98500M

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

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey:	Navigable Area			
Registry Number:	W00586			
	LOCALITY			
State(s):	Maine			
General Locality:	Gulf of Maine			
Sub-locality:	25NM SE of Saco Bay			
	2018			
	CHIEF OF PARTY			
	Benjamin Kraun			
	LIBRARY & ARCHIVES			
Date:				

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION	REGISTRY NUMBER:	
HYDROGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET	W00586	
INSTRUCTIONS: The Histographic Short should be compared by the form Silveline completely or society, when the short is formed at the Office		

State(s): Maine

General Locality: Gulf of Maine

Sub-Locality: 25NM SE of Saco Bay

Scale: 4000

Dates of Survey: **08/16/2018 to 09/04/2018**

Instructions Dated: N/A

Project Number: ESD-AHB-21

Field Unit: State of Maine

Chief of Party: **Benjamin Kraun**

Soundings by: Kongsberg Maritime EM 2040C (MBES)

Imagery by: Kongsberg Maritime EM 2040C (MBES 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 WGS84 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.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT MEMO

February 01, 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR: Atlantic Hydrographic Branch

FROM: Report prepared by AHB on behalf of field unit

Benjamin Kraun

Hydrographer, Contractor to the State of Maine

SUBJECT: Submission of Survey W00586

This survey was conducted by the Maine Coastal Program's Maine Coastal Mapping Initiative (MCMI) as part of a multi-agency cooperative agreement partially funded by the Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM). The purpose of this project was to enhance coastal resiliency through identification and characterization of potential sand and gravel resources in waters of federal jurisdiction that may be used for beach replenishment. This project also coincides with state efforts to update coastal data sets for Maine's coastal waters and provides new data in the areas covered by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) nautical charts 13286, 13288, 13290, and 13301 in mid-coast and southern Maine. Additional objectives included habitat classification for planning purposes. These data were acquired and processed to meet Office of Coast Survey bathymetry standards as best as possible and were shared with the NOAA Office of Coast Survey for review.

A number of final surfaces were provided to the ESD team where they were divided up on a survey by survey basis. Final products for W00586 include W00586_MB_4m_MLLW.bag and W00586_MB_8m_MLLW.bag.

All soundings were reduced to Mean Lower Low Water using Discrete Zoning. The horizontal datum for this project is World Geodetic System (WGS) 1984. The projection used for this project is Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Zone 19.

All survey systems and methods utilized during this survey were as described in 2018-2019 Combined Descriptive Report of Seafloor Mapping: Vicinity of Saco Bay to Monhegan Island, Gulf of Maine.

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

State of Maine acquired the data outlined in this report. Additional documentation from the data provider may be attached to this report.

This survey does meet charting specifications and is adequate to supersede prior data.













2018-2019 Combined Descriptive Report of Seafloor Mapping: Vicinity of Saco Bay to Monhegan Island, Gulf of Maine

Chief of Party – Benjamin Kraun, Project Hydrographer, Contractor to the Maine Coastal Program

Disclaimer

These data and information published herein are accurate to the best of our knowledge. Data synthesis, summaries and related conclusions may be subject to change as additional data are collected and evaluated. While the Maine Coastal Program makes every effort to provide useful and accurate information, investigations are site-specific and (where relevant) results and/or conclusions do not necessarily apply to other regions. The Maine Coastal Program does not endorse conclusions based on subsequent use of the data by individuals not under their employment. The Maine Coastal Program disclaims any liability, incurred as a consequence, directly or indirectly, resulting from the use and application of any of the data and reports produced by staff. Any use of trade names is for descriptive purposes only and does not imply endorsement by The State of Maine.

For an overview of the Maine Coastal Mapping Initiative (MCMI) information products, including maps, data, imagery, and reports visit: https://www.maine.gov/dmr/mcp/planning/mcmi/index.htm.

Acknowledgements

The Maine Coastal Mapping Initiative would like to acknowledge the efforts of the University of Maine sediment laboratory personnel, Hodgdon Vessel Services, and Maine Geological Survey staff for contributing to the success of the 2018 and 2019 survey seasons. The individual contributions made by many were an integral part of sampling, analysis, and synthesis of data collected for this project. Funding for this study was provided by provided by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (cooperative agreement number M14AC00008) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (award numbers NA16NOS4190118 and NA17NOS4190116).

Maine Coastal Mapping Initiative Maine Coastal Program Department of Marine Resources

Department of Marine Resources		
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT		
Type of Survey:	Navigable Area	
Registry Number:		
	LOCALITY	
State(s):	Maine	
General Locality:	Gulf of Maine	
Sub-Locality:	Vicinity of Saco Bay to Monhegan Island	
	2018-2019	
Benjamin Kraun,	CHIEF OF PARTY Hydrographer, Contractor to the State of Maine	
	LIBRARY & ARCHIVES	
Date:		

	MAINE COACTAL MADDING INITIATIVE	DECICEDY MUMBER
	MAINE COASTAL MAPPING INITIATIVE MAINE COASTAL PROGRAM	REGISTRY NUMBER:
HYDRO	GRAPHIC TITLE SHEET	
INSTRUCTIONS: The hydro,	graphic sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, v	when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.
State(s):	Maine	
General Locality:	Gulf of Maine	
Sub-Locality:	Vicinity of Saco Bay to Monhegan Island	
Scale:		
Dates of Survey:	08/01/2018 to 11/19/2018; and	
	04/12/2019 to 08/29/2019	
Instructions Dated:		
Project Number:		
Field Unit:	Amy Gale	
Chief of Party:	Benjamin Kraun, Hydrographer, Contract	or to the State of Maine
Soundings by:	Multibeam Echo Sounder	
Imagery by:	Multibeam Echo Sounder Backscatter	
Verification by:		
Soundings in:	meters at Mean Lower Low Water	
Remarks:		

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	iii
ABSTRACT	1
1.0 Area Surveyed	2
1.1 Survey Purpose	5
1.2 Survey Quality	5
1.3 Survey Coverage	5
2.0 Data Acquisition	7
2.1 Survey Vessel	7
2.2 Acquisition Systems	7
2.3 Vessel Configuration Parameters	8
2.4 Survey Operations	10
2.5 Survey Planning	10
2.6 Calibrations	10
3.0 Quality Control	11
3.1 Crosslines	11
3.2 Junctions	15
3.3 Equipment Effectiveness	19
3.4 Sound Speed Methods	19
4.0 Data Post-processing.	19
4.1 Horizontal Datum	19
4.2 Vertical Datum and Water Level Corrections	20
4.3 Processing Workflow	21
4.4 Final Surfaces	22
4.5 Backscatter	23
5.0 Results	25
5.1 Charts Comparison	25
6.0 Summary	31
References	32
Appendix A – Specific dates of data acquisition for mainscheme surveys	33
Appendix B – Configuration settings for Seapath 330	34
Appendix C – Template database settings in OINSy (for acquisition)	46

Appendix D – Configuration settings for QINSy EMcontroller	66

Suggested citation:

Kraun, B.S., 2020. 2018-2019 Combined descriptive report of seafloor mapping: Vicinity of Saco Bay to Monhegan Island, Maine. Maine Coastal Mapping Initiative, Maine Coastal Program, Augusta, ME. 74 p.

ABSTRACT

During the 2018 survey season (July - November) and part of the 2019 field season (April - August), the Maine Coastal Mapping Initiative (MCMI) conducted hydrographic surveying using a multibeam echosounder (MBES) in the waters off southern and mid-coast Maine. The surveying was conducted in part to support the Federal Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management's (BOEM) efforts to enhance coastal resiliency through identification and characterization of potential sand and gravel resources on the outer continental shelf that may be used for beach nourishment. The surveys also coincide with state efforts to update coastal data sets and increase high resolution bathymetric coverage for Maine's coastal waters. A total of approximately 71 mi² (184 km²) of high-resolution multibeam data were collected in the surveyed areas. An additional 6.5 mi² were collected in nearshore waters for the purposes of assessing nearshore and riverine sand movement as well as mapping eelgrass beds. This work is summarized in separate reports.

1.0 Area Surveyed

The 2018 and 2019 mainscheme survey areas were located off Maine's southern and mid-coast regions in the Gulf of Maine, with sub-localities of the vicinity of Saco Bay and west of Monhegan Island as shown in Figure 1. The approximately 71 mi² (184 km²) mainscheme survey areas adjoin the eastern extent of the areas mapped by MCMI in 2014 and 2017 (both accepted by NOAA, who lists the surveys as W00289 and W00450, respectively) as well as areas mapped by NOAA in 2015 (surveys H12725 and H12726) (Figure 3). These data were not collected in direct accordance with the *NOS Hydrographic Surveys Specifications and Deliverables* and the *Field Procedures Manual* requirements; however, both documents were referenced during acquisition for guidance. The data for both survey seasons were combined, reprocessed, and analyzed for quality control as a single 2018-2019 surface for each sub-locality (Figure 2).

Mainscheme survey limits of each main sub-locality are listed in Table 1. Specific dates of data acquisition for the mainscheme survey are listed in Appendix A.

Table 1 – 2018-2019 mainscheme survey limits

Saco Bay

Southwest Limit	Northeast Limit
43° 22' 37.632" N	43° 31' 32.664" N
70° 13′ 55.812" W	69° 57' 27.072" W

Monhegan Island

Southeast Limit	Northwest Limit
43° 39' 20.139" N	43° 44' 54.888" N
69° 20' 40.623" W	69° 23' 52.285" W

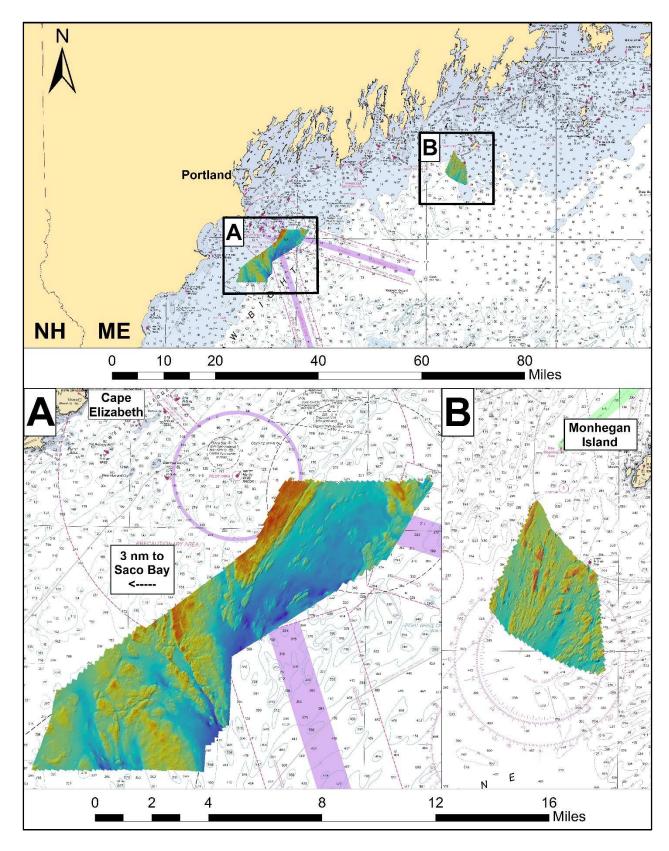


Figure 1 – General localities of 2018 - 2019 mainscheme survey coverage off southern and mid-coast Maine.

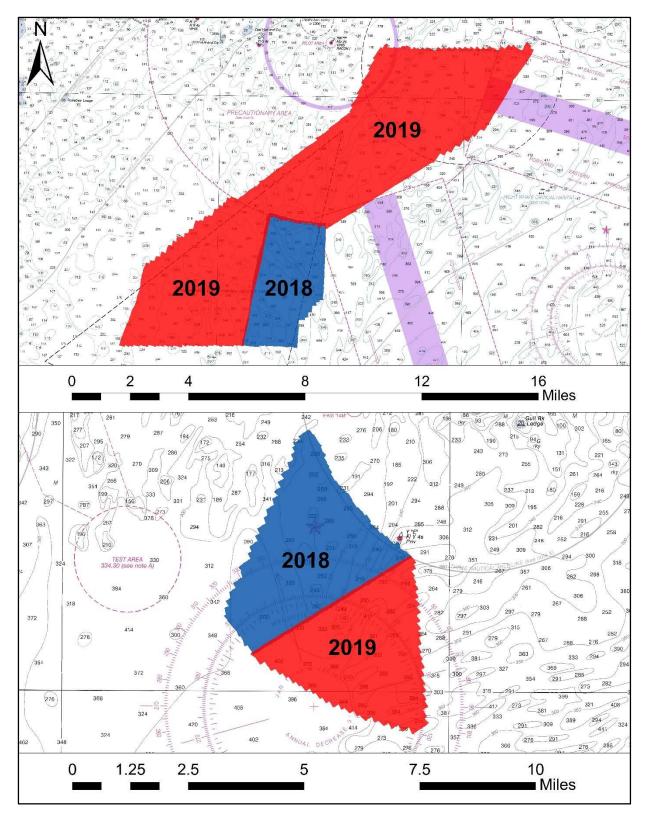


Figure 2-2018 - 2019 mainscheme survey coverage colored by year of data collection. The data for both survey seasons were combined, reprocessed, and analyzed for quality control as a single 2018-2019 surface for each sub-locality.

1.1 Survey Purpose

This survey was conducted by the Maine Coastal Program's Maine Coastal Mapping Initiative (MCMI) as part of a multi-agency cooperative agreement partially funded by the Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM). The purpose of this project was to enhance coastal resiliency through identification and characterization of potential sand and gravel resources in waters of federal jurisdiction that may be used for beach replenishment. This project also coincides with state efforts to update coastal data sets for Maine's coastal waters and provides new data in the areas covered by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) nautical charts 13286, 13288, 13290, and 13301 in mid-coast and southern Maine. Additional objectives included habitat classification for planning purposes. These data were acquired and processed to meet Office of Coast Survey bathymetry standards as best as possible and were shared with the NOAA Office of Coast Survey for review

1.2 Survey Quality

The entire survey should be adequate to supersede previous data.

1.3 Survey Coverage

Numerous small holidays (gaps in MBES coverage) exist within the surveyed area, and normally occurred as sonic shadows in areas of locally high relief and/or highly irregular bathymetry. Analyses of bathymetric data show that the least depths were achieved over all features, and that holidays have not compromised data integrity.

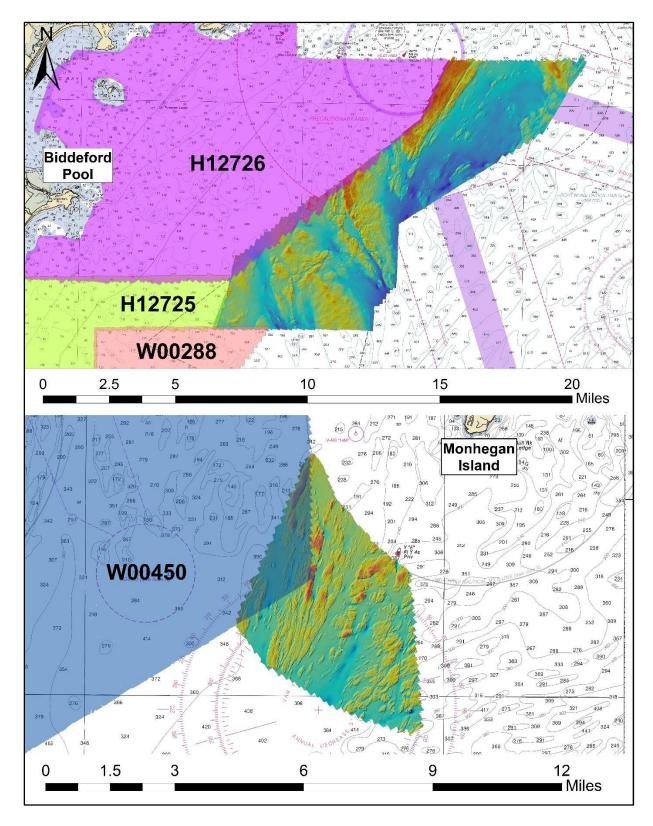


Figure 3 – 2018-2019 survey coverage relative to MCMI 2014 and 2017 surveys (NOAA survey IDs: W00288, W00450) and NOAA 2015 surveys (IDs: H12725 and H12726); plotted over RNCs 13288 and 13286, respectively

2.0 Data Acquisition

The following sub-sections contain a summary of the systems, software, and general operations used for acquisition and preliminary processing during the 2018 and 2019 survey seasons.

2.1 Survey Vessel

All data were collected aboard the Research Vessel (R/V) Amy Gale (length = 10.7 m, width = 3.81 m, draft = 0.93 m) (Figure 4), a former lobster boat converted to a survey vessel and contracted to the MCMI. The vessel was captained by Caleb Hodgdon of Hodgdon Vessel Services based out of Boothbay Harbor, Maine and South Portland, ME. The EM2040C transducer, motion reference unit (MRU), AML Micro surface sound speed probe, and dual GNSS antennas were pole-mounted to the bow; pole raised (for transit) and lowered (for survey) via a pivot point at the edge of the bow. The main cabin of the vessel served as the data collection center and was outfitted with four display monitors for real time visualization of data during acquisition.



Figure 4 – R/V Amy Gale shown with pole-mounted dual GPS antennas, Kongsberg EM2040C multibeam sonar, MRU (not visible), and surface sound speed probe (not visible) in acquisition mode

2.2 Acquisition Systems

The real-time acquisition systems used aboard the R/V Amy Gale during the 2018 and 2019 surveys are outlined in Table 2. Data acquisition was performed using the Quality Positioning Services (QPS) QINSy (Quality Integrated Navigation System; v.8.18.2) acquisition software. The modules within QINSy integrated all systems and were used for real-time navigation, survey line planning, data time tagging, data logging, and visualization.

Table 2 – Major systems used aboard R/V Amy Gale

Sub-system	Components
Multibeam Sonar	Kongsberg EM2040C and processing unit
Position, Attitude, and Heading Sensor	Seapath 330 processing unit, HMI unit, dual GPS/GLONASS antennas, MRU 5 motion reference unit (subsea bottle)
Acquisition Software and Workstation	QINSy software v.8.18.2 and 64-bit Windows 10 PC console
Surface Sound Velocity (SV) Probe	AML Micro X with SV Xchange
Sound Velocity Profiler (SVP)	Teledyne Odom Digibar S sound speed profiler
Ground-truthing/Sediment Sampling Platform	Ponar grab sampler, GoPro Hero 3+ video camera, dive light, dive lasers, YSI Exo I sonde

2.3 Vessel Configuration Parameters

In 2017, the MCMI contracted Doucet Survey, Inc. to perform high-definition (precision ± 5 mm) 3D laser scanning of the Amy Gale and all external MBES system components (e.g. MRU, GPS antennas, and EM2040C) (Figure 4). The purpose of the laser scan survey was to refine and or verify the precision of handmade vessel reference frame measurements for future surveys. All points were referenced to the center point of the base of the MRU (mounted inside the pole and directly atop the EM2040C transducer) (Figure 5), which served as the origin (e.g. 0,0,0), where 'x' was positive forward, 'y' was positive starboard, and 'z' was positive down. The laser scan survey results only differed from hand-made measurements by \leq 3mm for all nodes of interest. Reference measurements for each component were entered into the Seapath 330 Navigation Engine (Table 3) and converted so all outgoing datagrams would be relative to the location of the EM2040C transducer (e.g. EM2040C was used as the monitoring point for all outgoing datagrams being received by QINSy during acquisition). Additional configuration and interfacing of all systems were established during the creation of a template database in the QINSy console.

These offset values were not changed for the 2018 or 2019 survey seasons. See appendices for specific settings as entered in the Seapath 330 Navigation Engine (Appendix B) and for the template database (Appendix C) used during data acquisition while online in QINSy. Configuration settings of the EM2040C were assigned in the EM Controller module of QINSy (Appendix D).

Table 3 – 2017 equipment reference frame measurements for Seapath 330

Equipment	x (m)	y (m)	z (m)
MRU	0.000	0.000	0.00
Antenna 1 (port)	0.158	-1.245	-3.000
Antenna 2 (starboard)	0.158	1.252	-3.035
EM2040C	0.036	0.000	0.133

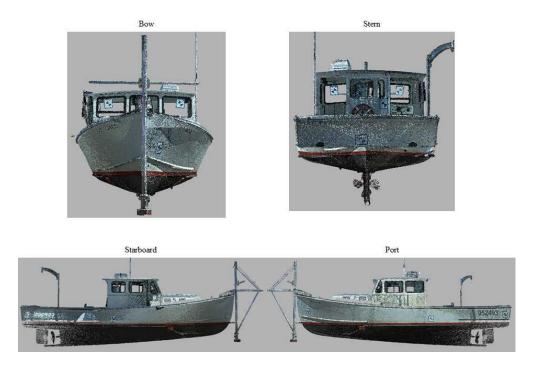


Figure 5 – Amy Gale RGB color images generated from 3D laser scan survey (GPS antennas and external cabling not included in survey) data (.pts file converted to .las for visualization)



Figure 6 – Amy Gale origin (point 201 in RGB images) for vessel reference frame(s); origin is center point within the base of the pole (center point of base within internally-mounted motion reference unit (MRU) point 201 in images above)

2.4 Survey Operations

The following is a general summary of daily survey operations. Once the survey destination was reached, the sonar pole mount was lowered into survey position and its bracing rods were fastened securely to the hull of the ship via heavy-duty ratchet straps. Electric power to all systems was provided by a 2000-watt Honda eu2000i generator. Occasionally two eu2000i generators were simultaneously used if any auxiliary equipment needed additional electricity. Immediately following power-up, all interfacing instruments were given time to stabilize (e.g. approximately 30-45 minutes for Seapath to acquire time tag for GPS). Next, the desired QINSy project (e.g. mainscheme, inshore, etc.) was selected for data acquisition. All files (e.g. raw sonar files, sound speed profiles, grid files, etc.) were recorded and stored within their respective project subfolders on a local drive. Prior to surveying, a sound speed cast was taken and imported into the 'imports' folder of the current project. After confirming a close match between the upcast and downcast data, the profile was applied to the sonar (EM2040C) in the QINSy Controller module. Data were gridded at 2-meters for real-time visualization. Raw sonar files were logged in the QINSy Controller module in .db format and saved directly onto the hydrographic workstation computer. All data were backed up daily on an external hard drive. At the end of each day's survey, sonar and navigation systems were powered down and the pole mount was raised and fastened for transit back to port. Upon arriving at the dock, all external instruments/hardware were visually inspected and rinsed with freshwater to prevent corrosion.

2.5 Survey Planning

Line planning and coverage requirements were designed to meet the specifications set forth in the BOEM grant, but also met requirements for NOAA hydrographic standards (NOAA Field Procedures Manual, 2014). In the mainscheme area, parallel lines were mostly planned several days prior to surveying and run in a NE-SW or E-W pattern, depending on the location. Lines were spaced at consistent intervals to obtain a minimum of 20% overlap between full swaths. Soundings from beam angles outside of ± 60 degrees from the nadir were blocked from visualization during acquisition, thus increasing the true minimum full-swath overlap. This online blocking filter was recommended by Quality Positioning Services field engineers with the intent of eliminating noisy outer beams from the final product, thereby increasing the overall contribution of higher quality soundings. All data was acquired at approximately 6 - 6.5 knots, although some areas required slower speeds to ensure safe operation of the vessel around obstructions (e.g. fishing gear, docks, ledges, etc.).

2.6 Calibrations

Several patch tests were conducted aboard the R/V Amy Gale at the beginning of the 2018 and 2019 survey seasons to correct for alignment offsets. A second patch test was applied later in each season once verified tide data was available from NOAA. During the test, a series of lines were run to determine the latency, pitch, roll, and heading offset. The patch test data were processed using the Qimera (v.1.7.2) patch test tool. After calibration was complete, offsets (Tables 4 and 5) were entered into the template database in QINSy. Roll and heading offsets calculated for this patch test slightly differed from calibrations from each other but varied more greatly compared to previous seasons. Pitch offsets for 2019 varied significantly from previous seasons' values. Full built-in self-tests (BIST) were performed at semi-regular intervals throughout the season to determine if any significant deviations in background noise were present at the chosen survey frequency of 300KHz.

Table 4 – Initial and updated 2018 patch test calibration offsets for EM2040C

	7/30/2018	8/20/2018
Latency (seconds)	0.06	0.01
Roll (degrees)	-0.39	-0.39
Pitch (degrees)	0.34	0.51
Heading (degrees)	-0.15	-0.21

Table 5 – Initial and updated 2019 patch test calibration offsets for EM2040C

	5/16/2019	5/28/2019	
Latency (seconds)	0.01	0.01	
Roll (degrees)	-0.35	-0.43	
Pitch (degrees)	0.72	2.27	
Heading (degrees)	-0.43	-0.30	

3.0 Quality Control

3.1 Crosslines

Due to unforeseen scheduling conflicts, crosslines were not run in either mainscheme area during the 2018 field season. A late start to the field season resulting from the hire of a new hydrographer and poor weather conditions during the months of September through October were two major factors in the inability of the MCMI to conduct crosslines in 2018 survey areas. To meet the BOEM requirement, crosslines for the entire 2018 survey area were run during the 2019 season. Due to timing constraints, crosslines for the 2019 survey area were only run in areas of interest to BOEM (Figure 7).

Crosslines were run (staggered to save time on turns; in lieu of 900-meter BOEM requirement; U.S. Department of the Interior, 2014) to act as a data quality check over both years' coverage (Figure 7). Crosslines were filtered during post-processing to remove soundings greater than 45 degrees from the nadir. After filtering, the two-dimensional surface area of the crossline surfaces totaled approximately 20% of mainscheme acquisition. Crossline sounding agreement with mainscheme data was evaluated by using the crosscheck tool in Qimera v.2.1.1, which performs a beam-by-beam statistical analysis.

The mean difference between soundings was -0.006 meters with a standard deviation of 0.438 meters for the Saco Bay area and 0.071 meters with a standard deviation of 0.543 meters for the Monhegan Island area. Sounding agreement in both areas meet IHO Order 1 survey specifications according to the crosscheck tool.

95% of all differences for both survey areas were less than or equal to 1.15 meters from the mean (Figure 8). Summary statistics for this analysis are shown in Table 6 and Table 7. Additional statistical plots generated from this analysis are reported in Appendix E. Raw difference data, reference surfaces, and sonar files used for this analysis were submitted with the data in these surveys.

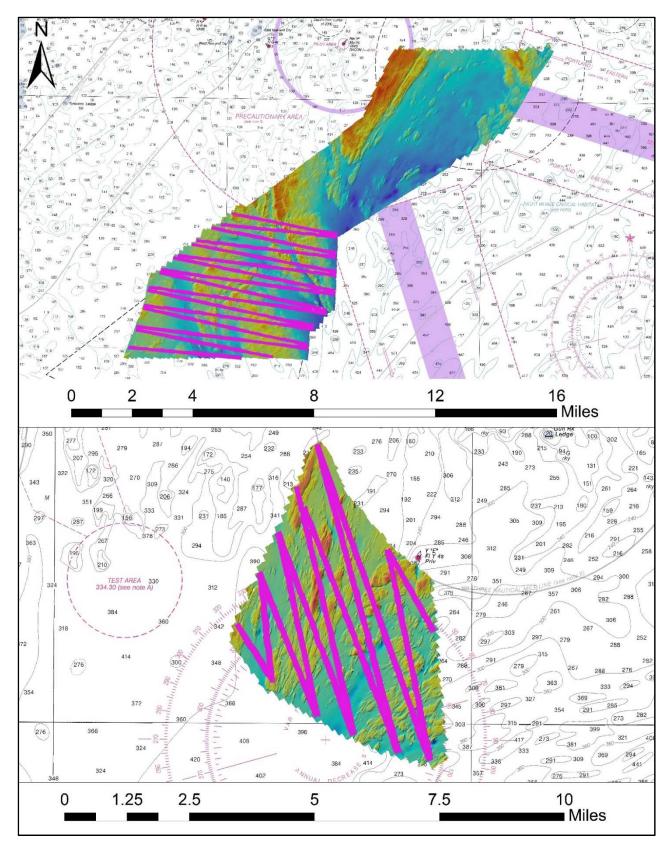
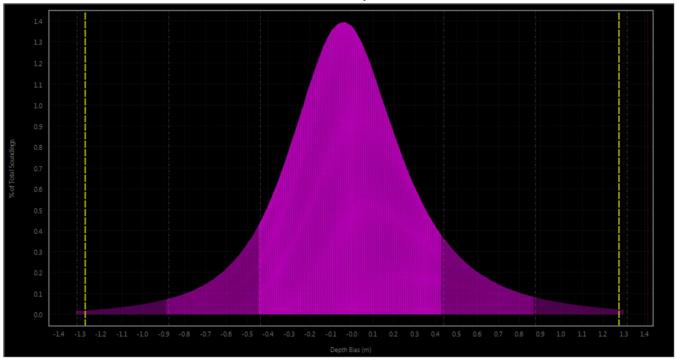


Figure 7 – Location of crosslines (shown in pink, beams filtered outside ±45°) and mainscheme data.

Saco Bay:



Monhegan Island:

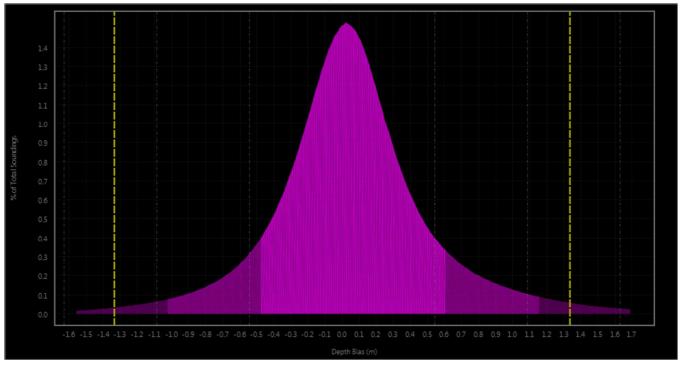


Figure 8-2018-2019 crosslines difference histogram; pink areas represent the 95% confidence interval based on normal distribution; yellow dashed lines represent limit of IHO Order 1 test vertical tolerance; gray dashed lines on histogram represent \pm sigma 1, 2, and 3

Table 6 – Saco Bay survey area crossline difference (Qimera crosscheck) summary statistics

35,944,683	
-90.286078 m	
-90.280010 m	
-0.006068 m	
-0.026605 m	
0.438126 m	
-136.77 m to -47.96 m	
-135.49 m to -48.39 m	
-16.94 m to 26.99 m	
0.882320 m	
0.902857 m	
1.275708 m	
0.017699 m	
636202	
ACCEPTED	
	-90.286078 m -90.280010 m -0.006068 m -0.026605 m 0.438126 m -136.77 m to -47.96 m -135.49 m to -48.39 m -16.94 m to 26.99 m 0.882320 m 0.902857 m 1.275708 m 0.017699 m 636202

^{*}Order 1 parameters: a = 0.25 and b = 0.013

Table 7 – Monhegan Island survey area crossline difference (Qimera crosscheck) summary statistics

# of Points of Comparison	20,298,902
Data Mean	
_ 	-95.157647 m
Reference Mean	-95.229265 m
Difference Mean	0.071618 m
Difference Median	0.046148 m
Std. Deviation	0.543356 m
Data Z - Range	-131.56 m to -59.81 m
Ref. Z - Range	-132.11 m to -60.48 m
Diff Z - Range	-13.77 m to 17.87 m
Mean + 2*stddev	1.158330 m
Median + 2*stddev	1.132860 m
Ord 1 Error Limit	1.335139 m
Ord 1 P-Statistic	0.032928
Ord 1 - # Rejected	668410
Order 1 Survey	ACCEPTED

^{*}Order 1 parameters: a = 0.25 and b = 0.013

3.2 Junctions

The junctions shown in Table 8 were made with this survey. Survey W00450 was conducted by the Maine Coastal Program's Mapping Initiative aboard the Amy Gale in 2017. The areas of overlap between the 2018-2019 survey and the junction survey (NOAA survey ID W00450, currently in review) were evaluated for sounding agreement by performing surface (4-meter resolution) difference tests in Fledermaus (v.7.8.6, 64-bit), where the junctioning surface (2017) was subtracted from the new 2018-2019 surface. A summary of surface difference test results is shown in Table 9. The extent of overlap between the 2017 base surface and the corresponding 2018-2019 junction surface is illustrated in Figure 9. The surfaces used for these tests are submitted with the data in these surveys.

Survey W00288 was conducted by the Maine Coastal Program's Mapping Initiative aboard the Amy Gale in 2014. The areas of overlap between the 2018-2019 survey and the junction survey (NOAA survey ID W00288) were evaluated for sounding agreement by performing surface (8-meter resolution) difference tests in Fledermaus (v.7.8.6, 64-bit), where the junctioning surface (2014) was subtracted from the new 2018-2019 surface. A summary of surface difference test results is shown in Table 9. The extent of overlap between the 2014 base surface and the corresponding 2018-2019 junction surface is illustrated in Figure 10. The surfaces used for these tests are submitted with the data in these surveys.

Surveys H12725 and H12726 were conducted by NOAA aboard the Ferdinand R. Hassler in 2015. The areas of overlap between the 2018-2019 survey and the junction surveys (NOAA survey IDs H12725 and H12726) were evaluated for sounding agreement by performing surface (8-meter and 4-meter resolution, respectively) difference tests in Fledermaus (v.7.8.6, 64-bit), where the junctioning surfaces (2015) were subtracted from the new 2018-2019 surface. A summary of surface difference test results is shown in Table 9. The extent of overlap between the 2015 base surfaces and the corresponding 2018-2019 junction surface is illustrated in Figure 10. The surfaces used for these tests are submitted with the data in these surveys.

Table 8 – 2018-2019 mainscheme survey junctions

Registry Number	Grid Resolution	Mainscheme area	Year	Field Unit	Relative Location(s)
W00288	8 meters	Saco Bay	2014	AMY GALE	W and S
H12725	8 meters	Saco Bay	2015	FERDINAND R. HASSLER	W
H12726	4 meters	Saco Bay	2015	FERDINAND R. HASSLER	W and N
W00450	4 meters	Monhegan Island	2017	AMY GALE	W and N

Table 9 – Summary of surface difference test results for overlapping (junction) surveys

Junction Surface ID	New Surface ID	Median (m)	Mean (m)	Std. Dev. (m)
W00288_MB_8m_MLLW_ Combined	MCMI_2018_2019_SacoBay_updated8m_MLLW	-0.05	-0.04	0.25
H12725_MB_8m_MLLW_ Combined	MCMI_2018_2019_SacoBay_updated8m_MLLW	0.04	0.02	0.37
H12726_MB_4m_MLLW_ Combined	MCMI_2018_2019_SacoBay_updated4m_MLLW	0.03	0.04	0.42
MCMI_2017_mainscheme_ 4m_mllw	MCMI_2018_2019_Monhegan_4m_M LLW	0.00	0.01	0.55

Several factors are thought to contribute to the high standard deviation in the overlapping Monhegan Island area surveys: poor agreement in rocky areas, filtering procedures, and survey conditions (e.g. weather and sea state). The most disagreement between surfaces was in areas with a steep, rocky seabed.

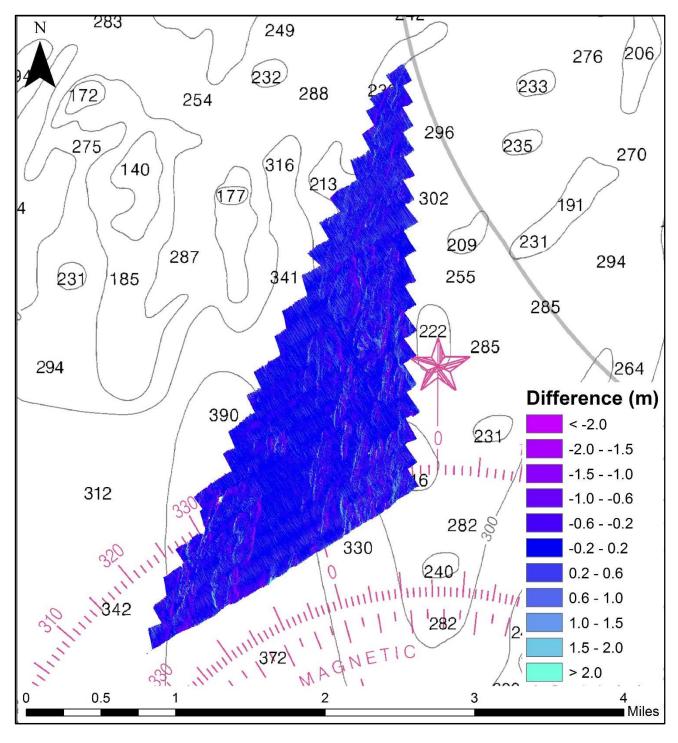


Figure 9 – Junctioning areas between W00450 and 2018-2019 Monhegan Island mainscheme survey (4-meter surfaces) shown as surface difference results; scale is 1:25,000.

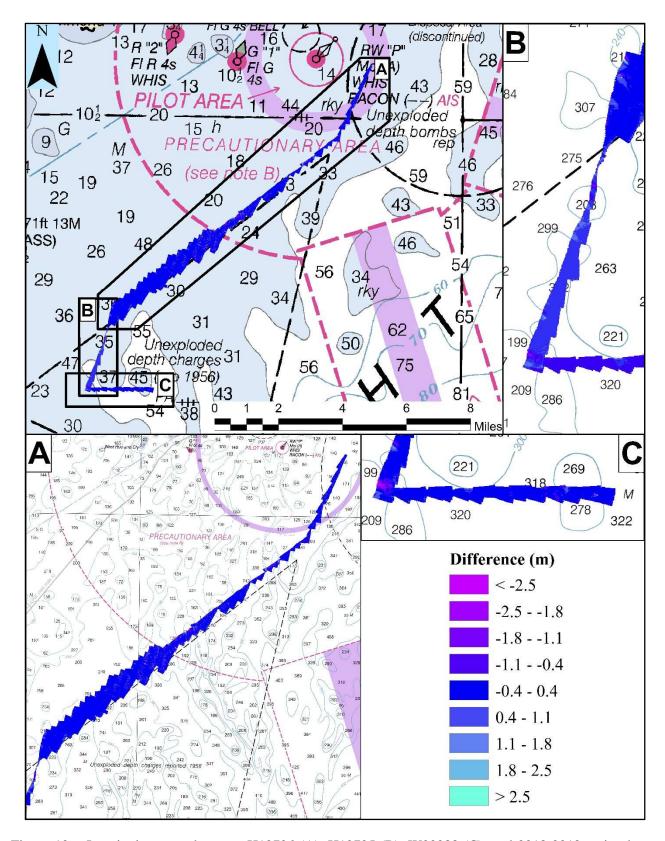


Figure 10 – Junctioning areas between H12726 (A), H12725 (B), W00288 (C), and 2018-2019 mainscheme survey; (4-meter and 8-meter surfaces) shown as surface difference results; scale in A is 1:30,000; scale in B and C is 1:10,000

3.3 Equipment Effectiveness

Sonar

Sonar data were acquired with a Kongsberg EM2040C set to a survey frequency of 300 kHz, high-density beam forming, with 400 beams per ping. Although the EM2040C allowed full swath widths at this frequency, lines from previous year's survey run at comparable depths contained considerable noise in outer beams ($> \pm 60$ degrees from the nadir; as identified by QPS engineers). As a result (and as per QPS recommendation), soundings greater than ± 60 degrees from the nadir were not included in final bathymetric surfaces.

Hydrographic Workstation

Prior to October 2018, a BIOS setting related to CPU power throttling on the hydrographic workstation PC created brief (<1 second) and semi-regular losses of QINSy's time sync status (e.g. PPS time tagging of incoming data) while recording data. Troubleshooting of this problem was successful prior to all surveying conducted in October 2018 and thereafter.

3.4 Sound Speed Methods

Sound speed cast frequency: A total of 70 sound speed casts were taken within the boundaries of the 2018 and 2019 mainscheme surveys. All sound speed cast measurements were collected using the Teledyne Odom Digibar S profiler. Sound speed casts were taken as needed throughout the survey, which was generally when the observed surface sound speed (monitored and visualized in real-time using the AML MicroX SV sensor) differed from the surface sound speed in the active profile by more than 2 meters per second. In certain instances, supplemental casts were taken when there was reason to suspect significant changes in the water column (e.g. change in tide, abrupt changes in seafloor relief, etc.). During the collection of sound speed casts, logging was stopped to download and apply the new cast and was resumed when the boat circled around and came back on the survey line. Throughout the duration of the survey, the surface sound speed was observed in real-time (by the AML Micro X SV probe). Although sound speed data were recorded in raw sonar files, the raw sound velocity profiles (.csv) were also submitted with the survey data.

A quality comparison between the AML Micro X SV sensor and the Teledyne Odom Digibar S profiler was not performed. However, real-time comparisons between surface sound speed observed by the AML Micro X SV and the surface sound speed entry in the Digibar S profile suggested these instruments were in agreement.

4.0 Data Post-processing

The following is a summary of the procedures used for post-processing and analysis of survey data using Qimera (v.2.1.1, 64-bit edition) and Fledermaus (v.7.8.6, 64-bit edition) software.

4.1 Horizontal Datum

The horizontal datum for these data is WGS 84 projected in UTM zone 19N (meters).

4.2 Vertical Datum and Water Level Corrections

The vertical datum for these data is mean lower-low water (MLLW) level in meters. A tidal zoning file (.zdf; provided by NOAA CO-OPS) containing time and range corrections for verified data referenced from the Wells, ME (8419317) tide gauge was applied to all areas surveyed (Figure 11). Time corrections, tide height offsets, and tide scale (range) for each zone are listed in Table 10.

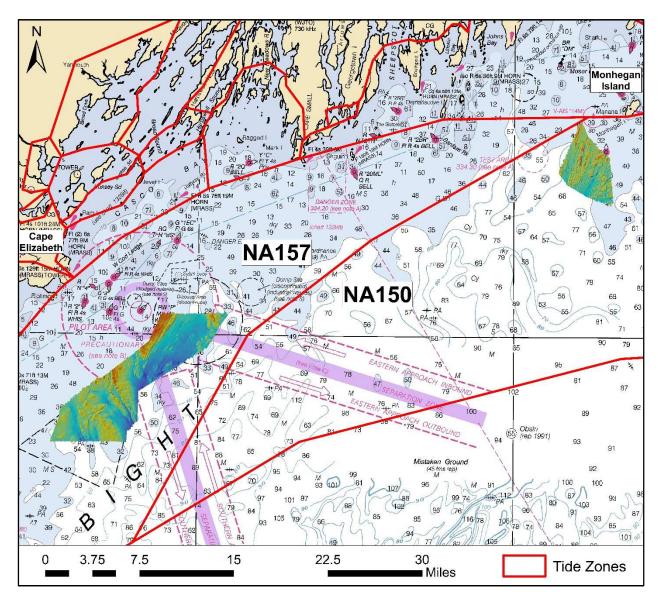


Figure 11 – Tide zones (outlined in red) relative to 2018-2019 mainscheme survey extent. Map scale 1:75,000.

Table 10 – Tide zones and corrections referenced to verified Wells (8419317)

_	Zone ID	Time Correction (mins.)	Tide Offset (m)	Tide Scale	Survey Area
	NA150	-6	0	0.95	Mainscheme
	NA157	-6	0	0.95	Mainscheme

4.3 Processing Workflow

The general post-processing workflow in Qimera was as follows:

- 1. Create project
- 2. Add raw sonar files (e.g. metadata extracted and processed bathymetry data converted to .qpd, including vessel configuration and sound velocity)
- 3. Add tide zoning file (.zdf) and associated tide data and integrate into raw files
- 4. Create dynamic surface with NOAA_4m CUBE settings enabled
- 5. Review and edit soundings/clean surface with 3D editor tool
- 6. Duplicate surfaces at other grid sizes, if desired
- 7. Export final surface to .BAG file and CUBE surface
- 8. Export processed data in .GSF format for backscatter processing

CUBE

A CUBE (Combined Uncertainty and Bathymetry Estimator) surface was created for editing and as a starting point for final products. The 'NOAA_4m' configuration (Figure 11) was selected for each surface. The mainscheme survey was gridded at 4 meters based on the average depth of the area and in accordance with NOAA's survey recommendations (NOAA, 2014).

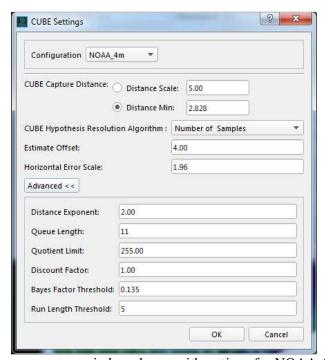


Figure 12 – CUBE settings parameters window shown with settings for NOAA 4-meter grid resolution

4.4 Final Surfaces

The following surfaces and BAGs were submitted with the survey data.

Table 11 – Surfaces submitted with 2018-2019 survey data

Surface Name	Resolution (m)	Depth Range (m)	Surface Parameter
MCMI_2018_2019_SacoBay_updated_2m_mllw	2	39 - 136	N/A
MCMI_2018_2019_SacoBay_updated_4m_mllw	4	38 - 136	N/A
MCMI_2018_2019_SacoBay_updated_8m_mllw	8	38 - 136	N/A
MCMI_2019_crosslines_SacoBay_4m_mllw	4	49 - 136	N/A
MCMI_2018_2019_Monhegan_2m_mllw	2	57 - 142	N/A
MCMI_2018_2019_Monhegan_4m_mllw	4	57 - 142	N/A
MCMI_2018_2019_Monhegan_8m_mllw	8	57 - 142	N/A
MCMI_2019_crosslines_Monhegan_4m_mllw	4	61 - 128	N/A

4.5 Backscatter

Backscatter was logged in the raw .db files. The .db files also hold the navigation record and bottom detections for all lines of surveys. Processed sonar files containing multibeam backscatter data (snippets and beam-average) were exported from Qimera v.2.1.1. in .GSF format. QPS Fledermaus Geocoder Toolbox (FMGT; v.7.8.6, 64-bit edition) was used to import, process, and mosaic time-series backscatter data. Default backscatter processing settings were used to create the mosaic, except for the Angle Varied Gain (AVG) filter and AVG window size, which were set to 'Adaptive' and '100', respectively. Backscatter mosaics of the data were gridded at 4-meter resolution and exported in greyscale and floating-point GeoTIFF format. The mosaics are shown in Table 12 and Figure 13. The GSF files containing the extracted were submitted with the data in this survey. Processed mosaics (Table 12) were also saved in geoTiff format and submitted.

Table 12 – Backscatter mosaics submitted with 2018-2019 survey data

Mosaic Name	Pixel Size (m)
MCMI_2018_2019_mainscheme_SacoBay_backscatter_db_4m.tif	4
MCMI_2018_2019_mainscheme_Monhegan_backscatter_db_4m.tif	4
MCMI_2018_2019_mainscheme_all_backscatter_db_4m.tif	4
MCMI_2018_2019_mainscheme_SacoBay_backscatter_gs_4m.tif	4
MCMI_2018_2019_mainscheme_Monhegan_backscatter_gs_4m.tif	4
MCMI_2018_2019_mainscheme_all_backscatter_gs_4m.tif	4

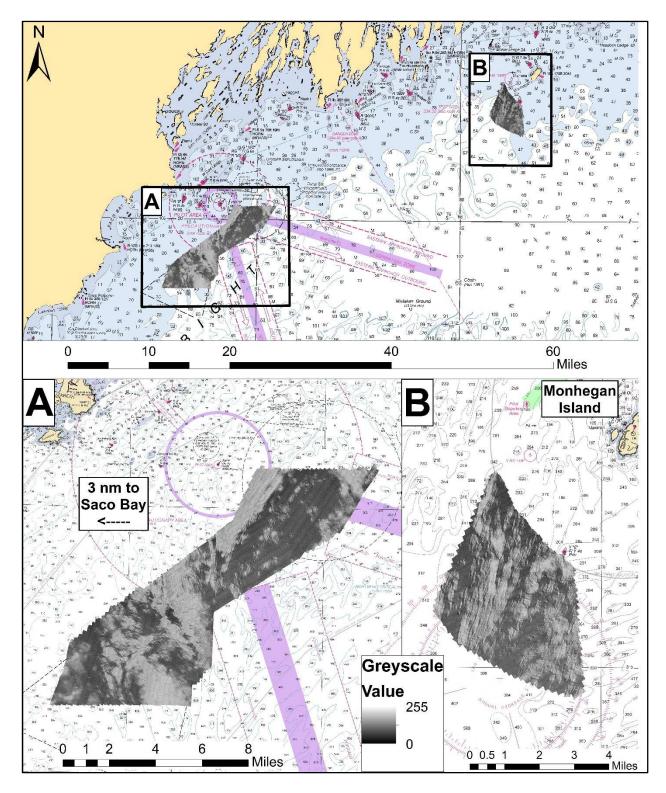


Figure 13 – Backscatter mosaic (4-meter pixel size) of 2018-2019 mainscheme surveys.

5.0 Results

5.1 Charts Comparison

The hydrographer conducted a qualitative comparison of reclassified bathymetry data and depth contours from the surveyed area to the charted soundings and contours. The largest scale raster navigational charts which cover the survey areas are listed in Table 13. Prior hydrographic surveys in the vicinity were conducted by NOAA between 1888 and 1954 and consisted only of partial bottom coverage. These data were not compared with data collected by the MCMI.

Table 13 – Largest scale raster charts in survey area

Chart	Scale	Source Edition	Source Date	NTM Date
13301	1:40,000	22	12/11/2018	12/11/2018
13288	1:80,000	44	3/1/2016	2/20/2020
13290	1:40,000	41	10/9/2019	2/20/2020
13286	1:80,000	34	3/19/2019	1/9/2020

Chart 13301

A small portion of the Monhegan Island survey area coincides with chart 13301. Surveyed depths have good overall agreement with charted contours and soundings (Figure 14), although individual soundings may disagree at any given location.

Chart 13288

The entire Monhegan Island survey area and approximately one-third of the Saco Bay survey area coincide with chart 13288. Charts with scales 1:80,000 (and smaller) inherently contain very generalized contours. As shown in Figure 15 and Figure 17, the agreement between chart contours and new survey data (reclassified at 60 feet intervals; same as chart) is generally good at depths less than 240 feet (73.1 meters). Agreement becomes increasingly poor at depths beyond 240 feet throughout the surveyed area. This disagreement is likely due to the low resolution and lack of full bottom coverage during prior surveys rather than over generalization. It is recommended that contours within the survey area be revised.

Chart 13290

A small portion of the Saco Bay survey area coincides with chart 13290. Surveyed depths have good overall agreement with charted contours and soundings (Figure 16), although individual soundings may disagree at any given location.

Chart 13286

The entire Saco Bay survey area coincides with chart 13286. Charts with scales 1:80,000 (and smaller) inherently contain very generalized contours. As shown in Figure 18, the agreement between chart contours and new survey data (reclassified at 60 feet intervals; same as chart) is generally good at depths less than 420 feet (128 meters). However, since a relatively small total surface area deeper than 420 feet exists in the survey area, this disagreement could be considered negligible.

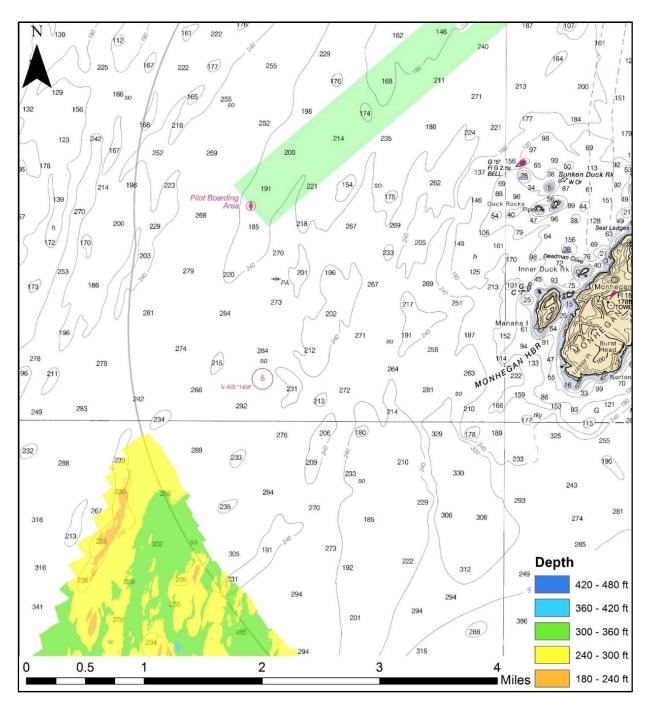


Figure 14 – Comparison between surveyed depth in Monhegan Island area (reclassified at 60-feet intervals) and chart 13301 (scale: 1:40,000, 60-feet contour intervals)

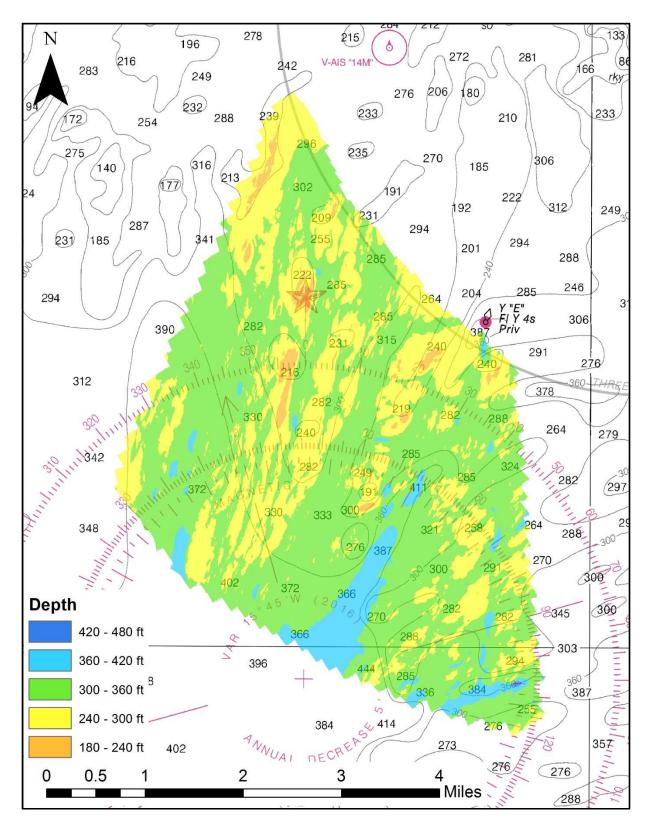


Figure 15 – Comparison between surveyed depth in Monhegan Island area (reclassified at 60-feet intervals) and chart 13288 (scale: 1:80,000, 60-feet contour intervals)

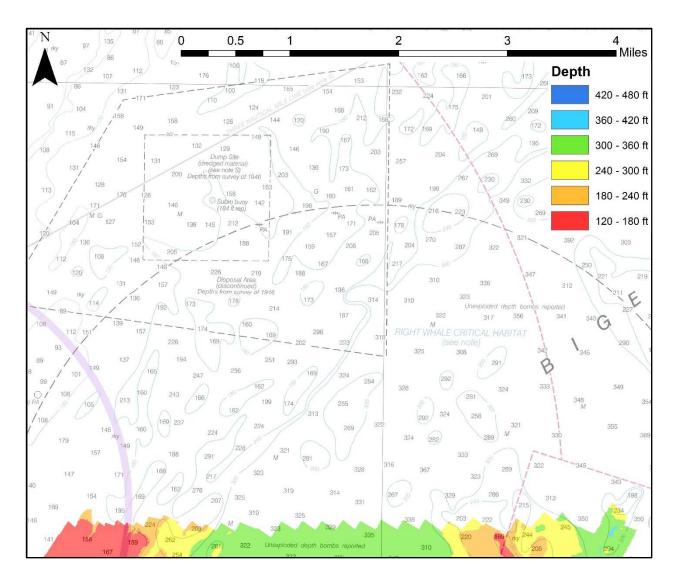


Figure 16 – Comparison between surveyed depth in Saco Bay area (reclassified at 60-feet intervals) and chart 13290 (scale: 1:40,000, 60-feet contour intervals)

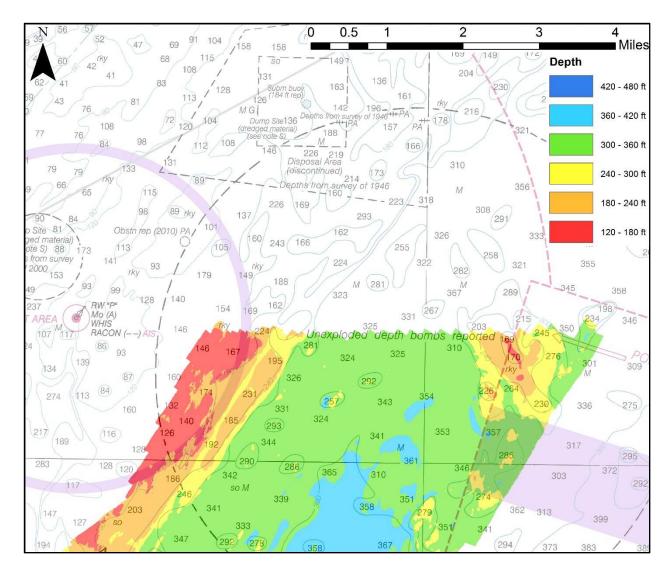
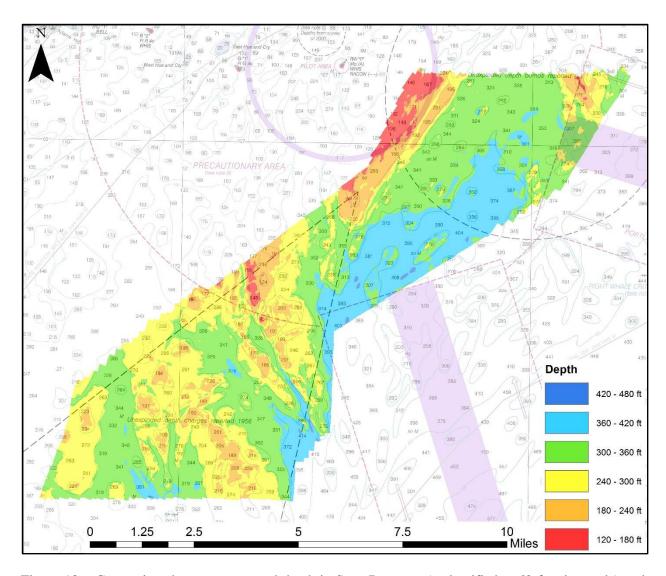


Figure 17 – Comparison between surveyed depth in Saco Bay area (reclassified at 60-feet intervals) and chart 13288 (scale: 1:80,000, 60-feet contour intervals)



Figure~18-Comparison~between~surveyed~depth~in~Saco~Bay~area~(reclassified~at~60-feet~intervals)~and~chart~13286~(scale:~1:80,000,~60-feet~contour~intervals)

6.0 Summary

A total of approximately 71 mi² (184 km²) of high-resolution multibeam data were collected in the mainscheme survey areas by MCMI from August to November of 2018 and April to August of 2019. Except for numerous small holidays, multibeam coverage was 100% in all areas surveyed. Survey data were processed with 4-meter grid resolution, although 2-meter and 8-meter surfaces were also generated for submission with this report. The consistency of hydrographic data collected aboard the R/V Amy Gale was reflected in the results of the surface difference tests between junction survey data, where mean vertical differences for all tests were less than 0.1 meters. Standard deviations of all tests were relatively low and comparable to those achieved by small NOAA vessels (e.g. *Ferdinand R. Hassler*) for similar surveys in Maine's coastal waters. Comparisons between these survey data and the largest scale nautical charts in the immediate vicinity show good overall agreement except for in surveyed areas at depths greater than 73 meters (locality off Monhegan Island) and 120 meters (locality off Saco Bay). Overall, these data are of sufficient quality to supersede previous data collected in the vicinity. It is recommended that the corresponding charts be updated to reflect these data.

MCMI has utilized final data products for high-resolution backscatter and bathymetry to refine existing seafloor sediment maps and determine the spatial extent of sand deposits within federal water. When combined with existing geophysical (e.g. seismic reflection profiles and side-scan sonar) data, these data may also be used to refine interpretations of coastal/nearshore geomorphology and three-dimensional assessments of potential sediment resources/valley fill in the region. In addition, these data are a critical component of benthic habitat classification and modeling performed by MCMI. Overall, these data have a variety of applications and are an invaluable resource to public and private agencies who wish to more effectively manage and understand coastal and marine resources.

These data were acquired and processed to meet Office of Coast Survey bathymetry standards as best as possible and were shared with the UNH-NOAA Joint Hydrographic Center / Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping for review.

Please contact the Maine Coastal Mapping Initiative for additional information or data requests.

References

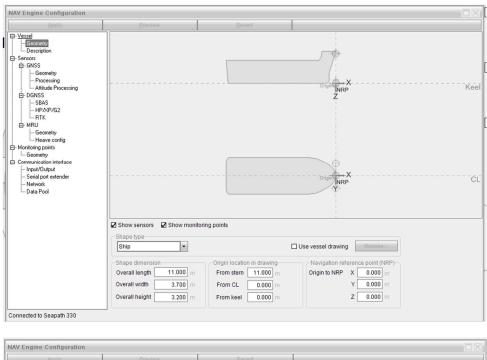
NOAA, 2014. NOS hydrographic surveys specifications and deliverables: U.S Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Page 89.

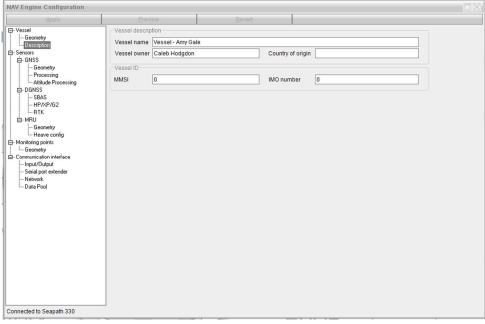
U.S. Department of the Interior, 2014. Proposed geophysical and geological activities in the Atlantic OCS to identify sand resources and borrow areas north Atlantic, mid-Atlantic, and south Atlantic-Straits of Florida planning areas, *final environmental assessment*. OCS EIS/EA BOEM 2013-219 U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Division of Environmental Assessment Herndon, VA, January 2014.

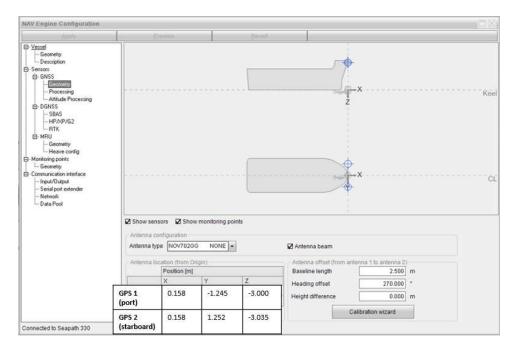
Appendix A – Specific dates of data acquisition for mainscheme surveys

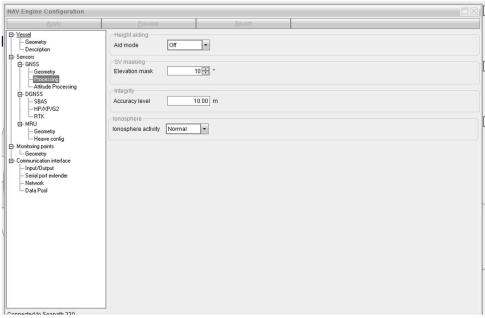
Mainscheme
08/01/18
08/06/18
08/16/18
08/17/18
09/04/18
10/01/18
11/15/18
11/19/18
04/17/19
04/18/19
04/24/19
04/30/19
05/16/19
05/23/19
05/28/19
06/03/19
06/05/19 06/07/19
06/07/19
06/17/19
06/18/19
06/19/19
06/20/19
07/11/19
07/25/19
07/26/19
08/01/19
08/02/19
08/15/19 08/20/19
08/20/19
00/29/19

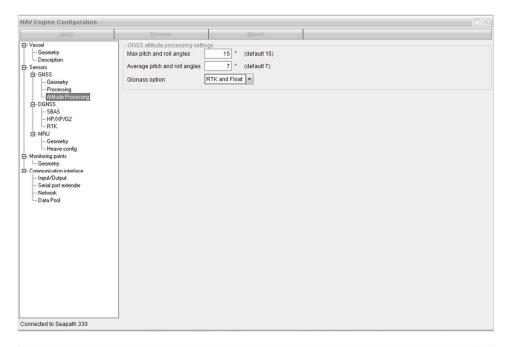
Appendix B – 2018-2019 Configuration settings for Sea path 330

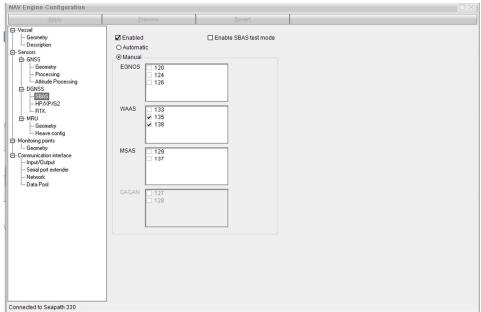


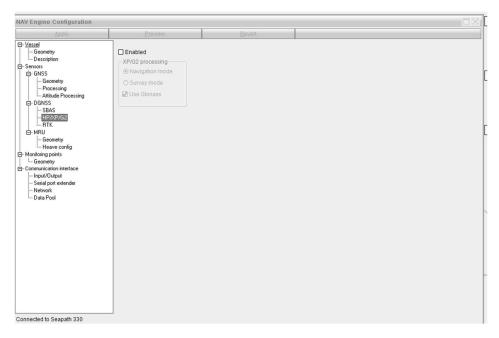


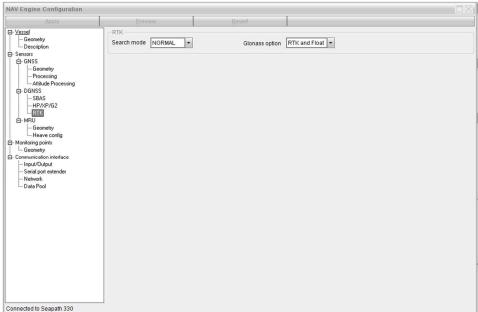


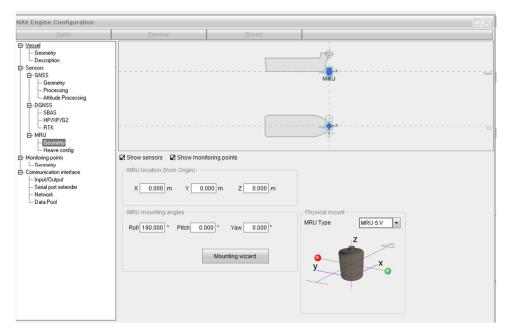


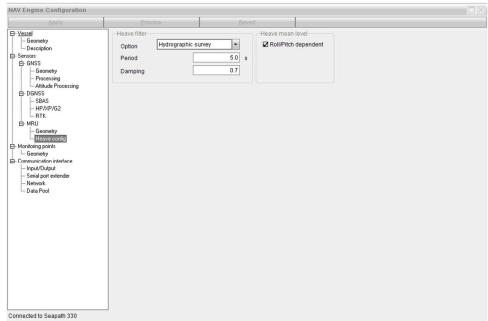


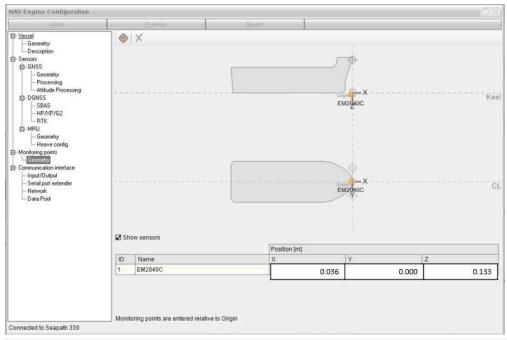


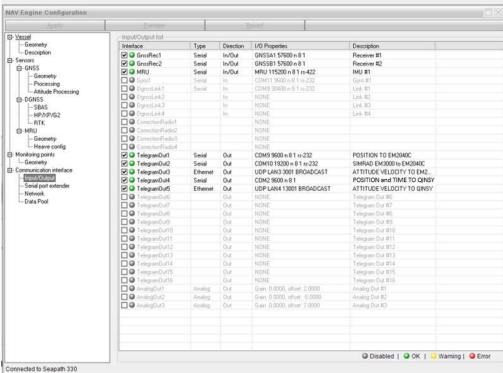


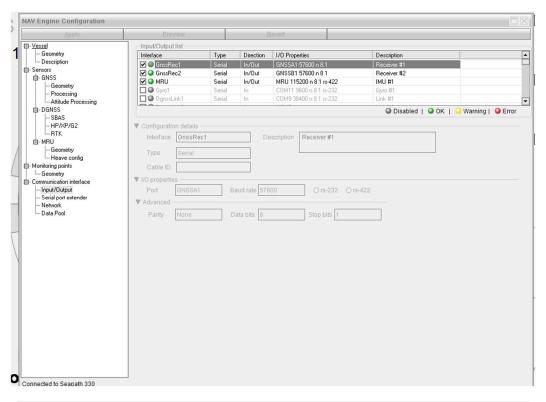


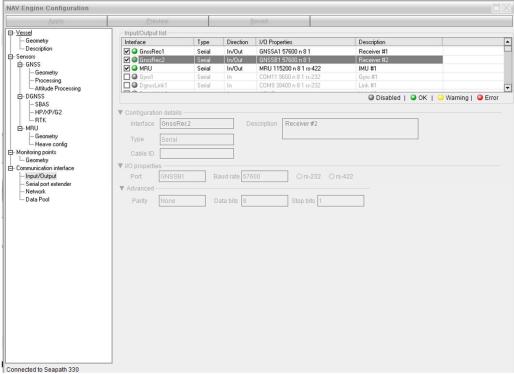


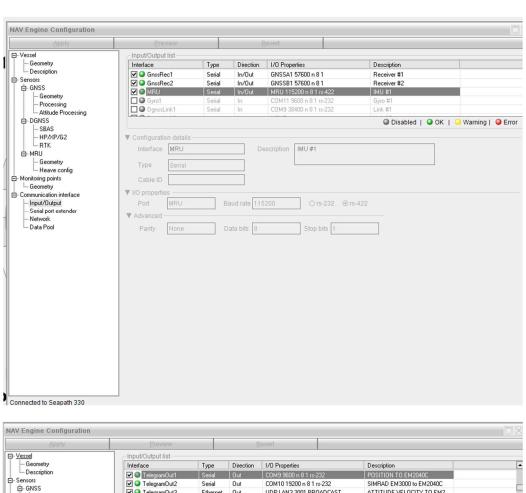


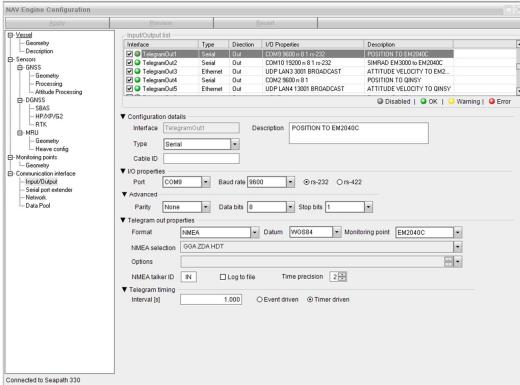


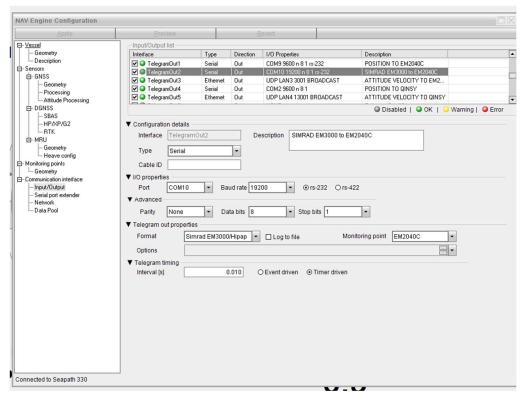


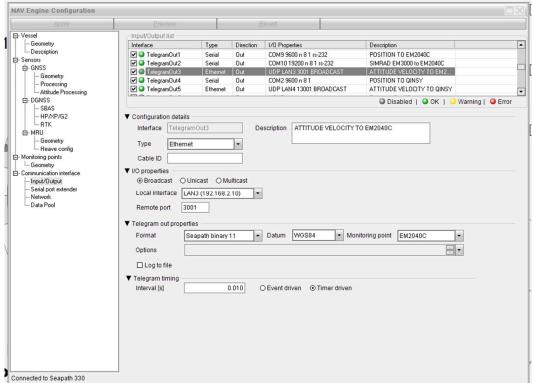


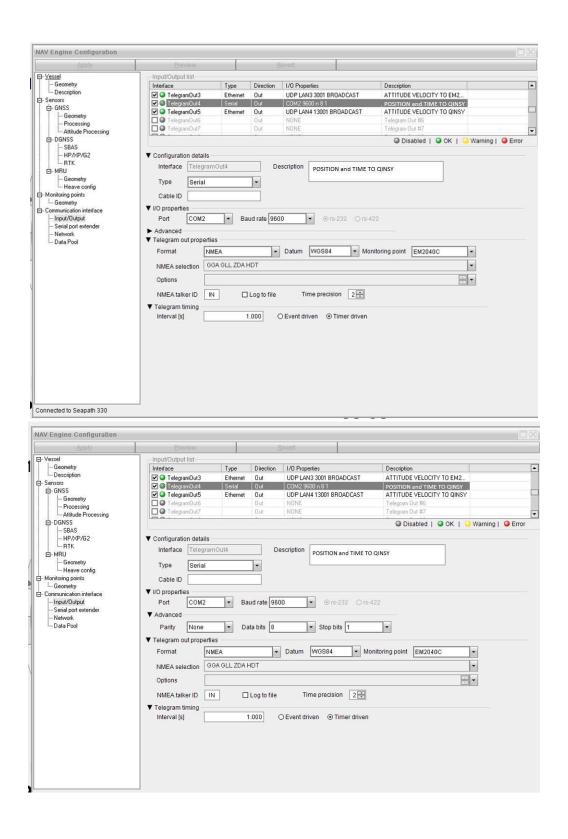


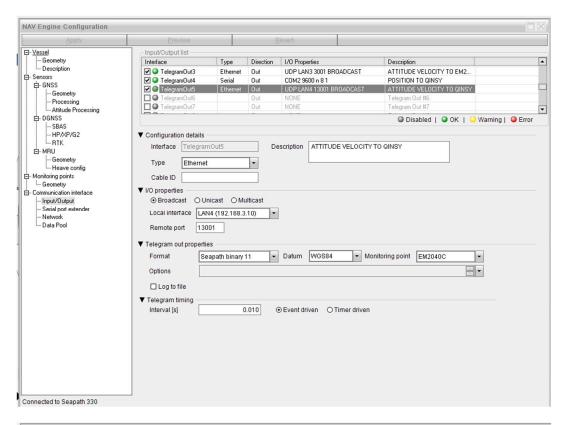


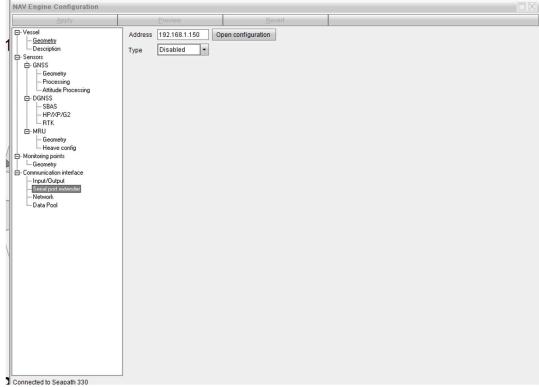


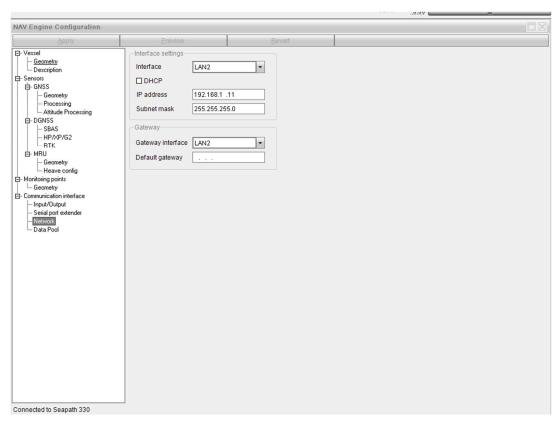


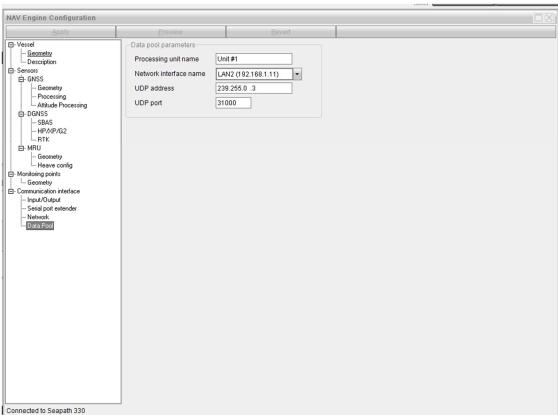












Appendix C – Template database settings in QINSy (for acquisition)

Note: Only the 2019 template database is shown in this appendix. The 2018 and 2019 template databases are identical with the exception of EM2040C calibration offsets (e.g. pitch, roll, and heading). These differences and their historical values across the two years' survey seasons are summarized in table 4 of report's main text.

Template database name: AmyGale_2019.db

QINSy uses the following reference frame conventions (these differ from those used by Seapath 330):

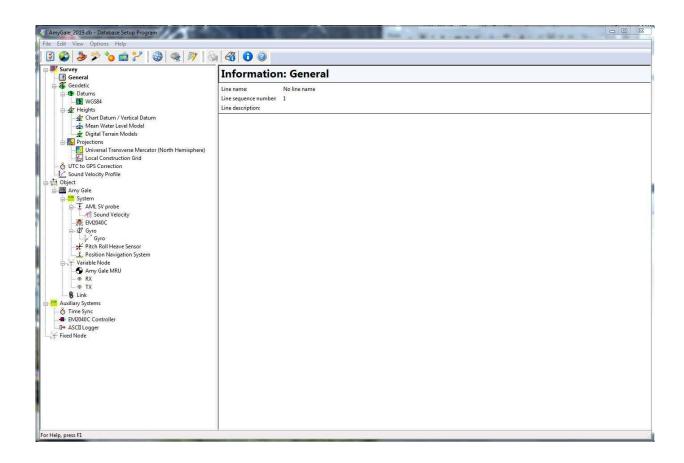
Pitch rotation: + bow up

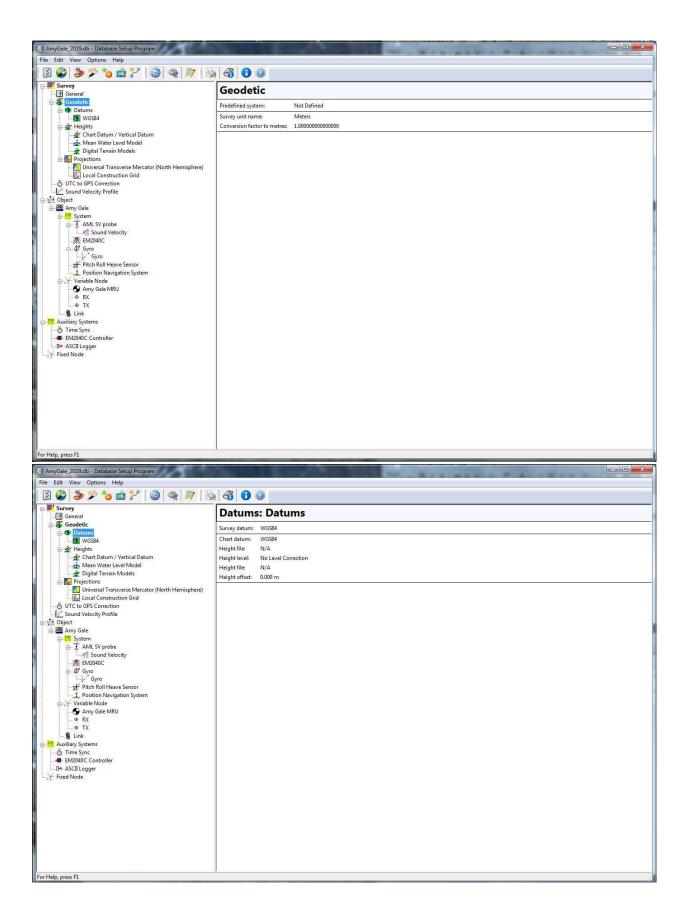
Roll rotation: + heeling to starboard

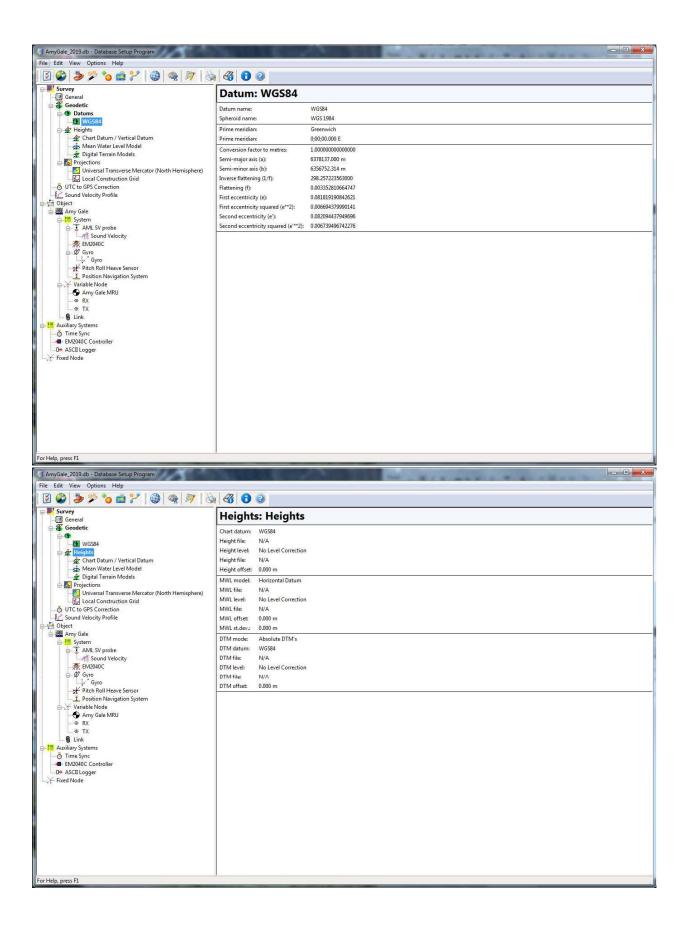
Heave: + upwards

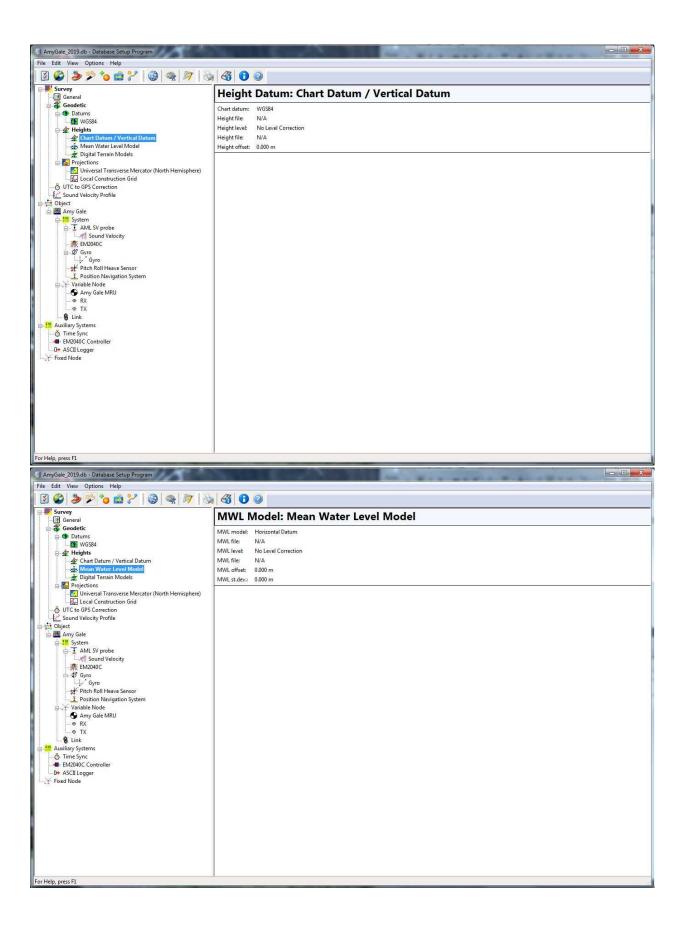
X: + to starboard Y: + towards bow

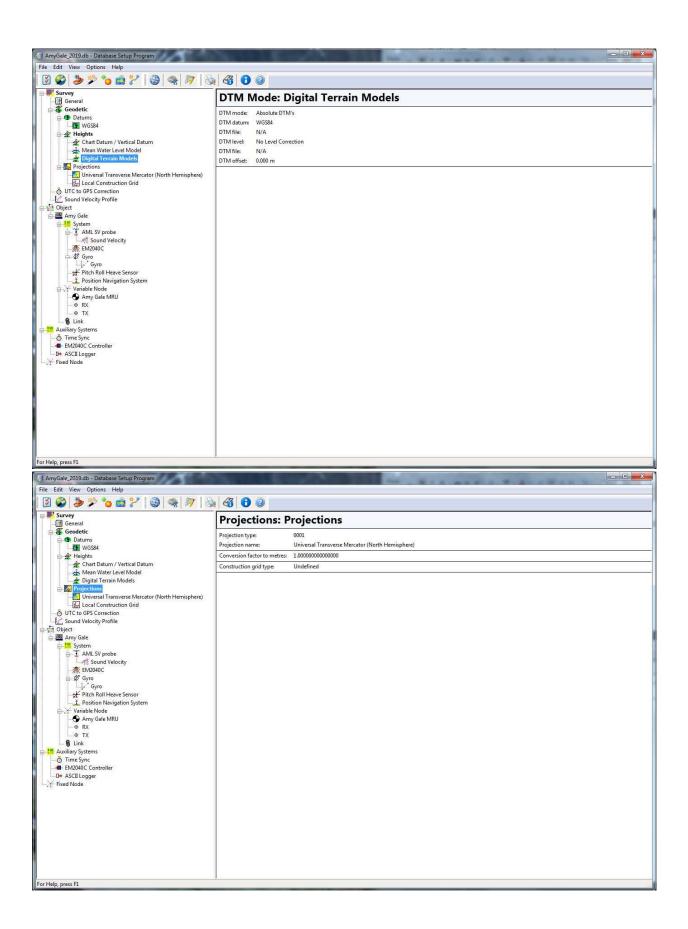
Z: + up

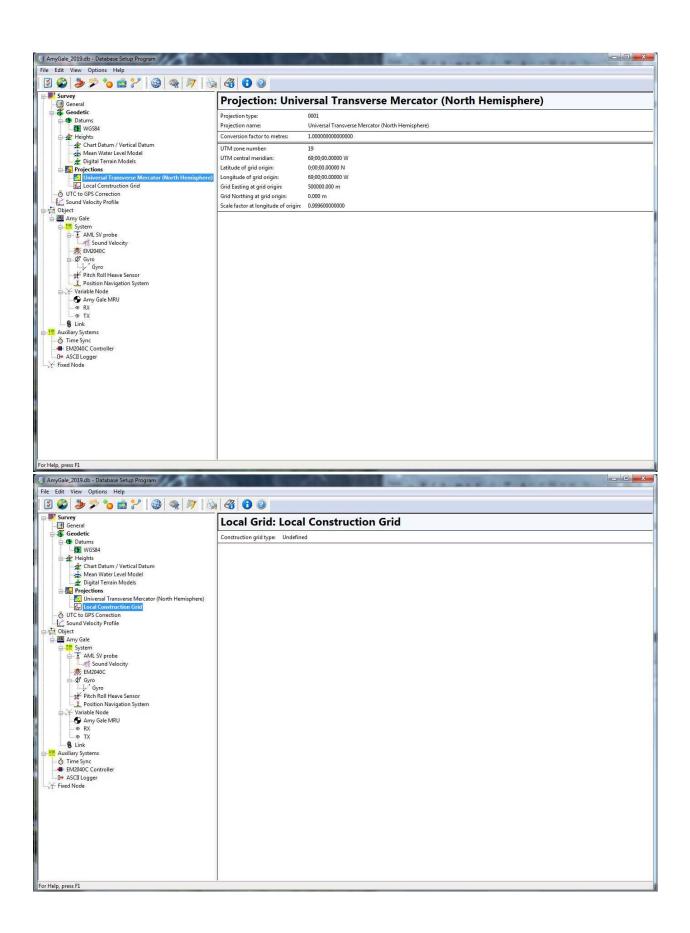


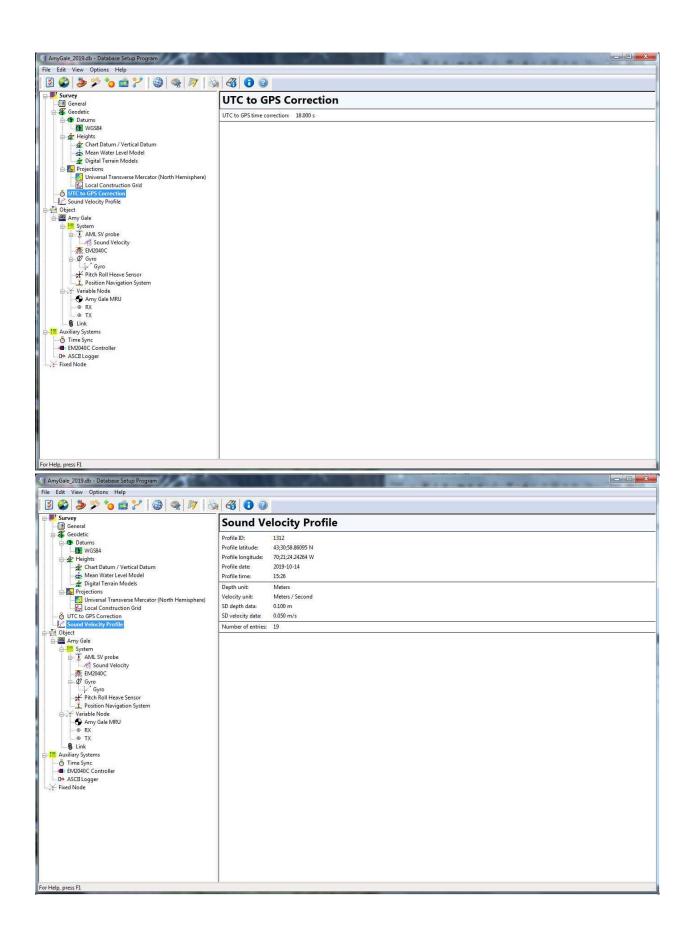


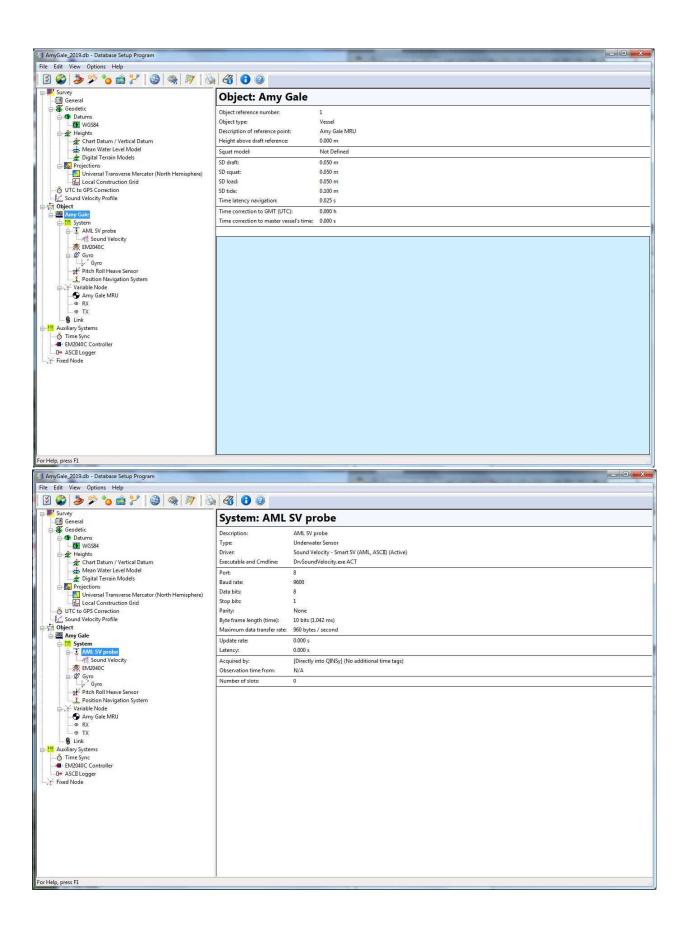


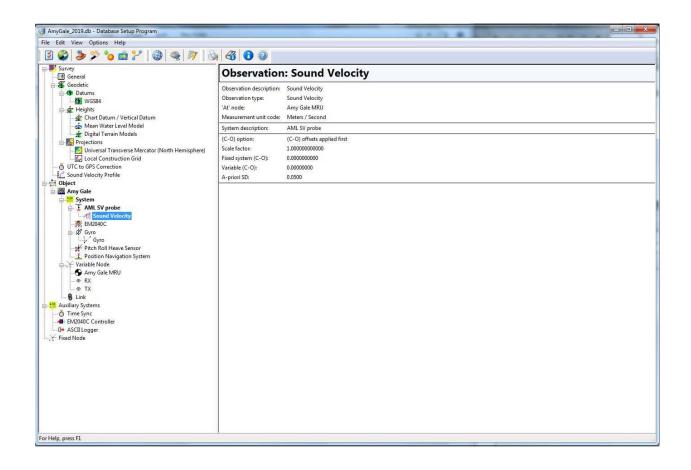


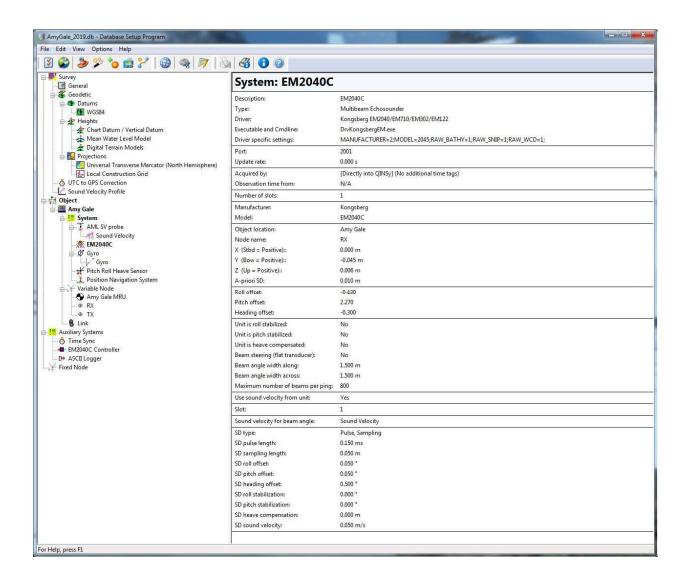


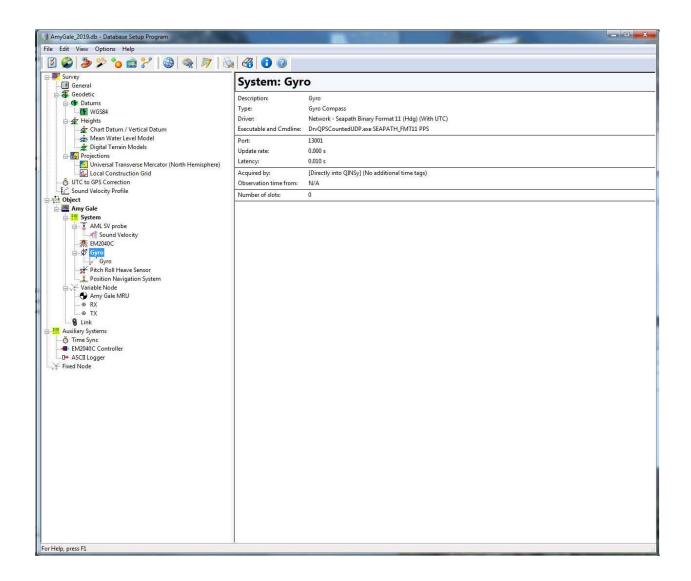


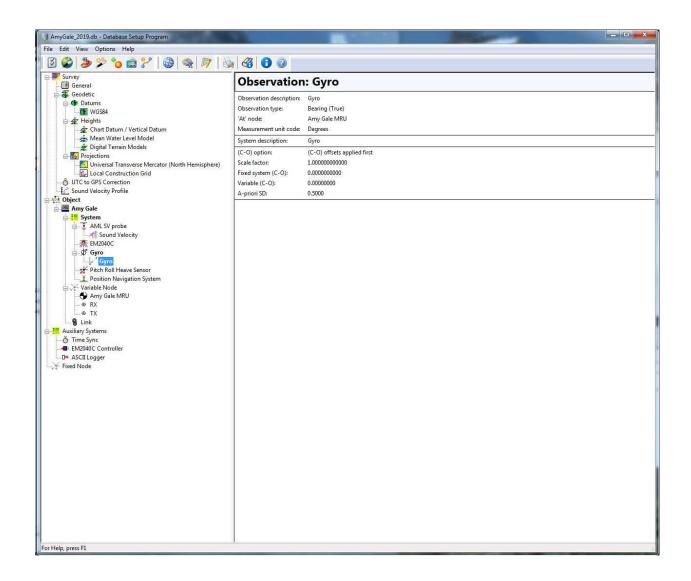


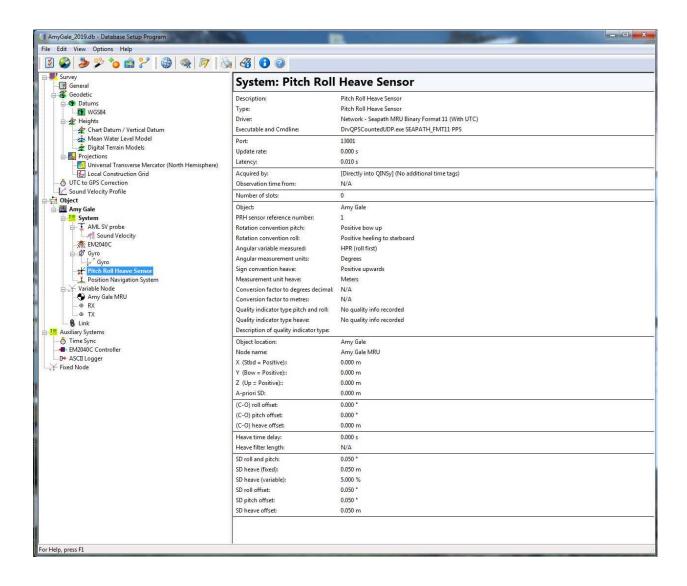


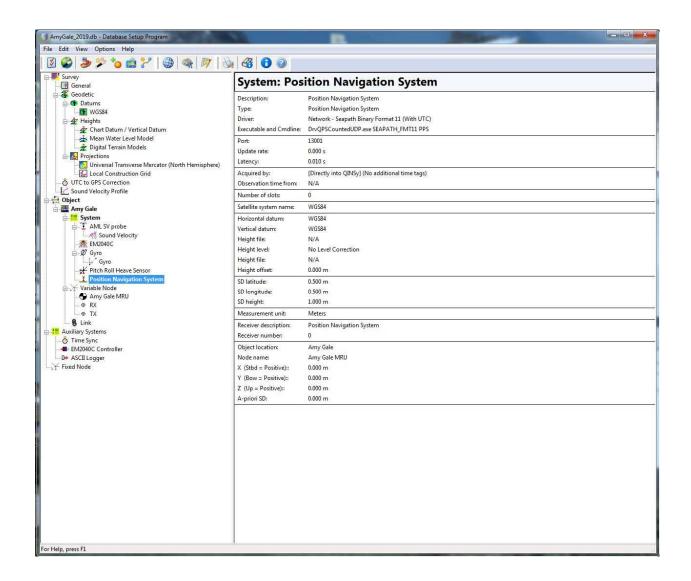


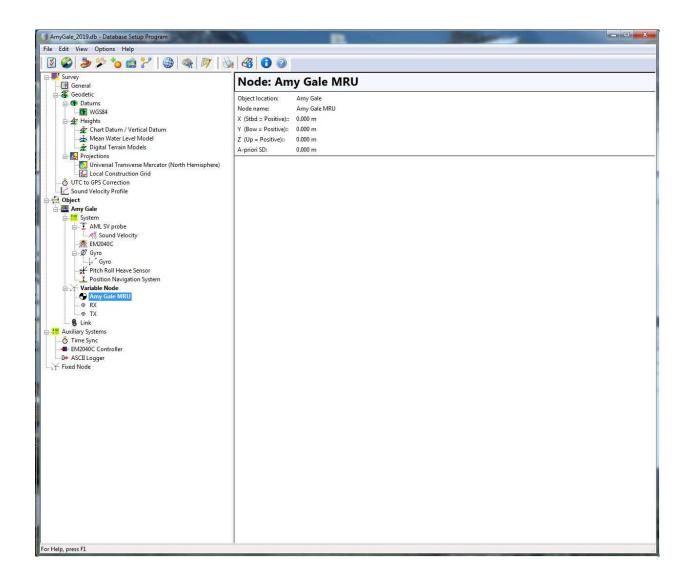


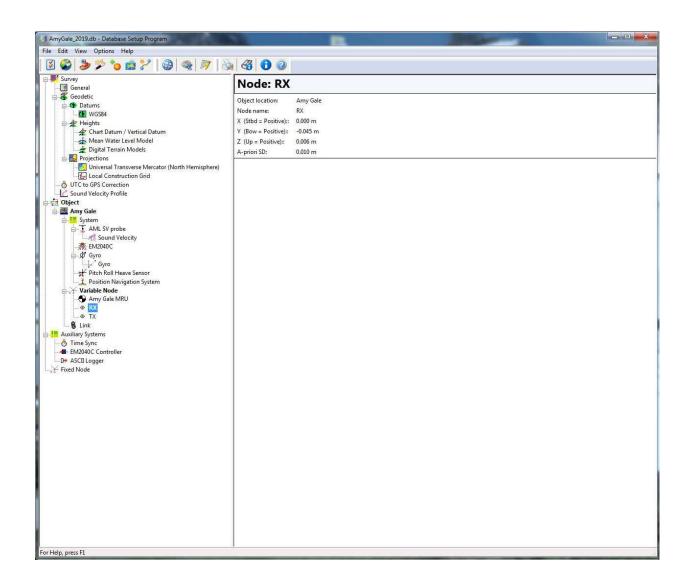


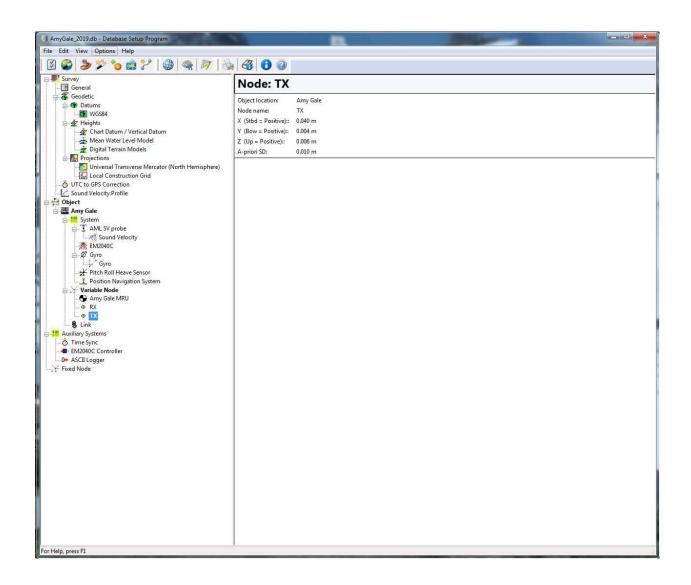


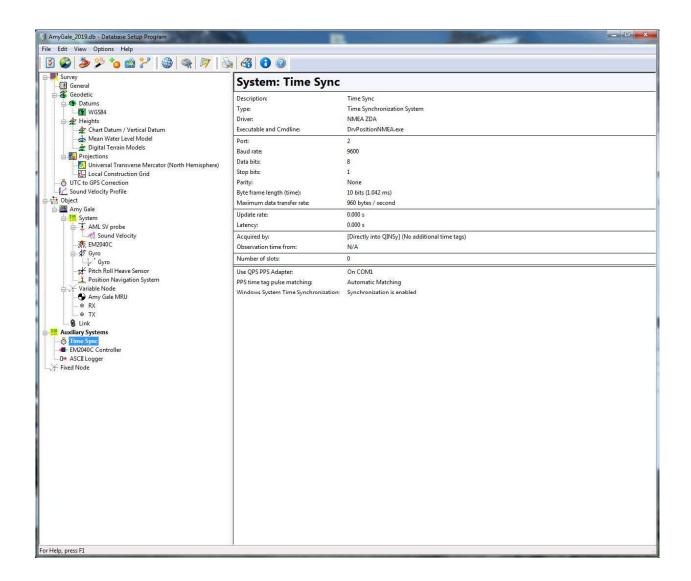


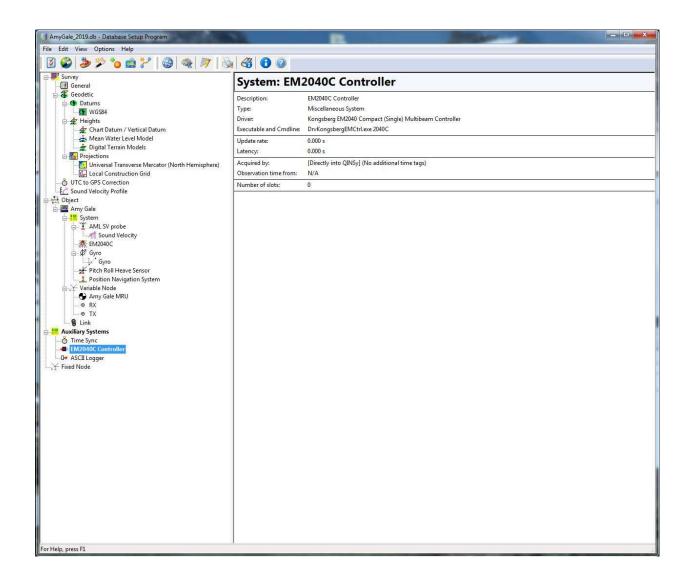


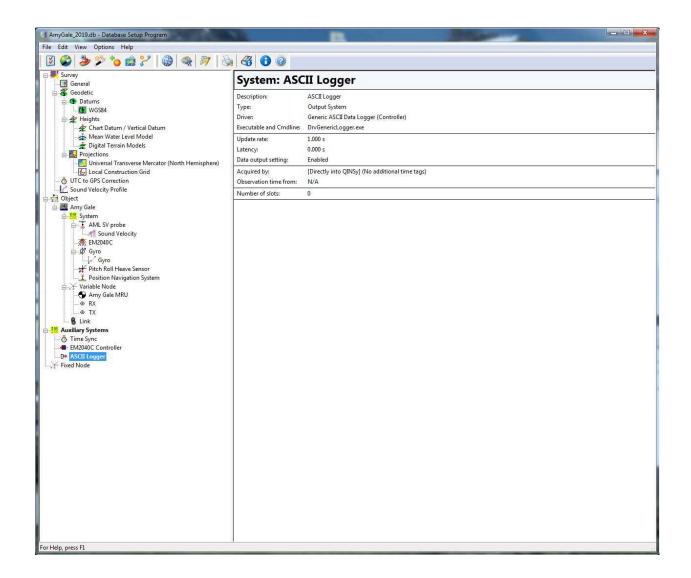




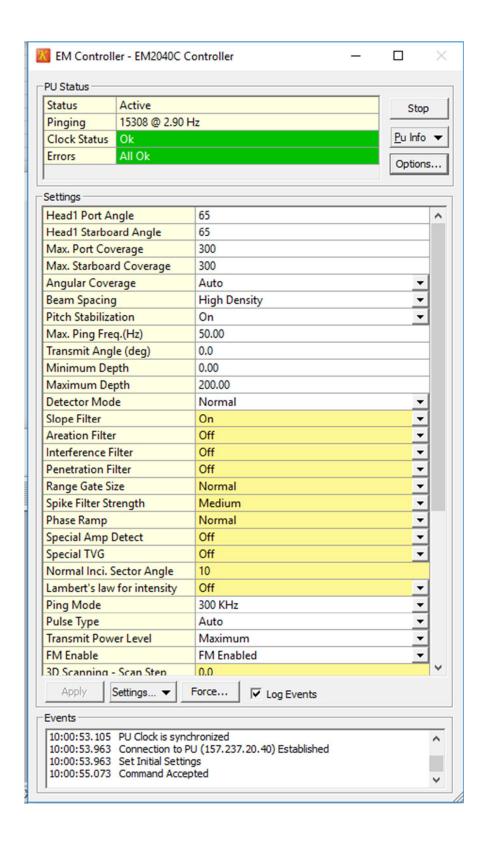


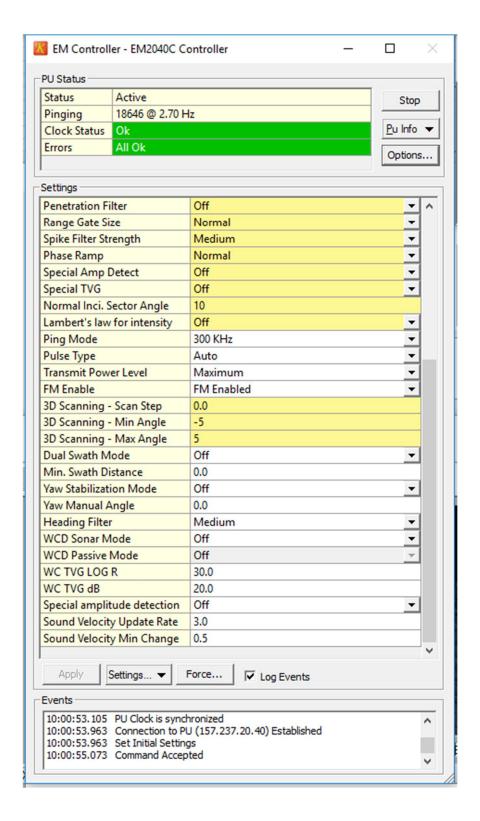


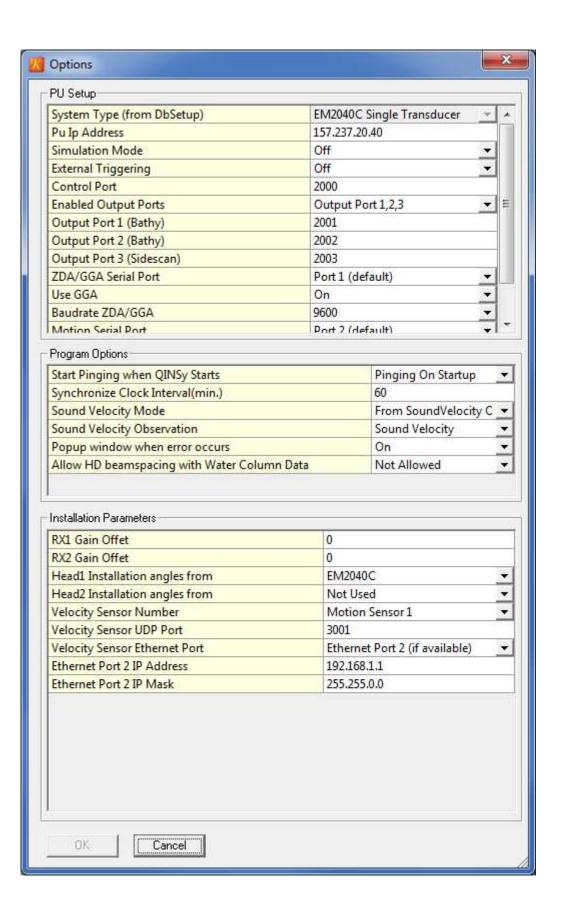




Appendix D - Configuration settings for QINSy EM controller







Appendix E – Mainscheme crossline surface difference test statistical plots

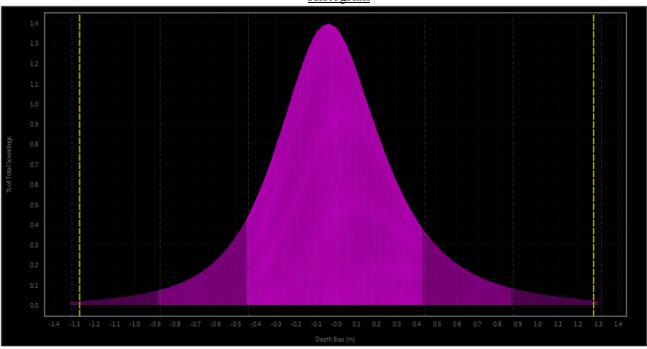
Plots (histogram, scatter, and uncertainty)

Key for plots:

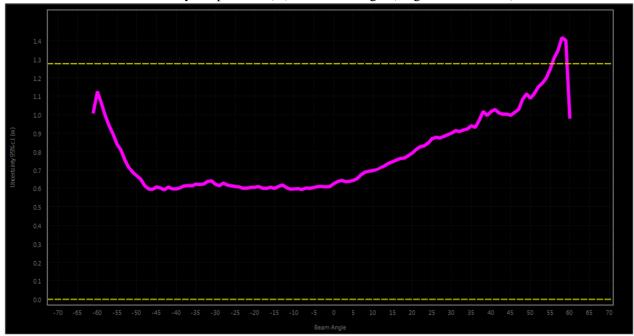
- Gray dots represent difference in depth between the crossline and the reference surface for individual beam angles or beam numbers
- Purple areas represent the 95% confidence interval (2 standard deviations) based on normal distribution (see histogram)
- Yellow dashed lines represent limit of IHO Order 1 test vertical tolerance
- Gray dashed lines on histogram represent ±sigma 1, 2, and 3
- Blue lines represent the mean value

Saco Bay Crossline Plots:

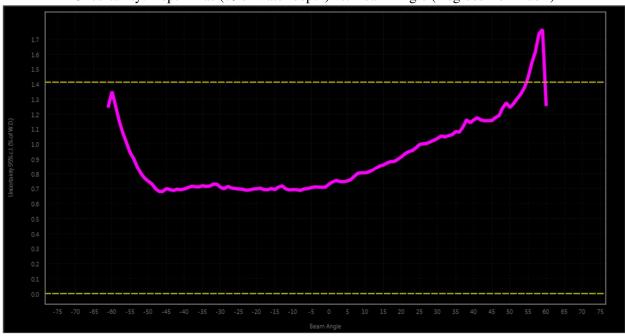




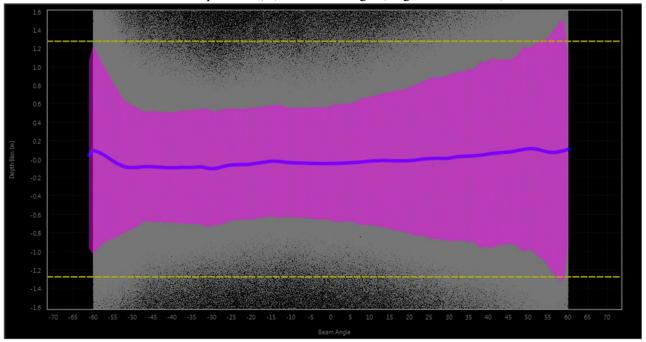
Uncertainty: Depth Bias (m) vs. Beam Angle (Degrees from nadir)



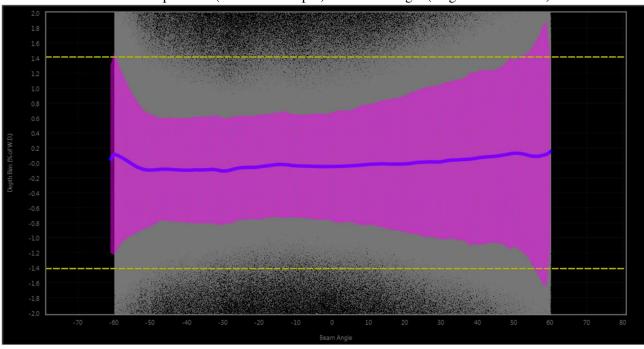
Uncertainty: Depth Bias (% of water depth) vs. Beam Angle (Degrees from nadir)



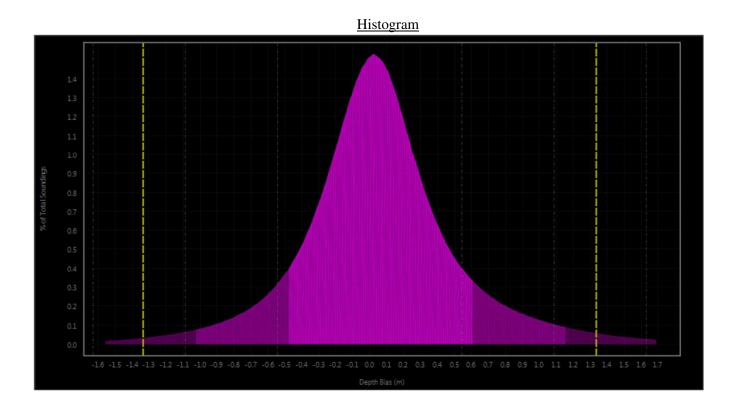
Scatter: Depth Bias (m) vs. Beam Angle (Degrees from nadir)

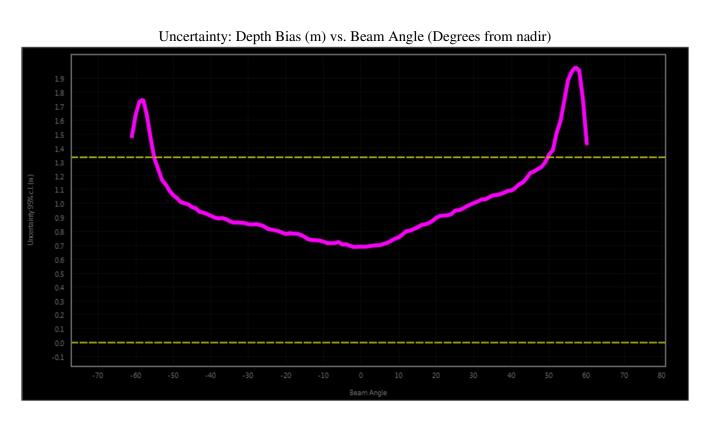


Scatter: Depth Bias (% of water depth) vs. Beam Angle (Degrees from nadir)

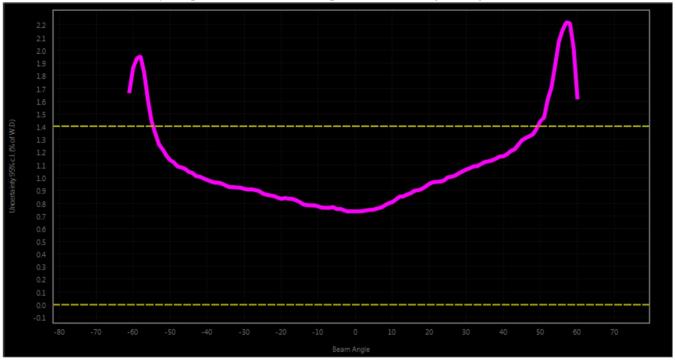


Monhegan Island Crossline Plots:

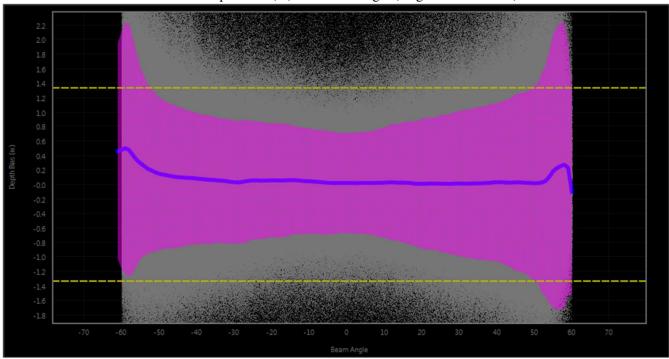




Uncertainty: Depth Bias (% of water depth) vs. Beam Angle (Degrees from nadir)



Scatter: Depth Bias (m) vs. Beam Angle (Degrees from nadir)



Scatter: Depth Bias (% of water depth) vs. Beam Angle (Degrees from nadir)

