Cruise Report U.S. Geological Survey Research Cruise 2015-644-FA Ocean Beach, San Francisco, California June 15, 2015

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#### Summary

On June 15, 2015, the Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center of the U.S Geological Survey (USGS) conducted a single-beam bathymetric survey offshore of Ocean Beach, just south of the Golden Gate. The work was conducted using two Coastal Profiling Systems (CPS) (personal watercraft outfitted with custom GPS and echo sounder survey equipment) out of Fort Baker, just inside and north of the Golden Gate. The survey was the thirty-sixth in a series of surveys in this area, starting in May 2004.

The shoreline of Ocean Beach, located in San Francisco, California, has been slowly retreating since the mid-1990's, with accelerated rates in certain areas. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco City Department of Public Works and Department of the Environment, National Park Service, members of the USGS, and a citizens group have joined to form the Ocean Beach Task Force in an effort to address this problem. In 2004, we began conducting research and monitoring in Ocean Beach and other areas around the mouth of San Francisco Bay to obtain quantitative data on beach behavior and on processes affecting sediment transport. The ultimate goal of this project is to identify and quantify the physical processes that control nearshore and beach morphology, enabling the various government agencies involved to make the most informed management decisions possible. This research effort and data acquisition has already received authorization through the National Park Service/Golden Gate National Recreation Area under permit **GOGA-2012-SCI-0006**.

It was determined that the operating frequency of the sonar system (200 kHz) is above the cutoff hearing threshold for marine mammals, therefore the CSLC determined that the observance of a safety zone is not a requirement for this survey (personal communications, K. Keen, CSLC), and that a marine wildlife monitor (MWO) was not required due to operational limitations of the personal watercraft used.

The USGS research cruise 2015-644-FA took place on June 15, 2015. All operations, including transits and surveying took place during daylight hours (0730 - 1100). Mapping was completed using hull-mounted 200-kHz, Odom 9 degree downward conical beam transducers and Odom Echotrac CV100 echo sounders at survey speeds of ~4 knots. The survey was terminated early when one of the PWCs had mechanical problems; while at sea, no sightings of wildlife were made, and no fishing gear (buoys) was observed. Track lines are shown in Figure 1 and start and end positions are given in Table 1.

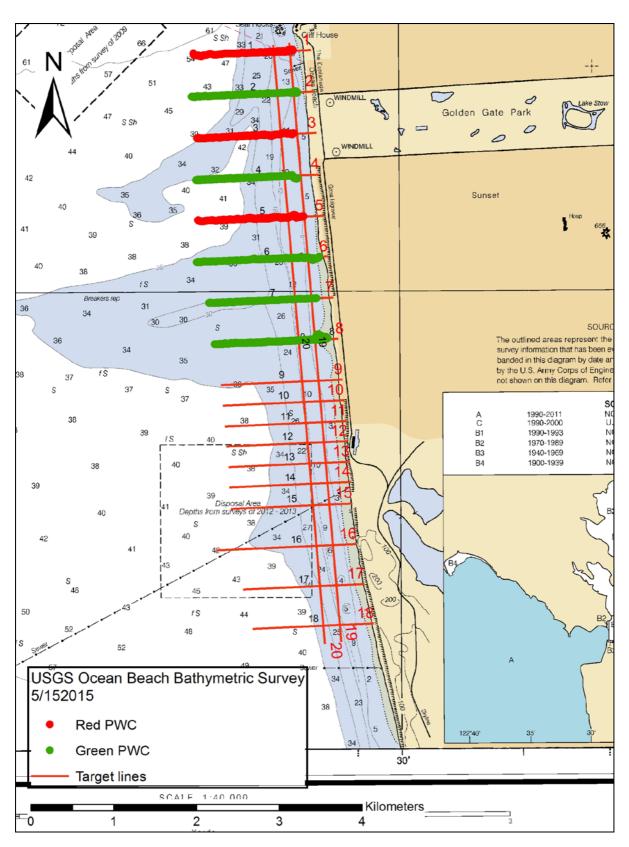


Figure 1. As-surveyed lines

# Table 1. As-surveyed line endpoints

### a. Red Boat

		St	art	E	nd
Line #		Lat	Lon	Lat	Lon
-	1	37.77602	-122.53115	37.77633	-122.51443
3	3	37.76678	-122.52768	37.76725	-122.51435
Ľ	5	37.75783	-122.52762	37.75822	-122.51310

#### b. Green Boat

	St	art	End			
Line #	Lat	Lon	Lat	Lon		
2	37.77130	-122.52843	37.77170	-122.51392		
4	37.76227	-122.52785	37.76237	-122.51395		
6	37.75325	-122.52783	37.75377	-122.51098		
7	37.74883	-122.52617	37.74932	-122.51140		
8	37.74433	-122.52543	37.74493	-122.50995		

**Appendix A: Weather Observation Forms** 

#### Marine Environmental Variables Form

#### Date: 6/17/15 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Monitor: \_\_Dan Hoover\_\_\_\_\_

Time	Latitude	Longitude	Vessel Activity	Weather	Cloud Cover	Glare	Visibility	Wind Speed	Sea State	Swell Height	Comments
0845 – 1330 PST	37.7117 to 37.7762N	-122.5287 to - 122.5047E	surveying	clear	overcast	none	7 km	4-6 kts	Slight chop	1m	Observations based on general conditions throughout PWC survey. PWC operator does not have resources to make detailed weather observations

Appendix C: Exhibit H

Mitigation Monitoring Program

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Linning	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
MM FISH-1: U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and Harbormaster Notification.	All California waters; as a survey permit condition, the CSLC shall require Permittees to provide the USCG with survey details, including information on vessel types, survey locations, times, contact information, and other details of activities that may pose a hazard to mariners and fishers so that USCG can include the information in the Local Notice to Mariners, advising vessels to avoid potential hazards near survey areas. Furthermore, at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of in-water activities, Permittees shall post such notices in the harbormasters' offices of regional harbors.	No adverse effects to commercial fishing gear in place.	Notify the USCG and local harbormasters of planned survey activity. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Prior to survey.	4/28/15
MM FISH-2: Minimize Interaction with Fishing Gear.	To minimize interaction with fishing gear that may be present within a survey area: (1) the geophysical vessel (or designated vessel) shall traverse the proposed survey corridor prior to commencing survey operations to note and record the presence, type, and location of deployed fishing gear (i.e., buoys); (2) no survey lines within 30 m (100 feet) of observed fishing gear shall be conducted. The survey crew shall not remove or relocate any fishing gear; removal or relocation shall only be accomplished by the owner of the gear upon notification by the survey operator of the potential conflict.	No adverse effects to commercial fishing gear in place.	Visually observe the survey area for commercial fishing gear. Notify the gear owner and request relocation of gear outside survey area. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Imme- diately prior to survey (prior to each survey day).	14/28/15
MM FISH-1: USCG and Harbormaster Notification.	Outlined under Commercial and Recreational Fisheries (above)					

Acronyms/Abbreviations: CARB = California Air Resources Board; CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife; CSLC = California State Lands Commission; dB = decibels; kHz = kilohertz; MPA = Marine Protected Area; MWCP = Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan; MWM = Marine Wildlife Monitor; m= meter(s); NOAA = National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; NO<sub>x</sub> = Nitrogen Oxide; OGPP = Offshore Geophysical Permit Program; OSCP = Oil Spill Contingency Plan; USCG = U.S. Coast Guard

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Timing	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
			ability to respond to worst-case spill.			8
MM HAZ-1: Oil Spill Contingency Plan (OSCP) Required Information.	Outlined under Hazards and Hazardous Materials (above	ə)				AL 1/38/12.
MM HAZ-2: Vessel fueling restrictions.	Outlined under Hazards and Hazardous Materials (above	9)	÷	te.		4/78/18
MM HAZ-3: OSCP equipment and supplies.	Outlined under Hazards and Hazardous Materials (above	9)				H-1ps/15
MM BIO-9: Limitations on Survey Operations in Select MPAs.	Outlined under <b>Biological Resources</b> (above)			8		A +128/05
MM REC-1: U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Harbormaster, and Dive Shop Operator Notification.	All California waters where recreational diving may occur; as a survey permit condition, the CSLC shall require Permittees to provide the USCG with survey details, including information on vessel types, survey locations, times, contact information, and other details of activities that may pose a hazard to divers so that USCG can include the information in the Local Notice to Mariners, advising vessels to avoid potential hazards near survey areas. Furthermore, at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of in-water activities, Permittees shall: (1) post such notices in the harbormasters' offices of regional harbors; and (2) notify operators of dive shops in coastal locations adjacent to the proposed offshore survey	No adverse effects to recreational divers from survey operations.	Notify the USCG, local harbormasters, and local dive shops of planned survey activity. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Prior to survey.	J 4/76/15

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Timing	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
MM BIO-9: Limitations on Survey Operations in Select Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).	All MPAs; prior to commencing survey activities, geophysical operators shall coordinate with the CLSC, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and any other appropriate permitting agency regarding proposed operations within MPAs. The scope and purpose of each survey proposed within a MPA shall be defined by the permit holder, and the applicability of the survey to the allowable MPA activities shall be delineated by the permit holder. If deemed necessary by CDFW, geophysical operators will pursue a scientific collecting permit, or other appropriate authorization, to secure approval to work within a MPA, and shall provide a copy of such authorization to the CSLC as part of the required presurvey notification to CSLC. CSLC, CDFW, and/or other permitting agencies may impose further restrictions on survey activities as conditions of approval.	No adverse effects to MPA resources due to survey activities are observed.	Monitor reactions of wildlife to survey operations; report on shutdown conditions and survey restart. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder; survey permitted by CDFW.	survey.	4/20/15
MM HAZ-1: Oil Spill Contingency Plan (OSCP) Required Information.	<ul> <li>Permittees shall develop and submit to CSLC staff for review and approval an OSCP that addresses accidental releases of petroleum and/or non-petroleum products during survey operations. Permittees' OSCPs shall include the following information for each vessel to be involved with the survey:</li> <li>Specific steps to be taken in the event of a spill, including notification names, phone numbers, and locations of: (1) nearby emergency medical facilities, and (2) wildlife rescue/response organizations (e.g., Oiled Wildlife Care Network);</li> <li>Description of crew training and equipment testing procedures; and</li> <li>Description, quantities, and location of spill response equipment onboard the vessel.</li> </ul>	Reduction in the potential for an accidental spill. Proper and timely response and notification of responsible parties in the event of a spill.	Documentation of proper spill training. Notification of responsible parties in the event of a spill.	OGPP permit holder and contract vessel operator.	Prior to survey.	1/28/15
MM HAZ-2: Vessel fueling restrictions.	Vessel fueling shall only occur at an approved docking facility. No cross vessel fueling shall be allowed.	Reduction in the potential for an accidental spill.	Documentation of fueling activities.	Contract vessel operator.	Following survey.	X 4 / 28/15
MM HAZ-3: OSCP equipment and supplies.	Onboard spill response equipment and supplies shall be sufficient to contain and recover the worst-case scenario spill of petroleum products as outlined in the OSCP.	Proper and timely response in the event of a spill.	Notification to CSLC of onboard spill response equipment/supplies inventory, verify	Contract vessel operator.	Prior to survey.	A 4/28/15

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MM BIO-8: Requirements – Collision.	<ul> <li>All State waters; if a collision with marine mammal or reptile occurs, the vessel operator shall document the conditions under which the accident occurred, including the following: <ul> <li>Vessel location (latitude, longitude) when the collision occurred;</li> <li>Date and time of collision;</li> <li>Speed and heading of the vessel at the time of collision;</li> <li>Observation conditions (e.g., wind speed and direction, swell height, visibility in miles or kilometers, and presence of rain or fog) at the time of collision;</li> <li>Species of marine wildlife contacted (if known);</li> <li>Whether an observer was monitoring marine wildlife at the time of collision; and,</li> <li>Name of vessel, vessel owner/operator, and captain officer in charge of the vessel at time of collision.</li> <li>After a collision, the vessel shall stop, if safe to do so; however, the vessel is not obligated to stand by and may proceed after confirming that it will not further damage the animal by doing so. The vessel will then immediately communicate by radio or telephone all details to the vessel's base of operations, and shall immediately report the incident. Consistent with Marine Mammal Protection Act requirements, the vessel's base of operations or, if an onboard telephone is available, the vessel captain him/herself, will then immediately call the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)</li> <li>Stranding Coordinator to report the collision and follow any subsequent instructions. From the report, the</li> <li>Stranding Coordinator will coordinate subsequent action, including enlisting the aid of marine mammal rescue organizations, if appropriate. From the vessel's base of operations, a telephone call will be placed to the</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed.	Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Monitoring Report following comple- tion of survey.	4/28/15

Mitigation Monitoring Program

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MM BIO-6: Practical Limitations on Equipment Use and Adherence to Equipment Manufacturer's Routine Maintenance Schedule.	<ul> <li>All State waters; geophysical operators shall follow, to the maximum extent possible, the guidelines of Zykov (2013) as they pertain to the use of subbottom profilers and side-scan sonar, including: <ul> <li>Using the highest frequency band possible for the subbottom profiler;</li> <li>Using the shortest possible pulse length; and</li> <li>Lowering the pulse rate (pings per second) as much as feasible.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Geophysical operators shall consider the potential applicability of these measures to other equipment types (e.g., boomer). Permit holders will conduct routine inspection and maintenance of acoustic-generating equipment to ensure that low energy geophysical equipment used during permitted survey activities remains in proper working order and within manufacturer's equipment specifications. Verification of the date and occurrence of such equipment inspection and maintenance shall be provided in the required</li> </ul>	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed.	Document initial and during survey equipment settings. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Imme- diately prior to and during , survey.	51 4/28/15
<b>MM BIO-7</b> : Avoidance of Pinniped Haul-Out Sites.	<ul> <li>presurvey notification to CSLC.</li> <li>The Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan (MWCP) developed and implemented for each survey shall include identification of haul-out sites within or immediately adjacent to the proposed survey area. For surveys within 300 meters (m) of a haul-out site, the MWCP shall further require that:</li> <li>The survey vessel shall not approach within 91 m of a haul-out site, consistent with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) guidelines;</li> <li>Survey activity close to haul-out sites shall be conducted in an expedited manner to minimize the potential for disturbance of pinnipeds on land; and</li> <li>Marine Wildlife Monitors shall monitor pinniped activity onshore as the vessel approaches, observing and reporting on the number of pinnipeds potentially disturbed (e.g., via head lifting, flushing into the water). The purpose of such reporting is to provide CSLC and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) with information regarding potential disturbance associated with OGPP surveys.</li> </ul>	No adverse effects to pinnipeds at haul outs are observed.	Document pinniped reactions to vessel presence and equipment use. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Monitoring Report following comple- tion of survey.	Bul20/15

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	factors the CSLC will consider will include the timing, type, and location of the survey, the size of the vessel, and the availability of alternate vessels for conducting the proposed survey. CSLC authorizations under this subsection will be limited to individual surveys and under any such authorization; the Permittee shall update the MWCP to reflect how survey operations will occur under the authorization.					9 /2x/15
MM BIO-4: Limits on Nighttime OGPP Surveys.	All State waters; nighttime survey operations are prohibited under the OGPP, except as provided below. The CSLC will consider the use of single beam echosounders and passive equipment types at night on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed.	Presurvey request for nighttime operations, including equipment specifications and proposed use schedule. Document equipment use. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Approval required before survey is initiated. Monitoring Report following comple- tion of survey.	J y   28/15
MM BIO-5: Soft Start.	All State waters; the survey operator shall use a "soft start" technique at the beginning of survey activities each day (or following a shut down) to allow any marine mammal that may be in the immediate area to leave before the sound sources reach full energy. Surveys shall not commence at nighttime or when the safety zone cannot be effectively monitored. Operators shall initiate each piece of equipment at the lowest practical sound level, increasing output in such a manner as to increase in steps not exceeding approximately 6 decibels (dB) per 5- minute period. During ramp-up, the Marine Wildlife Monitors (MWMs) shall monitor the safety zone. If marine mammals are sighted within or about to enter the safety zone, a power-down or shut down shall be implemented as though the equipment was operating at full power. Initiation of ramp-up procedures from shut down requires that the MWMs be able to visually observe the full safety zone.	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed.	Compliance with permit requirements (observers); compliance with safe start procedures. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Imme- diately prior to survey.	5/ 4/28/15

#### Implementation Mitigation Responsible Effectiveness Monitoring or Location and Scope of Mitigation Timing Date(s) and Measure (MM) **Reporting Action** Party Criteria Initials Safety Zone Equipment Type (radius, m) Single Beam Echosounder 50 Multibeam Echosounder 500 1/12/15 Side-Scan Sonar 600 Subbottom Profiler 100 **Boomer System** 100 If the geophysical survey equipment is operated at or above a frequency of 200 kilohertz (kHz), safety zone monitoring and enforcement is not required; however, if geophysical survey equipment operated at a frequency at or above 200 kHz is used simultaneously with geophysical survey equipment less than 200 kHz, then the safety zone for the equipment less than 200 kHz must be monitored. The onboard MWMs shall have authority to stop operations if a mammal or turtle is observed within the specified safety zone and may be negatively affected by survey activities. The MWMs shall also have authority to recommend continuation (or cessation) of operations during periods of limited visibility (i.e., fog, rain) based on the observed abundance of marine wildlife. Periodic reevaluation of weather conditions and reassessment of the continuation/cessation recommendation shall be completed by the onboard MWMs. During operations, if an animal's actions are observed to be irregular, the monitor shall have authority to recommend that equipment be shut down until the animal moves further away from the sound source. If irregular behavior is observed, the equipment shall be shut-off and will be restarted and ramped-up to full power, as applicable, or will not be started until the animal(s) is/are outside of the safety zone or have not been observed for 15 minutes. For nearshore survey operations utilizing vessels that lack the personnel capacity to hold two (2) MWMs aboard during survey operations, at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the commencement of survey activities, the Permittee may petition the CSLC to conduct survey operations with one (1) MWM aboard. The CSLC will consider such authorization on a case-by-case basis and

EXHIBIT H

Mitigation Monitoring Program

Updated: 04/23/2014

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Timing	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
MM BIO-1: Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Presence – Current Information.	All State waters; prior to commencement of survey operations, the geophysical operator shall: (1) contact the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Long Beach office staff and local whale-watching operations and shall acquire information on the current composition and relative abundance of marine wildlife offshore, and (2) convey sightings data to the vessel operator and crew, survey party chief, and onboard Marine Wildlife Monitors (MWMs) prior to departure. This information will aid the MWMs by providing data on the approximate number and types of organisms that may be in the area.	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed.	Document contact with appropriate sources. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder; Inquiry to NOAA and local whale watching operators.	survey.	14/28/15
MM BIO-2: Marine Wildlife Monitors (MWMs).	Except as provided in section 7(h) of the General Permit, a minimum of two (2) qualified MWMs who are experienced in marine wildlife observations shall be onboard the survey vessel throughout both transit and data collection activities. The specific monitoring, observation, and data collection responsibilities shall be identified in the Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan required as part of all Offshore Geophysical Permit Program permits. Qualifications of proposed MWMs shall be submitted to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and CSLC at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of the survey for their approval by the agencies. Survey operations shall not commence until the CSLC approves the MWMs.	Competent and professional monitoring or marine mammals and sea turtles; compliance with established monitoring policies.	Document contact with and approval by appropriate agencies. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	survey.	814/28/15
MM BIO-3: Safety Zone Monitoring.	Onboard Marine Wildlife Monitors (MWMs) responsible for observations during vessel transit shall be responsible	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed; compliance with established safety zones.	Compliance with permit requirements (observers); compliance with established safety zones. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Prior to survey.	(H {   18/5'