

**W00455**

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

**DESCRIPTIVE REPORT**

Type of Survey: Navigable Area

Registry Number: W00455

**LOCALITY**

State(s): Alaska

General Locality: Eastern Prince William Sound

Sub-locality: Vicinity of Columbia Glacier

**2019**

CHIEF OF PARTY  
Chris Toma

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

Date:

**HYDROGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET**

**W00455**

**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): **Alaska**

General Locality: **Eastern Prince William Sound**

Sub-Locality: **Vicinity of Columbia Glacier**

Scale: **25000**

Dates of Survey: **08/01/2017 to 12/31/2019**

Instructions Dated: **N/A**

Project Number: **ESD-PHB-19**

Field Unit: **Stan Stephens Cruises**

Chief of Party: **Chris Toma**

Soundings by: **Unknown Unknown (SBES)**

Imagery by: **N/A**

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 6N, MLLW. All references to other horizontal or vertical datums in this report are applicable to the processed hydrographic data provided by the field unit.*

## DESCRIPTIVE REPORT MEMO

December 07, 2020

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Pacific Hydrographic Branch

**FROM:** Report prepared by PHB on behalf of field unit  
Chris Toma  
Data provider, Stan Stephens Cruises

**SUBJECT:** Submission of Survey W00455

From 2017 to 2019, cruise ships Valdez Spirit and Glacier Spirit, both of Stan Stephens Cruises, acquired fathometer data while working near Columbia Glacier, Esther Passage, and Valdez Channel.

Survey products were generated by the hydrographic branch.

The vertical datum for this project is Mean Lower Low Water. 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 6.

Data were cleaned where significant vertical offsets were observed. This included areas where multiple lines showed vertical differences in excess of 20 meters. After cleaning, the data were gridded at 4 meters resolution. Based on an analysis of contemporary junctioning surveys, vessel draft, and tide range in the area, uncertainty was calculated using the following formula:  $20m + (0.1 * \text{Depth})$ .

All data were reviewed for DTONs and none were identified in this survey.

Stan Stephens Cruises acquired the data outlined in this report. Additional documentation from the data provider may be attached to this report.

The survey is partially adequate to supersede previous data. This survey will be used to update NOAA navigational products.

APPROVAL PAGE

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The survey data meet or exceed the current requirements of the Office of Coast Survey hydrographic data review process and may be used to update NOAA products. The following survey products will be archived at the National Centers for Environmental Information:

- Descriptive Report
- Collection of Bathymetric Attributed Grids (BAGs)
- Geospatial PDF of survey products

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

**James Miller**

Acting Chief, Pacific Hydrographic Branch