **Approaches to Calcasieu**

Sub-Locality: **17 NM Southwest of Trinity Shoal**

Scale: **40000**

Dates of Survey: **12/12/2024 to 01/25/2025**

Instructions Dated: **07/11/2024**

Project Number: **OPR-K356-KR-24**

Field Unit: **David Evans and Associates, Inc.**

Chief of Party: **Jonathan L. Dasler, PE, PLS, CH**

Soundings by: **Multibeam Echo Sounder**

Imagery by: **Multibeam Echo Sounder Backscatter Side Scan Sonar**

Verification by: **Atlantic 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 15N, 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 H13979

Project: OPR-K356-KR-24

Locality: Approaches to Calcasieu

Sublocality: 17 NM Southwest of Trinity Shoal

Scale: 1:40000

December 2024 - January 2025

David Evans and Associates, Inc.

Chief of Party: Jonathan L. Dasler, PE, PLS, CH

A. Area Surveyed

David Evans and Associates, Inc. (DEA) conducted a hydrographic survey of the assigned area in the waters offshore of Calcasieu Channel, LA. Survey H13979 was conducted in accordance with the Statement of Work and Hydrographic Survey Project Instructions dated July 11, 2024.

The Hydrographic Survey Project Instructions reference the National Ocean Service (NOS) Hydrographic Survey Specifications and Deliverables Manual (HSSD) (March 2022) as the technical requirements for this project.

A.1 Survey Limits

Data were acquired within the following survey limits:

Northwest Limit	Southeast Limit
29° 7' 29.32" N 92° 39' 39.93" W	28° 57' 20.19" N 92° 27' 4" W

Table 1: Survey Limits

Survey limits were surveyed in accordance with the requirements in the Project Instructions and the HSSD. The assigned survey areas are outlined in Figure 1.

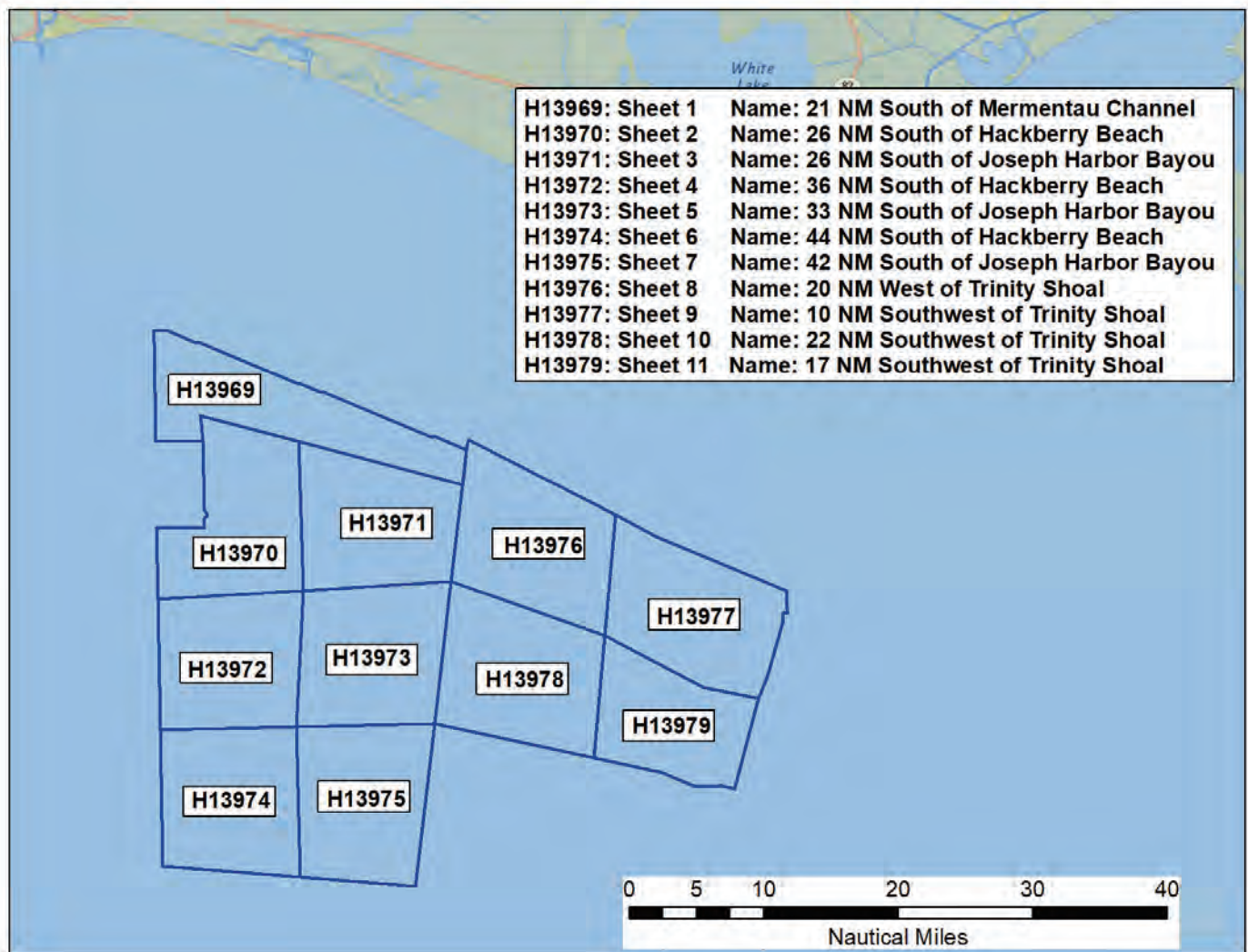


Figure 1: OPR-K356-KR-24 Assigned Survey Areas

A.2 Survey Purpose

The purpose of this survey, defined in the Project Instructions, is as follows: "The waters offshore of Calcasieu Channel, Louisiana have been identified as an area in critical need of updated hydrographic data by NOAA's Hydrographic Health models and the Lake Charles Pilot's Association. The Port of Lake Charles is ranked fourteenth by tonnage for U.S. Ports(1), and the region is expected to see an expansion in marine commerce due in part to an increase in LNG distribution, as well as offshore wind-energy development. Since 2020, the Louisiana Coast has been hit by six hurricanes and two named tropical storms, several of which caused serious damage to the Ports of Lake Charles and Calcasieu. Many parts of the coverage area have not been charted since the 1930s.

This survey will provide contemporary data to update National Ocean Service (NOS) nautical charting products and services, improving the safety of maritime traffic and services available to the Port of Lake

Charles by reducing the current risk that is present due to outdated bathymetry. Survey data from this project is intended to supersede all prior survey data in the common area."

(1) Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 2023 <https://www.bts.gov/content/tonnage-top-50-us-water-ports-ranked-total-tons>

A.3 Survey Quality

The entire survey is adequate to supersede previous data.

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

Complete coverage using 100% side scan sonar coverage with concurrent multibeam echosounder (MBES) collection was obtained over the entire survey area. Backscatter was logged during all multibeam acquisition. This coverage type follows Option B of the Complete Coverage requirement specified in Section 5.2.2.3 of the 2022 HSSD. In all cases, the inshore limit of hydrography was the Navigable Area Limit Line (NALL) as defined in Section 1.3.2 of the HSSD; however, for this survey, the inshore limit was not encountered and the full extent of the assigned boundary was met.

Survey coverage for feature disprovals followed the criteria set in the HSSD for determining radii size. The field unit manually generated disapproval radii as the PRF lacked preassigned radii for all features.

Figure 2 shows the H13979 survey outline in relation to the assigned survey area.

A.6 Survey Statistics

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

	HULL ID	<i>S/V Blake</i>	<i>Total</i>
LNM	SBES Mainscheme	0.0	0.0
	MBES Mainscheme	1.7	1.7
	Lidar Mainscheme	0.0	0.0
	SSS Mainscheme	0.0	0.0
	SBES/SSS Mainscheme	0.0	0.0
	MBES/SSS Mainscheme	1047.55	1047.55
	SBES/MBES Crosslines	48.12	48.12
	Lidar Crosslines	0.0	0.0
Number of Bottom Samples			3
Number Maritime Boundary Points Investigated			0
Number of DPs			0
Number of Items Investigated by Dive Ops			0
Total SNM			70.25

Table 3: Hydrographic Survey Statistics

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

Survey Dates	Day of the Year
12/12/2024	347
12/13/2024	348
12/15/2024	350
12/16/2024	351
12/17/2024	352
12/18/2024	353
01/12/2025	12
01/16/2025	16
01/17/2025	17
01/24/2025	24
01/25/2025	25

Table 4: Dates of Hydrography

B. Data Acquisition and Processing

B.1 Equipment and Vessels

The OPR-K356-KR-24 Data Acquisition and Processing Report (DAPR), submitted with survey H13969, details equipment and vessel information as well as data acquisition and processing procedures. There were no vessel or equipment configurations used during data acquisition that deviated from those described in the DAPR.

The S/V Blake is an 82-foot aluminum catamaran with a 27-foot beam and a draft of 4.5 feet (Figure 3).

B.1.1 Vessels

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

Hull ID	<i>S/V Blake</i>
LOA	82.0 feet
Draft	4.5 feet

Table 5: Vessels Used



Figure 3: S/V Blake

B.1.2 Equipment

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

Manufacturer	Model	Type
Teledyne RESON	SeaBat T50-R	MBES
Applanix	POS MV OceanMaster	Positioning and Attitude System
AML Oceanographic	MicroX SV	Sound Speed System
AML Oceanographic	MVP30-350	Sound Speed System
EdgeTech	4200	SSS

Table 6: Major Systems Used

B.2 Quality Control

B.2.1 Crosslines

Multibeam crosslines were run across 4.59% of the entire survey area to provide a varied spatial and temporal distribution for analysis of internal consistency within the survey data.

Crossline analysis was performed using the CARIS Hydrographic Information Processing System (HIPS) Quality Control (QC) Report tool, which compares crossline data to a gridded surface and reports results by beam number. Crosslines were compared to a 2-meter Combined Uncertainty and Bathymetry Estimator (CUBE) surface encompassing mainscheme, fill, and investigation data for the entire survey area.

DEA performed an additional crossline analysis using the NOAA Pydro Compare Grids tool to analyze the differences between gridded mainscheme depths and gridded crossline depths. Input grids were 2-meter resolution CUBE surfaces of mainscheme and crossline depths. Results from the crossline-to-mainscheme difference analysis are depicted in Figure 4, with units represented in meters.

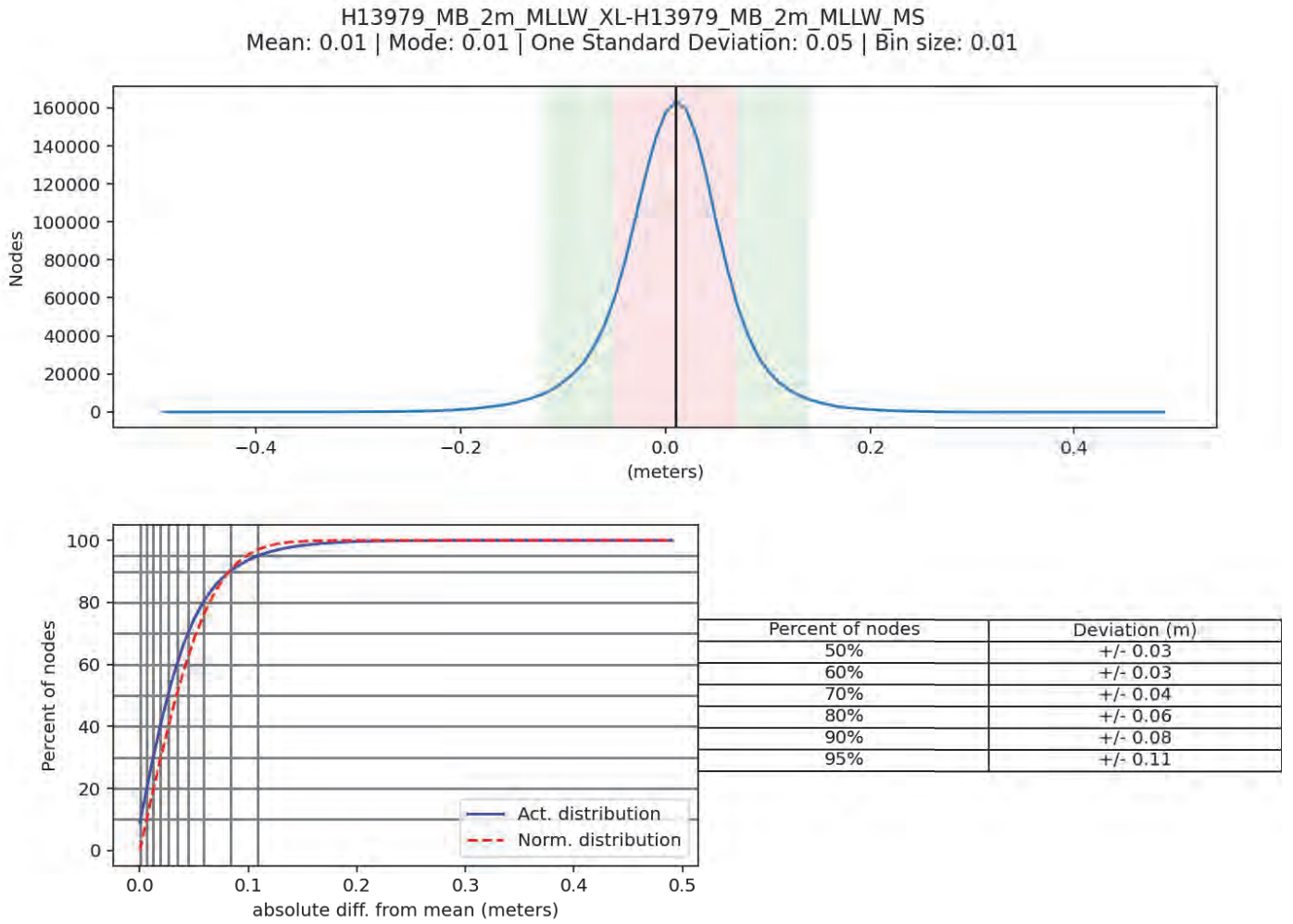


Figure 4: H13979 Crossline Difference

B.2.2 Uncertainty

The following survey specific parameters were used for this survey:

Method	Measured	Zoning
ERS via VDATUM	0.05 meters	0.097 meters

Table 7: Survey Specific Tide TPU Values.

Hull ID	Measured - CTD	Measured - MVP	Measured - XBT	Surface
S/V Blake	n/a meters/second	1.0 meters/second	n/a meters/second	0.5 meters/second

Table 8: Survey Specific Sound Speed TPU Values.

The datum separation (Zoning) uncertainty value of 0.097 meters, used to compute Total Propagated Uncertainty (TPU) listed in Table 7, corresponds to the uncertainty of a revised NAD83 to MLLW SEP file issued by NOAA on July 30, 2024 and does not match the model uncertainty listed in the Project Instructions. Related correspondence is included in Appendix II.

The revised model resolved errors in the original model that were discovered by DEA and reported to NOAA. The OPR-K356-KR-24 DAPR includes more information on the model update.

The S/V Blake used an AML MVP30-350 with integrated Micro SVP&T to acquire sound speed measurements. The measurement uncertainty for these sensors is listed in the Moving Vessel Profiler (MVP) column in Table 8.

During surface finalization in HIPS, the "Uncertainty" option was selected, which uses the calculated uncertainty value at the node. Additional discussion of the parameters used to compute TPU is included in the DAPR.

To determine if the surface grid nodes met the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Order 1a specification, a ratio of the final node uncertainty to the allowable uncertainty at that depth was determined. As a percentage, this value represents the amount of error budget utilized by the Total Vertical Uncertainty (TVU) at each node. Values greater than 100% indicate nodes exceeding the allowable IHO uncertainty. The resulting calculated node uncertainty as a fraction of allowable IHO Order 1a TVU is shown in Figure 5.

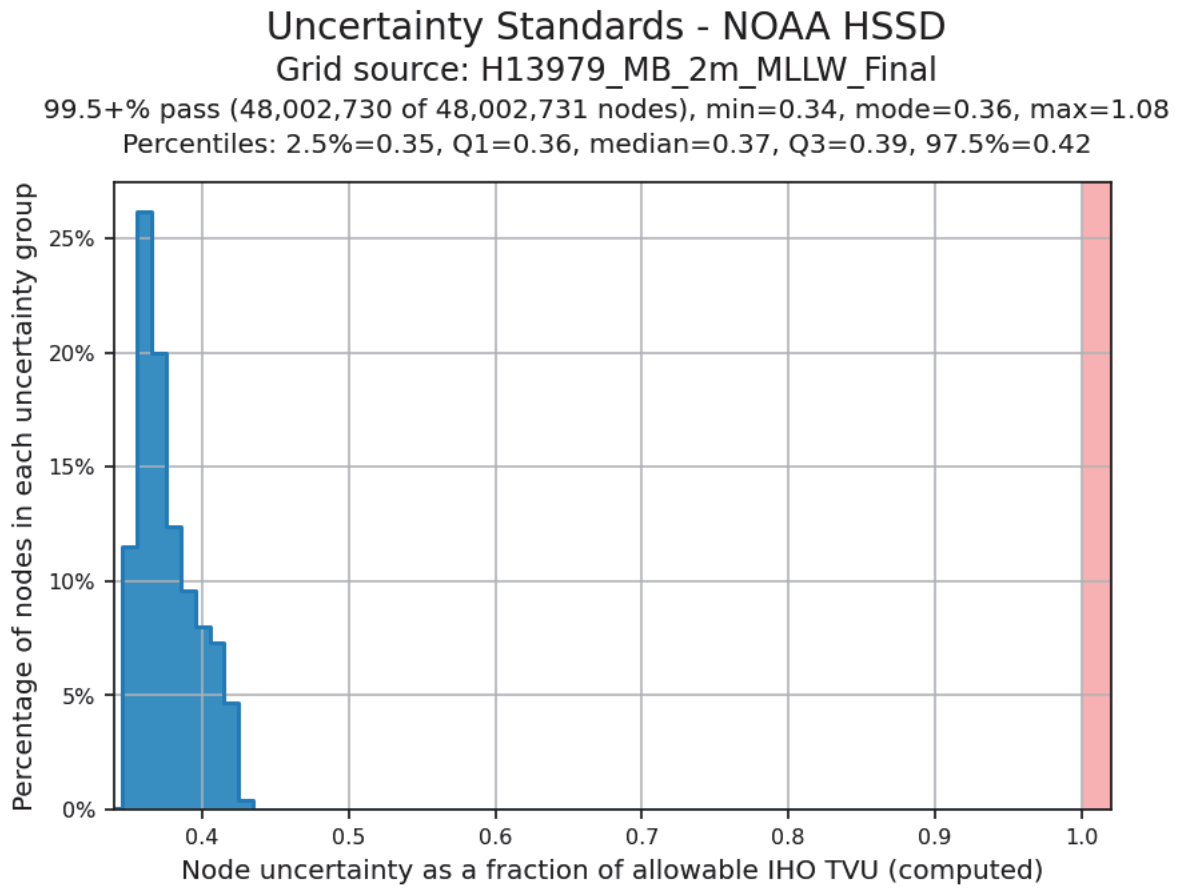


Figure 5: Node TVU Statistics - 2 meter, Finalized

B.2.3 Junctions

Survey H13979 junctions with current surveys H13976, H13977, and H13978. Figure 6 depicts H13979 and the junctioning surveys.

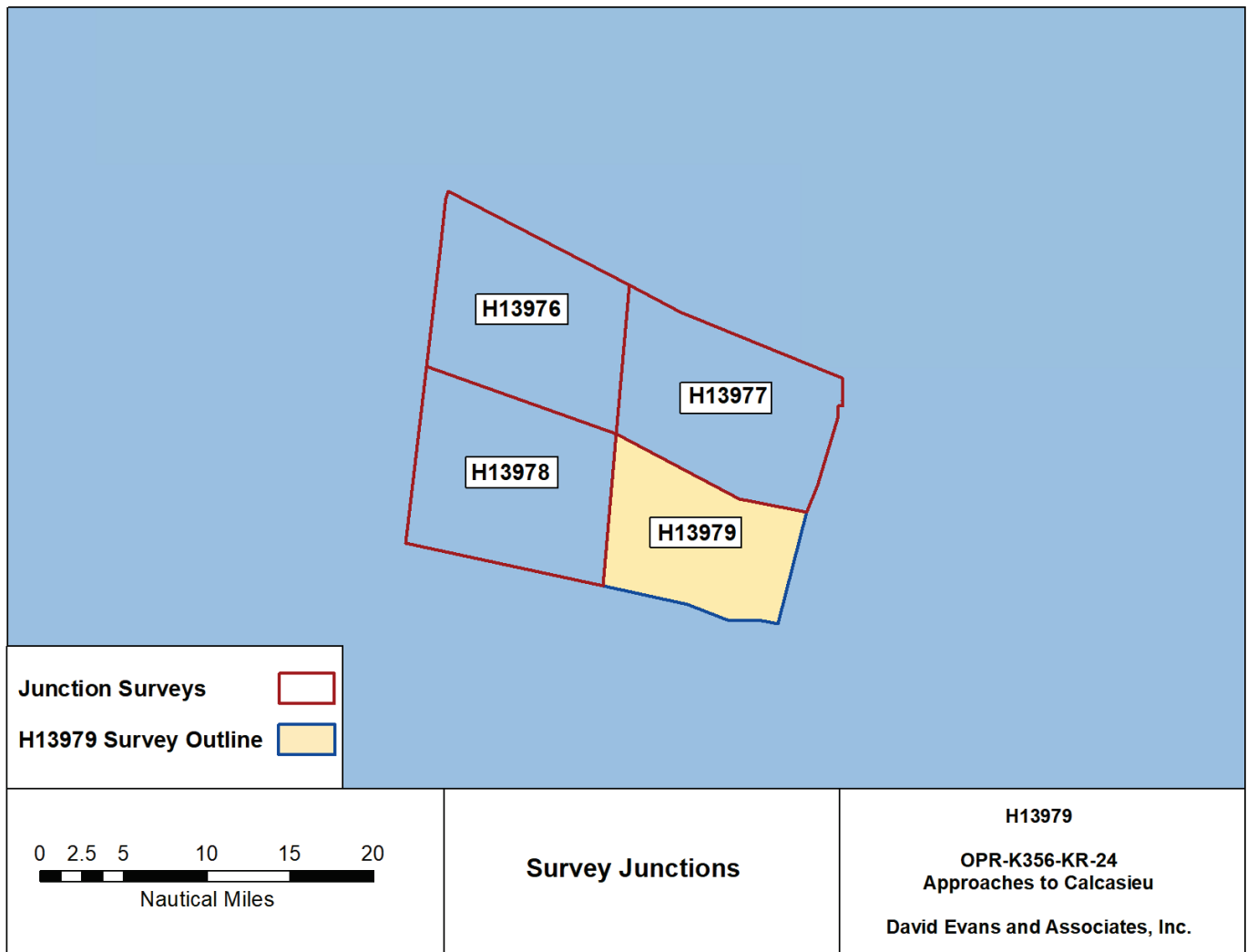


Figure 6: Survey Junctions with Registry Number H13979

The following junctions were made with this survey:

Registry Number	Scale	Year	Field Unit	Relative Location
H13976	1:40000	2024	David Evans and Associates, Inc.	NW
H13977	1:40000	2024	David Evans and Associates, Inc.	N
H13978	1:40000	2024	David Evans and Associates, Inc.	W

Table 9: Junctioning Surveys

H13976

At the time of writing, data from survey H13976 was still being processed. The DR for H13976 will include the junction analysis with H13979.

H13977

At the time of writing, data from survey H13977 was still being processed. The DR for H13977 will include the junction analysis with H13979.

H13978

The mean difference between H13979 and H13978 is 1 centimeter (H13979 deeper than H13978), shown in Figure 7.

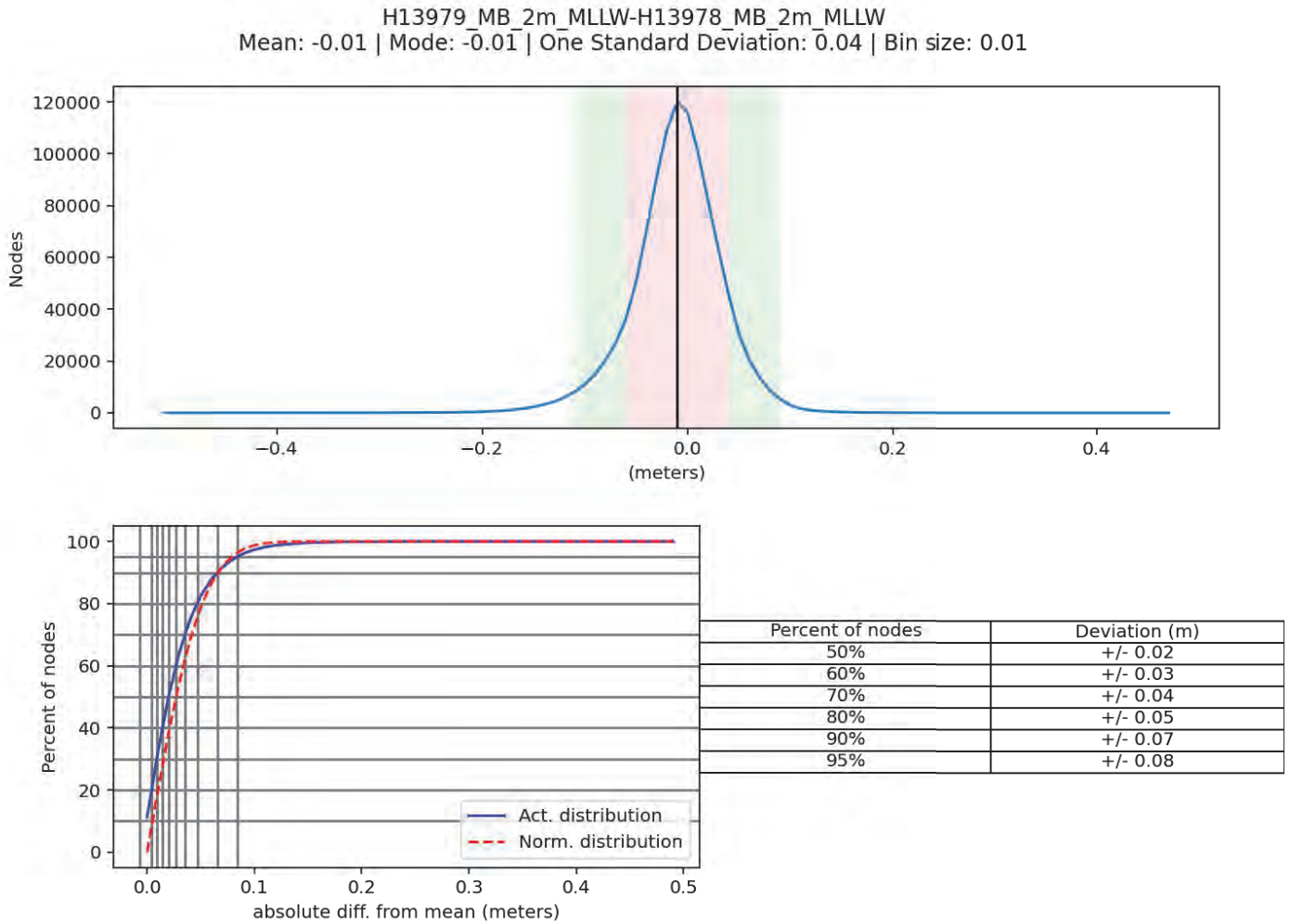


Figure 7: Distribution Summary Plot of Survey H13979 2-meter vs. H13978 2-meter

B.2.4 Sonar QC Checks

Quality control is discussed in detail in Section B of the DAPR.

Multibeam data were reviewed at multiple levels of data processing, including CARIS HIPS conversion, subset editing, and analysis of anomalies revealed in CUBE surfaces.

Side scan data were reviewed at multiple levels of data processing, including during the initial SonarWiz import and preliminary stages of bottom-tracking, navigation review, and contact identification. Data were also reviewed during the final stages of mosaic generation, data coverage and quality assessment, and contact correlation and attribution.

B.2.5 Equipment Effectiveness

Cable Counter

During survey operations on December 17 and 18, 2024 (DN352 and DN353), a miscalibration or malfunction of the cable counter resulted in a roughly 10-meter along-track error in side scan layback that affected side scan data. This static offset was easily corrected in SonarWiz software during post-processing by adding a 10-meter sheave offset in the along-track axis. The correction was verified by checking the alignment of features in reciprocal side scan lines and against multibeam data.

On January 12, 2025 (DN012), the cable counter serial connection to HYPACK stopped functioning entirely, affecting layback positions for the first 19 lines of the day (lines 2025BL0120257 - 2025BL0121416) before it was repaired. As cable out readings are regularly recorded by the hydrographer in the daily acquisition log, these data were able to be corrected in SonarWiz by entering manual cable out entries during post-processing. Manual cable out corrections were only made for the portions of lines where cable out remained static for long periods of time, in order to prevent stretching or compressing of the resulting mosaic during periods of active winch adjustment that could not be accurately documented in the acquisition log. Given the mostly flat nature of the seafloor, these periods of adjustment were infrequent. Any side scan data acquired during a period of adjustment were clipped and rejected in SonarWiz, and re-acquired at a later date. The corrected data were verified by checking the alignment of features in reciprocal side scan lines and against multibeam data.

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: Approximately 45-minute intervals

For H13979 survey operations, casts were distributed both temporally and spatially based on observed changes in sound speed profiles. Sound speed readings were applied in CARIS HIPS using the "nearest in distance within time" with a two-hour interval.

B.2.8 Coverage Equipment and Methods

Survey speeds were maintained to meet or exceed along-track sounding density requirements and side scan sonar ensonification requirements.

Multibeam data and side scan mosaics were thoroughly reviewed for holidays and areas of poor-quality coverage due to biomass, vessel wakes, or other factors. Feature investigations were performed with multibeam sonar to obtain a least depth, meeting the survey's coverage requirements. Survey coverage for feature disprovals was acquired inside disapproval radii to meet the coverage requirement for the area. Additional discussion of coverage methods can be found in the DAPR.

Abrupt contrast changes observed in the side scan sonar mosaics may be partially due to cable-out adjustments, made in anticipation of areas of bathymetric relief, or to prevent entanglement of the towfish with the MVP during sound speed casts. The resulting changes in towfish altitude partially affect the Empirical Gain Normalization of side scan data in SonarWiz and can have a noticeable effect on the final mosaic. Occasionally, during these brief intervals when the tow was shortened for operational safety concerns, the side scan towfish slightly exceeded the maximum allowed altitude requirement for 75-meter range. These data were carefully scrutinized for contacts, and given the altitude waiver for the project, did not significantly affect our ability to discern contacts and meet feature detection requirements.

B.2.9 Density

The sounding density requirement of 95% of all nodes, populated with at least five soundings per node, was verified by analyzing the density layer of the finalized surfaces. Surface results are stated in Figure 8.

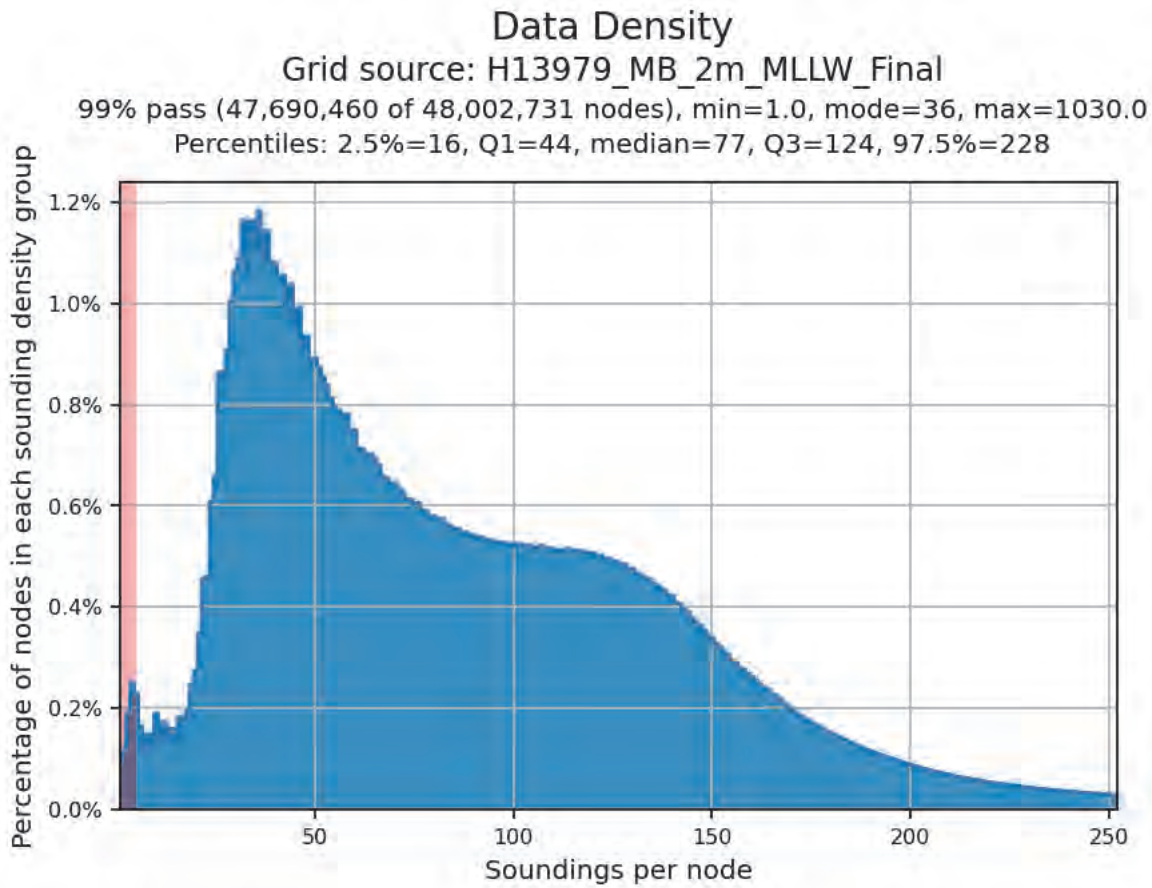


Figure 8: Node Density Statistics - 2 meter, Finalized

B.3 Echo Sounding Corrections

B.3.1 Corrections to Echo Soundings

Data reduction procedures for survey H13979 are detailed in the DAPR.

B.3.2 Calibrations

All sounding systems were calibrated as detailed in the DAPR.

B.4 Backscatter

Multibeam time series backscatter data (RESON 7058 normalized backscatter datagram) were logged in HYPACK 7K format and are included with the H13979 raw digital deliverables. Backscatter data were referenced to processed multibeam bathymetric data and processed in QPS FMGT. A 2-meter backscatter mosaic is included with the H13979 processed deliverables. A GSF export containing the final bathymetry and backscatter with edits retains the original file names of the raw data files but with the postfix "_merged."

B.5 Data Processing

B.5.1 Primary Data Processing Software

The following software program was the primary program used for bathymetric data processing:

Manufacturer	Name	Version
CARIS	HIPS/SIPS	11.4.29

Table 10: Primary bathymetric data processing software

The following software program was the primary program used for imagery data processing:

Manufacturer	Name	Version
Chesapeake Technology	SonarWiz	8.00.01 (64-bit)
QPS	FMGT	7.11.1

Table 11: Primary imagery data processing software

The following Feature Object Catalog was used: NOAA Profile Version 2024.

A detailed listing of all data processing software is included in the OPR-K356-KR-24 DAPR.

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
H13979_MB_2m_MLLW.csar	CARIS Raster Surface (CUBE)	2 meters	21.503 meters - 27.577 meters	NOAA_2m	Complete MBES
H13979_MB_2m_MLLW_Final.csar	Finalized CARIS Raster Surface (CUBE)	2 meters	20.387 meters - 27.577 meters	NOAA_2m	Complete MBES
H13979_MBAB_2m_BL_400kHz_1of1.tif	MB Backscatter Mosaic	2 meters	-	N/A	Complete MBES
H13979_SSSAB_1m_540kHz_1of2.tif	SSS Mosaic	1 meters	-	N/A	100% SSS
H13979_SSSAB_1m_540kHz_2of2.tif	SSS Mosaic	1 meters	-	N/A	200% SSS

Table 12: Submitted Surfaces

Bathymetric grids were created relative to Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) in CUBE format using Complete Coverage resolution requirements as specified in the HSSD. Grid resolution for the backscatter mosaic was determined by the HSSD frequency-dependent resolution requirement.

C. Vertical and Horizontal Control

A summary of the horizontal and vertical control for survey H13979 follows.

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	OPR-K356-KR-24_NAD83(2011)-MLLW.csar

Table 13: ERS method and SEP file

C.2 Horizontal Control

The horizontal datum for this project is North American Datum 1983 (2011).

The projection used for this project is Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Zone 15.

The following PPK methods were used for horizontal control:

- RTX

The separation model listed in Table 13 was provided as an update on July 30, 2024, and used for sounding correction within the assigned survey area. Real-time navigation for all MBES survey lines were overwritten with post-processed navigation solutions in SBET format. Additional discussion on post-processing methods and survey control is included in the DAPR.

D. Results and Recommendations

D.1 Chart Comparison

The chart comparison was performed by comparing H13979 survey depths to a digital surface generated from the Band 3 and Band 4 electronic navigational charts (ENCs) covering the survey area. A 50-meter product surface was generated from a triangular irregular network (TIN) created from the ENC's soundings, depth contours, and depth features. An additional 50-meter HIPS product surface was generated from the survey's 2-meter CUBE surface. The chart comparison was conducted by creating and reviewing a difference surface using the ENC surfaces and survey surface as inputs. The chart comparison also included a review of all assigned charted features within the survey area. The results of the comparison are detailed below.

The charts used during the comparison were reviewed to check that all United States Coast Guard (USCG) Local Notice to Mariners issued during survey acquisition, and impacting the survey area, were applied and addressed by this survey.

The ENC's used in the chart comparison are listed in Table 14. Figures 9 and 10 show the magnitude of differences along the comparison area.

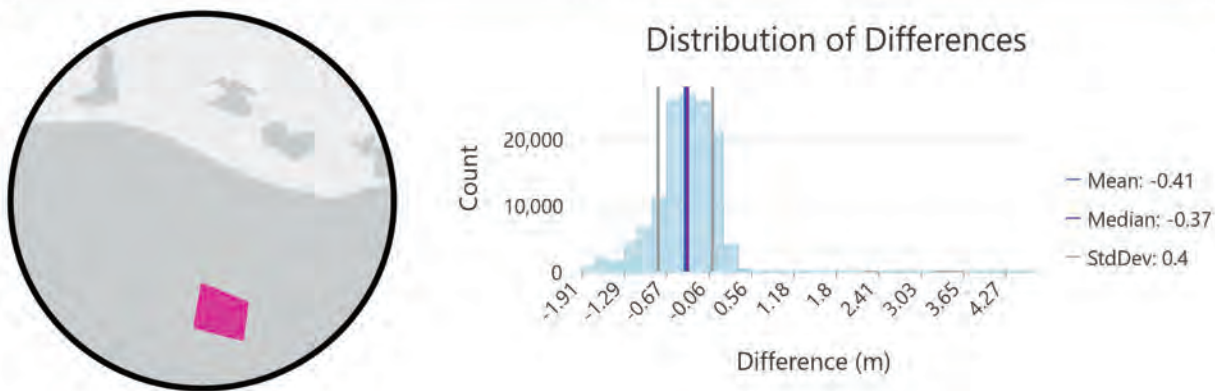
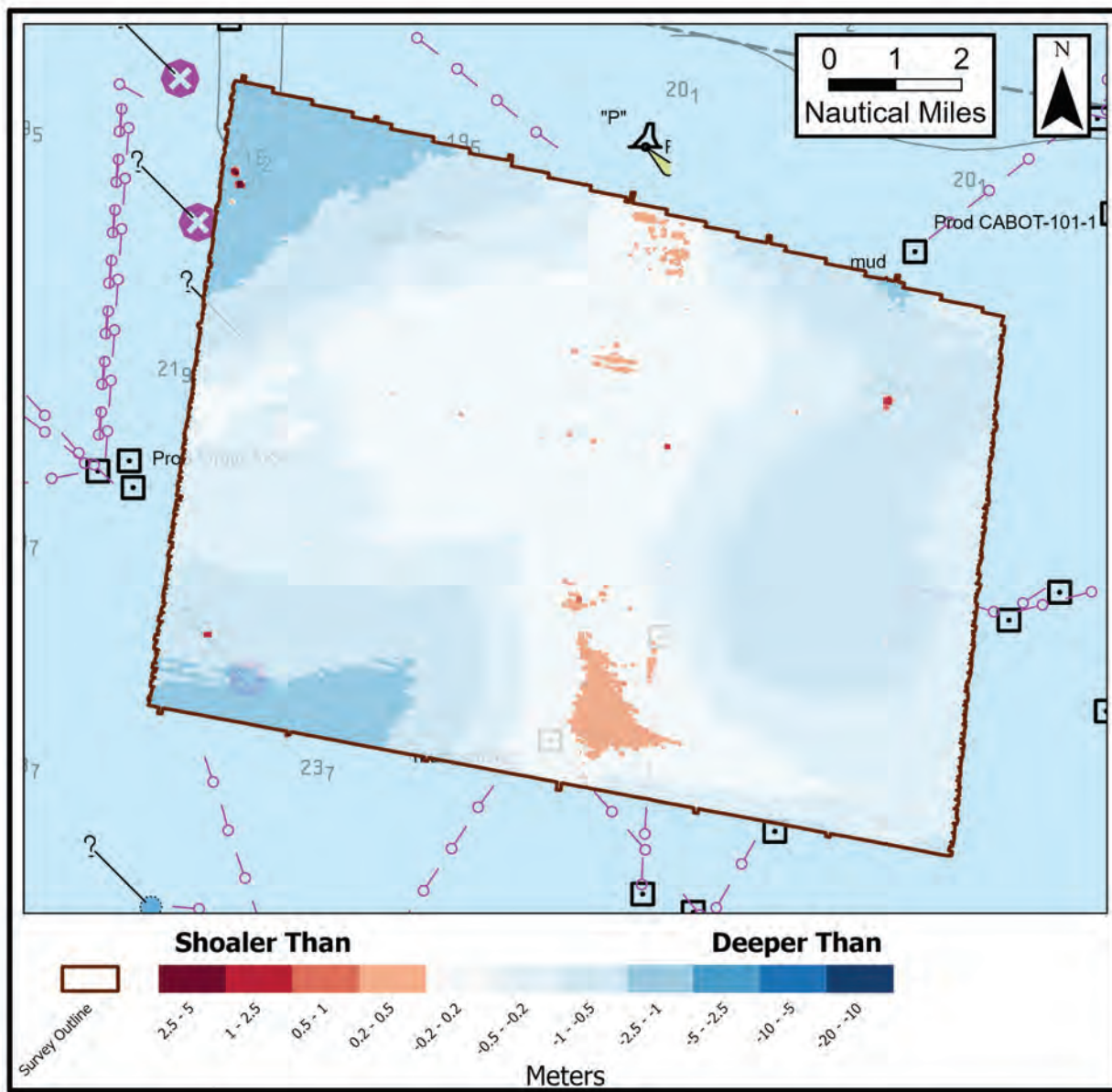


Figure 9: Depth Difference between H13979 and Band 3 ENC

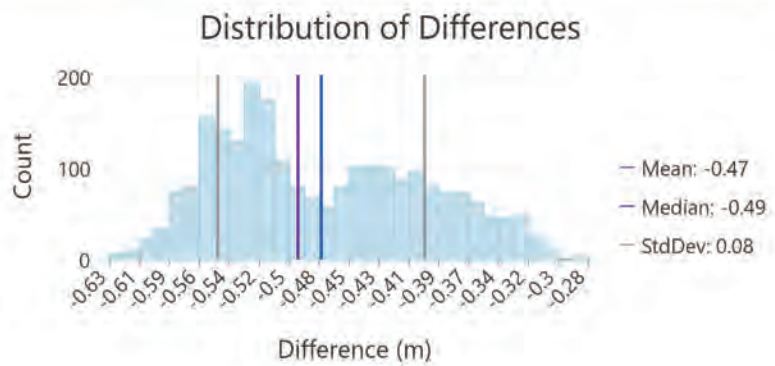
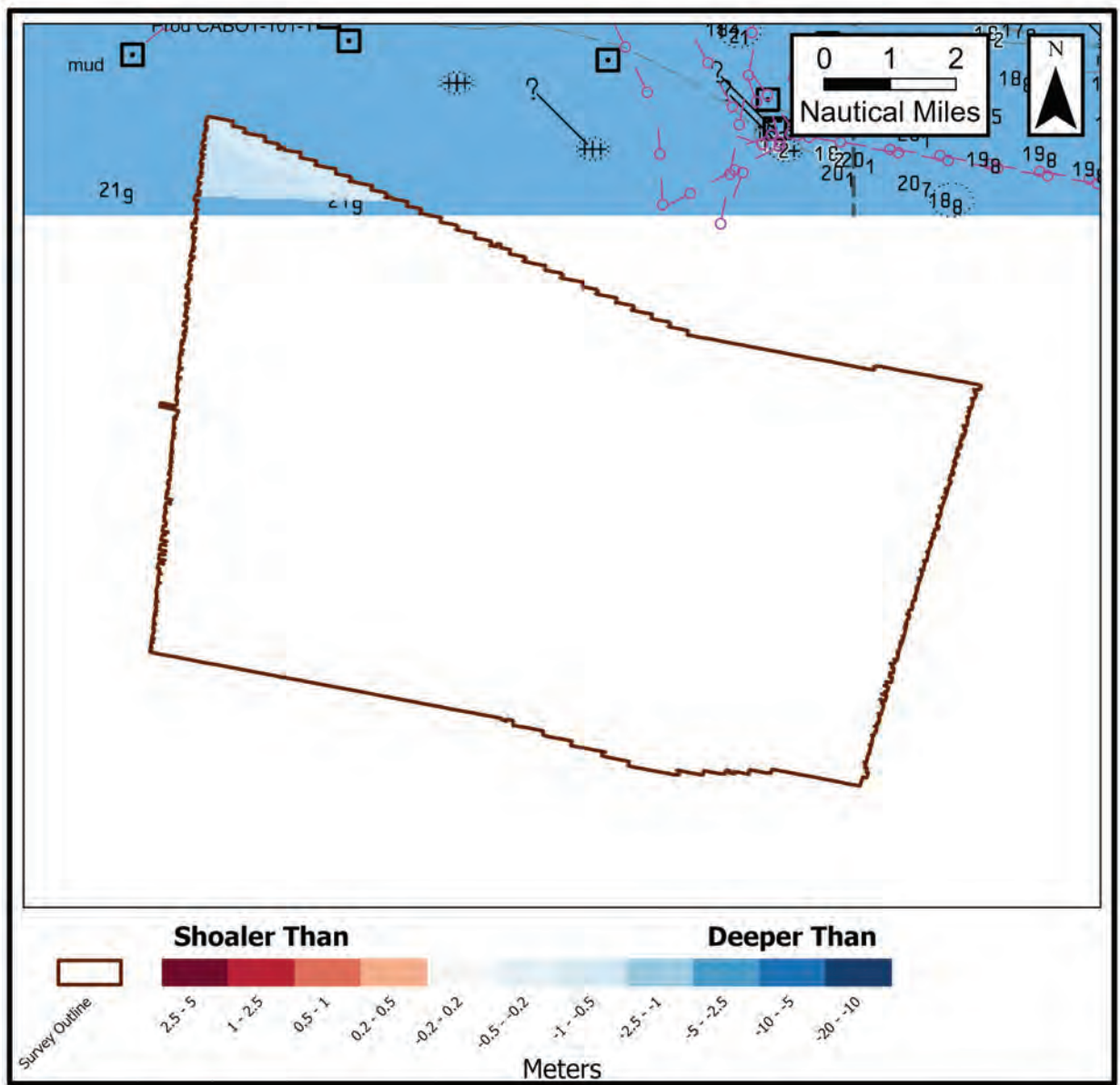


Figure 10: Depth Difference between H13979 and Band 4 ENC

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
US3GC03M	1:350000	70	02/06/2025	02/19/2025
US4LA1EE	1:90000	1	09/03/2024	12/17/2024

Table 14: Largest Scale ENC's

D.1.2 Shoal and Hazardous Features

One Danger to Navigation (Dton) report was submitted for this survey.

-H13979 Dton 01, submitted March 21, 2025, reported one uncharted obstruction within the survey area.

The hydrographer recommends updating the charts to depict the Dton as portrayed in the Final Feature Files (FFF).

D.1.3 Charted Features

All assigned features included in the project Composite Source File (CSF) have been addressed by the survey and are included in the FFF.

All disproved features have been included in the FFF with a description of "Delete." All new features have been included in the FFF with the surveyed feature depicted and a description of "New."

Contact heights included in the side scan contact .000 file have been sourced from the shadow height measurement obtained from SonarWiz. Due to the limitations in computing accurate heights from side scan shadow lengths, contact heights may not match heights from correlating contacts or feature heights measured from multibeam data included in the FFF.

D.1.4 Uncharted Features

All uncharted features are portrayed in the FFF as surveyed and attributed with the description of "New." Refer to the FFF for additional information.

D.1.5 Channels

No channels exist within the survey limits.

D.2 Additional Results**D.2.1 Aids to Navigation**

No Aids to Navigation (ATONs) exist for this survey.

D.2.2 Maritime Boundary Points

No Maritime Boundary Points were assigned for this survey.

D.2.3 Bottom Samples

Three bottom samples were acquired on January 25, 2025. The bottom sampling plan was developed to include different bottom types based on imagery observed in the side scan sonar and backscatter mosaics.

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

Surveyed and disproved platforms are addressed in the FFF.

D.2.7 Ferry Routes and Terminals

No ferry routes or terminals exist for this survey.

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 construction or dredging activities were observed during survey operations.

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.

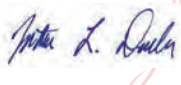
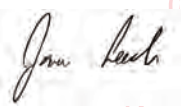


E. Approval Sheet

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 and Specifications 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.

Report Name	Report Date Sent
Data Acquisition and Processing Report	2025-02-11
Coast Pilot Report	2025-02-25
Survey Outline	2024-11-08
Marine Mammal Observers	2025-02-13
NCEI Sound Speed Data	2025-02-13

Approver Name	Approver Title	Approval Date	Signature
Jonathan L. Dasler, PE, PLS, CH	NSPS-THSOA Certified Hydrographer, Chief of Party	03/28/2025	 Digitally signed by Jonathan L. Dasler, PE, PLS, CH Date: 2025.03.28 10:39:00 -07'00'
Jason Creech, CH	NSPS-THSOA Certified Hydrographer, Charting Manager / Project Manager	03/28/2025	 Digitally signed by Jason Creech, CH Date: 2025.03.28 10:39:39 -07'00'
James Guilford, CH(A)	NSPS-THSOA Certified Hydrographer, Lead Hydrographer	03/28/2025	 Digitally signed by James Guilford Date: 2025.03.28 10:40:23 -07'00'
Sam Werner	Data Processing Manager	03/28/2025	 Digitally signed by Sam Werner Date: 2025.03.28 10:41:50 -07'00'

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