

For the Week of October 15, 2017



Weekly Hydro Ship Activity Report

Welcome to NOAA's Weekly Hydrographic Ship Activity Report! We hope you enjoy this reader-friendly layout for our weekly report as we update you on the progress of our NOAA-ship and contractor-run surveys.

Highlights of this edition of Weekly Ship Report

- *Oceaneering begins shallow water investigations with C-Wolf in OPR-K371-KR2-17 - Approaches to Galveston, TX.*
- *Rainier continues work on their OPR-L397-RA-17 survey of Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.*
- *Thomas Jefferson prepares for the last leg of the 2017 field season in Savannah, GA.*

NOAA Ships

BAY HYDRO II

Recap

BHII is not currently surveying.

Looking Forward

BHII is not currently surveying.



FAIRWEATHER

OPR-O346-FA-17 - Yakutat Bay, AK

Fairweather continued to focus survey operations on H13072 and H13073 during a period of lower winds and swell, before departing on Oct 19 for an inport in Cordova.



Recap

- Launch and ship survey on H13072 and H13073 on Oct 16-17. Launch operations shifted to H13070 and H13075 on Oct 18 due to increased swell.
- Presentations and tours given to students from Yakutat on Oct 18.
- Departed Yakutat Bay on Oct 19 for a scheduled weekend inport in Cordova, AK, arriving Oct 20.
- Continued DR and feature review for remaining OPR-O190-FA-17 West of Prince of Wales Island surveys.

Looking Forward

- Depart Cordova, AK on Oct 23, arriving to Yakutat Bay on Oct 24.
- Continue mainscheme survey on H13072 and H13073, and acquire final data for H13069 and H13070 if weather permits. Acquire on H13075 during times of high wind and swell (likely at least Oct 26-27).
- Conduct command reviews of West of Prince of Wales surveys.
- Continue processing and review of OPR-R365-FA-17 Port Clarence and Vicinity surveys.

FERDINAND HASSLER

OPR-G343-FH-17 - Approaches to Jacksonville, FL

Recap

- *Ferdinand R. Hassler* spent the week of 10/16 alongside in Charleston, SC, owing to inclement weather in the project area.



Looking Forward

- *Hassler* will be getting underway on 10/24 to continue operations on OPR-G343-FH-17. Plans include brief holiday acquisition on H12984 and beginning operations on H12978.

RAINIER

OPR-L397-RA-17 - Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, CA

Recap

- *RAINIER* departed San Diego, CA, as scheduled, on Monday, October 16. However, fueling was cancelled that morning due to the fueling company's failure to bring a boom. Fueling will tentatively occur at the end of this cruise.
- High winds and seas resulted in a shortened day for launches on Tuesday, October 17, and the cancellation of small boat operations on Wednesday, October 18.
- Completed final review of H12997 and H1300. Continued processing sheets H12996, H13000, H13003 (North Coast of Kodiak), and H13024, H13027, H13031 (Cold Bay).
- On Thursday, October 19th, the ship transited 40 nautical miles east to Anacapa Island to open sheet H13093. Launch operations and shoreline verification was conducted.
- On October 20th, high winds prevented the use of small boats, so the ship surveyed for about 12 hours in the offshore region of H13093.
- On October 21st, launches collected MBES data and skiffs completed the shoreline verification for H13093.



Looking Forward

- Weather permitting, *RAINIER* will move west to Santa Rosa and San Miguel Islands to resume MBES acquisition and shoreline verification.
- Continue surveying in sheets H13082, H13083, H13084, and H13088. Potentially finish remaining acquisition on D00228 during a transit or a poor weather window not suitable for launch operations.
- Continue processing all outstanding surveys from North Coast of Kodiak (OPR-P136-RA-17) and Cold Bay (OPR-P377-RA-17).
- Arrive at San Diego, CA, slightly ahead of schedule, in order to accommodate fueling.
- Package completed surveys H12997 and H13001, from North Coast of Kodiak, to be submitted at next in-port.

THOMAS JEFFERSON

OPR-G329-TJ-17 - Approaches to Savannah River, GA

Recap

- *Thomas Jefferson* got underway from Naval Station Mayport, Jacksonville, FL on Wednesday, 18 October after delaying departure one day due to weather, and commenced 24 hour ship MBES and 200% SSS acquisition on Sheet H12962.
- On Monday, 23 October, survey operations were temporarily suspended due to weather, with conditions expected to improve sometime early Tuesday morning.



Looking Forward

- On Wednesday, 25 October, *Thomas Jefferson* will pull into the port of Savannah for annual fleet inspection and to reprovision, before getting underway for the last leg of the 2017 field season on Sunday, 29 October.



DAVID EVANS
AND ASSOCIATES INC.
MARINE SERVICES

OPR-J348-KR-17 - Mississippi Sound and Vicinity, MS

Recap

S/V Blake and R/V Preston

- We had a short week of survey operations last week. The *S/V Blake* had a scheduled port call in Gulfport on Monday and did not return to the survey area. We made the call to keep the *Blake* in port because of unfavorable weather conditions and the desire to evaluate project work remaining for the vessel.
- Prior to the port call, the *Blake* acquired 65 feature investigations/ sounding disprovals, completed weekly quality checks, and performed a routine patch test.
- The *R/V Preston*, which was also in on weather for most of the week, acquired 21 nm of MS and one feature disapproval.

Looking Forward

- The *Blake* returned to the project area yesterday and is continuing acquisition. We anticipate that we will complete the majority of the work planned for the *Blake* by the end of the week.
- This week the *Preston* will continue with its planned acquisition; including sounding disprovals in Mississippi Sound and Sheet 10 MS and XLs.
- We're also computing line plans necessary to achieve complete coverage over the uncharted shoals we've surveyed in Mississippi Sound (Sheets 2 - 6). We're considering areas that are shoaler than charted by two or more feet worthy of development. We will provide this information by mid-week.



OPR-H358-KR-17 - Sarasota to Naples, FL

Recap

R/V Benthos, R/V Taku, R/V 505

- All vessels performed surveys in H13081.
- *R/V Benthos* and *R/V Taku* did surveys in H13079.

Looking Forward

R/V Taku

- Finish Boca Grande Pass, Fill in Ft Myers area, Backscatter fill in Naples Area

R/V Benthos

- Finish Captiva Corridor, Fill in Ft. Myers area.

R/V 505

- Continue survey in H13081 and investigate ATONS.



OPR-K371-KR-17 - Sabine, LA

Recap

R/V Atlantic Surveyor

- The *R/V Atlantic Surveyor* is currently in port (Galveston, TX), due to weather conditions at sea.
- On October 22 we collected main-scheme on H13056 until concerns over the weather front on land merited our attention. We had a significant weather event (maxing out at 40+ knot winds) after we had started the transit to port. Eventually, the vessel turned into the seas rather than directly to Galveston, until the seas subsided.
- As of October 22 we are "complete" on Sheet 1 (H13054), "complete" on Sheet 2 (H13055), and 48.02% complete on Sheet 3 (H13056), which combined represents 57.85% of the total project.

Looking Forward

- No future plans were submitted by Leidos.



OPR-K371-KR2-17 - Approaches to Galveston, TX

Sea Scout completed all work it was able to perform in H13090 and H13091. On Wednesday the 18th, data was brought back to the office and backed up. *C-Wolf* was mobilized, calibrations were performed and minor repairs were made to generator in preparation for field work

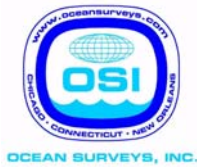
Recap

R/V Sea Scout and C-Wolf

- Monday 16th to Wednesday 18th ~ *Sea Scout* completed all field work it was able to collect.
- Wednesday 19th ~ *C-Wolf* Patch Test.
- Thursday 20th ~ *C-Wolf* Squat Test.
- Friday 21st ~ *C-Wolf* Repairs to Generator.
- Saturday 22nd to Sunday 23rd ~ Standby with *C-Wolf* on Lafayette for weather.
- Completed 22.075 square nautical miles in Sheet 1, and completed 14.116 square nautical miles in Sheet 2. Sheet 1 (H13090) is approximately 99% complete and Sheet 2 (H13091) is 100% complete. The overall project is approximately 99.71% complete.

Looking Forward

- The *C-Wolf* is mobilized for small vessel work to include shallow water investigations; Grab Samples; and any fill-in work that cannot be completed by the *Sea Scout*. *C-Wolf* will depart Lafayette Oct 22 at noon and commence field operations Tuesday Oct 24th.
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Recap

R/V Ocean Explorer and R/V Osprey

- During the period between October 14 through October 20, 2017 (DN 287 - DN 293), the survey vessel *R/V OCEAN EXPLORER* continued the return trip to her homeport. Due to rough sea conditions off the East Coast of Florida, for safety reasons, the vessel sought shelter in Fort Pierce in the early morning hours of Oct 18th (DN 291).
- Weather and sea conditions have not moderated as of Oct 20th (DN 293) and the vessel remains sheltered in Fort Pierce.

Looking Forward

- Assuming favorable weather next week, *R/V OCEAN EXPLORER* ETA in Noank, CT is October 30th.

[Link to Survey Figures](#)

[Link to Story Map](#)

Rainier goes beyond pings

In addition to collecting sonar data in the waters of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, *Rainier* has collected complete backscatter coverage and some associated seafloor video to support bottom-type classification in the sanctuary and conservation of precious natural resources. Here, an abundance of life is seen in Johnson's Lee, south of Santa Rosa Island.

