

For the Week of May 6, 2018



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

- *Fairweather conducts surveys in southeast Alaska fjords.*
- *Thomas Jefferson continues work on OPR-K371-TJ-18, Approaches to Houston.*
- *Rainier launches conduct Puget Sound surveys while the ship is in dry dock in Seattle.*

NOAA Ships

BAY HYDRO II

Recap

BHII is not currently surveying.

Looking Forward

BHII is not currently surveying.



FAIRWEATHER

OPR-O190/O360-FA-18, Southeast Alaska

Fairweather arrived at the OPR-O360 Tracy Arm project area and after an investigation of ice conditions commenced survey on H13007. Multibeam acquisition is complete for H13007, with a few features remaining to be addressed during low tide windows. Coverage graphic and surface GeoTiff can be found in the [Google Drive folder](#).



Recap

- Completed transit from OPR-O190 Noyes Canyon survey to OPR-O360 survey area on 6 May, anchoring in Holkham Bay, where the ship remained for the week due to the CPP casualty.
- Installed a GNSS base station on Round Islet on 7 May, recovering an existing benchmark.
- Investigated ice conditions in both Tracy Arm and Endicott Arm on 7 May, with very little of sheet H13006 accessible and an approach of no closer than 3 NM from F00714, it was decided to limit acquisition to H13007 for this leg.
- Conducted launch survey on H13007 (outer portion of Tracy Arm) on 8 May to 12 May, including 9 image bottom samples with the new apparatus.
- Launch 2806 grounded on a submerged rock on 12 May. With only minor damage to the mount, the sonar appears operational and tests will be conducted while alongside in Juneau to verify full functionality.
- *Fairweather* thanks all augmentors during the past leg, including PS Laura Pagano from PHB, and ENS Walker and Dunn from Rainier who made full capacity operations possible.

Looking Forward

- Dock at USCG Juneau, AK for Mid Season Repair Period on 13 May.
- Commence installation of new propulsion control system on 14 May.
- Conduct maintenance and repairs on other ship and mission systems..
- Acquire new patch test for launch 2806 and conduct training in shoreline acquisition on 17 May.

FERDINAND HASSLER

Ferdinand Hassler is alongside for scheduled repair period at the Curtis Bay Coast Guard Base south of Baltimore, MD.



RAINIER

OPR-N305-RA-18, Puget Sound, WA

Recap

- Monday, May 7th: *Rainier* was brought to Vigor Shipyard, Harbor Island, Seattle, WA for dry dock repairs.



- Tuesday, May 8th: *Rainier* enters dry dock. RA-2, RA-3, RA-4, and RA-5 transit from Sand Point, Lake Washington to the Port of Everett Marina, Everett, WA.
- Wednesday, May 9th: Coxswain and HIC training occurred alongside, then RA-3 and RA-4 collected MBES data on OPR-N305-RA-18, sheet H12991.
- Thursday, May 10th: RA-3 and RA-4 collected MBES data on H12991.
- Friday, May 11th: RA-4 and RA-5 collected MBES data on H12991.
- Saturday, May 12th: RA-5 collected MBES data on H12991.

Looking Forward

- Sunday, May 13th: RA-5 will collect MBES data on H12991.
- Monday, May 14th: RA-2 will collect traditional shoreline during a low tide window. One launch will collect MBES data on H12991.
- May 15th - 18th: Training with the Velodyne LiDAR system on RA-2 will occur with support from HSTB. Shoreline and MBES data will be collected and H12991 will likely be near completion.

THOMAS JEFFERSON

OPR-K371-TJ-18, Approaches to Houston

Recap

- *Thomas Jefferson* completed an investigation of two charted PA wrecks in the Safety Fairway on Sheet H13052.
- Commenced mainscheme 100% SSS with concurrent MBES on Sheet H13047.
- BZ to ENS Catoire and ENS Grant on earning OOD underway qualification.
- GeoTiff and PDF progress sketch has been uploaded to [Google Drive](#).



Looking Forward

- *Thomas Jefferson* will depart from Approaches to Houston working grounds late Tuesday evening to arrive in Pascagoula, MS for a scheduled inport 17 - 21 May 2018.
- With HSTB support, EM2040 MBES will be installed and tested on HSLs 2903 and 2904.
- A shortage of qualified survey technicians will continue to prevent concurrent HSL and ship survey operations.

Contractors



OCEAN SURVEYS, INC.

OPR-K354-KR-18 - Louisiana Coast, LA

- This contract has been awarded to Ocean Surveys, Inc.

- This contract has been awarded to Terrasond.

[Link to Survey Figures](#)[Link to Story Map](#)

Fairweather in the Fjords

Fairweather has been working in the challenging environment presented by seasonal sea ice in the fjords of southeast Alaska. Dynamic and sudden changes occur in mid-to-late spring, when winter sea ice breaks up at the head of the fjords and floats out into Holkham Bay, creating potential hazards to marine traffic in the area. Communication between multiple sources, including the Alaska Navigation Manager, Lt. Bart Buessler, Tongass National Forest Ranger, Sean Rielly, and local UnCruise Tour vessel operators has been key, providing *Fairweather* with local ice condition reports as they navigate these areas. This is a great example of collaboration in aid of conducting hydrographic surveys! We thank you all for your help.



Approaching the elbow in Tracy Arm, AK. Photo courtesy of Sean Rielly, USFS.