

7 Other Data

7.1 Bottom Characteristics

When required in the Hydrographic Survey Project Instructions or Statement of Work, the hydrographer shall obtain samples of the bottom sediment. In general, the distance between bottom samples should not exceed 1200 meters in charted anchorage areas, and the distance between samples in all other areas should not exceed 2000 meters. Bottom samples will not be required in depths greater than 100 meters. NOAA field units should refer to section 2.5.3.6.1 of the Field Procedures Manual.

When sampling is required, the hydrographer shall record position and depth data for each sample obtained. In addition, each sample shall be described and completely attributed in the S-57 feature file. A table listing the position and description of the bottom sample obtained shall also be included in Appendix V of the Descriptive Report.

7.2 Aids to Navigation

The hydrographer shall investigate all U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and privately maintained fixed and floating aids to navigation located within the survey limits. Upon inspection of the most recent edition of the largest scale chart of the survey area and the latest edition of the USCG Light List, the hydrographer shall confirm the aid's characteristics and determine whether the aid adequately serves the intended purpose for which it was established.

If the hydrographer determines that an aid to navigation is located off station, is damaged to the extent that it does not serve its intended purpose or its characteristics are incorrectly charted, the facts should be reported immediately in the form of a danger to navigation letter (see Section 8.1.2 Danger to Navigation Report).

If an uncharted fixed or floating aid to navigation is discovered within the survey area, the hydrographer shall obtain a differential GPS position on the aid and report the new aid to navigation promptly to the nearest USCG district and submit a Danger to Navigation Report. Include geographic position, characteristics, apparent purpose, and by whom the aid is maintained (if known).

Other fixed and floating aids to navigation and landmarks within the survey area may require specific positioning methods. Positioning specifications and requirements will be provided in the Hydrographic Survey Project Instructions/Field Procedures Manual or Statement of Work.