

H13994

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

**DESCRIPTIVE REPORT**

Type of Survey: Navigable Area

Registry Number: H13994

**LOCALITY**

State(s): Massachusetts

General Locality: Northern Massachusetts Bay

Sub-locality: Central Approaches to Boston Harbor

**2025**

CHIEF OF PARTY  
John R. Bean

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

Date:

**HYDROGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET**

**H13994**

**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: **Northern Massachusetts Bay**

Sub-Locality: **Central Approaches to Boston Harbor**

Scale: **5000**

Dates of Survey: **09/10/2024 to 03/15/2025**

Instructions Dated: **08/01/2024**

Project Number: **OPR-A325-KR-24**

Field Unit: **Ocean Surveys**

Chief of Party: **John R. Bean**

Soundings by: **Multibeam Echo Sounder**

Imagery by: **Multibeam Echo Sounder Backscatter**

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 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 H13994

Project: OPR-A325-KR-24

Locality: Northern Massachusetts Bay

Sublocality: Central Approaches to Boston Harbor

Scale: 1:5000

September 2024 - March 2025

**Ocean Surveys**

Chief of Party: John R. Bean

### A. Area Surveyed

This survey provides hydrographic data for waters in Northern Massachusetts Bay. The general locations of the survey limits are presented in Table 1.

#### A.1 Survey Limits

Data were acquired within the following survey limits:

| Northwest Limit                    | Southeast Limit                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 42° 23' 8.73" N<br>70° 56' 33.6" W | 42° 16' 7.88" N<br>70° 50' 6.51" W |

*Table 1: Survey Limits*

Survey limits were acquired in accordance with the requirements in the Project Instructions and the HSSD.

#### A.2 Survey Purpose

The waters in and around the ports of Boston and Gloucester in Northern Massachusetts Bay are some of the most heavily used in the US by commercial and recreational boating traffic. The Port of Boston sees more than 16 million tons of cargo movement annually\*, and thousands of vessels travel into, out of, and within Boston Harbor every year. Boston, Gloucester and Rockport are also major fishing ports, with average yearly landings of over 40 million pounds worth over \$80 million\*\*.

This project will also provide an analysis of the feasibility of using inshore bathymetric lidar data for identifying and updating features, in concert with new multibeam sonar data collection.

The prior survey data in much of the survey area is over 20 years old, and several areas have data that is from the 1940s. The survey area has an extensive coastline, and has been heavily trafficked by humans for almost 400 years; there have been extensive and poorly documented effects and changes to the seafloor by human activity\*\*\*. This survey will address this by collecting modern high resolution bathymetry for updating NOAA nautical charting products improving the safety of maritime traffic and commerce as well as supporting the Seabed 2030 global mapping initiative. Survey data from this project is intended to supersede all prior survey data in the common area.

\*Massachusetts Port Authority Statistics 2022

\*\*2022 NMFS Landing Statistics <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/sustainable-fisheries/commercial-fisheries-landings>

\*\*\*<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/divisions/cis/historical/historical-sketch.htm>  
and <https://stellwagen.noaa.gov/maritime/maritimehistory.html>

### 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 within ACHARE feature in PRF | Object Detection Coverage (Refer to HSSD Section 5.2.2.2) |

*Table 2: Survey Coverage*

Survey coverage was in accordance with the requirements listed above and in the HSSD.

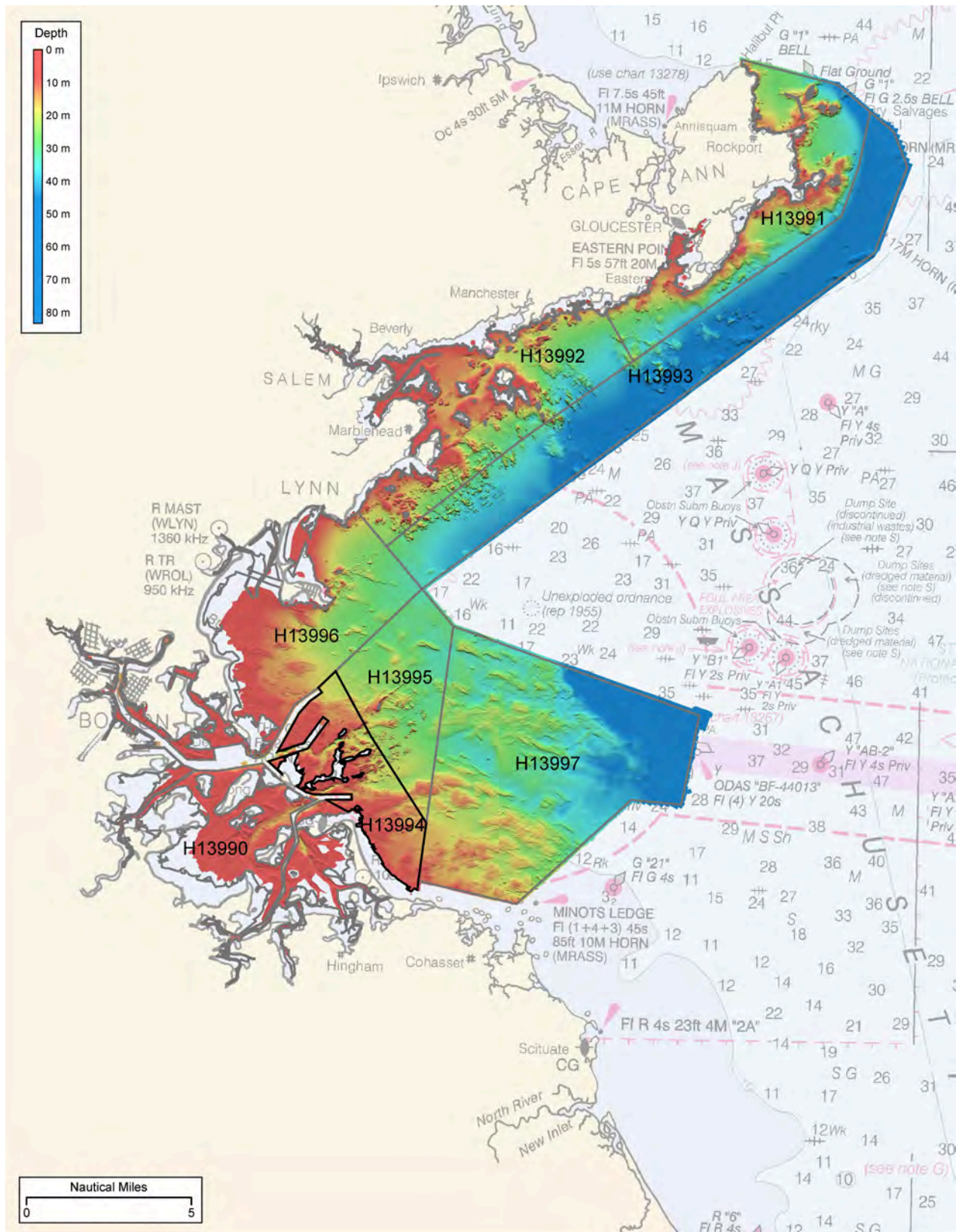


Figure 1: Project OPR-A325-KR-24 coverage with H13994 emphasized.

## A.6 Survey Statistics

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

|   | <b>HULL ID</b>                  | <i>MV<br/>Northstar<br/>Challenger</i> | <i>RV<br/>North<br/>Cove</i> | <i>RV<br/>South<br/>Cove</i> | <i>RV<br/>West<br/>Cove II</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>LNM</b>  | <b>SBES<br/>Mainscheme</b>      | 0.0                                    | 0.0                          | 0.0                          | 0.0                            | 0.0          |
|   | <b>MBES<br/>Mainscheme</b>      | 285.5                                  | 118.9                        | 425.2                        | 112.4                          | 942.0        |
|   | <b>Lidar<br/>Mainscheme</b>     | 0.0                                    | 0.0                          | 0.0                          | 0.0                            | 0.0          |
|   | <b>SSS<br/>Mainscheme</b>       | 0.0                                    | 0.0                          | 0.0                          | 0.0                            | 0.0          |
|   | <b>SBES/SSS<br/>Mainscheme</b>  | 0.0                                    | 0.0                          | 0.0                          | 0.0                            | 0.0          |
|   | <b>MBES/SSS<br/>Mainscheme</b>  | 0.0                                    | 0.0                          | 0.0                          | 0.0                            | 0.0          |
|   | <b>SBES/MBES<br/>Crosslines</b> | 0.0                                    | 0.0                          | 43.3                         | 0.0                            | 43.3         |
|   | <b>Lidar<br/>Crosslines</b>     | 0.0                                    | 0.0                          | 0.0                          | 0.0                            | 0.0          |
| <b>Number of<br/>Bottom Samples</b>                         |                                 |  |                              |                              |                                | 0            |
| <b>Number Maritime<br/>Boundary Points<br/>Investigated</b> |                                 |  |                              |                              |                                | 0            |
| <b>Number of DPs</b>  |                                 |  |                              |                              |                                | 0            |
| <b>Number of Items<br/>Investigated by<br/>Dive Ops</b>     |                                 |  |                              |                              |                                | 0            |
| <b>Total SNM</b>  |                                 |  |                              |                              |                                | 12.6         |

Table 3: Hydrographic Survey Statistics

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

| <b>Survey Dates</b> | <b>Day of the Year</b> |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 09/10/2024          | 254                    |
| 09/11/2024          | 255                    |
| 09/12/2024          | 256                    |
| 09/14/2024          | 258                    |
| 09/15/2024          | 259                    |
| 09/16/2024          | 260                    |
| 09/17/2024          | 261                    |
| 09/18/2024          | 262                    |
| 09/27/2024          | 271                    |
| 09/28/2024          | 272                    |
| 09/29/2024          | 273                    |
| 09/30/2024          | 274                    |
| 10/01/2024          | 275                    |
| 10/02/2024          | 276                    |
| 10/03/2024          | 277                    |
| 10/04/2024          | 278                    |
| 10/05/2024          | 279                    |
| 10/06/2024          | 280                    |
| 10/09/2024          | 283                    |
| 03/15/2025          | 74                     |

*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>MV Northstar Challenger</i> | <i>RV North Cove</i> | <i>RV South Cove</i> | <i>RV West Cove II</i> |
|--------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>LOA</b>   | 28.0 meters                    | 11.1 meters          | 9.4 meters           | 12.8 meters            |
| <b>Draft</b> | 2.6 meters                     | 0.8 meters           | 0.8 meters           | 1.4 meters             |

*Table 5: Vessels Used*



*Figure 2: MV Northstar Challenger configured for survey operations.*



*Figure 3: RV North Cove configured for survey operations.*



*Figure 4: RV South Cove configured for survey operations.*



*Figure 5: RV West Cove II configured for survey operations.*

## B.1.2 Equipment

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

| <b>Manufacturer</b> | <b>Model</b>     | <b>Type</b>                                 |
|---------------------|------------------|---|
| Teledyne RESON      | SeaBat T50-R     | MBES  |
| Applanix            | POS MV 320 v5    | Positioning and Attitude System             |
| Trimble             | NetR9            | Positioning System                          |
| AML Oceanographic   | Micro SV-Xchange | Sound Speed System                          |
| AML Oceanographic   | MVP30-350        | Conductivity, Temperature, and Depth Sensor |
| AML Oceanographic   | AML-3 LGR        | Conductivity, Temperature, and Depth Sensor |
| Velodyne LiDAR      | VLP-16           | Lidar System                                |

*Table 6: Major Systems Used*

## B.2 Quality Control

### B.2.1 Crosslines

Crossline mileage in H13994 totaled 4.6% of the mainscheme survey miles. Agreement between crosslines and mainscheme bathymetry was very good, with a mean difference of 0.0m in the 50cm resolution surface.

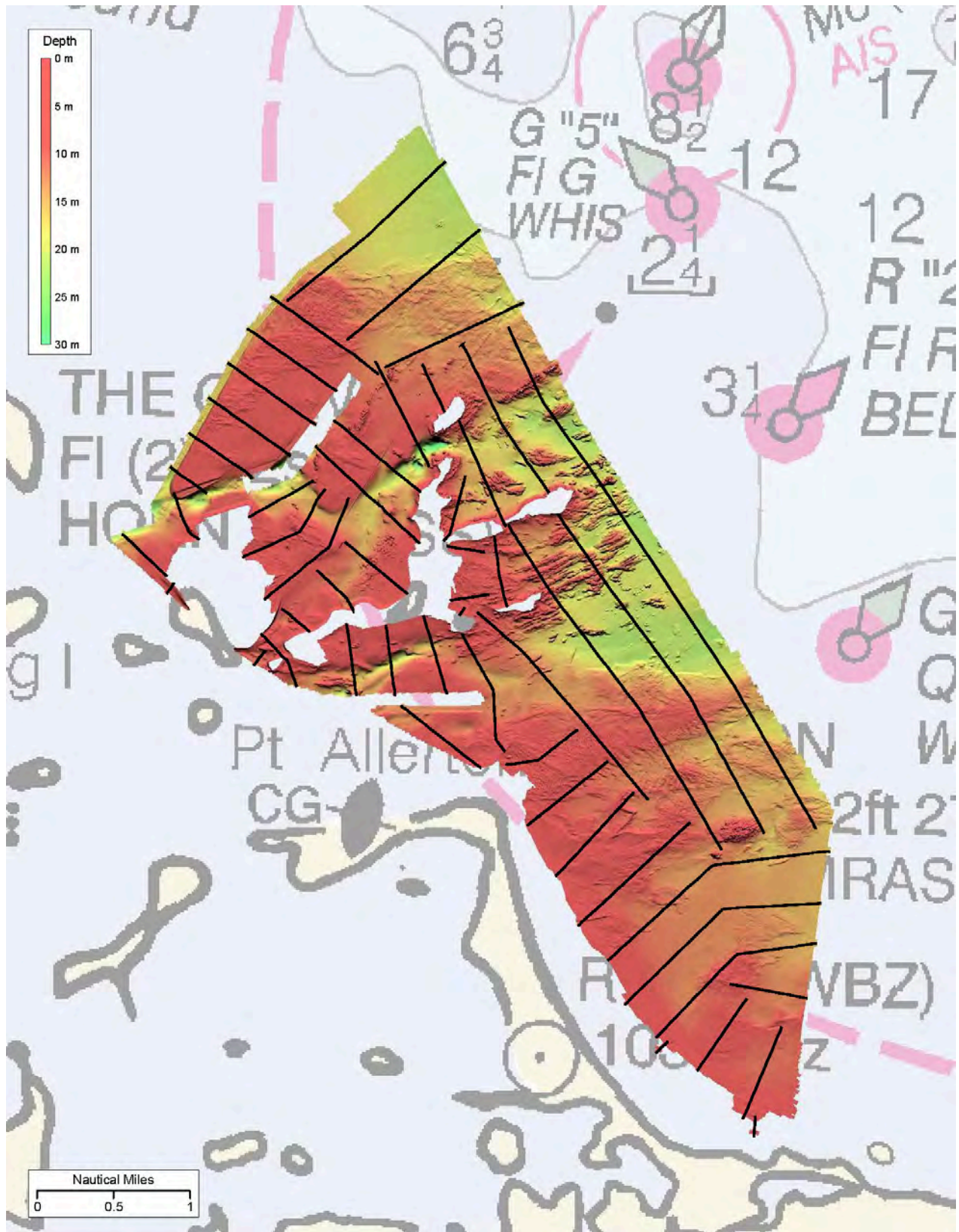


Figure 6: Crossline tracks overlaid on a coverage surface.

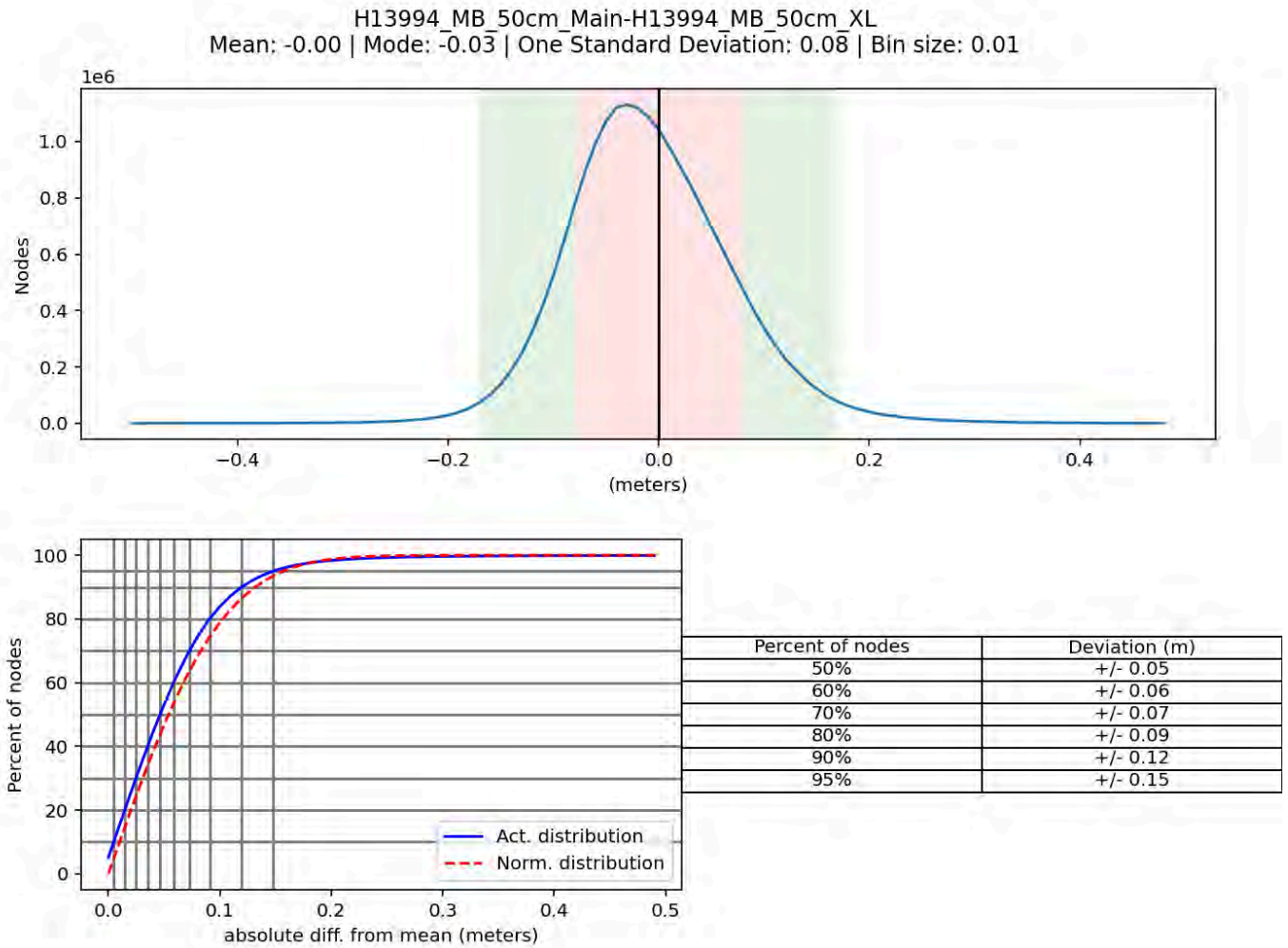


Figure 7: Depth differences between mainscheme and crossline data.

### B.2.2 Uncertainty

The following survey specific parameters were used for this survey:

| Method         | Measured | Zoning      |
|----------------|----------|-------------|
| ERS via VDATUM | N/A      | 0.13 meters |

Table 7: Survey Specific Tide TPU Values.

| Hull ID                 | Measured - CTD  | Measured - MVP  | Measured - XBT | Surface         |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| MV Northstar Challenger | N/A             | 4 meters/second | N/A            | 2 meters/second |
| RV North Cove           | 4 meters/second | N/A             | N/A            | 2 meters/second |
| RV South Cove           | 4 meters/second | N/A             | N/A            | 2 meters/second |
| RV West Cove II         | 4 meters/second | N/A             | N/A            | 2 meters/second |

Table 8: Survey Specific Sound Speed TPU Values.

The NOAA Pydro QC Tools application was used to calculate TVU QC, determined by a ratio of uncertainty to the allowable error per NOAA and IHO specification. A set of surfaces was finalized in CARIS HIPS using the "uncertainty" option to select the combination of a priori and realtime uncertainty estimates as the surface TVU source. The surfaces represented different resolutions as appropriate for the water depths. Both surfaces passed the uncertainty check, with 99.5+% of nodes meeting the uncertainty standards.

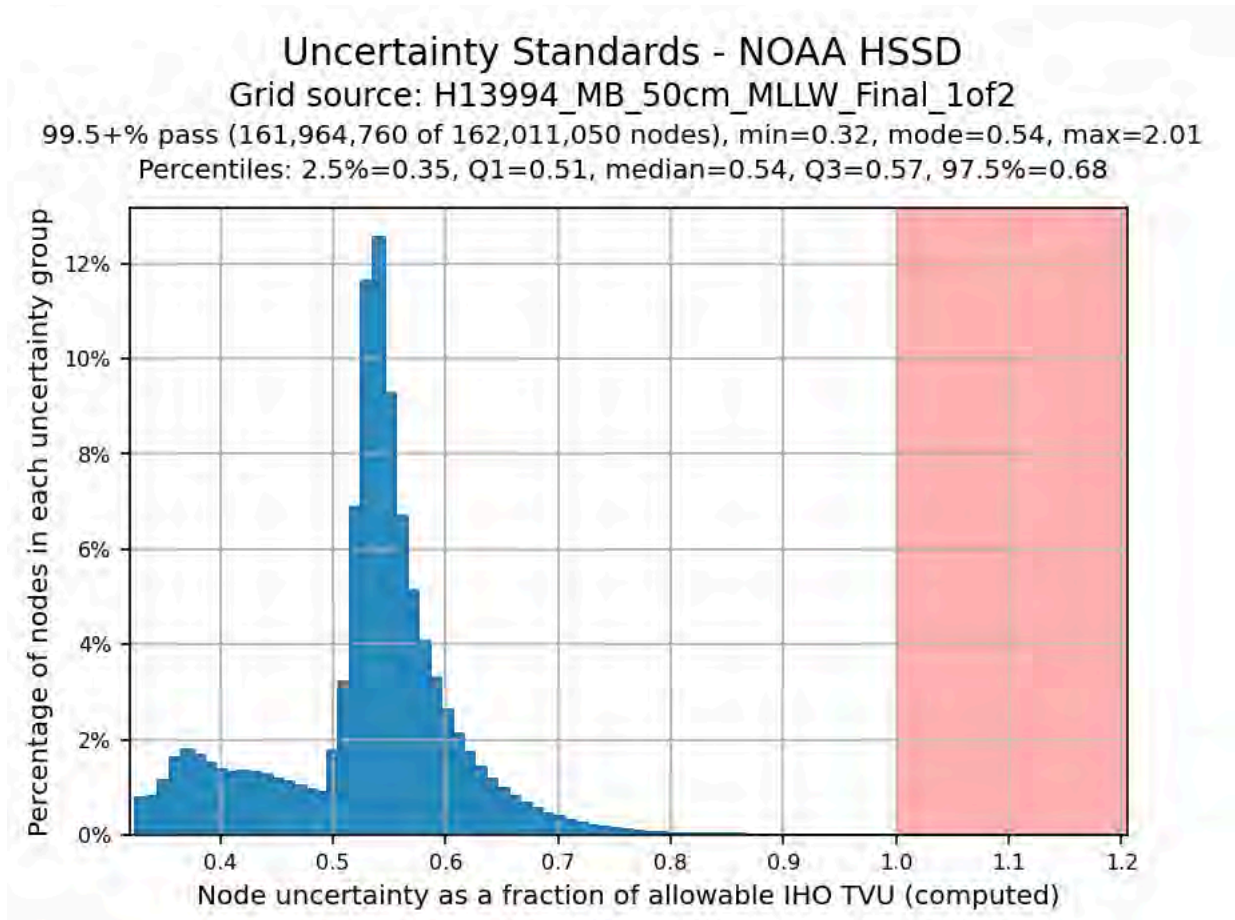
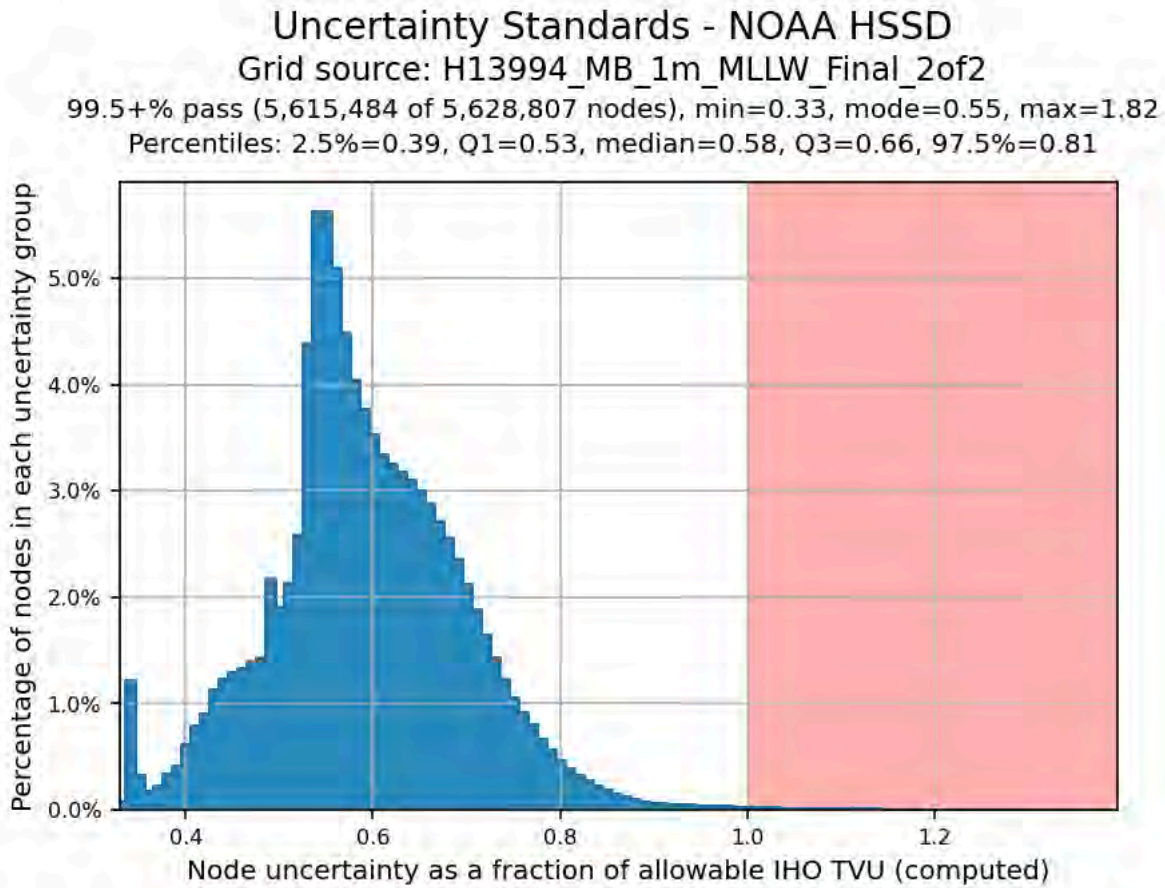


Figure 8: Uncertainty standards, 50cm resolution surface.



*Figure 9: Uncertainty standards, 1m resolution surface.*

### B.2.3 Junctions

H13995 junctions with contemporary surveys on its western, northern, northeastern, and eastern edges. The northern and western boundaries are buffered by unassigned channels between the surveys, so the area of data overlap is reduced. Junction analyses were also assigned for LiDAR surveys that were under review at the time of the PI.

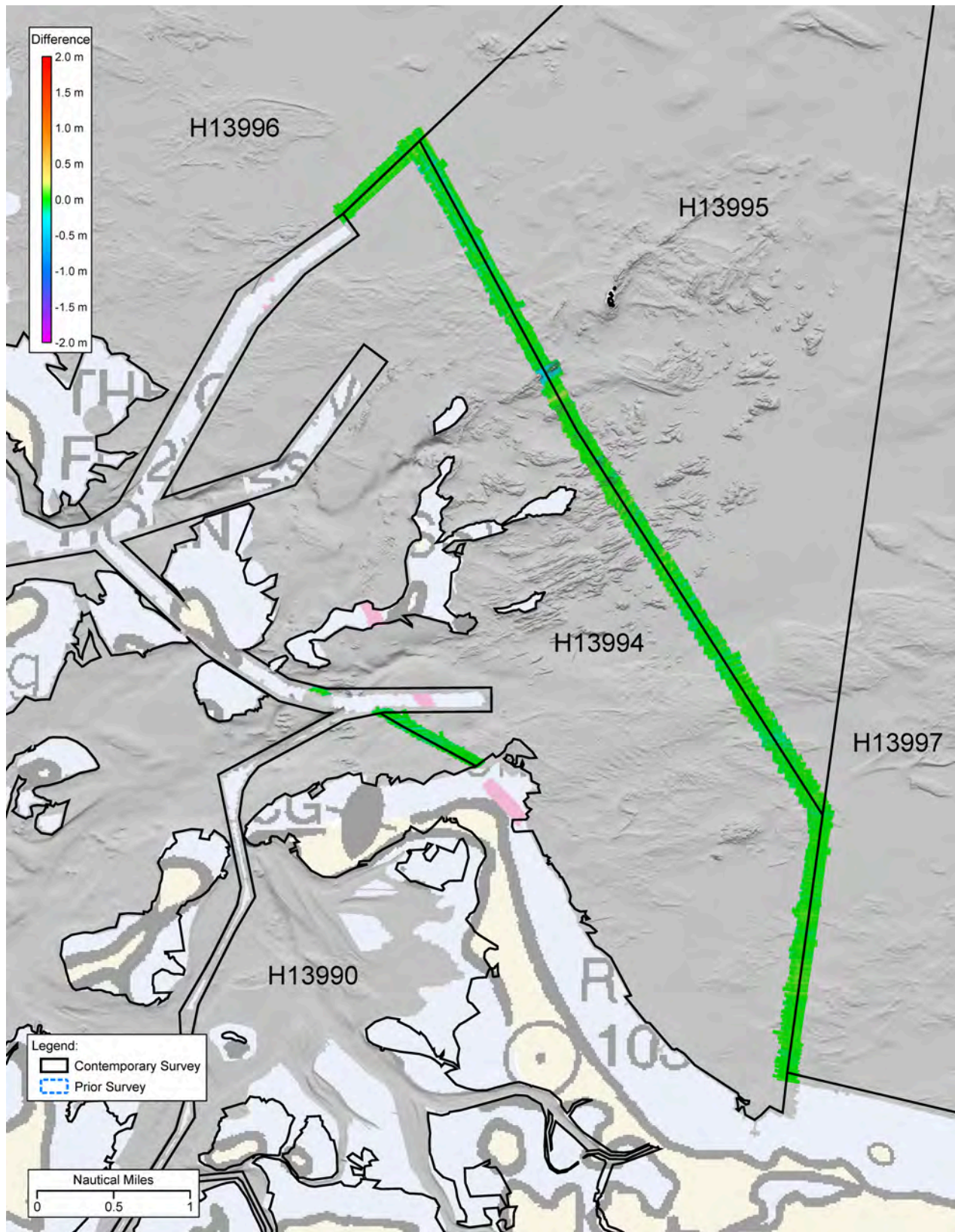


Figure 10: H13994 junction map with junction area depth differences.

The following junctions were made with this survey:

| Registry Number | Scale  | Year | Field Unit | Relative Location |
|-----------------|--------|------|------------|-------------------|
| H13990          | 1:5000 | 2025 | OSI        | W                 |
| H13995          | 1:5000 | 2025 | OSI        | NE                |
| H13996          | 1:5000 | 2025 | OSI        | N                 |
| H13997          | 1:5000 | 2025 | OSI        | E                 |

*Table 9: Junctioning Surveys*

### H13990

This junction is addressed in the H13990 DR.

### H13995

Survey H13995 junctions with the northwest border of H13994, with a shared border of approximately 10.2km in length. Agreement between the two surveys is very good, with a mean depth difference of 0.02m. Variation was greatest in the rockier areas between the two surveys, particularly in the northern third of the junction area where the bathymetry is characterized by large rock outcroppings.

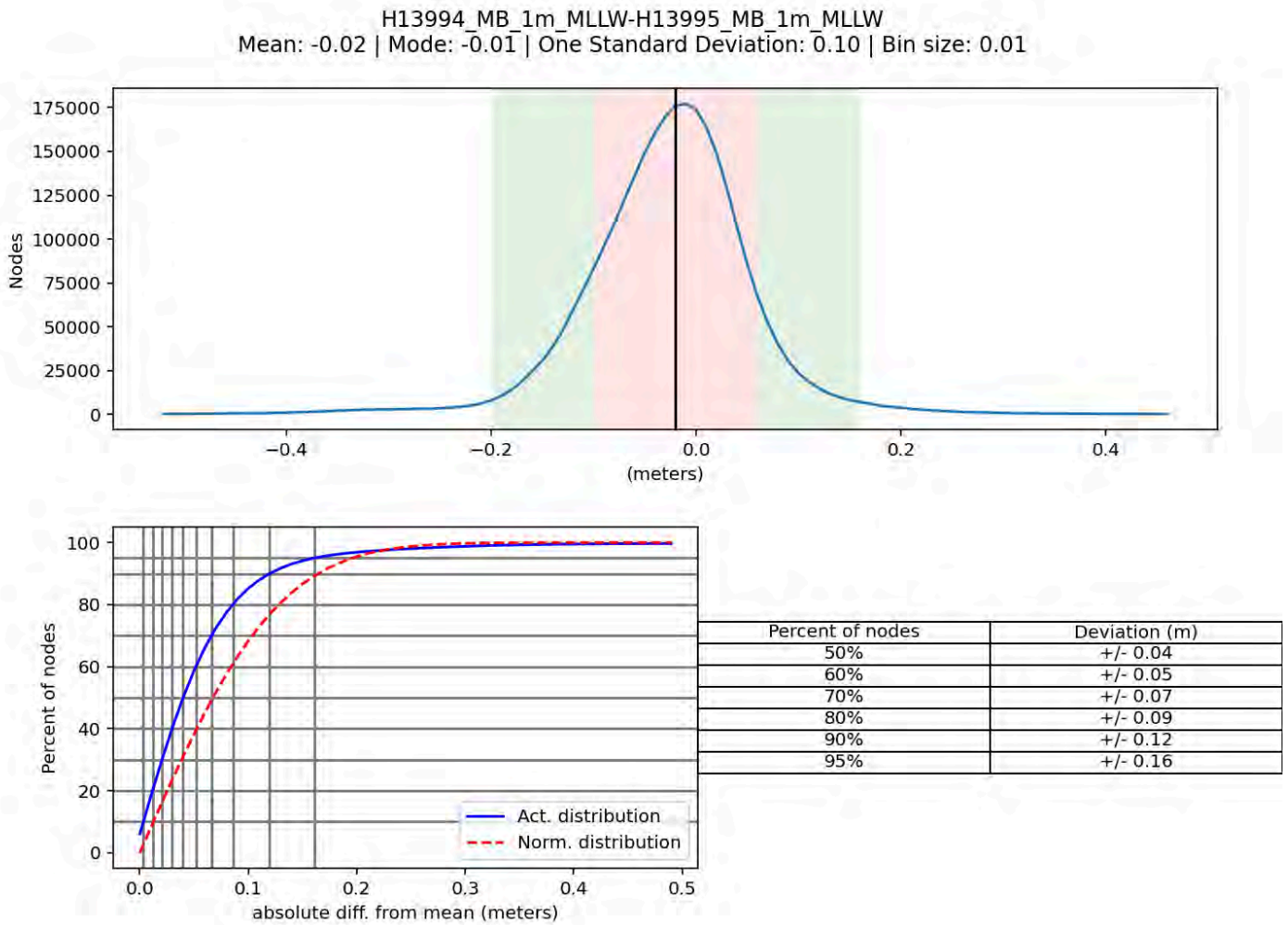


Figure 11: Depth differences between surveys H13994 and H13995, 1m resolution surface.

H13996

This junction is addressed in the H13996 DR.

H13997

Survey H13997 junctions with the eastern border of H13994, with a shared border of approximately 3.7km in length. Agreement between the two surveys is very good, with a mean depth difference of 0.01m.

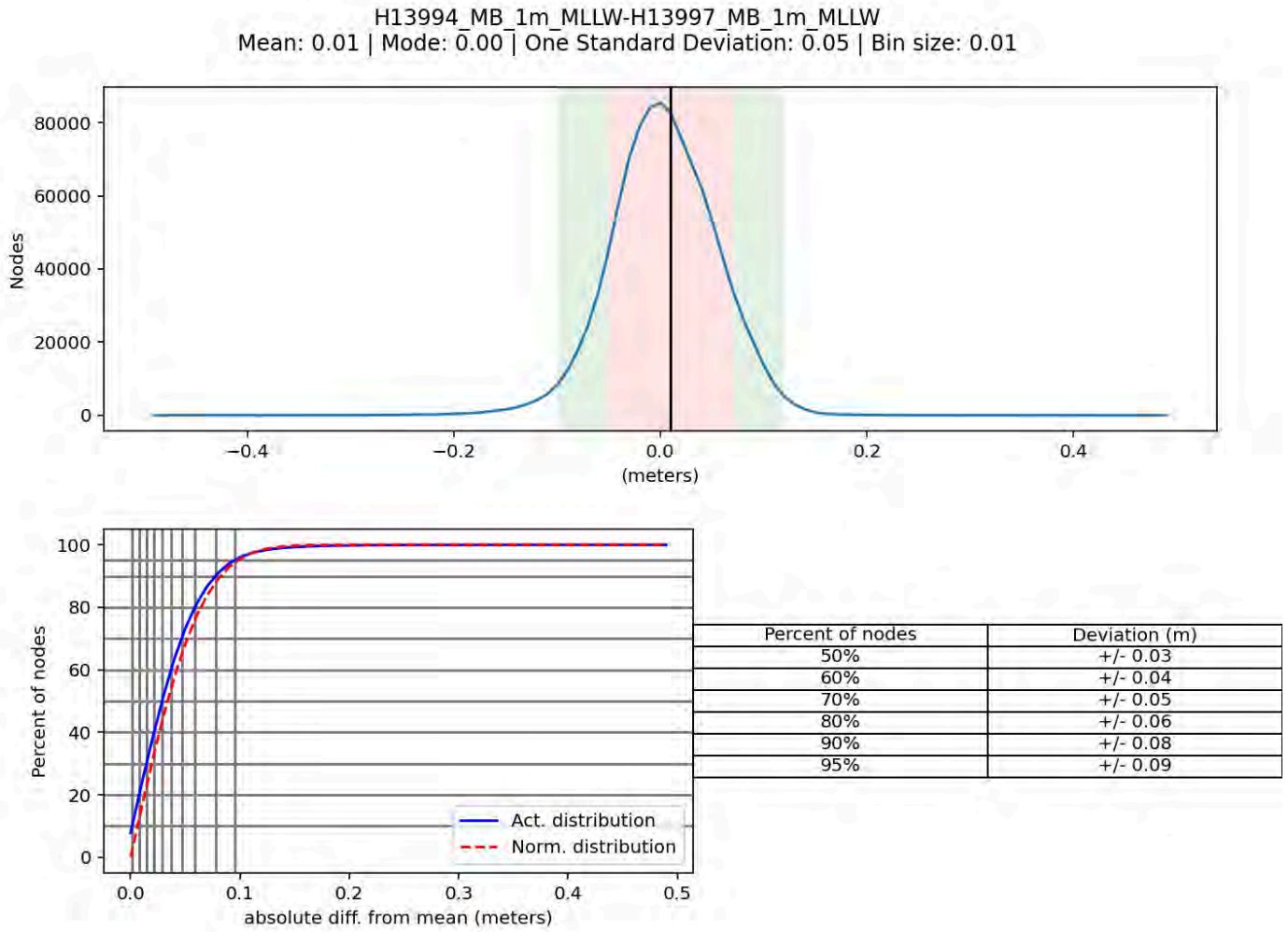


Figure 12: Depth differences between surveys H13994 and H13997, 1m resolution surface.

### 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

There were no conditions or deficiencies that affected equipment operational effectiveness.

## **B.2.6 Factors Affecting Soundings**

### Sound Speed Variation

Sound speed variations were observed throughout the survey area, correlating to factors including the tide, weather, water depth, and bathymetric features, such as slopes or sand waves. In data processing, sound speed profiles that did not adequately reflect the surrounding water mass were identified and removed, edited, or replaced. Sound speed casts were primarily applied using the CARIS HIPS "Nearest in Distance within Time" method, therefore, removing a profile collected on a steep slope would allow deeper and shoaler casts on either side to be applied instead. Casts that were empirically found to represent a large water zone were added at additional locations within that zone to ensure proper corrections given the cast selection options available in the CARIS sound speed tools. Bathymetry, uncertainty, and standard deviation surfaces were used to direct editing and determine the accuracy of sound speed cast selection.

## **B.2.7 Sound Speed Methods**

Sound Speed Cast Frequency: MV Northstar Challenger acquired MVP casts at intervals of approximately 20 minutes. An AML-3 LGR was also onboard the MV Northstar Challenger and used when the presence of fixed fishing gear precluded the use of the MVP. AML casts were acquired at approximately 2-hour intervals. RV North Cove, RV South Cove, and RV West Cove II all acquired AML3 casts at intervals of approximately 60 minutes.

Hydrographers acquired more frequent sound speed profiles if high variability was noted in the surface sound speed from the AML Micro-X installed on the head of the transducer, or when the surface sound speed comparison threshold was exceeded ( $>2\text{m/s}$  change) between the profile reading at the draft of the transducer and the Micro-X.

OSI submitted a data package titled "SOUND VELOCITY collected from MV Northstar Challenger, RV North Cove, RV South Cove, RV Twister, and RV West Cove II in North Atlantic Ocean, Northern Massachusetts Bay from 2024-08-03 to 2025-03-28" in NetCDF format to the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) on May 5, 2025.

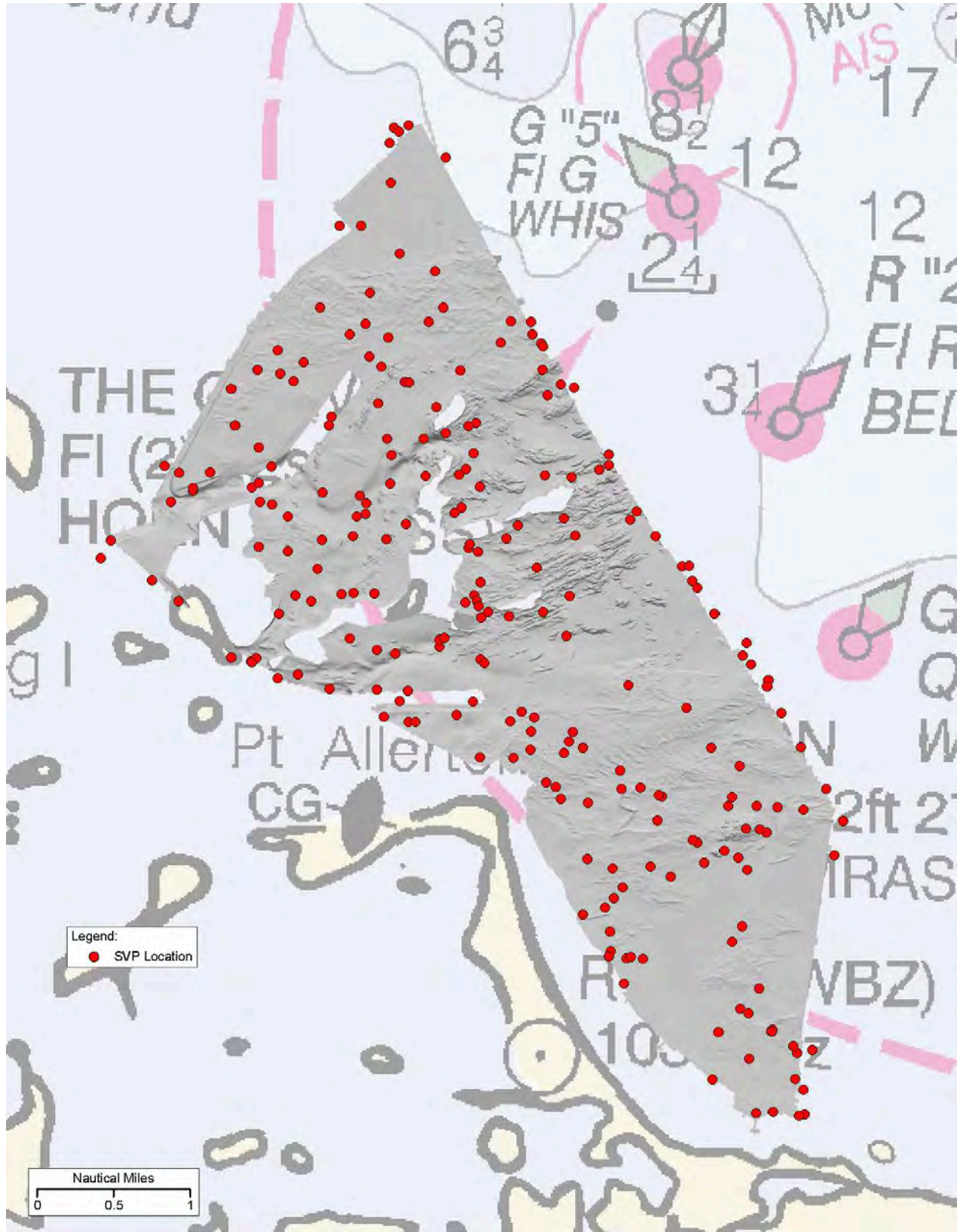


Figure 13: H13994 Sound speed cast locations.

### B.2.8 Coverage Equipment and Methods

This survey was conducted to achieve Object Detection Coverage with multibeam, as specified in HSSD 5.2.2.2, Option A. The survey methods used to meet coverage requirements did not deviate from those described in the DAPR.

The NOAA Pydro QC Tools application was used to verify that the multibeam data met the density coverage requirements for each of the finalized grids submitted for the survey. Both surfaces passed the density check, which requires 95% of nodes to be populated with at least 5 soundings.

Coverage holidays are present in the 50cm resolution surface, primarily in crevices of rocky areas or on the sides of individual rocks. No holidays are present over the tops of features or other areas of potential significance.

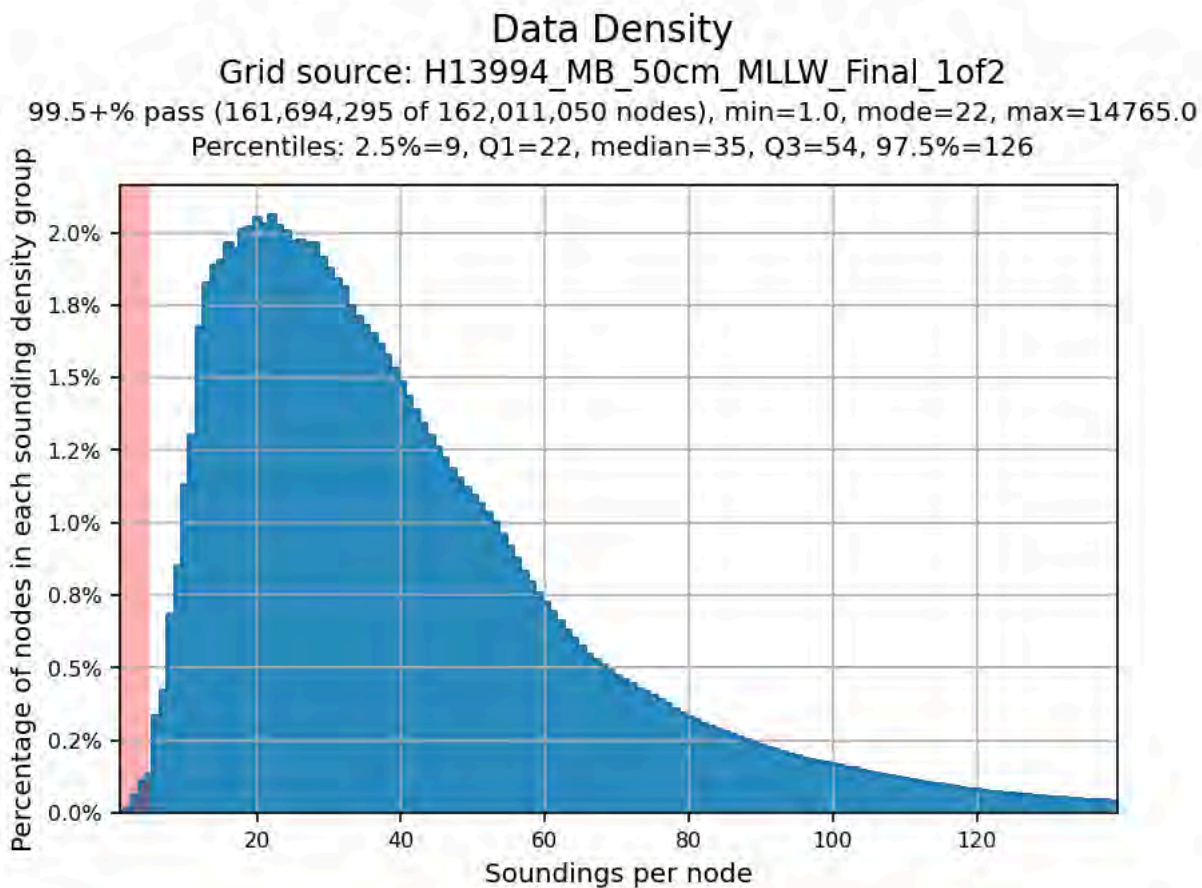
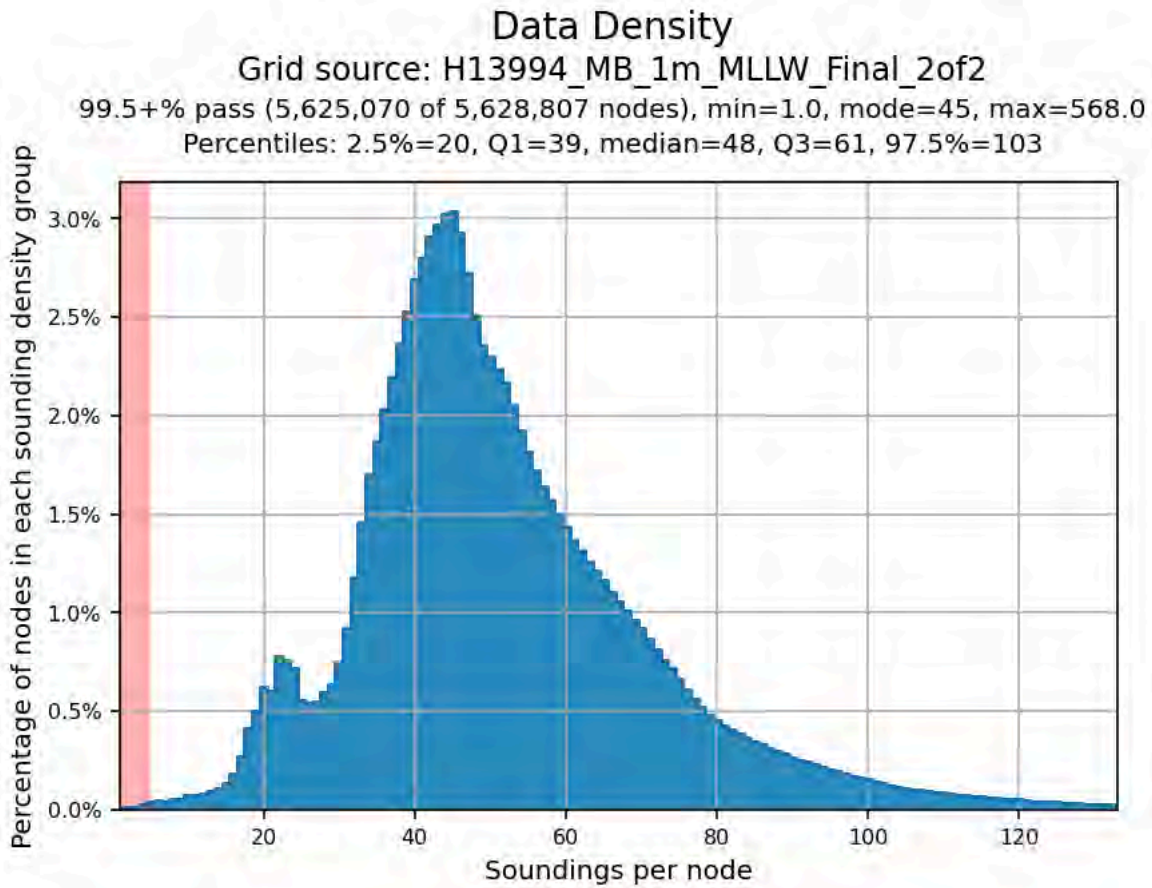
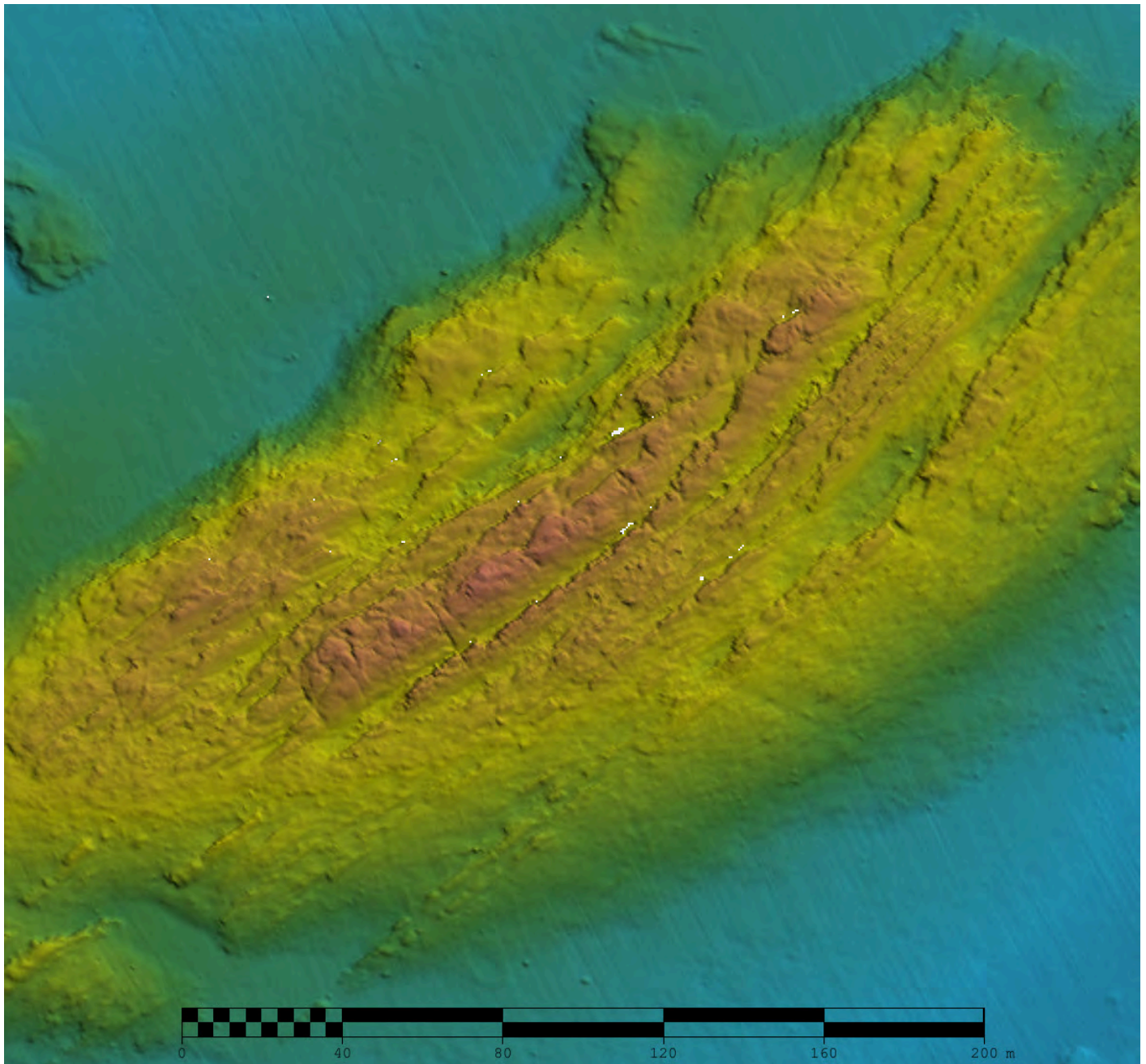


Figure 14: Data density, 50cm resolution surface.



*Figure 15: Data density, 1m resolution surface.*



*Figure 16: Holidays in 50cm resolution object detection surface.*

## **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.

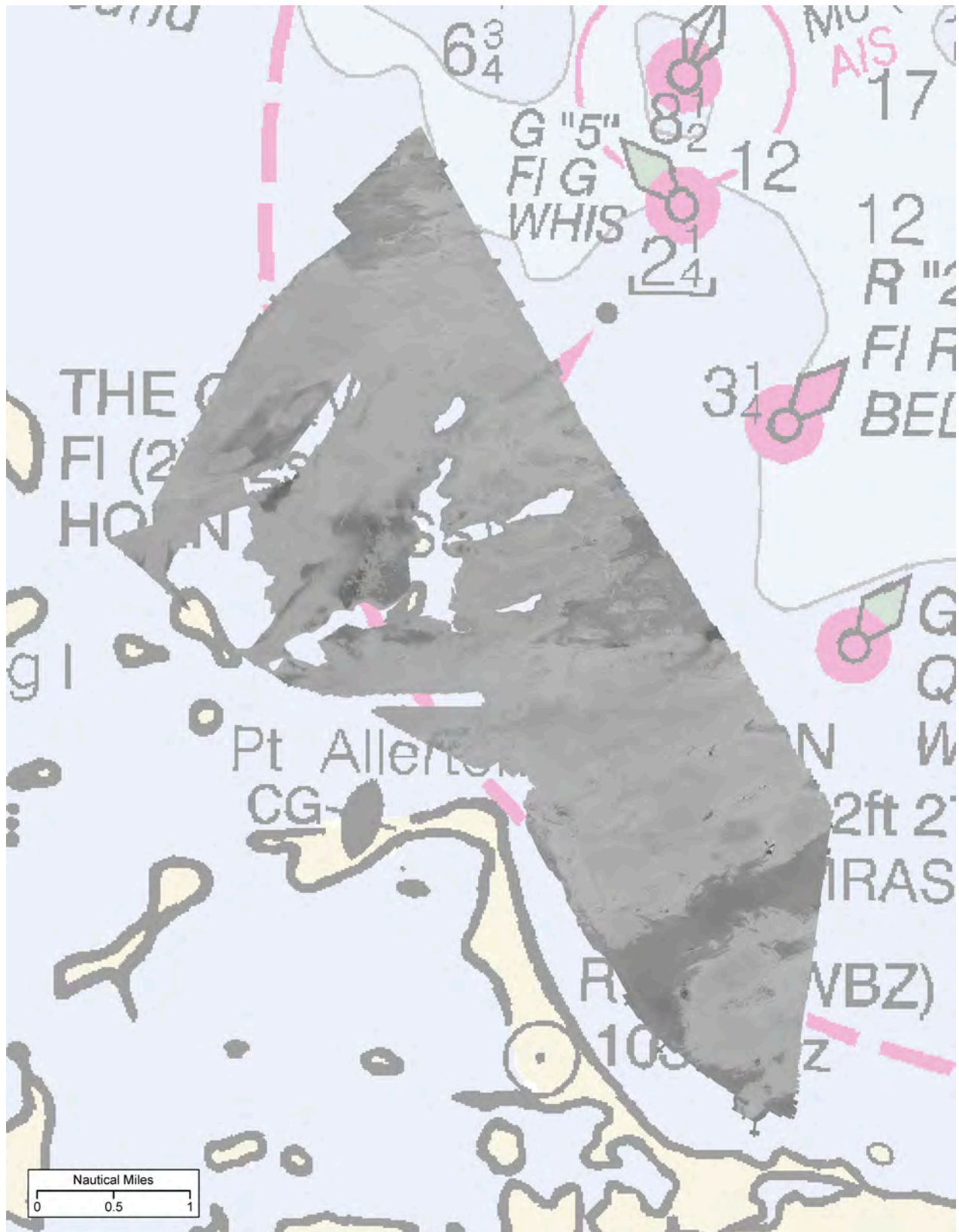


Figure 17: H13994 multibeam backscatter mosaic.

## B.5 Data Processing

### B.5.1 Primary Data Processing Software

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

### 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               |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| H13994_MB_50cm_MLLW_Final_1of2 | CARIS Raster Surface (CUBE) | 0.5 meters | -1.2 meters - 20.0 meters | NOAA_0.5m         | Object Detection      |
| H13994_MB_1m_MLLW_Final_2of2   | CARIS Raster Surface (CUBE) | 1 meters   | 18.0 meters - 29.9 meters | NOAA_1m           | Object Detection      |
| H13994_MB_50cm_MLLW_1of2       | CARIS Raster Surface (CUBE) | 0.5 meters | -1.2 meters - 29.9 meters | NOAA_0.5m         | Source                |
| H13994_MB_1m_MLLW_2of2         | CARIS Raster Surface (CUBE) | 1 meters   | -1.2 meters - 29.9 meters | NOAA_1m           | Source                |
| H13994_MBAB_2m_400kHz_1of1     | MB Backscatter Mosaic       | 2 meters   | -                         | N/A               | Processed Backscatter |

*Table 10: 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 | OPR-A325-KR-24_NAD83(2011)-MHW.csar<br>OPR-A325-KR-24_NAD83(2011)-MLLW.csar |

*Table 11: 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 19.

The following PPK methods were used for horizontal control:

- Smart Base
- Single Base

The following CORS Stations were used for horizontal control:

| <b>HVCR Site ID</b> | <b>Base Station ID</b> |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Milton              | MAMI                   |
| Plymouth            | MAPL                   |
| Salisbury           | MASA                   |
| Tewksbury           | MATB                   |
| Truro               | MATU                   |
| Wrenthm             | MAWR                   |
| Machias             | MEMA                   |
| U New Hampshire     | NHUN                   |
| U of RI Coop        | URIL                   |
| Westford            | WES2                   |
| Boston WAAS 1       | ZBW1                   |

*Table 12: CORS Base Stations*

The following user installed stations were used for horizontal control:

| <b>HVCR Site ID</b>      | <b>Base Station ID</b> |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Ocean Surveys Gloucester | OSGL                   |

*Table 13: User Installed Base Stations*

## **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 |
|----------|---------|---------|-------------------------|------------|
| US5BOSBF | 1:22000 | 3       | 02/19/2025              | 02/19/2025 |
| US5BOSCE | 1:22000 | 4       | 02/19/2025              | 02/19/2025 |
| US5BOSCF | 1:22000 | 4       | 02/19/2025              | 02/19/2025 |
| US5BOSDE | 1:22000 | 3       | 02/25/2025              | 02/25/2025 |

*Table 14: Largest Scale ENC's*

### D.1.2 Shoal and Hazardous Features

This survey had 10 DTONS submitted representing groups of shoal rocks or areas of rock outcrops that were not adequately charted. In several cases the previous RNC charts had soundings for these DTONS, but they had been removed from the ENC and the ENC contours did not adequately reflect surveyed bathymetry.

### D.1.3 Charted Features

A majority of the charted features assigned in H13994 were rocks, most of which were present and adequately represented in the bathymetry grid. Halftide Rock and Tewksbury Rock were the only named rocks within the survey, and a new feature was included in the FFF representing the surveyed shoal point of Halftide Rock. The surveyed shoal point of Tewksbury Rock is within the junction of this survey and adjacent survey H13995, and it is included only in the H13995 FFF.

All 9 charted wrecks were found to be present and larger than 1mm at survey scale, and so included in the FFF as new area features. A charted obstruction located in the Boston Harbor Main Ship Channel was similarly large and is included as a new obstruction area feature. Of the other charted obstructions, 2 were found to be rocks/rocky areas and 1 already charted as an area was found to be slightly larger than charted. See the FFF for details.

### D.1.4 Uncharted Features

Most of the uncharted features in H13994 were wrecks or obstructions found near wrecks. A charted mooring buoy was not present but there were 3 mounds on the seafloor near its position, the tallest of these is included as a new obstruction feature. New features are also included for the potentially hazardous rocks that were surveyed. See the FFF for details.

### **D.1.5 Channels**

No channels exist within the survey limits.

## **D.2 Additional Results**

### **D.2.1 Aids to Navigation**

There were 27 ATONS observed in or near survey H13994, all of which were at or near their charted positions. No uncharted aids were observed, and no reports were made to the U.S. Coast Guard.

### **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**

An outfall pipe crosses the northern end of H13994, and was not elevated or exposed within this survey. A major gas pipeline also crosses H13994, and while its path is visible in the multibeam data no actual pipeline was exposed.

### **D.2.6 Platforms**

No platforms exist for this survey.

### **D.2.7 Ferry Routes and Terminals**

Seasonal ferries from Boston to Salem or Provincetown may cross through this survey, but the routes are not on the chart.

**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.

| <b>Approver Name</b> | <b>Approver Title</b>      | <b>Approval Date</b> | <b>Signature</b>                       |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--|
| John R. Bean         | Chief of Party             | 06/05/2025           | Digitally signed by<br>John R. Bean    |
| David T. Somers      | Data Processing<br>Manager | 06/05/2025           | Digitally signed by<br>David T. Somers |

## F. Table of Acronyms

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

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

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