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## April 1976

## Annual Reports from Principal Investigators

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## Environmental Assessment of the Alaskan Continental Shelf

# Volume 12. Geology

Fourth quarter and annual reports for the reporting period ending March 1976, from Principal Investigators participating in a multi-year program of environmental assessment related to petroleum development on the Alaskan Continental Shelf. The program is directed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under the sponsorship of the Bureau of Land Management.

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### LAMONT-DOHERTY GEOLOGICAL OBSERVATORY

#### **OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

PALISADES, NEW YORK

A SEISMOTECTONIC STUDY OF SEISMIC AND VOLCANIC

HAZARDS IN THE PRIBILOF ISLANDS - EASTERN ALEUTIAN ISLANDS REGION

OF THE BERING SEA

FOURTH QUARTER/ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 1975 - March 31, 1976

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Prepared jointly for the

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and the

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#### PREFACE

This report describes work done under NOAA contract number 03-5-022-70 entitled "Seismotectonic Analysis of the Seismic and Volcanic Hazards in the Pribilof Islands - Eastern Aleutian Islands Region of the Bering Sea". It was originally prepared under the title "A Comprehensive Study of the Seismotectonics of the Aleutian Arc", and was presented to the U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) as an annual progress report on work carried out under contract number ERDA(11-1) 3134 during the period March 1, 1975 - February 29, 1976. Because the seismic and geodetic work done under the present NOAA contract was, by design, completely complementary to that done under the above ERDA contract all of the work done is presented in this one report which is intended to satisfy the reporting requirements of both agencies. An effort has been made throughout the report to note which portions of the work were specifically supported by NOAA.

This complementary arrangement exists because at the time NOAA's need for a hazards analysis in the Bering Sea area arose, the ERDA seismotectonic study was well under way. It was proposed that NOAA provide funds and logistic support to allow a reorganization of the existing seismic network and an expansion of the geodetic leveling program. This supplementary support has strongly improved the hazards analysis. It has also provided additional manpower which allows a more rapid analysis of the data than would otherwise have been possible.

All of the results discussed in the Data Analysis section of this report are relevent to the evaluation of the seismic or volcanic hazards in the eastern Aleutians. The historic seismicity map for 1965-1975, the most recent data set available, shows that the Shumagin seismic gap (Sanak Island to Kodiak Island) continues to exist as a region with presently low seismicity. The local network data reveal that most of the earthquakes which are occurring in the Shumagin gap

are contained within a northward dipping Benioff zone which is well defined between the depths of 30 and 50 kilometers. The liklihood of a large earthquake occurring in the gap in the near future is discussed in an appendix prepared especially for this NOAA version of the report. The conclusions of that appendix is that it is almost a certainty that an earthquake larger than or equal to magnitude seven will occur within the next 20 yeras and that the probability that this event might be larger than or equal to magnitude eight is significant.

#### ABSTRACT

Seismological and geodetic research performed during the past contract year has increased our understanding of the seismotectonics of the eastern Aleutian Island Arc. While generally aimed at producing a coherent theory for the evaluation of the entire arc, our research has focused on the Shumagin Islands seismic gap, a region within which a major earthquake is expected in the not too distant future. To collect basic seismological data and to investigate certain earthquake prediction techniques we maintain 19 short period and 3 long period seismograph stations, 2 strong motion accelerographs and a pair of strainmeters. To investigate possible regional tilting due to strain accumulation within the seismic gap we have made limited geodetic leveling measurements. We have expanded the baseline and increased the resolution of these tilt measurements with the installation of two remote tide gauges. In this report we present (1) historic seismicity maps of the Shumagin seismic gap vicinity which show the relatively low level of seismic activity in the gap, a possible offset in the Benioff zone, and a few events associated with the Bering shelf continental margin south of the Pribliof Islands; (2) a seismicity map and hypocenter cross-sections based on data from the local Shumagin Islands seismic network which show a very well developed Benioff zone beneath the Shumagin Islands; (3) studies of the focal mechanisms of April 6, 1974 Shumagin Islands earthquake and the February 2, 1975 Near Islands earthquakes which respectively show thrust faulting perpendicular to the arc and rightlateral strike-slip faulting oblique to the arc along the slip direction inferred from the relative motion of the plates; (4) the first strong motion accelerograph data from the eastern Aleutians, which show accelerations consistent with those observed for earthquakes in California; (5) this year's geodetic leveling results which when compared with those from 1972 indicate

that regional tilting due to tectonic strain accumulation, if it is occuring, is less than 1.9 microradians per year; and (6) seismic observations of two Strombolian eruptive cycles of Pavlof Volcano which reveal monochromatic wave trains which are identical one to the next suggesting a common source region and a harmonic source function or very efficient filtering of the body waves by the pyroclastic layers of the volcano.

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#### INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes progress on work and research carried out by Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory (L-DGO) personnel under Contract ERDA(11-1) 3134, "A Comprehensive Study of the Seismotectonics of the Aleutian Arc", for the period March 1, 1975 to February 29, 1976. Parts of this work were performed in cooperation with Drs. H. Pulpan and J. Kienle of the Geophysical Institute of the University of Alaska (UA). Portions of the work carried out primarily for this contract received additional support from a new contract with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) entitled "Seismotectonic Analysis of the Seismic and Volcanic Hazards in the Pribilof Islands - Eastern Aleutian Islands Region of the Bering Sea." This NOAA contract (see work statement in Appendix I) supported additional work complementary to the ERDA work which is summarized in this report because of its direct relevance to the goals of the ERDA contract. Finally, this report summarizes the initial progress on work carried out under an expansion of scope to the ERDA contract entitled "Search for a Magma Chamber under Pavlof Volcano".

Both the expansions to the basic seismotectonic study supported by NOAA and the ERDA expansion of scope arise out of the growing recognition of the acuteness of the national energy situation. The seismic and volcanic hazards analysis (NOAA) is part of the Outer Continental Shelf Energy Program (OSCEP) and will help evaluate the environmental risks to and from the exploration for oil on the outer continental shelves. The geothermal work on Pavlof volcano is part of ERDA's mandated program to evaluate alternative energy sources.

It is somewhat fortuitous that these more applied needs arise at a turning point in our research program. After several years of intensive field work we

now have a seismic network which can provide some of the basic data for these hazards and geothermal evaluations. In the following section we will describe the field and instrumental work which have been carried out during the past year. Following that we will discuss our recent results and plans for the coming year.

#### FIELD AND INSTRUMENTAL WORK

Reorganization, installation and maintenance of the seismogrpahic network. During this past field season we accomplished a major reorganization of the seismographic network. This reorganization included the relocation of remote seismic stations, the establishment of a VHF telemetry link from Port Moller, through the mountains of the Alaska Peninsula to Sand Point on Popof Island and the expansion of the data recording centers at Sand Point, Dutch Harbor and Saint Paul. The reasons for this reorganization were threefold: (1) We faced rising costs on the White Alice Communications System (WACS) for our data link from Driftwood Bay to Homer and its eventual (one to five years) phase out. (2) The addition of stations on Kodiak Island by the University of Alaska required an additional develocorder thus allowing the possibility to relocate the previously shared L-DGO develocorder from Homer to Sand Point and (3) By moving the L-DGO develocorder to Sand Point all of the Cold Bay and Shumagin Island stations could be recorded on a single 16 mm film, eliminating the costly and time consuming data reduction of two different kinds of records (tape and film). The Sand Point location minimized the telemetry requirements necessary to accomplish this consolidation of the data recording.

Figure 1 shows the locations of seismograph stations in the eastern Aleutians. Some of the station parameters for the current L-DGO stations shown in this figure

are given in Table 1. The remote stations are all battery (air cell) powered and connected via VHF telemetry links to the recording sites at Dutch Harbor or Sand Point. Most of these stations were serviced from the NOAA ship Surveyor with the aid of the ship based Jet Ranger helicopter. Table 2 summarizes the stations visited and tasks accomplished from the Surveyor. The remaining stations were serviced from locally chartered fishing boats or small aircraft.

A GeoSpace HS-10/B 1 Hz seismometer was installed in the long period vault at Saint Paul. This instrument is recorded on a Helicorder in the Weather Bureau along with the long period instrument. The single short period seismograph will not, of course, allow location of earthquakes, but is intended to measure the general seismicity level of the Saint Paul area. The equipment for this installation was purchased with NOAA funds.

The seismic stations at the White Alice Communications Systems (WACS) sites of Driftwood Bay (DWB) and Cape Sarichef (CPS) were removed because of the high cost of the WACS telemetry link, the scheduled (1976) phase out of the CPS site and the relatively poor seismometer locations available close to the WACS sites. The seismometers and amplifiers/VCO's from these sites were incorporated in the remote installations at Makushin Valley (MKV) and Dolgoi Island (DOL). The removal of CPS and the Akutan Island (AKN) receiver there necessitated the relocation of AKN to ARV so that it could be telemetered to MKV where it is repeated into Dutch Harbor. Both AKV and MKV are intended to monitor volcanic activity as well as the tectonic earthquakes. Due to logistic constraints MKV is located too far away from Makushin to record small volcanic tremors but certainly will record any major eruptive activity. These two remote stations are recorded at Dutch Harbor on Helicorders purchased with NOAA funds. They and the local horizontal and vertical instruments which are recorded on a dual channel Auto-

corder, comprise the Dutch Harbor array. This tripartite array is minimally sufficient for independently locating local earthquakes and has an accurate enough time base so that data from this array can be used in conjunction with other data to locate larger regional events.

The new station on Dolgoi Island (DOL) is telemetered to Deer Island (DRR) as is the Sanak Island station (SNK). The data from DOL, SNK and DRR are mixed and transmitted to the Cold Bay WACS site, CDB. The stations at Baldy Mountain (BAL) and False Pass (FPS) are also transmitted to Cold Bay. These five stations DOL, DRR, SNK, BAL and FPS, comprise the Cold Bay subarray of the Shumagin Islands array. Data from the Cold Bay subarray are transmitted via a WACS voice circuit from Cold Bay to Port Moller (PMA) and then to Sand Point on a L-DGO installed and NOAA funded VHF link.

The University of Alaska station, PVS, which was located in the saddle between Mt Pavlof and Pavlof's Sister was removed because the site proved unsatisfactory. The L-DGO station at Black Hills (BLH) was not gotten operational due to logistic constraints. We originally intended to tap the amplifier output from the NOAA station at Port Moller (PMA) and transmit that data to Sand Point to provide the basis for a direct comparison of our timing and magnitude determinations with those of NOAA at the Palmer Observatory. Although this was not accomplished this summer we hope to complete this hook-up in the near future.

All of the original eight remote Shumagin Island seismic stations, PVV, WUN, CNB, NGI, SQH, BKJ, IVF and SGB, were serviced and operational by the end of the summer except CNB which is operational but not being recorded because its receiver at NGI failed. The vertical seismometer at Sand Point was replaced by a GeoSpace HS-10/B identical to the seismometer installed at Saint Paul.

This seismometer has a calibration coil, so complete system responses from the seismometer through the amplifier/filters to the recorder could be (and were) calibrated.

The original eight remote Shumagin Island stations, the three component local station at Sand Point and the five Cold Bay stations are all recorded on the Develocorder at Sand Point. The Develocorder was installed in parallel with the 14 channel tape recorder so that the tape recorder can be used as a back up in case of failure of the Develocorder. A redundant timing system was set up. The top and the bottom trace of the Develocorder records the BCD time code from a Sprengnether TS200 chronometer. The minute mark from a Sprengnether TS100 (primary time for the long period records) is superimposed on one of the seismic traces. For convenience of reading the records the Develocorder internal datetime group is recorded on the margin of the records.

The accuracy of the comparison of station time to WWV was improved at Sand Point, Dutch Harbor and Saint Paul by the installation of a semi-automatic time calibrator. This L-DGO built device, when manually switched on, provides WWV minute-tone-activated relay closures which are recorded, along with the minute marks from the TS100, on a single channel strip chart recorder. These strip charts form a convenient and permanent record of the time calibration for each recording site (SDP, DUT and SNP).

In summary, L-DGO now maintains 19 short period seismograph stations in the eastern Aleutians, 13 of which are recorded on a Develocorder at Sand Point. The time calibration has been upgraded at all three recording sites so that absolute arrival times can be read to better than a tenth of a second at any of these stations.

This will improve our ability to locate larger regional events and to compute travel times. The main purpose in maintaining these stations is to obtain detailed seismicity data for the Shumagin gap region of the eastern Aleutian arc. Some of the stations are situated close to active volcanos so they can monitor both the regional seismicity and local volcanic activity.

#### Maintenance and Calibration of Long Period Seismographs.

At each of the recording sites, SDP, DUT and SNP, there is a long period vertical seismograph. In addition, at SDP there is an orthogonal set of horizontal instruments. All of the seismometers are set to 20 sec natural period. The signals are amplified and filtered using L-DGO built equipment which has a cut-off period of 100 seconds. All of these signals are recorded on Helicorders with superimposed minute marks from a Sprengnether TS100 chronometer.

The L-DGO amplifiers originally had basic gains (before attenuation) of 60 db. This high a gain turned out to be unnecessary at these Aleutian sites and contributed somewhat to an instability in the zero position. Therefore we reduced the gain of all amplifiers from 60 db to 40 db. 40 db.

Following the modification to the amplifiers a complete calibration was carried out. The seismometers were reset to a 20 second natural period. Then each component (seismometer, amplifier, filter and Helicorder) was individually calibrated to assure its proper operation. Finally the entire system response was calibrated by driving the seismometer calibration coils at various periods over the range 5-200 seconds while recording the output on the Helicorder. Magnification was computed based on direct observation of the boom deflection using an optical comparator.

#### Geodetic Instrumentation, Shumagin Islands, August 1975 (R. Bilham)

As part of the program to monitor surface deformation and bulk changes of elasticity in the Shumagin Islands of the Aleutian Arc two mean sea level indicators and two wire strainmeters were installed during August 1975. The following account describes the justification for, construction and installation of the instruments.

The Shumagin Islands are within an area in which a major earthquake is expected in the not too distant future. On the global seismic map this area appears as a relative absence of seismicity in the otherwise continuous seismicity associated with the Benioff zone along the Aleutian Arc. This condition often precedes major seismicity.

In order to study whether surface deformation occurs as part of the mechanism of any future earthquake we have instigated various long term projects which attempt to monitor manifestations of regional strain. Some earthquake mechanism models suggest surface elevation may precede an earthquake (dilatancy) whereas other theories indicate that the underthrusting slab may drag the overthrusting lithospheric plate downward. The parameters we have chosen to monitor in the Shumagins are surface tilt and strain. The earth tilt measurements are achieved by two independent methods, geodetic levelling on an annual basis (described in later sections) and the comparison of continuous records of mean sea level measured on different islands. The mean-sea-level indicators (MSLI) are newly conceived devices and the prototypes will be described in detail. The wire strainmeters are not new and are described less fully. The strainmeters are installed so as to monitor changes in load tide strain amplitude on Popof Island which may be an indicator of changes of elasticity beneath the Island such as are predicted in dilatancy-diffusion models. They are not good indi-

cators of secular strain rates unless a significant change of strain rate should occur. That is, the instrumental stability is sufficient to detect transient events (strain rate  $>10^{-7}$  /day) but not sufficent to detect strain accumulation of less than  $10^{-6}$  per year.

The MSLI is an instrument for recording mean sealevel. It differs from a conventional tide gauge in that it has a long time constant (>20 hours) and therefore damps the unwanted sea tides significantly. The present design will operate for 18 months on internal dry batteries with a maximum measurement precision of 1 mm. Samples are taken once per minute on a pressure sensitive analog chart and the device both calibrates itself and stays on scale automatically.

The MSLI takes two men two days to install by hand. An instrument costs \$500 in parts (1973) and is estimated to cost a further \$500 to emplace in an average remote site when travel (hire of boat) and per diem costs are included.

<u>Principle of Operation</u>. In common with normal tide gauges the MSLI uses a buoyant float as a reference for the height of the sea surface. The float is connected by a stainless steel wire to a measuring device positioned some distance abouve the high water mark. The connection to the sea is through a capillary tube in order to remove rapid variations of sea level. By this means it is possible to attenuate the amplitudes of the tides relative to longer period (monthly) variations which allows greater measurement precision using inexpensive transducers and analog chart recorders of limited dynamic range.

The mathematics of the hydraulically filtered tide gauge have been described in Groves 1965 and Filloux and Groves 1960. The time constant of the syphon is given by

$$\tau = 8v1a^2/r^4g$$

where v is the kinematic viscosity of sea water (.01  $cm^{2}5^{-1}$ ), 1 is the length of the entry tube,  $\alpha$  the inside radius of the standpipe and r the inside radius of the entry tube. Thus using a 6 cm radius standpipe and a 150 m long 3 mm radius entry tube we achieve a time constant of approximately 1 hour and by inserting a 1 m long 0.3 mm radius capillary in the hydraulic path the time constant can be increased to 100 hours. In the Aleutians, where the sea level variation is approximately 4 m, we chose a 30 hour time constant capillary (.4 mm radius) which led to an attenuation factor of approximately .013. The resulting 5 cm tide was arranged to record as approximately 1/2 chart width by selecting a 10 cm circumference measurement pulley. The resolution of the record in this instance is 2% of full scale chart width (2mm). The chart width is 6 cm so that the one millimetre of chart corresponds to 1.7 mm of change of elevation of mean sea level.

<u>Measurement (Figure 3)</u>. The system uses a low-friction 100 k continuousrotation potentiometer with 0.1% linearity to measure the motion of the float. One 1.5V cell provides a voltage source for the potentiometer at a drain of approximately 1 $\mu$ A. A programmable  $\mu$ A776 amplifier set to operate at approximately 2 $\mu$ A quiescent drain converts the variable potentiometer voltage into a current source feeding 10 $\mu$ A galvonometer of the recorder. The total current consumption varies from 2 $\mu$ A to 12 $\mu$ A depending on the potentiometer setting. Two AAA-type alkaline cells are sufficient for 18 months operation.

If required it would be possible to transmit the transducer output to a remote recording location using FM coded VHF telemetry. The VCO in this application need be of merely moderate stability since the transducer provides regular calibration and datum.

<u>Recording</u>. The recorder motor is rated at 6V, 24mA. In this application it is operated at 2.8V for two seconds every 60 seconds. The power is supplied from a single Lithium D-Cell, with a rated capacity of 10AH. The switching system adopted is the prototype involves a commercial clock movement (Endura, \$6) with a 60 second sweep hand onto which is fitted a pill shaped magnet (1/4" diameter, 1/8" thick, N-S faces). Each minute this sweeps past a reed relay whose fixed position is adjusted to give the required 2 second contact closure. The clock is operated from a separate battery (1.5V Alkaline D). The batteries chosen are sufficient to operate the recorder and clock for 18 months.

Chart speed can be adjusted by using interchangeable gear boxes. The normal operating time is chosen to be 13 months which gives a chart speed of approximately 5 cm/day.

<u>Calibration and Timing</u>. The electronic calibration depends on the state of the batteries since it is difficult to regulate the low voltage (±1.5V) in the measurement system without wasting power. However, the system automatically calibrates itself as long as the mean level measured oscillates over more than one chart width. For example the sea tides are never removed totally nor are they exactly centered on the chart. Thus as the potentiometer rotates from maximum to minimum or vice versa a record of amplifier calibration is produced. The daily tides are used to time the record since they are not themselves of interest and can be read to one hour.

Subsequent digitisation of MSLI records leads to automatic compensation for calibration changes and tidal delay during computer processing.

<u>Temperature Effects</u>. The complete electronic package has been tested between -10° and +25°C with no effect on the mechanical operation and only 2% change in the fullscale indicated value. However, the present mechanical design will freeze at 0°C since the standpipe uses sea water. It would be possible to introduce oil into the system to enable it to operate at subzero temperatures without major changes to the standard instrument.

<u>Mechanical Construction</u>. The base of the standpipe is embedded inland 50 cm below mean sea level in a block of concrete. Bolted to the top of the pipe is the recording, measuring package. The recorder, electronics and batteries are all enclosed in a hermetically sealed PVC tube (Figure 2). The design is such that during flood conditions, such as could be caused by a high-tide storm or a tsunami, water will be forced up the outside of the tube creating increased air pressure inside the tube. This back pressure is designed to prevent flooding of the recorder compartment in the event of failure of the 0-ring seal. The entire system can thus be flooded to a depth of several meters without damage. This was considered to be a necessary design feature in view of the destruction of the Alaskan tide gauges by the tsunami immediately following the 1964 earthquake. The standpipe is installed slightly inland from the coast and is more than 80% buried which further prevents mechanical damage.

The float is a 4" diameter glass jar, weighted inside with steel embedded in wax (to give it buoyant stability) and sealed hermetically. It is held by a 0.4 mm diameter corrosion resistant stainless steel wire with a breaking strength of 10 Kg weight. The counterbalance weight is a 100 gm lead weight.

The mechanical construction material, except for the Aluminum alloy standpipe, is entirely 1/2" P.V.C. which has good mechanical strength and does not corrode. The measurement system is held to the standpipe by three bolts and is designed to be replaced annually by a spare unit. This enables rapid inspection in the field and allows careful overhaul of the apparatus in a more favourable environment.

The entry tube is transparent PVC tubing with a 1/4" internal diameter and a 1/2" external diameter. It is tough and resilient. Air bubbles are easily visible in the tube if it is in air or under water. The entry orifice to the system consists of a 5 cm copper tube approximately 30 cm long, held by an heavy framework approximately 1 m above the sea floor. The copper tube discourages barnacle growth and produces a poisonous environment in the entry tube which prevents bacteriological fouling. It points downward so that sediment accumulation cannot occur.

Long Term Stability. The stability is dependent on the standpipe position, the buoyance of the glass float and frictional effects in the pulley potentiometer. The latter is very low in friction compared to the forces exerted by the float and stainless steel wire (which is wrapped 1 1/2 times around the pulley). The glass float may become heavier if bacterial growth occurs and annual inspection will be required to identify such effects. Mercuric chloride in dilute solution in the standpipe may prevent organic growth.

The standpipe position is geodetically surveyed to a nearby solid rock outcrop. Long term settling of the standpipe will be monitored to a precision of 0.2 mm.

The electronic package is self calibrating and long term gain changes are recoverable in subsequent processing.

<u>Installation (see Figure 4)</u>. The site for a mean sea level indicator is chosen with care. The most important requirement is that the entry tube should be well protected as it passes through the intertidal zone. This usually requires a sheltered sandy beach or a storm beach with a surge channel.

The base of the standpipe has to be buried to a depth greater than the lowest expected mean sea level and has to be long enough to emerge above the high water mark. In the Shumagin Islands the tidal range can exceed 4 m so that a 3.3 m standpipe was adopted. The excavation was carried out by hand to a depth of 3 m at low tide. The resulting hole measured 1.5 m x 1 m in area and took two men four hours to dig in gravel, sand and soil. Two hundred-pound bags of concrete were mixed with water repellent liquid ("antihydro") and local sand to provide a firm 40 cm deep foundation for the base of the standpipe. The remainder of the hole was filled immediately with the excavated material before the turn of the tide.

The entry tube was buried to a depth of 50 cm under the beach. Since this also had to be done at low tide it was completed on the following day. Ideally this occasion is the lowest low-tide of the month as it was in the case of the August 1975 installation. The tube is more dense than sea water and naturally sinks when offshore. The greatest difficulty arises in burying the tube as it passes under water from the beach. Large boulders were placed upon it to prevent movement and appeared to be adequate in the sheltered bays chosen.

Water was pumped into the system from the seaward end by an electric im-

peller pump. This introduced cavitation and future installations will utilize a slow speed hand pump to prevent the production of bubbles. The final adjustment of the syphon was accomplished by operating the valves around the capillary tube. All bubbles were removed by vibration and bleeding the system.

The final operation was to sink the entry port for the syphon at the extreme end of the entry tube. The entry port is placed some distance from the shore (150 m - 250 m) to prevent biological fouling, sedimentation or physical damage In each of the Shumagin installations the water depth was 10-20 m. The framework used to hold the entry port was in each case a disused king crab pot framework, weighing more than 100 kg.

Shumagin Islands - Location of MSLI. The two instruments were installed at Pirates Cove, Popof Island and Eagle Harbor, Nagai Island. The two installations are separated by a distance of 32 km (Figure 5). Since they have a resolution of 1.7 mm per mm of chart we can resolve tilts manifest as vertical motions ofthe islands approximately 5 parts in 10<sup>8</sup>. The "noise" associated with the measurements is related to seasonal changes in wind direction and sea currents, precipitation and atmospheric pressure changes. We intend to learn more about the noise by installing additional instruments in the coming 1976 field season. In particular we will install instruments on the south facing shores of the two isalnds already instrumented and extend the baseline of the measurements to the extreme south of the area (Chernabera Island) and to the mainland. The additional five instruments planned will give a 100 km baseline at right angles to the strike of the Benioff zone and the multiplicity of instruments will enable us to estimate the noise present in sea-level measurements in the Shumagin Islands.

<u>Strainmeters.</u> The surface strain measured some distance from a surface load can be calibrated using standard rock-mechanics techniques. The magnitude of the strain is proportional to the size of the load and the rigidity of the material beneath the source and instrument. By placing the strainmeter n km from a coast-line it is possible to monitor the rigidity of the surface rocks to a depth of approximately  $\frac{n}{3}$  km. The original intention was to install three wire-strainmeters near the center of Unga Island, the largest of the Shumagin Group which would allow us to sample the upper 3 km of the crust. However, it was not possible to get installation equipment onto the island and instead two instruments were installed near the only road in existence in the Shumagins on the Island of Popof.

The site is far from ideal in that it is less than 2 km to the nearest coastline. However, we may be able to reduce the effects of the closest load tide by using data from the Sand Point Coast and Geodetic Survey Tide Gauge. This tide gauge is located within 1.5 km of the strainmeter installation and we are obtaining continuous strip charts of the data. In addition we have some control over the regional tidal loading pattern since the mean sea level indicator data can be converted back to unattenuated tidal magnitudes knowing the MSLI characteristics. We hope that the quality of the strain data will be sufficient to observe 10% changes in thirty-day tidal strain analyses.

The study of body-tide admittance is fundamentally more useful since it allows greater penetration with regard to elasticity measurements. However, the predicted body-strain tide is approximately three times smaller than the load strain tide according to our initial measurements of the total strain tide

in the Shumagins. Thus changes in the strain load tide are expected to mask the smaller changes expected in the body tide (Beaumont and Berger, 1975). It is too early to know whether the measurements are of sufficiently low noise to enable resolution of tidal amplitudes to the accuracy that would enable us to examine the body-tide tidal admittance.

Two wire strainmeters were installed on a weathered gabbro sub-surface rock two meters beneath the surface of the tundra. The length of each instrument is approximately 12 m and their azimuths are 0° and 90° geographically.

The wire strainmeter is described elsewhere (King and Bilham, 1975). Its stability is poor compared to laser strainmeters ( $<10^{-6}$ /year) but it is cheaper and is simple to install. The recording system consists of zero suppression electronics and automatic drift correction to maintain instrument operation. The recorder is a strip-chart pressure sensitive Esterline-Angus which samples alternate instruments. Timing is provided by an Accutron clock which interupts the analog record and indicates the amount of long-period drift on the record every twenty-four hours. The chart speed is 5 cm/day and a data point is recorded once per minute.

Caustic soda batteries (11 x 1.2 volt) provide sufficient power for a year's operation which corresponds to the chart recorder capability. The electronics and strainmeters are hermetically sealed and are buried totally. Two small tubes supply fresh air to the batteries which are installed in a sub-surface brick enclosure at one end of one of the wire strainmeters.

#### Geodetic Leveling

The level lines and dry tilt figures (see Figure 5) which were established at Sand Point and Squaw Harbor in 1972 were all reoccupied during this field season. Specially made portable turning points for the rods and a more redundant observational technique than was employed during the past two years allowed substantial improvement in accuracy over the measurements made in 1973 and 1974 and slight improvement over those made in 1972. The results of these measurements will be discussed under the data analysis heading.

#### Strong Motion Accelerograph Maintenance

L-DGO operates two strong motion accelerographs; one at Dutch Harbor and one at Sand Point. New batteries and film were installed in each of these instruments and the traces were rezeroed. We recovered one record of a seismic event from the Sand Point instrument. This record and two previous ones are discussed under the data analysis heading.

#### Preliminary Design and Fabrication of Pavlof Seismic Array.

Work has begun on the design and fabrication of the seismic array to be deployed around Pavlof Volcano next summer. The general system design has been completed and research into the question of which specific pieces of equipment best meet the design requirements is underway. Two of the three L-DGO "OAS" tape recorders earmarked for use with this project have been refurbished and work on the third should be completed soon. A prototype timing system which will superimpose 12 hour, hour and minute marks on one of the seismic traces of each of the tape recorders is complete and is now undergoing reliability testing. We have selected a 4 channel 1/4" tape playback unit which meets our specifications and will soon begin testing this unit. So far the work on this seismic

array is on schedule and we are confident that it will be deployed around Pavlof as planned.

#### Personnel

The above described fieldwork was carried out by five persons from L-DGO; Drs. John Davies and Roger Bilham, graduate students Leigh House and Stuart Nishenko, and technician Laszlo Skinta. Dr. Davies was responsible for overall planning, maintenance and modification of the short period seismograph network, the long period seismograph stations and the strong motion accelerographs and the geodetic leveling. He was assisted in all of the above by Mr. Skinta. Dr. Bilham was in charge of the design, fabrication and installation of the strainmeters and the mean sea level indicators. Mr. House and Mr. Nishenko assisted with the maintenance and modification of the short period network, the geodetic leveling and the installation of the strainmeters and mean sea level indicators.

This field work was jointly supported by ERDA and NOAA. The equipment and supply charges were easily allocatable to the appropriate contract. However, since the travel to, from and within the Aleutians was pursuant to the goals of both contracts and not alway seperable, an attempt was made to keep the travel and per diem charges roughly equal. The actual percentage distribution of these charges by contract for each person and for the total amount spent is given in the following table:

Person	ERDA (11-1)3134	NOAA 03-5-022-70
Davies	77%	23%
Bilham	36	64
House	82	18

Person	ERDA (11-1)3134	NOAA 03-5-022-70
Nishenko	39%	61%
Skinta	53	. 47
Total	56	44

<u>Acknowledgements.</u> It is impossible to carry out a field program of this type without help from many people. We were indeed fortunate to receive support from almost every quarter: the NOAA ship Surveyor, ITT site personnel, the U. S. Air Force at Cold Bay, U. S. National Marine Fisheries, National Weather Service, U. S. Army, U. S. Coast Guard, U. S. Fish and Wildlife, bush pilots at Sand Point and King Cove, the Wakefield, Peter Pan and New England Fish Co. cannery personnel at Squaw Harbor, Sand Point, Port Moller and False Pass, the seismic station operators and many private persons who provided a skiff, a cup of coffee, information, a hot meal or who helped with the backpacking to one or more of the remote seismic stations.

Space does not allow a detailed acknowledgement to all of those refered to above. Special mention and thanks are extended to the following: Captain MacDonald, the officers and crew of the NOAA ship "Surveyor" provided the major logistic support for servicing the remote seismic stations. NOAA helicopter pilot Don Winters deserves commendation for his skillful flying in the always marginal Aleutian weather. Sand Point school principal George Kimball and teachers Bob Cochran and Kevin Daley cooperated and assisted with the modification of the recording center there. Sand Point bush pilot Charlie Barnes flew us many places during this and past summers, often under very adverse conditions. It appears likely that he will carry out his oft-threatened plans for retirement this year. His advise and skill will be missed. Sand Point station operator Connie Griffy and her husband Chuck gave much help above and

beyond the station routine, including providing the use of their skiff for most of the summer. The ITT White Alice site personnel at Port Moller, Cold Bay, Cape Sarichef and Driftwood Bay were uniformly helpful in assisting with our work at these sites. In particular Bob Williams and Hank Ickes of the Cold Bay site spent many off duty hours hiking to remote sites. At Saint Paul the National Marine Fisheries people provided very comfortable rooms, the U. S. Coast Guard allowed us to share their kitchen and the Weather Service provided transportation and assistance with the installation of our equipment in their observatory. At Dutch Harbor the station operator, Charlie Brown, provided room and board, the U. S. Army personnel and Bob Nelson of the Fish and Game helped with the transportation to and installation of the Makushin Valley station. The Kodiak U. S. Coast Guard provided transportation from Kodiak to Cold Bay on Labor Day weekend when all public flights were either full or cancelled, thus saving several days of field time. One of the rewards of the work in the Aleutians has been the cooperation, hospitality and friendship of the people who live there. This is perhaps best exemplified by the people of Ivanof Bay who, upon seeing us dropped of the airstrip, invited us in for coffee and arranged for skiffs to take us to and from our remote seismic station. We are grateful to many such people who live and work in the eastern Aleutians.

#### DATA ANALYSIS

<u>Historic Seismicity Maps</u>. The historic seismicity for the region of the eastern Aleutians surrounding the Shumagin Islands is shown in Figures 6, 7 and 8. The first figure shows all of the epicenters available from 1902 through February 1975. The data for these figures is taken from the World Wide Standard Seismograph Network (WWSSN). The triangular symbols which mark the epicenters are both color and size coded: black, green and red correspond to the depth intervals 0-30, 30-60, and greater than 60 respectively; small medium and large correspond to the magnitude ranges 0-3, 3-5, and greater than 5, respectively.

This data was divided into pre- and post-1965 sets which are shown in figures 7 and 8. This division at 1965 is somewhat arbitrary: the purpose is simply to look at recent subsets of the data which may be better located than the earlier subset due to an increase in the number of seismographic stations in the eastern Aleutians. There is a diffuse character to the pre-1965 set which indicates more scatter in the locations than is shown for the post-65 group. This is especially evident if one compares the locations of the deepest events (shown in red) which more clearly show the expected alignment along the northern edge of the arc in the post-65 figure.

The most obvious feature of the seismicity shown in these figures, again most clearly seen in Figure 8, is the gap or relatively low level of activity between 162° and 154° west longitude. This is one of the seismic gaps discussed by Kelleher (1970) and Sykes (1971). On the basis of the space-time progression of the 1949, 1958 and 1964 Aleutian-Alaska earthquakes, Kelleher has suggested that this Shumagin Islands gap may be the location of a major (m<sub>g</sub> > 7.8) earthquake in the period 1974-1980. Sykes notes that much of this region broke in

1938 and suggests, therefore, that the Shumagin gap has a slightly lower potential for a major earthquake than those gaps which have not had a major event for more than 70 years. However, he also notes that the aftershock zone of the 1938 event is not well defined so it is possible that the western 200 to 300 kilometers of this gap did not break in 1938. Sykes further comments that in any case a recurrence time of 35 years may be reasonable and on that basis it is possible that the 1938 region may have accumulated enough strain energy to be the source of a major earthquake. If this is the case than the low level of seismic activity in the Shumagin gap is due to the overthrusting plate being "locked" with the subducting Pacific lithosphere. Another possibility is that in this region underthrusting occurs primarily aseismically by fault creep and, hence, fewer earthquakes occur. This seems less likely though since there have been two major events in the Shumagin vicinity since 1900.

A second striking feature of these maps is the en echelon offset in the deep events (red triangles) shown in Figure 8. It is possible that this offset is due to a systematic mislocation of these events. However, the geographic coincidence of the offset with the Shumagin Islands and an unusual earthquake whose focal mechanism indicates a fault plane transverse to the arc suggests that it is tectonically significant.

A third feature, which again is best defined in the post-65 data shown in Figure 8, is the smaller group of events which appear to be related to the Bering-shelf continental margin which is indicated by the 100 fathom contour line which strikes out of the figure to the northwest. It has been suggested (Minster <u>et al.</u>, 1974) that there is a Bering subplate. These events may be caused by relative motion along the western boundary of this subplate. It is also possible that they result from a differential stress at the continental margin which is caused by erosion of the continental material and its deposition

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onto the Aleutian floor.

Finally there are a number of smaller scale features revealed by these regional maps. For example there are concentrations of events at 169.5°, 167°, 163° and 160.5°W. These concentrations deserve more detailed study to evaluate their tectonic significance.

#### Shumagin Island Seismicity from Local Stations

The seismicity in the vicinity of the Shumagin Islands for the first year of data collection, August 1973 through July 1974 is shown in Figure 9. The epicenters are marked by numbers which give the depth to the hypocenter in kilometers. The figure is oriented such that the volcanic axis is horizontal. Unimak Island, the western tip of the Alaska peninsula and the Shumagin Islands are outlined. The 100 and 3000 fathom isobaths are shown. The dashed rectangles labled W, C and E show the surface projection of the volumns containing the hypocenters shown in cross-section in Figures 10, 11 and 12 respectively.

The seismicity map (Figure 9) shows only the best locations obtained; approximately 135 events are plotted. The concentration of events at 55°N and 160°W is the April 6, 1974 earthquake sequence; 3 main events ( $m_g = 6.0$ , 4.3 and 5.7) and about 30 aftershocks. A focal mechanism for the largest event of this sequence is presented later in this report. There are no striking lineations seen on this map. There are some interesting voids or "mini gaps" which will be interesting to watch as more data becomes available. Examples of these mini gaps are the region around Pavlof Volcano (PVV) and the areas southeast of Nagai Island (NGI) and Ivanof Bay (IVF).

The cross-sections shown in Figures 10, 11 and 12 are projections onto planes normal to the volcanic axis of the hypocenters contained in the respective

volumns as described above. This axis is labeled "volcano line" in the figures. The three letter station codes mark the locations of the stations used in locating the events shown. All of these stations except two are within the center dashed rectangle shown in Figure 9. The other two, PVV and IVF, are in the western and eastern dashed rectangle respectively. Consequently, the locations for the center section, Figure 11, are much better than those for the adjacent western and eastern sections.

The center section reveals a well defined Benioff zone which dips at approximately 30° from about 30 km below the outer Shumagin Islands to 100 km beneath the volcanic arc. The western section shows a clear Benioff zone but, the hypocenters are not contained in as narrow a zone as those in the center section. This scatter may be real but, it is most likely due to the station distribution which is concentrated over the center section. The hypocenter section. This scatter may be real but, it is most likely due to the station distribution which is concentrated over the center section. The hypocenters shown in the eastern section also clearly show a Benioff Again, the lack of definition here is probably due to zone. the small number of stations in this area. Both the seismicity map based on the local data (Figure 9) and the regional map based on the WWSSN data (Figure 9) show very few epicenters in the vicinity of the eastern section. Near this section in Figure 8 there is an area about 50 km wide and extending clear across the arc from north to south which does not contain a single epicenter. This area is part of a region of very low seismicity which extends from the eastern edge of the Shumagin Islands to the western end of the 1964 aftershock zone and coincides exactly with the well-defined portion of the 1938 aftershock zone. This contrast in seismicity between the western and eastern parts of the Shumagin gap may indicate that these two parts are mechanically decoupled from each other along a transverse boundary which passes through the

Shumagin Islands. The Shumagin Islands focal mechanism described in the next section is consistent with this interpretation.

#### Shumagin Island focal mechanism

The April 6, 1974 earthquake sequence was described above. The aftershock zone for this sequence is shown in the Shumagin seismicity map (Figure 9) and the center hypocenter cross-section (Figure 11). A lower hemisphere, stereographic plot of the first motions at 35 seismic stations for the largest shock  $(m_b = 6.0)$  is shown in Figure 13. Compressions are given with solid symbols; dilatations with open symbols. First motions at the WWSSN long period stations are plotted as circles, those at the local L-DGO short period stations as squares, and those at the Palmer Observatory short period stations as triangles. There are only two exceptional first motions which is quite good for a plot such as this which mixes short and long period observations.

The focal mechanism implied by this plot is thrust faulting in response to nearly horizontal compression parallel to the strike of the arc. The parameters of the two possible fault planes are: (1) strike N16°W and dip 49° at S74°W or (2) strike N68°W and dip 56° at N22°E. The principal axes parameters are: P, plunge 6° at N74°E; T, plunge 61° at S36°E and; B, plunge 29° at N47°W. The above parameters are constrained by the data within limits of approximately plus or minus 10° in dip or plunge and 5° in strike.

This focal mechanism is unusual and not explainable in terms of simple subduction of the oceanic lithosphere (see e.g. Stauder, 1968). It is consistent with the idea of segmentation of the subducted slab as suggested by Stoiber and Carr (1972) for central America, VanWormer, Davies and Gedney (1974) for central Alaska, and Stauder and Mualchin (1976) for the Kurile-Kamchatka region. The idea is that there exists transverse faults in the downgoing slab which can mechanically **de**couple adjacent

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segments allowing the independent release of tectonic stress. This segmentation is manifested by the rectilinear shape of the aftershock zones, abrupt changes in strike and dip of a Benioff zone, and by cyclic changes along an arc in the chemistry, distribution and activity of volcanos. Several of these features are present in the Shumagin Island region. The 1938 aftershock zone, the present difference in seismicity between the eastern and western portions of the gap and the offset in the trend of the deep earthquakes have been discussed above. There is a 15-20° bend in the trend line for the volcanos east and west of the Shumagin Islands. Several of the volcanoes immediately to the west are presently active; none immediately to the east are. Finally, of course, there is the transverse orientation of the fault planes shown in Figure 13. All of these observations suggest a transverse boundary in the Shumagin vicinity. The offset of the deep seismicity and location of the April 6, 1974 earthquakes relative to the Shumagin Islands (considered as a transverse topographic high) suggest that the plane dipping to the northeast is probably the actual fault plane. The plunge and strike of the B axis is identical with that of the Benioff zone which implies that in the frame of the dipping slab the fault plane is almost exactly transverse to the trend of the arc. All of the observations presented above suggest that the Pacific plate is segmented along a transverse fault which runs just to the west of the Shumagin Islands and dips under them. The geometrical constraints of thrusting two adjacent segments of a spherical cap of oceanic lithosphere down into the mantle requires compression between these slabs. This is the source of the compression shown by the horizontal P axis in Figure 13.

## NEAR ISLANDS FOCAL MECHANICSM (V.F. Cormier)

On February 2, 1975 a series of shallow focus earthquakes occurred along the northern margin of the Aleutian Ridge in the Near Islands region (Figure 14). The U.S. Geological Survey assigned to the mainshock a surface wave magnitude of 7.6 and a body wave magnitude of 6.1. Shemya Island sustained extensive damage from the mainshock, consistent with a maximum modified Mercalli intensity IX, with extensive cracking and fissuring to runways and roads, ground slumping, and sand-fountaining (Person, 1975).

Focal mechanism solutions were determined for the mainshock and a foreshock with body wave magnitude 5.9 (GS) using P wave first motions and S wave polarizations (Figure 15). For both earthquakes one nodal plane strikes N49°E and dips 74°SE; the other nodal plane strikes N44°E and dips 74°NW. The large strike-slip component of the focal solutions is similar to that of focal solutions of shallow focus earthquakes occurring along the northern margin of the Aleutian Ridge to the west in the Commander Islands (Cormier, 1975). The locations and focal solutions therefore suggest that the tectonic regime observed along the Commander Islands must extend as far as 174.5°E.

If the NE striking nodal planes are chosen as the fault planes, the fault motion is largely left-lateral strike-slip with a small component of vertical motion such that the western side of the Aleutian Ridge is uplifted relative to the eastern. If the NW striking nodal planes are chosen as the fault plane, the motion is largely right-lateral strike-slip with a small component of vertical motion such that the Aleutian Ridge is uplifted realtive to the Bowers Basin. The slip vector resulting from this latter choice parallels the

local trend of the Aleutian Ridge and is consistent with relative motion between the Pacific and North American plates in the Near Islands. The apparent ESE extension of the aftershock zone along the northern margin of the Aleutian Ridge (Figure 14) and the trend of recent faults on Attu Island (Gates <u>et al.</u>, 1971) are also consistent with this choice. <u>Strong Motion Data</u>. The Kinemetrics SMA-I accelerometer of Sand Point has been triggered by earthquakes 3 times since it was installed in September, 1971. The Dutch Harbor instrument has yet to be triggered by an earthquake. Copies of the 3 Sand Point records are shown in Figures 16, 17 and 18. The upper trace on each record gives time marks at half second intervals. The next three traces labeled L, V and T record the longitudinal, vertical and transverse components, respectively. The SMA-1 is oriented such that up on the record corresponds to up on the vertical component, N30°E on the transverse component at N120°E on the longitudinal component. The earthquake parameters, maximum acceleration and distance to the hypocenter which correspond to each record are given in the respective figure captions.

The identification of the specific earthquakes recorded is based on inferrence since there is not absolute time on the records. The records shown in Figures 16 and 17 were first identified with the two largest events of the April 6, 1974 Shumagin Islands earthquake sequence because these were the largest events to occur in the vicinity of Sand Point in the interval between the calibrations of the instrument in the summers of 1973 and 1974. Further, if the S-minus-trigger-time is equated with the S-P time, this inferred S-P time is consistent with the hypocentral distance to within a tenth of a second. Lastly, the order of the amplitudes is consistent. The three largest events in the earthquake sequence occurred in the order: 5.7, 4.3, 6.0. Based on acceleration versus distance data from California (Page <u>et al.</u>, 1972) and the trigger threshold of the Sand Point SMA-1 the 5.7 and 6.0 events would be expected to trigger the SMA-1 and the 4.3 would not. Assuming a similar failure mechanism the 5.7 event would be expected to cause slightly smaller accelerations at Sand Point than the 6.0 event. Both of the above expectations

are consistent with the observed records. All of the above observations together make a strong circumstantial case for identifying these records with the April 6 earthquakes.

The record shown in Figure 18 was written in a two week period between observations of the SMA-1 by the L-DGO field party. During this period there was one felt earthquake near Sand Point. This earthquake is assumed to have triggered the record shown in Figure 18. Unfortunately, the majority of the Shumagin Island network was not operational at this time so a good location of this event cannot be obtained. The S-P time observed at two of the local stations are consistent with the location given by the U.S.G.S. from the WWSSN data; however, there remains uncertainties in the location of as much as 50 kilometers.

These three records are the first accelerograph data available for the eastern Aleutian-Alaskan Peninsula region. In comparison to peak horizontal acceleration data for California given by Page (1972), the Alaskan data tend to show slightly higher accelerations for a given distance and magnitude. However, this is a very preliminary observation based on a comparison of three data points with a data set which shows a scatter of almost an order of magnitude and which is almost certainly not complete. Much more data is clearly required before reliable estimates of expected ground motion can be made for the eastern Aleutian-Alaska Peninsula region.

## **GEODETIC MEASUREMENTS**

In 1972 a "dry tilt" figure and a level line were each established at Sand Point and Squaw Harbor to monitor regional tilting which might exist due to tectonic strain accumulation in the Shumagin Gap. A dry tilt figure is a small two dimensional array of benchmarks spaced approximately 100 meters apart. A level line is a linear array of benchmarks. In this case the level lines essentially consist of just two reference points about 1 kilometer apart and oriented NW-SE; perpendicular to the trend of the Aleutian arc. Changes in the relative heights of the benchmarks are measured using a Zeiss Ni-2 automatic level.

<u>Sand Point dry tilt figure</u>. The configuration of the Sand Point dry tilt figure is shown in Figure 19. The benchmarks are brass caps cemented into large concrete blocks which were once the base for a radio communications tower built during World War II. Benchmark D is mounted in a smaller block which was noticed during the 1975 field season to be loose. All of the measurements to this bench mark should be discounted.

Reduced data from observations of the Sand Point dry tilt figure during the years 1972-1975 are given in Table 3. The column headings A-B, A-C, etc. refer to the pair of benchmarks whose relative height is given below. The order and sign convention adopted is that a positive (negative) value means the second benchmark in the pair is higher (lower) than the first. The values given in the first four rows of this table are the means of 4 to 6 independent measurements. The error limits quoted are the 1-sigma standard deviations about the means which imply a 56% confidence level. In 1975 relative heights were measured between B and C and E and D so that the closing error on loops ABC and AED could be evaluated. In both cases the closing error (e.g. sum of A-B, B-C and C-A) was less than the 1-sigma standard deviation associated with the sum. This gives confidence that significant systematic errors are not

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present and that the error limits given are reasonable.

The lower 3 lines of the table summarize a calculation of the tilt rate(s) implied by the data presented in the first 4 rows. The line labeled "75-72" gives the difference between the 1975 and the 1972 relative heights. This change in relative height is divided by the distance between the benchmarks, given in the next row, and by 3 years to obtain the tilt rate expressed in microradians per year in the last row.

These tilt rates are large, have large errors associated with them, and are inconsistent with simple planar tilting. The long term (tens of years) average regional tilt rates observed in Japan (Fitch and Scholz, 1971; Shimazaki, 1974) were on the order of 0.5 microradian per year. The rates observed here are 1-2 orders of magnitude larger. The resolution of the present measurements at the 98% confidence level (3 x sigma) implied by the errors associated with these rates is about 5.0 microradians per year. This means a minimum of ten years measurements would be required before tilt rates similar to those in Japan could be observed. Of course, the much larger tilts of 50-500 microradians which might accompany a major earthquake (Plafker, 1972) would be easily resolvable.

That the "tilts" here presented are inconsistent with a simple planar model can easily be seen by considering the values for the benchmark pairs A-C and A-E. Since the three benchmarks E, A and C roughly lie on a north-south line (Figure 19) the tilt rates observed for planar regional tilting at A-E should be equal and of opposite sign to that observed for A-C. The values observed are of opposite sign, but the magnitude of A-E is significantly three times greater than at A-C. Further, if the relative hieghts for a given benchmark pair are plotted against time it is found that the changes from year to year do not progress in any systematic way. Therefore these changes and the implied "tilts" cannot be ascribed to simple regional tilting and are probably

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due to quasi-random individual motions of the benchmarks caused, perhaps, by frost heaving. This suggestion is consistent with the observation that the two very large changes in relative height (A-D; A-E) are upward, assuming that the three benchmarks with little or no significant relative motion (A, B, C) are fixed.

Squaw Harbor dry tilt figure. The Squaw Harbor dry tilt figure consists of a triangular array of three benchmarks cemented into bedrock outcrops. Reduced data and a tilt-rate calculation for this figure are given in Table 4. The format is the same as specified for Table 3. Data are only given for 1972 and 1975 because no measurements were made in 1973 and 1974. Independent measurement of the pair B-C was made in 1975 to evaluate the closing error as described above for Sand Point. In this case the closing error is slightly larger than the 2-sigma error limits; small enough to assure that the error limits given are reasonable. Because of the large error associated with the C-A value for 1972, a tilt rate is only computed for the benchmark pair A-B. This rate, 1.8 + 0.7 microradians, is contained within the 98% confidence level error limits (3 x sigma) and is therefore not significantly different from zero. Notice that the error limits in this case are half those given for the Sand Point rates. This may be due to the intermediate distance between the benchmarks or to good weather conditions. In any case, this indicates that it might be possible to obtain better resolution using the dry tilt technique than was indicated by the Sand Point data.

Level line data for Sand Point and Squaw Harbor. In 1972 and 1975 both the Sand Point and Squaw Harbor level lines were measured. Both lines were run twice so that the closing errors could be evaluated. For both lines the closing error was less than the sum of the 3-sigma error limits associated with each measurement; that is, within the 98% confidence limits the two measurements of each line were identical. Therefore, in Table 5 the means of these measurements are presented for each line for each year. The column headings C-S and

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B-K refer to the benchmarks at the northwest and southeast ends, respectively, for each of the lines. Benchmark C is also part of the dry tilt figure at Sand Point. It is one of the three which showed the least relative motion within the dry tilt figure. Benchmark S is an isolated brass cap cemented into a fractured bedrock outcrop, hence its stability cannot be evaluated. The Squaw Harbor level line has a pair of benchmarks at each end. From 1972 to 1975 the change in relative height for both pairs was less than 0.1 millimeter with 1-sigma error limits of about 0.1 millimeters. This lack of significant relative motion supports confidence in the stability of the benchmarks. The last three rows of the table give a calculation of the tilt rate implied by the level line data. In both cases the rate computed is less than the 2-sigma error limits and is therefore not significantly different from zero.

With the exception of some of the Sand Point dry tilt figure observations, all of the leveling measurements reveal no significant change between the 1972 and 1975. It was shown that the relative motion which was observed at Sand Point was probably not due to regional tilting. These measurements imply that if regional tilting is occurring, it is proceeding at less than 1.9 microradians per year. The newly installed tide gauges (MSLI's) should improve our resolution by 1-2 orders of magnitude. It would then be possible to observe in a years time regional tilting similar to that seen in Japan.

## Seismic Monitoring of Pavlof Volcano (J. Keinle)

Pavlof is a stratovolcano near the tip of the Alaska Peninsula which erupts frequently. It is one of the more active -- if not the most active --Aleutian volcano. Because of the high probability of observing an eruption the University of Alaska included the volcano as a site in its general program to study forerunning phenomena to eruptions, specifically seismic forerunners. A University of Alaska Helicorder was therefore installed at the recording side of the L-DGO regional network which is designed to study the seismotectonics of the Aleutian arc in the Shumagin Island region (this contract). This Helicorder for the volcano station was purchased under NSF grant GA 40753. In general Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory personnel maintains the station while University of Alaska personnel have participated substantially in the initial effort to install the Shumagin array.

The Pavlof station is located about 7 kilometers southeast of the summit of the volcano and went into operation on October 15, 1973. Unfortunately the station has only functioned for 65% of its lifetime. The failures were partly due to vandalism and bear problems and partly due to electronic failure. On the other hand we have been able to observe in two years of operation two Strombolian eruption cycles, one in November, 1973 -- one month after we turned the station on -- and one which began on September 13, 1975, and is continuing at this writing. Unfortunately, Murphy's law holds and the station failed promptly on October 20, 1975.

1973 eruption: Contrary to what we anticipated based on observations on other instrumented volcanoes in Kamchatka, Japan and Hawaii where seismic forerunners to eruptions are common, the November 13, 1973 Pavlof eruption began quite unexpectedly with the onset of continuous harmonic tremor at about 03 GMT. The tremor amplitude built from noise level to about 19 mm peak to peak in 11 hours (Figure 20) and then remained constant until 10 hours later the tremor suddenly stopped. Visual observations suggest that the tremor was associated with lava fountaining up to a height of some 100 meters at the summit. The fountain was clearly visible against the background of dense black clouds of ash which were emitted almost continuously during this period. Fourier power spectra of the tremor showed a characteristic frequency of 1.8 Hz with satellite peaks at 1.3, 2.0 and 2.3 Hz.

No marked increase in microearthquake activity signalled the eruption in 1973 and also the current eruption, which began just as suddenly on September 13, 1975. Seismic events for the month prior to the November 13, 1973 eruption occurred at a constant daily rate of  $44 \pm 10$  and were all of remarkably similar magnitude. There were two more active days with 107 events registered on November 8, 1973 and 65 on November 11, 1973. Very puzzling, however, was the very intense microearthquake activity following the eruption with more than 1000 events per day registered during the first three days, declining exponentially to 543 events per day on November 19, 171 by November 21, 56 by November 24, 3 by November 28 and 1 by November 30, a rate admittedly well below the level prior to the eruption. Perhaps a larger record prior to the eruption would have shown a gradual building to the average rate of a few tens of events per day.

It is not clear at this point with only one station to work with where the microearthquakes occurred or whether indeed the seismic events were earthquakes, i.e. events caused by brittle fracture. There is also a

question of whether the seismic wave trains represent largely surface waves or body waves, dispersion, however, is visually not obvious. The nearly identical wave trains of these events and their monochromatic nature (Figure 21) suggest (1) a common source region and (2) a harmonic source function (e.g. a vibrating magma column) or very efficient filtering of body waves from brittle fracture events in the pyroclastic mantling layers of the volcano. Events of similar appearance were recorded following individual bursts of tremor associated with the current eruption cycle. Some of these events had a strong late high frequency phase which is clearly the signature of an air blast sweeping over the seismometer, i.e. these events represent summit explosions. Some of these are so strong that fishing boats 10 to 15 kilometers away in Pavlof Bay have reported being rocked by them. Peculiar, however, is the fact that we have not observed a single late high frequency phase amongst the thousands of events following the November 1973 eruption suggesting that they might represent true brittle fracture events or vibrations associated with fast and "noisy" magma withdrawal. By implication then magma intrusion prior to the eruption seems to have been a quiet - in terms of seismicity - and possibly very slow process. An attempt to shed some light on these problems was made in early November when we tried to place two portable tape recording stations near the eruption site in an effort to try to distinguish whether filtering or source effects are shaping the characteristic low frequency wave trains. We failed to even get near the mountain because of extreme and adverse weather and storm conditions.

Without additional stations on the flanks of Pavlof we will obviously not be able to understand the details of wave propagation in a composite volcano such as Pavlof but the one station alone clearly provided much data relating to the problem of seismicity related to eruptive activity.

## CONCLUSION

The national energy situation has led to two expansions in the scope of our seismotectonic research program. Additional support under the present contract will allow a seismic investigation of the geothermal potential of Pavlof Volcano during the next field season. A new research contract with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration provides additional logistic and manpower support to expedite the seismic and volcanic hazards evaluation to aid in a Bureau of Land Management analysis of the environmental impact of oil exploration on the outer continental shelves of Alaska.

During the past field season we have carried out a major reorganization of the short period network which included expansions of the recording centers at Sand Point, Dutch Harbor and Saint Paul. This reorganization, in part required by changes in the White Alice Communications System, is designed to reduce telemetry costs and stream-line the data reduction. We have also increased our geodetic study of possible tectonic strain accumulation in the Shumagin gap with the addition of a pair of strain meters at Sand Point designed to measure tidal admittance evidence of dilation and two remote tide gauges to monitor changes in land elevation with respect to mean sealevel.

In this report we have presented (1) historic seismicity maps of the Shumagin seismic gap vicinity which show the relatively low level of seismic activity in the gap, a possible offset in the Benioff zone, and a few events associated with the Bering shelf continental margin south of the Pribilof Islands; (2) a seismicity map and hypocenter cross-sections based on data from the local Shumagin Islands seismic network which show a very well developed Benioff zone beneath the Shumagin Islands; (3) studies of the focal mechanisms of the April 6, 1974 Shumagin Islands earthquake and the February 2, 1975 Near Islands earthquakes which respectively show thrust faulting perpendicular

to the arc and right-lateral strike-slip faulting oblique to the arc along the slip direction inferred from the relative motion of the plates; (4) the first strong motion accelerograph data from the eastern Aleutians, which show accelerations consistent with those observed for earthquakes in California; (5) this year's geodetic leveling results which when compared with those from 1972 indicate that regional tilting due to tectonic strain accumulation, if it is occurring, is less than 1.9 microradians per year; and (6) seismic observations of two Strombolian eruptive cycles of Pavlof Volcano which reveal monochromatic wave trains which are identical one to the next suggesting a common source region and a harmonic source function or very efficient filtering of the body waves by the pyroclastic layers of the volcano.

During the next year we will continue to collect and analyze data as summarized above along with evaluating the new data expected from our expanded geodetic work and the dense seismic network on Pavlof volcano. We will emphasize synthesis of this data with other geochemical, geological and geophysical data into a coherent theory for the evolution of the Aleutian arc.

# PERCENTAGE OF TIME DEVOATED BY PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

Dr.	Lynn R. Sykes	5%
Dr.	Klaus H, Jacob	33%

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Figure 1: Eastern Aleutian Seismograph Stations. The Saint Paul station (SNP) has an SPV and an LPV seismometer. At Dutch Harbor (DUT) are recorded two remote SPV and the local SPV, SPH, and LPV seismometers. At Sand Point (SDP) are recorded 14 remote SPV and the local SPV, SPN, SPE, LPV, LPN and LPE seismometers. The NOAA stations are recorded at Palmer, Alaska.



Figure 2: Mean Sea Level Indicator (MSLI) Schematic. This self contained, highly damped, remote tide gauge will operate unattended for a year. The recorder is activated (see Figure 3) once each minute. The tides themselves are used for timing and calibration is obtained when the recorder shifts from one edge of the chart paper to the other to avoid going off scale.



Figure 3: MSLI Recording Electronics. The Vectron, a 100 k continuous rotation potentiometer is connected by a stainless steel wire to the float (Figure 2). The Minigraph recorder is activated each minute as the magnet attached to the second hand of the clock sweeps by the read switch. Two alkaline AAA-cells, an alkaline Dcell and a Lithium D-cell (10 AH) are sufficient to power this recording system for 18 months.



Figure 4: Syphon Arrangement of MSLI. The MSLI standpipe is located just above the highest water mark. Its base is dug in to below the lowest expected water level in the pipe. The deep water end of the syphon is anchored below the lowest expected sea level.



Figure 5: Geodetic Measurement Sites in the Shumagin Gap. An orthogonal pair of strainmeters at Sand Point and two MSLI's, one each at Pirate Cove and Eagle Harbor, were installed this year. Five additional MSLI's will be installed next year; one on the mainland, one each on Popof and Nagai Islands and two on Chernabura Island. Also indicated are the National Ocean Survey standard tide gauge at Sand Point and the dry tilt figures and level lines at Sand Point and Squaw Harbor.



Figure 6: Historic seismicity in the Shumagin Gap Vicinity, 1902-1975. The triangles represent epicenters located from WWSSN data. Black, green and red triangles correspond to hypocenter depths of 0-30, 30-60 and greater than 60 kilometers, respectively. Small medium and large triangles correspond to events with magnitudes of 0-3, 3-5, and greater than 5, respectively.



Figure 7: Historic seismicity in the Shumagin Gap Vicinity, 1902-1964. Symbols are the same as in Figure 6.



Figure 8: Historic seismicity in the Shumagin Gap Vicinity, 1965-1975. Symbols are the same as in Figure 6.





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Figure 10: Western Hypocenter Cross-section. The location of this section is shown in Figure 9 by the dashed box labeled W. This view, to the northeast along the axis of the arc, shows the Benioff zone dipping to the northwest. Distances and depths are given in kilometers with no vertical exaggeration. The projected position of the volcano axis and the stations used in locating these hypocenters are shown along the top of the figure. The trench axis would plot 10 kilometers off of this figure to the southeast at 270.



Figure 11: Central Hypocenter Cross-section. The location of this seciton is shown in Figure 9 by the dashed box labeled C. Other details are the same as for Figure 10, except that the trench axis would plot 25 kilometers to the southeast at 285.



Figure 12: Eastern Hypocenter Cross-section. The location of this section is shown in Figure 9 by the dashed box labeled E. Other details are the same as for Figure 10, except that the trench axis would plot 35 kilometers to the southeast at 295.



Figure 13: Fault Plane Data for the Shumagin Islands Earthquake (m<sub>b</sub> = 6.0, GS) of April 6, 1974. The first motions at 35 stations are given in an equal area, lower hemisphere focal projection. The solid symbols correspond to compressive arrivals; open symbols to dilatational arrivals. The arrivals marked by circles were read from the WWSSN long period records; those marked by squares from the local L-DGO short period records; and those by triangles from the Plamer Tsunami Warning Observatory records. The compression, tension and null axes are respectively labeled P, T and B.



Figure 14: Mainshock (large X) and aftershocks (smaller x's) located by U.S.G.S. using 15 or more stations. Shemya Island is the eastern most of the three smaller isalnds north of Agattu. Bathymetry in fathoms is from Chase<u>et al</u>. (1971).



Figure 15: Fault plane solution data for the mainshock (53.05N, 197.62E, 18 km depth) and a foreshock (53.05N, 173,45E, 25 km depth). Focal projection plots are equal-area, lower hemisphere projections. Solid circle = compressional first motion read from station record. Solid square = compression reported from station bulletin. Open circle = dilatation read from station record. Open squares = dilatation reported from station bulletin. Lines drawn through these symbols indicate direction of S-wave polarization determined from horizontal component seismograms from stations from which first motion are plotted. An arrow is drawn whenever a clear impulsive onset of an S wave on both components could resolve the 180° ambiguity in polarization direction. C = position of axis of compression. T = axis of tension.



Figure 16: Accelerogram from Sand Point SMA-1. Record from earthquake of 0153 April 6, 1974: epicenter, 54°52.06'N and 160°17.49'W; depth, 37 km; magnitude, 5.7 m<sub>b</sub> GS; maximum zero-to-peak horizontal acceleration, L 0.07g, T 0.09g, distance to hypocenter, 64 km. Earthquake parameters are from the L-DGO Shumagin Islands network.



Figure 17: Accelerogram from Sand Point SMA-1. Record from earthquake of 0356 April 6, 1974: epicenter, 54°54.33'N and 160°17.71'W' depth, 40 km; magnitude, 6.0 mb GS; maximum zero-to-peak horizontal acceleration, L 0.10g, T 0.12g; distance to hypocenter, 65 km. Earthquake parameters are from the L-DGO Shumagin Islands network.







Figure 19: Sand Point Dry Tilt Figure. Benchmarks are brass caps cemented into concrete piers. Relative heights are measured with a Zeiss Ni-Z<sup>2</sup> automatic level.



Figure 20: Helicorder record from Pavlof Volcano Station. This is a sample of the harmonic tremor which was produced during the eruption of November 13, 1973. The characteristic frequency of this tremor is 1.8 Hz.



Figure 21: Helicorder record from Pavlof Volcano station. This sample shows typical microearthquakes which preceed and follow the eruptions. Note the nearly identical wave trains and their monochromatic nature.
## TABLE I

Lamont-Doherty Aleutian Seismic Stations October 1975

STATION	CODE	COMPONENT	N. LAT	W. LONG	ELEV. (m)	STATUS
Saint Paul	SNP	SPZ	57°9.28'	170°13.09'	5	operational
Saint Paul	SNP	LPZ	57°9.28'	170°13.09'	5	operational
Dutch Harbor	DUT	SPZ	53°53.43'	166°32.32'	60	operational
Dutch Harbor	DUT	SPH	53°53.43'	166°32.32'	60	operational
Dutch Harbor	DUT	LPZ	53°53.43'	166°32,32'	60	operacional
Makushin Valley	MKV	SPZ	53°56.02'	166°39.50'	275	operacional
Akutan Volcano	AKV	SPZ	54°07.82'	166°04.02'	240	operational
Sand Point	קחפ	CD7	55°20 /01	160820 821	20	
Sand Point	SDI	OF Z	55°20.40	160 29.02	30	operational
Sand Point	SDF	SPN	55 20.48°	160°29.82'	30	operational
Sand Point	SDF	SFE ID7	55 20.48°	160°29.82'	30	operational
Sand Point	SDF	LPZ	55 20.48	160°29.82	30	operational
Sand Point	SDE	LPN	55 20.48	160°29.82	30	operational
Sand IOInc	SUP	LFE	55 20.48	160-29.82	30	operational
San Diego Bay	SGB	SPZ	55°32.75'	160°27.23'	275	operational
Ivanof Bay	IVF	SPZ	55°53.76'	159°31.80'	275	operational
Big Koniuji Isalnd	BKJ	SPZ	55°09.64'	159°33.92'	240	operational
West Unga Island	WUN	SPZ	55°19.87'	160°43.13'	150	operational
Pavlof Volcano	PVÝ	SPZ	55°22.85'	161°48.45'	180	operational
Squaw Harbor	SQH	SPZ	55°12.65'	160°34.55'	360	operational
Nagai Island	NGI	SPZ	55°02.36'	160°04.14'	240	operational
Chernabura, Island	CNB	SPZ	54°49.18'	159°35.30	90	NGT rour out
False Pass	FPS	SPZ	54°56,70'	163°25.86'	120	operational
Sanak Island	SNK	SPZ	54°28,50	162°47.25'	230	operational
Deer Island	DRR	SPZ	54°55,42'	162°16 94'	380	operational
Dolgoi Island	DOL	SPZ	55°05.80'	161°45 50'	275	operational
Baldy Mountain	BAL	SPZ	55°11.94'	162°47 55'	230	operational
Black Hills	BLH	SPZ	55°40.67'	162°05 67'	230	no hatt re
		0	55 40.07	102 03.07	415	no ball., revr.

# TABLE II

# LAMONT-DOHERTY SEISMIC STATIONS SERVICED FROM SURVEYOR

DATE	STATION	CODE	TASK
7-23-75	Herendeen Bay	HNB	Installed VHF repeater station
7-26-75	Driftwood Bay	DWB	Removed White Alice seismic sta
	Makushin Valley	MKV	Installed seismic repeater sta;
7-27-75	Akutan Island	AKN	Removed seismic station
	Akutan Volcano	AKV	Installed seismic station
7-28-75	Cape Sarichef	CPS	Removed White Alice seismic sta
7-29-75	Sanak Island	SNK	Serviced seismic station
	Deer Island	DRI	Serviced seismic repeater sta. (incomplete)
	Dolgoi Island	DOL	Installed seismic station
7-30-75 .	San Diego Bay	SGB	Serviced seismic repeater sta.
8-23-75	Makushin Valley	MKV	Serviced seismic repeater sta.
8-24-75	Deer Island	DRI	Serviced seismic repeater sta.
8-25-75	Pavlof Sister	PVS	Removed seismic station
	Pavlof Volcano	PVV	Serviced seismic station
	Balboa Bay	BBB	Installed VHF repeater station
`	West Unga	WUN	Serviced seismic repeater sta.
	Squaw Harbor	SQH	Left batteries
8-26-75	Chernabura Island	CNB	Serviced seismic station
	Nagai Island	NGI	Serviced seismic repeater sta.
	Big Koniuji Island	ВКЈ	Serviced seismic station
	Squaw Harbor	SQH	Serviced seismic repeater sta.

### TABLE 3

### SAND POINT DRY TILT FIGURE

### RELATIVE HEIGHT DATA FOR 1972-1975 (all values in decimeters)

.

Benchmark pair	A-B	A-C	A-D*	A-E
1972	- 2.383	- 10.688	- 1.925	+ 3.223
	+ 0.003	<u>+</u> 0.004	+ 0.001	+ 0.001
1973	- 2.376	- 10.694	- 1.925	+ 3.239
	+ 0.003	<u>+</u> 0.003	+ 0.003	+ 0.001
1974	- 2.384	- 10.704	- 1.794	+ 3.265
	+ 0.002	+ 0.002	+ 0.002	+ 0.002
1975*	- 2.390	- 10.704	- 1.804	+ 3.251
	+ 0.003	+ 0.001	+ 0.003	+ 0.002
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
75-72	- 0.007	- 0.016	+ 0.121	+ 0.028
	<u>+</u> 0.004	+ 0.004	+ 0.003	+ 0.002
Distance	878 <u>+</u> 10	899 <u>+</u> 10	957 <u>+</u> 10	478 ± 10
µ rad/yr	- 2.7 <u>+</u> 1.6	-5.9 <u>+</u> 1.7	+ 42 + 1.3	+ 20 <u>+</u> 1.4

\*Benchmark D was noticed to be loose while making the 1975 measurements.

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# TABLE 4

# SQUAW HARBOR DRY TILT FIGURE

# RELATIVE HEIGHT DATA FOR 1972 and 1975\* (all values in decimeters)

•

Benchmark pair	А-В	·B-C	C-A
1972	+ 14.6009 + 0.0012		- 3.5893 <u>+</u> 0.0462
1975	+ 14.5975 <u>+</u> 0.0006	- 11.0370 + 0.0012	- 3.5641 <u>+</u> 0.0011
75-72	- 0.0034 + 0.0013		- 0.0252 <u>+</u> 0.0462
Distance	680 <u>+</u> 10		
µ rad/yr	-1.8 + 0.7		

\* No measurements were taken in 1973 nor 1974.

# TABLE 5

## LEVEL LINE DATA FOR 1972 AND 1975 (all values in decimeters)

.

Benchmark pair	SAND POINT C-S	SQUAW HARBOR B-K
1972	+ 31.0045 <u>+</u> 0.0104	+ 12.2245 + 0.0062
1975	+ 30.9870 + 0.0083	+ 12.2390 + 0.0044
75-72	- 0.0175 + 0.0133	+ 0.0145 + 0.0076
Length	11,000 <u>+</u> 500	6,500 <u>+</u> 500
µ rad/yr	$-0.53 \pm 0.40$	+ 0.74 + 0.46

Appendix 1

# NOAA WORK STATEMENT (Research Unit #16)

- I. TITLE: Seismotectonic analysis of the seismic and volcanic hazards in the Pribilof Islands - Eastern Aleutian Islands region of the Bering Sea.
- II. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: John Davies
  Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory
  Columbia University
  Palisades, New York 10964

### III. GEOGRAPHICAL AREA AND INCLUSIVE DATES:

Bering Sea: Pribilof Islands, Eastern Aleutian Arc

May 15, 1975 - June 30, 1975 July 1, 1975 - September 30, 1976

IV. COST SUMMARY:

FY 1975	<u>FY 1976</u>
\$52,349	\$71,793

### V. PROPOSED RESEARCH:

A. We propose a detailed seismotectonic study of the Pribilof Islands - Eastern Arc region. This study includes an analysis of the present seismicity of the region to identify active fault zones and other regions of high seismic risk, an evaluation of the deformation of the Shumagin Islands, seismic gap zone, and the seismic activity of Makushin, Akutan, and Pavlof volcanos. The primary emphasis is therefore on task D-5.

There is presently only a limited quantity of data available from a small seismic network which has been operated in the Shumagin Islands region. Other than this data there is no other data available with which to perform detailed seismicity studies in the proposed study area. It will be possible to make preliminary identifications of active zones by September 30, 1976. The amount of deformation within the Shumagin gap zone and its significance in terms of the possiblity of a major earthquake may be difficult to access within this short time span; however, the effort should be begun. The present activity of Akutan, Makushin, and Pavlof volcanos will be known. These studies, with the exception of the geodetic measurements, are similar and complementary to seismic and volcanic hazards work proposed by the University of Alaska and the USGS in the Gulf of Alaska. They will be coordinated with these other studies. The marine geophysical work of the USGS may identify structures offshore which can be correlated with active faults or zones seen in the seismicity studies here proposed.

B. We propose to reorganize and augment the present seismic network which we presently operate in this region under ERDA support. We will add a short period seismograph in the Pribilof Islands. We will relocate two stations in the Dutch Harbor vicinity so that Makushin and Akutan volcanos can be monitored. We will purchase and install telemetry equipment which will allow all of the stations in the Cold Bay - Shumagin Islands area to be recorded on a single Develoccuder. The data from all of these seismic stations will be used to more precisely locate earthquake hypocenters than is possible with the World Wide Standard Seismographic Network. The data from stations located on or near volcanos will be used to determine the present level of activity of these volcanos.

We will increase the frequency and the redundancy of our geodetic leveling measurements in the Shumagin Islands region. These leveling data will allow us to begin to access the tectonic strains accumulation in the Shumagin seismic gap. This information is important because it will aid our interpretation and evaluation of the potential for a major earthquake in the gap.

### VI. INFORMATION PRODUCTS:

We will produce earthquake catalogs, seismicity maps and hypocenter cross sections. These will be analyzed to identify active faults or other high seismic risk areas. We will produce seismic frequency plots for Makushin Akutan, and Pavlof volcanos. We will analyze the geodetic leveling data in terms of tectonic strain accumulation in this Shumagin seismic gap.

### VII. DATA OR SAMPLE EXCHANGE INTERFACES:

The primary data required of other investigators by this study will be arrival time information in the form of phase cards from the Senedi-Kodiak network of the University of Alaska. This data exchange has been discussed and will best proceed on an informal basis. We will require the services of NGSDC to provide WWSSN film caips, perhaps Russian stations for occasional events which are large enough to allow world wide first motion study. We may also require plots of historic seismicity maps for the study region as an aid to interpretations of the detailed seismicity maps which we will produce. We may also require their plotting services for data produced by this study.

It is suggested that data inventories be provided to general data banks, rather than individual events data since it would be wasteful to include this specialized data in a general data bank.

### VIII. SAMPLE ARCHIVAL REQUIREMENTS:

Lamont-Doherty will archive the original seismograms and films accrrued in their seismic archive.

#### IX. SCHEDULE:

Seismic data will be continuously recorded. Films and seismograms will be mailed weekly from field sites to Lamont where they will be routinely read. Analysis of the data will depend upon acquisition rate, but probably will be carried out toward the end of the funding period, i.e. Fall of 1976.

Χ. **EQUIPMENT:** 

See budget and logistic list.

XI. LOGISTICS REQUIREMENT:

Helicopter time (about 2 hours per day)

- 1. Port Moller - 2 days
- Shumagin Islands 5 days 2.
- 3. Cold Bay - 6 days
- 4.
- Cape Senichef 1 day Dutch Harbor 3 days 5.

#### XII. COST:

See attached list.

### APPENDIX II

# ESTIMATES OF REPEAT TIMES FOR MAJOR AND GREAT EARTHQUAKES IN THE SHUMAGIN SEISMIC GAP

On maps of worldwide seismicity an obvious and striking feature in the Aleutian region is the relative lack of events in the vicinity of the Shumagin Islands. This 600 kilometer long region of realtively sparse activity between Sanak Island (longitude 162.5°W) and Kodiak Island (longitude 154.5°W) is here referred to as the Shumagin seismic gap. This gap is bounded on the west by the aftershock zone of the March 9, 1957 Andreanof-Fox Islands earthquake (m = 8.2) and on the east by the aftershock zone of the March 28, 1964 Prince William Sound earthquake (m = 8.5).

Following Kelleher (1970) and Sykes (1971) the use of the term "gap" implies that this is a region in which no great earthquake has recently occurred and hence is accumulating strain which is likely to be released in the not too distant future by a great earthquake or a series of major earthquakes or both. The possibility that the lack of activity used to define the Shumagin gap is due to aseismic creep cannot be dismissed but is unlikely since this region did produce a great earthquake in 1938 (m = 8.7).

In the following paragraphs we will consider four methods for calculating occurrence rates for large earthquakes in the Aleutian arc. We will then normalize these rates in terms of repeat times for events of magnitude 7 and larger and 7.8 and larger, respectively, in the Shumagin gap. <u>Occurrence rates</u>. Sykes (1971) has compiled a summary of the available data for all shallow earthquakes of magnitude greater than or equal to seven which have occurred in the Aleutian arc for the period 1920-1970, and greater than or equal to 7.8 for 1900-1970. Data for this and the following section are taken from Sykes' compilation . The simplest estimate of repeat times is to count the number of events larger than or equal to a given threshold

value which have occurred within the Shumagin gap and divide the period of time for which the count was made by the number of large events. In the Shumagin gap six events with  $m \ge 7$  occurred between 1920 and 1970 which implies a repeat time of eight years. Similarly 2 events with  $m \ge 7.8$  occurred between 1900 and 1970 which implies a 35 year repeat time for this magnitude threshold. These estimates are obviously based on very few data. We can utilize a larger data set and indirectly estimate these times if we assume that the occurrence rate is the same for all regions of the Aleutian arc and count the number of events which have occurred in the whole arc and prorate this number to the Shumagin gap by multiplying by the ratio of the length of the gap to the length of the arc. Then the repeat time for events with magnitude larger than or equal to seven for the Shumagin gap can be estimated as follows:

$$T_r(\underline{m \geq 7}) = T_s / N_g(\underline{m \geq 7})$$

where

 $\boldsymbol{T}_{\boldsymbol{r}}$  is the repeat time for the gap

 ${\rm T}_{\rm S}$  is the sample time for the arc data set

 $N_{g}$  is the prorated number of events for the gap

with

$$N_{g}(\underline{m \geq 7}) = N_{g}(\underline{m \geq 7}) \frac{L_{g}}{L_{a}}$$

where

 $N_g$  is the number of events counted for the arc

 $L_g$  is the length of the gap

L<sub>a</sub> is the length of the arc

For the available record in the Aleutian arc we find:

$$N_g(m \ge 7) = 22 \times \frac{600}{3600} = 3.67$$

and

$$T_r(m \ge 7) = 50 \div 3.67 = 14$$
 years

Similarly we can calculate:

$$N_{g}(m \ge 7.9) = 7 \times \frac{600}{3600} = 1.17$$

and

 $T_r (m \ge 7.9) = 70/1.17 = 60$  years

We can guess at the error limits for the latter estimate by making extreme value calculations. We will assume that  $N_a(m \ge 7.9) = 7 + 1$  and  $L_g = 300$  to 1200, which are the observed limits of the length of Aleutian aftershock zones for earthquakes with  $m \ge 7.9$ . Then the

minimum Ng(M>7.9) = 6 x  $\frac{300}{3600}$  = 0.50, and the maximum Ng(m=7.9) = 8 x  $\frac{1200}{3600}$  = 2.67; so the minimum Tr(m>7.9) = 60/2.67 = 26 years, and the maximum Tr(m>7.9) = 70/0.50 = 140 years.

<u>Historic Recurrence Intervals</u>. There are a few events with  $m \ge 7.9$  whose epicenter falls within the aftershock zone of a subsequent earthquake of  $m \ge 7.9$ . If we assume that these are instances of great earthquakes breaking the same fault zone then the time interval between them may be used to estimate the recurrence time for future earthquakes. For the Aleutians we have:

Rat Islands: 1965-1907 = 58 years
Andreanof Islands: 1957-1905 = 52 years
Fox Islands: 1957-1929 = 28 years
Shumagin Islands: 1938-(1903)\* = (35) years; \*questionable depth of 100 km
Prince William Sound: 1964-(<1900) = >64

From this limited sample we obtain for events with  $m \ge 7.9$  a minimum recurrence interval of 28 years, a median time of 52 years, and a maximum estimate in excess of 64 years.

b-Value from WWSSN Data. Many earthquake data sets have been observed to be describable by the relation:

 $\log N = A - bM$ 

where N is the cumulative number of events with magnitude greater than or equal to M. The slope of the relation is called the b-value. If this slope can be established on the basis of a large number of smaller events from a limited time sample, it can be extrapolated to estimate the repeat times for larger events. The largest data set available and appropriate was thought to be all of the events which had been reported for the Aleutians since June, 1963, when magnitudes began to be consistently assigned to most events. However, it was found that this data set was not distributed as expected. That is, the number of events with magnitudes larger than M did not increase monotonically with decreasing M. This may have been due to the presence of two major aftershock sequences in the data. Therefore the data set was limited to those events located between the aftershock regions of the 1964 Prince William Sound earthquake and the 1965 Rat Island earthquake (180° = 155°W longitude). While this data set is much better distributed than the previous one, the plot of log N vs. M does not obviously exhibit a straight line portion from which to determine the b-value (Figure A-1). Utsu's maximum liklihood method was used to compute b for threshold magnitudes in decreasing steps of 0.2M. These b-values monotonically increase with increasing magnitude but change least rapidly, corresponding to the flatest portion of the curve, near m = 4.6. From general experience it is felt that 4.6 is probably slightly lower than the detection threshold for WWSSN in the Aleutian region. Therefore a plot of log  $(N_i - N_{i+1})$  vs. M (Figure A-2) was made to help determine the detection threshold. The quantity  $N_i$  is the number of events in the ith 0.2M magnitude interval, so the difference is a measure of the rate of increase of events with decreasing magnitude. The straight line portion of this plot between m = 5.0 and m = 6.0 shows that the rate of increase is exponential in this range and begins to fall off below m = 5.0 which is therefore close to the detection threshold. The drop-off above m = 6.0 implies that the sample time

interval of 11.75 years is too short to record an adequate number of higher magnitude events. This deficiency in the higher magnitude range results in the increase of the b-value computed with increasing threshold magnitude. Therefore it is necessary to use the minimum reasonable threshold in computing the b-value. Since there is no drop-off evident at m = 5.0 we assume that the detection threshold is slightly lower than this and pick m = 4.8 as the threshold value. Utsu's method then yields  $b = 1.23 \pm 0.07$  where the error limits are for the 95% confidence level. However, for thresholds of 4.6 and 5.0 we have b = 1.43 and 1.09 respectively so we adopt as our estimate  $b = 1.2 \pm 0.2$  which covers the whole range of what we consider are reasonable values.

We can now compute repeat times for the Shumagin gap,  $T_r(m)$ , as follows:

$$T_{r}(m) = \frac{T_{s} \times 10^{bm}}{N(M^{*}) \times 10^{bm}} \frac{Ls}{Lg}$$

where

 $T_s$  is the sample time interval = 11.75 years

b is v-value =  $1.2 \pm 0.2$ 

m is the magnitude threshold of interest

N(M\*) is the number of events with m  $\geq$  M\*

 $\texttt{M} \star$  is the detection threshold used in computing b

 $L_{s is}$  the length of the sample region = 1400 km

Lg is the length of the gap = 600 km.

For m = 7 and b = 1.0, 1.2 or 1.4 we obtain repeat times, Tr(7) = 3, 10 and 26 years respectively. Similarly we find  $T_r(7.8) = 22$ , 87 and 350 years.

<u>Slip Rates</u>. The following discussion is not intended to estimate repeat times (because of the many assumptions necessary to do so) rather it is to demonstrate the plausibility of those given above on the basis of plate tectonic arguments. The source of the strain energy released by earthquakes in the Aleutians is the relative motion of the Pacific and American plates. In the

eastern Aleutians the convergence rate is about 7cm/year. If we consider a single fault surface which repeatedly fails in a pure stick-slip mode (i.e. we don't consider creep at all) due to this convergence rate we can compute the "repeat times" for events of various magnitudes from certain relations and data given by Kanamori and Anderson (1975). For this type of discontinuous shear displacement we can write the displacement,  $D = M_0/\mu S$  where  $M_0$  is the seismic moment,  $\mu$  is the elastic rigidity of the medium and S is the surface area of the fault. From this relation we obtain the displacement as a function of magnitude by finding  $M_0$  and S for the given magnitudes from plots of  $M_0$  vs.  $M_s$  and S vs.  $M_s$ given by Kanamori and Anderson (1975). Then the "repeat time" is just this displacement divided by the convergence rate, V:

 $T_r (M_s) = D(M_s)/V.$ 

There is, of course, scatter in the plots of  $M_0$  vs.  $M_s$  and S vs.  $M_s$ ; to account for this we compute extreme value estimates of the repeat times by combining the extreme values for  $M_0$  and S in a worst-case manner. Following the procedure outlined above we obtain:

 $T_r(7) = 0.2, 12, 27$  years and

 $T_r(8) = 3.6, 80, 1200$  years

where the middle times are computed from the median values of  $D(M_S)$  and the short and long times are from the extreme values of  $D(M_S)$ . It should be emphasized that these "repeat times" are not directly comparable to those computed in previous sections because they assume that all of the strain energy available is released by a single magnitude class whereas the previous estimates are made for earthquakes of a given magnitude and larger. Also these "repeat times" do not reflect any attempt to allow for creep nor to estimate how many such fault surfaces might exist in the Shumagin gap. For example, if we take the stick-slip contact zone between the Pacific and American plates to be a region 600 x 300 kilometers for the Shumagin gap we could accomodate 180 fault surfaces large enough to

produce a magnitude 7 earthquake. If all of the relative motion along this zone produced such earthquakes there would be 15 events per year with magnitude seven in the Shumagin gap. Similarly, we could estimate 1.5 events per year with magnitude eight. Besides the unphysical nature of our assumptions, these absurdly high occurrence rates suggest that there is potentially a large amount of strain energy continuously available, and that it is not unreasonable to expect earthquakes to occur in the future with repeat times of the order of those estimated in previous sections on the basis of the short historic record available. Summary and Conclusions. The repeat times estimated by the various methods discussed above are summarized in Table A-1. For an event with magnitude greater than or equal to seven the estimated repeat times range between 8 and 14 years with extreme values of 3 to 26 years suggested by the b-value computation. Since the last event with magnitude greater than or equal to seven and located within the Shumagin gap occurred in 1964, these results suggest that another event of at least magnitude seven is likely to occur between 1967 and 1990 with the most probable time falling between 1972 and 1978.

### TABLE A-1

### ESTIMATES FOR REPEAT TIMES OF LARGE EARTHQUAKES IN THE SHUMAGIN GAP (YEARS)

Method	Magnit min.	tude <u>&gt;</u> mid.	7.0 max.	Magni min.	tude <u>&gt;</u> mid.	7.9 max.
Occurrence Rate (gap)		8	-	-	(35)	.—
Occurrence Rate (arc)	-	14	-	26	60	140
Recurrence Interval (arc)	-	-	-	28	52	>64
b-value (mid-arc)	3	10	26	22	87	350
Plate Tectonic Convergence Rate (If relieved on a single fault)	0.2	12	27	3.6	80	1200

For events with magnitude greater than or equal to 7.9 the estimated repeat times range between 60 and 87 years with extremes of 26 and 350 years. The last event with  $m \ge 7.9$  in the Shumagin gap occurred in 1938; therefore these extremes suggest that it is likely that a great earthquake ( $m\ge7.9$ ) will happen between 1964 and 2288 with the most probable time falling between 1998 and 2025.

These predictions based on repeat times are shown in Figure A-3 along with the times of earthquakes which have occurred in the Shumagin gap. Also shown is the 20-year time frame which might be associated with exploration for oil on the continental shelf in the vicinity of the Shumagin gap. It can be seen from this figure that an event of magnitude seven or larger is almost a certainty within this time frame and that it is not unlikely that a great earthquake could occur. Also shown is the time interval, 1974-1980, within which Kelleher (1970) has predicted a major earthquake in the Shumagin gap. This prediction is based on extrapolation from the linear progression observed on a space-time seismicity plo: including the 1949 Queen Charlotte Island earthquake, the 1958 southeast Alaska earthquake, and the 1964 Prince William Sound earthquake. Given this prediction and the 35 year interval between previous great ( $m \ge 7.9$ ) earthquakes in the Shumagin gap, the probability for the occurrence of a great earthquake must be regarded as significant within the 20 year time interval 1976-1996.



Figure A-1: b-value plot for the Aleutian arc between 180° and 155°W longitude and the time period from June 1963 to March 1975. Utsu's method yields b = 1.43, 1.23, and 1.09 respectively for threshold magnitudes of m = 5.0, 4.8, and 4.6.





Accumulation rate plot for data shown in figure A-1. The quantity  $(N_i - N_{i+1})$  is the difference between the number of events in successive 0.2M magnitude intervals. The straight line, or exponential, portion of the plot corresponds to the magnitude range for which the data set is complete.



Figure A-3:

Shown in the top row are the times of occurrence of previous major  $(m \ge 7.0)$  earthquakes and the range of times predicted by the various methods used to estimate repeat times. The open box represents the range of extreme values and the shaded portion represents the range of median values. The bottom row shows the same thing for great  $(m \ge 7.9)$  earthquakes. Also shown here by the solid box is the prediction of Kelleher (1970). The middle row shows the time frame of the next 20 years during which exploration for oil might take place on the continental shelf near the Shumagin Islands.

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### COASTAL MORPHOLOGY AND SEDIMENTATION, GULF COAST OF ALASKA

### (GLACIAL SEDIMENTATION)

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# Enclosures:

Location map Preliminary bathymetric chart Environmental geologic map Geologic hazards and processes map Bottom profiles  Summary of objectives, conclusions and implications with respect to OCS oil and gas development.

This project is charged with:

- identifying and evaluating glacial sedimentary processes and products in the Icy Bay area, including both present and past activity.
- examination of nearshore bottom morphology in Icy Bay, for evidence of mode of formation, and importance of presentlyactive processes.
- evaluating the effect of the various geologic processes on man's activities in specific areas within, and along the shore of, Icy Bay.

Man's activities in Icy Bay, as they relate to OCS oil and gas development,

1) Ship anchorages

- 2) Shore facilities including:
  - a) personnel quarters
  - b) supply depots
  - c) construction and repair facilities
  - d) oil storage

The geologic processes and products specifically identified as potentially hazardous to the above activities are:

1) glacier-burst floods

2) glacier surges

3) buried ice blocks and stagnant ice masses

- 4) unstable ground (onshore and subtidal)
- 5) coastal erosion
- 6) drift ice from calving glaciers

In addition, the overall nearshore-bottom morphology of the Bay (deep water vs. shallow water) places a limiting factor on use of certain areas within the Bay.

The following conclusions pertain to the feasibility of locating shore facilities along Icy Bay, in combination with suitable ship anchorages. They must be viewed as tentative interpretations at this time. The conclusions are:

- Use of Icy Bay north of Kichyatt Point is not feasible because of: heavy drift ice; active glaciers; steep bedrock cliffs; and stagnant ice masses and active flowtill on the foreland areas.
- 2) New Yahtse, Caetani, and Kettlehold Deltas are not suitable for shore facilities due to: potential glacier-burst flooding; ground subsidence due to melting of buried ice blocks; and potential delta-front slumping and slope failure.
- 3) All other areas may be considered for potential onshore sites.
- Known hazardous shallow-water areas are east of Gull Island, and south of Moraine Island, including the entrance to Riou Bay.
- 5) A definite deep water area exists off the Icy Bay Lumber Company dock.
- 6) Seal Camp Harbor is excellent for smaller vessels, but has an entrance depth of 11 meters and limited turning room for large vessels.
- 7) Best all-round potential sites for shore facilities with anchor-

ages identified so far are:

- a) Icy Cape Foreland adjacent to the Icy Bay Lumber Foreland adjacent to the Icy Bay Lumber Company dock. A drawback is that this is an area of high wave-energy.
- b) Lower Chaix Hills area.
- c) An anchorage west and northwest of Gull Island, with a causeway to mainland shore facilities.

The dispersal pattern of oil spills within the Bay is unknown and requires further field study.

### II. Introduction

A. General nature and scope of study

The major emphasis of the project falls under Task D4, to evaluate present rates of change in coastal morphology, with particular emphasis on the possible impact of man-induced changes. Further, the purpose of the study is to: 1) locate areas where the coastal environment is likely to be changed by man's activities and evaluate the effect of these changes, if any; and 2) evaluate effect of various geologic processes on man's activities in specific areas along the coast in the study area.

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B. Specific Objectives

This part of the project is charged with identifying and evaluating glacial sedimentary processes and products, including both present and past activity. In addition, nearshore bottom morphology is to be examined for evidence of mode of formation and importance of presently-active processes.

The specific objectives are:

- Determine the absolute and relative importance of active braided streams in the study area, as sediment providers to the coastal zone.
- Delineation of areas underlain by glacial sediments; map the sediment type; and determine relative ground stability.
- Location of areas probably underlain by buried ice and magnitude of ground subsidence likely to result.
- 4) Determine areas likely to be threatened by glacier-burst floods and locate possible flood channels.

- 5) Examination of the margin of the Malaspina ice sheet to determine which, if any, portions of the glacier are surging.
- 6) Determine the general configuration and slope of outwash delta (fan delta) fronts and the location of slumps.Two additional objectives not outlined in the work statement but deemed important on the basis of field observations are:
- 7) Determination of nearshore bottom morphology on the east side of Icy Bay and correlation with onshore geology.
- 8) Location and movement patterns of drift ice in Icy Bay.
- C. Relevance to problems of petroleum development

Problems concerning petroleum development as it states to this part of the project are:

- 1) Feasibility of the use of Icy Bay for:
  - a) a ship anchorage
  - b) shore facilities (personnel quarters; supply depots; construction and repair; oil storage)
- Direction and rate of transport of oil from a spill near or within Icy Bay.

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### III. Current state of knowledge

Scientific observation began in the vicinity of the present Icy Bay and West Malaspina Foreland with the voyages of discovery of Vancouver in 1794. These and other early expeditions are excellently summarized by Post and Plafker (in preparation). A summary of the Recent history of glaciation and ice retreat in the Malaspina district accompanies the map by Plafker and Miller (1958). Other useful maps are by Miller (1971), 1961, 1957); Plafker and Miller (1957); and Post and Mayo (1971).

Ground investigation of surficial processes and deposits in the vicinity of the eastern margin of Icy Bay has been mainly of a reconnaissance nature; early work has been concentrated around and on the eastern margin of the Malaspina Glacier (Gilbert, 1904; Sharp, 1951, 1953, 1958; Tarr, 1909; Tarr and Butler, 1909; Tarr and Martin, 1906; Washburn, 1935). Later work around the eastern margin of the Malaspina includes work on patterns of glacial deposits (Hartshorn, 1952); Glacial Lake Malaspina (Gustavson, 1972, 1974, 1975); and glacial outwash fans (Gustavson, 1974). Investigations along and near Icy Bay include an excellent report by Russell (1893) of the Old Yahtse River, Chaix Hills region; surficial mapping of Icy Cape Foreland by Miller (1971); and various sample-collecting trips (Plafker and Miller, 1958; Post and Plafker, in preparation).

Prior work by our group was on beaches along the entire Malaspina, Icy Cape Forelands (Hayes and others, 1973); and on outwash-fan sedimentation (Boothroyd and Ashley, 1975; included in the appendix).

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The area of study for this part of the project is on the northeast Gulf coast of Alaska from Sitkagi Bluffs to about 10 km west of Icy Cape, including specifically the margin of Icy Bay. Field work concentrated on the east margin of the Bay, offshore and onshore; and on the West Malaspina Foreland as far east as Yana Stream. Figure 1 and 2 and accompanying maps give general locations and specific localities. V. Sources, methods and rationale of data collection.

Data collected during the field season (June 6 to August 19, 1975) were designed to meet each of the specific objectives. Please refer to maps for specific localities.

1) Active streams.

A theodolite survey of New Yahtse River was carried out to determine the longitudinal profile. Stations were occupied every 300-400 meters. Fifteen stations were occupied with surface velocity measured; surface suspended sediment sample obtained; and maximum clast size on bar surfaces measured. The size of the fountain source of New Yahtse River was measured so that discharge could be determined by the velocity-head method. This measurement was made at maximum melt-water discharge. 2) Glacial sediment type and ground stability.

A ground check of most of the West Malaspina Foreland was carried out on foot and by trail motorcycle. Seismic-line roads cut in the late 1950's and early 1960's proved useful. Spot landings by Cessna 180 fixed-wing aircraft also aided in access to some areas. Shore sites were readily accessible by Zodiac rubber boat.

Oblique color aerial photographs (35 mm) were taken through the summer from various altitudes ranging from 30 to 3300 meters. Ground photographs were also obtained (2000 total, air and ground).

3) Buried ice and ground subsidence.

Aerial reconnaissance was carried out of possible buried ice localities that were previously identified on vertical aerial photographs (1957). Many sites were visited on the ground and stagnant ice masses documented. More deeply-buried blocks were postulated from ground cracking and sag ponds.

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# 4) Glacier-burst floods.

Status of ice-marginal lakes and ice-marginal channels were checks by aerial survey and compared with past aerial photography and Landsat imagery. Oblique aerial photography by Austin Post (U.S.G.S Tacoma) proved particularly useful. Changes in ice-marginal drainage to new drainage-ways was ground checked where possible to determine further likely changes in the drainage. Local air-taxi pilots were interviewed in regard to recent, unusual flood flows. This led to the investigation of the Oily Lake flood.

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5) Glacier surges.

An aerial survey was made of the margin of the Malaspina, Tyndall, Yahtse and Guyot glaciers. Low oblique aerial photos were taken of the Malaspina margin at an altitude of 3300 meters to compare with, and update older photos and maps. Variations in position of the ice margin in comparison to older photos was noted and photographed in detail (aerial). 6) Delta front morphology.

70 kilometers of high-resolution bottom profiles (24 individual profiles) were run with a Bludworth EM-130SS profiler mounted in a 5 meter, Zodiac rubber boat. Seven of these profiles were run from the New Yahtse and Kettlehole deltas. Most profiles were run from shore point to shore point. The others were begun at a shore point and run on a compass bearing. All profiles were run at a constant boat speed; chart speed was varied for resolution purposes. Horizontal scale was checked by the measured line-timing method. Primary coverage was on the east side of Icy Bay. Equipment failure and transportation problems precluded coverage of deltas in Yakutat Bay.

7) Nearshore bottom morphology.

Profiling method, and tracklines are described in 6) above. Priority was given to those areas most likely to be considered for ship anchorages, and secondly, hazardous shoal areas.

8) Drift ice in Icy Bay.

Bay-ice location and density was checked at least twice daily during the summer field season. An aerial photo survey of bay ice as flown seven times during the summer. Manuvering in various ice conditions was done to test the feasibility of working and transporting personnel through drift ice. VI. Results

The major information products included in this report are a series of large-scale maps and charts accompanied by photographs that illustrate specific features on those maps. The maps and charts are:

- Location map for the West Malaspina Foreland and Icy Bay area. (scale: 1:63,360).
- Geologic hazards and processes map of the West Malaspina Foreland and Icy Bay area (scale: 1:63,360).
- Preliminary bathymetric chart of Icy Bay (scale: 1:40,000; adopted from NOS chart 16741).
- 4) Environmental map of the east margin of Icy Bay (scale: 1:10,475).

An explanatory text accompanies each map giving results and discussion pertinent to that map. Interpretative figure captions are provided for each photograph. The three maps, the chart, and the photographs are to be used together to verify and cross-check results.

Also included are copies of the bottom profiles at a reduced scale. Interpretation of these profiles is incomplete at this time but results thus far are given in an explanatory text included with the profiles.

An appendix is included containing the following items.

- Table of weather data and drift-ice observations collected during the summer field season.
- Reprint of a paper (Boothroyd and Ashley, 1975) discussing outwash fan sedimentation on the northeast Gulf of Alaska, including Yana Stream on the West Malaspina Foreland.

### VII. Discussion

Topics pertinent to each map or chart, and illustrated by the figures, have been discussed either in the explanatory texts accompanying each map, or in the figure captions. A summary of this discussion, including the relationship of the map and figures to one another, is presented in outline form below. The explanatory framework of the geologic hazards and processes map is followed, and the depositional systems and zones discussed in conjunction with the environmental geologic map are considered where appropriate. The effect of the possible use of Icy Bay for petroleum development is given.

Glacier-burst floods

- Oily Lake discharge into Yana Stream, Shoal Bay Lakes, and Seward Lake (Figs. 3, 4, and 19). Would not affect Icy Bay.
- 2) Oily Lake discharge (?) into the New Yahtse fluvial-deltaic system (FAny) via a small fountain (south of New Yahtse fountain) and ice-block ponds (LPi) (Figs. 3 and 4). Postulated minor flooding only.

Zone affected: Fluvial-fan delta and moraine complex (New Yahtse River area).

Specific environment affected: New Yahtse fluvial system (FAny<sub>c.1</sub>); New Yahtse Delta (BSo, BSag, and ITf).

Flooding would probably be similar to maximum summer discharge.

3) Agassiz Lakes discharge via the Caetani ice-marginal drainage (FM ca) into the New Yahtse system (FAny); overflow drains into the Caetani proflacial system (FIc) (Figs. 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, and

12). Major flooding is possible.

Zone affected: Fluvial-fan delta and moraine complex (New Yahtse River area).

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Specific environments affected: New Yahtse fluvial system (FAny<sub>c,1,2,2.5</sub> and 3 (?)); New Yahtse Delta (BSo, BSag, ITf); Kettlehole Delta (BSo, BSag, ITf); Caetani River fluvial system (FIc<sub>1</sub> and <sub>2</sub>); and Caetani Delta (BSag, ITf)

Major damage by inundation, or channel shifting and lateral erosion, would occur to structures constructed on much of the New Yahtse and Caetani fluvial-deltaic systems. Kettlehole Delta would be relatively unaffected although the site of the 1975 summer field station would be flooded.

Glacier Surges

 Agassiz lobe (GIa) in the vicinity of Chaix Hills airstrip (Figs. 3, 4, and 9). Magnitude of possible surges is unknown.

Zone affected: Fluvial-fan delta and moraine complex (New Yahtse River area).

Specific environments affected: Active ice (GIa) and adjacent sinkhole-pocked ice (GIs); stagnant ice blocks (SIb, SIv); and probably the younger moraine complex (TFa, Ta, LPa). A surge could block the Caetani and New Yahtse drainage and cause temporary ice-dammed lakes.

There have been no recorded surges of this margin, thus effects are difficult to assess.

 Tyndall, Yahtse, and Guyot Glaciers, upper Icy Bay (Figs. 3, 4, and 7). Magnitude of possible surges is unknown. Area affected: Upper Icy Bay.

The major hazard created by a surge of any of these galciers would be the creation of a large mass of drift ice that would be a danger to shipping.

Buried ice blocks and stagnant ice masses

1) Large stagnant ice masses (Figs. 3, 4, 7, 8, and 9).

Areas affected: Yahtse Foreland; and area east of Kageet Point.

Zone affected: Fluvial-fan delta and moraine complex (New Yahtse area)

Specific environment affected: Stagnant ice (SIb, SIv) and developing lakes (LPa).

There is no active danger; the area near blocks should simply be avoided for construction or storage sites.

2) Buried ice blocks (Figs. 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12).

Zones affected: Fluvial-fan delta and moraine complex (New Yahtse area); and Old Yahtse River fluvial-deltaic system.

Specific environments affected: New Yahtse fluvial system (FAny<sub>4</sub> (includes LPi), 3 and 2.5 (includes LPi, LPb, and LPi?)); Kettlehole fluvial system (FIk<sub>3</sub> (includes LPb); upper Old Yahtse River (FLoy<sub>C</sub>, LPb).

Active ground subsidence makes the affected areas unfit for permanent structures.

Unstable ground

1) Active flowtill (Figs. 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12).

Areas affected: entire Yahtse Foreland; most of area between
Kageet Point and Chaix Stream.

Zones affected: Till plains (Chaix Hills); and fluvial-fan delta and moraine complex (New Yahtse Delta area)

Specific environments affected: flowtill (Tfi) of till plain (?); flowtill (Tfa) near Malaspina Glacier between the Caetani and New Yahtse River.

This terrain is unsuitable for use unless it can be stabilized by draining and filling. The till plain area is probably stabilized in most part, but zones of instability could remain. A further cautionary note: All till complexes north and west of the Kettlehole Delta, and the apex of Old Yahtse River, could contain buried ice blocks or active flow-till. Ground cover prevents a more accurate assessment and not all areas were field checked.

2) Delta-front slumps (Figs. 3, 4, 10 and 12; bottom profiles 1, 2, 10, 11, 19, 20, 21, and 22).

Zone affected: Fluvial-fan delta and moraine complex (New Yahtse area).

Specific environments affected: a catastrophic failure could cause subsidence or removal of the immediate fluvial surface (e.g., FAny<sub>1</sub>), as well as the intertidal (ITf), and the beach-spit system (BSa). Catastrophic slumping is an extremely likely occurrence in the event of a severe earthquake (magnitude ?).

Coastal Erosion

1) Point Riou and Riou spit (Figs. 3, 4, 16, 17, and 18).

Zone affected: Point Riou moraine and fan complex; and Riou Spit.

Specific environments affected: Eroding cliff in Point Riou basal and ablation till complex (Tpr); developing erosional platform (ITg/ITb); and active outwash (BSag), receding Riou Spit.

There is no immediate danger to activities in Icy Bay. The main problem is sediment transport along the spit to the vicinity of Moraine Reef, effectively sealing off Riou Bay.

2) Icy Cape Foreland (Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 6).

Area affected: Icy Cape, eroding beach and till cliffs. There is no immediate danger to man's activities on the Icy Cape Foreland.

## Drift Ice

1) Ice stream position (Figs. 3, 4, 7, and 8).

Areas affected: upper Bay (heavy ice); mid Bay (moderate ice); lower Bay (scattered ice).

An aperiodic but a major hazard. Fishing boats and large craft avoid the main ice stream in Icy Bay.

2) Grounded ice accummulation and dispersed drift ice (Figs. 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14).

Areas affected: Gull Island and associated shoals; the Bay north of Caetani Delta; beach south of Icy Bay Lumber Company dock.

Specific environments affected: Gull Island beaches (BSab), and northern intertidal shoals (ITm).

Dispersed drift ice is scattered at times over most of the Bay but appears to be of nuisance value only. Heavy accumulations of grounded ice could pose problems for docking facilities.

General:

1) Bedrock (Figs. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8).

Locations near the margin of the Bay: Adjacent to Icy Bay Lumber Company dock; Kichyatt Point; Tsaa Fiord; Taan Fiord; and lower Chaix Hills. Bedrock crops out almost continuously along the Bay north of Kichyatt and Kageet Points, but mostly as steep faces.

Building sites located on bedrock would afford the most secure protection against ground failure during earthquakes.

2) Deep-water areas. (Figs. 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12; profiles 1, 2, 6, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23).

Locations: Off Icy Bay LUmber Company dock; in front of Caetani, New Yahtse, and northeast of Kettlehole Deltas.

3) Shallow-water areas (Figs. 3, 4, 12, and 16; profiles 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 23, and 24).

Locations: East of Gull Island; entrance to Riou Bay; and directly off POint Riou and Icy Cape.

4) Present Harbor (Figs. 3, 4, 12, 13, 14; profile 8).Location: Seal Camp Harbor.

## VIII. Conclusions

The following statements pertain to the feasibility of locating shore facilities along the Icy Bay, combined with suitable ship anchorages. They must be deemed tentative and subject to change with further data interpretation. The conclusions thus far are:

- 1) Use of the Bay north of Kichyatt and Kageet Points for any activities is not feasible because of:
  - a. heavy drift ice
  - b. active glaciers
  - c. steep bedrock cliffs
  - d. forelands are underlain by stagnant-ice masses and subject to active flowtill processes.
- 2) Caetani, New Yahtse, Kettlehole Deltas are not suitable for shore facilities. Problems are:
  - a. potential glacier-burst flooding.
  - b. ground subsidence due to melting of buried ice blocks.
  - c. delta-front slope slumping and slope failure.
- 3) All other areas may be considered for potential onshore sites.
- 4) Shallow-water areas unsuitable for most vessels with a draft deeper than several meters are located:
  - a. east of Gull Island
  - b. south of Moraine Island including the entrance to Riou Bay.
- 5) A definite deep water area is located offshore of the Icy Bay Lumber Company dock. But this area is subject to high wave energy.
- 6) The present Seal Camp Harbor is excellent for fishing boat-sized vessels, but is small and has an entrance depth of 11 meters at M.L.L.W.

- 7) Best, all-round potential sites, providing an anchorage plus sites for shore facilities are:
  - a. Icy Cape Foreland adjacent to the Icy Bay Lumber Company dock.
    Positive features are: deep water; adjacent to bedrock terraces;
    relatively stable glacial sediment. The negative aspect is
    that high-wave energy inpinges on the dock.
  - b. Lower Chaix Hills area:

Positive: bedrock terrace and relatively deep water anchorage. Negative: glacial sediment may be unstable (till plain); moderate drift-ice accumulation area.

c. Gull Island; with a connecting causeway running across the shoals to the mainland sites.

Positive: relatively deep water; low-wave energy. Negative: no bedrock nearby; aperiodic, scattered to moderate drift-ice accumulation; and substantial development needed to create a dock facility.

IX. Needs for further study

Further study of Icy Bay should be initiated to: 1) complete some aspects of the work begun with this project; 2) answer questions raised by this study; and 3) provide additional detailed information on potential sites for shore facilities identified by the present study.

Specific tasks that should be undertaken are:

- Continuation and completion of high-resolution bottom profiling to acquire detailed knowledge of the bottom morphology over the entire Bay.
- 2) High resolution (Uniboom) sub-bottom profiling to delineate type, extent, and thickness of bay sediments; especially the basal till horizon, and large slump blocks off the deltas and elsewhere. These units would be tied to onshore geology.
- 3) Study of the wind and tidal-current pattern in Icy Bay by occupying a series of 13-25 hour hydrographic stations, and the placement of wind recorders at onshore sites around the Bay. In this manner, the movement pattern of drift ice, and dispersal of oil from spills could be determined.
- 4) Detailed environmental and engineering geology of the most likely sites for shore facilities as identified in this report (Icy Cape Foreland, lower Chaix Hills, and Gull Island complex); and of other potential sites suggested by others.
- 5) A visit should be made to Icy Bay to asses winter-storm condition particularly in the area of Icy Bay Lumber Company dock, and at Gull Island. In addition, wave recorder should be placed at the end of the dock.

A project similar to that already carried out in Icy Bay should be initiated for the eastern margin of Yakutat Bay from Knight Island to Ocean Cape, including offshore studies in Yakutat Bay, and onshore studies of the Yakutat Foreland. The specific objectives would be the same as those for the present project.

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FIGURES

Figure 1. General location map of the northeast Gulf of Alaska between Cordova and Yakutat. Numbers refer to selected active, or recently active, glacial-outwash fans. Numbers 5, 6, and 7 refer to Old Yahtse River, Yana Stream, and Fountain Stream respectively. They are located on the West Malaspina Foreland.



Figure 2. Preliminary facies map of the West Malaspina Foreland with major emphasis on glacial-outwash fans (sandurs). This map was prepared before summer, 1975 field work along Icy Bay, and thus should be used for general orientation and interpretation only. It is included as a figure in Boothroyd (in press), a paper concerning regional distribution and variation of outwash fans.



Figure 3. Landsat band 5 image of Malaspina Glacier, Icy Bay area. Ice from the Guyot and Yahtse Glaciers fills the upper half of the Bay, with an ice stream projecting down the center of the lower Bay. This is the most common location for the ice stream when it occurs in the lower Bay. Active outwash streams, sediment-laden lakes and lagoons, and sediment plumes in the Bay and Gulf of Alaska proper are light-colored. Flood-tidal currents are deflecting the sediment plume from the active Yahtse River, up the Bay. These tidal currents also deflect the ice stream and cause some of the observed swirl patterns.

Oily Lake, at the base of the Samovar Hills, was empty at the time this image was obtained; it had partially refilled when observed in July, 1975. The lake emptied through a postulated subglacial drainage system that extends beneath the medial moraine that divides the Agassiz and Seward lobes of Malaspina Glacier. This drainage emerges at Yana Stream and at a smaller reactivated stream 3 km to the west. Flood waters have flowed into some of the Shoal Bay lakes as well as down Yana Stream and into the Gulf. This appears to be the preferred route for breakout floods (jökulhlaups) from Oily Lake.

Inactive streams such as old Yahtse River appear darker; vegetated moraines on the Malaspina Glacier, as well as older ground and end moraine appear still darker. Areas on the Icy Cape Foreland clearcut by the Icy Bay Lumber Company appear as lighter patches.

Image taken July 1, 1974; Scene 1D: 81708200355A000.



Figure 4. Landsat band 7 image of Malaspina Glacier, Icy Bay area taken at the same time (July 1, 1974) as Figure 3. Vegetation appears white at this wavelength, especially that on the Malaspina Glacier itself. Water with a low suspended-sediment concentration is a lighter shade. The grayish splotch is the lower center of Old Yahtse River is groundwater discharge into open marshlands.

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A stagnant ice mass, just northeast of Kageet Point, and the entire Yahtse Foreland show dark gray, indicating wet and unstable surface conditions.

The erosional terraces cut in bedrock on Icy Cape Foreland (Miller, 1971) show quite clearly.



Figure 5. East portion of Icy Cape Foreland adjacent to Icy Bay. Icy Bay airstrip is in the center of the photograph. The Foreland is the site of an active logging operation by Icy Bay Lumber Company. Their dock is at the top center, at the base of the Robinson Mountains. This side of the Bay is open to storm waves from the southeast and thus is an area of high-wave energy.

Photograph taken August 16, 1975.



Figure 6. Beach-spit shoreline in the vicinity of the Icy Bay Lumber Company dock facility. Dock proper is at top right; supply barge and tug are lying off the end of the dock. Bedrock terrace had been quarried for riprap in an attempt to hold barge used at the outer dock in place during winter storms. The attempt has been somewhat unsuccessful according to local sources (Jerry Wells, personal communication). Sediment transport in the beach zone is up the Bay toward the dock area, resulting in multiple beam-ridge accretion at the bottom left of the photo.

Grounded ice was transported to the beach by wave action from an ice stream in the center of the lower Bay. When ice does penetrate into the lower bay it usually ends up in this area. Some of the deepest depths (70+ m) in the lower Bay occur just off the dock. Photo taken July 2, 1975.



Figure 7. Upper Icy Bay and surrounding icefields. Clockwise from the left, the features are: Kichyatt Point, a bedrock spur; Taan Fiord; an unnamed bedrock plateau; widest single terminus of the Guyot Glacier; Guyot Hills; terminus of the Yahtse Glacier; Yahtse Foreland with rise of Karr Hills behind; Tsaa Fiord; and Kageet Point on the right.

The Yahtse Glacier flows from the upper left and behind Guyot Hills on its way to the Icy Bay.

Ice in the upper Bay was this density approximately 75% of the time during the summer of 1975. Swirling pattern is formed by curving ice streams during alternate flood and ebbtidal current transport.



Figure 8. Area underlain by till and bedrock on the east side of Icy Bay north of Caetani Delta. Taan Fiord shows at the top center, just above Kageet Point, an end moraine complex underlain in part by stagnant ice. The terrain steps down from a spur of the Chaix Hills (top right) to a flat bedrock plateau thinly veneered by ground moraine. The next lower level is a till surface composed of ablation moraine that has undergone mass movement (flowtill) and end moraine. This area may have been unstable in 1957 and possibly underlain by some stagnant ice blocks, but appears stable now (1975). Caetani Delta and associated outwash is just visible at the bottom of the photograph. The road running through the center of the photo was used for oil exploration in the 1950's and 60's. It extends to Chaix Hills airstrip.

Ice is commonly carried by wind or tidal currents into adjacent waters when ice streams project into the central Bay. This photograph represents a fairly typical ice configuration. Scattered soundings indicate up to 40 meters depth of water close to shore, but no detailed bottom profiles were obtained.



Figure 9. Extreme northwest corner of the West Malaspina Foreland. Agassiz lobe of Malaspina Glacier is along the right side of the photo. Chaix Hills airstrip is in the upper right corner. Present ice-marginal drainage is fed behind a stagnant ice mass and into the New Yahtse River (New Yahtse River not visible in this photo). Breakout floods (jökulhlaups) from the Agassiz Lakes and other ice-marginal lakes would follow this drainage-way. Any overflow would reoccupy the abandoned Caetani River that extends from the top right to bottom left. Till area at the upper left is discussed in Figure 3.



Figure 10. Fan-delta systems on the east side of Icy Bay. From top left to lower right are Kettlehole Delta, named for the origin of the lagoon in middle of the delta; New Yahtse Delta, the only active delta of the three; and Caetani Delta, abandoned except for small overflow discharge during the height of the meltwater-runoff season. The high, darker, heavily vegetated areas are underlain by till. The lighter, less vegetated areas with the braided pattern are abandoned outwash channels floored with coarse gravel (average clast size greater than 10 cm long axis).

Arrows indicate areas of extensive ground cracking and/or subsidence due to melting of buried ice. This process was active between 1957 and 1975, and is still active in the area at the left center of the photo.

New Yahtse stream is at maximum discharge for the summer melt season. Scattered bay ice is a common occurrence at this locality.



Figure 11. Cracks, in longitudinal bars composed of coarse outwash gravel, located on the south side of the delta of New Yahtse River. The area is inactive and slightly elevated over the active-stream area at the upper left. The cracks occur in a reticulate pattern, are 2-3 meters wide and not more than a meter deep. They appear old and are areas for preferential growths of shrubs, while the gravel surface is moss-covered. These cracks are not visible on 1957 vertical aerial photography (scale 1:41,900) but may be too small to show at this scale. They are interpreted to be the result of melting of buried ice. It is not known if the process is still active at this locality but ground subsidence did occur between 1957 and 1975 on the adjacent Kettle Hole delta.

Photograph measured about 400 meters across at center. Taken July 10, 1975.



Figure 12. View southwest of central and lower east margin of Icy Bay. Features beginning the top of the photo and proceeding along the by margin are: Riou spit, enclosing Riou Bay; Moraine Island, actually joined to the mainland by beach-ridge progradation, forming a neck-like protuberance; Seal Camp Harbor, the small, rectangular bay used as a harbor of refuge; various small headlands; Kettlehold Delta, an abandoned fan delta; and New Yahtse Delta, an active fan delta that receives almost all of the meltwater drainage that flows from the Malaspina Glacier margin into Icy Bay. Gull Island is in the right center of the photo. The darker, heavily vegetated terrain is a complex of older moraine and ice-marginal fluvial material deposited along the margin of the former glacial lobe that filled Icy Bay until 1904 (Plafker and Miller, 1958). The ice terminus had receded to the vicinity of Gull Island by 1916 and north of the New Yahtse Delta by 1926 (Post and Plafker, in preparation).

The bay water between Gull Island and the small headlands is shallow with a maximum water depth of 5 meters at lower low water. Water depth off the deltas drops off rapidly to about 50 meters. Scattered drift ice is a common occurrence off the deltas; large accumulations become grounded on the shoals near Gull Island when ice streams penetrate into the lower Bay.

Photo taken July 2, 1975 at about mid-tide.


Figure 13. Seal Camp Harbor on the lower east margin of Icy Bay. Moraine Island is on the right; the low hills and ponds beyond the Harbor are underlain by till; and at the top of the photo are small outwash fans formed when glacial ice occupied Icy Bay. This small bay is used as a harbor of refuge by fishing boats and tugs during storm conditions in the open Gulf of Alaska. It is also used as a base of operation for seismic crews operating in and around Icy Bay; by crab boats; and formerly by seal harvesters. A temporary camp was occupied during the summer of 1975 was on the left (north) side of the Harbor.

The entrance is 600 meters wide, a bottom profile (profile 8) shows a maximum water depth of 13 meters at lower low water. This photo was taken at mid to 3/4 to high tide when the wavecut platforms off both points flanking the harbor were submerged. Compact basal till is exposed at low tide on the platform beneath the bluffs on Moraine Island.

Photo taken July 2, 1975.



Figure 14. North side of Seal Camp Harbor, with sandy beach at right and wave-cut platform at top of the photo. This platform is illustrated in Figure 15. Abandoned buildings of a former seal-hunters camp are visible in the trees. The large kingcrab boat at the left is 11- feet long; the smaller fishing boats are about 50 feet in length. Drift ice rarely occurs inside the Harbor.

Photo taken at low tide on June 21, 1975.



Figure 15. Wave-cut platform and bluffs at the headland on the north side of Seal Camp Harbor. The eroding bluff is cut in ice-contact fluvial material; large angular ablation-till boulders are scattered over the platform pavement. These ablation-till boulders occur ubiquitously in intertidal, shallow subtidal, and possible deeper subtidal zones near onshore morainal, and ice-contact, deposits along the east margin of the bay.

Photo taken July 17, 1975.



Figure 16. Riou spit and the southwest margin of the West Malaspina Foreland. Point Riou, where the spit is attached to the Foreland, is at the right center of the photo. The heavily vegetated area beyond the spit is underlain by till and old alluvial fans; the area beyond that is the abandoned Old Yahtse River that was active for some time after the visits of I.C. Russell in 1891 (Russell, 1893). Old Yahtse River is postulated to be the location of the Icy Bay explored by Vancouver in 1794 (Russell, 1894; Plafker and Miller, 1958; Post and Plafker, in preparation). Recurved spits that were built into the old Icy Bay are just visible under the clouds at the top of the photo.

Riou spit is at the end of the drift system that extends from Sitkagi Bluffs. Additional material is being eroded from the till bluffs along Point Riou. Erosion amounts to about 15 meters/year for a total of 250 meters since 1957. The lagoon (Riou Bay) enclosed by Riou spit is less than 2 meters in depth at the entrance on the left, and thus appears unsuitable for an anchorage.

Photo taken July 8, 1975.



Figure 17. Cliff cut in basal till just east of Point Riou on the West Malaspina Foreland outer coast. This basal till crops out at or near sealevel at several localities along the east margin of the Bay. It may underly large portions of the wave-cut and shallow subtidal platforms on the east side of Icy Bay.

Photo taken August 9, 1975 at low tide.



Figure 18. Wave-cut platform of basal till at Point Riou on the outer coast of the West Malaspina Foreland. Felled trees are the result of rapid erosion that has averaged about 15 meters per year from 1957 to 1975, for a total of 250 meters. The platform is scattered with boulders, the larger ones eroded from overlying ablation till, the smaller from the basal till. Waves are breaking on swash bars migrating across the offshore, subtidal extension of the till platform. This basal till is the most resistant to erosion of any glacial deposits exposed along Icy Bay.

Photo taken at low tide on August 10, 1975.



Figure 19. View east along the outer coast (Gulf of Alaska) of the West Malaspina Foreland. Features from the top are : Malaspina Glacier (white area at left); dark protuberance of the shoreline is the Fountain Stream fan delta; linear forms are older vegetated barrier spits; light area is Yana Stream; more vegetated barrier spits; left of spits (inland) is a till area with small lakes (Shoal Bay Lakes); bulbous vegetated mass just below and to right of lakes is a complex of recurved spits built into the former Icy Bay of Vancouver; next is Old Yahtse River sediment that has filled the former Icy Bay; and at the bottom, a till complex. Spruce Island is the dark spot in the middle of Old Yahtse River. A white debris line is just visible, extending from Spruce Island toward the bottom of the photo. This marks the landward margin of significant storm-surge flooding. The active barrier spits are unvegetated and are subject to overwash during winter storms (particularly in the Old Yahtse River area). Lagoon outlets shift constantly; these are the summer, 1975 positions.

Photo taken at mid-tide, July 2, 1975.



### EXPLANATORY TEXTS

# TEXT TO ACCOMPANY LOCATION MAP OF ICY BAY AND WEST MALASPINA FORELAND AREA, NORTHEAST GULF OF ALASKA

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The base for this map, and the geologic hazards and processes map, are unpublished 1:63,360 scale topographic maps on a stable base obtained from Austin Post (U.S.G.S., Tacoma, Wash.). Other sources used for control are listed on the map. Provisional names for locations not identified on published maps or on Post's maps are placed in quotes.

The morainal pattern on the Malaspina Glacier is that recorded on 1948-1957 aerial photographs. Continued ice movement has, of course, modified the detail but has not changed the overall pattern. Likewise, the position of sinkhole ponds on the ice changes constantly; but the overall pattern remains similar to that shown on the map. Detail of the ice margin of the Malaspina in the Chaix Hills airstrip-New Yahtse fountain area reflects 1972-1975 ice positions; Seward Lake detail is from July 1, 1974, Landsat imagery.

Icy Bay, north of Kichyatt Point has been remapped by Austin Post (Post and Plafker, in preparation) using aerial photography taken by him and available from the World Data Center, Glaciology, U.S.G.S., Tacoma, Washington. The 1972 shoreline position is shown. Particularly important are the location of various glacier termini. The shoreline of the remainder of Icy Bay generally reflects the mean high water position of 1957, with some modification of the outer part of Riou Spit to a 1975 configuration. Along the outer coast (Gulf of Alaska) the summer, 1975 outlets of the braided-stream systems are plotted. These outlets shift constantly.

Major lakes and ponds on moraine and proflacial deposits are shown; some very small ponds were deleted. Active braided-stream channels also

shift constantly; representative position are shown. The portions of the outwash fans likely to be flooded by extreme high water are delineated by dotted lines. This dot pattern also encompasses some lagoonal areas. Margins of formerly-active fans are shown by dashed lines. Other nowvegetated fans are located between Fountain and Yana Streams and on the Icy Cape Foreland between Big and Little Rivers. These fans are not differentiated from till and bedrock on the map.

Active beach-spit systems are immediately adjacent to the shoreline; older, vegetated systems are shown with beach-ridge trends indicated by dashed lines. Particularly interesting is the large recurved-spit complex built into the former Icy Bay of Vancouver (now the Old Yahtse River).

Till and bedrock are undifferentiated on this map. Also included are various small, fluvial kame and esker deposits.

The larger airstrips are graded gravel or sand (local deposits); the smaller landing areas are available smooth, open areas. The improved strips are capable of handling aircraft at least as large as Twin Otters; the other strips are usable only by Cessna 180 or smaller-sized planes with experienced pilots. Much of the sandy intertidal beachface also can be used for landings.

Photograph locations are shown; viewing areas are within the polygons. Viewing direction is shown by the small arrows; figure numbers are tilted to reflect these directions. The geologic hazards and processes map falls within the dashed lines enclosing the east margin of Icy Bay.

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# TEXT TO ACCOMPANY PRELIMINARY BATHYMETRIC CHART OF ICY BAY, NORTHEAST GULF OF ALASKA

This chart is adapted directly from the latest edition of N.O.S. chart 16741, June 1974. Depths are recomputed to meters and contoured where density of data points is great enough. Contours interval is 20 meters except in shallow depths where supplemental 2, 5, 10, and 15 meter contours are added where feasible. Some shore features are modified in vicinity of the deltas along eastern Icy Bay. Names of various geologic and cultural features have been added. Provisional names are used for features not identified on published maps. Bottom-profile track lines are shown and identified by number, with an arrow indicating running direction. Each map and chart is subject to continual modification and updating as work progresses. This chart has an early draft of redefined detail on the New Yahtse and Kettlehole Deltas.

Contouring at the mouth of Icy Bay enhances the large arcuate shoal. This shoal is intrepreted to be an end moraine deposited by the Icy Bay lobe of the Guyot Glacier during its last maximum Neoglacial advance (Plafker and Miller, 1958; Miller, 1971; Post and Plafker, in preparation). The shallowest water depths (5, 10, and 15 m contours) represent the probable terminus of the Guyot as viewed by Russell in 1891 (Russell, 1893). The 2 meter contour near Pt. Ricu encloses an erosional platform, cut by waves in basal till of the 'clay bluffs'.

Depths in the Bay increase rapidly north of the arcuate ridge; paucity of data does not allow contouring. Interpretation of the bottom profiles is incomplete but they indicate a deep channel on the west side of the Bay and several shallower terraces on the east side of the Bay (see

bottom profiles for amplification). Particularly shallow, is the area east of Gull Island bounded by profiles 7 and 24. Maximum depths at lower low water are less than 5 meters with many shoals exposed at low tide. Another shallow area blocks the entrance to Riou Bay (labeled on location Map); water depth is generally less than 2 meters with large ablation-till boulders scattered about (i.e., Moraine Reef). No profiles were run in Riou Bay.

Seal Camp Harbor, used as a harbor of refuge by fishing boats and as a base for seismic operations in summer 1975, has a maximum depth of 11 meters MLLW across the entrance (Profile 8). By contrast, water depth off the New Yahtse and northern Kettlehole Deltas increases rapidly to 40-50 meters. Deep water is also present north of Caetani Delta, although supporting data are scanty.

In summary, deepest water (up to 70 m) in lower Icy Bay is on the west side, particularly near the Icy Bay Lumber Company dock. Deep water (40-50 m) also occurs off the New Yahtse and northern Kettlehole Deltas (probably Caetani Delta also), and north of Caetani Delta. Almost impassable waters exist east of Gull Island and at the entrance to Riou Bay. Seal Camp Harbor is deep enough (11 maximum) to accommodate moderate-draft ships but is rather cramped for manuvering.

## TEXT TO ACCOMPANY THE ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGIC MAP, EAST MARGIN OF ICY BAY, NORTHEAST GULF OF ALASKA

The base for this map is an uncontrolled photomosaic (2 photos) using vertical aerial photographs taken July 30, 1957. They were enlarged to a scale of 1:10,475, and detail was mapped directly off the photographs. Stereo pairs of the same view, at a scale of 1:41,900, were also used for the initial interpretation. Oblique aerial, and ground, photos taken during the summer of 1975 were used for additional interpretation and to document changes that had occurred since 1957. The shoreline configuration, particularly Point Riou, Riou spit, and the entire intertidal zone was adapted from N.O.S. chart 16741, June, 1974 edition. The end of Riou spit, Kettlehole Delta, and New Yahtse Delta have been further redrafted to conform to 1975 shoreline detail.

The area was mapped in part and field-checked during the summer of 1975, but since this check predated the generation of much of the map from aerial photos, some questions concerning map detail raised by laboratory study are unasnwered in this report. Particularly puzzling is the till complex and fans in the vicinity of Point Riou.

The eastern margin of Icy Bay south of Kageet Point can be divided into a number of zones based on various combinations of depositional processes. These processes may be active at present, or have been active in the past. Each process, or combination of processes, can be assigned to a unique depositional system or combination of depositional systems. The deposits or products resulting from the process can also be assigned to a depositional system or environment. The map explanation is organized into a depositional systems framework.

As stated above, the map area may be divided into zones based on a technique similar to that outlined by Hayes and others (1973). The zones from north to south, are:

- 1) Bedrock hills, veneered with till.
- 2) Till plain. Flowtill was dominant in this zone.
- Active and abandoned braided-stream and fan delta systems dissecting a moraine complex.
- Large moraine system with associated ice-marginal fluvial deposits. Gull Island is included. End moraine is important.
- 5) Point Riou moraine and fan complex.
- 6) Riou spit; a beach-spit system.
- 7) Large outwash fan fan delta system (Old Yahtse River), including the marginal fans on the western boundary of the major system.

#### Bedrock hills (Chaix Hills area)

This zone extends from Taan Fiord south into the map area to the old road leading to Chaix Hills airstrip. It is lowest portion of the Chaix Hills. The bedrock (BXt), Yakataga Formation of Tertiary age (Plafker, 1967), is veneered with till. The area is heavily vegetated and the till appears stable. This area was not field checked.

#### Till plain (Chaix Hills area)

The plain is bounded on the north by the Chaix Hills and on the south and east by the Caetani River fluvial-deltaic system. The till apron extending toward Kageet Point, between the bedrock hill and Icy Bay, is included.

Flowtill (Tfi) underlies a large portion of the area, and is most-

ly inactive at the present time. Limited activity usually takes the form of slow downslope creep. The basal till (Tb) exhibits greater stability. End moraine (Tem) is identified on the basis of hilly topography.

The beach system (BSag) is a simple gravel berm subject to overwash during severe storms.

Fluvial-fan delta and moraine complex (New Yahtse River area)

This zone encompasses the Caetani, New Yahtse, and Kettlehole fluvial deltaic systems and various morainal bodies. New Yahtse River is the only active fluvial system; it receives meltwater from a fountain source as well as ice-marginal drainage from the Caetani River system. Changes in the Malaspina Glacier margin due to ice stagnation and disintegration allowed the Caetani drainage to be rerouted into New Yahtse River, sometime between 1969 and 1975. This resulted in the Caetani proglacial channel system and delta being abandoned except for very high flood flows.

Both abandoned and active fluvial-deltaic systems lie between dissected higher till topography, and are also incised into their own older fluvial sequences. This is illustrated by the New Yahtse River. Oldest deposits of the sequence  $(FAny_4)$  are highest, and are covered by dense cottonwood and young spruce vegetation. Each successively younger unit is successively lower and has a corresponding less dense vegetation cover. The active fan  $(FAny_1)$  and channel  $(FAny_c)$  system is shifting slowly and cutting into older outwash and till deposits. The Caetani River has a similar age succession.

The Kettlehole fluvial-deltaic system is also abandoned and is covered by moderate to dense alder and cottonwood growth (FIk). The

abandoned channel (FIu) that intersects the New Yahtse River on the north side may correlate with Kettlehole outwash, but this is not certain. Both of these fluvial surfaces are higher (+6 m) than present active streams, and thus would not be affected by glacier-burst floods.

However, both the New Yahtse and Kettlehole systems have buriedice localities, with presently-active ground cracking and formation of ponds (LPi) by ground subsidence.

Shoreline systems consist of low gravel spits (BSag), subject to storm overwash, with wide, intertidal, gravel platforms (ITf) seaward of the spits. The gravel platform is an erosional wave-modified terrace on the inactive Kettlehole Delta, but is composed od swash-modified fluvial, longitudinal bars on the active New Yahtse Delta. A grassy area (BSo) subject to overwash is present behind the Kettlehole Delta spits.

The moraine system near the Malaspina Glacier is dominated by large ice masses (SIb and SIv), and active flowtill areas (Tfa), underlain by ice blocks. Lakes (LPa) are developing in this terrain. Separated from this complex by the abandoned fluvial channel (FIu) is an older moraine system that is a combination of basal (Tb) and ablation (Ta) till, as well as end moraine topography (Tem). This linear body probably extended through the present New Yahtse River area and connected with the end moraine south of the river. Vegetation consists of dense cottonwood and young spruce.

Moraine and associated ice-marginal fluvial systems (Seal Camp Harbor area)

The main body in this complex is an elongate till ridge that extends northeast to southwest from east of Kettlehole Delta to Riou Bay. Most

prominent are the low hills of the end moraine (Tem), marking the latest Neoglacial advance of the Icy Bay lobe of the Guyot Glacier (Plafter and Miller, 1958). Extensive bodies of ablation till (Ta) flank the end moraine hills. This till complex includes Gull Island, and the intertidal shoals between Gull Island and the mainland.

Associated with the till are isolated bodies of ice-marginal fluvial sediment (FMu) probably formed when the Icy Bay lobe began retreating from its last maximum advance.

Shoreline systems include both small sandy (BSa<sub>S</sub>) and gravel (BSag) berms and sandy, vegetated overwash (BSo). Overwash deposits tie 'Moraine Island' to the mainland. An intertidal gravel platform (ITg) is important in this area. It is a wave-cut erosional feature that is particularly well-defined at the entrance to Seal Camp Harbor, and as shoals east of Gull Island.

Point Riou moraine and fan complex (Pt. Riou area)

This zone is difficult to interpret. It extends south, from the morainal ridge of the last zone, to the Gulf of Alaska. Plafker and Miller (1958) interpret the area as dunes (?), but cliffs along the coast are basal till, overlain by some fluvial sediment; but mainly overlain by till-like material formed into a conspicuous northwest-southeast linear pattern of unknown origin (Tpr). Some fluvial systems are also included in this zone, but interpretation is not yet complete so no further comment will be made at this time.

The shoreline is characterized by an eroding till cliff flanked in a seaward direction by an erosional, till platform. A sandy berm is present in places.

Riou Spit

This large spit is the western terminus of the longshore-drift system that reaches back to Sitkagi Bluffs and Fountain Stream. The bulbous portion is a series of grassy dune ridges (BSv) and unvegetated, multiple berm-ridges ( $BSa_s$ ). The connection to Point Riou is receding rapidly into Riou Bay due to berm erosion and active overwash during winter storms.

#### Old Yahtse River fluvial-deltaic system

Old Yahtse River, and included marginal fans, is bounded on the northeast by the Malaspina Glacier and on the west by the long morainal ridge of the Seal Camp Harbor area. This system is unique in that it is the only fluvial system in the map area that does not, or did not, discharge into Icy Bay. The crest of the morainal ridge marks a drainage divide. The small fountain at the apex of the Old Yahtse fan marks the drainage divide at that location. Meltwater from this fountain flows into the New Yahtse River.

The upper Old Yahtse is a sloping gravel plain (Floy) with pronounced bar and channel topography. It is well drained and covered with dense cottonwood and young spruce growth. Average maximum clast size at the New Yahtse Airstrip is about 15 cm.

# TEXT TO ACCOMPANY THE GEOLOGIC HAZARDS AND PROCESSES MAP, ICY BAY AND WEST MALASPINA FORELAND AREA, NORTHEAST GULF OF ALASKA

The base is the same as that used for the Location Map, refer to the text that accompanies that map for further explanation, concerning this type of information.

This map represents an interpretive summary of data presented on the other maps, in the figures, and in the main body of the report. The geologic hazards and processes deemed important for consideration are:

- 1) Glacier-burst floods (jokulhlaups)
- 2) Glacier surges
- 3) Buried ice blocks and stagnant ice masses
- 4) Unstable ground (onshore and subtidal)
- 5) Coastal erosion
- 6) Drift ice from actively calving glaciers

#### Glacier-burst floods

The solid arrows indicate subglacial and ice-marginal drainageways that can carry floodwater from emptying ice-marginal lakes. Post and Mayo (1971) present data on glacier-burst flooding that includes the West Malaspina Foreland. The interpretations given here differ slightly from theirs.

The flood waters from Oily Lake drain subglacially beneath the large medial moraine that forms the boundary between the Agassiz and Seward lobes of the Malaspina Glacier. The major discharge emerges at the fountain of Yana Stream, and through a tunnel 7 km west of the Yana.

Other points where Oily Lake flood water emerges are: 5 km west of Yana Stream, and probably at the deltas in Seward Lake. Landsat imagery taken July 1, 1974 shows Oily Lake almost empty, but it had begun to refill in July 1975.

Proglacial drainage-ways for Oily Lake water are down Yana Stream and into the Shoal Bay Lakes. Flood water from the Shoal Bay area escapes back into Yana Stream, or if discharge is large enough, into the stream just east of the old recurved spit complex. Old Yahtse lagoon would probably not be flooded because high discharges tend to breach the active barrier-spit immediately in front of the flooded area (based on observations in Iceland).

Many of the Shoal Bay lakes can be seen to be clouded with suspended sediment on the Landsat images, (July, 1974) and they remained that way through the summer of 1975.

Flood water from Seward Lake drains down Fountain Stream. A possible subglacial channel for Oily Lake water is beneath the lower Agassiz lobe to a small fountain 2 km south of New Yahtse fountain, and from there into the New Yahtse system.

Drainage from the Agassiz Lakes is postulated to follow a subglacial path around the corner of the Chaix Hills and into the marginal Caetani River system. Flow is diverted along the Malaspina Glacier and into the New Yahtse River. Overflow would reoccupy the proglacial Caetani River. Kettlehole Delta would not be flooded because the New Yahtse channel is incised (+6 m) below the abandoned Kettlehole fluvial-channel system.

#### Glacier Surges

The western Malaspina Glacier is characterized by a passive to stag-

nant, disintegrating ice margin that is debris-covered and may be vegetated. The only exception is in the vicinity of the Chaix Hills airstrip. Here, the margin of the Agassiz lobe shows a history of fluctuation (oblique aerial photography, Post, 1963, 1964, 1969, 1972; Boothroyd, 1975). The margin was stagnant and distintegrating in 1969 but had advanced and developed a steep terminus by 1972. This terminus was debris-free and steeply sloping when visited in 1975. However, this advance is not a surge.

The Icy Bay lobe of the Guyot Glacier has undergone a number of catastrophic advances and retreats during Neoglacial time that are excellently detailed by Post and Plafker (in preparation). The position of the terminus at the height of the last Neoglacial advance (1904), lay on the shoals at the mouth of Icy Bay. Retreat began soon after and the margin had receded to Gull Island by 1916 (Brooks and others, 1916) and to Kichyatt Point by 1938 (Post and Lachapelle, 1971). The ice margin was at Kageet Point in 1957 (vertical aerial photos) and thereafter separated into the 3 component glaciers, Tyndall, Yahtse, and Guyot. The icemargin shown on the map represents the 1972 position as mapped by Post.

All three ice sheets are still receding. A readvance is possible, but it probably would not be nearly as rapid as the retreat. Short-term surges are possible, but a very large volume of ice would be required to push the margin south of Kageet Point.

#### Buried ice blocks and stagnant ice masses

Large stagnant ice masses presently exist on the Yahtse Foreland; east of Kageet Point; and along the Malaspina Glacier margin between Caetani and New Yahtse River. The ice is debris-covered and appears as

hilly, hummocky topography.

Ground cracking and subsidence has recently occurred on the Kettlehole and New Yahtse Deltas. It is occurring at present at the junction of the New Yahtse and Kettlehole fluvial channels, and between the small fountain (2 km south of New Yahtse) and the New Yahtse River. This process is the result of melting of buried ice blocks. Ground subsidence due to melting of buried ice is distinguished from flow-till activity, on, and around, stagnant ice masses, by a greater intensity of the latter process.

#### Unstable Ground

This category includes mass movement of flowtill, either in the form of creep or debris-flow; and catastrophic slumping of fan-delta fronts.

Presently-active flowtill processes occur on most of the Yahtse Foreland; around the stagnant ice mass east of Kageet Point; and around the lakes in front of the Malaspina margin, between New Yahtse and Caetani Rivers.

The steep fronts of the northern part of Kettlehole Delta, New Yahtse Delta, and Caetani Delta may be subject to catastrophic slope failure as a normal depositional process.

Possible slump blocks can be seen on the bottom profiles run off the deltas. The entire delta front could fail during a severe earthquake, similar to what occurred at Valdez during the 1964 earthquake.

An additional aspect of ground stability, not evaluated in this report is the relative stability, or instability, of unconsolidated sediment over the entire West Malaspina Foreland during a severe earthquake.

Eyewitnesses reported ground cracking and sand fountaining at the Old Yahtse River during the 1958 Lituya Bay earthquake. This earthquake could be a possible explanation for the ground cracking on the New Yahtse Delta. These cracks appear quite similar to some observed on the Valdez River Delta that did result from ground shaking in 1964.

#### Coastal erosion

Coastal erosion, particularly on the outer coast, is not a specific topic of this part of the study but is included because of its effect on the character of the terrain around Point Riou. The shoreline as of 1957 map was transferred from the base map, the 1975 shoreline was compiled from the 1974 N.O.S. chart and 1975 field observations. During this interval (1957-1975) the bluffs at Point Rious receded about 15 meters/year for a total of over 250 meters.

An extensive erosional-till platform has been developed and it extends into the shallow subtidal zone.

#### Drift ice

The major source of ice in Icy Bay is from Yahtse Glacier and from Guyot terminus adjacent the Guyot Hills. Lesser amounts are contributed by Tyndall Glacier and the Guyot lobes ending in Tsaa Fiord. The largest iceberg observed during the summer of 1975 measured 50 by 50 by 6 meters (projecting above the sea surface). Most bergs are much smaller, averaging about 10 by 10 by 2 meters and smaller. Small ice chunks (1 by 1 meter), that float just at the water surface are ubiquitous adjacent to ice streams, and are a hazard to small boats.

The ice-stream position shown on the map is typical and approximates

that seen on July 1, 1974 Landsat imagery. Selected Landsat images taken during various seasons in 1972, 1973, and 1974, show a similar ice configuration. Observations during the summer of 1975 (aerial and ground) indicate that heavy ice is the rule in the upper Bay. Ice is carried into the mid and lower Bay at intervals of uncertain periodicity, but about every 7-12 days. Tidal currents, as well as wind, appear to play an important role in the ice movement.

Once in the mid and lower Bay, ice is dispersed from the main stream to 3 major locations. In decreasing order of importance, these are: 1) Gull Island; 2) north of Caetani Delta; and 3) the beach south of Icy Bay Lumber Company dock. The ice then breaks up and melts within several days.

#### General

Various features such as, the location of bedrock adjacent to the Bay margin, the general character of the Foreland around Seal Camp Harbor, and known deep and shallow-water areas in the Bay, are indicated on the map.

#### EXPLANATORY TEXT TO ACCOMPANY THE BOTTOM PROFILES

These profiles were obtained using a Bludworth EM430SS bottom profiler mounted on a 5 meter Zodiac rubber boat. Tracklines are shown on the preliminary bathymetric map. All profiles were run at constant boat speed; chart speed was varied for different profiles for resolution purposes. Mean lower low water and mean high water lines on each diagram were calculated from standard tide tables. No tide gauge records were available. The xerox reproduction has introduced a slight distortion in some profiles. Actual data reduction is done using the original profiles.

Analysis of the profiles is incomplete, thus discussion will be limited to a few comments on various bottom morphologies or geographic areas.

Deep-water areas: Profiles 1, 2, 6, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23).

Locations: Off Icy Bay Lumber Company dock; in front of Caetani, New Yahtse, and northeast of Kettlehole Deltas.

Shallow-water areas: Profiles 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 23, and 24).

Locations: East of Gull Island; entrance to Riou Bay; directly off Point Riou and Icy Cape.

Present Harbor: Profile 8).

Location: Seal Camp Harbor.

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## APPENDICES

APPENDIX I.

Weather data and drift-ice observations

Date	Time	W (m/s Speed	ind sec) Dir	Temp °C	Hum	Pres MB	Preci 08 <sup>00</sup> 20 <sup>00</sup>	pitati 2000 0800	ion (mm) Tot Past 24 Hrs.	C Lo Elev	loud w	Cover Me Elev	(E d. %	levM) High Elev %	Vis. Km	Conditions	Bay Intensity	y Ice Location UML	Remarks
15 June	0800	Caim						Ň	. N	200m	00				.4-7	Drifting Fog	Heavy	× ×	lce Grounded East Side of Bay
	2000	2.5	265				N		-	450	SC	1800	Br .4			Bright Sun Over Bay			
16	0800	1.5	000	_ <u>`</u>				N	N		,	900	0C		> 25	Blue Sky Over Guyot Glacier	Mod	×	No New Ice East Bay
	20 <sup>00</sup>	2.5	270				Ň			600	00				>25	OC Over Bay & Malaspina Glac.			Mountains Clear
17	0800	3.5	350					N	N	600	00				725	Top of Mt. St. Elias Clear	Неаvy	×	Some Ice West Side of Bay
	20 <sup>00</sup>	2 <b>.</b> 5 ·	270				N			600	Br .6	2400	SC		>25		Light	×	Grounded Ice
18	0800	2.5	340	11.0	87	1017.5		N	N	200	oc				8	Fog	Неату	×	Ice Moving Down Bay
174	2000	2.5	270	10.5	94	1010	N			Clear					>25	600 OC, BR Ma- laspina Glac. & Icy Cape			
19	0800	1.0	350	8.0	100	1011		1.3	1.3	450	oc				8	Fog, L-M Rain			
	2000	2.5-3.5	240	7.5	100	1011	3.0			200	0C •9	900	.9		<1.5	Fog, L Rain	Неату	×	Isolated Lg. Bergs Off Kettle Hole & Yahtse
20	0800	1.0	065	6.8	93	1010		0.6	3.6	300	OC				12	L Rain			
	20 <sup>00</sup>	2.5	010	6.0	90	1012.5	6.9			300	SC	1500	oc		20-25	VL Rain	Heavy	×	Ice Streaming Down Center of Bay
21	0800	0-1.5	315	7.0	84	1013.5		N	6.9	600	sç • I				>25	Lenticular Cloud Mt St El- ias & Mt. Cook	Неаvy	× ×	Ice Choked Middle & West Side
	20 <sup>00</sup>	Calm		9.5	86	1015	N			300	SC	900	ос			Fog Over Bay VL Rain			*Aerial Photos, Bay

.

Date	Time	Wi (m/s Speed	nd Gec) Dir	Temp °C	Hum	Pres MB	Preci 0800 2000	pitatio 2000 0800	on (mm) Tot Past 24 Hrs.	C Lo Elev	loud w	Cover Me Elev	d.	Elev M) High Elev 💈	Vis. Km	Conditions	Bay Intensity	lce Location U M L	Remarks
22 June	08 <sup>00</sup>	Calm		7.5	89	1012.5		0.2	0.2			1100	00		<b>~</b> 25		1	(	
	20 <sup>00</sup>	1.5	350	9.0	78	1013	N					1100	00		> 25				
23	0800	2.5-3.5	060	6.8	90	1007.5		4.8	4.8			900	00		3-12	L Rain Showers	Heavy	××	Grounded Ice East
	20 <sup>00</sup>	2.5-4.5	040	7.5	84	1002	1.8					<sup>′</sup> 900	OC		5-15	L Rain Showers & Fog	Mod	<b>×</b>	Isolated Lg Bergs
24	0800	2.5-4.5	035	7.8	86	1002		6.8	8.6			1100	oc		5-12	L-M Rain Show- ers			
	20 <sup>00</sup>	1.0	040	10.0	80	1005.5	1.3			900	SC	1800	oc				Mod	×	Lg Grounded Bergs Bird Is. & Shoals
25	0800	0.5	000	7.5	85	1008		N	1.3			1400	Br •4		<b>7</b> 40			:	
	20 <sup>00</sup>	2.5	020	10.0	97	1012	2.4			<100	OC				5-1.0	Fog & M Rain			*Bay Ice Photos Bird Is.
26	08 <sup>00</sup>	1.0	000	7.0	95	1013		3.3	5.7	200	BR	450	00		5	Fog & L Rain			· · · · ·
a I	20 <sup>00</sup>	0.5	240	11.8	80	1011.5	N			450	SC	1200	sc		<b>&gt;</b> 40	450 OC Over Malaspina Glac	•		
27	0800	1.5	350	8.5	83	1010		N	N	600	SC			+6000 SC			Light	×	Little Ice in Low-
	20 <sup>00</sup>	Calm		11.2	86	1011	N ·			300	SC			+6000 SC	>40	+Good Cirrus Inc, L Fog on Bay		:	er bay
28	0800	1.5	005	8.5	83	1012.5		N	N	30	00				40.5	Heavy Fog	-		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	0930									300	00				8	Fog Lifting		:	
	1600													+6000 BR	740	Cirrus Only			×
	2000	0.5	000	11.0	88	1013	N			60	OC				3	Heavy Fog	Light	×	No New Ice in Mid- dle Bay Isolated Lg Bergs
Date	Time	k (m/s Speed	(ind sec) Dir	Temp °C	Hum	Pres MB	Preci 0800 ,2000	pitati 2000 0800	on (mm) Tot Past 24 Hrs.	C Lo Elev	loud w	Cover (E Med. Elev %	lev M) High Elev %	Vis. Km	Conditions	Bay Intensity	lce Location UML	Remarks	
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29 June	0800	1.5	050	8.8	80	1015		N	· N	600	oc			15-20		-			
	20 <sup>00</sup>	1.5	080	12.5	77	1017	N					900 <sup>B</sup> 5						*Aerial Photos Bay Ice, 1500	
30	0800	2.5	100	8.9	93	1012.5		6,5	6.5	60-150	) OC	,		1-3	L-M Rain Showers				
	2000	3.5	050	7.7	97	1010	29.7			150	00			3	M-H Rain				
l July	0800	2,5-3.5	060	9.0	94	1008		42.3	72.0	150	OC			3,	L Rain Show- ers				
	2000	4.5-5.5	055	8.9	90	1009	12.7												
2	0800	0.5-1.5	000	8.0	89.5	1012		0.3	13.0	450	SC • I			> 25					
				1						900	SC •4	1700 OC							
17	1030											1700 BR		⇒ 25					
6	2000			11.1	73	1011	N			Clear				>40		Heavy	×	*Aerial Photos Bay	
3	0800	1.5-2.5	055	10.8	74	1012		N	N	450	SC	1500 OC		35		M-L	×	Ice Back Up Bay	
	2000	0.5-1.5	055	11.0	96	1012	17.0			< 100	OC			1-3	M-H Rain Showers; Be- gan 1600				
4	0800	0.5-1	105	8.2	96.5	1017		6.1	23.1	450	SC	750 OC		5-12	L Rain Show-				
	2000									450	ос			3-8	Mod Rain Showers				
5	0800			6.0	94	1022.5			5.8										
	2000	0.5	000	11.0	75	1023	N			Clear				40	450 SC Over Malaspina Gla	ac.			

Date	Time	Wi (m/s Speed	ind sec) Dir	Temp	Hum	Pres MB	Preci 0800 2000	ipitati 2000 0800	on (mm) Tot Past 24 Hrs.	C Lo Elev	Cloud Sw	Cover () Med. Elev <b>%</b>	Elev M) Hi Elev	gh	Vis. Km	Conditions	Bay Intensity	Ice Location UML	Remark <b>s</b>
6 July	0800	Calm		9.5	90	1023		N	N	< 30	ос				2-30	Ground Fog Bro- ken Tops 300			
	20 <sup>00</sup>	Calm		10.5	92	1022	N			< 30	ос				< 0.5	Heavy Fog			
7	0800	0.5	305	9.4	92	1018		N	N			,	+6000	Br .5	> 40	Some Ground Fog in Bay	Light	x x	Little Ice In Bay
	2000	Calm		13.0	58	1012.5	N						+6000	SC •2	7 40	Some Ground Fog In Bay SC Cirru	s I		
8	0800	Calm		10.5	80	1010		N	N				+6000	SC	7 40	Cirrus Some Haze	Heavy	<b>X</b> . :	Tongue of Ice Bgng to Move Down West Bay
177	20 <sup>00</sup>	2.0-3.5	020	19.8	48	1012.5	N						+6000	SC	> 40	Lenticular Cloud Mt. Augus ta, Fog Mouth o Bay	Heavy - f 	× ×	lce Moving Dn Bay with Ebb Tide to Bird Island
9	0800	1.0	240	12.0	82	1015		N	N				3600	sç •4	> 40	Cirrocumulus To Mt. St. Elias i Clouds	p Heavy n	× ×	*Ice Photos from Bird Is. Ice Grounded at Lum-
	2000	3.5	015	14.0	61	1013	N						3000	sç •3	> 40	Cirrocumulus			Is. H Wind & Tide Moved Ice Spring Tide
10	08 <sup>00</sup>	0.5	350	12.0	67	1012		N	N	 Ciear					> 40				*Aerial Photos of Bay Ice
	20 <sup>00</sup>	2.0	020	15.0	59	1013	N						+6000	sc ء ۔ ا	> 40				
11	0800	2.5	040	10.5	82	1015		N	N	750	oc				> 30	Clear Over High Mountains			
	2000	0.5-1.5	070	9.1	97	1017	1.8			450	00				8	L Rain and Fog, Rain Began 1530	)		×
12	08 <del>00</del>	Caim		7.5	90	1015		N	1.8	300	SC	1800 Br			30	Cloud Deck Over Malaspina Glac.	•		
	2000	1.5	290	10.0	80	1010	N			300	00				G	Fog, Rain Be- ginning			

.

Date	Time	Wi (m/s Speed	nd ec) Dir	Temp OC	Hum	Pres MB	Preci 08 <sup>00</sup> 20 <sup>00</sup>	pitati 2000 0800	on (mm) Tot Past 24 Hrs.	C Lo Elev	loud w	Cover Me Elev	(۱ d. 1	Eley M) H Elev	igh %	Vis. Km	Conditions	Bay Intensity	Ice Location UML	Remarks
13 July	08 <sup>00</sup>	Calm		8.5	94	1009		21.2	21.2	600	BR					>40	H Rain Past 12 Hrs Storm Breaking Up	·		
;	20 <sup>00</sup>	Calm		13.8	70	1009	N							3000	Br .6	30				
14	0800	0.5	345	10.5	80	1005		N	N			Í 500	Br .8			30		Heavy	× ×	
· .	2000			10.0	73	1002	N									30		M-L	×	
15	0800			8.0	97	1001		12.5	12.5	750	00					25				
	2000	3.5-4.5	100	12.0	88	1001	9.1			750	OC					< 8	M Rain Showers Strong Wind at Night, 8			
16	0800	1.5-2.5	040	10.0	93	1001		6.4	15.5	850	00					12	L Rain			
	2000	0.5	005	10.0	95	1002	0.5			•		1800	ос	ï		>25		Неаvу	×	Heavy Ice Upper Third of Bay
17	0800	Calm		9.0	90	1002		N	0.5			1800	Br .8	+3000	Br	>25	OC Over Bay	Неаvу	. <b>x</b>	Some Lg Bergs Near Bird Is, Most In Upper 1/3 of Bay
178	2000	0.5	000	12.2	71	1002.5	N					1800	sc	+6000	sc		Fog @ 300 Form- ing Rapidly	Неаvy	×	Much Grounded Ice at Bird Is, Lg Berg in Mid Bay
18	0800	1.5-2.5	035	10.0	83	1002		N	N					4500	Br	30	Fog Mouth of Bay	Неаvy	×	Much Ice Mid Bay Around Bird Is.
	2000	Calm		14.0	81	1004.5	N					1100	sc	1600	ос	30	VL Rain			
19	0800	Calm		9.5	92	1005		5.8	5,8	300	SC	1100	sc	1800	00			Light	×	Few Lg Bergs in Mid Bay
	2000	2.5	000	10.0	95	1008.5	2.0					1100	oc			1-8	Mod Rain Show- ers and Fog			

÷

Date	Time	Wi (m/s Speed	nd ec) Dir	Temp °C	Hum	Pres MB	Preci 0800 2000	pitatio 20 <sup>00</sup> 08 <sup>00</sup>	on (mm) Tot Past 24 Hrs.	C Lo Elev	loud w	Cover Me Elev	4. چ	lev M H Elev	) igh	Vis. Km	Conditions	Bay Intensity	lce Location U M L	Remarks
20 July	08∞ 20∞	1.0	000	8.0	89	1009	0.25	1.0	3.0	300 800	sc oc	1100	oc			_	Showers at Base of Mts.		₹.	
21	08 <sup>00</sup> 20 <sup>00</sup>	1.0	000 000	7.5	91 85	1007.5	2.5	0.55	0.8	400 600	SC BR	,1100 1200	oc oc			25 25	Scattered M Rain Showers	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
22	03 <sup>00</sup> 20 <sup>00</sup>	1.5-2.5	020 020	8.0 13.0	82.5 59	1012	N	2.6	5.1	300	SC	900	Br .8	6000	sc	7 30		Mod Heavy	×	Some Lg Bergs In Mid Bay Ice Tongue Bgng to Move Dn Bay Opposite Kichyatt Point
<sup>23</sup> 179	08 <sup>00</sup> 20 <sup>00</sup>	1.5-2.5 2.4-3.5	000 060	10.2	68 98	1001	11.2	0.5	0.5	300	oc	2000	0C			3-12	L Rain Show- .ers M-H Rain Showers & Fog	Mod	×	Aerial Photos of Bay Ice Lg Bergs in Mid Bay
24	08 <sup>00</sup>	2.5-3.5	080 040	9.0 10.0	86 85	1002.5	1.5	5.6	16.8			1100	sc oc	1800	OC	15	L Rain Show- ers L Rain Show- ers	Ligh†	×	Few Lg Bergs Mid Bay
25	08 <sup>00</sup>	2.5-3.5	060	10.0	80	1003	1.0	0.5	2.0			1100	Br .5 Br	1800	ос ос		L-M Rain Shrs Scattered L Rain Showers	Light	×	Few Lg Bergs Mid Bay
26	0800 20 <sup>00</sup>	Calm I.O	020	11.0	76 66	1002	N	0.3	1.3	Clear				2700	Bg	740 725	600 SC Over Malaspina Glac	Light Heavy	× × ×	Few Lg Bergs Mid Bay Ice at Kichyatt Pt; SC Bergs Mid Bay

•

Date	Time	Wi (m/s Speed	nd sec) Dir	Temp °C	Hum	Pres MB	Prec i 08 <sup>00</sup> 20 <sup>00</sup>	pitatio 2000 0800	on (mm) Tot Past 24 Hrs.	C Lo Elev	loud w	Cover Me Elev	() d. %	Elev M) High Elev \$	Vis. Km	Conditions	Bay Intensity	lce Location UML	Remarks
27 July	0800			9.0	86	1005		N	N	900	BF .5				725	200 SC near Chaix Hills	Heavy	×	lce Tongue Just Past Kichyatt Point
	2000	Calm		9.3	94	1007.5	0.4			300	oc				15	L Rain & Fog			
28	0800	Calm		9,0	85	1009		0.6	1.0	900	00	7			30	100 BR Over Malaspina Glac	Heavy	×	lce Tongue to Icy Bay Lumber Co Dock, West Bay
:	20 <sup>00</sup>	Calm		9.8	83	1010	0.25			300	00				25		Неаvу	×	Ice Tongue turning to ward Kettle Hole Delta, East Side of Bay
29	08 <sup>00</sup>	1.0	000	11.1	78	1013		N	0.25			1500	Br .9		30		Heavy	×	Ice Drifting to East Side of Bay
18(	20 <sup>00</sup>	2.5	040	11.0	80	1012	N			900	oc				30		i		
30	0800	4.5-6.0	070	9.0	90	1007.5		7.4	7.4	100	OC				3	M Rain & Fog	Heavy	×	ice Spreading Over En- tire Mid Bay
	20 <sup>00</sup>			10.0	97	1010	8.4			100	oc				2-3	M Rain & Fog	Неаvy	<b>x</b> . <b>X</b>	Dense Ice of Yahtze & Caetani Deltas
31	0800	1.5-2.5	020	8.0	93	1011	*	17.5	25.9	300	SC	900	oc		8-12	L Rain Showrs			
	20 <sup>00</sup>	1.0	020	10.0	95	1015	5.3					1200	oc		15	L Rain & Fog			
l Aug	0800	1.0	000	8.0	95	1015		0.5	5.8			1800	oc		25	900 SC Over Icy Cape	Light	× ×	Little Ice In Bay
	20 <sup>00</sup>			11.4	76	1015	N .							+6000 SC	7 30	Snow Plume Mt St Elias Good SC Over Icy	Light	× ×	Almost No Ice In Bay
2	0800	1.0	020	8.3	80	1015		N	N	900	SC .1				725	Sc Near Mtns	Heavy	×	Much Ice Yahtse Glac to Kickyatt Point
	2000	Calm		12.5	72	1014	N			Clear					>30	300 SC Over Icy Cape & Malaspina Glac	Неаvу	× ×	lce Tongue into Mid Bay *Aerial Photos of Bay Ice

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Date	Time	W (m/ Speed	ind sec) Dir	Temp	Hum	Pres MB	Preci 0800 20 <sup>00</sup>	ipitati 20 <sup>00</sup> 08 <sup>00</sup>	on (mm) Tot Past 24 Hrs.	C Lo Elev	Cloud w %	Cover Me Elev	- ( ed. %	Elev M) Hig Elev	gh %	Vis. Km	Conditions	Bay Intensity	Ice Location UML	Remarks
3 Aug	08 <sup>00</sup> 20 <sup>00</sup>	Calm 0.5-1.0	000	8.0	88 62	1012.5	N	N	N	Clear				+6000	sc	7 25	600 SC Over Icy Cape & Malaspina Glac	Неаvу	* ×	Ice Tongue Curled up to Yahtse Delta
	a.00											, 								*Aerial Photos of Bay
4	0800	Calm		11.5	66	1004		N	N	Clear						740		Heavy	××	Bay Choked with Ice
	2000	2.5	015	13.0	59	1002	N			Clear						7 40			<u></u>	
5	0800	Calm		11.2	65	1000		N	N			5200	SC	6000	oc		Cloud Cover Overspread @ 0400			
18	20 <sup>00</sup>	1.5	045	11.0	86	1000	0.8			600	SC	1500	oċ	-		12-15	L Rain Shrs Began @ 13 <sup>00</sup>			
6	08 <sup>00</sup>	Caim		7.0	90	1001		1.0	1.8	Clear						7 40	Clouds Off- shore	Mod	×	Lg Bergs Near Deltas Main Pack Thinning
	20 <sup>00</sup>	Calm		11.5	68	1002	N							6000		> 25	Fog Patches	Heavy	××	Giant Berg from Giac near Quyot Hills
7	08 <sup>00</sup>	   , 5-2.5	050	9.0	90	1003.5		т	Ţ	600	SC	1500	BR	2400	BR	25		Light	×	Ice Gone from Mid Bay Back to Upper Bay?
	20 <sup>00</sup> 2	2.5-3.0	050	11.0	92.5	1007.5	1.3					1100	Br .9			15	L Rain Shrs., Scattered			
8	0800	2.5	050	9.0	91	1008.5		0.7	2.0	750	OC					11				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	20 <sup>00</sup>	2.5	050	10.0	91	1008	3.6					1100	oc	-		12	L Rain Shrs.			
9	0800	1.0	020	8.0	96	1007		6.1	9.7			1200	00			25	VL Rain Shrs	·		
	2000	1.0	020	9.2	78	1005.5	0.25					1500	8r .7			30		Mod	××	Narrow Ice Tongue Past Bird Is close to Is.

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Date	Time	W (m/s Speed	ind sec) Dir	Temp °C	Hum	Pres MB	Preci 08 <sup>00</sup> 20 <sup>00</sup>	pitatic 20 <sup>00</sup> 08 <sup>00</sup>	on (mm) Tot Past 24 H <b>rs.</b>	Lo Elev	Cloud w %	Cover Ma Elev	- (E ed. %	lev-M) High Elev %	Vis. KM	Conditions	Bay Ice Intensity Location UML	Remarks
10 Aug	0800	Calm		7.0	93	1008.5		N	0.25	900	Br .8	+1800	oc		25	450 SC Near Chaix Hills		Giant Berg Aground on Yahtse Delta
	20 <sup>00</sup>	0.5	000	9.8	81	1011	N			600	SC	1500	Br .8					
11	0800	1.5	040	7.0	95	1015		3.6	3.6	100	OC				2	Mod Rain & Fog		Giant Berg Still Aground
1	20 <sup>00</sup>	1.5	045				11.9					1100	BR		25	Rain Ended @ 1800		Giant Berg Broken into Smaller Berg

NOTE: BIRD ISLAND = GULL ISLAND

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SC - SCATTERED BR - BROKEN

OC - OVERCAST

U- UPPER M- MID

L- LOWER

# APPENDIX II

# Reprint:

Boothroyd, Jon C., and Ashley, Gail M., 1975, Processes, bar morphology, and sedimentary structures on braided outwash fans, northeast Gulf of Alaska: p. 193-222 in McDonald, B.C. and Jopling, A. V. <u>ed</u>., Glaciofluvial and glaciolacusturine sedimentation, Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists Spec. Pub. No. 23, 320 pp.

# PROCESSES, BAR MORPHOLOGY, AND SEDIMENTARY STRUCTURES ON BRAIDED OUTWASH FANS, NORTHEASTERN GULF OF ALASKA<sup>1</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

The Scott and Yana outwash fans on the northeastern Gulf of Alaska exhibit a succession of facies from glacier terminus to tidewater that are each characterized by differences of gradient, clast size, bar morphology, and sedimentary structures. The upper fan has steep gradients (as much as 17.6 m/km), large maximum clast size (>10 cm), and longitudinal bars. The midfan has gentler gradients (2 to 6 m/km), clast size ranging from less than 10 cm to sand, and predominantly longitudinal bars. The lower fan, a sand area, has gradients less than 2m/km, longitudinal and linguoid bars in braided reaches, and point and lateral bars in meandering reaches.

The longitudinal bars of the upper fan consist mainly of well imbricated, poorly sorted gravel that have clast long-axes oriented transverse to the flow direction. Bars are often covered with transverse ribs, here interpreted as an upper flow regime bedform, and perhaps as relict antidunes. The midfan area is characterized by a decrease in gravel, with a corresponding increase in sand. Sand is deposited as flat upper regime beds interbedded with gravel and as lower regime megaripples in channels forming trough cross-beds. The longitudinal bars of the lower fan show planar cross-beds formed by migration of the bar slipface topped by flat beds on the bar-surface and low-angle ripple-drift cross-lamination. Linguoid bars exhibit large-scale planar to tangential cross-beds topped by ripple-drift cross-lamination. Point and lateral bars are characterized by large-scale planar to trough cross-beds caused by migration of the bar surface and bar slipface. Overbank deposits of silty sand ripple-drift cross-lamination and draped lamination increase in importance downfan.

Stream regimen is governed by early summer floodng. Measurements taken during a rising stage and a declining stage indicate gravel movement in channels on the upper fan (bars were mostly emergent), but little gravel movement on the midfan. Megaripple migration in midfan channels and linguoid-bar migration on the lower fan continue at low flow stages.

#### INTRODUCTION

The Scott and Yana outwash fans are located on the northeastern Gulf of Alaska, the Scott on the western side of the Copper River Delta, and the Yana on the West Malaspina Foreland (fig. 1). These two fans are within the area delineated as a glacial outwash plain shoreline by Hayes and others (1972), and were chosen for study because they represent a contrast in distal fan margins, even though they appear similar in their proximal areas. This paper is a part of a broader study of outwash plain and shoreline environments of the Gulf of Alaska depositional basin, and is an extension of a report on coarse-grained sedimentation on the Scott outwash fan (Boothroyd, 1972). The present study compares and contrasts environments of deposition of the coarse and fine-grained facies of both fans.

GENERAL MORPHOLOGY AND FACIES DISTRIBUTION

Previous work in the Platte River by Smith (1970) allows the identification of proximaldistal environments on the basis of grain size and bar morphology, among other parameters.

Rust (1972a, p. 221) stated that the Donjek River is proximal, as are the glacial braided streams studied by Krigström (1962) and Fahnestock (1963), whereas the lower Brahmaputra River (Coleman, 1969) and the Tana River (Collinson, 1970) are distal. The Scott and Yana outwash fans contain both proximal and distal facies that are similar to those described by Fahnestock (1969) for the Slims River.

#### Scott Outwash Fan

The Scott outwash fan extends 25 km to tidewater from the Scott Glacier terminus, ending in intertidal mudflats behind barrier islands of the Copper River Delta (fig. 2A). Sediments of the fan partially fill the valley formerly occupied by the Scott Glacier. The Heney Range (fig. 3A) forms the western boundary of the fan; to the east, Scott outwash sediments merge with those of the Sheridan outwash fan (fig. 2A). The facies map (fig. 2A) shows coarse gravel (>10 cm long axis) extending 8 km from the glacier terminus, grading to finer gravel, and then to sand 16 km from the ice front. Extensive vegetation is present from the fine-gravel area

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FIG. 1.-Location map of the Scott and Yana outwash fans on the northeastern Gulf of Alaska.

seaward, with active streams occupying only 10 percent of the fan area. Streams on the lower 4 to 5 km of the fan are meandering, not braided, and flow is confined between natural levees. The streams flow through an extensive marsh area for the last 3 km.

## Yana Outwash Fan

The Yana outwash fan extends 8.5 km seaward from the Malaspina Glacier and ends at a barrier spit (fig. 3B). The facies map (fig. 2B) shows a distribution pattern similar to that of the Scott: an unvegetated coarse-gravel area that grades to fine gravel, where vegetation is well esctablished in interstream areas, followed by a sand facies. No marsh is present, however, and each facies is compressed longitudinally in comparison to the Scott fan. One major difference contributing to this variation in distal fan margins is that the Scott fan terminates in a protected area behind extensive barrier islands, whereas the Yana fronts on an open coast with a strong drift component. This active longshore drift moves much of the sand toward the west,

and the stream itself turns and flows parallel to and behind the spit, finally discharging into the sea 15 km west of the main body of the fan. Both of these fans may be termed fan deltas in the terminology of McGowen (1970, p. 1) who states that "fan deltas are alluvial fans grading into an adjacent body of water."

#### STREAM HYDROLOGY

#### Seasonal Discharge

Discharge on the Scott and Yana fans is controlled by seasonal weather variations over the ablation zones of the Scott and Malaspina Glaciers respectively, and to a lesser extent by local rainfall in the immediate drainage area. Discharge is very low in the winter, rises rapidly in late May and early June to a flood peak in late June, and subsides slowly to a low level again in the fall. This pattern is similar to that of the Donjek (Rust, 1972a, p. 223; Williams and Rust, 1969, p. 649). Short-term fluctuations in discharge also may result from summer temperature variations. Prolonged warm weather causes



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FIG. 2.—Distribution of facies on the outwash fans, with largest clast size plotted for the unvegetated areas. Sample and theodolite traverses are shown by the solid lines. Numbers are distance in km from source. A, Scott outwash fan. B, Yana outwash fan. Dashed line shows the traverse to measure stream parameters (fig. 6) where it varies from the theodolite and sample traverse.



FIG. 3.—Aerial views of the outwash fans. A, Scott outwash fan. The view is upstream toward Scott Glacier terminus. Distance from the lower midfan at the bottom of the photograph to the glacier terminus is about 13 km. Photograph was taken during 1970 peak flbw. B, Yana outwash fan. View is downfan. The barrier beach is just visible at the top of the photograph.

a corresponding increase in meltwater discharge. There was no detectable diurnal variation in runoff.

Discharge values were not obtained for either stream system; however, field observations of flow variations and stream height on the Scott were similar to discharge variations recorded at Power Creek (fig. 4), a stream that drains several small glaciers in the mountains just west of the Scott Glacier. Hence the Power Creek record (fig. 4) can be used to show seasonal trends and minor fluctuations caused by short-term weather changes.

## Flow Conditions

Velocity and depth of flow in channels were



FIG. 4.—Power Creek discharge curves. A, Mean monthly discharge for the water year 1968–69. A pronounced flood peak occurred in early summer. B, Mean discharge averaged over 5-day periods for the summer of 1969. Minor fluctuations are caused by local rainfall and temperature variation over the ablation zone of the glacier. Data on flow parameters for the Scott were obtained on two consecutive days within the time period delineated by the arrows (Source: U.S. Geological Survey, 1969, Surface Water Records for Alaska, 1969, p. 69).



FIG. 5.—Flow parameters for the Scott outwash fan. Velocity (A) and depth (B) readings were obtained during a falling flood stage (*see* fig. 4b) along the profile line shown in Figure 2A. Readings were made in the channel closest to the profile line.

recorded at twenty-seven localities along the profile line (fig. 2A) on the mid and upper Scott fan (fig. 5). Readings were taken in the channels nearest a profile station, and thus they do not illustrate either precise variations or a downstream trend within a single channel. They do indicate velocities and depths typical of the various areas of the fan. The data were obtained on two consecutive days during falling stages within the general time period shown between the arrows on Figure 4.

Field work on the lower Scott fan was done in late May and early June of 1971 (during an

extremely late spring) before the flood season began; thus, no velocity-depth measurements were possible. Velocity, temperature readings, and suspended-sediment samples were taken at approximately 500-m intervals in the main stream of the Yana (fig. 2B) during a rising flood stage in late June (fig. 6). All velocity measurements were of surface velocities later adjusted to average velocity (=  $0.9 \times$  surface velocity; Helley, 1969, p. 10).

Flow conditions undergo a marked change from the upper to lower fan areas. Mean velocities greater than 200 centimeters per second have been recorded for channels 5 km downstream from the glacier termini. Values then fall rather rapidly on the Yana, but less so on the Scott, with increasing distance from the sources. Suspended-sediment concentration rises to a maximum coinciding with the region of maximum velocity on the Yana fan, then decreases to a minimum at the distal fan margin (fig. 6).



FIG. 6.—Flow parameters for the Yana outwash fan. Data were obtained from the main channel during a rising flood stage. This sample line is shown in Figure 2B.

Temperature is directly proportional to distance from the source.

The different areas or zones of the outwash fans are defined for this discussion on the basis of grain size; on the upper fan largest clasts are greater than 10-cm long axis; on the midfan the clasts are less than 10 cm, decreasing to sand size material; on the lower fan the sediment consists of sand only.

#### UPPER FAN

## Stream Sources

The stream systems on both fans begin at a point source. Scott Stream issues from a large subglacial tunnel at the extreme eastern side of the glacier terminus, close to the bedrock valley wall (fig. 2A). The major source of melt water was formerly near the center of the terminus, but shifted to its present position sometime between 1959 and 1964, as interpreted from aerial photographs. This abandoned segment now exists as a terrace 2 m above the present active outwash surface near the glacier, The abandoned surface merges with the present level of active streams some 4 km from the glacier terminus.

Yana Stream begins at a fountain (fig. 7), the result of water emerging under hydrostatic head at the terminus of the Malaspina Glacier near the junction of the Seward and Agassiz lobes (fig. 2B). Utilizing photographs taken during a visit to the fountain, supplemented by aerial photographs taken within a few days of the visit, the fountain is estimated to be 6 to 10 m wide and 1.5 m high. Using the method described by Fahnestock (1969, p. 162) for obtaining the velocity of the vertical jet, an estimated discharge can be calculated from the following equations:

$$U = \sqrt{2gh}$$
$$Q = AU$$

where

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u = velocity of flow

- h =height of the fountain
- g =acceleration due to gravity

Q =flow discharge

 $A = \pi d^2 =$ crossectional area of the circular fountain

The estimated discharge ranges from 150 to 425 cubic meters per second, depending on the width value used. Observation of width and depth of channels and measurement of flow velocity in the channels indicate that the lower discharge figure may be more nearly correct.

Water flows away from the point source in

one or two incised channels and then fans into a braided channel pattern several kilometers out on the fan (fig. 3B). One or more dominant channels are visible throughout most of the length of the fans; Rust (1972, p. 223) noted the same pattern on the Donjek. This feature is better displayed on the Yana than on the Scott fan. These channels are best seen at low water as they become somewhat obscured during flood stage. However, the channels can still be discerned because they are areas of higher flow velocities and commonly contain antidune surface-wave forms.

## Slope and Clast Size

The upper fan is a coarse gravel (long axis > 10 cm) area characterized by steep gradients as much as 17.6 m/km on the Scott, but only 7.6 m/km at the steepest point on the Yana (fig. 8B). Largest clast size is greater than 30 cm for both fans (fig. 8C).

Gradients on the fan surfaces were measured by theodolite leveling, with elevation readings being obtained on the high points of bar surfaces every 150 to 300 m. Twenty km of continuous profile line were obtained for the Scott and 4.3 km for the Yana fan. Clast size was measured at approximately 500-m intervals along the profile line. The largest clasts tended to form a linear band in the high-stage flow direction on the highest part of the bar surfaces. The ten largest clasts within a 2-m line along the linear concentration were selected, the long (L) axes measured, and a mean calculated for that station.

Clast size measurements were not carried to the stream sources on either fan, but it was observed that the largest clasts do not decrease greatly in size in the first 4 to 5 km from the source. Clast size then decreases markedly from over 30 cm to under 10 cm in just 5 km (fig. 8). The rapid decrease in clast size begins approximately at the poinnt where the stream systems change from incised to braided.

Flow velocity, discussed in detail elsewhere, shows a marked decrease downfan from approximately the same point on both fans. It appears that flow strength (any parameter that measures the ability of the stream to transport sediment) is great enough to transport large clasts from the stream source to a point some kilometers out on the fan, but decreasing flow strength then results in a marked size reduction in clasts and a slight increase in gradient. This increase in gradient is followed by a significant decrease further downfan. Fahnestock (1969, p. 165) stated that slope appears to be inversely related to the efficiency of sediment transport or



FIG. 7.—Fountain source of Yana Stream. A, Aerial view taken during a rising flow stage. The width of the main body of the fountain is estimated at 6 to 10 m. Antidunes are common in the channels leading from the fountain. The dark areas at the top and lower right of the photo are alders growing on the Malaspina Glacier. B, Ground view of the fountain. Water is cascading over dirty ice formed by melt water that froze during the previous winter.

to flow strength.

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The gradient of the upper fan of both the Scott and Yana streams is greater than that of the upper Donjek (Rust, 1972a, p. 225), the upper Knik (Bradley and others, 1972, p. 1267), and the upper Slims River (Fahnestock, 1969, p. 167), but less than the gradient of the upper reaches of White River (Fahnestock, 1963, p. 26) and the Bow and Peyto outwash plains (McDonald and Banerjee, 1971, p. 1285). Plots of slope (gradient) versus clast size for various proximal proglacial braided streams are shown in Figure 9. Slope is roughly proportional to clast size, but the reason for deviations such as those between values of the upper Scott and Yana are unclear. It could perhaps be related to the characteristically greater discharge of Yana Stream.

#### Gravel Shape and Orientation

Boulders, cobbles, and pebbles on the Scott

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Fig. 8.—Slope and clast size parameters. A, Longitudinal profiles. Large dots represent elevations obtained every 100-150 m; dashed lines indicate interpretation from maps. B, Slope (gradient) versus position on the fans. Symbols represent slope values plotted at the midpoint between two elevation readings. C, Maximum clast size (average of 10 largest long-axes) versus position on the fans.

outwash fan are predominantly composed of Orca Group (Eocene) litharenite rocks (Plafker, 1967) with perhaps 5 to 10 percent quartz diorite clasts mixed in. Gravel on the Yana outwash is polymict with a mixture of granitic, ultramafic, and Tertiary litharenite rocks.

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Clasts on the bar surfaces and in shallow channels are well imbricated with the LI plane dipping upstream, where I is intermediate axis. Upstream dip of imbricated clasts is considered by most workers (Krumbein, 1939; Lane and Carlson, 1954; Schlee, 1957; Doeglas, 1962; Ore, 1964; Rust, 1972b) to be a good currentdirection indicator. No detailed measurements such as those of Rust (1972b) were carried out, but readings were obtained to define flow directions across bar surfaces, and to delineate current direction independently when determining the orientation of other sedimentary structures.

The long axes of the clasts are strongly oriented transverse to flow direction, similar to those documented by Rust (1972b). Measurements were made on oriented vertical photo-



FIG. 9.—Slope (gradient) versus clast size. There is a rough correlation of slope and clast size. Data of Fahnestock (1963) and McDonald and Banerjee (1971) presumably would plot further to the right on the diagram if long axes were recorded.

graphs taken at four localities along the profile line on the Scott fan (fig. 2A). The photographs are of 50 by 80-cm areas on the central axes of longitudinal bars. The long axes of 25 to 50 clasts were measured, beginning with the largest clast and using only those clasts for which the long and intermediate axes were readily discernible. The mean and range of long axes measured are: station 5.5, mean 4.55 cm, range 3 to 37 cm; station 6.5, mean 6.7 cm, range 4 to 17 cm; station 8, mean 5.78 cm, range 4 to 9.5 cm; and station 11, mean 3.55 cm, range 2.5 to 7 cm.

The summary data for long-axis orientation measured at each station and the total for the four stations are shown in Figure 10A. These data illustrate general orientation of clast longaxes at given points on bar surfaces along the longitudinal profile of the fan and do not take into account the variability across bar surfaces or within channels. Johannson (1963, p. 89), in flume studies of pebble orientation, found that pebbles that moved as "contact" load took up a transverse orientation, whereas saltating pebbles assumed a more haphazard orientation. Observations on both fans did indicate that at any locality the larger clast sizes showed a better transverse orientation.

Clast shape or form was measured at two of the orientation stations on the Scott to obtain an indication of what shapes contributed to the transverse orientation of the long axes. Samples measured were originally collected for grain-size analysis at, or very close to, the photography locations. The three axes of every clast with an *L*-axis greater than 3 cm were measured and the results plotted (fig. 10B) on Folk form triangles (Sneed and Folk, 1958, p. 123).

On the Folk form diagrams, the clasts plot as primarily bladed, showing strong compactbladed and elongate components. The average configuration can be described as a "fat brick." These shape data are in good agreement with

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FIG. 10.—A, Clast long-axis orientation, Scott outwash fan. Clasts were measured in a 50- by 80-cm area on the higher points of bar surfaces at several stations along the profile line. Station 8 represents a location where the stream system is oriented about 60° from the main trend of the fan. B, Clast form, Scott outwash fan. Measurements were made for samples collected at two of the orientation stations indicated in (A). The typical shape is bladed to elongate.

those obtained by Sneed and Folk (1958, p. 143) for quartz and chert pebbles of the Colorado River in Texas and also with those of Dobkins and Folk (1970, p. 1186) for basalt clasts in rivers on Tahiti-Nui. Greatly elongated clasts probably are not necessary for development of a good transverse orientation pattern.

#### Bar Morphology

Bar morphology changes systematically in a downfan direction from coarse-gravel longitudinal bars with low bed relief to finer gravel longitudinal bars with somewhat higher bed relief, and then to a combination of sandy longitudinal and linguoid bars. The longitudinal bars of the upper fan are diamond-shaped in plan with a slightly higher central axis and little to no slipface development on their downstream margins (fig. 11A). They occur mainly in interstream areas between incised erosional channels and are rarely subject to flooding. These bars appear to consists of a thin sheet of coarse, poorly-sorted, well-imbricated gravel with the coarsest material concentrated along the central axis. Relief of the bars appears to be not much greater than the size of the largest clasts (30 cm).

Observations suggest that the form of the

bars on the upper fan surface is transitional from forms of low bed relief to longitudinal bars of higher bed relief that are elongate in the downcurrent direction, and which appear to be similar to the "spool-bars" of Krigström (1962, p. 332) and to the longitudinal bars of Rust (1972a, p. 232), Williams and Rust (1969, p. 667), and Smith (1970, p. 2994). They are rhomboid in plan, with the longitudinal axes ranging from 30 to 100 m in length (fig. 12). Coarsest material is concentrated on the upstream apex of the bar, with a large decrease in grain size down the bar parallel to the flow direction. Poorly to moderately developed sandy slipfaces may occur at the downstream margins. Bar relief is generally greater than that of the upper fan bars, and shallow channels usually dissect the bar surface. Most midfan longitudinal bars have one or more erosional edges caused by shifting channels around other accreting bars and by channel incision as flood waters recede. It may be difficult or impossible to discern the original dimensions of the bar.

Figure 13 illustrates the differences in longitudinal bar morphology between the upper and midfan areas of the Scott. Table 1 summarizes various characteristics of longitudinal bars as well as other bar types found on the outwash

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FIG. 11.-Longitudinal bar morphologgy, flow pattern, and internal structure. A. Aerial view of bars on the upper Scott fan taken during a declining flow stage (late summer). Flow is confined to relatively straight erosional channels and is from lower right to upper left. Dashed lines outline bar forms and arrows trace direction of flow across the bar surfaces as indicated by lineations and ground checks of imbrication dip directions. Note antidunes in the deep channels and transverse ribs (marked by a "T") in the exposed shallow channels. Compare with upper fan sketch in Figure 13. B, Natural cut in a bar on the upper Scott fan (near station 4). The gravel is poorly sorted and generally lacks bedding. The excellent imbrication of the clasts is readily apparent. Flow was from left to right; scale is 30 cm long.

fans. These characteristics will be discussed in the following pages.

Differences in morphology between the two longitudinal bar variations evidently are related to differences in clast size and to differences in flow strength across the bar. Large clasts composing the upper fan bars are less subject to transport and tend to accrete as thin sheets where transported by rare, very high flood flows. Longitudinal bars composed of smaller grain sizes may grow and be modified at lower intensity flows.

Gravel Fabric and Sedimentary Structures

Cuts in upper fan longitudinal bars show

poorly sorted coarse gravel with rather crude bedding (fig. 11B). On close inspection, excellent clast imbrication is also apparent. Some bars contain interbeds of flat-bedded sand. These two facies are similar to facies G and D of Williams and Rust (1969, p. 668, fig. 20) or facies 6 of Rust (1972a, p. 232).

Sand is rare in the upper fan area, except as a matrix in the gravel and as the minor interbeds mentioned above. However, during falling stages of flow, megaripples (bedforms with 60 cm to 6 m spacings; Boothroyd, 1969, p. 426) may form in channels (fig. 14). The megaripple trains exist as discontinuous sandy lenses a few tens of centimeters thick and 5 to 20 m in length. Individual megaripples have spacings of 1 to 3 m. Cross-beds are tangential in longitudinal section and curving or trough-shaped in horizontal cuts (fig. 14B).

## Transverse Ribs

Linear stripes of pebbles, cobbles, and boulders (long axes from 1.5 to > 45 cm) occur in groups on bar surfaces and in shallow channels on the upper midfan and upper fan areas. The stripes are oriented transversely to the current flow, as determined from imbrication measurements of clasts taken independently of the stripes (fig. 15). The clasts making up the stripes are themselves imbricated and show a strong upstream dip. These stripes are particularly well displayed on longitudinal bars on the upper fan of the Yana (fig. 12A). Mc-Donald and Banerjee (1970, 1971) have described the same structure, which they have named transverse ribs, from the Peyto outwash plain, North Saskatchewan River and No-See-Um Creek in Alberta.

One hundred and twenty nine measurements of transverse ribs at twenty-five localities on both outwash fans indicate a range of spacings from 6 cm to 2 m, with a concentration of spacings from 40 to 70 cm (fig. 16). Ribs with larger spacings tend to be made up of clasts of larger mean size, whereas those with smaller spacings have smaller clasts, although there is some overlap in the smaller size ranges (fig. 16). Transverse ribs within the range of spacings measured may occur at any position on the upper fan and upper midfan. There is no systematic decrease in spacings in a downfan direction. However, because of the grain size-spacing correlation, maximum transverse-rib spacings will be smaller in the midfan areas than on the upper fan.

Transverse ribs were not observed in the process of formation or migration, but laboratory studies by Fahnestock and Haushild (1962, p. 1433) found that rolling clasts tended to stop





FIG. 12.—Longitudinal bar morphology and flow pattern. A, Aerial view of several longitudinal bars on the upper Yana fan taken during a rising flow stage (early summer). Flow is from left to right; scale is given on the diagram. B, Diagram of bar boundaries and flow pattern made from an overlay of the photograph above. Transverse ribs are extremely common on the bar surfaces and reflect the flow pattern across the bars. Some sand is present around the downstream margins of the bars.

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Bar type		Longitudinal		Linguoid	Point ar	d lateral
Location of Fan	Upper	Mid	Lower	Lower	Mid	Lower
Slope (m/km)	10–18 (Scott) 5–8 (Yana)	2-8 3-4	<2	<2	2-8	≃1
Mean max. clast size	10–30 cm (Scott) 10–35 cm (Yana)	4 mm-10 cm	2–4 mm	2-4 mm	5–10 cm	2-4 mm
Position with respect to channels	Between incised channels	Transition from between channels to within chan- nels (low stage)	Within low-stage chan- nels	Flooring low-stage chan- nels	Within low-stage channels on curves	Within channels, channels occur between cohesive banks
Morphology	Low bed relief; 30 cm or less Diamond shaped, 20-50 m (long axis) Erosional edges (U) Slipfaces (R)	Bed relief >30 cm. Diamond shaped, 30-100 m (long axis) Erosional edges (C) Sand-wedge slipfaces (C)	Bed relief >30 cm. Diamond shaped, 20-50 m (long axis) Erosional edges (C). Slipfaces (A)	Spoon shaped, lobate, 10- 50 m (long axis) Repetitive well-devel- oped slipfaces, commonly multilobate (A)	Bed relief; >30 cm. 30- 100 m long Sandwedge slipfaces, ori- ented to inside of curve (C)	Bed relief 50 cm-1 mm, 75-125 m long Slipfaces always present, oriented toward outside of bend
Sedimentary structures and fabric	Coarse imbricate gravel Sand lenses with flat bed- ding (R)	Fine imbricate gravel Sand lenses with flat bed- ding (C-A) Planar tangential large- scale cross-beds (U-C)	Planar cross-beds (C) Flat beds (A) Type A ripple-drift cross- lamination (U)	Planar-tangential cross- beds (C) Type A and B ripple-drift cross-lamination (A)	Fine imbricate gravel Flat bedded sand lenses (C) Planar tangential cross- beds (C)	Planar-tangential large- scale cross-beds (C) Large-scale trough cross- beds (A) Small-scale trough X-lam- ination (C)
Time of initial movement	Rare high floods	Maximum annual flood- ing	Moderate flow	Low-flow stages	Moderate flow	Moderate flow

TABLE 1.—BAR CHARACTERISTICS

A-abundant, B-common, U-uncommon, R-rare.

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FIG. 13.—Variation in bar morphology and channel pattern for gravel longitudinal bars. Sketches were drawn from aerial photographs.

and imbricate under antidune breaking waves. B. C. McDonald (written comm.) reports the formation of transverse ribs in a flume by an upstream migrating hydraulic jump. These two laboratory studies indicate that transverse ribs certainly are formed under upper flow regime conditions, either under near-critical to supercritical antidune breaking waves, or by supercritical flow events resulting in hydraulic jumps.

#### MIDFAN

In contrast to the unvegetated upper outwash fan, the midfan is heavily vegetated, with active braided streams confined to approximately 10 percent of the surface area (figs. 2 and 3). Vegetation first becomes established on the highest bar surfaces and tends to trap finer sediment, mainly fine to medium sand with some silt. This process builds vegetated areas into islands standing above the general stream level. The islands generally have elevated margins populated by alders (*Alnus sinuata*), whereas the surrounding lower interior basins contain freshwater marsh grass (*Calaman*grostis).

## Slope and Clast Size

In the midfan area maximum clast size decreases from 10 cm to sand-sized material. This decrease occurs in a distance of 8 km on the Scott fan, but the same diminution in clast size is compressed into approximately 2.5 to 3 km on the Yana fan (fig. 8C). The main stream of the Yana, flowing between highly vegetated, semicohesive banks, actually transports some fine gravel to less than one km from the back beach (fig. 2B). This somewhat anomalous deposit exists as a tongue of gravel protruding into an area of sand.

The gradient declines from 6 m/km to about 2 m/km on the Scott, whereas the Yana shows a decrease from 4 m/km to an unsurveyed value of certainly less than 3 m/km. The trend of the gradient for the Scott in Figure 8B shows a break about 10 km from the source, which suggests that the midfan region can be divided into two additional subenvironments. The clastsize plot for the Scott (fig. 8C) also reflects this division. This subdivision is discussed at length in Boothroyd (1972) and thus will not be discussed here. The slope and clast sizes of the midfan areas of the Scott and Yana fans correspond with those of the intermediate zone of the Slims River (Fahnestock, 1969, p. 168).

## Bar Morphology

The most abundant bar forms in the midfan area are longitudinal bars. Longitudinal bars in



FIG. 14.—Megaripple occurrence and internal structure. A, Short megaripple train deposited in an erosional channel on the upper Yana fan. Flow was from the top to bottom of the photograph; spacing of megaripples ranges from 1 to 3 m. B, Trench in one of the megaripples shown in A. Two sets of cross-beds, tangential in longitudinal section and curving or trough in horizontal section, are shown. Flow was from right to left; scale is 30 cm long. C, Aerial view of megaripples in a channel on the Scott midfan. Flow is from left to right. Photograph taken during a declining flow stage.

the coarser gravel portions of the fan are situated between shallow channels that are active only at flood stage. As grain size decreases downstream, the bars tend to be located in channels that are active at lower flow stages. Sandy slipfaces are poorly to moderately developed at the downstream margins of the coarser gravel bars, but are better developed where grain size is finer. Many slipfaces are of the sand-wedge type reported by Rust (1972a, p. 228, his fig. 4) that are deposited as water level and velocity decrease from high flood stage (fig. 17). Other sandy slipfaces appear to result from continuous transport across the bar surface (avalanche deposition over the bar crest) during flood stage and they continue to grow as the bar remains active during lower flows. Flow patterns reconstructed from pebble imbrication and minor sedimentary structures indicate that bar-surface deposition and slipface development occurred simultaneously. Some of these distal midfan longitudinal bars were still active during the declining late-summer flow of 1969.

Another bar type—the point bar—is also prevalent in the midfan area. These bars develop in curved channels during lower stages of flow and thus are subjected to active sedimentation over a longer period of time than are the longitudinal bars that occur in the same geographic area. Slipfaces are well developed and commonly may be built into a secondary channel or slough, with the resulting azimuth of cross-bed dip at a large angle to the main channel axis. These point bars are especially prevalent on the upper midfan area of the Scott and are similar in plan to "river curve spurs"



FIG. 15.—Transverse ribs. A, Ribs with large spacing (55 cm) and large clast size (6 cm) on the surface of a longitudinal bar on the Scott midfan. Clasts making up the individual ribs or stripes are well imbricated and occur on a gravel bed. Sand was deposited during declining flow as sand shadows and lineations. Flow was from left to right, increments on the scale are 10 cm. B, Ribs with small spacing (15 cm) and clast size (2 cm) on a longitudinal bar on the upper Yana fan. Flow was toward the bottom of the photograph, increments on the scale are 10 cm.

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of Krigström (1962, his fig. 9, p. 338).

## Bedforms and Sedimentary Structures

Figure 17B shows the morphology and internal structure of a lobate sand wedge deposited at the margin of a longitudinal bar. Cross-bedding varied from tangential to planar as the wedge developed due to a decrease in the depth-ratio (increase in the depth of the basin being filled; see Jopling, 1965, p. 779). Reactivation surfaces (Collinson, 1970, p. 52) are common and often are enhanced by a silt drape (fig. 17B).

Sand is present on the bar surfaces, especially in low areas, and in the shallow channels that dissect the surfaces. Most sand on the upper



FIG. 16.—Clast size versus spacing of transverse ribs. The ribs shown in Figure 15 A and B are labeled (A and B) on the diagram. The inset is a histogram of rib spacings measured on both fans.

midfan consists of thin lenses of flat or plane beds, although most of the surfaces of the lenses are covered by a veneer of linear to cuspate ripples that are in turn mantled by a silt drape. Small-scale trough cross-bedding formed by cuspate ripple migration is more important on bars on the lower than on the upper midfan. Ripple-drift cross-lamination is rare on the upper midfan and is uncommon on bar surfaces on the lower midfan. Some type A ripple-drift cross-lamination (no stoss side preservation; Jopling and Walker, 1968, p. 973, may be present in trenches on bar surfaces on the lower midfan. Fine sand and silty sand may be deposited as overbank material in splay-like deposits across vegetated islands (fig. 18A). This sand is in the form of ripple-drift cross-lamination and is commonly overlain by a veneer of silt and clay.

#### LOWER FAN

A lower fan sand facies is extensively developed in the distal portions of the Scott outwash fan. Gravel disappears from bar surfaces 16 km from the glacier terminus. The area of active sedimentation at the present time is a sand plain up to 2 km wide that is almost completely submerged during high flow stage (fig. 2A). This area is similar to the downstream zone of the Slims River (Fahnestock, 1969, p. 168). The active depositional area bifurcates and each segment narrows to a meandering reach at kilometer 21 on the longitudinal profile. The terminal 2 to 3 km of the fan are mantled by thin salt-marsh vegetation. This marsh is now brackish to fresh, the result of 2 m of uplift sustained in the March 1964 earthquake (Reimnitz, 1966). The lower fan terminates behind a large expanse of intertidal mudflats 25 km from the glacier front.

The Yana fan, by contrast, has a distal sand facies that begins some 7.5 km from the source and ends within a kilometer behind an active sand spit (fig. 2B). The stream waters are deflected westward to flow behind a series of active and inactive spits before discharging into the Gulf of Alaska. Aerial photographs taken in 1948 indicate that the spit was breached at



FIG. 17.—Morphology and internal structure slipfaces of coarse-grained longitudinal bars. A, Sand-wedge type of lobate slipface deposited at a bar margin on the upper Scott fan. Main body of the bar is now largely removed. Arrow points to location of trench shown in 13B. B, Sketch of a trench in one of the lobes of the sand wedge shown in A. Reactivation surface is mantled by a silt drape. Numbers indicate cross-bed dips in degrees.

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that time and the Yana stream system discharged directly into the sea in front of the main body of the fan. Since that time this outlet has closed and a large pond now forms around the distal fan margin during peak flooding.

## Slope and Grain Size

Slope decreases from approximately 2 m/km on the Scott lower midfan to values grouped around 1.5 m/km on the braided portion of the lower fan (fig. 8B). There is a further decrease to an average slope of 0.76 m/km in the meandering reach. By comparison, a reach in the downstream zone of the Slims River has a slope of 0.85 m/km (Fahnestock, 1969, p. 168), whereas the Platte River ranges from about 2 m/km to 1 m/km (Smith, 1970, p. 2996). Slope values were not obtained for the lower Yana fan. Maximum grain size varies from coarse to medium sand. Detailed laboratory analyses are not complete, but field observations indicate that medium sand is present on bar surfaces and that it makes up the cross-bedding observed in trenches throughout the entire lower fan to the intertidal mudflats.



FIG. 18.—Overbank depositional forms and internal structure. A, Splay-like deposit on the Yana midfan. Sand, overlain by silt and clay was deposited during high-flood stage over grass and small alders on an elevated island. Length of the deposit is about 50 to 75 m. B, Overbank levee silty ripple-drift cross-lamination and silt and elay drape laminations on the lower Scott fan. Flow was from left to right; scale increments are 5 cm.

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## Bar Morphology

Braided reach.—Bars in the braided reach of the Scott fan are a combination of longitudinal and linguoid types (fig. 19). Longitudinal bars are 20 to 50 m in length and appear to be a few tens of centimeters thick. Their surfaces are generally higher topographically than are those of linguoid bars. This relationship is similar to that shown by Williams (1971, his plate IV, p. 16) for longitudinal and linguoid bars.

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Linguoid bars are repetitive spoon-shaped forms 10 to 50 m in length that have welldeveloped slipfaces on their downstream margins. This terminology for the description of bars follows that of Collinson (1970), and Williams (1971), who describe similar features in the Tana River, Norway, and ephemeral streams in interior Australia, respectively.

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FIG. 19.—Linguoid bar morphology and flow pattern. Aerial view of a complex of longitudinal and linguoid bars on the lower Scott fan. Photograph was taken during a rising flood stage. View is looking upstream. Linguoid bars (Li and dash-dot outline) are attached to, and growing away from, eroded remnants of longitudinal bars (Lo and dash-dot outline). The linguoid bars are repetitive and most slipfaces are multilobate. Arrows show representative flow pattern.

Linguoid bars observed by the writers are also similar to transverse bars described by Smith (1970, 1971, 1972) from the Platte River. Smith (1972, p. 625) suggests that linguoid bars are merely transverse bars that assume symmetrical, lobate, repetitive forms at high flow. These forms then become distorted and modified through time. The writers prefer, however, to retain the term *linguoid* to describe those lobate bars that have a larger longitudinal dimension relative to width, regardless of later modification of slipfaces.

As mentioned above, lingouid bars occur lower in channels than longitudinal bars. Figure 19, representing conditions during a rising flood stage on the lower Scott, shows lobate slipfaces of linguoid bars attached to, and actively growing away from eroding remnants of longitudinal bars whose surfaces are emergent. It is assumed that both bar forms are present and active at high flows when most bar surfaces are submerged. Linguoid bars continue active migration at lower flow stages when longitudinal bars are no longer active and are being dissected.

Meandering reach.—Point and lateral bars are found in the lower portion of the Scott fan where flow is confined between cohesive banks in a channel 40 to 80 m wide (fig. 20). Lateral bars exist where the channel becomes temporarily straight but where the thalweg continues to meander. These bars are 75- to 125-m long with the distal end of the upstream bar opposite the apex of the next bar downstream. Bar relief is variable between 50 and 100 cm. Some bar surfaces are more than 2 m above the bottom of scour pools in the channels. Bar surfaces are usually a few centimeters lower than the active levee. A slipface is present along the downstream half of the bar margin. Often this slipface is oriented perpendicular to the channel axis (fig. 20).



FIG. 20—Aerial view of two point bars and a levee system on the lower Scott fan (near station 21) taken during extreme low water. Downstream is to the right. Dashed lines separate various labeled depositional environments. Dashed-dot line (arrow) indicates the bar slipface. Active overbank sedimentation is destroying alders on portions of the levee. Marsh is brackish to fresh since the 1964 earthquake. Scour pools in the channels have a silt-clay drape deposited during low-water stages.

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#### Bedforms and Sedimentary Structures

Trenches were dug at 500-meter intervals along the longitudinal profile of the lower Scott fan during an extreme low water stage (early Junc, 1971). Several trenches were dug at each locality in bar slipfaces, on the top surfaces of bars, and in overbank deposits. Most trenches were L-shaped and included a horizontal cut. Attempts to trench in the lower channels were generally unsuccessful due to the thixotropic nature of the sediment. Trench localities were correlated with bar morphology by low-level aerial photographs obtained during extreme low water, and at a time several weeks later during a rising flow stage related to annual flooding.

The active stream system of the Yana was at flood stage when visited in 1971; therefore, examination of internal structures of bars in the presently active area was impossible. However, trenches were dug into an adjacent abandoned sandy surface that aerial photographs taken in 1948 show to be an active depositional area. The presently active streams are incised about 1 m below this surface.

Slipface migration of longitudinal bars produces large-scale planar to somewhat tangential cross-bedding (fig. 21). Cross-bed sets are 10 to 30 cm in height with dip angles ranging from 15 degrees to over 30 degrees. The planar crossbeds are usually overlain by flat beds or by type A ripple-drift cross-lamination usually less than 10 cm in total thickness and of the same mean grain size as the large-scale cross-beds (fig. 21B and C). Flat beds and ripple-drift cross-lamination commonly are interbedded with one another, indicating fluctuations in intensity of flow across the bar surface. A few trenches revealed large-scale trough crossbedding formed by megaripple migration. Occasionally a planar cross-bed set composed of medium sand was overlain by ripple-drift crosslamination consisting of poorly sorted silty sand, indicating an abrupt decrease in flow strength. Multiple planar cross-bed sets of the thickness shown by Williams (1971, fig. 11,



FIG. 21.—Internal structure of sandy longitudinal bars. A, Slipface morphology and planar cross-bedding. Large cuspate ripples cover the bar surface but ripple cross-bedding is indistinct. Reactivation surface is mantled by a silt drape. B, Large-scale planar cross-beds formed by bar-slipface migration overlain by flat beds. The bar crest is preserved in portions of the trench. C, Flat beds overlain by type A rippledrift cross-lamination. Some type B ripple-drift crosslamination is present at the top 5 cm of the trench. All trenches are in bars on the lower Scott fan.

p. 26) were not observed on the Scott fan.

Linguoid bars on the lower Scott fan have a bedform distribution pattern similar to that of transverse bars of Smith (1971, fig. 8, p. 3416). Megaripples (dunes) in the deeper central area (bar mouth) give way to diminished dunes of larger spacing and decreased height in shallower flow depths just upstream of the lobate bar crest. Migration of the bar slipface is accomplished by avalanching of sand carried to the crestline by migration of these diminished dunes. It is common for the bar crestline to assume a complex, multilobate shape.

A trench cut into an abandoned terrace on the lower Yana revealed a sequence of sedimentary structures interpreted as the result of deposition by a linguoid bar (fig. 22). In longitudinal section, a solitary planar to slightly tangential cross-bed set, 15 to 20 cm thick and

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formed by migration of the slipface overlies indistinct ripple-drift cross-lamination. The contact is erosional. The planar foresets in turn are succeeded by as much as 50 cm of sandy type A ripple-drift cross-lamination that exhibits a low angle of climb (5 to 10 degrees). The top surface is an eolian deflation surface. Contact relations suggest that the planar foresets and overlying ripple-drift cross-lamination (deposition on the bar-surface) belong to one continuous depositional cycle with minor fluctuations in velocity or aggradation rate. A decrease in velocity allowed the ripple-drift crosslamination to mantle the bar slipface (fig. 22A and B) which was then reactivated by an increase in flow velocity. In transverse section the multilobate nature of the bar slipface is apparent (fig. 22A).

Trough cross-beds, the result of megaripple migration, are extremely uncommon in sandy longitudinal and linguoid bar deposits, although these bedforms are readily apparent on active bar surfaces observed during low and rising flow stages. However, several sequences of sedimentary structures, interpreted here as deposition resulting in vertical accretion of a linguoid bar, do contain a single trough crossbed set (fig. 23). The trench revealed several sequences of sandy ripple-drift cross-lamination succeeded by silty ripple-drift cross-lamination that was overlain by a silt-clay drape. The trough cross-bed set is at the base of 30 cm of type A ripple-drift cross-lamination. The sandy type A ripple-drift cross-laminaton is succeeded upward by silty type B ripple-drift cross-lamination in a sequence that is quite common on the braided lower fan.

Cross-bedding in point bars and lateral bars is a combination of large-scale trough crossbedding formed by megaripple migration on bar surfaces, and large-scale planar to tangential cross-bedding, the result of migration bar of slipfaces (fig. 24). Trough cross-bed sets 15 to 30 cm thick are interbedded with the bar foresets. Figure 24 illustrates that the bar slipface has migrated over a silty wedge of channelbottom sediments. Two stages of migration of bar slipfaces, apparent in the photograph, are separated by the silty ripple-drift cross-lamination of the channel wedge. Figure 24A illustrates megaripple migration across the bar surfaces and active migration of part of the point-bar slipface.

Overbank deposits on the lower fan consist of silty ripple-drift cross-lamination, draped lamination (Gustavson and others, this vol.), and silt and clay laminations. Total thickness of the deposits is commonly 30 to 50 cm, but oc-





FIG. 22.—Internal structure of a linguoid bar. A, Sketch made from a longitudinal and transverse cut revealing type A ripple-drift cross-lamination overlain by large-scale tangential cross-beds, in turn overlain by type A ripple-drift. Large-scale cross-beds formed by slipface migration, ripple-drift cross-lamination by bar surface accretion. Flow was from left to right. B, Closeup of section of trench just above scale in B. Largescale cross-beds are mantled by ripple-drift cross-lamination indicating a decrease in flow velocity. The slipface was later reactivated. Scale increments are 10 cm.

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FIG. 23.—Linguoid bar internal structure. All views are from a trench on the lower Yana fan. A, Longitudinal section. Several sequences of ripple-drift-cross-lamination are visible. A large-scale tangential crossbed set is visible at left center. Flow was from right to left. B, Transverse section. The large-scale trough cross-beds resulted from megaripple migration. C, Horizontal section through type A ripple-drift cross-lamination in the upper part of the trench. Flow was from right to left. Scale is 30 cm in all photographs.

casionally varies up to 1 m (fig. 18B). Silt on overbank surfaces, other than silt drapes, becomes widespread at about kilometer 18 on the Scott fan. Relief of vegetated islands (above the channel bottom) becomes greater as one proceeds downstream. Islands on the proximal portion of the lower fan are more subject to flooding at intermediate flood flows, whereas those on the distal parts of the lower fan are flooded only at highest flood flows.



FIG. 24.—Surface morphology and internal structure of point bars. A, Aerial view taken during flood stage. Megaripples are active on the bar surface. There is an active slipface along portions of the bar margin. Flow is from left to right. B, Large-scale trough cross-beds overlain by silty wedge of channel-bottom sediments. Bar slipface has prograded over this wedge. Scale is 30 cm. C, Sketch made from photograph composite of trench shown in A. Several cycles of bar-slipface migration are apparent.

## SUMMARY OF FACIES AND SEDIMENTARY STRUCTURES

Figure 25 summarizes the downstream variation in facies and sedimentary structures and gives typical stratigraphic columns for the upper fan (A), upper midfan (B), lower midfan (C), braided lower fan (D), and meandering lower fan (E). A comparison of Figure 25 with Table 1 ties the various facies to the appropriate bar types.

The upper fan (A) is mainly a coarse-gravel facies consisting of well-imbricated pebbles, cobbles, and boulders similar to facies 6 of Rust (1972, p. 232). The upper midfan (B), and to a certain extent the distal upper fan, is also a gravel facies, but with decreasing size of the largest clasts. This gravel is interbedded with flat beds and large-scale trough cross-beds of sand resulting from megaripple migration in low-stage channels. Sand-wedge deposition (Rust, 1972) is important in this area. The percent of sand versus gravel increases downstream, as illustrated by the column for the lower midfan (C). Large-scale festion crossbeds have also increased in abundance.

The braided facies of the lower fan (D) exhibits planar cross-beds (slipface migration of longitudinal and linguoid bars) and abundant ripple-drift cross-lamination (bar-surface deposition), as well as some flat beds (longitudinal bar-surface deposition). Bar-slipface cross-bedding is similar to that shown for similar features by Smith (1971, 1972), Collinson (1970), and Williams (1971). The meandering facies of the lower fan (E) shows abundant large-scale trough cross-beds (megaripple migration on point-bar surfaces) and planar to tangential cross-beds resulting from migration of the bar slipface.

Overbank deposits are absent on the upper fan (A) but decrease in importance downfan. Grain size of the overbank silty ripple-drift cross-lamination and draped lamination decreases downfan.



FIG. 25.-Downstream variation in facies and sedimentary structures. Bar and channel sequences do not fine upward, but are capped by a finer overbank facies that becomes more important in a downfan direction.

FLOW PROCESSES AND DEPOSITIONAL MECHANISMS

Measurements of mean velocity in channels on both the Scott and Yana fans (fig. 5A, 6A) indicate that velocity values vary around 200 centimeters per second for the upper fan, then decrease sharply about 6 km from the stream sources. An examination of flow-depth measurements obtained for Scott channels (fig. 5B) shows that depth follows no general trend, although flow in incised channels of the upper fan is deeper than for other areas.

Calculations of Froude number  $(F_r)$ , boundary shear stress  $(\tau_o)$ , and stream power  $(\tau \overline{U})$  were made using velocity, depth, and slope parameters obtained for the Scott fan (fig. 5C, D, E). Foude number:

$$F_r = \frac{\overline{U}}{\sqrt{g\overline{D}}} \qquad \frac{\overline{U} = \text{mean velocity}}{D = \text{flow depth}}$$

the ratio of inertia force to gravity force, is used to define the subcritical-supercritical flow boundary  $(F_r = 1)$  (Simons and others, 1965, p. 40; Extreme floods were not observed on any visits

Allen, 1970, p. 126). Froude number can also be used to predict the type of bedform in subcritical flow under shallow flow conditions (<2 m) when used in conjunction with data of Guy and others (1966).

Boundary shear stress:

$$r_o = \gamma DS$$
  $\gamma = \rho g$  = specific weight of the fluid  
S = slope

was calculated using a fluid density ( $\rho$ ) of 1.0013 grams per milliliter (water temperature =  $4.0^{\circ}$ C; suspended sediment=2.0 grams per liter, midpoint value from fig. 6). Stream power  $(\tau_o \overline{U})$ , defined as shear stress times mean velocity, has been used by Simons and others (1965), Allen (1970, p. 79), and Smith (1971, p. 3411) to illustrate changes in bed configuration.

#### Upper and Middle Fan

Water is confined to incised channels on the upper fan except at the highest flood stages. to either fan. Floodwaters may spread from the main channel across bar surfaces during rising flood stages at any location downstream from the point where the channel pattern changes from incised to braided (fig. 3). For any given flood stage, there is successively greater areal flooding of bar surfaces in the downstream direction.

Observations and measurements indicate that both shear stress  $(\tau)$  and mean velocity (u), and hence stream power, are greater for flow in deeper channels than over nearby bar surfaces (fig. 26). Therefore, larger size clasts can be transported in the channels than on an adjacent bar surface, or, conversely, critical shear stress  $(\tau_c)$  and a critical "erosion" velocity would be exceeded sooner in the channel than on the bar surface. The geometry of the upper fan bars adjacent to channels (fig. 26) suggests that coarse gravel is transported up out of the channel and onto a bar surface as the main flow swings by, or bifurcates around, adjacent bars. This mechanism allows for the transport of coarse gravel in incised channels

several kilometers away from the stream source. A locus of deposition then occurs in the area of abrupt decrease in velocity and slope (fig. 8).

A comparison of shear stress values for the upper Scott fan (fig. 5D) with those obtained by Fahnestock (1963, p. 31) for bed-load transport in the White River shows a general agreement in magnitude of shear stress for similar size ranges of clasts (that is, assuming clast sizes in the Scott channels are similar to the largest on adjacent bar surfaces). This suggests that significant gravel transport is occuring in channels even during declining flows after the maximum flood stage. Actual observation of bed-load transport was impossible due to the high suspended-sediment content of the water.

Rust (1972, p. 243) suggests that longitudinal bars accrete by deposition of planar sheets of gravel on their surfaces, and that this process may lead to an upstream migration of the bar form. The depositional mechanism outlined above for bars on the Scott fan suggests that accretion of coarse clasts occurs on the up-



FIG. 26.—Bar and channel flow pattern. Aerial view of flow during flood stage on the upper Yana fan. Dashed line outlines a deeply incised erosional channel. Larger antidunes are in the deeper portions of the channel where stream power is greatest. Smaller antidunes are present in the shallower parts of the channel and over the bar surface at top center. Arrows indicate flow of water out of channel and across bar surface. (T) indicates transverse ribs.

stream apex of the bar, but that finer clasts are transported and deposited across the bar surface. This would lead to down-bar fining and account for the surface morphology of the low-relief, longitudinal bars of the upper fan (fig. 12). Bedding planes are obscure in cuts in coarse material (fig. 11B), but are essentially horizontal where observed.

Antidunes or in-phase waves can form under subcritical flow conditions (Williams, 1967, p. 213; Southard, 1971, p. 908) at  $F_r \simeq 0.85$  or less. Observation and measurements on both fans show that in-phase waves are common in the major channels and on submerged bar surfaces in the upper midfan and upper fan areas (fig. 5C, 26). The ubiquitous occurrence of antidune water-wave forms as shown in Figure 26, particularly on bar surfaces together with the evidence presented by Fahnestock and Haushild (1962), suggests that they are important in the formation of transverse ribs.

Calculated shear stress values indicate little or no gravel transport in Scott midfan channels (fig. 5D) when compared with Fahnestock's values (1963, p. 31) for similar clast size. Observation of the channels during this declining flow stage also indicates no gravel movement on the upper midfan. On the distal midfan, channels were floored with medium to coarse sand with megaripple or flat-bed configuration.

Stream power calculations (fig. 5E) when compared with compilations of Allen (1970, p. 79) and the field data of Smith (1971, p. 3411), also indicate plane or flat bed or higher regime bedforms for the upper midfan, whereas calculations for the lower midfan show a megaripple bed configuration. Froude number calculations for the midfan (fig. 5C) show most values below 0.60. This is in the range of megaripples (dunes) to transition forms, according to the data of Guy and others (1966) for medium to coarse sand sizes.

## Lower Fan

Longitudinal bar migration occurs at moderate to high-stage flooding and was not observed during visits to the fans. The presence of abundant flat beds and low-angle (< 5 degrees) type A ripple-drift cross-lamination (fig. 21) suggests higher intensity flow across longitudinal bar surfaces than across linguoid bars. Longitudinal bar growth appears to have been largely by slipface migration.

Linguoid bar migration occurs at all but the lowest flow stages. Migration of linguoid or transverse bars has been thoroughly discussed by Smith (1971, 1972). On the outwaash fans these bars seem to have grown by slipface migration and vertical accretion of ripple-drift crosslamination deposited partially from suspension (figs. 22 and 23). A puzzling question is the common occurrence of megaripples on linguoidbar surfaces at low flows (fig. 22), as opposed to their lack of widespread preservation in the internal structure of the bars. One answer might be that they are equilibrium bedforms at both high and low flows, contributing sediment to the bar slipface but not often themselves being preserved. Abundant trough cross-bed sets are preserved, however, in lower fan point bars and lateral bars (fig. 24).

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### COASTAL DYNAMICS AND SEDIMENT TRANSPORTATION,

NORTHEAST GULF OF ALASKA

Dag Nummedal

Michael F. Stephen

### May 1976

Technical Report obtained under Contract No. 03-5-022-82, The Environmental Research Laboratory, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Boulder, Colorado. Reproduction in whole or in part is permitted for any purpose of the United Stated Government. Distribution of this document is unlimited.

# Bibliographic reference

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### ABSTRACT

Analysis of the climatology and physical oceanography of the northeast Gulf of Alaska provides a predictive model for wave height and longshore sediment transportation along the coastline between Yakutat and Cape Suckling. The relationships between the offshore wave climate, the bathymetrically controlled patterns of refraction and the resulting shoreline variability in physical processes have been emphasized.

Field observations of coastal morphology, sediment dispersal trends and breaker parameter variability were made in July and August of 1975. Despite the absence of any major storm episodes during the field season, the observed processes correlate well with the sediment distribution in all environments except on high-level storm berms and washover terraces at the east Malaspina Foreland where occasional storms induce a sediment transport direction opposite to that of the dominant conditions.

The wave climate model and field observations demonstrate a general westward transport of sediment on the exposed beaches of the northeast Gulf of Alaska. Reversals of this trend are observed on the west side of Icy Bay and Yakutat Bay where the net transport direction is towards the northeast, i.e., towards the head of the bays.

The annual average gross longshore sediment transport rate was determined to be about 6.5 million cubic meters. The annual net sediment flux ranges from about 5.8 million cubic meters to the west between Cape Yakataga and Icy Cape, to about 170,000 cubic meters to the east between Sitkagi Bluffs and the western shores of Yakutat Bay.

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#### LIST OF SYMBOLS

b spacing of wave orthogonals С phase velocity of a progressive wave Е wave energy density acceleration of gravity g H wave height Kr refraction coefficient shoaling coefficient Ks ratio between group velocity and phase velocity of a progressive wave n Ρ wave energy flux  $P_1$ longshore component of wave energy flux probability of occurrence of wave height H<sub>i</sub>, traveling in direction m Pi.m Q rate of longshore transport of sediment  $Q_{\mathbf{g}}$ gross transport rate  $Q_1$ rate of transport to the left Qn net transport rate Qr rate of transport to the right probability of occurrence of wave height  $H_i$  and period  $T_i$ r<sub>i,j</sub> Т wave period angle of wave crest relative to shore α density of water ρ subscript o refers to deep water conditions

subscript b refers to breaker conditions

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#### INTRODUCTION

This represents an annual report to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Environmental Research Laboratories, for contract no. 03-5-022-82, Miles O. Hayes, Principal Investigator.

The main objective of the project was to evaluate the geological aspects of coastal environments of the northeast Gulf of Alaska between Dry Bay and Cape Yakataga (Fig. 1). The study and the report preparations were divided into three parts: (1) coastal dynamics and sediment transportation, (2) morphology and sedimentology of the coastal zone, and (3) environmental geology of the Icy Bay region and the west Malaspina Foreland.

This report on coastal dynamics and sediment transportation emphasizes the relationship between offshore wave climate in the Gulf of Alaska, the bathymetrically controlled patterns of wave refraction across the steep Alaskan continental shelf and the resulting shoreline variability in wave energy, longshore current regime, morphology and sediment transportation rates.

Detailed field observations between Cape Yakataga and Yakutat Bay during July and August of 1975 form the basis for the analysis of characteristics of shoreline variability. Ship wave observations (SSMO-data), surface synoptic meteorological charts and bathymetric charts of the northeast Gulf provide the data needed for determination of physical oceanographic conditions related to shoreline geology.

As an introduction to the study area, Figures 1 through 8 provide a LANDSAT-satellite view and seven high-altitude oblique air photos of the coastal zone from Cape Yakataga to Yakutat Bay.

Figure 1. LANDSAT -mosaic of the coastal region of the northeast Gulf of Alaska from Dry Bay to Cape Yakataga. The numbered arrows refer to the location and direction of view of high-altitude oblique aerial photographs presented in Figures 2 through 8.



Figure 2. Oblique air photo of the coast from Icy Cape (foreground) to Cape Yakataga (background). The photo was taken on August 4, 1975, from 9000 ft. For location of photo, see Figure 1. The largest waves observed during the field season were at Icy Cape. Processes and geomorphology indicate a net westward sediment transport between Icy Cape and Cape Yakataga, and a northeastward transport into Icy Bay.



Figure 3. Oblique air photo of Claybluff Point (center) and the west side of Icy Bay. The Tyndall Glacier and the Karr Hills are in the background. The photo was taken on August 4, 1975, from 9000 ft. The amount of ice seen in the central part of Icy Bay is typical of summer conditions. Sediment transport on the shoreline in the foreground is consistently into the bay.



Figure 4. Oblique aerial view towards the north on the east side of Icy Bay. Riou Spit is in the foreground; Chirp Island is in center background. The photo was taken on August 4, 1975, from an altitude of about 8000 ft.

Riou Spit has grown to its present size (about 8 km long) since the retreat of the ice margin from this site about 75 years ago. This demonstrates a rapid westward transport of sediment into the bay from Point Riou and beaches further east.



Figure 5. Oblique aerial view of the west Malaspina Foreland, looking east. Riou Spit is in the foreground, Point Riou is the first vegetated cliff, the Old Yahtse and Yana streams form the two wide outwash plains further east, and Fountain Stream forms the cuspate delta in the background. The photo was taken on August 4, 1975, from an altitude of 8000 ft. Nearshore sediment plumes demonstrate high meltwater discharge.



Figure 6. Oblique aerial view to the east of the western Malaspina Foreland. The area extends from Point Riou (lower left) to Fountain Stream (upper right). The Malaspina Glacier is in the upper left corner of the photograph. The photo was taken on August 4, 1975, from 8000 ft.

The barrier-spits off the Old Yahtse and Yana outwash plains are both oriented westward in agreement with measured and computed direction of sediment transport. Note the suspended sediment plumes and the peculiar "sediment stringers" in the foreground.



Figure 7. Oblique aerial view of the east Malaspina Foreland, looking west. Manby Point is in the foreground; Sitkagi Bluffs, Fountain Stream, and part of the Malaspina Glacier are visible in the background. The photo was taken on August 4, 1975, from an altitude of 8000 ft.

The barrier spits off the Manby and Alder stream outwash plains (center) demonstrate a net long-term transport of coarse sediments to the east.



Figure 8. Oblique aerial view to the south of the prograding beach ridge plain of the Grand Wash River (Kwik Stream). The photo was taken on August 4, 1975, from an altitude of about 3000 ft.

Kwik Stream, draining the eastern Malaspina Glacier, carries large volumes of sediment into the low energy inner part of Yakutat Bay, hence the rapid progradation. Note the suspended sediment plumes and the northeastward orientation of the barrier spits.



### SUMMARY OF WAVE CLIMATE

### North Pacific Cyclones

The principal frontal zones of the northern hemisphere winter are shown in Figure 9. Two Pacific polar fronts and one Pacific arctic front are generally present. Normally, the front near Asia is the stronger and generates a majority of the storms which travel into the Gulf of Alaska. Storm tracks derived from inspection of northern hemisphere surface synoptic charts (NOAA, National Climatic Center, 1973) illustrate this well (Fig. 10, storm track no. 13). The Pacific arctic front can also be responsible for local storm generation within the Gulf of Alaska as illustrated by Figure 10, tracks no. 7, 15, and 18. The steep temperature gradients at the Alaska and St. Elias Ranges in winter, which separate the mild maritime climate from the cold continental interior (Alaska Regional Profiles, 1975, vol. 1, p. 7), prevent the cyclones from penetrating inland, and low pressure centers which enter the central Gulf of Alaska have a tendency to remain there until they dissipate. This combination of locally-generated cyclones on the Pacific arctic front and decaying traveling cyclones arriving from the west generates in the Gulf of Alaska the highest winter cyclone frequency in the northern hemisphere (Petterssen, 1969, p. 227; Fig. 12A).

The reduction in intensity of latitudinal pressure differences in summer causes a breakdown of the zonal current with consequent decrease in frontal cyclogenic activity. The cyclones that do occur are weak but surprisingly long lived. A typical travel pattern is illustrated in Figure 11 by storm tracks no. 3, 4, and 5. Most of the summer storm activity is located in the western Gulf of Alaska and to the south of the

outer Aleutian Islands. Even there, the summer cyclone frequency is not any higher than many other places in the northern hemisphere (Petterssen, 1969, p. 229; Fig. 12B).

Winter cyclones of the North Pacific frequently have central pressures of less than 950 mb. This is the same pressure reduction as that generally associated with Caribbean hurricanes. In summer very few North Pacific cyclones have central pressures much less than 1000 mb.

### Gulf of Alaska Coastal Wind Regime

Summary of Synoptic Meteorological Observations (U. S. Naval Weather Service Command, 1970), hereafter referred to as SSMO data, were used to derive wind frequency distributions for data squares in the coastal area of the Gulf of Alaska from Unimak to Vancouver Island (Fig. 13). The average wind regime for the Gulf of Alaska over a seven year period from 1963 to 1970 demonstrates that both dominant and prevailing winds are aligned with the general trend of the shoreline (Fig. 13). The dominant winds blow out of the southeast in the Queen Charlotte and Sitka data squares, out of the east and southeast in Cordova, out of both east and west in Seward, and dominantly out of the west off the Alaska Peninsula.

This wind pattern, which in turn controls coastal sedimentation dynamics, can be explained by the storm track patterns of Figures 10 and 11 and synoptic charts for selected typical storms (Figs. 14-17). The strong easterly and southeasterly winds on the central and eastern coasts are generally caused by cyclones moving into the Gulf south of the Aleutians. Interior high pressure centers create a strong pressure gradient along the coast, strengthening the southeasterly wind components of the

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Figure 9. Principal frontal zones of the northern hemisphere in winter. The western Pacific polar front and the Pacific arctic front are areas of generation for cyclones traveling into the central Gulf of Alaska. Data are from Petterssen (1969, p. 222).



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Figure 10. Cyclone tracks across the North Pacific in January, 1973. The map was derived by visual inspection of Northern Hemisphere Surface Synoptic Charts (NOAA, National Climatic Center, 1973). All storms occurring in one month were mapped. The time interval between two consecutive tick-marks is 6h. The number indicates the starting point of each track. Letter designations, e.g., 12b, 12c, refer to secondary cyclones formed in the wake of the primary one, e.g., no. 12. Note the general eastward migration pattern and the clustering of tracks in the north central Gulf of Alaska, caused by the steep temperature-induced pressure barrier at the high coastal mountain ranges.


Figure 11. Cyclone tracks across the North Pacific in July, 1972. For explanation of symbols, see Figure 10. The main storm activity in summer is concentrated to the south and west of the Aleutian Islands, with only a few weak cyclones migrating into the Gulf of Alaska.



Figure 12A. Percentage frequency of cyclone centers in winter. The frequencies refer to areas of 100,000 km<sup>2</sup>. Note the regional maximum in the central Gulf of Alaska. Data are from Petterssen (1969, p. 227).

Figure 12B. Percentage frequency of cyclone centers in summer. Units are as above. Note the reduction in northern latitude frequencies and the development of subtropical intense lows. Data are from Petterseen (1969, p. 229).





Figure 13. Wind frequency distributions for coastal data squares in the Gulf of Alaska. The diagrams are based on wind observations presented in Summary of Synoptic Meteorological Observations (U. S. Naval Weather Service Command, 1970). The dominant and prevailing winds are generally aligned parallel to the shoreline because of the temperature-induced pressure gradient along the coastal mountains. On the northeast coast of the Gulf, the dominant winds blow towards the northwest; on the northwest coast they blow towards the east and northeast.



Figure 14. Synoptic chart for the North Pacific at 1200 Z on January 9, 1973. Isobar interval is 4 mb. A strong cyclone (central pressure 976 mb) is located south of the Aleutians. The southeasterly wind components along the coast of southeast Alaska are strengthened by the steep Cordilleran pressure gradient. Data are from Northern Hemisphere Surface Synoptic Charts (NOAA, National Climatic Center, 1973).



Figure 15. Synoptic chart of the North Pacific at 0000 Z, January 17, 1973. Isobar interval is 4 mb. In this winter situation an eastward traveling cyclone has just broken into three secondary cyclones scattered through the Gulf of Alaska. The pressure gradient at the Alaska Range is very steep, generating strong easterly winds on the north-central Gulf coast. Data are from Northern Hemisphere Surface Synoptic Charts (NOAA, National Climatic Center, 1973).



Figure 16. Synoptic chart for the North Pacific at 0000 Z, July 25, 1972. Isobar interval is 4 mb. The North Pacific high, here centered mid-way between Hawaii and Alaska, directly controls the circulation in the Gulf, causing gentle westerly winds along the south-central Alaskan coast. Data from Northern Hemisphere Surface Synoptic Charts (NOAA, National Climatic Center, 1973).



Figure 17. Synoptic chart for the North Pacific at 1200 Z, July 11, 1972. Isobar interval is 4 mb. An elongated North Pacific high pressure center controls the path of travel of two smaller cyclones to the north. Both cyclones will generate moderate southeasterly waves along the south-central coast of Alaska. Data from Northern Hemisphere Surface Synoptic Charts (NOAA, National Climatic Center, 1973).

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cyclone (Fig. 14). Frequently, the cyclones stagnate or disperse into a cluster of two or more secondary low pressure centers within the Gulf. This situation, illustrated in Figure 15, also generates strong southeasterly coastal winds. Because of the oceanic conditions on both sides of the Alaska Peninsula and the Aleutians, the winds there are much weaker than those on the east side of the circulation system, and they blow generally out of the north, becoming offshore winds on the Gulf side.

The strong westerly winds in the Unimak and Kodiak data squares are caused by cyclones following the other major storm track belt, that across the Bering Sea into northwest Alaska. These storms are illustrated by tracks no. 6 and 17 in Figure 10.

In summer, the Gulf of Alaska is influenced by a strong North Pacific high pressure center which at times controls the winds directly (Fig. 16). At other times the high pressure system exerts constraints on the path of travel of migrating cyclones (Fig. 17), indirectly controlling the wind regime within the Gulf. The smaller size of summer cyclones in the Gulf of Alaska causes great variability in coastal wind regime. The predominant pattern, however, is that of southeasterly winds in the eastern Gulf and northerly and northwesterly winds in the western Gulf. As in winter, many cyclones do travel up the Bering Sea (Fig. 11, tracks no. 1, 6, and 11), causing westerly winds in the Aleutians.

#### Wave Energy Flux Distribution

The wind frequency diagrams of Figure 13 present a qualitative picture of the regional variability in physical processes of coastal sedimentation. In order to attain a quantitative estimate of littoral transport rates, the wind frequency distribution must be combined with observed wave heights

and periods (also presented in SSMO tables) to compute the wave energy flux, a quantity directly related to longshore sediment transport rates (Coastal Engineering Research Center, 1973, p. 4-101). In utilizing the SSMO data for computations of wave energy flux distributions, the following assumptions are made: 1) the direction of propagation of the observed waves corresponds to the measured local wind direction; 2) waves are propagating in one direction only, at one period, in any specific time interval; 3) all recorded observations were made in deep water. This first assumption is critical and is generally more justifiable on the west coast where the weather systems move onshore than on the east coast where they move offshore. Because of the reduction of data prior to presentation in the SSMO tables, directions are given by an eight point compass rose, i.e.,  $45^{\circ}$  sectors.

The wave energy flux for a given sea state is defined as total wave energy per unit area of the sea surface times the velocity of propagation of this energy, i.e., the group velocity. For deep water wave conditions this becomes:

$$P_{o} = 9.58 \cdot 10^{9} \cdot H^{2} \cdot T$$
 (1)

where all parameters are in metric units. P<sub>o</sub> is wave energy flux in units of ergs/m·sec. H is wave height in meters, and T is wave period in seconds. The following procedure was followed in computing the mean annual wave energy flux.

Let the probability of occurrence of a wave with height  $H_i$ , travelling in direction m, be denoted by  $p_{i,m}$  (where m is a directional indicator representing N, NE, ...NW). The distribution is normalized such that:

$$\sum_{m} \sum_{i} p_{i,m} = 1$$
 (2)

Let the probability of occurrence of wave height  $H_i$  and period  $T_i$  be  $r_{i,j}$ . This distribution is normalized for each H such that:

$$\sum_{j} r_{i,j} = 1$$
(3)

The contribution to the mean annual wave energy flux for deep water from each direction (m) can then be expressed as

$$P_{o}(m) = 9.58 \cdot 10^{9} \sum_{i} \sum_{j} H_{i}^{2} \cdot T_{j} \cdot r_{i,j} \cdot p_{i}$$
 (4)

Deep water wave energy flux values for each of the eight compass directions were computed according to equation 4 from SSMO tabulated  $p_{i,m}$ 's and  $r_{i,j}$ 's. The results of the energy flux computations are presented graphically in Figures 18 and 19, and in tabular form in Table 1.

The energy flux diagrams of Figure 18 reflect the wind frequency distributions of Figure 13 and the available fetch lengths. Dominant southeasterly energy flux is observed at Queen Charlotte and Sitka, directly reflecting the strong winds parallel to this coastline. The onshore and offshore energy flux components are relatively small, reflecting the scarcity of westerly winds and the short fetch available for easterlies. In the north-central Gulf of Alaska, the two directions of dominant energy flux are parallel to shore with the westerly and onshore components increasing in significance towards the west.

The resultant energy flux vector (Fig. 19) for each data square points north at Queen Charlotte and Sitka, northwest at Cordova, and northeast at Seward. This indicates a convergence of wave energy towards Montague Island and Prince William sound. Farther west, in the Kodiak and Unimak data squares, the resultant energy flux vectors point offshore in a general

eastward direction (Fig. 19) because of the large westerly and northwesterly components.

The direction of the resultant wave energy flux vector should correspond to the direction of net coarse sediment transport on an adjacent exposed beach not subject to topographically controlled local reversals. The SSMO data predict a net long-term transport towards the northwest along the North American coast from Vancouver to Cordova and, where beaches are present, a northeast transport direction from the Aleutians to the entrance of Prince William Sound.

The small arrows in Figure 19 indicate directions of littoral sediment transport determined from coastal geomorphic features like spits, headland and inlet offsets, and crescentic bays. The detailed littoral sediment transport pattern is much more complicated than indicated here because of local bathymetrically controlled reversals. The figure does demonstrate, however, a good correlation between the long-term transport direction on an open coast and the resultant regional wave energy flux distribution. The pattern presented in Figure 19 gives more detail but is in general agreement with that deduced by Silvester (1974, p. 92) from geomorphology alone.

Compared to annual wave energy flux values computed elsewhere in the world, the ones for the Gulf of Alaska are high but not the highest. Nummedal (1975) computed SSMO derived wave energy flux values for the south coast of Iceland ranging up to  $13.5 \cdot 10^{10}$  ergs/m·sec from the east. Unpublished computations for the North Sea give values up to  $10 \cdot 10^{10}$  ergs/m·sec. Brown (1975) computed the mean annual wave energy flux off South Carolina to have a maximum of  $3.5 \cdot 10^{10}$  ergs/m·sec out of the northeast.

Typical Gulf of Alaska figures range up to  $7.4 \cdot 10^{10}$  ergs/m·sec out of the east at Cordova (Table 1) indicating a moderate storm wave environment.

Figure 18. Wave energy flux distribution for the coastal areas of the Gulf of Alaska. The computations are based on deep water wave observations presented in Summary of Synoptic Meteorological Observations (U. S. Naval Weather Service Command, 1970). The wave energy flux is highest out of the southeast for the Vancouver, Queen Charlotte, and Sitka data squares, out of the east at Cordova, and out of the west at Seward, Kodiak, and Unimak. This pattern corresponds closely to that of the winds presented in Figure 13.



Figure 19. Direction of longshore sediment transportation based on large scale coastal geomorphic features and resultant wave energy flux distribution for the coastal areas of the Gulf of Alaska. Large scale coastal features used in establishing long-term transport directions include spits, offsets, and crescentic embayments. The resultant wave energy flux is determined by vectorial addition of the distributions presented in Figure 18. Note the convergence of wave energy flux towards Prince William Sound.



# TABLE 1

Deep Water Wave Energy Flux Values for Gulf of Alaska SSMO Squares

Data Square	Direction							
	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW
Vancouver	1.12	. 39	1.45	5.01	4.44	3.07	4.21	4.37
Queen Charlotte	.83	.55	1.84	5.00	2.44	2.05	2.66	2.08
Sitka	.71	1.60	3.18	4.45	2.94	2.72	2.72	1.40
Cordova	.54	2.04	7.42	4.66	2.86	2.54	3.00	1.10
Seward	1.49	2.23	5.70	3.76	3.54	4.09	5.44	3.78
Kodiak	1.02	2.27	3.06	1.43	1.56	1.69	4.37	2.68
Unimak	2.30	1.64	2.23	1.78	3.25	4.53	6.46	5.28

Wave energy flux in units of  $10^{10} \frac{\text{ergs}}{\text{m} \cdot \text{sec}}$ 

This is in agreement with the world-wide distribution of wave climate presented by Davies (1973).

In comparing the Alaska wave energy flux values to other places in the world, the reliability of SSMO data comes into question. In an evaluation by the Coastal Engineering Research Center (CERC, 1973) SSMO-derived wave height data were found to correspond well to hindcast data, except for very high waves, where the SSMO frequencies tend to be less than the hindcast ones. This discrepancy is probably a direct result of the tendency for a fair-weather bias on the part of shipboard observations. This bias tends to be most severe in areas visited by only a few ships on a seasonal basis. In areas where SSMO wave height data are found to be good, e.g., the east coast of the U. S. (CERC, 1973), the North Sea (Quale, 1975, personal communication), and Iceland (Nummedal, 1975), there are typically from a few thousand to more than 20 thousand observations per degree square. In contrast, a degree square in the central Gulf of Alaska has only a few hundred observations (U. S. Naval Weather Service Command, Surface Marine Environmental Data Survey Charts). Probably few of these record the major winter storms.

There is reason to expect that the wave energy fluxes in Table 1, computed from SSMO data, give a lower limit of the actual annual wave energy flux values for the central Gulf of Alaska.

## WAVE REFRACTION

#### Principles and Bathymetry

Wave trains moving landward across the continental shelf in a depth of water less than about one half the deep water wavelength will travel

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with a phase velocity which depends on the depth (Eagelson and Dean, 1966). Consequently, when waves move at an angle to the depth contours, different parts of the wave crest will move at different speeds, causing the direction of wave propagation to change, i.e., the wave is refracted.

Wave refraction diagrams have been constructed for the shelf of the northeast Gulf of Alaska between Cape Suckling and Yakutat in order to relate the offshore wave climate, as recorded in SSMO data, to observed nearshore wave conditions and sediment transportation.

The most recent bathymetric chart of the area is that by Molnia and Carlson (1975). This bathymetry was used to produce five refraction diagrams (Figs. 20-24) for wave conditions judged to be typical for the Gulf of Alaska. The diagrams are constructed by hand according to the refraction principles of geometrical optics as recommended in the Shore Protection Manual (Coastal Engineering Research Center, 1973, p. 2-65). Basically, the method utilizes Snell's law which states that when waves traverse a velocity discontinuity (contour) the direction of propagation changes according to the relation:

$$\frac{\sin \alpha_1}{\sin \alpha_2} = \frac{C_1}{C_2} \tag{5}$$

where  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  represent the angles between the perpendicular to the contour and the wave orthogonal on the deep and shallow side, respectively.  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are the velocities of wave propagation in deep and shallow water. Depth is generally decreasing as a continuous function in a landward direction. This continuous function is transformed into a step function in order to utilize eq. 5 in the refraction analysis; the step interval is determined either by the available bathymetry or practical considerations about the needed refraction accuracy. For the Gulf of Alaska the 25 meter

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contour interval of Molnia and Carlson's (1975) map was used. Because significant refraction occurs landward of 25 meters depth, the wave orthogonals in Figures 20 through 24 are carried only half-way across this last bathymetric interval.

# Discussion of Refraction Diagrams

Eight-second waves are typical of summer conditions in the Gulf during the absence of major storms. According to the SSMO tables, eight-second waves occur in the Cordova data square 9.4 per cent of the time. Multiple simultaneous fetch areas commonly generate complex deep water wave trains. Differential refraction of separate components of the wave spectrum adds further to the multidirectional approach of waves at the shoreline. The pattern of unidirectional (south) monochromatic (8 sec) waves with simultaneous existence over an area about 30,000 square kilometers as shown in Figure 20, therefore, is greatly simplified from natural conditions. The nearshore wave variability predicted from a simple refraction diagram like Figure 20 is more a measure of average conditions along the shore contributed by eight-second waves than a picture of instantaneous lateral variability for any given sea state.

The continental shelf off south-central Alaska is narrow and steep. Southeast of Cape Suckling the width to the 200 m contour is only 7 km, giving an average slope of 28 meters per kilometer. Where the shelf is the widest, off Icy Bay, the 200 m contour is 70 km offshore, giving an average slope of 2.8 meters per kilometer. Because of this steepness, refraction of the short eight-second waves is first noticed 10 to 20 km offshore, and only minor reorientation of the wave crests takes place before they run ashore. The most noticeable effect on the eight-second waves is the focusing of energy towards the entrance of Icy Bay due to

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Figure 20. Refraction diagram for eight-second waves out of the south in the north-central Gulf of Alaska. The bathymetry is based on a map by Molnia and Carlson (1975). Contour interval is 25 meters, except at the entrance to Icy Bay. This large contour interval prevents the extension of the wave orthogonals all the way to the shoreline because of significant shallow water refraction.

The steep and narrow shelf produces insignificant refraction for these short period waves.



Figure 21. Refraction diagram for twelve-second waves out of the southwest in the north-central Gulf of Alaska. For explanation, see Figure 20.

There is a significant concentration of wave energy at the entrance to Icy Bay and a reduction in energy in Yakutat Bay because of the different entrance bathymetry in the two bays. Along the exposed shoreline west of Icy Bay and along the Malaspina Foreland the energy density is relatively constant.



Figure 22. Refraction diagram for twelve-second waves out of the south in the north-central Gulf of Alaska. For explanation, see Figure 20.

Note the convergence of wave orthogonals towards Icy Bay and divergence into Yakutat Bay. Along the remainder of the shoreline these waves are subject only to minor refraction because of the general alignment of the bathymetric contours and the incoming wave crests.



Figure 23. Refraction diagram for twelve-second waves out of the southeast in the north-central Gulf of Alaska. For explanation see Figure 20.

Because of the general alignment of the bathymetric contours, southeasterly waves propagate less energy per meter of beach to the shore east of Cape Yakataga than do south and southwesterly waves (Figs. 22 and 21). The effect of the bathymetric high at the Icy Bay entrance is to disperse the wave energy in the region between the Bay entrance and Cape Yakataga.



## Figure 24. Refraction diagram for sixteen-second waves out of the south in the north-central Gulf of Alaska. For explanation, see Figure 20.

Generally, the pattern of lateral variability in nearshore wave energy corresponds to that for twelve-second waves from the south, but the variations are greater because the whole shelf influences the refraction of these long period waves. Wave energy concentrations are observed at Point Riou, the east Malaspina Foreland, the moraine off Icy Bay, and the Bering Foreland (see Fig. 25 for location names).


shoaling by submerged Neoglacial moraines. For southwesterly and southeasterly waves the pattern is much the same except for lower energy per meter of beach caused by the oblique wave approach.

Twelve-second waves are typical for major winter storms (according to preliminary wave hindcasting) and distant swells arriving at the Gulf. According to the SSMO tables, twelve-second waves occur in the Cordova data square 1.3 per cent of the time. With a deep water wavelength of 250 meters, twelve-second waves are significantly refracted in water less than 125 meters deep. The offshore distance to the 125 meter contour varies from about 3 to 40 km. The refraction pattern is a lot more complex than that for the eight-second waves. For south (Fig. 22) and southwesterly (Fig. 21) wave approaches, there is a significant concentration of wave energy at the Icy Bay entrance, and a divergence of wave orthogonals with consequent reduction in wave energy at the entrance to Yakutat Bay. The energy flux along the remainder of the exposed shoreline is relatively constant, but slight variations, reflected in the predicted wave height distributions (Fig. 25), are observed. For a given offshore wave energy density, southeasterly waves propagate less energy to the shore east of Cape Yakataga than do waves from the south and southwest (Fig. 23). Also, the effect of the moraine off Icy Bay is such as to disperse the wave energy, placing the Cape Yakataga-Icy Bay shoreline in a "shadow" zone. Wave energies are also uniformly low on the Malaspina Foreland. The narrow shelf and change in orientation of the coast west of Yakataga make this the most exposed segment of the shore for southeasterly waves.

A refraction diagram for sixteen-second waves was included to illustrate the extent and pattern of refraction for the most extreme storm and

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swell conditions. Sixteen-second waves are not listed as a separate category in the SSMO tables. With a deep water wavelength of 430 meters, sixteen-second waves will start to refract significantly at the 200 meter depth contour. The whole shelf controls the refraction pattern. Essentially, the pattern illustrated in Figure 24 for waves out of the south corresponds to that for shorter period waves (e.g., 12 sec waves in Fig. 22) with a very pronounced convergence of orthogonals towards the entrance to Icy Bay and a divergence at Yakutat Bay. The lateral wave energy variability, however, is greater the longer the wave period.

For use in computations below, Table 2 lists wave refraction coefficients computed from Figures 20 through 24. The refraction coefficient,  $K_r$ , is defined as:

$$K_r = (b_0/b)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
 (6)

where  $b_0$  is the spacing of two adjacent wave orthogonals in deep water and b is the spacing between the same two orthogonals at the desired shallow water depth. Table 2 lists refraction coefficients for each orthogonal interval starting with the one farthest west, computed for a shallow water depth of 25 meters.

### Wave Height Distribution

The wave refraction diagrams (Figs. 20-24) provide the information necessary for a prediction of shallow water wave heights for known deep water conditions. The computations are based on the following line of reasoning.

Specific wave energy, i.e., total wave energy per unit area of sea surface, can be expressed as:

$$E = \frac{\rho g H^2}{8}$$
(7)

# TABLE 2

Refraction coefficients at 25 m water depth for 8, 12 and 16 sec waves in the north-central Gulf of Alaska. The coefficients refer to Figures 20 through 24 and are listed for each orthogonal interval beginning with the one farthest west.

Period (sec)	8		12		16
Direction	S	SW	S	SE	<u>S</u>
	.988	.898	1.066	.981	1,091
	.973	.913	.945	.981	1.235
	.992	.925	.913	.973	.833
	.981	.955	.973	.952	1.091
	1.012	1.102	1.000	.928	.811
	.977	1.091	.988	.973	.928
	.992	.952	.973	1.043	1.043
	1.029	.938	1.000	.895	1.043
	.992	.945	.962	.838	1.000
	.977	1.147	1.047	.807	.981
	1.012	.952	1.043	.640	.952
	1.008	.913	1.008	.696	.928
	.981	•996	.945	.857	.898
	1.000	1.066	1.000	.791	.913
	.988	.988	.919	1.004	.962
	.973	1.004	1.118	.781	1.000
	1.043	.850	.907	.762	.843
	.938	.973	1.021	.801	.754
	.898	1.025	.870	.633	.754
	1.091	•945	.962		.913
	.981	.981	1.043		1.066
	1.021	.843	.981		.945
	.962	.762	1.000		1.021
	1.021	1.029	1.004		1.043
	1.000	.981	1.043		1.091
	1.025	• 969	.962		.945
	1.004		1.118		1.021
	1.021		1.000		.833
	.988		1.043		.870
	1.038		.945		.913
	• 996		1.000		.945
	.98T		1.038		.981
	1.021		.945		.962
	.98L		1.043		
	1.021		.928		
	•962		.611		

(see Eagelson and Dean, 1966, p. 54) where  $\rho$  is water density, g is the acceleration of gravity and H is wave height. Two assumptions are made: (1) for waves advancing toward shore no energy flows laterally along the crest; i.e., the energy flux between two wave orthogonals of the refraction diagram remains constant; (2) seaward of the breaker zone there is no energy loss due to bottom friction or internal turbulence. Based on these assumptions one can equate the wave energy flux between two adjacent orthogonals in deep and shallow water. The deep water wave energy flux is:

$$P = \frac{1}{2} \cdot b_0 \cdot E_0 \cdot C_0$$
(8)

where subscript o refers to deep water; b is the spacing of the orthogonals and C is the wave phase velocity. In shallow water the energy flux is:

$$P = n \cdot b \cdot E \cdot C \tag{9}$$

where n is the coefficient relating group velocity to phase velocity for transitional water depths (for details see: Coastal Engineering Research Center, 1973, v. 1, p. 2-25 and 2-66). Equating the deep water to the shallow water energy flux yields:

$$\frac{E}{E_{o}} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{b_{o}}{b} \cdot \frac{C_{o}}{C}$$
(10)

Substituting H for E according to equation 7 gives:

$$\frac{H}{H_o} = \left(\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{C_o}{C} \cdot \frac{b_o}{b}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(11)

The term  $\left(\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{C_0}{C}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is known as the <u>shoaling coefficient</u>, K<sub>s</sub>, and  $(b_0/b)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is known as the <u>refraction coefficient</u>, K<sub>r</sub>. Thus:

$$\frac{H}{H_0} = K_s \cdot K_r$$
(12)

when energy losses are ignored. Equation 12 is used to predict wave height distribution along the northeast coast of the Gulf of Alaska for the

Figure 25. Predicted wave height distributions for the north-central coast of the Gulf of Alaska. Predictions are based on wave refraction diagrams (Figs. 20-24) according to a method outlined in the text. The wave height is given in relative units from 0 to 10 for a deep water wave height of 10. For example, a 10-foot deep water wave off Cape Suckling approaching from the southeast with a period of twelve seconds will be 9 feet high in 25 meters of water off the Cape (graph D). A similar wave approaching from the south with a sixteen-second period will be 12 feet high at the same point (graph E).

The pattern of wave height variability depends on period and approach direction. Typically, however, the waves are large near Cape Suckling, maintain the deep water wave height along the Bering Foreland, decrease in height west of Icy Point, increase again at the entrance to Icy Bay, are high along the west Malaspina Foreland, and drop off dramatically in height into Yakutat Bay.



25 meter depth contour.  $K_s$  is a function of depth and wave period only and is tabulated in the Shore Protection Manual (Coastal Engineering Research Center, 1973, v. III, Table C-1). The refraction coefficient has been computed for each orthogonal interval of the refraction diagrams (Table 2). The resulting wave height distribution is plotted in Figure 25. The wave height is given in relative units from 0 to 10, for a deep water wave height of 10. For example, a 10 foot high deep water wave approaching Cape Suckling from the southeast with a period of twelve seconds will be 9 feet high in 25 meters of water off the cape. A similar wave approaching from the south with a sixteen-second period will be 12 feet high at the same point.

Eight-second waves show little variability along the shoreline because of the insignificant refraction. There is a slight increase in wave height immediately west of Icy Bay, however. Southerly waves show the same variability pattern for twelve- and sixteen-second periods. The variation is larger, however, for the longer period waves. Typically, these waves are large near Cape Suckling, maintain about the deep water wave height along the Bering Foreland, decrease near Icy Point, increase again at the entrance to Icy Bay, are high along the west Malaspina Foreland, and drop off dramatically in height into Yakutat Bay. The pattern is similar for southwesterly and southeasterly waves. Because of the general trend of this segment of the shoreline, waves out of the southeast are the ones subject to most refraction, as demonstrated by the generally small wave heights in Figure 25D. This pattern of wave height variability should be compared to the observed wave heights for the summer of 1975, presented in Figure 27.

### SEDIMENT TRANSPORT

### Sediment Transport Computation Methods

Longshore sediment transportation rates for the northeast coast of the Gulf of Alaska were computed both from the SSMO-derived annual wave energy flux distribution and the coastal process data collected in the field during the summer of 1975. A brief presentation of methods is appropriate.

If the deep water wave energy flux from a given direction is P, the longshore component of that flux can be shown to be  $P_1$ , where:

$$P_1 = P \cdot \sin \alpha_b \cdot \cos \alpha_0 \tag{13}$$

(for derivation see Walton, 1972).  $\alpha_b$  and  $\alpha_o$  are the angles between the shoreline and the crests of the breaking wave and deep water wave, respectively. Equation 13 properly accounts for refraction and shoaling but assumes a friction-percolation coefficient of unity. In this equation the angle  $\alpha_o$  is determined by selection of the shoreline orientation. Determination of  $\alpha_b$  is based on constructed refraction diagrams which properly account for the shelf bathymetry. For simplicity the refraction diagrams constructed for twelve-second waves (Figs. 21-23) were used, assuming the breaker angle to be independent of wave period for the wave conditions which dominate the longshore sediment transport. Only southwest, south and southeast wave approaches contribute to the longshore energy flux along this section of shoreline. The annual sediment transport rate is found from the following equation (the metric equivalent of eq. 4-40 in Coastal Engineering Research Center, 1973):

$$Q = 1.28 \cdot 10^{-4} \cdot P_1 \tag{14}$$

where Q is cubic meters of sediment per year and  $P_1$  is the mean annual longshore energy flux measured in ergs/s·m. Two longshore transport rates

are computed as both are important in the assessment of coastal sedimentation problems. The gross longshore transport rate,  $Q_g$ , is defined as the sum of the amounts of littoral sediment transported to the right and to the left past a point on the shoreline:

$$Q_g = Q_r + Q_1 \tag{15}$$

The net longshore transport rate,  $Q_n$ , is defined as the difference between the amounts moving left and right:

$$Q_n = Q_r - Q_1 \tag{16}$$

In calculating longshore sediment transport rate from observed shoreline processes one can use a form of eq. 13 which does not require knowledge of the deep water wave approach angle,  $\alpha_0$ . It can be shown that (Coastal Engineering Research Center, 1973, p. 4-98):

$$P_1 \simeq 2.69 \cdot 10^{10} \cdot H_b^{5/2} \cdot \sin 2\alpha_b$$
 (17)

where  $H_b$  is breaker height in meters and  $P_1$  is longshore energy flux in ergs/m·s.

## Results of SSMO Computations

The shoreline between Yakutat Bay and Cape Suckling was subdivided into four segments for the purpose of sediment transport computation (Fig. 26). Each segment was approximated by a straight line.  $\alpha_0$  is directly computed for each of the segments for three deep water wave approach directions.  $\alpha_b$  is measured from wave refraction diagrams presented in Figures 21 through 23. All these data are summarized in Table 3.

The contribution to the annual sediment transport rate for waves out of the three approach directions considered is computed from data in Tables 1 and 3 by equations 13 and 14. Results are listed in Table 4. The total gross and net transport rates, calculated according to eqs. 15 and 16, are

# TABLE 3

# Orientation of shoreline and incoming wave crests for four segments of the northeast coast of the Gulf of Alaska. A map is presented in Figure 26.

Segment		1	2	3	4
	Shoreline azimuth	98	117	103	78
	Southeast waves	37	18	32	57
α <sub>o</sub>	South waves	82	63	77	102
	Southwest waves	127	108	122	147
	Southeast waves	69	65	50	75
аъ	South waves	98 <sup>°</sup>	84	73	100
	Southwest waves	123	109	97	110

# TABLE 4

Longshore sediment transport rates on the northeast coast of the Gulf of Alaska, based on SSMO data for the time period 1963-1970. Positive sign indicates transport to the right (west); negative sign indicates transport to the left (east).

Wave Approach Direction	Longshore Energy Flux (P <sub>1</sub> )* 10 <sup>10</sup> ergs s•m	Sediment transport rate 10 <sup>6</sup> m <sup>3</sup> /yr for shoreline segment 1 2 3 4		ate in ine 4	
Southeast	4.66	4.45	5.14	3.87	3.14
South	2.86	.50	1.65	.79	75
Southwest	2.54	-1.64	95	-1.71	-2.56
Gross T <b>ra</b> nsport	6.59	7.73	6.37	6.45	
Net Transport H	3.31	5.84	2.95	17	

\*For the Cordova SSMO data square

presented in Table 4 and Figure 26.

The results indicate that southeasterly waves are responsible for the dominant sediment transportation along this coast. This is to be expected in light of the cyclone patterns shown in Figures 10, 14 and 15, which indicate strong southeasterly winds associated with low pressure centers commonly located for long periods of time within the central Gulf of Alaska region. The gross transport rates are higher than what is reported anywhere else along the shores of the United States (Wiegel, 1964), and very similar to rates determined for the south coast of Iceland (Nummedal, 1975). It is interesting in this respect to note the similarity in setting of these two coasts with respect to cyclone track frequencies in the North Pacific and the North Atlantic (Fig. 12A).

The net transport is uniformly westward on the exposed shorelines between Cape Suckling and the central Malaspina Foreland, a predicted pattern which agrees well both with the large-scale transport pattern in the Gulf of Alaska (Fig. 19) and local geomorphology and process observations (Fig. 53). The presence of Yakutat Bay makes the shoreline east of the central Malaspina Foreland trend to the northeast, thus inducing a local reversal in transport direction. The net transport rate to the east in segment 4, however, is less than 3 percent of the gross rate, indicating the existence of a delicate balance. Slight changes in wave climate from one year to the next might displace the nodal point at the central Malaspina Foreland a distance of many kilometers. Further into Yakutat Bay the shoreline trends more to the north, and the predicted transport direction is towards the head of the bay, in accord with morphology and process observations (Fig. 53).

Figure 26. Summary diagram of computed longshore sediment transportation rates along the northeast coast of the Gulf of Alaska. Computations are based on local SSMO data and wave refraction diagrams. See text for the method.

A gross longshore transport rate of about 6.5 million cubic meters per year characterizes this shoreline. The net transport rate is highly dependent on the local shoreline orientation and is found to range from 170,000 m<sup>3</sup>/yr to the east on the east Malaspina Foreland (segment 4) to a high of 5.8 mill. m<sup>3</sup>/yr to the west along the shoreline between Icy Point and Cape Yakataga.



## Transport Rates Based on Observed Wave Conditions

Table 5 presents littoral wave parameters for three stations on the Malaspina Foreland, observed in July and August of 1975 (for location see Fig. 28). Equations 17 and 14 are used to determine the longshore transport rate for any given observation. For a range in wave height of .7 to 2.8 meters, the sediment transport rate changes more than 2 orders of magnitude, clearly demonstrating the significance of major storm waves. Ranges of a few hundred thousand to about 40 million cubic meters per year for the observed range of conditions are reasonable in light of an annual average over a 7 year period of about 6.5 million  $m^3$ .

### OBSERVED COASTAL PROCESSES

### General

Field studies of littoral sedimentation processes were undertaken in July and August of 1975. The area covered extends from Cape Yakataga to Yakutat Bay (Fig. 1). It is recognized that the observed processes generally describe summer "fair weather" conditions and are not representative of long time periods. According to SSMO tables for the Cordova data square, the range in wave heights observed (up to 2.8 meters) covers about 75% of the annual height-frequency distribution.

Summer process observations involved both a regional process network and a set of time-series measurements at specific sites. The regional process network involved nearly simultaneous measurements for constant wave conditions at 10 stations distributed over 150 km of shoreline. The timeseries measurements (process zonals) involved detailed observations at one station over a 48-hour period. At each zonal site, meteorological and

# TABLE 5

Sediment transport rate (Q) for observed unidirectional waves.

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Date	Time	H <sub>b</sub> (m)	T(s)	α <sub>b</sub> (deg.)	Q(m <sup>3</sup> /yr)
<u>Riou Spit</u>					
July 24	1600 1700	2.30 2.80	9.0 10.2	30 <b>3</b> 1	2.50.10 <sup>7</sup> 4.16.10 <sup>7</sup>
July 25	1300 1500	2.00 1.90	10.0 10.0	15 25	$1.05 \cdot 10^7$ $1.36 \cdot 10^7$
July 26	1430	.80	10.0	10	7.00·10 <sup>5</sup>
Alder Strea	m, AS-1				
July 28	1400 1500 1600 1700 1800 1900	.90 .80 .70 .70 .80 1.00	7.5 7.5 8.0 8.0 8.0 8.0	6 5 5 5 5 8	$5.72 \cdot 10^{5}$ $3.56 \cdot 10^{5}$ $2.56 \cdot 10^{5}$ $2.56 \cdot 10^{5}$ $3.57 \cdot 10^{5}$ $9.85 \cdot 10^{5}$
Shipwreck,	<u>SW-1</u>				
August 13	1500 1700 1900	1.60 1.30 1.10	8.0 9.0 8.0	8 5 6	3.20.10 <sup>6</sup> 1.20.10 <sup>6</sup> 9.45.10 <sup>5</sup>
August 14	0700 0900 1100 1300 1500 1700 1900 2100	1.60 1.70 1.50 1.65 1.75 1.80 1.40	9.0 9.5 9.0 10.0 9.5 9.5 9.5 9.0	7 11 14 15 18 8 5 10	$2.81 \cdot 10^{6} \\ 5.08 \cdot 10^{6} \\ 4.63 \cdot 10^{6} \\ 3.42 \cdot 10^{6} \\ 7.35 \cdot 10^{6} \\ 4.00 \cdot 10^{6} \\ 2.71 \cdot 10^{6} \\ 2.84 \cdot 10^{6} \\ \end{array}$

littoral processes and beach morphological variability were monitored. Each zonal site was selected as representative of a shoreline segment based on similar shoreline orientation and morphology (Hayes, <u>et al</u>., 1973).

### Regional Process Network

Regional process variability was determined by multiple observations over the entire study area during a single low tide period (about 5 hours) with constant wave conditions. The field crew moved from station to station by plane, landing on the beaches during low tide. The selection of periods of uniform offshore wave conditions permits regional differences in nearshore wave characteristics to be attributed to effects of beach slope, shoaling, refraction, and shoreline orientation.

Processes observed on three different dates are summarized in Figure 27. On July 23, 1975, the dominant wave approach was out of the SSE. Stations monitored around Icy Bay documented littoral parameters consistent with local geomorphology.

At Icy Cape, on the western side of Icy Bay (Fig. 2), the approaching wave crests were subparallel to the beach, resulting in highly variable longshore current directions and velocities. The largest waves observed were at this station (Fig. 27). Two-meter waves were striking the beach face, and 2.5 to 3 meter waves were breaking about 150 m offshore.

West of Icy Cape, a combination of 1 meter spilling and plunging waves was striking the beach at a 10 degree angle, open to the west. Littoral transport was consistently to the west. Multiple offshore bars and an extremely wide surf zone characterized the site.

East of Icy Cape, moving towards Claybluff Point (Fig. 3), the wave height systematically decreased. In contrast, breaker angle increased from  $0^{\circ}$  at Icy Cape to  $2^{\circ}$  at an intermediate station and  $8^{\circ}$  at Claybluff Point

The breaker angle opened to the east. Longshore currents were strong and moved consistently eastward into Icy Bay. Breaker type changed from spilling to plunging as a result of gradual steepening of the beach face into the bay. Observed significant wave period for 23 July was 9.5-10.0 seconds.

Wave refraction diagrams (Figs. 20, 22 and 23) for eight and twelve second waves approaching from the south and southeast show that the submerged moraine at the mouth of Icy Bay causes refraction and a general convergence of wave orthogonals at Icy Cape and a divergence of orthogonals further west. This pattern of wave energy flux variability agrees well with observed changes in wave height and current direction. Process variability near Icy Cape is concluded to be controlled by offshore bathymetry and shoreline orientation.

The morphology of Riou Spit, at the eastern side of the Icy Bay entrance (Figs. 4 and 5), demonstrates westward sediment transport into Icy Bay. Observed processes correlate well with this morphology. Breakers observed on July 23 at Riou Spit were more than 200 cm high with a 15 to 18 degree breaker angle open to the west. Littoral currents were strong, in excess of 150 cm/sec in a westward direction (Fig. 27).

In contrast to the high wave energy on the outer coast, observations at Chirp Island, located well inside Icy Bay (Fig. 4), illustrate the sheltered nature of eastern Icy Bay. Maximum observed wave heights were 30-40 cm.

On August 18 and August 20, 1975, the beaches on the Malaspina Foreland were under the influence of two wave trains approaching from the south and southeast. Observations along the western margin of the foreland (Fig. 5)

Figure 27. Wave height and longshore currents observed at process network stations on 23 July, 18 August, and 20 August, 1975. Measurements were made on days of regionally uniform offshore wave conditions. Variations in nearshore wave parameters reflect the effects of shoreline orientation, refraction, shoaling and beach slope.

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indicate dominant transport direction towards the west. In the vicinity of Point Riou, wave heights varied between .9 and 1.2 meters with the breaker angles ranging between 0 and 4 degrees, open to the west. Ridgeand-runnel systems were well developed in this area throughout the study period. Local refraction and interference between the two wave trains caused highly variable current readings. Spilling waves generated longshore currents to the west ranging in speed from .2 to .7 m/sec.

Wave heights in the vicinity of Manby Point on the eastern margin of fhe foreland (Fig. 7) are strongly controlled by bathymetry. Wave orthogonals for southeast and southwest waves show strong divergence in the vicinity of Manby Point (Figs. 21 and 23). This relates well to the wave height distribution recorded along this shoreline on August 20 (Fig. 27).

Observed waves inside Yakutat Bay (Fig. 27) were consistently larger than those at Manby Point. Plunging breakers with an 8 to 10 degree breaker angle, open into the bay, were dominant. Littoral currents were consistently to the east.

The results of the process network study are summarized in Figure 53, which demonstrates that the resultant longshore currents in the summer season are oriented to the west between Icy Cape and Yakataga, to the northeast on the west bank of Icy Bay, to the west along the western Malaspina Foreland, in a variable direction but mostly to the east along the eastern Malaspina Foreland, and to the northeast on the west bank of Yakutat Bay.

## Time-Series Process Measurements

Five process zonal sites were established at locations representative of different shoreline segments. The choice of each shoreline segment

was based on uniform morphology and orientation. A process zonal consisted of 48-hour monitoring of the following parameters at two-hour intervals: wind speed, wind direction, significant breaker height, breaker angle, longshore current velocity, and significant wave period. The instantaneous beach response to these processes was determined by measurement of beach profiles at successive low tides during the zonal study. Beach profiles were referred to a temporary base line running parallel to the beach. Profile A was the westernmost profile at each zonal site, and B, C, D, E, and F were spaced 50 m apart towards the east along the baseline. The profiles were measured perpendicularly to the beach. The process zonals serve to characterize wave processes at sites typical of larger shoreline segments and allow computation of local longshore wave energy flux and sediment transport rate at the time of study.

Old Yahtse River, OY-1 Process Zonal--Beach processes were observed at the Old Yahtse River station (OY-1) on the western front of the Malaspina Foreland from August 1 to 3, 1975 (Fig. 28). The weather was clear and the winds remained fairly light or calm during the study (Fig. 29). Breaker height and period generally decreased during the observation interval from 1.3 m waves of 10 second periods on August 1 to 60 cm waves of 7 to 8 second periods on August 3. Longshore current velocities and breaker angle showed less distinct trends (Fig. 29). On August 1 and 2, 80 percent of the breaker crests were parallel to the beach, while 20 percent were inclined either east or west at angles up to 6 degrees. This complexity is largely due to the presence of a well developed ridge-and-runnel system, causing local refraction of the waves. Observed current velocities fluctuated both east (left) and west (right) in response to the shifts in breaker angle.

Figure 28. Location of process zonals and special study sites in Icy Bay and on the Malaspina Foreland. The study sites were concentrated around Icy Bay and on the east Malaspina Foreland because of the rapid lateral variability in processes at those locations.



Figure 29. Beach process variables measured at two hour intervals at the Old Yahtse process zonal, OY-1, from August 1 to August 3, 1975. Left currents are to the east; right currents are to the west. Left breaker angles open to the east; right angles open to the west.

A general decrease in wave energy occurred during the study period. Tide-dependent refraction over nearshore bars caused westward oriented currents at low tide and eastward currents at high tide. See tide curve in Figure 30.



Figure 30. Tide curves for Sitka, Alaska, for the period July 21 to August 22, 1975. A strong diurnal inequality is present, especially at neap tide. The actual tidal phase at Icy Bay and Yakutat Bay precedes that at Sitka by about forty minutes. From: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Tide Tables, West Coast of North and South America, 1975.





Figure 31. Oblique aerial view to the east of the seaward margin of the Old Yahtse outwash with process zonal site OY-1. The photo was taken on August 4, 1975. The stream in the upper part of the photo is the Old Yahtse, and the trees in the foreground form part of the eastern end of Point Riou. Note the logs on the overwash terrace to the west of OY-1.



Figure 32. Consecutive beach profiles at process zonal site Old Yahtse, OY-1, on August 1 and 3, 1975. Profile A refers to the westernmost survey of the site; the other profiles are spaced 50 meters apart towards the east. The profiles are characteristic of the accretionary phase of the barrier spits at the terminus of the Old Yahtse and Yana outwash plains (see Figs. 6 and 31).

The berm accreted during the 48 hours of observation, causing the formation of a berm runnel, the steepening of the beach face, and the development of a low-tide step at the foot of the beach. Intertidal and shallow subtidal ridge-and-runnel systems were well developed. The high-level storm berm remained essentially unmodified, except for slight aeolian reworking, during the observation period.

The refraction controlled breaker angle is tide-dependent, causing a dominant westward littoral current at low tide and a dominant eastward current at high tide (Figs. 29 and 30). Surf zone suspended sediment samples obtained by holding a one liter plastic jar in the breaker showed concentrations of 5, 56, 65, 25, and 9 grams/liter. All OY-l beach profiles are short and have typical depositional forms with well developed multiple berms and large ridge-and-runnel systems (Figs. 31 and 32). Profiles C, E, F, and G illustrate the growth of the lower berm and the consequent steepening of the beach face between August 1 and 3, attesting to the constructional nature of the small spilling waves.

Claybluff Point, CBP Process Zonal--Beach processes were observed at Claybluff Point on the western side of Icy Bay (Figs. 3 and 28) on August 11, 1975. Wave heights and periods recorded at this station were the lowest for all the process zonals (Fig. 33). Ocean waves arriving at Claybluff Point have been subject to significant energy dissipation across the Icy Bay entrance moraine. Because of the local shoreline orientation, the breaker angle for oceanic waves opens to the north. Northerly orographic winds off the icecap often produce significant waves out of the north, progressing in opposition to the oceanic swell. On August 11, a combination of persistent northerly winds and small oceanic swell produced rapidly shifting current velocities and breaker angles. The morphology of Claybluff Point (Figs. 3 and 34) demonstrates significant sediment transport into Icy Bay. The long-term sediment transportation, therefore, is controlled by the oceanic rather than local bay waves. Waves observed at Claybluff Point on July 23 (Fig. 27) were more representative of the dominant conditions than those observed on August 11. The process measurements were terminated ahead of schedule because of the ice problems.



CONSECUTIVE BEACH PROFILES, OY 1 PROCESS ZONAL

Beach profiles measured at the CBP process zonal on August 11 were not repeated because of the ice. However, it can be seen in Figures 34 and 35 that the beach was in a depositional phase. Each profile consisted of a high storm berm with logs deposited on the washover terrace. Seaward of the storm berm was a very large active berm and berm-runnel system. The beach face was very steep and reflected the dominance of plunging waves on this section of shoreline.

The importance of floating icebergs in Icy Bay cannot be overemphasized. During the summer large volumes of ice calf off the Tyndall and Yahtse glaciers at the head of Icy Bay. Northerly winds, wind generated waves, and tidal currents commonly move the icebergs to the outer reaches of the bay. Many of these icebergs are tens and probably hundreds of feet across. During the night of August 11 a large volume of this drift ice was carried onto the beach at Claybluff Point (Fig. 34). A band of icebergs over 100 m wide formed a natural rampart, preventing waves from striking the beach face. The drifting ice would present a significant hazard to shipping if Icy Bay were developed as a port facility.

Shipwreck Station, SW-1 Process Zonal--The SW-1 process zonal was located on the west side of Yakutat Bay, about 10 km northeast of Manby Point (Fig. 28). As shown in Figure 36, winds remained very light or calm during the observation period of August 12 through 14, 1975. Wave height decreased gradually from about 1.7 to 1.1 meters, accompanied by a reduction in period from 9 to 7.5 seconds.

The recorded variations in breaker angle and longshore current velocity indicate an interesting tide-dependent trend. At high tide, at 0600 hours on August 13 (Fig. 30), the breaker angle was 7 degrees and the longshore current flowed northeast at 50 cm/sec. At low tide, at 1400 hours on

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Figure 33. Process variables measured at two hour intervals on August 11, 1975, at Claybluff Point. During the night of August 11, the beach became covered with icebergs, preventing waves from striking the beach. Longshore currents to the left go into the bay; those to the right go seaward. The variations in current direction and breaker angle reflect the opposing trends of oceanic waves, progressing to the left, and locally generated bay waves, progressing to the right.



CLAY BLUFF POINT PROCESS VARIABLES, AUGUST 11-12, 1975
Figure 34. Aerial view of Claybluff Point. The photo was taken on August 12, 1975, from 1000 ft. During the night of August 11, strong orographic winds out of the north blew these icebergs out of Icy Bay and onto the beach. This 100 m wide swath of icebergs effectively protected the beach from wave attack and curtailed the CBP process zonal observations.



Figure 35. Beach profiles measured on August 11, 1975, at the Claybluff Point process zonal. These profiles demonstrate a depositional beach with well developed storm berms, berms, and berm-runnels. A is the westernmost profile; the others are spaced 50 m apart into the bay.



BEACH PROFILES, CBP PROCESS ZONAL, AUGUST 11, 1975

Figure 36. Littoral process variables measured at two hour intervals during day-time occupancy of the Shipwreck process zonal (SW-1) from August 12 to 14, 1975. Longshore currents flow consistently to the northeast (left) into Yakutat Bay. A slight decrease in wave energy occurred during the observation period.



Figure 37. Profiles of the beach at the SW-1 process zonal on August 13 and 14, 1975. A is the westernmost profile; the others are spaced 50 meters apart to the east. Note the generally steep beach face and the development of the small berm at SW-1-D by August 14th.



August 13, the breaker angle had increased to 18 degrees and the current velocity to 120 cm/sec. This variation might be related to increased refraction over the nearshore bar at low water, causing an increase in breaker angle and the longshore component of the wave energy flux.

Surf zone suspended sediment samples obtained by holding a jar in the uprushing bore of plunging waves recorded the following concentrations: 67 g/l, 71 g/l, 92 g/l and 147 g/l. The suspended sediment included coarse sand and pebbles, some of which were tossed two meters into the air at wave breaking. The concentrations recorded at SW-l and station OY-l are orders of magnitude higher than those typical of breaking waves on the east coast of the U. S. (T. Kana, personal communication, 1976), indicating very high rates of longshore sediment transportation for the Alaskan littoral zone.

Beach profiles surveyed at SW-1 on August 13 and 14, 1975, show a steep beach face and a well developed berm (Fig. 37). Profiles SW-1-A and SW-1-C had the largest overall accretion. Profile SW-1-D had developed a small berm on the lower beach face by August 14th.

<u>Train-Barge Wreck, TW-1 Process Zonal</u>--At the train-barge wreck (Fig. 28) littoral processes were observed at 2-hour intervals during daylight hours from August 14 through 16, 1975. A small storm, causing an increase in breaker height from 1.5 to 2 meters, passed through the area in the afternoon of August 15. Prior to the storm the littoral currents were flowing eastward (left) in response to the breaking of incoming swell. A combination of long-period swell and shorter period local sea during the storm passage produced rather variable current readings. The resultant longshore current, however, was oriented to the west (Fig. 38).

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The coastal morphology of the area (Fig. 7) demonstrates a long-term net sediment movement to the east. For example, the Alder Stream barrier spits build eastward, and gravel, derived from Sitkagi Bluffs, dominates the beaches more than 15 km to the east. However, timber from a wrecked barge is dispersed westward on the storm berms and overwash terraces.

One might therefore conclude, from combined process and sedimentary evidence, that the long-term net sediment movement is to the east as a result of persistent swell and occasional storms from the west. Periodic transport reversals occur, however, in response to strong southeasterly storms.

Figure 39 illustrates some of the wreckage observed near process zonal TW-1. A railroad barge with box cars and tank cars was driven ashore by a storm during the winter of 1970. The wreckage is distributed over a large area of storm berm and overwash terrace. Steel plates, 3/4-inch thick, have been rolled, twisted and broken. The storm waves which occasionally hit this beach are enormous and must be considered a severe hazard which warrant special attention in the design of shorefast structures.

Profiles (Fig. 40) measured at low tide on August 15 and 16 demonstrate the narrow, steep beaches and well developed berms characteristic of the Manby Point area. Landward migration and a slight erosion of the berm crest is observed (TW-1-D), probably as a result of the small storm.

<u>Riou Spit, RS-3 Process Zonal</u>--Littoral processes on the seaward side of Riou Spit at RS-3 (Figs. 4 and 42) were monitored from July 24 to July 26, 1975. An offshore storm caused a rapid increase in wave height from 1.4 to 2.8 meters during the first two hours of station occupancy (Fig. 41). The wave period was about 10 seconds and the longshore current

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Figure 38. Littoral process variables measured at two-hour intervals during day-time occupancy of the train-barge wreck (TW-1) process zonal from August 14 to 16, 1975. The zonal was located between Alder Stream and Manby Point (see Figs. 7 and 28). Swell-generated longshore currents normally flow eastward, while storm-generated currents observed on August 15 were oriented towards the west (left).



Figure 39. A train barge was driven ashore in a storm during the winter of 1970, leaving box and tank cars scattered over the berm and overwash terrace. 3/4-inch steel plates have been twisted, rolled and broken by the waves. The extreme winter storms that occasionally hit this area must be properly assessed prior to the initiation of coastal construction activities.



Figure 40. Beach profiles at the TW-1 process zonal on August 15 and 16, 1975. A is the westernmost profile; the others are spaced 50 meters apart towards the east. Note the steep, narrow beach, characteristic of the Manby Point area, and the erosion and landward migration of the berm crest at TW-1-D.



Figure 41. Littoral process variables measured at two-hour intervals during day-time occupancy of the Riou Spit process zonal from July 24 to July 26, 1975. For location of the zonal site see Figures 28 and 42. A small offshore storm on July 24 generated peak breaker heights of about 2.8 meters. The longshore current was consistently westward during the study period.



Figure 42. Oblique aerial view of Riou Spit. The photo was taken on August 4, 1975, from about 8000 feet. The site designations refer to beach profiles presented in Figure 46. Note the transgressive morphology of the neck and the wide progradational morphology at RS-1. Suspended sediment outlines current gyres both seaward (foreground) and landward (center) of the spit.



velocity reached a maximum value of almost 200 cm/sec during the storm. During the remainder of the study period, a steady decline in wave energy was observed.

To characterize the nearshore environment on the seaward side of Riou Spit, seven fathometer profiles were run for a distance of a few hundred meters. The locations are shown in Figure 43; the traces in Figures 44 and 45.

The variations in bathymetry around the spit follow a clearly defined pattern. Fathometer profile no. 1 (Fig. 44) demonstrates the gently sloping nearshore zone of the spit neck with a well developed bar about 150 meters offshore. Further west, profile no. 2 shows that the bar has moved closer to shore. The bar crest is shallower and the shoreward face steeper than at profile 1. This same bar can be visually traced by a line of breaking waves past Point Riou east to the Old Yahtse River section of the shoreline (Fig. 31). There is reason to believe that the bar is indicative of sediment transportation from the Yana and Old Yahtse shores onto Riou Spit.

Further west, off Riou Spit, the bar disappears and the nearshore profile steepens (traces 3 and 4) in response to a change in shoreline orientation (Figs. 42 and 43). Profile 5 (Fig. 45) illustrates a 600 m wide shallow subaqueous platform, gradually disappearing as the steep southwest-facing depositional end of the spit is approached (profiles 6 and 7). Gravel does not bypass this zone; however, sand is transported on the beach and on the low tide terrace further into Icy Bay to form the bulbous recurved end of the spit. The most rapid rates of accretion are observed at this location. The Riou Spit beach profiles (Fig. 46) show an

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interesting relationship to the offshore bathymetry. The spit neck beach profiles (RS-3, RS-3-A) are short and rather steep compared to the nearshore fathometer proifles (nos. 1 and 2), indicating that sediment is bypassing the beaches on the nearshore bar system. Further west, at the curved portion of the spit, the beach profiles are long with well developed berms and washover terraces (RS-1 and RS-2), whereas the adjoining nearshore zone is very steep (fathometer profiles no. 5, 6, and 7). This suggests the westward building of a subaqueous gravel platform overlain by sandy beach face and berm deposits.

The RS-3 and RS-3-A beach profiles document the effects of the erosional wave conditions at the Riou Spit neck on July 25th and 26th. Erosion at RS-3 had eliminated the high berm and initiated a new ridge-andrunnel system at the lower beach face (Fig. 46). Figure 47 illustrates the typical beach morphology at RS-3-A.

## Special Studies

In addition to the regional process network and time-series measurements at specific zonal sites, special studies were made in areas of unique character. Special studies at Point Riou and Alder Stream on the Malaspina Foreland (Fig. 28) and at Chirp Island in Icy Bay are reported below.

<u>Alder Stream, AS-1</u>--Measurements of littoral process parameters at hourly intervals during daylight from 1300 hours on July 27 through 2200 hours on July 28 are shown in Figure 48. The most interesting aspect of the process variability at Alder Stream is the interference of two apparent incoming wave trains. On July 27th many waves were striking the beach at low angles either to the east or west, causing a rather confused picture of longshore currents (Fig. 48). A large percentage of the waves arrived

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Figure 43. Location map of fathometer profiles in the eastern part of Icy Bay. Profiles off Riou Spit, discussed in the text, are numbered 1 through 7 towards the west. The other profiles will be discussed elsewhere.



Figure 44. Nearshore fathometer profiles, Riou Spit, Alaska. The location of the profiles, numbered in the upper left corner of each diagram, is shown in Figure 43. The numbers in the lower left corner of each diagram refer to the adjacent beach profiles shown in Figure 46. Note the well developed offshore bar at the spit neck and the rapid increase in nearshore slope towards the west. The one meter oscillations in the traces are largely due to surface waves.



Figure 45. Nearshore fathometer profiles, Riou Spit, Alaska. The location of the profiles (numbered in upper left corner of each diagram) is shown in Figure 43. The numbers in the lower left corner of each diagram refer to the adjoining beach profiles, presented in Figure 46.

A well developed subaqueous platform is present at profile 5. Further west, at the depositional end of the spit, the nearshore slope is extremely steep (profiles 6 and 7).



NEARSHORE FATHOMETER PROFILES, RIOU SPIT, ALASKA

Figure 46. Riou Spit beach profiles, measured on July 25 and 26, 1975. Profile locations are shown on the oblique air photo of Figure 42. The long depositional profiles at the west end of the spit (RS-1, RS-2) adjoin a steep nearshore zone. The short steep erosional profiles at the spit neck (RS-3, RS-3-A) adjoin a gentle nearshore zone with a major bar system.



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Figure 47. View towards the east at RS-3-A on Riou Spit. Photo was taken on July 26 after three-meter storm waves struck the beach. Note large scarp along the upper beach face. Small storms such as the one documented by the RS process zonal cause severe erosion at Point Riou and at the eastern neck of Riou Spit.

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Figure 48. Littoral process variables measured at the Alder Stream shoreline (Fig. 28) on July 27 and 28, 1975. The longshore current picture is very confused because of the interference of two apparent wave trains causing alternating westward (right) and eastward (left) oriented energy flux components. Waves arriving straight onto the beach cause strong rip currents.



straight onto the beach, producing strong rip currents, especially towards the evening that day.

In calm weather on July 28th, the waves out of the southwest became dominant, causing more consistent longshore currents towards the east (left). About 50 per cent of the waves still arrived straight onto the beach, maintaining a series of rip currents.

These measurements corroborate evidence presented elsewhere in this report, which indicates the frequent occurrence of transport reversals on the Alder Stream shoreline. However, the net transport is directed to the east.

<u>Chirp Island</u>--Several littoral process observations were made at Chirp Island on July 24, 1975. The observations serve to illustrate the low wave energies in the eastern part of Icy Bay (see Figs. 4 and 28 for location) and explain the curious morphology of the island. The results are presented in Table 6; station locations are indicated on Figure 49.

Riou Spit shelters Chirp Island from ocean waves arriving directly from any direction east of southwest. To reach Chirp Island, most oceanic waves have to be significantly refracted in Icy Bay. In addition, all oceanic waves suffer significant energy losses in traversing the submerged moraines at the Icy Bay entrance. Waves causing two to three meter breakers at the exposed beaches on the Malaspina Foreland typically form 50 cm breakers at Chirp Island.

Of great importance inside Icy Bay are the orographic winds which drain into the bay from glaciers in the St. Elias Range. These winds blew consistently at speeds of 10 to 20 miles per hour in late July and August. Local bush pilots indicate that these northerly winds can reach velocities above 100 mph in winter (J. Wells, personal communication, 1975).

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## TABLE 6

Station Number	Breaker Height (cm)	Breaker Angle (degrees)	Wind Speed (mph)	Wind Direction	Littoral Current Velocity (cm/sec)	
1	28	0-8	10	NNE	7	
2	28	20	7	NNE	14	
3	15	30	6	NNE	0	
4	60	30	calm		10	
5	40	50	7	NNE	16	
6	10	8	10	NNE	0	
7	(CI-2) Aid directions	(CI-2) At this station 30 cm chop approached from two directions, causing no resultant longshore current.				

Chirp Island Littoral Processes - July 24, 1975

\*Observations were made at various locations along the sinuous western side of the island, thus resulting in the large variation in breaker angle. All wave angles opened to the south.

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Figure 49. Morphological sketch map of Chirp Island, Icy Bay. The island is composed of a till and a kame high connected by wavebuilt spits. The orientation of the spits, the fining sediment trends and the "comet tail" spits at C all demonstrate that waves from the north and northwest control the development of the island.



Figure 50. Oblique aerial view of Chirp Island and the east side of Icy Bay. The photo was taken from 8000 feet on August 4, 1975. Note the "comet tails" at the south end of the island (dark arrow). The active deltas of the New Yahtse River are visible in the upper left.



The local waves generated by the orographic winds inside Icy Bay seem to exert the dominant influence on Chirp Island morphology. The morphologic map (Fig. 49) and oblique air photo (Fig. 50) show Chirp Island to be composed of a kame and a till high, connected by wave-built spits. Bay waves from the north and northwest move sediment along the shores of Chirp Island away from point A (Fig. 49), forming the recurved spit to the east and the gravel ridge (B) which connects the two topographic highs. This picture is supported by fining sediment trends in both directions away from A. The tri-pronged spit at the southern end of Chirp Island (C) is what King (1972) defines as a "comet tail" spit. These prongs are oriented parallel to the direction of sediment transport responsible for their formation.

The total morphology of Chirp Island demonstrates that waves from the north or northwest control its morphologic development.

<u>Point Riou</u>--A few process observations were made on July 26th at Point Riou at the western margin of the Malaspina Foreland (Figs. 5 and 28). Wave heights of 1.8 to 2 meters were observed at high tide.

The beach at Point Riou is a flat eroded basal till backed by till, sand and clay cliffs up to 30 feet in height (Fig. 51). At high tide, incoming waves strike the base of the cliff. The force exerted by the waves makes the cliffs vibrate during storms.

During the storm of July 24th to 26th, these cliffs were severely eroded. Large mats of fresh sod which hang over the edge of the cliffs (Fig. 51) documented up to 5 feet of cliff retreat as a result of this single storm. Once released from the bluffs, the sediments are eroded by strong currents generated by wave reflection at the cliff face (Fig. 52).

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Most of the finer materials are transported directly offshore. The coarse sediments are moved westward along the bar system towards Riou Spit.

The dominant process along Point Riou is sediment bypassing. Because most of the wave energy is reflected, well developed beaches to not occur. The sand is kept in continuous motion on the nearshore bar system. Summary of Process Variability

Icy Cape and Claybluff Point--Process network measurements indicate that for south and southeasterly deep water waves the largest breakers occur at Icy Cape and Riou Spit. The lowest breakers along the exposed shoreline occur at Manby Point. This pattern correlates well with the predicted wave height distribution (Fig. 25). Longshore currents frequently reverse at Icy Cape, creating a nodal point for sediment transportation. Between Icy Cape and Cape Yakataga, longshore currents and sediment transport are oriented westward (Fig. 53). From Icy Cape to Claybluff Point, longshore currents and sediment transport are directed to the east. Summer field observations indicate that the western side of Icy Bay is dominated by high-angle plunging waves. The beaches at Claybluff Point are also affected by icebergs which are blown out of the inner bay by strong northerly orographic winds.

<u>Chirp Island and Icy Bay</u>--The eastern side of Icy Bay is well sheltered from oceanic waves, leaving the control of Chirp Island morphology to waves of local bay origin. Process observations document that Chirp Island is in a low energy environment compared to the exposed Malaspina Foreland shoreline.

<u>Western Malaspina Foreland</u>--Zonal studies at Old Yahtse Stream demonstrate the occurrence of spilling waves and well developed ridge-and-runnel systems along the western margin of the Malaspina Foreland. Longshore

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Figure 51. Till and sand cliffs at Point Riou are exposed to direct wave attack at high tide. During storms large volumes of material are eroded from the cliffs. During the storm of July 24 through 26, three-meter waves eroded up to five feet of the cliff. The large mats of fresh sod and fallen trees are indicative of the rapid rate of cliff retreat.



Figure 52. Wave reflection at Point Riou. At high tide, large waves break directly on the till cliffs at Point Riou, thereby reflecting seaward as shown in this picture. Strong currents result and sediments are carried offshore and along shore in the well-developed bar system along this section of coastline.



Figure 53. The figure summarizes the sediment transport directions along the shoreline of the northeast Gulf of Alaska from Yakutat Bay to Cape Yakataga. Information is derived from observations of local coastal morphology, longshore current directions, transport patterns on storm generated features like high berms and washover terraces and computations of longshore energy flux directions.



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current directions are variable; however, net sediment transport is towards the west (Fig. 53). Till and sand bluffs at Point Riou provide sediment which moves down the beaches of Riou Spit. Fathometer profiles show the existence of a well developed bar 150 m offshore along Point Riou and most of Riou Spit. Towards the west the bar gradually comes to within 50 m of the beach and then disappears as a topographic entity. Beach profiles indicate that sediment is bypassing Riou Point and the eastern narrow neck of Riou Spit. The sediments are then deposited as they move west to the recurved end of the spit.

Process zonal observations at Riou Spit document the rapid increase in wave height which occurs during storm approach. Wave angles up to 30 degrees, wave heights of 380 cm, and longshore currents up to 200 cm/sec were observed.

Eastern Malaspina Foreland--Longshore current directions along the eastern Malaspina Foreland in the vicinity of Alder Stream are highly variable. A combination of criteria indicate a long-term net transport to the east with frequent reversals during major storms (Fig. 53). Rip currents were observed during a storm because of the perpendicular wave approach.

On the western side of Yakutat Bay, a process zonal between Manby Point and Grand Wash Stream showed the predominance of high angle plunging breakers which produced eastward directed longshore currents and net sediment transportation.

#### CONCLUSIONS

1. The Gulf of Alaska is found to be one of the highest wave energy environments in the world. Winter cyclones generally migrate into the

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central Gulf from Pacific polar and arctic fronts to the west. Because of the temperature-induced pressure barrier along the Alaska and St. Elias Ranges cyclones generally remain within the Gulf till their energy is dissipated. This weather situation generates strong winds from the southeast and east along the northeast Gulf coast. Few significant cyclones travel into the Gulf during the summer, as the weather situation at that time is influenced by the North Pacific high.

2. Ship wave and weather observations presented in SSMO tables were used to determine the annual wave energy flux distribution within the coastal zone of the Gulf of Alaska. Resultant energy flux vectors point to the north and northwest between Vancouver and Cordova, and to the east and northeast between Unimak and Prince William Sound. This pattern correlates well with long-term sediment transport directions determined from coastal geomorphic features like spits, headland or inlet offsets, and crescentic bays.

3. Observed process variability and wave height distribution predicted from refraction diagrams on the continental shelf indicate that waves from the south and southeast are high near Cape Suckling, maintain the deep water wave height along the Bering Foreland, decrease between Cape Yakataga and Icy Point, increase again at Icy Point and at the entrance to Icy Bay, are high along the west Malaspina Foreland, and drop off dramatically into Yakutat Bay.

4. Longshore currents and sediment transportation show the following pattern of variation: a net flux to the west between Cape Yakataga and Icy Cape, a nodal point at the Cape, eastward net flux along the bay shore past Claybluff Point, a westward net flux on the west Malaspina Foreland

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and Riou Spit, a nodal zone immediately east of Sitkagi Bluffs, and net flux towards the east into Yakutat Bay.

5. The annual average gross longshore sediment transport rate, computed from ship wave observations and shelf refraction diagrams, was found to be about 6.5 million cubic meters. The annual net sediment flux ranges from about 5.8 million cubic meters to the west, between Cape Yakataga and Icy Cape, to about 170,000 cubic meters to the east, between Sitkagi Bluffs and the western shores of Yakutat Bay.

Short-term transport rates computed from littoral process parameters observed in the summer of 1975 show a range in good agreement with the annual rates.

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### ANNUAL REPORT

Contract # 03-5-022-56 Research Unit # 99 Reporting Period 4/1/75-3/31/76 Number of Pages 12

### THE ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY AND GEOMORPHOLOGY

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OF THE GULF OF ALASKA COASTAL PLAIN

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March 31, 1976

#### ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1976

Project Title:

The Environmental Geology and Geomorphology of the Gulf of Alaska Coastal Plain

Contract Number:

03-5-022-56

Task Order Number:

Principal Investigator: Dr. P. Jan Cannon

- I. Task Objectives
  - To produce three maps of the coastal plain section of the Gulf of Α. Alaska

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- B. To produce a report on the application of radar imagery to the environmental geologic mapping of coastal zones
- C. To construct an annotated mosaic of the area from radar imagery.
- D. To indicate the effects (beneficial and adverse) that oil and gas development might have in relation to the geologic setting.

#### II. Introduction

- To produce information which can be used in an environmental assess-Α. ment of the coastal plain section of the Gulf of Alaska, in relation to possible oil and gas development. To evaluate radar imagery as a major information source for environmental geological mapping.
- B. The following are the objectives of this research:
  - 1. To produce three maps, with explanations, which will display certain baseline data necessary for an environmental assessment of the coastal plain section of the Gulf of Alaska. The maps will be produced at a scale of 1:250,000. (See Map 1, Map 2, and Map 3 below).

#### Map 1. Environmental Geologic Hazards and Shoreline Stability

This map will indicate the extent of possible environmental geologic hazards such as storm flooding, seismic sea waves, landslides, ice falls, and outburst flooding. This map will also indicate the relative stability of the shoreline as determined by quantitative data from other projects and landform analysis.

Map 2. Major Coastal Plain Landforms

This map will locate, identify, and describe the various coastal landforms. The explanation will indicate the origin of the particular landform types, the possible lifetime or stability of each particular landform type, and the economic importance of each landform type.

# Map 3. Major Beach Materials

This map will indicate the distribution of beach materials that will be important in an environmental assessment of the coastal zone.

 To produce a report on the application of side-looking airborne radar (SLAR) imagery to the environmental geologic mapping of coastal zones. This report will also contain a comparison of SLAR imagery with aerial photography and satellite imagery. (See Report below.)

Report. Application of Radar Imagery (SLAR) to the Environmental Geologic Mapping of Coastal Zones

This report will demonstrate the capabilities of radar imagery in environmental geologic and geomorphic mapping of coastal zones, and will evaluate other available remote sensing data for their potential to coastal zone mapping.

 To construct an annotated mosaic of the area from SLAR imagery. The scale of this annotated mosaic is yet to be determined. (See Mosaic below.)

Mosaic. Annotated SLAR Mosaic of Coastal Zone

This annotated mosaic constructed from the radar imagery (SLAR) will be used to present an explanation of the unique view provided by the radar imagery.

C. The information displayed on the maps will indicate the potential effects of natural hazards in relation to oil and gas development.

# III. Current State of Knowledge

The coastal plain of the Gulf of Alaska is a narrow strip of land which is bordered along its upper margin with some of the highest mountains on the North American continent and large glaciers. The area is usually overcast and cold. Obtaining aerial photographs of this area is almost impossible. Due to the geographic location of the Gulf of Alaska on the Earth and the fact that two ranges of the highest mountains on the North American continent lie just to the north of the Gulf of Alaska, the area has a climate that is unusually warm for its latitude. However, this relative warmth is offset by the situation that the same factors that make temperatures warmer also help produce high amounts of precipitation (average 302 cm per year), almost continual overcast conditions, and an impact zone for some of the worst storms created on the entire planet.

#### IV. Study Area

The coastal plain of the Gulf of Alaska is a narrow strip of land (1 to 40 km wide) which extends some 600 km from Icy Point to the western margin of the Copper River Delta. The upper or inland margin is bordered with the high mountains of theChugach, St. Elias, and Fairweather Ranges, which extend in elevation from 3,650 to 5,800 metres.

The coastal plain has been described as having a diversified topography carved in Tertiary rocks. The assemblage of landforms in the area is indeed quite diverse which is unlike most coastal plains on this planet. However, this diversity is valuable in constructing a chronology of the geomorphic events which have occurred in the area. The coastal plain is crossed in several places by fiords and active glaciers. The assemblage of landforms includes: morainal belts, dead ice moraines, thermokarst pits, outwash plains, meltwater streams, marine terraces, abandoned beach ridges, active dune fields, blowouts, large tidal flats in shallow bays, and the associated longshore features of bars, spits, and backwater lagoons. The materials of the coastal plain consist of till, gravels, sand, mud, ice, and various mixtures of these materials.

The portion of the coastal plain which will be the most involved with petroleum development is a section 255 km long, from Dry Bay westward to Cape Yakataga. This section, therefore, was the subject of an intense environmental geologic investigation as a part of the overall environmental assessment. The most up-to-date data was needed of the area during the ice-free part of the year. Because the area is usually overcast, obtaining aerial photography of the area is almost impossible. Since radar imagery can be obtained nearly anytime a fully instrumented aircraft can fly, radar imagery was chosen as the principle data source. Therefore, X-band, real aperture radar imagery was obtained of the area at scales of 1:250,000 and 1:500,000. V. Sources, Methods and Rationale of Data Collection

The following lists sequentially the methods planned to produce each of the products:

### Map 1. Environmental Geologic Hazards and Shoreline Stability

- 1. Evaluate existing literature and correspond with on-going projects in the area.
- 2. Search for and interpret any existing raw data on erosion and deposition.
- 3. Comparison of sequential mapping of coastal areas.
- 4. Identification of major shoreline processes.
- 5. Evaluation of historical records.
- 6. Identification of the materials which comprise the shoreline features.
- 7. Interpretation of the origin or source(s) of the beach materials.
- 8. Comparison of sequential ERTS imagery.
- 9. Field observations and measurements of shoreline changes from previous and current studies.
- 10. Interpretation of the shoreline morphostratigraphy.

# Map 2. Major Coastal Plain Landforms

This map will locate, identify, and describe the various coastal landforms. The explanation will indicate the origin of the particular landform types, the possible lifetime or stability of each particular landform type, and the economic importance of each landform type. The explanation will also relate the general wildlife habitat to each particular type of major landform. The information to be displayed on this map will be gathered by the following methods:

- 1. Use of existing maps.
- 2. Use of existing aerial photographs.
- 3. Interpretation of acquired high-altitude aerial photographs (approximately 62,500 feet AGL).

- 4. Interpretation of acquired side-looking airborne radar imagery (SLAR).
- 5. Ground reconnaissance of difficult areas.

#### Map 3. Major Beach Materials

This map will indicate the distribution of beach materials of a certain nature that will be important in an environmental assessment of the Gulf of Alaska coastal zone. This map will indicate the general nature of the beach materials which is related to the information presented in the other two maps. The nature of the beach materials has an extremely important economic value. The information of this map will be obtained by the following methods:

- 1. Communication with other projects being performed in the area.
- ?. Photogeologic interpretations.
- 3. Interpretation of side-looking airborne radar imagery (SLAR).
- 4. Ground sampling.

### VI. Results

- A. Activities such as highway construction and railroad construction would have a net effect that would be beneficial to the Yakutat district (see Discussion below).
- B. Activities such as pipeline construction in the area would not be recommended because of the numerous active faults (lineaments) which cross the area (see Discussion below).
- C. The Malaspina Glacier is retreating (see Discussion below).
- D. The heavy erosion of the headlands along the beach of the Yakataga district is due to natural processes (see Discussion below).
- E. Clear-cut logging of a part of the Yakataga district might have a net result which would be beneficial to the Yakataga district (see Discussion below).
- F. Radar imagery is an excellent tool to use in environmental geologic evaluations (see Discussion and Conclusions below).
- G. Information about radar imagery and coastal studies was collected (see Table 1).

# VII. Discussion

Radar imagery was obtained of the Gulf of Alaska coastal plain at the scales of 1:500,000 and 1:250,000. The area was covered with one strip of imagery at the scale of 1:500,000, and with four overlapping strips of imagery at the scale of 1:250,000. The radar imagery was used as the most up-to-date data souce and as a mapping base.

The area can be divided into three physiographic zones separated by large fiords: the Yakutat District, the Malaspina District, and the Yakataga District. The Yakutat district is comprised of the coastal plain that extends from Dry Bay and the Alsek River northwestward to Yakutat Bay. The natural environmental geologic units of the Yakutat district are comprised of moraines, outwash deposits, beach deposits, tidal flats, and sand dunes. Abandoned beaches, which make up a chenier plain between Dry Bay and the outwash deposits of Yakutat Glacier indicate that the Alsek River has been a major source of sediments. These sediments have been reworked by longshore processes to form a large portion of the coastal plain between Dry Bay and Phipps Peninsula on Yakutat Bay. This is extremely important environmentally. The flow of sediments from the Alsek River nourishes the coastal plain and maintains it in spite of the poundings by heavy storms. Activities which would reduce the sediment flow from the Alsek River, such as hydroelectric projects, should not be enacted. However, activities which maintain or increase the sediment flow from the Alsek River, such as road construction and mining, should be encouraged as long as there are little adverse effects to the marine life.

Several large lineaments were detected on the radar imagery that extend completely across the coastal plain of the Yakutat District (Fig. 1). These lineaments were discovered to be the traces of active faults which have been offset vertically as much as 2.5 meters within the last 80 years. The activity of these faults has been well documented (Tarr and Martin, 1912). An account of continuous and severe tectonic activity in the nearby Lituya Bay area over a period of 125 years (Miller, 1960) provides conclusive evidence as to the structural instability of the region. The construction of pipelines across the coastal plain should be avoided and the erection of tall buildings on the unconsolidated materials of the coastal plain would not be recommended.

Outburst floods could occur anytime in the area (Post and Mayo, 1971). The radar imagery reveals features that appear to be related to past outburst floods on the Dangerous, Tanis, and Alsek Rivers.

The Malaspina District consists of the Malaspina Glacier and the Malaspina forelands. The Malaspina Glacier is considered to be the largest piedmont glacier in the world, being greater in areal extent than the State of Rhode Island. The Malaspina forelands consist of dead-ice moraine and morainal materials that have been reworked by wave action and meltwater. There have been some great changes in the last 30 years in the district. The glaciers have ceased to advance and a large lake of approximately 300 square km in area has formed in the southeast part of the district between the glacier's margin and the foreland. The foreland is also crossed with lineaments taken from radar and Landsat imagery.

The Malaspina District is separated on the east from the Yakutat District by the large fiord of Yakutat Bay. It is separated on the west from the Yakataga District by the fiord of Icy Bay. Less than seventy years ago Icy Bay was completely occupied with a large piedmont glacier (Tarr and Martin, 1912). This indicates that the ice front retreated approximately 42 km in less than 50 years.

The Yakataga District is a narrow strip of coastal plain cut by several meltwater streams. The Yakataga District does not exhibit a diverse number of environmental geologic units. It is important to note that in the Yakataga District natural processes are rapidly eroding the coastal plain. The headlands, where the most severe erosion is taking place, are readily discerned on the radar imagery. Based on sequential observations it appears that large portions of the coastal plain will erode away within the next 30 years. However, since this is the result of natural processes, and is not related to man's activities, it should probably not be interferred with. The headlands consist of two promentories, Icy Cape and Umbrella Reef. As the promentories are eroded back, the large trees which cover them fall into the sea. So as to not waste a natural resource it would be pertinent to lumber off a line of the trees with a rate equal to the retreat of the headlands. As the trees fall off the cliff their root systems tear away large chunks of the soil. Clearing off a line of trees might reduce the rate of erosion.

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- Tarr, R. S., and Martin, Lawrence, 1912, Earthquakes at Yakutat Bay, Alaska, in September, 1899, with a preface by G. K. Gilbert: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 64, pt. 1, p. 1-144.

# VIII. Conclusions

Radar imagery is an adequate tool to use in the environmental evaluations of diverse types of coasts. There are three important factors to keep in mind when acquiring radar imagery of coasts. One, the look-direction should be towards the landward side of the coast away from the water. Two, the altitude of acquisition should be low in order to maximize the return of radar energy. Three, the depression angles should be small so that the important low relief features of coasts can be enhanced. The amount of information displayed on radar imagery is related to the wavelength of the radar energy used. Usually, the greatest amount of information can be obtained with the shorter wave-lengths. In mapping large regions, radar imagery would be less expensive than photographic coverage of the same area, and it would take less time to map from radar imagery than it would from low- or intermediate-altitude aerial photographs. Aerial photographs must be viewed stereoscopically in order to observe what can be seen with the unaided eye on radar imagery, hence the difference in map compilation time.

X-band, real aperture radar imagery of the Gulf of Alaska coastal plain is adequate both as a mapping base and as a source of important environmental geologic data. It is essential to an environmental assessment of an area that information be as current as possible. In some areas the most current data can be acquired only with the use of radar imagery. The radar imagery of the Gulf of Alaska coastal plain indicates that severe environmental geologic hazards, such as earthquakes, surface movements along active faults, and outburst floods, have occurred recently and will continue to occur with a relatively high frequency.

Analysis of the geomorphic features of the coastal plain indicates that the seaward portion of the Yakutat District is comprised of sediments from the Alsek River. The continued existence of the area depends upon a continual supply of sediments from the Alsek River.

Natural processes are modifying parts of the coastal plain at a relatively rapid rate. These processes include the formation of large lakes by glacial ablation and the erosion of headlands due to changes in the sediment supply from glaciers. It is necessary to emphasize that the changes are natural and not the result of man's activities. In an area like the Gulf of Alaska, radar imagery is the only tool which can be used to adequately monitor the results of natural processes.

### IX. Need for Further Study

K- or X-band, real aperture, radar imagery should be acquired immediately of the areas in which this type of study is expected to be extended.

- X. Summary of 4th Quarter Operations
  - A. Continued interpretative analysis of the radar imagery.
  - B. Began preparation of first draft of maps.
  - C. Participated in OCSEAP Workshop in Seattle at the request of NOAA.
  - D. Revised preliminary draft of report on the application of radar imagery to environmental geologic mapping of coastal zones.
  - E. Attended workshop for prospective geological researchers on the Alaskan Coastal zone, in Columbia, South Carolina, at the University of South Carolina, under the approval of the Juneau Project Office.

Table 1. Comparison of radar wavelengths and the information pertinent to coastal studies which is displayed on radar imagery.

Information Sources	K-Band*	X-Band*	L-Band+ ·
Beach Materials	good	inadequate	inadequate
Landforms	good	good	inadequate
Land-Water Contact	good	good	marginal
Minor-Vegetation	good	marginal	inadequate
Major-Vegetation	good	good	inadequate
Ice Surface Features	good	good	marginal
Ice Structure	good	good	good
Cultural Features	good	good	inadequate

\*K- and X-band data from real aperture imagery +L-band data from synthetic aperture imagery

Note: For a visual comparison of real aperture imagery with synthetic aperture imagery, see Cannon, 1975, pages 764 through 766.



Fig. 1 A map showing the lineaments that cross a portion of the Yakutat district. The lineaments correspond with active faults.

### OCS COORDINATION OFFICE

#### University of Alaska

## ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SUBMISSION SCHEDULE

DATE: March 31, 1976

CONTRACT NUMBER: 03-5-022-56 T/O NUMBER: 6 R.U. NUMBER: 99 PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Dr. P. Jan Cannon

> No environmental data are to be taken by this task order as indicated in the Data Management Plan. A schedule of submission is therefore not applicable<sup>1</sup>.

NOTE: <sup>1</sup> Data management plan was submitted to NOAA in draft form on October 9, 1975 and University of Alaska approval given on November 20, 1975. We await formal approval from NOAA.

# OCS COORDINATION OFFICE

# University of Alaska

# ESTIMATE OF FUNDS EXPENDED

DATE:	March	31,	1976

CONTRACT NUMBER: 03-5-022-56

TASK ORDER NUMBER: 6

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Dr. P. Jan Cannon

# Period April 1, 1975 - March 31, 1976\* (12 mos)

	Total Budget	Expended	Remaining
Salaries & Wages	14,887.00	4,936.09	9,950.91
Staff Benefits	2,505.00	815.89	1,689.11
Equipment	-0-	-0-	-0-
Travel	2,560.00	1,488.66	1,071.34
Other	1,600.00	382.96	1,217.04
Total Direct	21,552.00	7,623.60	13,928.40
Indirect	8,515.00	2,823.44	5,691.56
Task Order Total	30,067.00	10,447.04	19,619.90

\* Preliminary cost data, not yet fully processed.

Following is part 2 of the quarterly report R.U.# 99 for the period ending December 31, 1975. This was received after the printing of the Quarterly Reports, July - September 1975, therefore is included here. OCS COORDINATION OFFICE

University of Alaska

Quarterly Report for Quarter Ending December 31, 1975

Project Title:

The Environmental Geology and Geomorphology of the Gulf of Alaska Coastal Plain

E

JAN 1-9 1976

NEGOA

Contract Number:

03-5-022-56

Task Order Number:

Principal Investigator:

Dr. P. Jan Cannon

I. Task Objectives

- A. To produce three maps of the coastal plain section of the Gulf of Alaska
- B. To produce a report on the application of radar imagery to the environmental geologic mapping of coastal zones
- C. To construct an annotated mosaic of the area from radar imagery.

### II. Activities

Made work copies of SLAR data and constructed a mosaic of the field area of radar imagery at a scale of 1:250,000. Began the interpretative analysis of the radar imagery and the field data. Produced a preliminary draft of report on the application of radar imagery to environmental geologic mapping of coastal zones. Attended a conference on geodesy and remote sensing of coastal areas in order to acquaint myself with the most recent work of other investigators of coastal problems. While at the conference, I presented a paper titled: "Environmental Evaluation of Coasts Using Radar Imagery

### III. Results

Compiled information about the optimum parameters and systems for coastal information from radar imagery. Constructed a table which shows a comparison of radar wave lengths and information displayed on radar imagery concerning coastal zone mapping. This information indicates that radar imagery is an adequate tool to use in the environmental geologic mapping of coasts, and there are three important factors to keep in mind when acquiring radar imagery of coasts. One, the lookdirection should be toward the landward side of the coast away from the water. Two, the altitude of acquisition should be low in order to maximize the return of radar energy. Three, the depression angles should be small so that the important low relief features of coasts can be enhanced. The amount of information displayed on radar imagery is related to the wave lengths. In mapping large regions, radar imagery would be less expensive than photographic coverage of the same area, and it would take less time to map from radar imagery than it would from low or intermediate-altitute aerial photographs. Aerial photographs must be viewed stereoscopically in order to observe what can be seen with the unaided eye on radar imagery hence the difference in map compilation time.

### IV. Problems Encountered

Due to computer problems at the EROS data center the listing of LANDSAT scenes up to November, 1975 is not completed. The original scale of the SLAR data is smaller than anticipated which indicates that a final scale for the three maps would be best at 1:250,000. It appears that this scale change will not significantly alter the amount of information presented by the maps.

# OCS COORDINATION OFFICE

### University of Alaska

# ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SUBMISSION SCHEDULE

DATE: December 31, 1975

CONTRACT NUMBER: 03-5-022-56 T/O NUMBER: 6 R.U. NUMBER: 99 PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Dr. P. Jan Cannon

> No environmental data are to be taken by this task order as indicated in the Data Management Plan. A schedule of submission is therefore not applicable (1).

NOTE:

(1) Data management plan was submitted to NOAA in draft form on October 9, 1975 and University of Alaska approval given on November 20, 1975. We await formal approval from NOAA.

# OCS COORDINATION OFFICE

# University of Alaska

# ESTIMATE OF FUNDS EXPENDED

DATE:		December	31,	1975

CONTRACT NUMBER: 03-5-022-56

TASK ORDER NUMBER:

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Dr. P. Jan Cannon

6

Period April 1 - December 31, 1975\* (9 mos)

	Total Budget	Expended	Remaining
Salaries & Wages	14,887.00	4,936.09	9,950.91
Staff Benefits	2,505.00	815.89	1,689.11
Equipment	-0-	-0-	-0-
Travel	2,560.00	332.06	2,227.94
Other	1,600.00	315.02	1,284.98
Total Direct	21,552.00	6,399.06	15,152.94
Indirect	8,515.00	2,823.44	5,691.56
Task Order Total	30,067.00	9,222.50	20,844.50

\* Preliminary cost data, not yet fully processed.



Contract no. - 01-50-22-2313 Research Unit no. - 105 Reporting period - June 1975-April 1976 Number of pages - 17

### DELINEATION AND ENGINEERING CHARACTERISTICS OF PERMAFROST BENEATH THE BEAUFORT SEA

#### Principal Investigator: P.V. Sellmann

Associate Investigators:

- R. Berg
- J. Brown
- S. Blouin
- E. Chamberlain
- A. Iskandar
- H. Ueda

#### PREFACE

This combined 4th quarter and annual report follows the guidance provided in the 5 February 1976 memo received from the OCS Arctic Project Office. The report was prepared as the mobilization phase for offshore drilling at Prudhoe Bay was being completed. The entire effort to date has involved the planning and mobilization of a drilling and sampling program for the purpose of gathering data on the physical, chemical and thermal properties of permafrost beneath the Beaufort Sea. Therefore, the report deals primarily with activities leading up to the actual data acquisition phase, which is scheduled to commence on or about 1 April 1976.

U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory Hanover, New Hampshire 03755

#### 1 April 1976
### I. TASK OBJECTIVES

The emphasis of the program is on quantifying the engineering characteristics of permafrost beneath the Beaufort Sea, and determining their relation to temperature, sediment type, ice content and chemical composition. These data will be used in conjunction with those from the marine and subsea permafrost projects listed below to develop a map portraying the occurrence and depth of permafrost under the Beaufort Sea. The drilling program will provide subsurface samples and control for the other programs. It is also designed to test drilling, sampling, and in situ measurement techniques in this offshore environmental setting where material types and ice conditions make acquisition of undisturbed samples extremely difficult.

We are actively coordinating our activities with the following OCS projects:

Research Unit #204: Offshore permafrost studies, Beaufort Sea -Peter Barnes and Erk Reimnitz, U.S. Geological Survey.

Research Unit #205: Marine environmental problems in the icecovered Beaufort Sea Shelf and coastal regions - Peter Barnes, Erk Reimnitz and David Drake, U.S. Geological Survey.

Research Units #253, 255, 256: Offshore permafrost drilling, boundary conditions, properties, processes and models - T.E. Osterkamp and William D. Harrison, University of Alaska.

Research Unit #271: Beaufort seacoast permafrost studies -James C. Rogers, University of Alaska.

Research Unit #407: A study of Beaufort Sea coastal erosion, northern Alaska - Robert Lewellen, Littleton, Colorado.

The USGS annual report (Research Unit 204) contains additional background information on this coordinated OCS subprogram.

### II. FIELD OR LABORATORY ACTIVITIES

### A. Field Trip Schedule

During the reporting period a series of planning and field meetings were attended. Planning meetings were held at Menlo Park in July and December 1975. During November 1975, Mr. Sellmann visited Prudhoe Bay, Fairbanks and Anchorage to coordinate requirements for the field program.

During the fourth quarter final logistics plans were completed and equipment was transported to the Prudhoe Bay holding area at the V&E facility. This equipment came from several places: Hanover, N.H.; Menlo Park, Calif.; Spokane, Wash., and NARL, Barrow, Alaska. Much of the CRREL equipment from Hanover was transported to Fairbanks at no cost to the project by government-owned C-130 aircraft. All shipments

except the one originating in Barrow were shipped to and centrally organized at the CRREL facilities in Fairbanks in preparation for truck transport to Prudhoe, which took place during the last part of February 1976. Additional logistics coordination was accomplished by Dr. Robert Lewellen between 27 February and 5 March. He inspected the equipment in the Fairbanks area before it was shipped to Prudhoe by truck, and prepared all the equipment in Barrow for rolligon transport to Prudhoe Bay. The Barrow equipment, including a sled-mounted workshop and sled-mounted structure for the drilling equipment and pumps, was transported to Prudhoe during the first week of March by Crowley's rolligons that are based at Prudhoe. This equipment move, covering a one-way distance of 400 km, was carried out without any difficulties. The transport of equipment to Prudhoe was accomplished through a coordinated effort on the part of CRREL personnel in Hanover and Fairbanks, Menlo Park personnel at the USGS, Dr. Robert Lewellen at NARL, and Mr. David Kennedy at the OCS office in Fairbanks.

### B. Scientific Party

The initial field crew (Sellmann, Ueda and Delaney) departed from Hanover on 19 March and arrived in Prudhoe on the 20th. Their first objective was to uncrate and assemble the drilling system and to supervise the mounting of the portable field camp and soils lab unit onto their sled. Two additional CRREL personnel were scheduled to arrive at Prudhoe in the last days of March to prepare the soils testing equipment and laboratory. Dr. Jerry Brown and Dr. Alex Iskandar plan a brief site visit in early April to coordinate sampling procedures for the chemical studies.

The following personnel were scheduled to be at Prudhoe by 1 April:

- Mr. Paul V. Sellmann, CRREL Drilling effort and core logging.
- Mr. Herbert Ueda, CRREL Drilling effort.
- Mr. Allen Delaney, CRREL Drilling effort.
- Dr. Peter Barnes, USGS (cooperative) Field control, positioning of drill sites, and sediment analyses.
- Dr. Robert Lewellen, Arctic consultant (cooperative) Drilling effort and obtaining thermal data.
- Mr. Edwin Chamberlain, CRREL Engineering soils testing and analyses.
- Mr. Scott Blouin, CRREL Engineering soils testing and analyses.

### C. Methods

### Drilling program

The sampling program will rely on rotary drilling and drive sampling techniques. The equipment for this program has been assembled from a variety of sources. Components of the drilling system are owned by CRREL and ONR (Lewellen's ONR project) with some sampling equipment and drill hole casing having been purchased with OCS project funds. The CRREL and ONR equipment is being provided at no cost to the project. The CRREL drill rig is an Acker Mountaineer with a depth capability of 600 m with NW rod.

Sampling equipment available includes: 1) Two drilling systems and HQ string, manufactured by Longyear, including a 1.2-m core barrel. A Diamond Drill string, N-HR size, including a 1.2-m core barrel, modified to use a spring-loaded inner tube sampler which combines some positive aspects of drive sampling with rotary drilling. 2) Conventional, double-wall sample barrels of the high recovery type (Diamond Drill Company), equipped with both diamond and carbide type cutters (available from the ONR Barrowbased drilling program). 3) A range of drive sampling tools, including split and single tube samplers.

The general range of sample diameters available with the above equipment is between 5 and 7 cm.

A permit (State Miscellaneous Land Use Permit) for this study was obtained from the State of Alaska by the OCS Alaska Project Office.

#### Field facilities

The facilities available for the field program include three sleds containing the workshop, the drill rig, and the soils lab and housing unit.

Workshop: This small shop unit provides a working area for equipment repair and for storage of much of the drilling equipment, such as bits, sampling tools and some drill pipe and casing.

Drill sled: The drilling equipment, including all necessary components for the drilling operation such as pumps, tanks and mud pit, and parts of the circulation system, are enclosed in this unit. A 10-m mast is also provided for the drill rig.

Living accommodations and soils laboratory: An eight-man sleeper was leased from Crowley at Prudhoe. This unit plus the soils lab and power plant will be mounted on a 12-m-long leased Nabors sled. The laboratory is equipped with drying oven, balance, triaxial testing equipment, and a system for photographically logging the cores.

#### In situ and field soil measurement

Methods for in situ probing and on-site laboratory strength testing were evaluated. A cone penetrometer probe was designed and fabricated, The essential element of this probe is a 6-cm,  $60^{\circ}$  cone. The probe can be driven by a 65-kg drop weight or hydraulic ram. Only point resistance will be measured as the skin friction component will be eliminated by the use of a 5-cm-0.D. casing that will be driven with the probe but held fixed when measuring point penetration resistance. The penetration resistance will be measured in the drill holes and at adjacent locations. Equipment was also obtained to conduct quick multi-stage triaxial strength tests on prepared core obtained from the drill holes. As many as possible of these tests will be conducted in the on-site soils laboratory to avoid disturbances due to shipping and temperature fluctuations. Correlations of cone penetration resistance and triaxial shear strength will be obtained upon return from the field.

### Chemical characteristics

Chemical analyses of the solution extracted from the thawed permafrost samples and the unfrozen sediments will be performed for correlation with engineering and geologic studies. The extracts will be obtained at



Figure 1. USACRREL-USGS subsea drilling locations, Prudhoe Bay region, Spring 1976.

the CRREL laboratory by centrifuging immediately upon thawing of the frozen samples. In the field, portable electrical conductivity and pH meters will be available to monitor water chemistry. Although we expect chemical contamination of the cores to be minimal, we will attempt to monitor possible contamination of the samples with fluorescent dyes.

#### D. Sample Localities

Figure 1 shows the primary and secondary sites for spring 1976 drilling. The first hole planned is in Prudhoe Bay in proximity to support facilities. This will allow us to solve operational problems in preparation for drilling at the more distant sites. The Prudhoe hole will provide supplemental data for the spring 1975 sampling and analyses by Osterkamp and Harrison (see Research Units #253, 255, 256). The depth of each hole will depend on local conditions but will not generally exceed 150 meters. The final number of holes will depend on time available on the ice.

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### E. Data Collected

This section is not applicable since sample collection and analyses will commence on 1 April 1976. However, the preliminary data management plan (App. 1), submitted to the NOAA-OCS Juneau, indicates the type of data that will be available for the project.

#### III. RESULTS

This section is not applicable since the field studies will commence on 1 April 1976. Appendix 2 contains a preliminary literature search of the Soviet subsea permafrost literature.

### IV. PRELIMINARY INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

This section is not applicable since the field studies will commence on 1 April 1976.

### V. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/RECOMMENDED CHANGES

The original proposal called for contracting the drilling equipment and drilling. However, due to cost considerations and scheduling of commercially available equipment it was decided to utilize and upgrade existing equipment and to utilize CRREL personnel and Dr. Lewellen as the drilling crew. This provides a specialized team experienced in offshore, onshore and ice cap drilling which can cope with many of the day-to-day problems and still allow the project to remain within the original cost estimates.

Since the project will still be in the field and only preliminary information will be available at the time second-year renewal proposals are due (17 May 1976), we recommend that the deadline for this project's renewal be extended to 1 June 1976. We anticipate that the second-year continuation proposal will emphasize permafrost conditions in the Beaufort Sea.

### VI. ESTIMATE OF FUNDS EXPENDED

As of 29 February 1976, a total of \$137,000 of the total \$330,000 had been obligated.

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### APPENDIX 1

### USACRREL SUBSEA DRILLING DATA

# 1. Definition of Data Types

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# A. Field Station Data

(1) Project Identification	
(2) Station Number	
(3) Location	Latitude & Longitude
(4) Date (5) Air Domponeture	0~
(6) Estimated Wind Speed	C
(7) Cloud Cover	km/hr
(8) Visibility	<i>[</i> 0
(0) Detum for Flowetions	km
(10) Snow Depth	(benchmark, ice surface, etc.)
(11) Ice Thickness	m
(12) Water Depth	m 
(13) Water Temperature Beneath Ice	°c
(14) Water Temperature at Sea Floor	o
(15) Drill Crew Members	C
(16) Drilling Equipment	
(17) Boring Number(s)	
(18) Boring Information (casing, etc.)	
Boring Data Within Station	
(1) Come Identification	
(2) Depth to Top and Pottom of Game	
(2) Sempler Three	m
(4) Temperature	90
(5) Visual Ice Classification	
(NRC/ACEFL Ice Class System)	
(6) Color of Core	
(7) Visual Texture Class (Gravel Sand	
Silt. Clav)	
(8) Visual Structure Class. (Bonded	
Unbonded, Banded, etc.)	
(9) Photo Identification Number	
(10) Comments (quality of sample, number	
of pieces, etc.)	
Laboratory Index Property Tests	
(1) Core Number	
(2) Length	
(3) Gravel Content	<i>7</i> /2
	<pre>(1) Project Identification (2) Station Number (3) Location (4) Date (5) Air Temperature (6) Estimated Wind Speed (7) Cloud Cover (8) Visibility (9) Datum for Elevations (10) Snow Depth (11) Ice Thickness (12) Water Depth (13) Water Temperature Beneath Ice (14) Water Temperature Beneath Ice (14) Water Temperature at Sea Floor (15) Drill Crew Members (16) Drilling Equipment (17) Boring Number(s) (18) Boring Information (casing, etc.) Boring Data Within Station (1) Core Identification (2) Depth to Top and Bottom of Core (3) Sampler Type (4) Temperature (5) Visual Ice Classification (NRC/ACFEL Ice Class. System) (6) Color of Core (7) Visual Texture Class. (Gravel, Sand, Silt, Clay) (8) Visual Structure Class. (Bonded, Unbonded, Banded, etc.) (9) Photo Identification Number (10) Comments (quality of sample, number of pieces, etc.) Laboratory Index Property Tests (1) Core Number (2) Length (3) Gravel Content</pre>

(4) Sand Content	%
(5) Silt Content	%
(6) Clay Content	%
(7) Unified Soil Classification	
(8) Water Content	%
(9) Organic Content	%
(10) Liquid Limit	%
(11) Plastic Limit	7/2 0
(12) Dry Density	$g/cm^3$
(13) Saturation	%
(14) Comments	

# D. Laboratory Chemical Analysis of Soil Water

<pre>(1) Core Number (2) Length (3) pH (4) Conductivity (5) Ca (6) Mg (7) Na (8) K (9) Cl (10) NO<sub>3</sub> (11) HCO<sub>3</sub> (12) PO<sub>4</sub>-P (13) Organic -C (14) Organic -N (15) Water Content</pre>	cm pm ppm ppm ppm ppm ppm ppm pp
(14) Organic -N (15) Water Content	ppm %

# E. Laboratory Triaxial Strength Data

(1) Core Number	
(2) Length	cm
(3) Diameter	cm
(4) Temperature	°C 0
(5) Confining Pressure	kg/cm <sup>2</sup>
(6) Maximum Deviator Stress	kg/cm <sup>2</sup>
(7) Strain at Maximum Deviator Stress	%
(8) Strain Rate	%/min
(9) Comments	

## F. Laboratory Thaw Consolidation Data

(1)	Core Number			
(2)	Length		c	em
(3)	Diameter		ç	2m
(4)	Temperature	Frozen	C	°C
(5)	Temperature	Thawed	C	°С

(6) Axial Pressure	kg/cm <sup>2</sup>
(7) Strain Frozen	%
(8) Strain Thawed	<b>0</b> /
(9) Dry Unit Weight Frozen	g/cm <sup>3</sup>
(10) Dry Unit Weight Thawed	$g/cm^3$
(11) Comments	B/ Cm

### 2. Projected Schedule and Quantity of Data

Punched cards for the field and laboratory data will be submitted within 60 days of completion of the work. It is estimated that the field data will be available by 1 July 1976 and the laboratory data by 30 September 1976.

It is estimated that 1350 data cards will be submitted. See inclosures for data types and quantity distribution.

### 3. Format and File Type

No appropriate format is provided in the 23 December 1975 file listing. See inclosures for suggested format. It is suggested that this file be designated "Description and Engineering Properties of Subsea Permafrost."

### 4. Data Documentation and Quality Control Procedures

Core obtained in the field will be logged in bound notebooks on site with a complete description of each core. Each length of core will be assigned a coded identification number indicating the site, hole, and sequence of sampling. Photographs of each core length will be obtained with special core photography equipment using a standardized format for identification and size referencing.

Laboratory studies will be conducted using standardized procedures when available. Soil index property testing will follow procedures outlined in U.S. Army Engineer Manual FM 1110-2-1906. The chemical analysis of the soil water will follow standard methods of testing water and wastewater established by the American Public Health Association. Quality control will be evaluated by testing standards obtained from the EPA.

Unfortunately, no standardized procedures are available for conducting strength and consolidation tests on frozen and thawing soils. This portion of the laboratory program will be conducted relying on expertise developed at CRREL over the past few years. Care will be used to employ calibrated load, pressure and displacement transducers. A standard triaxial compression cell has been modified to accept 2-in.-diameter frozen soil cylinders. Special thaw consolidation equipment presently in use will be available for the thaw consolidation tests. Procedures outlined in EM 1110-2-1906 will be followed when appropriate.

All laboratory tests will be indexed to the core identification data.

8

SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR A. Field Station Data (Estimated 50 data cards) PROJECT: CRRELOCS DRILLING PROJECT STATION 148-214-334 1 NI C DATE: LOCATION : 11 710-18-24N 24-25 : 11 APBIL 1976 TEMP: EST WINDSPEED 11 - 11 AIR 10-15 KM/HR CLOUD C COVER 25 P B C E VISIB ICE ILIT DATUM: SURFACE SNOW LEAR DEPT 5 М ICE THICKNES s 13 . 5 M !ni WATER WATER TEMP: DEPTH: 101. 5 C BENEATH 3 M - 0 ICE; -0.7C AT SEA FLOOR DRILL DELANEY, CREW EWELLEN SELLMANN UEDA DRILLING ACKER 119 ÷ EQUIPMENT BORING N ÷ ł 0 0 C S 1 C S 2 +++CASING INFORMATION BORING 3 0 M THRU ICE, 15CM CASING SET 2M INTO SEAFLOOR. L 111 ÷. SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR B. Boring Data Within Station (Estimated 600 data sets) CORE DESCRIPT ONS т BORING ocs-NO ы COR E STRUCTURE PHOTO TEMP TEXTURE DEPTH ICE COLOR SAMPмd LER ID c М COR BONDED 0 0 5 1 - 1 111 10.31 . 0 5 v x - v S BRN SAND 1 - 1 5 1 

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#### APPENDIX 2

### PRELIMINARY BIBLIOGRAPHY ON SUBSEA PERMAFROST - SOVIET LITERATURE

#### Compiled by J. Brown

The study of subsea permafrost, particularly in North America, is relatively new. Within the past few years an increasing number of Canadian and U.S. papers and project reports have appeared. The research and field studies have been stimulated by the exploration for oil and gas in the offshore regions of the Beaufort Sea. Several key Soviet references have come to the attention of North American investigators. Unlike the voluminous Soviet literature covering permafrost on land, Soviet publications on offshore permafrost are relatively few. It is our objective to perform an in-depth search of the Soviet literature to determine what information exists on subsea permafrost and related processes. We are confining the citations to post-1950 publications and restricting the related literature to coastal and lacustrine processes of erosion and in some cases the influence of water bodies such as northern lakes on permafrost.

The following bibliography represents our initial effort, and contains many incomplete citations. It relied heavily on a cursory review of the CRREL Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology, several OASIS searches including geology, water resources, oceanic abstract, and engineering index, and a review of the eight translated Soviet volumes of the Second International Permafrost Conference held in Yakutsk in 1973, and several other translations. The most recent translation is the 1966 book by Grigor'yev entitled <u>Perennially Frozen Rocks of the Coastal Zone of Yakutia (CRREL Draft Translation 512)</u>. The book was translated as part of CRREL's regular translation program and copies have been distributed to OCS and other permafrost investigators. We are currently reviewing the Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology through the CRREL Library of Congress project, and are requesting several additional OASIS searches.

Comments on the following bibliography are welcomed. After completing the Soviet bibliography we plan to make a compilation of the North American literature.

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Figure 22. Vertical cross section of the distribution of total suspended matter for stations 1 thru 4 in the north-eastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).

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Figure 23. Vertical cross section of the distribution of total suspended matter for stations 49 thru 51 in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).

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Figure 24. Vertical cross section of the distribution of total suspended matter for stations 43 thru 48 in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).

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Figure 25. Vertical cross section of the distribution of total suspended matter for stations 32 thru 35 and station 39 in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).



Figure 26. Vertical cross section of the distribution of total suspended matter for stations 27 thru 31 in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).



Figure 27. Vertical cross section of the distribution of total suspended matter for stations 20 thru 25 in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).



Figure 28. Vertical cross section of the distribution of total suspended matter for stations 6 thru 9 in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).



Figure 29. Light scattering profiles for a 36 hour time-series experiment at station 62 in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (November 5-6, 1975). The light scattering values are reported as a frequency (kHz). However, in order to conserve space, the first two digits of the frequency (14) have been removed from the figure.

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# VIII. <u>Conclusions</u> - Southeastern Bering Shelf

Although most of the results of the suspended matter program in the southeastern Bering Shelf are still somewhat preliminary, there are several important conclusions which should be considered to be pertinent to the problems of oil development in the Bristol Bay region. These conclusions are listed below.

- The surface suspended matter distributions appear to follow the general pattern of circulation in Bristol Bay. Suspended material from the northern rivers is generally carried to the west and southwest by the counterclockwise currents.
- 2. Large plumes of suspended matter can be seen extending to the southwest from Cape Newenham and to the west from Kuskokwim Bay. Apparently these plumes represent sedimentary material derived from the Kvichak, Nushagak and Kuskokwim Rivers.
- Suspended material of marine origin is carried into Bristol
  Bay along the northern coast of the Alaska Peninsula.
- Sharp increases in suspended matter concentrations near the bottom indicate that resuspension of bottom sediments may be occurring.

Conclusions - Gulf of Alaska

The most significant conclusions of the particulate matter program in the Gulf of Alaska are listed below.

 The distribution of suspended matter at the surface appears to follow the general pattern of circulation in the Gulf of Alaska. East of Kayak Island sedimentary material, which

is discharged along the coast, is quickly deflected to the west by the westward flowing currents. This material is carried to the west along the coast until it reaches Kayak Island where it is deflected to the southwest and is trapped by a seasonal clockwise gyre.

- 2. Sedimentary material from the Copper River is carried to the northwest along the coast until it reaches Hinchinbrook Island where a portion of the material passes into Prince William Sound and the remaining material is carried to the southwest along the southwestern coast of Montague Island.
- 3. A bottom nepheloid layer is present throughout most of the Gulf. The height of the bottom nepheloid layer appears to be dependent upon the bottom topography and the currents.
- Studies of the temporal variability of suspended matter near the bottom indicate that resuspension processes may be occurring.
- 5. There is a significant bottom nepheloid layer in Prince William Sound. The top of the nepheloid layer is at about the same depth as the sill depth of Hinchinbrook Entrance. The presence of this nepheloid layer might be related to bottom water renewal in the Sound.

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IX. Needs for Further Study - Southeastern Bering Shelf

The following recommendations for future studies with respect to the suspended matter program in the southeastern Bering Shelf are presented below.

- The suspended matter distributions studies should be extended into the area northwest of Nunivak Island. This will provide information about the fate of the sedimentary material that is discharged into Bristol Bay from the northern rivers.
- 2. Studies of the processes that control sediment resuspension and redistribution should be emphasized. However, these studies should be integrated with the physical oceanography program in such a manner that the effect of waves, storms, tides and permanent currents can be evaluated.
- 3. Studies of the interaction of oil with suspended matter from the Bristol Bay area should be initiated. This should include studies of the nature and quantity of oil that is adsorbed onto the surfaces of the suspended particles, their sedimentation characteristics and dissolution processes.

Needs for Further Study - Gulf of Alaska

The following recommendations for future studies with respect to the suspended matter program in the Gulf fo Alaska are presented below.

 The area between Kayak Island and Montague Islands needs further study. The circulation patterns are not well understood and seasonal variations may be significant. There is

some evidence from ERTS imagery and this report that a large clockwise gyre is located southwest of Kayak Island. This gyre appears to trap suspended matter from either side of Kayak Island and carry it to the west. At present, we do not know to what extent this is a seasonal feature in the Gulf. Nor can we determine to what extent the gyre is able to concentrate suspended matter in the region west of Kayak Island. We need to have a higher density of sampling stations in the region west of Kayak Island in order to fully understand the processes of sediment transport by the gyre.

- 2. The regions on either side of Tarr Bank (Kayak Trough and Hinchinbrook Sea Valley) show evidence for relatively broad bottom nepheloid layers (Figs. 23 and 26). These regions are also areas of maximum sediment accumulation (Bruce Molnia, personal communication, 1976). Apparently there is a relationship between the formation of a broad bottom nepheloid layer and the sedimentation process. This would be an ideal location to study the dynamics of sedimentation.
- 3. Studies of the processes that control sediment resuspension and redistribution should be emphasized. However, these studies should be integrated with physical oceanography programs in such a manner that the effects of waves, storms, tide and permanent currents can be evaluated.

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4. Studies of the interaction of oil with suspended matter from the Gulf of Alaska should be initiated. This should include studies of the nature and quantity of oil that is adsorbed onto the surfaces of the suspended particles, their sedimentation characteristics and dissolution processes.

### X. Summary of 4th Quarter Operations

### A. Task Objectives

The primary objective of the particulate matter program in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea is to determine the seasonal varaitions in the distribution, composition and transport of suspended matter. Other objectives include: (1) the high frequency (hourly) variability in the distribution of suspended matter and (2) an investigation of the role of resuspension processes as a mechanism for redistribution of materials.

B. Field Activities from January 1 - April 1, 1976

No field activities were conducted during the fourth quarter.

C. Laboratory Activities from January 1 - April 1, 1976

During the fourth quarter, most of our laboratory work has been concerned with the analysis of the samples from the first two cruises. We have completed the weight determinations from the samples from both cruises. We have also completed the particulate carbon and nitrogen analyses from the first cruise (Bristol Bay) and work is proceeding on the samples from the second cruise (Gulf of Alaska). The completed data are presently being compiled according to the format designed by EDS/NODC and will be submitted to the project office by the end of the next quarter.

Since we received our X-ray fluorescence equipment in our laboratory only two months ago, most of our efforts have been devoted to the setup and calibration of the equipment. Consequently, very little information about the major and trace element composition of the particulate matter is available at this time.

### D. Laboratory Procedures

The major (Mg, Al, Si, K, Ca, Ti, and Fe) and trace (Cr, Mn, Cu, Zn, and Pb) inorganic elemental chemistry of the particulate matter is being determined by X-ray fluorescence. This technique has been used successfully for the determination of the major inorganic elements in particulate matter in coastal and deep water environments and the methods are fairly well established (Cann and Winter, 1971, and Baker and Piper, 1975). Recent advances in this field have lowered the minimum detectable limits to such an extent that many trace elements in particulate matter can be analyzed routinely.

In order to obtain standards with similar compositions as the samples, Baker and Piper (1975) chose the USGS standard rocks W-I, AGV-I and BCR-I to calibrate their X-ray fluorescence system to determine the major element composition of suspended matter from the Washington Continental Shelf. We have adopted their basic techniques to analyze the major element composition of suspended matter from the Gulf of Alaska and southeastern Bering Shelf. Although the details of the techniques have been described adequately elsewhere, a brief description will be presented below.

Radiation from a silver X-ray tube is used to obtain a monochromatic source of X-rays from a secondary target. Baker and Piper (op. cit.) used the  $K_{\alpha}$  X-ray of S to analyze the light elements (Na, Mg, Al and Si) and the continuum from the X-ray tube to analyze for the heavier elements. We will use a combination of secondary targets

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(S, Ge, Zr, and Mo) to analyze the particulate matter for both major and trace lements. The samples will be calibrated against the USGS standard rocks for major elements and the NBS glass standards (612 and 614) for trace elements.

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The organic carbon and nitrogen content of suspended particulate matter has been shown to be a valuable indicator of terrestrial and marine sources of organic matter in the coastal waters of Alaska (Loder, 1971). Specifically, Loder and Hood (1972) have used the C/N ratio of particulate matter to distinguish between terrestrial, glacial, estuarine and marine-derived sources of organic matter.

Particulate organic carbon and nitrogen are being analyzed by the micro-Dumas combustion method, employing a Hewlett-Packard  $^{\textcircled{C}}$  Model 185B C-H-N analyzer (Sharp, 1974). Particulate matter has been separated from seawater by vacuum filtration (precombusted 0.4 µm silver filters [Sharp, 1974; Gordon and Sutcliffe, 1974]) and the carbon and nitrogen combusted to CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>. After separation by standard gas-solid chromotography (GS), the gases are quantitatively determined by thermal conductivity (TC). Sample analysis time is about 10 minutes.

Standardization will be effected with cyclohexanone-2, 4-dinitrophenylhydrozone, acetanilde (Sharp, 1974) and L-cystine; the latter two are NBS standards. These results will be corroborated by direct GC analysis of  $CO_2$  and  $N_2$ .

E. Sampling Protocol

No field samples were taken during the fourth quarter.

# F. Data Analysis

The data from the first two cruises are being reduced and compiled according to the format designed by EDS/NODC. These data will be submitted to the project office by the end of the next quarter.

## G. Results

The results of our field activities during the first two cruises are graphically displayed and summarized in section VI of this report and will not be reproduced here.

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47 mm diameter 0.4  $\mu$ m Nuclepore  $\mathbb{R}$  filters. The results are presented in Table 3. The average relative standard deviation for the replicate studies is 7.8%. Since the precision of our weighing techniques (based on replicate studies of standard reference filters) is less than 1%, most of the variability in the data appears to be due to the inhomogeneity of particulate matter in the water sample. This suggests that one must be extremely careful when comparing small differences in the suspended matter distributions. For the Gulf of Alaska, only differences greater than  $\pm 0.13$  mg/L are considered to be significant at the 95% confidence level.

In order to obtain some information about the high frequency (hourly) time variations in the distribution of suspended matter, two 36-hour time series experiments were conducted at stations 46 and 62. Water samples were collected every 4 hours from the surface and 5 meters above the bottom. The results of these experiments are also given in Table 3. The relative standard deviations of the data from the two time-series stations are significantly higher than the relative standard deviations from the replicate studies. This suggests that high frequency time variations, which may be due to the action of waves, tides and local variations in productivity, are highly significant and must be carefully considered if seasonal particulate matter distribution maps are to have any significante at

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the surface and the maximum relative standard deviation of 47.6% from the time series at station 62 a value of  $\pm 0.77$  mg/L is significant at the 95% confidence level for seasonal variations. For these reasons, the contour intervals on the suspended matter distribution maps have been limited to  $\pm 1.0$  mg/L.

#### 36-Hour Time Series

In order to obtain some information about the processes that control resuspension and redistribution of bottom sediments along the shelf, a 36-hour time series was conducted at station 62 on November 5 - 6, 1975. Station 62 is located southeast of Icy Bay and has been used as the site for extensive measurements of bottom currents by the physical oceanographers at PMEL.

Light scattering profiles were obtained every two hours and water samples at the surface and 5 meters above the bottom were collected and filtered for suspended matter every four hours. Figure 29 shows the light scattering profiles and Figure 30 shows the suspended matter distributions for the 36-hour experiment. Although this experiment was only intended to be a preliminary investigation prior to the long-term time series which is to be carried out in April of this year, some of the preliminary data have proved to be quite interesting. The near-bottom suspended matter distributions show maxima that are roughly repeated every twelve hours. The light scattering profiles also show a corresponding pattern of increasing concentrations near the bottom which

appears to have the same general periodicity. At their maximum intensification, the profiles begin to increase at about 20-30 meters above the bottom. Presumably, the increase in light scattering and suspended matter concentrations near the bottom are due to resuspension of bottom sediments by bottom currents. At station 62, the Alaskan Stream comes in contact with the sea floor and tends to follow the bathymetry and moves in a northwesterly direction. The major axis of the tidal elipse at station 62 is also in a northwest-southeast direction (J. Schumacher, personal communication, 1975). One possible explanation of the data from the time series may be that when the northwesterly component of the tides is superimposed on the Alaskan Stream the combined effect of the two currents is just sufficient to erode bottom sediments. This would suggest that resuspended sediments might have a net transport to the northwest.

At this point, these conclusions must be considered to be preliminary at best. We are in the process of deploying a current meter nephelometer array at station 62 which, hopefully, will provide approximately two months of data on the temporal variability of suspended matter near the bottom.

# B. Elemental Chemistry of the Particulate Matter

Since we received our X-ray fluorescence equipment in our laboratory only two months ago, most of our efforts have been devoted to the setup and calibration of the equipment. Consequently, little information about the major and trace element composition of the particulates from the Gulf of Alaska is available at this time. Therefore, the analytical results will be presented in a future report.

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Table 3. Comparison of replicate samples collected in 10-liter Top-Drop Niskin® bottles and filtered through 47 mm diameter, 0.4 µm Nuclepore® filters with samples collected every four hours during a 36-hour time series experiment.

Station	Depth	Number of Replicates	TSM Mean (mg/L)	Std. Dev.	Rel. Std. Dev.
PMEL 1	sfc	4	0.510	0.029	0.057
PMEL 5	sfc	4	0.495	0.089	0.179
PMEL 9	sfc	3	1.241	0.099	0.079
PMEL 10	sfc	4	2.728	0.162	0.059
PMEL 16	sfc	3	0.635	0.023	0.036
PMEL 17	sfc	4	2.211	0.044	0.020
PMEL 39	sfc	4	3.482	0.123	0.035
PMEL 51	sfc	4	0.465	0.075	0.161
TIME-SERIES STATIONS					
PMEL 46	sfc	9	0.333	0.066	0.199
PMEL 62	sfc	9	0.238	0.113	0.476
PMEL 46	60 m	9	0.512	0.119	0.232
PMEL 62	184 m	9	0.504	0.181	0.359



Figure 15. Distribution of total suspended matter at the surface in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).



Figure 16. Distribution of total suspended matter at 10 meters in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).



Figure 17. Distribution of total suspended matter at 20 meters in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).



Figure 18. Distribution of total suspended matter at 40 meters in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).

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Figure 19. Distribution of total suspended matter at 5 meters above the bottom in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).



Figure 20. ERTS-I image of the region between Montague Island and Kayak Island showing the large clockwise gyre southwest of Kayak Island. The image was obtained on August 14, 1973.



LIGHT SCATTERING PROFILES - GULF OF ALASKA

Figure 21. Light scattering and temperature profiles for a line of stations from Prince William Sound to Middleton Island.

CONTINENTAL SHELF

54

148°

148°

146

50

KMS

46•

47.

146°

SOUND



Figure 10. Distribution of particulate carbon at the surface in the southeastern Bering Shelf (Cruise RP-4-Di-75B-III, 12 Sept.-5 Oct., 1975).

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Figure 11. Distribution of particulate nitrogen at the surface in the southeastern Bering Shelf (Cruise RP-4-Di-75B-III, ]2 Sept.-5 Oct., 1975)



Figure 12. Vertical distribution of total suspended matter and particulate carbon at station 40 in the southeastern Bering Shelf (Cruise RP-4-Di-75B-III, 12 Sept.-5 Oct., 1975).



Figure 13. Calibration curve for CaO using a finely ground USGS W-I rock as the standard reference material.



Figure 14. Map of the surface distribution of the percentage of total suspended matter that is due to the sum of the major inorganic elements expressed as oxides (Cruise RP-4-Di-75B-III, 12 Sept.-5 Oct., 1975).

# Northeastern Gulf of Alaska

# A. <u>Particulate Matter Distributions</u>

Figures 15 through 19 show the distribution of total suspended matter in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska. East of Kayak Island the surface particulate matter distributions (Fig. 15) are dominated by the discharge of sedimentary material from the coastal streams which drain the Bering, Guyot and Malaspina Glaciers. As this material is discharged into the Gulf, the westward flowing currents quickly deflect this material to the west along the coast. Comprehensive analyses of ERTS imagery for this region (Sharma et al. 1974; Burbank, 1974; and Carlson et al., 1975) have indicated that most of the material that is discharged from the rivers east of Kayak Island remains relatively close to the coast (within 40 km) until it reaches Kayak Island where it is deflected to the southwest. The surface suspended matter distributions for the October-November cru<sup>2</sup> of follow this same general pattern. Along the transects southeast of icy Bay (stations 10-13), particulate matter approximately 40 km off the coast. However, a few eddies containing highly turbid water have been observed in the area south of Malaspina Glacier which appear to be capable of transporting sedimentary material offshore (Burbank, 1974). Since these eddies appear to be transient they are probably associated with local wind patterns.

Near Kayak Island a plume of turbid water (>1.0 mg/L) extends to the southwest from the eastern coast of the island. From an analysis of ERTS imagery taken on August 14, 1973 (Fig. 20), Sharma et al. (op. cit.) postulate

that as this material is carried to the west around the southwestern tip of Kayak Island, it is trapped by a seasonal clockwise gyre. Our data from the October-November cruise appear to support this hypothesis. A plume of turbid water (>1.0 mg/L) extends to the west from Kayak Island as far as station 33. To the north and south of station 33, particulate matter concentrations drop below 1.0 mg/L. This suggests that the plume originates from the east rather than the north. Similar distributions are observed at 10 meters (Fig. 16). Preliminary chemical analysis of the particulate matter from the plume indicates that it is predominantly of terrestrial origin (> 70% inorganic). Apparently, particulate material originating from the east side of Kayak Island is trapped by the gyre and carried to the west. However, since the number of stations located west of Kayak Island is too few for fine scale resolution of the suspended matter distributions at the surface, it is not possible, at this time, to determine whether or not the suspended matter is deflected to the north as would be expected from the ERTS imagery.

As stated previously, the major source of sedimentary material to the Gulf of Alaska is the Copper River. Although the fall cruise occurred at a time when the Copper River was approaching the peroid of minimum discharge, plumes of highly turbid water (>2.0 mg/L) extend out as far as 30 km from the coast. Once discharged into the Gulf, the sedimentary material from the Copper River is carried to the northwest

along the coast until it reaches Hinchinbrook Island, where a portion of the material passes into Prince William Sound and the remaining material is carried to the southwest along the southeastern coast of Montague Island.

From an analysis of ERTS imagery, suspended load distributions and sediment distributions, Sharma <u>et al</u>. (1974) and Burbank (1974) have concluded that the Copper River provides the major source of sediments to Prince William Sound. Copper River sediments enter Prince William Sound through channels on either side of Hinchinbrook Island. However, the channel on the northeast side of the island is quite shallow and probably accounts for a small fraction of the total sediment input. The major sediment input is through Hinchinbrook Entrance. Burbank (1974) states that upon entering Prince William Sound the Copper River sediment disperses and settles to the bottom.

In general, our data support the conclusions of these authors. Surface particulate matter concentrations near Hinchinbrook Entrance are relatively high (1.71 mg/L at station 44). Just inside the Entrance, surface concentrations decrease rapidly, indicating rapid dispersal and settling. However, careful analysis of vertical profiles of light scattering and total suspended matter indicates that other processes may be affecting the distribution of suspended matter within Prince William Sound. Figure 21 shows light scattering and temperature profiles for a number of stations across Hinchinbrook Entrance and into Prince

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William Sound. The light scattering profiles within the Sound show an increase just below the sill depth of the Entrance. The maxima in light scattering below the sill correlates very well with the suspended matter concentrations which are highest in this region (1.48 mg/L at 230 m for station 42 and 3.51 mg/L at 272 m for station 43). The temperature of the bottom water in the Sound is approximately the same as the bottom water immediately south of the Entrance at about 180 meters. Muench and Schmidt (1975) state that bottom water renewal in the Sound is most likely to occur in October and November by inflow of water over the sill. Thus, near-bottom transport of suspended matter across the sill may be contributing a significant amount of sediments into the Sound.

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In general, concentrations of suspended matter in the Gulf of Alaska are high at the surface with an average concentration of 1.02 mg/L. Beneath the surface concentrations generally decrease with depth until the sea floor is approached. Close to the sea floor suspended matter concentrations begin to increase sharply and the highest concentrations of suspended matter are found within 5 meters of the seawater-sediment interface (Fig. 19). In general, a bottom turbidity layer can be found throughout most of the Gulf. The height of the bottom nepheloid layer appears to be dependent upon the bottom topography and the currents. Figures 22 through 27 show vertical cross sections of suspend ds

(in mg/L) for several north-south transects in the Gulf. Near topographic highs such as the transects across Tarr Bank (Figs. 24 and 25), the light scattering and suspended matter profiles increase sharply very close to the bottom. In these regions, the bottom nepheloid layer is quite thin (<20 m). Resuspension and transport of bottom materials can be expected to dominate these areas.

In contrast, transects along topographic depressions such as the transect along Kayak Trough (Fig. 26) show light scattering profiles and suspended matter distributions which increase gradually to the bottom. Here, the bottom nepheloid layer is quite thick (>50 m) and rapid sedimentation can be expected to occur in this region.

In some cases, highly turbid plumes of suspended matter can be observed at midwater depths. This is usually due to advective transport of suspended material over or around some topographic feature. Figure 27 shows an example of this situation. The midwater maximum in suspended loads is due to the transport of highly turbid water around the southeastern tip of Kayak Island.

#### **Replicate Studies**

In order to evaluate the reproducibility of the measurements for total suspended matter, a number of replicate experiments were conducted during the fall cruise in the Gulf. Surface samples were collected in 10-liter Top Drop Niskin  $^{\textcircled{R}}$  bottles and simultaneously filtered through

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Figure 5. Scatter plot of the frequency output of the nephelometer versus total suspended matter for 55 near bottom samples from the northeastern Gulf of Alaska.

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# VI. Results and Discussion

To date, we have completed two of the five cruises scheduled during the present fiscal year for the Gulf of Alaska and southeastern Bering Shelf. The first cruise, RP-4-Di-75B Leg III of the NOAA ship DISCOVERER, was conducted in the southeastern Bering Shelf during the fall of 1975 (12 September - 5 October). The second cruise, RP-4-Di-75C Leg I, was conducted in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska during late fall of the same year (21 October - 10 November). Since the two regions should be considered independently, I will discuss the results in chronological order of the cruises.

#### Southeastern Bering Shelf

#### A. Particulate Matter Distributions

Figures 6 through 9 show the distribution of suspended matter at selected depths in the southeastern Bering Shelf. The surface particulate matter distributions (Fig. 6) are dominated by the discharge of suspended material from the northern rivers. A large plume of suspended matter extends to the southwest from Cape Newenham. Similar suspended matter distributions were found by Sharma <u>et al</u>. (1974) from samples collected during June-July 1973. The authors suggested that suspended material originating from the Kvichak and Nushagak Rivers moves generally to the west until it reaches Cape Newenham where it combines with a portion

of the material discharged from the Kuskokwim River and is deflected to the southwest. Preliminary chemical analysis of the particulate matter suggests that the material is essentially of terrestrial origin (>70% inorganic<sup>2</sup>). 21

A second plume extends to the southwest from Kuskokwim Bay. High concentrations of suspended matter extend as far west as Nunivak Island. This material is also predominantly inorganic and is probably derived from the Kuskokwim River.

Along the Alaska Peninsula surface concentrations decrease rapidly away from the coast. In some locations surface concentrations are as low as 0.31 mg/L within 40 km of the coastline. Since there are no significant rivers discharging into Bristol Bay from the Alaska Peninsula, it is not surprising that suspended matter concentrations decrease rapidly away from the coast. However, the surface concentrations south of Unimak Pass are nearly the same ( $\sim$ 0.5 mg/L) as the surface concentrations north of the Alaska Peninsula. Furthermore, the chemical analysis of the suspended matter from both regions indicates that the suspended material is predominantly of marine origin (<50% inorganic). As the Pacific Ocean water passes through Unimak Pass and is deflected to the northeast along the coast of the Alaska Peninsula, suspended matter of marine origin is carried into **Bri**stol Bay. When the Pacific

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For the purpose of this report, the inorganic particulate matter is defined as the percentage of total particulate matter that is due to terrigeneous and skeletal debris. This value is determined by calculating the sum (in mg/L) of the major inorganic elements expressed as oxides and presenting it as a percentage of total suspended matter.

Ocean surface water mixes with the Shelf water, the highly turbid Shelf water is diluted by the relatively clear Pacific Ocean water producing the sharp gradients in the suspended matter distributions near the coast.

Beneath the surface, the particulate matter distributions follow the same general pattern as at the surface. This suggests that the semi-permanent counterclockwise currents in Bristol Bay appear to be controlling the distribution of suspended matter throughout the water column. However, suspended matter concentrations increase sharply near the bottom indicating possible resuspension of bottom sediments. Since Bristol Bay is a relatively shallow embayment, it is entirely possible that waves and tides play an active role in the resuspension of sediments. Preliminary chemical analysis of the suspended matter near the bottom indicates that this material is predominantly of terrestrial origin (>70% inorganic).

Sharma <u>et al</u>. (1972) have presented evidence from grain size distributions of Bristol Bay sediments to show that wave energy on the bottom plays a predominant role in the redistribution of sediments. The authors state that the distribution of sedimentary particles coarser than  $2\phi$  is primarily controlled by wave energy and bottom relief. Whereas, the distribution of particles finer than  $2\phi$  is controlled by the action of currents, waves and tides.

We are presently conducting a number of experiments designed to delineate some of the processes controlling the resuspension of bottom sediments. Some preliminary results of these experiments will be presented later in this report.



Figure 6. Distribution of total suspended matter at the surface in the southeastern Bering Shelf (Cruise RP-4-Di-75B-III, 12 Sept.-5 Oct., 1975).



Figure 7. Distribution of total suspended matter at 10 meters in the southeastern Bering Shelf (Cruise RP-4-Di-75B-III, 12 Sept.-5 Oct., 1975).



Figure 8. Distribution of total suspended matter at 20 meters in the southeastern Bering Shelf (Cruise RP-4-Di-75B-III, 12 Sept.-5 Oct., 1975).



Figure 9. Distribution of total suspended matter at 40 meters in the southeastern Bering Shelf (Cruise RP-4-Di-75B-III, 12 Sept.-5 Oct., 1975).

### B. Elemental Chemistry of the Particulate Matter

At this point, the data on the elemental composition of the particulate matter in the southeastern Bering Shelf are incomplete. We have completed most of the particulate carbon and nitrogen analyses and some preliminary results are presented below. Our analyses of the major and trace element compositions of the particulate matter have just been started and little data can be presented at this time.

Since the early work of Menzel and Vaccaro (1964), many investigators have used particulate carbon as a tracer of particulate organic matter in the oceans. Riley (1970) suggested that a factor of 2.0 be used to estimate concentrations of particulate organic matter from particulate carbon. Recent investigators have used the carbon to nitrogen ratios in particulate matter to distinguish between terrestrial and marine sources of organic matter (Loder and Hood, 1972). The authors found that riverborne organic matter have C:N ratios which range between 15-22. In contrast, ratios for marine organic matter range between 5-15.

The distribution of particulate carbon and nitrogen at the surface in the southeastern Shelf are presented in Figures 10 and 11. Generally speaking, the surface distributions follow the same pattern as total suspended matter. High concentrations of particulate carbon and nitrogen are found along the coast with concentration gradients decreasing slowly in a seaward direction from the northern coast and rapidly from the coast of the Alaska Peninsula. **A** plume of turbid water

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containing high concentrations of particulate carbon and nitrogen extends to the southwest from Kuskokwim Bay. Apparently, the semipermanent counterclockwise currents which appear to be controlling the distributions of total particulate matter at the surface also control the distribution of particulate carbon and nitrogen.

The carbon to nitrogen ratios in the particulate matter at the surface indicate that the organic matter is of marine origin. Ratios range from 0.7 to 29.4 with a mean 7.2. Although the ratios increase slightly from south to north, studies of the variability of C:N ratios in marine phytoplankton indicate that these small differences are probably not significant (Banse, 1974).

Near the bottom, particulate carbon and nitrogen distributions tend to be more localized and appear to follow the bathymetry. Figure 12 shows a vertical profile of total suspended matter and total particulate carbon for station 40 in central Bristol Bay. Concentrations of total particulate carbon are high at the surface  $(450 \mu \text{gC/L})$ . Beneath the surface, concentrations of particulate carbon decrease rapidly until a constant level of about  $150 \mu \text{gC/L}$  is reached below 40 meters. In contrast, total suspended matter concentrations are relatively low and constant in the top 40 meters. Below 40 meters, concentrations of total particulate matter increase sharply near the bottom indicating possible resuspension of bottom sediments. Apparently, resuspension of bottom sediments has little or no effect on the distribution of particulate organic matter near the bottom.

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Since we received our X-ray fluorescence equipment in our laboratory only two months ago, most of our efforts have been devoted to the set-up and calibration of the equipment. Consequently, very little information about the major and trace element composition of the particulate matter is available at this time.

In order to obtain standards with similar compositions as the samples, Baker and Piper (1975) chose the USGS standard rocks W-I, AGV-I and BCR-I to calibrate their X-ray fluorescence system to determine the major element composition of suspended matter from the Washington Continental Shelf. We have adopted their basic techniques to analyze the major element composition of suspended matter from the Gulf of Alaska and southeastern Bering Shelf. Although the details of the techniques have been described adequately elsewhere, a brief description will be presented below.

Radiation from a silver X-ray tube is used to obtain a monochromatic source of X-rays from a secondary target. Baker and Piper (op. cit.) used the  $K_{\alpha}$  X-ray of S to analyze the light elements (Na, Mg, Al and Si) and the continuum from the X-ray tube to analyze for the heavier elements. We will use a combination of secondary targets (S, Ge, Zr and Mo) to analyze the particulate matter for both major and trace elements. The samples will be calibrated against the USGS standard rocks for major elements and the NBS glass standards (612 and 614) for trace elements. 29

Preliminary calibrations of our system using the USGS rock standards for major elements are quite good. Figure <sup>13</sup> shows a typical calibration curve for CaOusing the USGS W-I rock as the reference material. Similar calibration curves have been prepared for each element by plotting the characteristic X-ray intensity against the known concentration of the element. The results indicate that for sample loadings between 50 and 300  $\mu$ g cm<sup>-2</sup> the calibration curves are linear. Baker and Piper (op. cit.) state that for sample loading greater than 300  $\mu$ g cm<sup>-2</sup> there is a significant loss of X-ray intensity due to self-absorption and the thin film criteria is no longer valid. Fortunately, most of our samples have loadings well below this upper limit.

As stated previously, we have made some preliminary analyses of the surface samples from the southwestern Bering Shelf for major elements. Table 1 summarizes the data we have obtained thus far. In order to simplify the data, I have arranged the surface samples into three groups. Group I contains all the northern stations in which the sum of the major inorganic element concentrations (expressed as oxides) is greater than 60% of the total weight of material on the filter. Group II contains all the southern stations in which the sum of the major inorganic element concentrations is also greater than 60% of the total weight. Group III contains all the stations in between
in which the sum is less than 60% of the total suspended load. Figure 14 shows the percentage of total suspended matter that is due to the sum of the major inorganic elements (expressed as oxides) for each station. The 60% isopleth divides the stations into their respective groups.

As shown in Table 1, Groups I and II are very similar. Within the statistical limits of the measurements, the major element composition of the suspended matter is very nearly the same for both groups. Group III, on the other hand, shows an elemental composition which is quite different from Groups I and II. The major element composition of the suspended matter from Groups I and II appear to be dominated by the supply of terrigeneous material from the Kuskokwim, Nushagak and Kvichak Rivers to the north (for Group I) and the coastal streams and lagoons to the south (for group II). Several authors have suggested that since K, Mg, Al, and Ti are almost exclusively associated with aluminosilicate minerals, the presence of these elements in suspended matter is indicative of terrestrial input (Spencer and Sachs, 1970; Price and Calvert, 1973; and Feely, 1975). The high concentrations of these elements in the samples from Groups I and II indicate that aluminosilicate minerals are the most dominant solid phase in the particulate matter. The data from Table 1 shows that for Groups I and II approximately 44-50% of the particulate matter is aluminosilicate material of terrestrial origin. In contrast, the particulate matter samples from Group III only contain about 20% aluminosilicate material.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The aluminosilicate content of suspended matter can be estimated by multiplying the aluminum content by a factor of 10 (Feely, 1975).

Price and Calvert (1973) used the elemental ratios of the major elements to aluminum to help identify the particular sources of the suspended matter. Table 2 shows the variation in the Mg/Al, Si/Al, K/Al, Ca/Al, Ti/Al and Fe/Al ratios for the particulate matter from the three groups. The Fe/Al, Ti/Al and K/Al ratios fo the particulate matter from Groups I and II are similar to values for average shales (Krauskopf, 1967) and probably represent the elemental composition of the suspended material discharged from the rivers. However, the Si/Al ratio is considerably elevated over what would be expected from average sedimentary rocks (7.1 for Group I vs. 3.0 for average shales, Krauskopf, 1967). This is probably due to the presence of diatom frustules and fine grain quartz in the suspended matter.

The particulate matter samples from Group III contain significantly lower concentrations of the major inorganic elements. As stated previously, only about 20% of the particulate matter from this region is estimated to be aluminosilicate material. The remaining 80% appears to be biogenic in nature (primarily consisting of organic matter and skeletal fragments). 32

Region	# of Samples	MgO Wt %	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Wt %	SiO <sub>2</sub> Wt %	K <sub>2</sub> O Wt %	CaO Wt %	TiO Wt %	Fe Wt %
Group I	23	2.52±0.98	8.27±2.7	67.1±11	.699±0.20	.178±0.07	.378±0.12	2.26±0.86
Group II	9	2.50±1.00	9.37±4.9	74.0±12	.527±0.23	.294±0.31	.418±0.29	2.31±1.90
Group III	23	0.96±0.77	4.03±3.2	21.8±12	.228±0.14	.131±0.22	.186±0.13	0.78±0.62

Table 1. Summary of the major element composition of the surface samples from the Southeastern Bering Shelf.

Table 2. Elemental ratios to aluminum for the surface samples from the Southeastern Bering Shelf.

Region	# of Samples	Mg/A1	Si/Al	K/A1	Ca/A]	Ti/A1	Fe/A1
Group I	23	0.347	7.146	0.132	0.028	0.051	0.517
Group II	9	0.302	6.950	0.088	0.042	0.050	0.465
Group III	23	0.253	4.788	0.088	0.043	0.052	0.366

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### First Annual Report

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Distribution, Composition and Transport of Suspended Particulate Matter in the Gulf of Alaska and Southeastern Bering Shelf

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# I. Summary - The Southeastern Bering Shelf

The surface distribution of suspended matter in the southeastern Bering Shelf is controlled by the discharge of sedimentary material from the coastal rivers and the semi-permanent counterclockwise currents which dominate the water circulation in Bristol Bay. A large plume of suspended matter extends to the southwest from Cape Newenham. Suspended matter originating from the Kvichak and Nushagak Rivers is carried to the west until it reaches Cape Newenham where it combines with a portion of the material discharged from the Kuskokwim River and is deflected to the southwest. Preliminary chemical analysis of the particulate material from this plume indicates that it is essentially of terrestrial origin.

A second plume extends to the southwest from Kuskokwim Bay. High concentrations of suspended matter extend as far west as Nunivak Island. This material is probably derived from the Kuskokwim River.

Along the Alaska Peninsula surface suspended matter concentrations decrease rapidly away from the coast. As the Pacific Ocean water passes through Unimak Pass and is deflected to the northeast along the coast of the Alaska Peninsula, suspended matter of marine origin is carried into Bristol Bay. When this water mixes with the highly turbid Shelf water, the Shelf water is diluted by the relatively clear Pacific Ocean water producing the sharp gradients in the suspended matter distributions near the coast.

Below the surface, the particulate matter distributions follow the same general pattern as at the surface. However, suspended matter concentrations increase sharply near the bottom indicating possible resuspension of bottom sediments.

Summary - Gulf of Alaska

The distribution of suspended matter in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska is affected by a number of parameters which combine to form a unique distribution pattern. East of Kayak Island the surface particulate matter distributions are dominated by the discharge of sedimentary material from the coastal streams which drain the Bering, Guyot and Malaspina Glaciers. As this material is discharged into the Gulf, the westward flowing currents quickly deflect this material to the west along the coast until it reaches Kayak Island where it is deflected to the southwest and is trapped by a seasonal clockwise gyre.

The major source of sedimentary material to the Gulf of Alaska is the Copper River. Once discharged into the Gulf, the Copper River sediment is carried to the northwest along the coast until it reaches Hinchinbrook Island where a portion of the material passes into Prince William Sound and the remaining material is carried to the southwest along the southwestern coast of Montague Island.

In general, concentrations of suspended matter in the Gulf of Alaska are high at the surface with an average concentration of 1.02 mg/L. Beneath the surface concentrations generally decrease with depth until the seafloor is approached. Close to the seafloor suspended matter concentrations increase sharply and the highest concentrations are found within 5 meters of the seawater-sediment interface. Studies of the temporal variability of suspended matter near the bottom indicate that resuspension of bottom sediments might be occurring.

## II. Introduction

Particles suspended in seawater play a major role in regulating the chemical forms, distributions and ultimate deposition of many marine pollutants. Some toxic substances in particulate form are transported to the oceans where they are desorbed at the freshwater-seawater interface. Other substances (particularly petroleum hydrocarbons) are adsorbed onto the surface of suspended particles and are removed to the sediments as the particles settle.

In areas where the bottom environment is especially dynamic, nearbottom processes such as resuspension and transport of sediments may affect the ultimate deposition of pollutants. An understanding of the processes controlling the distribution, composition, and transport of suspended particulate matter is essential to the assessment of the fate of toxic pollutants in the marine environment.

The major objective of the particulate matter program in the Gulf of Alaska and southeastern Bering Shelf is to determine the seasonal variations in the distribution, composition, and transport of suspended matter. Other objectives include: (1) the high frequency (hourly) variability in the distribution of suspended matter, and (2) an investigation of the role of resuspension processes as a mechanism for redistribution of sedimentary materials.

III. Current State of Knowledge - Southeastern Bering Shelf

There is very little published information about the distribution and composition of suspended particulate matter in the southeastern Bering Shelf.

Sharma <u>et al</u>. (1974) compared some particulate matter distributions taken during June-July 1973 in the southern Bering Sea and Bristol Bay region with ERTS multispectral scanner images of the same area which were obtained on October 2, 1972. The surface contours of suspended load distributions indicate several regions of relatively turbid water which originate from a variety of sources. These turbid regions include:

 A region of turbid water which is north of the Aleutian Islands.
This is probably due to the high level of primary productivity that is the result of the mixing of nutrient-rich deep water with the Alaskan Stream which flows into the Bering Sea from the south.
A region of turbid water which extends south from Kuskokwim Bay and west from northern Bristol Bay. This plume probably represents suspended sediments derived from the Kuskokwim River from the north and the Kvichak and Nushagak Rivers from the east.

(3) A region of slightly turbid water extending to the southwest from Bristol Bay which probably represents suspended matter

derived from the Kvichak and Nushagak Rivers.

The ERTS imagery indicates that the Nushagak River is a major source for particulate matter in the Bristol Bay area. The suspended particles from the Kvichak and Nushagak Rivers are carried to the west by the 5

prevailing countercloskwise current. Sharma <u>et al</u>. (op. cit.) state that although the river plumes remain close to shore, offshore transport of material in suspension is probably brought about by tidal currents.

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There is only a small amount of information about the chemical composition of the suspended matter in the southeastern Bering Shelf. Loder (1971) studied the distribution of particulate organic carbon (POC) north of Unimak Pass and found high POC concentrations (221-811µgC/L) north in the thermally stabilized upwelled water north of Unalaska Island. Lower POC concentrations were found north of Unimak Island and west Akutan Pass which presumably were due to current mixing.

Tsunogai <u>et al</u>. (1974) studied the distribution and composition of particulate matter from six stations in the south central and southeastern Bering Sea. They found the highest concentrations of particulate matter occurred at 20 to 30 meters depth which appeared to be due to the high productivity and the slow decomposition of organic matter just below the surface. The organic portion of the suspended matter was about 67 percent for the samples from the Bering Sea and 80 percent for the samples south of the Aleutian Islands in the northern North Pacific.

#### Current State of Knowledge - Gulf of Alaska

Reimnitz (1966) studied the sedimentation history and lithology of sediments from the Copper River Delta. He estimated the particulate matter supply of the Copper River to be  $107 \times 10^6$  tons/yr which mostly consists of fine grain sands and silts.

Sharma <u>et al</u>. (1974) compared some surface particulate matter distributions taken during February 24-28, 1973 between Kenai Peninsula and Kayak Island with ERTS multispectral scanner images of the same region which were obtained on October 12, 1972 and August 14, 1973. The ERTS images show that the Copper River and Bering Glacier provide most of the sediment load to this region. The westward flowing current deflects a portion of the Copper River plume to the west. The suspended matter moves along the coast with some material entering Prince William South through the passages on either side of Hinchinbrook Island and the remaining material is carried along the southeast shore of Montague Island.

Carlson <u>et al</u>. (1975) used ERTS imagery to study the transport of suspended material in nearshore surface waters of the Gulf of Alaska. During the late summer and early fall months large quantities of fine grain silt and clay sized material from the Bering, Guyot and Malaspina Glaciers are discharged into the Gulf between Kayak Island and Yakutat Bay. This material is carried to the west by the Alaska Current until it reaches Kayak Island where it is deflected to the south.

El Wardani (1960) studied the distribution of organic phosphorus in the Bering Sea, Aleutian trench and the Gulf of Alaska. He demonstrated that organic phosphorus in the upper 200 m of the water column bears an inverse relationship to inorganic phosphorus. Below 200 m no detectable organic phosphorus was found. 7

## IV. The Study Area - Southeastern Bering Shelf

The southeastern Bering Shelf (Fig. 1) is a relatively shallow embayment which is bounded by the Kilbuk Mountains to the north and east, and the Alaska Peninsula to the south. Except for some small depressions near the Alaska Peninsula, the Shelf floor is extremely smooth with an average slope of about 0.0003 (Sharma, 1974).

The region receives sedimentary material from the Kuskokwim, Kvichak, and Nushagak Rivers. The largest river, the Kuskokwim, discharges approximately 4.0 x  $10^6$  tons of sediments annually (Nelson, 1974). Figure 2 shows the range and mean values of the monthly mean discharge of the Kuskokwim for the period of record (Water Supply Papers, U.S. Geological Survey). The maximum discharge occurs during the months of May through September.

A counterclockwise movement generally dominates the water motion in the Bristol Bay region. Pacific Ocean water enters the Bering Sea through the Aleutian Island passes and flows to the northeast along the coast of the Alaska Peninsula. The water moves along the <sup>no</sup>rthern coastline by tidal and wind driven currents until it reaches Nunivak Island where it is turned to the north.

The permanent currents in the southeastern Bering Shelf appear to be somewhat sluggish. Current velocities ranging from 2.0-5.0 cm/sec have been observed north of the Alaska Peninsula (Hebard, 1959). However, tidal currents are dominant in northeastern Bristol Bay where tidal velocities of up to 125 cm/sec have been observed in Nushagak Bay (U.S. National Ocean Survey, 1973).

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### The Study Area - Gulf of Alaska

The northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Fig. 3) is bordered by a rugged mountainous coastline containing numerous glaciers which deliver large quantities of suspended material to the Gulf during the summer months when maximum discharge occurs. The major sediment discharge is from the Copper River. Reimnitz (1966) estimates that approximately 107 x 10<sup>6</sup> tons of fine grain material are delivered annually to the Gulf by way of the Copper River system. Figure 4 shows the range and mean values of the monthly mean discharge of the Copper River for the period of record (Water Supply Papers, U.S. Geological Survey). The maximum discharge of the Copper River occurs during the months of June through September. 9

Additional inputs into the Gulf occur along the coastline east of Kayak Island where coastal streams containing high sediment concentrations drain the Bering, Guyot and Malaspina Glaciers. Since there are no permanent gauging stations on these streams, there is no information about the quantities of materials that are discharged into the Gulf from these sources.

The current systems in the Gulf are dominated by the large counterclockwise gyre of the Alaskan Stream. It is usually characterized by a core of relatively warm  $(5.5^{\circ}-6.2^{\circ}C)$  water at about 130 meters (Galt and Royer, 1976). The Alaskan Stream comes in contact with the shelf just east of Icy Bay where it is turned to the west and appears to follow the 150 m isobath.

West of Cape St. Elias the Alaskan Stream is deflected to the southwest leaving the large shelf area between Middleton Island and the Copper River Delta relatively free of its influence. In this region the circulation is affected by seasonal wind patterns. In the summer, the winds are predominantly from the southwest. This produces an Ekman drift of surface waters offshore. During the winter, the winds are from the southeast which results in an Ekman drift onshore and downwelling in subsurface waters.



Figure 1. Locations of suspended matter stations in the southeastern Bering Shelf (Cruise RP-4-Di-75B-III, 12 Sept.-6 Oct., 1975).

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Figure 2. Range, mean and standard deviation of the monthly mean discharge of the Kuskokwim River at Crooked Creek for the period of record through 1974 (Water Supply Papers, U.S. Geo-logical Survey).



Figure 3. Locations of suspended matter stations in the northeastern Gulf of Alaska (Cruise RP-4-Di-75C-I, 21 Oct.-10 Nov., 1975).

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Figure 4. Range, mean and standard deviation of the monthly mean discharge of the Copper River near Chitina for the period of record through 1974 (Water Supply Papers, U.S. Geo-logical Survey).

# V. <u>Sources, Methods, and Rationale of Data Collection</u>

In order to obtain information about the seasonal variations of the distribution and composition of suspended matter we have planned three cruises in the Gulf of Alaska and two cruises in the Bering Sea during the present fiscal year. The field program has been integrated with the physical, geological and biological programs so that concomitant information about water mass transport, primary productivity and recent sedimentation can be obtained.

In addition to the seasonal distributions, we have planned a number of high frequency (hourly) time series studies at selected locations. This will provide valuable information about the variability in the distribution of suspended matter that may be due to waves, tides, and the "patchiness" of primary productivity in surface waters and resuspension of sediments in near-bottom waters.

A second aspect of the suspended matter program will be concerned with the process of sediment resuspension and redeposition. Observations of light scattering profiles from the Gulf of Alaska have indicated evidence of near bottom turbidity layers which may be due to resuspension of bottom sediments. The erosion and transport of bottom sediments are expected to be related to the action of near bottom currents. These currents are presumably influenced mainly by the actions of waves, tides and storms.

To determine how these processes affect the near bottom distribution of particulate matter we are deploying a small mooring in the eastern Gulf at approximately 200 meters. The mooring will contain an

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Aanderaa current meters and a nephelometer located within 3 meters of the bottom. The mooring will be maintained for approximately two months and recovered under the direction of J. Schumacher of PMEL.

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#### Sampling Methods

Sample collection has occurred concurrently with STD-nephelometer hydrocasts so that the particulate matter distributions can be related to the hydrography. Water samples were collected in 10-liter PVC Model 1070 Drop-top Niskin® bottles and filtered through preweighed 0.40  $\mu$ m Nuclepore® filters. The filters were washed with three 10-ml aliquots of deionized filtered water, dried in a desiccator, stored in plastic petri dishes, and returned to the laboratory. At the laboratory, the filters were reweighed on a seven-place Cahn® Model 4700 Electrobalance. Additional water samples were filtered through appropriate filters for the determination of organic carbon and nitrogen.

#### Analytical Methods

The major (Mg, A1, Si, K, Ca, Ti, and Fe) and trace (Cr, Mn, Cu, Zn, and Pb) inorganic elemental chemistry of the particulate matter is being determined by X-ray fluorescence. This technique has been used successfully for the determination of the major inorganic elements in particulate matter in coastal and deep water environments and the methods are fairly well established (Cann and Winter, 1971, and Baker and Piper, 1975). Recent advances in this field have lowered the minimum detectable limits to such an extent that many trace elements in particulate matter can be analyzed routinely.

The organic carbon and nitrogen content of suspended particulate matter has been shown to be a valuable indicator of terrestrial and marine sources of organic matter in the coastal waters of Alaska (Loder, 1971). Specifically, Loder and Hood (1972) have used the C/N ratio of particulate matter to distinguish between terrestrial, glacial, estuarine and marine-derived sources of organic matter.

Particulate organic carbon and nitrogen are being analyzed by the micro-Dumas combustion method, employing a Hewlett Packard P Model 185B C-H-N analyzer (Sharp, 1974). Particulate matter has been separated from seawater by vacuum filtration (precombusted 0.4 µm silver filters [Sharp, 1974; Gordon and Sutcliffe, 1974]) and the carbon and nitrogen combusted to CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>. After separation by standard gas-solid chromatography (GC), the gases are quantitatively determined by thermal conductivity (TC). Sample analysis time is about 10 minutes.

Standardization will be effected with cyclohexanone-2, 4-dinitrophenylhydrozone, acetanilde (Sharp, 1974) and L-cystine; the latter two are NBS standards. These results will be corroborated by direct GC analysis of  $CO_2$  and  $N_2$ .

#### Nephelometry

The vertical distribution of suspended particulate matter will be determined using a continuously recording integrating nephelometer (Sternberg <u>et al.</u>, 1974). The nephelometer consists of a flashing light source, a scattered light detection system, a data transmission system, and Ni-Cd batteries mounted in a self-contained, easily portable, deep sea housing.

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The instrument has been interfaced into the Plessey CTD system using the sound velocity channel (14-16 kHz) such that real time measurements of forward light scattering can be obtained. Since the light scattering measurements are relative, the instrument must be calibrated against discrete samples for a given area. Figure 5 shows the relationship between total suspended matter and light scattering (reported as a frequency) for 55 near bottom samples from the Gulf of Alaska<sup>1</sup> using the PMEL nephelometer under uniform operating conditions. The figure indicates that the relationship between light scattering and total suspended matter is linear to some degree. This suggests that the light scattering profiles may be used to estimate suspended matter concentrations near the bottom.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Since the nephelometer is adversely affected by ambient light in the near surface waters, the light scattering data will only be used to provide information about near bottom processes where ambient light levels are well below the 1% level.

#### ANNUAL REPORT

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Pages

#### Offshore Permafrost Studies, Beaufort Sea

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1 April 1976

 What is the present distribution of temperature beneath the sea bed and;

2) What is the distribution of fluid there whose freezing point is below its ambient temperature?

In the absence of appreciable heat transfer by moving interstitial fluids, the temperature distribution in the outer one-kilometer layer of the solid earth is determined uniquely from a knowledge of:

1) The heat flow from below,

 The temperature distribution (and its history) at the earth's solid surface, and

3) The distribution of thermal properties (including water content) in the layer of interest.

Our present knowledge of 1) is probably adequate for the present purpose. Our knowledge of 2) is poor, but it can be refined by better estimates of the shoreline and climate history over the past  $10^4$  to  $10^5$  years, and by studies of the present mean temperature of the sea floor. Our fragmentary information on 3) can be augmented by various geological and geophysical studies.

The mean annual temperature on the land surface near the Arctic Coast is -8°C to -10°C, and up until a century ago it was lower by 2° or 3°C (Lachenbruch and Brewer, 1959; Lachenbruch et al., 1962; Gold and Lachenbruch, 1973; Lachenbruch and Marshall, 1969). The mean annual temperature of the shallow sea bed, where ice does not rest on the bottom, is probably  $-1 \pm 0.8$ °C (Gold and Lachenbruch, 1973). Steady heat loss from the earth's interior at the rate of 30 to 40 cal/cm<sup>2</sup> yr results in a

<sup>5</sup> 486

thermal conductivity of the material. Thus, in a region where the longterm mean was -9°C and the steady-state gradient was 15°C/km (rather like the land near Prudhoe Bay today) negative centigrade temperatures ("permafrost") would extend to a depth of about 600 m. Under steady conditions at a point a few kilometers offshore, a steady sea bottom temperature of -1.5°C would result in negative temperatures to a depth of 50 to 100 m depending on the thermal conductivity. If the point on land was transformed into the point offshore by a rapid transgression of the shoreline, we should like to know how long it would take for the steady offshore condition to prevail. The answer is that is would take only a few thousand years (Lachenbruch, 1957a) if the ice content of permafrost were negligible and several tens of thousands of years if it were high (Mackay, 1972). In both cases the permafrost would, of course, thin from below. For the high ice-content case the gradient in the permafrost would fall rapidly, and heat transfer at the sea floor would soon become unimportant. Heat entering from below could melt about 1/2 cm of solid ice per year. If the ice content were 40% by volume, as it probably is near Prudhoe Bay today (Gold and Lachenbruch, 1973), permafrost would thin from below on the order of 1 cm/yr. Thus, 20,000 years after transgression the sea would, in this case, be underlain by 400 m of ice-rich permafrost. This extreme example serves to illustrate the important roles played by ice content and shoreline history and to underscore the need for direct observations to constrain theoretical estimates. The transition of permafrost thickness from the offshore to onshore conditions and near islands and shoals is easily estimated by theoretical or numerical techniques once the basic information

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on ice content and surface temperature is available (Lachenbruch, 1957a, 1957b; Lachenbruch et al., 1966).

#### Geologic Studies

Regional uplift and tilting have also played a role in determining changes in the position of the shoreline. The recent, unpublished studies of D. M. Hopkins and L. D. Carter show that coastal areas southwest of Barrow are undergoing slow uplift, and suggest that the lower Colville River region is also rising slowly. When quantified, these observations will be useful in determining the position of the shoreline at various mements in the past. The character of Holpcene crustal movement in the Prudhoe Bay area is uncertain.

Studies of fossil pollen and marine microfossils now underway by the U.S.G.S. will provide information on past air and sea temperatures and on the snow cover of the past. These data will be needed in order to quantify temperature history for use in predictive geothermal models.

Barnes and Reimnitz (1974) discuss the distribution of sediments on the shelf in a process oriented study. Apparently, distinctive sedimentary structures and facies changes related to wave, current, and ice influence occur in zones across the shelf and may be used to interpret sedimentary environments in a vertical section. Reimnitz and Barnes (1974) are particularly concerned with the interaction of ice at the sea floor, as are Kovacs (1972), Kovacs and Mellor (1974), Reimnitz and others (1972), Pelletier and Shearer (1972), and Barnes and Reimnitz (1974).

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Important to the interpretation of sea level history is the influx of coarse clastic material from an apparent easterly source. These materials have been considered by Leffingwell (1919), MacCarthy (1958), Naidu and Mowatt (1973), Mowatt and Naidu (1974), and Rodeick (1974) as relict gravels and boulders. Mowatt and Naidu (1974) look to Ellesmere Island as a main source of this ice rafted material with the Coronation Gulf in the Canadian Archipelago as a possible subordinate source, while Rodeick (in preparation) suggests most of the material has been ice rafted from the Amundsen Gulf region, a western extension of Coronation Gulf. These exotic gravels and boulders extend onshore into the Quaternary Gubik Formation (Rodeick, 1974). On the upper continental slope they overlie deposits dated at 15,000 B.P. Thus, evidence for two transgressive phases of ice rafted material are seen and the interfingering of these deposits may be crucial in the interpretation of sea level history.

Holocene sediments on the Beaufort Sea shelf are thin or lacking in most places (Reimnitz and others, 1972; Short, 1973; Reimnitz and Barnes, 1974; Barnes and Reimnitz, 1974; Reimnitz and others, in press), and consequently early Holocene sediments are found at the surface. These older sediments are highly consolidated compared to the modern marine sediments. Thus, much of the Beaufort shelf is apparently an area of non-deposition or is being subject to erosion by currents and ice.

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#### Offshore Permafrost

Until the present, the controversial problem of the extent and distribution of offshore permafrost has been treated theoretically or extrapolated from land based data (Lachenbruch, 1957a; Mackey, 1972a; Judge, 1974), studied by small boat seismic refraction methods (Hunter, 1973; Rogers, RU #271), and to a very limited extent by drilling (Lewellen, 1974, Mackey, 1972a, 1972b; Osterkamp and Harrison, RU #253, 255, 256). It is the general consensus of most arctic investigators that drilling and sampling the continental shelf sediments is essential for determining offshore permafrost characteristics and distribution. This is predicated on the fact that permafrost distribution is related to past thermal and depositional histories and to the material properties of the sediments which can only be determined through direct measurement.

A knowledge of the distribution of deep ice-rich permafrost is, of course, fundamental to engineering problems related to offshore drilling and oil production and to the interpretation of seismic data for resource studies. However, for the many problems relating to foundations of sea-bed structures such as pipelines, drill rigs, and docking facilities, the distribution of ice in the upper 10 to 50 m is of primary importance. (The near-freezing temperature of sub-sea permafrost makes it vulnerable to engineering disruption like permafrost in the subarctic (Lachenbruch, 1970)). This is a problem that can be investigated directly with temperature and properties information from relatively few shallow boreholes. The

information so obtained can be extended theoretically with the aid of surface investigations of the thermal regime of the bottom water and information on the sediment characteristics throughout the area of interest.

Several corollary problems are related to this study. Furthermore they must be examined prior to offshore development and are a logical outgrowth of any drilling and sampling program:

1. Engineering properties: Permafrost has a marked influence on the engineering properties of soils, and probably of marine sediments. Ice gouging of the sea floor commonly exposes semi-consolidated sediments and creates metastable gouge ridges (Reimnitz and Barnes, 1974). Thus, the engineering properties of surface and subsurface shelf sediment need to be assessed, so that potential hazard to offshore construction may be determined.

2. Construction material. Sand and gravel are essential construction materials for drill pads, air strips, roads and offshore islands. In the Prudhoe Bay area, materials are now obtained from the river channels and from the offshore islands, where the gravel has apparently been reconcentrated from the Gubik Formation. In the vicinity of Barrow the Gubik Formation has little gravel and this building material is in short supply (LaBelle, 1973). As a result, the potential for the offshore sand and gravel resources needs to be evaluated.

3. Stratigraphic studies. In a study of offshore permafrost a knowledge of the last transgression is of prime importance. The

probability of dissimilar tectonic histories makes it dangerous to extrapolate sea level histories from one area to another. Hopkins (1967, 1973) has delineated the sea level history of the eastern Bering Sea. This data is closest to the proposed study area. From his field observations Hopkins states, "I have long been convinced that sea level rose to within a few tens of meters of its present position during a middle Wisconsin interstadial warming about 30,000 yr. B.P.". Hopkins (1973) shows the mid-Wisconsin transgression in the Bering Sea reached the -20 meter contour. Curray (1964) suggested the highest position of the sea during the mid-Wisconsin transgression was several meters below its present level, while Morner (1971) has expressed doubts that enough continental ice melted to permit such an extensive middle Wisconsin transgression. MacCarthy (1958) suggested a minimum of 8 meters of uplift on the Arctic Coast, based on the distribution of ice-rafted boulders. Sellman and Brown (1973) describe beach ridges at an elevation of +7 meters near Point Barrow, data 25,000 - 40,000 B.P. From the previous discussion it is clear that a sea level history for the Beaufort Sea must be established through stratigraphic and paleoclimatologic investigations in the area itself.

4. Marine environmental data. Data on geologic and oceanographic conditions during the winter months is almost non-existent for arctic shelves. Thus, the processes operating during the major part of the year are poorly known. It has been hypothesized that the ice regime, in particular the ice in the stamukhi zone, significantly

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interacts with the sediments during this period probably influencing the thermal regime where grounded (Kovacs and Mellor, 1974; Barnes and Reimnitz, 1974; Reimnitz and Barnes, 1974; Reimnitz and others, in press). Therefore, quantification of the current and tide regimes, water and sediment temperatures, and suspended sediment both inside and outside of the stamukhi would aid significantly in defining the active processes during the icecovered season.

#### IV. Study Area

The primary study area is located in Stefansson Sound, between Pt. McIntyre and Reindeer Island (Fig. 1). The ice regime in this area consists almost exclusively of bottom fast ice and floating fast ice (Reimnitz and other, in prep.). The most seaward of the proposed drilling holes (Fig. 1) is located only approximately as the location will be predicated on the character of the stamukhi zone which runs close inshore along this section of the coast. Two rivers flank the study area; the Sagavanirktok river is located to the east, and the Kuparuk empties into Gwydr Bay to the west. Neither river has a direct influence on the thermal regime of the study area either during the period of floor or during the open water season. Stefansson Sound in characterized by a thin covering of recent sediments (Reimnitz and others, 1972) composed of silts and fine sands (Barnes and Reimnitz, 1974). Examination of historical photos of the coastline would indicate the shore is relatively stable at this time. Reindeer Island is a constructional feature on a pre-Holocene surface and is apparently frozen only in the upper part as reflection seismic lines do

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not show an increased velocity under the island as one would anticipate with frozen material. The oceanography, permafrost history, stratigraphy, and biology of Stefansson Sound are essentially unknown.

V. Sources, methods and rationale of data collection.

We are proposing to examine the above problems by sampling and in situ measurements of a series of holes drilled to a maximum depth of 150 m using the sea ice as a stable platform during April 1976. The effort is designed to test drilling techniques, methods of sample recovery, and to establish routine methods of data collection as well as to develop a subsurface geothermal geologic framework. Holes will be drilled at strategically located sites to augment nearly 2000 kilometers of high resolution seismic profiles already acquired by the U. S. Geological Survey (Reimnitz and others, 1972; Reimnitz and Barnes, 1974).

The proposed first year field work includes the drilling of four to seven holes during a four week period. Work during this first season will be restricted to the Prudhoe Bay area. The close proximity to the only major logistics support center will minimize down time resulting from any potential mechanical problems. It is also the most likely location of initial OCS exploitation by industry.

Figure 1 shows the primary and secondary drill sites. The transect lies approximately normal to the coastline, was chosen to connect holes existing onshore and Reindeer Island.

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Proposed 1976 drill sites - I, primary sites; II, secondary sites; III, tertiary sites. Site in Prudhoe Bay will be an equipment testing site.

In addition this transect parallels the refraction line occupied by J. Rogers (RU #271). The inner 3 km of this line has been drilled to 50 m by Osterkam and Harrison under RU# 253, 255, 256. The southernmost end of the transect has a hole which has been monitored for a number of years. A traverse normal to the present coast will also enable us to estimate rates of transgression. Sites of secondary priority represent a tie with Osterkamp and Harrison's work and the existing onland hole. Tertiary sites have the potential for lateral extrapolation of data and will be drilled if time and funds permit.

A coordinated program is underway involving seismic refraction by the University of Alaska (J. Roger, RU #271) to aid in extrapolating the hole information to a regional area.

The proposed research consists of 4 scientific studies plus the drilling program as discussed below and outlined in Figure 2 and 3. One of the field logging sheets is shown in Figure 4.

PART I Geothermal

In the holes to be drilled in the present investigation, we propose to log temperatures to millidegree accuracy over a period of two or three weeks until enough information is obtained to calculate the undisturbed equilibrium temperatures (Lachenbruch and Brewer, 1959). Samples will be obtained for thermal conductivity measurements and for determination of the abundance and freezing characteristics of the interstitial fluid. An attempt will be made to combine these data with regional information shoreline and climatic history, sea-bed temperature, distribution of sediments, and onshore geothermal information to provide an interim model of

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SAMPLE HANDLING SCHEME



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the thermal regime of the sub-bottom sediments and the likely distribution of ice within them.

Part II Geology

Examination of core samples obtained from drilling will yield information on stratigraphy, lithologies, and geochemistry of the shelf sediments. Standard granulometric methods and sedimentary petrologic techniques, such as grain size analysis, heavy mineral studies, radiography of cores, and organic and total carbon analysis will be used to determine the depositional environments represented in the stratigraphic section. Paleontologic and palynologic investigations will also be undertaken. These studies will allow us to evaluate the depositional environments and paleoclimate throughout the section and to determine the source and distance of transport of the sediments.

Barnes and Reimnitz (1974) have shown zonation of various sedimentary structures attributable to ice gouging, may be used to estimate paleo-depths. Radiography of core samples will enable this work to be extended into the past, allowing a quantitative estimate of the effect of ice as a geologic agent.

The examination of coarse clastic materials will enable us to estimate the importance of ice-rafted sediment input (Leffingwell, 1919; MacCarthy, 1958; Naidu and Mowatt, 1973; Mowatt, 1974; Rodeick, 1974). Data for this phase may be taken from undisturbed core samples, or from disturbed drive samples.

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# Part III Sedimentologic Processes

Certain oceanographic measurements will be attempted during the spring. These investigations will include tide, current, suspended sediment, transmissivity, temperature and salinity measurements. Current velocities will be recorded and factory processed into a final computer output format. Temperature and salinity data will be determined by portable equipment, while suspended sediment samples will be filtered from water samples obtained at each site, and correlated with transmissometer data. Attempts will be made to record tides and currents inside and outside of the stamukhi (10 to 30 m depth), for the duration of the field program, and possibly extending into the following summer.

#### Part IV Technical Aspects

Drilling expenses comprise the largest part of the projected spending. This is probably understandable when on examines the objectives, the drilling and sampling techniques necessary, and the technical problems one might expect to encounter on such a venture. This part of the program is being managed by Paul Sellman of CRREL and by Robert Lewellen.

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## VI. Results

The field effort is planned for April 1976, thus no results are available at the present time.

Activity has been aimed at preparing for the field study. Instrument development to log temperatures and measure thermal conductivities <u>in situ</u> has progresses to near completion. This equipment will allow us us to obtain near-surface (4 meters) sediment temperatures and thermal conductivity which will allow us to explore the transient nature of shallow temperatures.

VII. Discussion - N/A

VIII. Conclusions - N/A

IX. Needs for further study

In light of the planning and logistics preparation that has gone into the drilling program this year and in view of the uncertainties that have arisen from the studies of J. Rogers' (RU #271) and Osterkamp and Harrison's (RU #253, 255, 256) offshore permafrost programs; an additional year of drilling would prove to be scientifically and economically advantageous in defining the problems associated with offshore permafrost. In particular two areas will need further definition: 1) the lateral extent will be incompletely defined, even if the tertiary objectives are accomplished, 2) the bottom of the permafrost will be only poorly understood as it will likely lie below the drilling depths of this years program.

X. Summary of 4th quarter operations

#### 1. Field Schedule -

The drilling program and ancillary field activities are scheduled for 20 March thru April 1976. The operation will be staged out of Prudhoe Bay using a leased camp and CRREL and ONR drilling equipment. Some work will also be accomplished from the Oliktok DEW site. Support will be provided by project personnel and equipment and NOAA supplied Rollingon and helicopter.

2. Scientific party -

Peter Barnes - USGS David Carter - USGS David Drake - USGS David Hopkins - USGS Vaughn Marshall - USGS

Paul Sellmann - CRREL Ed Chamberlain - CRREL Allen Delaney - CRREL Richard Berg - CRREL Herbert Ueda - CRREL Robert Lewellen - Arctic Research

3. Methods -

A detailed discussion of the methods used in this study are presented in V above.

The U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) and the U.S.G.S. will drill a series of holes on profile offshore from Prudhoe Bay, Alaska. These holes will be drilled to a depth of about 150 m during the late winter and early spring, 1376, using the sea ice as a platform. In the holes to be drilled, temperatures will be logged to millidegree accuracy and thereby determine the undisturbed equilibrium temperatures. Samples will be obtained from thermal conductivity measurements and for determination of the abundance and freezing characteristics of the interstitial fluid. An attempt will be made to combine these data with regional information on shoreline and climatic history, sea-bed temperature, distribution of sediments and onshore geothermal information to provide an interim model for the thermal regime of the sub-bottom sediments and the likely distribution of ice within them. Near surface thermoprobe observations will be obtained at sites adjacent to the drill holes. Cores samples and cuttings will be examined for stratigraphy, lithology, geochemistry and engineering properties. Standard sedimentalogical techniques will be used to determine the depositional environments represented in the stratigraphic section. In order to make maximum use of the boreholes, the drill cores or cuttings will be sampled for their fossil content, especially mollusks, foraminifers, ostracodes, and pollen.

4. Sample localities/sip or aircraft tracklines (see attached chartlet).

Data collected or analyzed No data or samples have been collected during this report period.

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Section C : " Evaluation of the Prudhoe Bay channel by fast ice" could not be included at this time. This section presents our interpretation of data collected for ARCO in 1969. Clearance to report on this data should be forthcoming any day, we were told, and we should be able to send the report shortly.

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Erk Reimnitz

R, U. #20

March 30, 1976.

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Note:

#### ANNUAL REPORT

Contract #RK6-6074 Research Unit #205 Reporting period -May 1975 - April 1976

Pages

# Marine environmental problems in the ice covered Beaufort Sea shelf and coastal regions

Principal Investigators:

Peter Barnes Erk Reimnitz David Drake

### 1 April 1976

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I. Summary of objectives, conclusions and implications with respect to OCS oil and gas development

The marine environment of the Arctic shelf poses special problems to offshore development. Faulting, tectonic activity, and sea floor instability are environmentally of lower concern. When compared to unique Arctic processes and phenomena related to cold temperatures and the predominant influence of sea ice. Five years of study have provided a basic understanding of the unique factors, but many of their important aspects have yet to be addressed. For example, a major process to be understood is that of ice gouging, in particular maximum scour depth, recurrence rate, depth distribution, and the relation to ice regime. Another is the spring flooding of the fast ice with river water, a hazard to operations and a process that could greatly affect dispersal of pollutants. The growth of the fast ice and its vertical fluctuation with tides and surges, sets up currents that not only influence sedimentary processes but also the dispersal of pollutants. The interaction of the stamukhi with the continental margin, its effects on oceanographic circulation, sediment dispersal, and shelf profile, must be understood. The stamukhi is a formidable barrier to offshore development, and shipping, and appears to be an important key to an understanding of the shelf ecosystem.

The first year of field studies aboard the R/V KARLUK and subsequent laboratory and office work has resulted in the following tentative conclusions regarding the arctic nearshore environment.

1. Ice gouging and other ice related processes are important

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factors in the nearshore environment, at least as far south as Kotzebue Sound, although the influence of currents, related to flow through the Bering Straits and the longer open water period are more pronounced.

2. Several precisely controlled side scan sonar survey lines established in 1973 and resurveyed in 1975 establish without a doubt that ice gouge patterns to a depth of 20 m can change substantially within a two-year period.

3. The pronounced linear topographic highs on the inner shelf between Prudhoe Bay and Harrison Bay appear to control shear zone dynamics and stamukhi development. Accurate bathymetry by the U.S.C. and G.S. from 1949-51, was resurveyed in 1975 with excellent navigational control and precision fathometer. These shoals were found to have survived 25 years of ice interaction, but all have shifted landward for distances of 100 to 400 m. We believe this shift is related to shear zone processes and stamukhi. This is the first solid evidence for a relationship between anomalies in the overall profile of an Arctic shelf and boundary processes of the Beaufort Gyre pack ice. These findings have extremely important implications for offshore development in the Arctic especially concerning the construction of artificial islands. We can now make certain predictions regarding the longevity of such structures and on how they will interact with pack ice. It even seems feasible to make the inner shelf ice environment less hostile for man's endeavors by the proper placement of such structures,

4. The presence of unique, anomalous subbottom seismic reflections in Harrison Bay, noted prior to our study, was confirmed. We are spec-

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ulating on possible causes related to gas pockets or shallow permafrost.

5. A system of ancient filled river valleys (?) on the shelf between Prudhoe Bay and Harrison Bay was surveyed in reconnaissance fashion, using high resolution seismic techniques. The presence of a major river system in this area, combining the Colville and several drainage basins to the east, has been suggested by others from observations on land.

6. A comparison of temperature, salinity and turbidity observation from the 1972 and 1975 field season indicates that the area northwest of Oliktok is consistantly a zone of upwelling of higher salinity and lower temperature, clear waters. Colville river water appears to move offshore to the west. It remains to be determined whether the source of the upwelled waters is at greater depths off the shelf seaward or from local sources, perhaps related to brine formation from ice during the winter. We postulate that this area is a zone of potentially high biologic productivity.

II. Introduction

A. General nature and scope of study

Investigation of the marine geology and sedimentary processes of the continental shelf and shores of the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas in northern Alaska were initiated in 1970. Many aspects have been cooperative efforts with federal and state agencies and universities. The primary goal of the program has been to understand the processes that are unique to Arctic shelves and their sedimentary environment, where sea ice plays an important role. Our specific objectives have included: 1) a definition

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of the character of the bottom materials, including permafrost; 2) a study of the present sediment transport and depositional mechanisms; and 3) studies of the Holocene and Pleistocene geologic record.

Our results to date have clearly established drifting ice as a major factor in the marine geologic and sedimentologic environment of Arctic shelves (best summarized in Reimnitz and Barnes, 1974; and Barnes and Reimnitz, 1974). A rudimentary framework for the processes and related sedimentologic record over the entire shelf width has been established. Utilizing this framework a conceptual model has been developed which relates the relative importance of ice and water as dynamic agents to depth and distance from the coast. It is believed that the two areas of most intense sedimentologic activity occur along the coast and in the stamukhi zone between the coastal ice and the arctic pack ice. Ice deforms and stirs bottom sediments, permits conductive thermal transfer between the atmosphere and the seafloor where grounded, inhibits free discharge of river water during spring, resuspends sediments and transports sediments by bulldozing and rafting.

Processes related to the fast-ice flooding by rivers during the late spring flood, have a strong influence on the inner shelf sedimentary environment of the Beaufort Sea shelf. It is during this event that pollutants accumulated during wintertime would be remobilized and redistributed. Drainage through strudel and subsequent underflow scour and reshape the bottom in the region off arctic deltas. However, little sediment is transported at this time and conditions for ice rafting sediments great distances of the inner shelf are unfavorable. Seismic studies have shown

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only a thin layer of Holocene sediments manteling the entire width of the continental shelf, thus the scarcity of modern deltaic sediments near Arctic River mouths remains an enigma. These same studies show . that the Holocene sedimentary section is reworked by ice, currents, and strudel scour obliterating most of the bedding features.

B. Specific objectives

Many questions have been raised on the basis of our past investigations, and apparently hold the key to an understanding of the seasonal cycle in the marine environment. It is these tasks that we address in our current research.

1) Processes of ice gouging - in particular the repetitive rates of gouging and the extent to which it occurs outside the area of our past investigations. Repetitive side scan sonar surveys with precise navigational control, direct diving observations, and a deep-tow package with underwater television and a high frequency subbottom profiler, will be used. For the outer shelf studies a manned submersible must be chartered.

2) Shelf sediment transport regime - including ice rafting, river effluents and bottom reworking and resuspension by ice and benthos.

3) The fast-ice zone, and its influence on nearshore current circulation, bedforms, sediment transport, permafrost, and on river discharge.

4) The stamukhi between the coastal ice and the offshore pack ice, and its influence and/or relationship to bathymetry, thermal effects on the sea floor, ice gouging, and winter current regime, tides, and sediment

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transport. Some of the studies on this topic can be done during summer operations, but winter operations utilizing record anad remote sensing are also required.

5) An estimation of coastal erosion and its relationship to the formation of offshore islands and the stability of the coastal marine environment.

6) Shelf oceanography, related to the sedimentary environment. This includes upwelling in the coastal zone, the dispersal of highly saline (60 o/oo) and cold (-5°C) water generated in shallow embayments, lagoons, and river mouths during the winter, and possibility of anchor ice formation as a factor in the sedimentary environment. Much of the necessary data must be gathered through instrument packages which record data throughout the winter.

7) The apparent lack of deltaic sedimentation near river mouths in the Arctic, and the unique marine aspects of Arctic rivers in general. Seismic reflection surveys will be extended up into the major river channels. Instrument packages, including current-, temperature-, salinity-, turbidity-, and tide-sensors shall be used to monitor specific nearshore locations throughout the winter.

8) Pleistocene stratigraphy and geologic history, from a combined analysis of available sediment and seismic data, the expected drill hole data, and 2-m long vibro-corer samples.

9) Offshore sand and gravel resources, in the Barrow area from shipboard studies, in the Prudhoe Bay area from correlation of available seismic reflection records with permafrost drill hole data.

C. Relevance to problems of petroleum development \*

The character of the arctic continental shelf and coastal area, with its permafrost, faces the developer with many special problems. Any structure which is to be connected to the ocean floor requires data concerning the strength and character of the ocean floor. In addition, the offshore drilling operation may encounter permafrost which would be substantially altered during the process of pumping hot oil up to the sea floor or along the sea floor in gathering and transportation pipelines. The interaction of the arctic shelf with the arctic pack ice takes the form of ice gouging and the formation of a large stamukhi zone each winter. These factors are of utmost importance to the designers and operators of offshore terminals and pipelines.

Because oil drilling and production during the next several years will probably not extend seaward of the seasonal fast-ice zone, and because existing data in this area are sparse, the summer operations focus on the shelf region shoreward of the stamukhi zone (10-30 m). A similar emphasis has been taken by the Canadian Beaufort Sea Project in their more advanced state of knowledge and readiness to lease their outer continental shelf lands (Milne and Smiley, 1976).

III. Current state of knowledge

The current state of general knowledge has been excellently summarized in the Arctic Institute of North America's 1974 publication: The Coast and Shelf of the Beaufort Sea. The bulk of background geologic material for the Alaskan Beaufort shelf have been summarized in two articles by Reimnitz and Barnes, in this same volume. References to more

recent material may be found in the Results and Discussion sections below and in the appended reports.

IV. Study area

Since oil drilling and production during the next several years probably will not extend seaward beyond the seasonal fast-ice zone, and since existing data in this area is sparse, our summer operations will focus on the shelf region from the stamukhi zone (10-30 m) shoreward to the coast. The Geological Survey utilizes a shallow draft research vessel, especially adapted to independent operations on the inner shelf.

During the summer of 1975, this vessel (R/V KARLUK) commenced working in the Kotzebue area (Chukchi Sea) by mid-July, followed the retreating ice around Barrow, accomplishing some reconnaissance observations enroute. After working during September from Harrison Bay to Flaxman Island, it was winterized at Prudhoe Bay.

V. Sources, methods and rationale of data collection

Equipment operated routinely from the KARLUK includes bottom sampling and coring gear, water salinity, -temperature, and -turbidity sensors, fathometers, a high resolution seismic system, underwater television, and a side-scan sonar. Precision navigation is maintained to 3 m accuracy with range-range system. Near Barrow and Prudhoe Bay, a seismic refraction system is being used (in cooperation with the Institute of Geophysics of the University of Alaska) to search for high-velocity layers that may be related to permafrost.

Topical problems listed earlier will be investigated using current meters implanted on the open shelf, and on the inner shelf near Prudhoe and just off the Colville River. Special techniques include (a) repetitive sonar and fathometer surveys of ice gouges, (b) diving observations and bottom photography, (c) measurements of sediment thicknesses within ice gouges by combined use of narrow beam echo sounder, and (d) a nearbottom tow package incorporating sub-bottom profiler and television, and (e) near surface stratigraphic studies using a vibrocorer capable of obtaining two meter long cores. River delta sediments will also be examined with cores and sediment profiler.

ATTACHMENTS

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• A. Preliminary Cruise Report and Tracklines (Beaufort Sea) B. Preliminary Cruise Report and Tracklines (Chukchi Sea) C. Evaluation of the Prudhoe Bay channel restriction by fast ice D. Cross Island Changes in Morphology from 1949 to 1975 and their implications. E. A study of the repetitive rate of ice gouging in Harrison Bay, --- Beaufort Sea . • . F. Shoal migration under the influence of ice: A comparison study 1950-1975 G. This 1:80,000 chart of the bathymetry between 147°45' and 145°35' H. Surface current observations - Beaufort Sea, 1972 I. Distribution and character of icings in northeastern Alaska J. A Herringbone pattern of possible Taylor-Gorter-type flow origin seen in sonographs

K. Heavy-mineral trends in the Beaufort Sea

X. Summary of 4th quarter operations

A. Ship or Laboratory Activities

1. Operations

a) After having completed marine environmental studies of the inner shelves and coast of both the eastern Chukchi and southern Beaufort Seas, the U.S.G.S. R/V KARLUK was winterized at Prudhoe Bay during the freezeup in late September, 1975. Since that time a continuing program of redesign and updating of the vessel's operational and surveying systems has been undertaken, in preparation of planned summer, 1976 activities. No ship operations were conducted during the 4th quarter covered by this report.

b) An ice-based field operation is presently in progress, under the direction of Peter Barnes and David Drake, to recover two continuously recording temperature-, salinity-, and current direction and velocity meters placed on the inner shelf in September 1975. After their recovery, the two instruments packages will be re-deployed through holes in the ice at locations selected on a real-time base, dependent on ice- and weather conditions. Another instrument package, consisting of two current meters, a tide gage, and nephelometer will be deployed in Harrison Bay at a depth of 10 to 15 meters. Still another system, including temperature-, salinity-, tide-, and current-recording capability will be deployed north of Argo Island, at a depth of about 30 meters. Furthermore, the ice-based operations will attempt to obtain real-time measurements through the ice of temperature, salinity and water flow in regions of

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tidal inlets and/or channels, where the intensification of flow due to constriction of an ice cover is suspected. Suspended sediment samples will be obtained along with the above measurements.

General observations of ice morphology, particularly the location
and spacial distribution of grounded pressure ridge systems along the
inner shelf, will also be made during the present field operation.
2) Scientific personnel involved in analysis, interpretation, and
compilation of data included in 4th quarter activities:

Peter Barnes	Project Chief	Office o USGS	f Marine	Geology-
Erk Reimnitz	Principal Investigat	or "	11	- 11
Dave Drake	N 41		11	83
Larry Toimil	Co-Investigator	. 11	H.	<b>81</b>
John Melchoir	Assistant	- N	<b>ti</b> ,	61
Graig Smith	н		tt	97 .
Gretchen Luepke	Co-Investigator	61	11	16
Deborah Harden	¥f .	85		<b>1</b> 1

3) Methods

Because oil drilling and production in the next several years will likely not extend seaward of the seasonal fast-ice zone, and because existing data is sparse, summer 1975 field operations aboard the U.S.G.S. R/V KARLUK were concentrated on the shelf shoreward of the winter shearzone (10-30 m water depths). Data collected and systems routinely run during the summer included: bottom sediment samples obtained using both a Van Veen type and underway sampler; suspended sediment samples of

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surface waters; water salinity, temperature and turbidity measurements; bathymetry using both 30 and 200 kHz fathometers; sub-bottom profiles using 7 kHz and high resolution seismic reflection systems; underwater television observations; and side-scan sonar recording of seabed morphology. A range-range precision navigation system was utilized in detailed bathymetric and repetivity side-scan sonar surveys. Direct observations of the seafloor at a number of selected sites were carried out by divers using Scuba. The temporal and spacial scheme of samples obtained was often dictated by day-to-day changes in ice conditions, while others were selected on the basis of side-scan sonar, seismic profiles and underwater television observations.

4. Sample localities/ship or aircraft tracklines

a) Figure 4a shows the locations of salinity, temperature, tide and current monitors to be established during 4th quarter field operations now in progress. The locations are tentative and dependent on favorable ice and weather conditions. Also shown in the figure are sites at which salinity, temperature, turbidity and current measurements along with suspended sediment samples are to be obtained through the fast-ice.

5. Data collected or analyzed:

Data Type	Trackline miles/or # samples analyzed during 4th quarter operations
High resolution seismic profiles	. 150 line miles
7 kHz sub-bottom profiles	90 line miles
side-scan sonar profiles	50 "
200 kHz bathymetric profiles	175 " "

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5. Data collected or analyzed (cont'd)		
Underwater T.V. video tape	1.5 line miles	
Bottom sediment samples (Van Veen and gravity core)	150 samples	
Suspended sediment samples	98 samples	
Temperature, salinity and water turbidity measurements	275 stations	
Recovered drift cards (4200 released)	75 stations	

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PRELIMINARY CRUISE REPORT	
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248 2	C 0.0	HV -	TT -		R	Ē		TRANSMISSIV	ITY OFF		•	
250 1	245.C	нv -	TT -		R	S	•	TRANSMISSIV				
250 1	4 8.0	HV -	T1 -		R	Ē		TRANSMISSIV	ITY DEE			****
252 1	7.50.0	HV -	TT -			-		TRANSMISSIV	ITY RECT	)R		
258 1	028.0	HV -	TT -		R	S		TRANSMISSIV	LTY ON			
258 1	610.0	HV -	11 -		R	E	·····	TRANSMISSIV	ITY UFF			
259 1	314.0.	нν -	TT -		R	S		TRANSMISSIV	LTY ON			
259.1	534.C	ΗV -	T.T -		R	E		TRANSMISSIV	TY DEF.			
259 1	7 7.0	Ην -	TT		R	S		TRANSMISSIV	TYUN			
259 1	745.C	н v 🗕	TT -		R	Е		TRANSMISSIV	TY			
260 1	132.0	Ην -	TT -		R	S		TRANSMISSIVI	ITY ON			
260 1	830.C	HV -	11 -		R	E		TRANSMISSIV	TY UFF			
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	248	1615.0	GT -	- 10		R	<u> </u>		VIDED TAPE C	)FF			
	250	11.0.0	GT -	Q1 -		R	S		VIDEO TAPE C	)N			
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	254	1337.0	<u> </u>	QI	3	•	E	UGS	VIDEO TAPE 3	END			
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PRELIMINARY	CRUISE
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REA: CHUKCHI SEA	DATE: 26 Sept 75
CRUISE DATES (INCLUDING	PORT STOPS)
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	214 1110.0	VK -	NT -	6		5		END LINE	6 UO			<b>F</b>
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្រុ	216 6 0.0	<u> </u>	NT -	· 8		<u>s</u> .		ST. HYDROGAL	PHIC LINE	3		<u> </u>
4	216 14 0.0	VK -	NT -	8		E		END LINE 8	0			•
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	222 1135.0	<u>VK -</u>	NT -	11		<u> </u>		ST. LINE	11	~-		M
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	225 15 5-0	VK -	NT -	13		Ē	•	END LINE	13	·		
	227 0 7,1	<u> VK -</u>	NT -	14	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	S		STAPT LIN	F 14			R
	227 011.5	VK -	NT -	14	•	E	٠	END LINF	14	1		
	227 014.0	<u>VK</u> –	NT -	15		5		STAFT LIN	15 5	,		
<del></del>	229 1150 0	<u>VK</u> -	NT -	16		<u></u>		START LIN	F 16	······		R
	229 1515.0	VK -	NT -	16	1	E		END LINE	16			

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			TP	ACKL IN	NES (VKNT	)-			·				
. ——	231 1	430.0	VK -	NT -	17		s		START LINE	17		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	R
	231.1	545.0	<u>vк</u> –	NT -	17		۴	• •	END LINE 17	•			
	232	8 0.0	VK -	NT -	18		S		ST.LINE 18				
	233 1	030.0	VK -	NT -	18		F	·	END LINE 18	}			
	233 1	140.0	VK -	NT -	19		S		START LINE	19			M
	_233_1	210.0	VK -	NT -	19		F		END LINE 19	)			
	237 1	030.0	νк –	NT -	20		S		START LINE	20			
	237 1	415.0	·VK -	NT -	20		E		END LINE 20	)			
	241	740.0	<u>VK -</u>	NT -	<u>·21</u>		<u> </u>		STAPT LINE	21			P
	241	955.0	νк —	.NT -	21	•	E		END LINE 21				
•	241 1	1010.0	VK -	NT -	22		S		START LINE	22			P
	241 1	3 0.0	<u>VK -</u>	<u>NT -</u>	22		E		END LINE 22	?			•
	241 1	13 5.0	<b>Ak</b> -	NT -	23		S		START LINE	23			P
	- 241 1	550.0	•VK -	NT -	23		F		END LINE 23	\$			
	242 1	730.0	<u> VK –</u>	<u>NT</u>	24		<u> </u>		ST LINE 24			<u></u>	
л А Л	242 2	2030.0	VK -	NT -	24		F		END LINE 24	F			

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JUL. DAY	T IME GMT	• AP CH DATUM TYPE	IVE MU SUB- TYPE	IMBER SEQNCE, STN ND.	SPLIT NO.	STAR END	T DISPO- SITION	DESCRIPTION	DETIONAL STATION DATA	LATITUDE DEG MIN	LONGITUDE DEG MIN	PRS. CODE
		UN	I BOOM	(XAHU)-				· ·				
209	1540.0	×A - ×A -	HU - HU -	1	R	S E	UGS	UNIBOOM ON SHUT DOWN L	ROLLI			
210 210 210 210	1240.0 1245.0 1350.0	XA = XA = XA = XA = XA = XA = XA = XA =	HU - HU - HU -	1 2	<u>κ</u> ,	F S F	UGS UGS	END ROLL 1 ST UNI-ROLL			······································	
210 210 211	1510.0 17 0.0 1151.0	XA - XA - XA - XA - XA - XA - XA - XA -	HU - HU - HU -	. 10	R R R	S E s		UNI. ON & F UNI. ON & F UNI. DEF	TXED	•		a ann aire a nan an annan
211 214 214	13 0.0 1112.0 1320.0	XA - XA - XA -	.HU - HU - HU -	12	R R R	F S F	lics	UNIBOOM OF UNIBOOM OF END UNIBOOM				<u></u>
214 214 215	1325.0 14 0.0 1215.0	XA - XA - XA -	HU - HU - HU -	3	R	S E Š	UGS	ST. UNIBOOM UNIBOOM SHU	I ROLL 3 IT DOWN			<b>1996 </b>
215 217 217	1516.0 8 0.0 10 0.0	XA = XA = XA = XA = XA = XA = XA = XA =	HU - HU - HU -	3	R R	E S F	UGS	UNIBOOM OFF UNIBOOM ON END BOLL 3				
217 217 218	10 5.0 1245.0 1345.0	X A - X A - X A -	HU - HU - HU -	4 4 5		S E S	UGS UGS UGS	ST UNIBOOM END UNIBOOM UNIBOOM BOL	ROLL 4 ROLL 4		· · · ·	
218 222 222	18.0.0 1135.0 1410.0	XA - XA - XA -	HU - HU - HU -	5	R R	F S F	UGS	UNIBOOM OFF UNIBOOM STA END POLL 5				м
222 222 225	1411.0 1525.0 815.0	$X \wedge - X \wedge $	HU - HU - HU -	6 `	R	S E c	. UGS	ST. ROLL 6 UNIBOOM OFF	UNIBOOM	•		,
225 225 225	11 0.0 1140.0 15 5.0	XΛ - XΛ - XΛ -	HU - HU - HU -	6	R R	F S F	UGS	UNIBOOM OFF UNIBOOM STA	RT	, ,		
227	0 7.2	XA -	HU -	7	: 0	S S	UGS	UNIROOM ON	ST ROLL7			P

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			h VTICT	DADNEC	· ·····					AREA-YR-	10	
		SUIN		-BAKNES								
		VE CH	IVF NI	JMBER				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
JUL	. TIME	DATUM	SUB-	SEQNCE.	SPLIT	START	DISPO-		STATION	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	PDS .
DAY	GMT	TYPE	TYPE	STN NO.	ND.	END	SITION	DESCRIPTION	DATA	DEG MIN	DEG MIN	CODE
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		UNI	TROOM	(XAHU)-				·				
227	014.0	ΧΔ <del>-</del>	HU -		R	S		UNTBOOM ON			and a second second of the second second second second second second second second second second second second	•
227	1.7 5.0	XA -	HIJ -	7		F	UGS.	UNIBM OFF T	END POLLT			
231	1430.0	XA -	HU -	8		S	UGS	ST ROLL 8 1	JNIBM EPC			
231	1545.0	X0 -	HU -		R	F	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	UNTROOM OF	2			
233	845.0	XA -	ни –		R	S		UNTBOOM ST	ART			
233	1030.0	ΧΛ <del>-</del>	.HU -		R .	E		UNIBOOM OFF	=			
233	1140.0	XA -	HU -		R	S		UNIBOOM ST	ART			
233	1310.0	XA -	HU -		R	E		UNIROOM OFF	F	•		
237	1030.0	XA -	HU -		R	S		UNIBOOM ST	ART	•		
237	1415.0	XA -	HU -	· 8	•	F.	UGS	FND UNIBM F	ROLL 8			
241	740.0	ΧA –	HÚ –	9		S	UGS	ST UNIBM RE	TLL 9 EPC			
241	955.0	<u>XA</u> –	HU -		R	E		UNIBOOM OFF	=			
241	10 5.0	XA -	HU -		R	S		UNIBOOM ST/	V B T			
241	1550.0	XA -	HU -	9		Е	UGS	ED UNIBM PO	DLL 9 EPC			
242	1730.0	<u> </u>	<u>HU -</u>	· 10		<u>s</u> .	UGS	ST UNIBM RC	<u> 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 </u>			
242.	2030.0	XA -	HU -	10		E	UGS	ED UNIBM RO	ALL 10			· R
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JUL	L. TIME	DATU	IM	SUB-	SEONCE.	SPLIT	STAR	T DISPO-	· · · · · · · · ·	STATION	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	209	
DAY	Y – СМТ	TYP	ÞË	TYPE	STN NO.	NO.	END	SITION	DESCRIPTION	DATA	DEG MIN	DEG MIN	CODE	
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			511)	ESUA	N IXAHSI				·					
209	216 0.	0 XA	-	HS -	1		S	UGS	SUSCAN ROLL	1 START	-	nan ang ing ing ing ing ing ing ing ing ing i		
209	9 1730.	0 X A	-	HS -	-	R	F		SHUT DOWN S	SISCAN		•		7
210	930.	0 X A	<u> </u>	HS -		R	S	•	SISCAN ON					
210	) 1210.	Ο ΧΑ	-	HS -	1		F	UGS	FMD S/S ROL	1 1				
21(	0 1215.	0 Χ.Δ	-	HS –	2	,	S	UGS	ST. S/S ROL	.L 2				
210	) 17 0.	0 X A		HS -		R	F		SZSCAN DEF					
211	11151.	0 XA.	-	HS -		R	S		SZSCAN ON					
211	L 13 0.	0 XA		HS -	2		F	UGS	END SISCAN	ROLL 2				
212	2 1353.	<u>) X                                   </u>	-	<u>HS</u>	3		<u> </u>	UGS	S/SCAN POLL	3 START				
212	2 1.445.	0 X A	-	₩S -	•	· R	F		END SISCAN					
214	4 1119.	0 X A	<b>-</b> '	HS –		R	S		S/SCAN ON					
_ 214	4 14 7.	D XA	<b>.</b>	HS <u>-</u>	3		E	UGS	END SISCAN	ROLL 3				
215	5 1315.	) XA	-	HS –	4		S	UGS	ST S/SCAN R	IOLL 4				
- 215	5 1515.	Ο ΧΑ	-	HS -		R	E		S/SCAN OFF					
217	7 8 0.	<u>) X M</u>		<u>HS –</u>	•	<u>R</u>	<u>S</u>		SZSCAN ON	!		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
21.7	7 10 6.	) XA	-	HS -	4		E	UGS	END SZSCAN	ROLL 4			•	
217	7 1011.			HS -	5		S	UGS	ST S/SCAN P	OLL 5				
_21/	1745.	) <u>X</u>		<u>HS -</u>		<u> </u>	<u>F</u>		END S/SCAN	RUN			R	
218	5 1345.	J XA	-	HS -	-	R	S		SZSCAN ON		•			
218	1 1040. 11775	J XA	~	HS -	5		F	UGS	END S/SCAN	ROLL 5				
_ 218	1 1045.	J XA	-	<u>HS -</u>	6		<u></u>	UGS	ST. ROLL 6	S/SCAN				
218	5 18 0.	J X 1	-	HS -		R .	E		SISCAN OFF			•		
- 222	2 1140. 2 1650		-	п5 — uc		K ·	S		SISCAN ON					
225	5 914			<u>ns –</u>	<u> </u>			065	END SISCAN	ROLL 6		•		
. 223	5 11 0		_	n) " uc	(	0	<u></u> כי	.065	START SZSCA	N ROLL 7	•			
- 463 - 776	2 LL 1704 5 1121	) VA	_	רוז ד. עכ		- D -	E .'		SZ SUAN DEE					
229	5 1412	<u>v ^//</u> v v /		<u>на —</u> нс —	7	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	110.5	SI SUAN UN	0011 7				
22	5 1422	7 AA 1 YA		na — uc _	r O		л с	. 065	- EMD 212CVN	KULL /				
226	5 15 5 1	) <u>v</u> a ) <u>v</u> a	- 1	HC -	o	D	3 E	063	21061 212 K	ULL 77 8	,			
227	7 0 7	2 YA		HC -		<u> </u>	<u> </u>		SZ SUAN UFF				~	
201	7 011	. AA 5 VA	- 1	па — Це _			<u>э</u>		SZSUAN UN				P	

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			· · /	AP CH	IVE	N	IMBER	·····				OPTIONAL				
	YL. Y	IME GMT	<i>ו</i> ת י	ATUN Type		8-	SEQNCE,	SPLIT	STAF	T DISPO-		STATION	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	POS.	
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;							•				Martana, apiana ar any ar - Alan ana any ana ana ana ana ana ana					<b></b>
				SI	DES	CAN	I (XAHS)	-							•	
22	7	014.1	) )	Δ	Ης						SISCAN ON				······	
22	7. 1	6 0.0	) ) )	ίΛ –	HS	-	8		с. Ц		END SZSCAN UN			·	•	
23	11	430.0	) )	Δ -	HS		9		S	201	1 000 575000 1		•		ĸ	
23	1 1	447.0	) )	A -	HS		······	R	F		S/SCAN DOL	IN RULL	,			
23	1 1	455.0	) )	Δ -	HS			R	ç						۲	•
23	11	545.0	) X	Δ -	HS			R .	с Е		SZSCAN DEE					
23	3	845.0	) )	Λ -	HS			 R	••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••		S/SCAN DEE					
23	3 1	030.0	) · X	۸ –	HS			R	Ē		SZSCAN DEF					
23	31	140.0	) X	Δ -	HS	_		R R	c. C		SZ SUAN UPP					
23	31	310.0	) X	Δ -	HS			. R	F							
24	1	740.0	) X	Δ -	'HS	_		R	č		SZ SCAN DN	4				
24	1	920.0	) X	Λ -	HS	_	Q	IX I	с С	110.5	END SUMM UM					
24	1	035.0	) X	5 -	-HS		10		' <u>-</u>	<u> </u>	END SYSLAN	RULL 9			••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	
24	1	255.0	i X	۰ ۸ –	нс		10	Ð	ວ E	005	- 51AKT 5750A	IN ROLLIC	)			
24	1 1	0 5-0	x	Δ -	нс	-		Ð	т. ТС		S/ SI, AN ITE				•	
24	$\frac{1}{1}$	550.0	Y		HS		10	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	110.0	STSLAN UN					
	•••		· ^		110		10		c	063	END SYSLAN	ROLL IO		•		
				•												
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·										· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
													•			
									<u> </u>					· ·		

			SHI	[ P-	KAPLUK				CRUT	SE LOCATO	DR ARCS-75-	KB	
<u></u>		СНІ	FF								APEA-YR-	<u>ID</u>	
		SCIE	NTIS	ST-	BARNES								
	*****	• Δ₽ CH	IVF	NH	MBER					OPTIONAL			
JUL	TIME	DATUM	SUI	B-	SEQNCE.	SPLIT	STAR	T DISPO-		STATION	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	P()\$.
DAY	GMT	TYPE	TYP	PE	STN ND.	NO.	END	SITION	DESCRIPTION	DATA	DEG MIN	DEG MIN	CODE
·									* - * * - * * * * * * *				
:	• •						~~ `						•
		20	10 KI	12	BATHYME	IPY (XA	81)-			•			•
209	1540.0	ΧΛ -	BT		1		S	UGS	200 & 7KHZ	ONROLL7		*	
209	1752.0	хл -	BT		-	P	Ē	•	SHUT DOWN	2008.7KHZ			
210	930.0	ΧΛ -	RT	_		R	s		200 & 7 KH	RAYTH.S	ſ		
210	15 0.0	ΧΛ -	BT		1		Ę	UGS	END FOLL O	1 BATHY			
210	15 1.0	XΔ -	PT		2		S	UGS	ST. BATHY	ROLL	2.		
210	17 0.0	XA -	BT	-	_	R	E		BATHY + 20	O KHZ OFF	-		
211	1151.0	ΧA -	BT	-		R	S		START 200	£ 7 KHZ			
211	13 0.0	·X A	BT			R	F		200 £ 7 KH	ZOFF			
212	1353.0	Х <b>Л</b> -	- BT			R	S		ST. RAYTHE	ON 20087			
212	1445.0	ΧΛ -	- BT	_		·R	E	<u></u>	END RATHED	N 20087KH	4		
212	15 0.0	XA -	- PT			P	S		200KH TRND	CP W/TV			
212	15 0.0	XA -	- BT	-		R	F		ED 200KH TR	NDCR W/TY	V		•
212	1630.0	ΧΔ -	- BT			R	S		ST 200KH TP	NOCP W/T	V		
212	1730-0	XA -	- BT	_		R	E		ED 200KH TR	NDCR W/T	V	4	•
214	1112.0	ΧΛ -	- BT	<u></u>		R	Ś		200 8 7KH	RAYTH. OF	N		
214	14 7.0	<u>ΧΔ</u> -	- BT		2		F	UGS	ED 200 & 7	KH ROLL	2		•
215	1210.0	ΧΔ -	- RT	-	S 1		S	UGS	7KHZ ON EP	C ROLL 1			
215	1210.0	X & -	- RT		3		Ŝ	UGS	ST 200 6 7K	H ROLL #	3		
215	1358.0	×Δ -	- BT	-	<u>S</u> 1		F	UGS	END ROLL OL	7KHZ EP	C		
215	1515.0	X A -	- BT	_	•	R	E		200 & 7KH	BATHY OF	F	•	•
217	8 0.0	XA -	- BT	-		R	S		200 RAYNHE	ON ON		•	
217	B 0.0	X A -	- BT		<u>S</u> 2		S	UGS	7 KHZ ST R	OLL 2 EP	С		
217	830.0	ΧΔ'-	- RT	_	5 2	•	E	UGS	END 7KH EP	C ROLL 2		•	
217	1245-0	X A -	- BT			R	F	·	200 & 7KH	RAYTH OF	F.		
218	1345.0	×۸ -	- <b>R</b> T			R	S	•	200 & 7KH	PAYTH. O	N ·		
218	1630.0	Х <b>А</b> -	- BT	-	3		F	UGS	ED 200 & 7	KH ROLL	3		
218	1645.0	X 4 -	- BT		4		S	UGS	ST 200 & 7	KH POLL	4 .		
218	18 0.0	XA -	- BT	-		R	E	•	200 & 7KH	BATHY OF	F		
222	1135-0	ΧΔ -	- BT			R	S		200 & 7KH	BATHY DN	,		
222	1525-0	. XA -	- RT			R	Ē		END RAYTH	1EDN 2008	77		
225	820.0	ΧΔ -	- RT			R	S		200 & 7KH	BATHY ON			
225		Y A .	_ BT	_	4		Ē	1165	ED 200KH7	ROLL #4			

			CHI SCIFI	FF NTIST	-BARNES				CRUIS	SE LOCATO	R ARCS-75- ARFA-YR-	KB ID	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	JUL. DAY	TIME GMT	ARCH DATUM TYPE	IVE NI SUB- TYPE	JMBEP SEQNCE, STN ND.	SPLIT NO.	STAP1 END	DISPO- SITION	DESCRIPTION	OPTIONAL STATION DATA	LATITUDE DEG MIN	LONGITUDE DEG MIN	DUS.
			200	0 кнг	BATHYMET	RY (XA	BT)-		•				•
	225	1141.0	XA -	8T -	5		<u></u>	1165	ST 200KH7 5	2011 #5		·······	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
. '	225	15 5.0	XA -	BT -		R	F	.005	200KH7	066 40			
	227	0 7.2	XA -	ВТ -		R	S		RAYTH, 200	E TKH ON			
	227	011.5	XA -	8T -		R	Ę		PAYTH 200 8	TKH OFF	•		•
	227	014.0	XA -	BT -		R	S		RAYTH 200 8	TKH ON			
<b></b> .	227	17 5.0	XA -	BT -	5		E	UGS	END 200 6 1	TH ROLLS			
	229	1220.0	XA -	8T -	6		S	UGS	ST RATHY RC	DLI #6		17. <del>20. 1</del>	
	229	1530.0	XA -	BT -		R	E		BATHY DEF			•	
#***********	231	1430.0	X A -	<u> 81 -</u>	•	R	<u> </u>		PAYTH 200 F	TKH ON			
• .	231	1545.0	X A –	•BT -		R	F		RAYTH 200 P	TKH OFF			
	233	845.0	X A -	BT -		R	S		RAYTH 200 8	7KH ON			
	233	1030.0	<u>XV -</u>	PT -		R	F		RAYTH 200 E	TKH OFF			•
	233	1140.0	ΧA –	BT -		R	S		RAYTH 200 E	TKH ON			
	233	1310.0	ΧΛ -	BT -		P.	E		- RAYTH 200 8	7KH OFF			
<u> </u>	237	1030.0	<u> X 4 -</u>	BT -		R	<u> </u>		200 & 7KH F	AYTH ON			M
	237	1415.0	XV -	Вт -		P	E		200 R 7KH P	AYTH OFF			
	241	740.0	X A -	ВТ -		R	S		PAYTH 200 8	7KH ON			
···	741	140.0	<u> X                                   </u>	HI -	<u><u> </u></u>		F	UGS	END 200 & 7	KH ROLL6			
	241	140.0	XA -	81 -	Ť.	-	S	UGS	ST 200 & 7K	CH ROLL 7			
	241	10 E D	<u>XA</u> —	81 -		R	E		200 & 7KH P	AYTH OFF			
	741	10 2.0	<u> </u>	HI -		<u></u> K	<u> </u>		200 £ 7KH P	AYTH ON			
	241	1720 0	XA -	ют —	7	•	ь. С	UGS	ED 200 8 7K	CH ROLL 7			
•	272	2020 0	XA	01	р 0		5 F	062	SI 200 E 7K	H RULL 8		•	
		<u></u>	<u> </u>	01 **	0	<u> </u>	<u>r.</u>	062	<u>200 &amp; 7KH P</u>	AYTH OFF			

			SHIP-	-KAPLUK				anna na - ann ann ann an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna a				
	٠						•	CPUIS	E LOCA	TOR APCS-75-	-K B	
		CHI	F							AREA-YR-	-ID	
		SCIE	TIST-	BARNES								
		4PCH		IMRER					DET TON			
JUL	TIME	DATUM	SUR-	SEGNCE .	SPLIT	STARI	DISPO-		STATIC	IN LATITURE	LONGITUDE	POS .
DAY	GMT	TYPE	TYPE	STN NO.	NO.	END	SITION	DESCRIPTION	ΠΑΤΑ	DEG MIN	DEG MIN	CODE
		BE	CKMAN	SALIŅITY	TEMP/	CONDUC	TIVITY/D	ENSITY (HVSR)	)			
210	1023.0	HV -	58 -	130			UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	OND	M		
210	1045.0	ну –	SP -	14			HGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND			•
210	1115.0	ну –	SB -	15			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND			
210	1130.0	HV -	SB -	16	•		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	COND			
210	12 0.0	HV -	se -	17		•	UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	TOND			
210	1230.0	HV -	SB -	18	•		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND			
210	1245.0	HV -	SB -	19			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND			
210	13 0.0	HV -	SB -	20			UGS	TEMR/SALIN/C	"OND			
210	1315.0	ну –	SB -	21			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	<u> AND</u>			
210	1330.0	- VH	58 -	22		<u></u>	UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	COND			
210	1345.0	HV -	SB -	23			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/(	COND	•		
210	1415.0	HV -	SR -	24			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND			
210	1430-0	HV -	SP -	25			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/(	COND	-	*	
210	1445.0	HV -	S8 -	26			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/(	COND			
210	1515.0	HV -	SB -	27			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND			
210	1530.0	HV -	<u>SB</u> -	20			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	COND			
210	1545.0	HV -	S8 -	31			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/0	COND			
210	16 0.0	HV -	SR -	33			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND			
210	1615.0	HV -	SR -	25			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND			
210	1630.0	HV -	SR -	37			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND			
· 210	1645.0	HV -	- SR -	30			UGS	TEMP/SALTN/	COND			
210	17 () 0		<u> </u>	41			UGS	TEMP/SAL/CO	ONO			
210	1140 0	HV -	SB -	43			UGS	TEMP/SALT/0	COND	10M		•
211	12 0 0	HV -	SR -	45			UGS	TEM/SAL/CON	n			
211	1215 0		<u> </u>	47			UGS	TEM/SAL/CONT	D			
211	1220 0	- HV -	50 - 58 -	49	•		UGS	TEM/SAL/CON	D			
211	1266 4	- HV -	58 -	51			1165	TEM/SAL/CON	D			
211	1120 0	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	52			2011	TEM/SAL/CON	n			
214	1120.0		- 06 - 50 -	54		,	200	TEM/SAL/CON	D			
214	12 0 0		30 - 59 -	55			200	TEM/SAL/CON	n	·		
214	1215 0		<u> </u>	52			200	TEM/SAL/CON	D			
214	1215.0	HV -	- an -	20			000	EL TY GALF GUN				

	·····		SHIP	-KARLUK	•						
		СНТ	FF					CRUT	SE LOCATO	ARCS-75-	K P I D
****		SC 1F	NT I ST-	-BARNES							
		ARCH	IVE N	UMBER							
JUL. DAY	GMT	DATUM TYPE	SUR- TYPE	SEQNCE, STN NO.	SPLIT NO.	STAR END	T DISPO- SITION	DESCRIPTION	STATION DATA	LATITUDE DEG MIN	LONGITUDE POS DEG MIN CODE
		9 5		C A4 TALT T							
		0 - 1	KMARI	SALIMITY	/ IEMP/	CUNDU		DENSITY (HVSB)	) — .		
214	1245.0	HV -	5B -	58			UGS	TEM/SAL/CONT	<u></u>		
214	1315.0	HV -	S8 -	59			UGS	TEH/SAL/CONF	j ·		
214	1330.0	<u> </u>	<u>SB -</u>	60			UGS	TEM/SAL/CONF	)		•
214	1346.0	HV -	SP -	61	•		UGS	TEM/SAL/CONF	)	·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
.214	14 0.0	HV -	SB -	62		•	UGS	TEM/SAL/CONF	)		
	14 0.0	<u>    HV                                </u>	_ <u>\$8</u> _	6.3 -	•		UGS	TEM/SAL/COND	)		
215	1530.0	HV -	SB -	64			UGS	TEM/SAL/COND	)	a a serie a construir de la construir de la construir de la construir de la construir de la construir de la co	
216	750.0	HV -	<u>S</u> .B	65			UGS	TEMP/SALINIT	Y 0.0M		
216	752.0	<u> HV -</u>	<u>SB -</u>	67			UGS	TEMP/SALINTT	TY 10.04		
216	915.0	HV -	SB -	68			UGS	TEMP/SALINIT	Y 0.0M		
216	917.0	HV	SB -	70			UGS	TEMP/SALINIT	Y 10.0M		
216	1030.0	HV -	<u>SB</u> –	71			UGS	TEMP/SALINIT	Y 0.0M		
216	1032.0	HV -	SB -	73			UGS	TEMP/SALINI	Y 10.0M	The state of the state of the product of the product of the state of t	
216	12 4.0	HV -	<u> 58 –</u>	74			UGS	TEMP/SALINIT	Y 0.0M		
216	12 6.0	<u> HV –</u>	<u> SB -</u>	76			UGS	TEMP/SALINIT	Y 10.0M		
216	1255.0	HV -	SB -	77			UGS	TEMP/SALINIT	Y 0.0M		
216	1257.0	HV –	SB -	79			UGS	TEMP/SALINIT	Y 10.0M		
216	1355.0	HV	<u>SB -</u>	80			UGS	TEMP/SALINIT	Y 0.0M		
- 516	1357.0	HV -	SB 🗕	82	•		UGS	TEMP/SALINIT	Y 10.0M		
217	815.0	нv –	SB -	83			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND		
217	820.0	<u> HV –</u>	<u>SB -</u>	84			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND		
217	845.0	HV -	SB -	85			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND		
217	9 0.0	HV -	SB -	86			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND .		
	915.0	<u>    HV   –  </u>	SB -	87			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND.		
217	930.0	HV -	SB -	88			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND		ni w na manana mpina manana na manana na manana na manana na manana manana manana manana manana ana
217	946.0	HV -	SP -	89			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND		
	10 0.0	<u>нү –</u>	<u>SB -</u>	90	······································			TEMP/SALIN/C	OND		
217	1030.0	HV -	<u>SB</u> -	91			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND		
217	1045.0	HV -	SB ,-	92			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND		
222	17 0.0	<u>HV –</u>	<u>SB -</u>	93			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	<u>NND</u>	· · · · ·	
Z22	1215.0	HV -	SB -	94			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND		ennen annan den ar film i blank annan e an Bailte annan ann i e an bailte
222	1232.0	нv –	SB -	95			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND		•

				SHIP	-KARLUK			•	CPUIS	SE LOCATO	R ARCS-75-	KP	
			CHI	FF					•		AREA-YR-	10	
			SUIE	MITSI	-BARNES								
			ле <b>с</b> н		1M8 E8				 {				
		TIME	DATUM	S119-	SEONCE .	SPLIT	STAPT	DISPO-	· · · · ·	STATION	LATITUDE	I ONG I TUDE	POS.
	DAY	GM T	TYPE	TYPE	STN ND.	NO.	END S	ITION	DESCRIPTION	DATA	DEG MIN	DEG MIN	CONE
			BE	CKMAN	SALINITY	TEMPT	המשטר ד	IVITY/D	ENSITY (HVSB)	) — .			
	222	1250.0	HV -	SB -	96			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	חאח			<del></del>
•	222	1310.0	HV -	SB -	97			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/(	COND			
	222	1330.0	1 <del>1</del> V -	SB -	98			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	<u>חויח</u>			
	222	14 0.0	HV -	SB -	99	•		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	"OND			
	272	1415.0	HV -	58 -	100		•	UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	TOND			
	222	1430.0	HV -	SP -	101 -	•		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	<u>OND</u>			
	222	1445.0	+1V -	SR -	102			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/(	<u>OMO</u>			
	225	830.0	HV -	SB -	103			UGS	TEMPISALINI	COND			
	225	846.0	<u> HV -</u>	<u> 58 -</u>	105			<u>ucs</u>	TEMP/SALTN/C			·····	
	225	9 0.0	HV -	SB -	107		-	UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND			
	225	915.0	HV	SB -	109			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	COND	•		
	225	928.0	HV -	<u>SB</u> -	111			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	COND			
	225	945.0	HV -	SB -	113			UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	COND			
	225	10 0.0	HV -	<u>58</u> -	115			UGS					
	225	1015.0	<u> HV -</u>	<u>SR</u> -		•		065	TEND/CALIN/				
	225	1030.0	HV -	SB -	119			065	TEMPISALINI				
	225	1045.0	HV -	58 -	121			005	TEMPISALINI	COND			
	225	1150.0		<u> 58 -</u>	123			0.00	TEND/CALIN/				
•	225	12 0.0		50 -	122			005	TEND/CALINA TEND/CALINA/	COND		•	
• _	120	1217+0	HV	55 -	127			1002	TEMD/SALIN/	COND			
	2/7	1250.0		<u> </u>	129			003	TEMD/SALTN/				
	227	1292+9		- 50	121			116.5	TEMD/SALTN/	COND			
	227	1200.0	пv ~~ цv	00 -	125			201	TEMP/SALIN/	COND			
-,	227	1220 0			127			1165	TEMP/SALIN/				
	223	1264 0	ну <del>–</del> ну –	- 00 - - 00 -	120	•		HGS	TEMP/SALTN/	COND			
	222	14 0 0	- HV -	- 58 -	141			UGS	TEMP/SALTN/				
	225	1425 0	HV -	<u>SR</u> –	143			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND			
	225	1445.0	HV -	SR -	145			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND			
	227	730_0	HV -	SR -	147			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	'n		
	227	745.0	HV -	<u>SB</u> -	149			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND		•	
	227	8 0.0	HV -	S8 -	151	1		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND			

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				SHIP	-KARLUK	•		-				·····
			<b>C</b> 1. <b>T</b>					CRUIS	SF LOCAT	OR ARCS-75-	KB	
••••••		······	<u>CH1</u>		DADLES					AREA-YR-	10	
		***	2015	01121.	-RARNES							
			AP CH	IVE M	IMBER				DPTIONAL		*****	
	JUL. T	IME	DATUM	SUB-	SEQNCE,	SPLIT	START DISPO-		STATION	LATITUDE	LONGTTUDE	POS-
	DAY (	GM T	TYPE	TYPE	STN NO.	NÓ.	END SITION	DESCRIPTION	DATA	DEG MIN	DEG MIN	CODE
	······································											
• • •			RF(	CKMAN	SALINITY	TEMP/	ONDUCTIVITY VO	ENSITY (HVSB)	) – .			
	. 2.2.7 83	10.0	HV -	S8 -	153		11G S	TEMP/SALIN/C	COND	en anten alamanan ana pina pina da katanan kata da mananankan ang ang		
	227 89	52.0	нν -	SB -	155		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	TOND .			
<u> </u>	227 9	0.0	<u> </u>	<u>SB -</u>	157		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	COND			•
	227 91	15.0	HV -	SB -	159	•	UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	COND			•
	227 97	20.0°	HV -	SB -	161		· UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	TUND			
	227 94	45.0	HV -	<u>58 -</u>	163 -	•	UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	OND		4	
	227 10	0.0	HV -	SB -	165		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND	an an an an an an an an an an an an an a		••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••
	227 101	15.0	HV -	S.B -	167		UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	OND			
	227 11	0.0	HV -	SB -	169		UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	CND			
	227 111	15.0	HV -	SB -	171		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND	····		
	227 113	30.0	HV -	SB -	173		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	<u>nnn</u>			
-	227 114	45.0	HV -	SB -	175		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND	•		
	227 141	15.0	HV -	SB -	176		UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C			nan ar anan	·····
	227 143	30.0	HV -	SR -	178		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND			
	227 144	47.0	HV -	SB -	180		UGS	TEMPISALINIC	'OND			
ហ	227 151	15.0	HV -	SB -	182		UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	<u>'NND</u>		·····	
U	227 153	30.0	HV -	SB -	184		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C				
ហ	227 154	46.0	HV -	SR -	1.86		UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	חאח			÷
	227 16	2.0	HV -	SB -	198	*****	HGS	TEMP/SALTN/C				
	227 162	20.0	HV -	SR -	190		UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	10000			
-	227 163	30.0	ну –	SB -	192		UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	10ND			
	227 164	+5.0	HV -	SR -	194	······································	UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	OND			
	227 17	0.0	HV -	SB -	196		UGS	TEMPISALINIC	010			
	232 144	+5.0	HV -	SB -	198		1165	TEMP/SALIN/C				•
*****	232 15	0.0	HV -	SR -	200		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	0ND			
	232 151	5.0	HV -	SB -	202	•	ligs	TEMPISALINIC	000			4
	232 153	10.0	HV -	SR -	204		2011	TEMP/SALIN/C				
	233 75	50.0	ну –	SB -	206	······	000	TEMP/SALIN/C				
	233 B	0.0	HV -	SB -	208		UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	10 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	 .A		
	233 8	0.0	HV -	SB -	209		HIGS	TEMP/CALIN/C		ч 4 <sup>к</sup>		
••••••••••	233 8	0.0	HV -	<u>SB</u> -	210		1100	TEMD/CALTNI/C		·1		
	233 9	0.0	HV -	SB -	211		1100	TEMD/CALIN/C		"] 4		
					~ * *		003	TEMP/SALIN/C		ካ		

		сни	SHIP-	KAFLUK	•	·		CRUIS	SE L	OC A T OF	ARCS-75-	K B 1 N	
		SCIE	ITIST-	BARNES			<u></u>						
	TIME		SUB-	SFONCE.	SPLIT	STAR	T DISPO-	· · ·	STA	TION	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	POS.
DAY	G <sup>M</sup> T	TYPE	TYPE	STN NO.	NO.	END	STTION	DESCRIPTION	D٨	TA	DEG MIN	DEG MIN	<u> </u>
			****			~ ~ ~ ~ ~							
		BE	CKMAN	SALINITY	TEMP/	CONDU	<u>ΟΤΙΥΙΤΥ/</u> Γ	ENSITY (HVSB	) — .				
		1414 -	<u>ر</u> م	212			1165	TEMPZSALINZ	CON	1.04	- generalization and the second states and the second states and the second states and the second states and the		in any the
223	9 0.0		0n - CR -	214			UGS	TEMP/SALTN/	CON	2.0M			
233	9 0.0	HV -	SB -	215			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	CON	3.0M			
222	930.0	нv –	SB -	216	•		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	CON	0.0M			•
233	930.0	HV -	SB -	218		•	UGS .	TEMP/SALIN/	CON	1.04			
233	930.0	нv -	SR -	219	•		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	2.0M			
233	930.0	HV -	SB -	220			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	CUND	3.OM			
233	10 0.0	HV -	<u>SB</u> -	221			UGS	TEMP/SALTN/	COND	0.0M			
233	10 0.0	<u> </u>	<u>SB -</u>	223			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	CUND	1.0M			
233	10 0.0	HV -	SB -	224			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	2.0M			
233	10 0.0	11V	SR -	225			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	- 3.0M	•		
233	10.0.0	HV -	<u>SP -</u>	276			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	4.0M			
233	1030.0	HV -	SB -	227			065		COND			а,	
233	1030.0	HV -	SB -	229			062	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	2.0M			
233	1030.0		<u>58 -</u>	221				TEMP/SALTN/	COND	3.04			
/33	1030.0		- 36 - 68 -	232			1165	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	0.0M			
222	11 9.0	- HV -	SB -	234			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	1.04			
277	11 9.0	HV ~	SB -	235			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	2.0M			
223	11 9.6	HV -	SP -	236			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	4.0M			
233	11 9.0	- VH	58 -	237			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	CUNU	6.0M			
233	11 9.0	HV -	SB -	238			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	CUND	8.0M			
233	1318.0	) ну -	SB -	239	4		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	0.0M			
233	1318.0	) HV -	SP -	240			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	21.0M			
233	1318.0	) HV -	SP -	241	,		UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	72.0M			
233	1318.0	) HV -	- SB -	242			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	COND	23.0M			
233	1919.0	<u>) HV –</u>	<u>SB</u> -	1 ^			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/		0.0M			
233	1919.0	) ну –	SB -	18			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/		0 L.OM			
233	1919.0	) HV -	- 58 -	10			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/	CONF	1.5M	,		
233	1919.(	) нV -	<u> SB -</u>	10				TEMP/SALIN/	CONC	1 Z . (1M			
233	1919.0	) HV -	- SB -	1E	,		UGS	IEMP/SALIN/	UUNU	/ Z•DM		•	

		снт	SHIP. FF	-KARLUK			•	CRUIS	SE LOCATO	R ARCS-75-	-KP	
		SCIE	NTIST	- RAPNES				an an an an an an an an an an an an an a				
		APCH										
JUL 	• TIMF GMT	DATUM TYPE	SUB- TYPE	SEQNCE, STN ND.	SPLIT NÓ.	ST AP END	T DISPO- SITION	OFSCRIPTION		LATITUDE DEG MIN	LONGITUDE DEG MIN	POS. Cone
		BE	CKMAN	SALINITY	 //TEMP/	CONDU		ENSITY (HVSB)		وری پنی برد هم دان در با شده برای مان		
222	1931 0	141/ -	<u> </u>	20	•		UCC					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
223	1021 0		50 -	20			1165	TEMOZGALINZU				
222	1931 0	HV -	SR -	20			005	TEMP/SALIN/U	NUME 2.0M			
	1947 0	HV -	SR -				110 5	TEMPICALINIC	CND 3.0M			
277	1947.0	HV -	SB -	<b>3</b> 6	•			TEMP/SALIN/C	IND U.OM			•
233	1947.0	HV -	SR -	30 .	•		116.5		OND 3 OM			
233	1947.0	HV -	SR -	30			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	0ND 2.0M			
233	1955.0	HV -	S8 -	4Δ			003	TEMD/SALIN/C				
233	1955-0	HV -	58 -	40			1165	TEMDICALINIC				
233	1955.0	HV -	SB -	40		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2003		DND 2 04			
2.77	1955.0	HV -	SB -	40			Hes	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND 2 5M			
233	20 9.0	ну –	S8 -	64			116.5	TEMP/SALIN/C		٠		
233	2010.0	ну –	SB -	68	****		1165					af norman i di norma a anno a su a agagaga aga
223	2017.0	HV -	S8 -	54			116.5	TEMPISALINIC				
233	2017.0	HV -	SR -	58			1165	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND 1 OM			
233	2017.0	HV	SB -	50				TEMP/SALIN/C	DND 2 OM			
233	2019.0	HV -	SB -	50	•		HGS	TEMD/SALIN/C				
233	2030.0	HV -	S8 -	74			116.5		OND 2.096			
233	2030-0	HV -	58 -	78			1165	TEMP/SALIN/C				
233	2032.0	HV -	S8 -	70			UGS	TEMPISALINIC	DND 2.0M			
233	2040.0	HV -	SB -	84			1165	TEMP/SALIN/C				
233	2040.0	HV -	<u>SB</u> -	88			201	TEMP/SALTN/C	UND 1 OM			
233	2042.0	HV -	SR -	80			1165	TEMP/SALIN/C				
233	2049.0	ну –	S8 -	24			HGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND 0.0M			•
233	2049.0	HV -	SP -	<b>9</b> B			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND I OM			
233	2049.0	HV -	58 -	90			UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	DND 2-DM			
233	2059.0	нν -	SB -	104			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND 0.0M			
233	2059.0	HV -	SB -	108			UGS	TEMP/SALTN/C	PND 1.0M			
233	2059.0	нν –	SB -	100			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	OND 2.0M			
233	2110.0	HV -	SB -	11			UGS	TEMP/SALIN/C	CND 0.5M			
273	2136.0	HV -	SB -	124			UGS	TEMP/SAL IN/C				
222	2136.0	ну –	SB -	128			116.5	TEMD/SALIN/C			•	

	<u>CHI</u> SCIE	FF	-BAPNES						ARFA-YR-	-10	<u>.</u>
********	 AR CH						 ۱				
JUL. TI DAY G	1E DATUM 1T TYPE	SUB- TYPE	SEQNCE, STN ND.	SPLIT NG.	STAR END	T DISPO- SITION	DESCRIPTION	STATION DATA	IATITUDE DEG MIN	LONGITUDE DEG MIN	PNS CNDE
	BE	CKMAN	SALINITY	/TĘMP/6	CONDU	CTIVITY/	DENSITY (HVSB)	) —			
233 213	6.0 HV -	SB -	120			UGS	TEMPISALINI	COND 1.5M		an yananganan dan mandak (******	

			SHIP	-KARLUK			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			nanan aya aya correction a aya	
		СНІ	FF					CRUIS	SF LOCATO	R ARCS-75- AREA-YP-	KB ID
		SCIE 	NTIST	-BAPNES							
		APCH	TVE N	UMBER				)	INNAL		
JU1 DAY	TIME / GMT	DATUM TYPE	SUB- TYPE	SEQNCE, STN NO.	SPLIT NO.	STAR	T DISPO- SITION	DESCRIPTION	STATION DATA	LATITUDE DEG MIN	LONGITUDE POS. DEG MIN CODE
		TU	RBITY	TRANSMIS	SOMETE	R (HV	TT)-				
	1515 0	<u> </u>	<b>.</b>		••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
210	1570 0		· · · -	28			UGS	TRANSMISSIVI	ŦΥ		
210	) 1572 U	- 11 V	11 ~ TT	30			UGS	TPANSMISS.			
211	$1 1 4 5 \cdot 0$		<u> </u>	31			<u> </u>	IRANSMISS.			
210			<b>TT</b>	34	•		UGS	TRANSMISS.			
210	1610-0	HV -	<b>TT</b>	30 30.			065	TRANSMISS.			
210	1645 0	<u> </u>	··· ( '	<u> </u>			UGS	TPANSMISS.			
210		111 -	TT	40			065	TRANSMISS.			
211	1149 0	цу – цу –	TT	44			062	TRACSMISS.			
211		<u> </u>		44	*****			IPANS. REED	POFD 10M		
2.11	1215 0	UV -	<b>YT</b> -	40 40			065	TRANSMISSIVI	TY		
211	1230 0	HV	TT _	40 50			062	TRANSMISSIVI	TY	•	
211	1245 0	111/ -	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	- <u> </u>			065	TRANSMISSIVI	TY		
21 6	750.0	HV -	TT _	56			06.5	TRANSMISSIVI	TY A ALL		
216	915.0	HV -	TT _	60			065	TRANSMISSIVI	IV 0.0M		
216	1030.0	HV -	TT -	72			065	TRANSMISSIVI	<u>1Y 0.0M</u>		
216	12 6.0	HV -	TT -	75				TRANSMISSIVI	TY U.UM		
216	1255.0	HV -	ττ -	78			063	IRANSMISSIVI	TY D.OM		
216	1355.0	HV -	ΤΤ	81				TRANSMISSIVI	TY 0.0M		
225	830.0	HV -	TT -	104			003	TRANSMISSIVI	TY U.UM		
225	846.0	HV -	TT -	106				TRANSMISSIVI			
225	9 0.0	HV -	TT -	108				TRANSMISSIVI	TV		
225	915.0	ну -	TT -	110					t T		
225	928.0	HV -	TT -	112			HGS	TVICEPICVINIT	+ T 7 V		
225	945.0	HV -	TT -	114			UGS	TRANSMISSIVI			
225	10 0.0	HV -	TT -	116	•		105	TRANSMISSIVI			i -
225	1015.0	ну -	TT -	118			UGS	TRANSMISSIVI			
225	1030.0	HV -	TT -	120			UGS	TPANSMISSIVI	TV		
225	1045.0	HV -	TT -	122			UGS	TRANSMISSIVI	TV		
225	1150.0	HV -	TT -	124			200	TRANSMISSIVI			
225	12 0.0	HV -	TT -	126			UGS	TRANSMISSIVI	TV		
225	1215.0	HV -	TT -	128				TDANCHICCTVT			

			SHIP-	-KARLUK	•									
	•							CRUISE LOCATOR APCS-75-KP						
		СНІ	F F					·		ARFA-YR-	<u>·ID</u>			
		SCIE	NTIST	-BARNES										
		лясн	TVE NI					 ۱						
JIIL.	TIME	DATUM	SUB-	SEQNCE,	SPLIT	STAP	T DISPO-		STATION	LATITURE	LONGTTUDE	POS.		
DAY	GMT	TYPF	TYPE	STN NO.	ŃO.	END	SITION	DESCRIPTION	DATA	DEG MIN	DEG MIN	CONF		
					·····									
		TU	PBITY	TRANSMIS	SQMETE	r (hv	TT)—							
225	1230.0	HV -	тт <u>–</u>	130			UGS	TRANSMISSIV						
225	1245.0	- HV	тт -	132			UGS	TPANSMISSIV						
225	1255.0	HV -	TT -	134			1165	TPANSMISSIV				•		
225	1315.0	- VII	TT -	136	•		UGS	TRANSMISSIV.		****				
225	1330.0	HV -	TT -	128			UGS	TRANSMISSIV.						
225	1346.0	11V -	TT -	140	•		UGS	TRANSMISSIV.				ومرضورة المستورون		
225	14 0.0	HV -	TT -	142	an an an an an an an an an an an an an a		UGS	TRANSMISSIV.	•					
225	1425.0	ЧV –	TT -	144			UGS	TPANSMISSIV.	•					
225	1445.0	HV -	TT -	146			UGS	TRANSMISSIV.						
227	730.0	HV -	TT -	1:48			UGS	TPANSMISSIV.	•					
227	745.0	HV	TT -	150			UGS	TRANSMISSIV.						
227	8 0.0	HV -	TT -	152			UGS	TRANSMISSIV.		•				
227	820.0	14V -	TT	154			UGS	TRANSMISSIV.	•					
227	852.0	ну –	TT -	156			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•					
227	9 0.0	нv –	TT -	158			UGS	TRANSMISSIV						
227	915.0	HV -	TT -	160			UGS	TRANSMISSIV.	•					
227	930.0	HV -	TT -	162			UGS	TFANSMISSIV.	•					
227	945.0	HV -	TT -	164			UGS	TRANSMISSIV.	•					
227	10 0.0	HV -	TT	166			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•					
227	1015.0	HV -	TT -	168			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•		· · ·			
227	11 0.0	<u> - VH</u>	<u> </u>	170			UGS	TRANSMISSIV.	•					
227	1115.0	HV -	TT -	172			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•					
227	1415.0	HV -	TT -	177			UGS	TRANSMISSIV.	•			•		
227	1430.0	ну –	TT -	179			UGS	TPANSMISSIV	•		andan and an and the second second second second second second second second second second second second second			
227	1447.0	HV -	TT -	181			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•					
227	1515.0	HV -	TT -	183			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•					
227	1530.0	<u>HV –</u>	<u> </u>	185			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
227	1546.0	HV -	TT -	187			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•					
227	16 2.0	нv –	TT -	189			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•					
227	1620.0	<u> HV –</u>	TT -	191			UGS	TPANSMISSIV	•	1				
227	1630.0	HV -	TT -	193	•		UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•					
227	1645.0	HV -	TT -	195			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•		-			

			SHIP	-KAPLUK	•		•	CPUIT	SE LOCATI	10 4905-75-	vo	
		СНТ	F									
		SCIE	VTIST-	BARNES						<u> </u>		
		APCH	IVE N	JMBER			. —		OPTIONAL			
JUL. DAY	TTME GMT	DATUM TYPE	SUB- TYPE	SEQNCE, STN NO.	SPLIT NO.	STARI END	DISPO- SITION	DESCRIPTION	STATION DATA	LATITUDE DEG MIN	LONGITUDE DEG MIN	POS . CÓDE
		TUF	віту	TRANSMIS	SOMETE	R (HVI	TT)-					
227	17 0.0	нv –	TT -	197			UGS	TRANSMISSIV			ana mpa na kita amin'n kanalari i ana kita	
232	1445.0	HV -	TT -	199			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•			-
232	15 0.0	HV -	TT -	201			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•			•
232	1515.0	HV -	TT -	203	,		UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•			
232	1530.0	нν -	TT -	205		٠	UGS .	TRANSMISSIV	•			
233	750.0	<u>    HV   –</u>	<u> </u>	207 .	•		UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•			
233	9 0.0	HV -	TT -	212			UGS	TEANSMISSIV	•			
233	930.0	HV -	TT -	217			UGS	TRANSMISSIV.	•			
233	<u>10 0.0</u>	<u> </u>	<u>TT -</u>	222			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•			
233	1030.0	HV -	TT -	228			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•			
233	11 9.0	HV -	TT -	233			UGS	TRANSMISSIV	•	•		
							han ana a ta ta ta ta ta ta ta					

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	•	CUT	SHIP	-KARLUK	•		•	CRUIS	F LOCATO	R ARCS-75-	KB	
		SCIE	VTIST-	-BAPNES				·····		<u> </u>	10	
	<b>*</b> -	APCH	IVE M	IMRER			** ** ** ** ** ** ** **		 PTIONAL			
JUL.	TIME	DATUM	SUB-	SEONCE,	SPLIT	STAP	T DISPO-	DESCRIPTION	STATION		LONGITUDE	0005 0005
	•						<u> </u>					
		SUS	SPENDI	ED SEDIME	NT (HS	rs)-						
216	750.0	HS -	ts -		р	S		SUSP.SED.LIN	E START.			
216	14 0.0	HS -	TS -		R	F		SUSP.SED.LIN	F FND			
225	1150.0	HS -	TS -		P	S		SUSP.SED.LIN	STAPT			•
225	15 5.0	HS -	TS -		R ·	F		SUSP.SED.LTN	E END			•
227	0 7.7	HS -	TS -		R.	S ·		-SUSP.SFD.LTN	E START			
227	011.5	HS -	TS -	•	R •	F	· · · · · · · · · · · · ·	SUSP.SFD.LTN	F END			
227	014.0	HS -	TS -		R	S		SUSP.SED.LI	NE START			
227	1615.0	HS -	TS -		R	E		SUSP.SED.LIN	F END			
233	930.0	<u>HS -</u>	<u>TS -</u>		R	<u> </u>		SUSP. SEP.LIN	F START			
233	1030.0	HS -	TS -	•	R	E		SUSP.SED,LIN	F END			
2:33	1140.0	HS –	TS -		R	S		SUSP-SED-LIN	F START			
233	1215.0	<u>HS -</u>	<u>TS -</u>		R	E		SUSP.SED.LIN	E END			
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3	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				·····							
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•		SHIP FF NTIST	- K A R I - R A R I	NES				CRUISE LOCATOR APCS-75-KB AREA-YR-ID					
JUL. TIME DAY GMT	ARCH DATUM TYPE	LVE N SUB- TYPE	UMBFI SEQ STN	R NCE, NO.	SPLIT NÓ.	STARI	DISPO- SITION	OPTIONAL STATION LATITUDE LONGITUDE POS. DESCRIPTION DATA DEG MIN DEG MIN CODE					
	VI	DEO T	APE	PECOR	DEP (G	TQI)-							
212 15 0.0	GT -	01 -		1		S	UGS	TV RUN ROLL 1					
212 16 0.0	GT -	01 -			R	5		FUD TV PUN L LINE 5					
212 1630.0	GT -	01 -			R	S		TV LINE 2 START					
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## CROSS ISLAND CHANGES IN MORPHOLOGY FROM 1949 to 1975 AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS

The location of the early-winter shearzone off Prudhoe Bay is controlled by Cross Island, located approximately 12 miles north of the Sagavanirktok River delta. Considering the energy expended by the moving ice field on the island, and the action of storm waves, changes in the island might be expected over several decades. An attempt was made to document the changes in the morphology and position of the island using aerial photos, both vertical and oblique, photos from the ground, and published navigational charts. The changes in morphology over the years were measured using characteristic embayment, lake and ridge patterns of the island as the stable bases for alignment of photos and charts. The series of drawings in Figure 1 show how the island appeared on the earliest (1914?) map by Leffingwell up to the present day. The Leffingwell drawing could not be keyed into the other drawings accurately, because of the lack of identifying features used to match the scales between pictures. It is shown only to give the general impression of the earliest recorded view of the island.

The information gathered for the comparison of the island's shape and position consisted of 1) vertical B&W photo taken in July 1949 from 10,000 feet altitude, 2) vertical B&W photo taken in July 1955 from 25,000 feet altitude, 3) U-2 color photo taken in June 1974 from 65,000 feet altitude, 4) April 1955 edition of NOAA chart #9472 with coastal revisions updated to June 1973, and 5) U.S. Hydrographic Survey Chart #7761 from 1950.

Cross Island as seen on the NOAA chart appears to have been taken from the 1949 photo, and matches nearly perfectly. This chart was used . to determine changes in overall position. The Hydrographic Survey chart was only used to study changes in position relative to the mainland, since the island was drawn too crudely to give details of morphologic changes. The 1949, 1955 and 1974 photos were brought to common scale, with all the details of stream, lake and topography that could be unambiguously identified. These patterns remained stable through the years and enabled us to measure the shoreline changes. Close examination of vertical photos, oblique photos taken by Reimnitz from the air in August 1970 and June 1971, and photos from the top of a RACON tower on the island in 1973 confirm the stability of these land-locked features. A small wooden cabin approximately 30 years old, that is located on a high point of the island, was also used as an artificial "benchmark" to confirm positions seen in the photos (see photo A). The two linear depressions on either side of the cabin, and the lake seen in the far left of the photo can be precisely located on all the photos. In Figure 1 in the 1949 photo the cabin and RACON tower positions are shown.

The 1974 U-2 photo shows Cross Island surrounded by ice which partially obscures the shoreline. For this reason, the 1974 shore is not as accurately represented as in 1949 and 1955. However, the personal observations by Reimnitz of the shore area during periods of ice cover, and examination of the photos taken from the RACON tower, which show the width of the island between the north shore and the lagoon

during the summer (see photo B) indicate that for the north shore the U-2 photo coastline is accurate to within 20 meters. The southern (inner) beaches have gentle slopes. With fast ice and snow drifts lapping onto this shore, an accurate determination of the shore is nearly impossible. Dashed lines in Figure 1 indicated where shoreline positions are in doubt and are roughly drawn in from photographic contrast changes seen in the U-2 photo.

The attempt to document the large scale movement of the island by comparing its position to mainland based features was not successful because the comparison between the Mercator projections of the NOAA and Hydrographic survey charts and the planimetrically photographed U-2 image was not possible within the accuracy needed. Leffingwell's map of the area was considered too inaccurate to use in a comparison since the method of fixing the island's position must have involved numerous extended surveys far out onto the ice to reach the island, introducing errors fatal to the accuracy desired for a comparison.

## RESULTS OF MEASUREMENTS

The north shore beach retreat measured between 1949 and 1955, is slightly less than 50 meters in 6 years at the point of greatest change. The new shore is approximately parallel to the old shoreline, indicating an average retreat of about 40 meters. The measurements from the 1974 photo gives an average retreat of 150 meters from the 1949 position, with the largest value of 170 meters near the point of maximum curvature of the north beach. This gives an average of 7 meters a year from 1949 to 1955 and 6 meters a year from 1949 to 1974. Extrapolating this back

to the position Leffingwell gives for Cross Island, the 1914 location should be 245 meters seaward. His map puts the island 2000 meters to the northeast of the 1949 position. For this reason, we chose to disregard his location, and blame lack of adequate survey control for the error. Figure 1 suggests that sediment eroded from the northern shore is transported to and deposited on both ends of the island, but movement of beach material seems to be mainly toward the west. On the west end of the island a recurved spit is being formed, that eventually. may become similar in shape and morphology to the spits that enclose the two shallow embayments on the landward side of the islands. This would form a third embayment. The embayments enclosed by recurved spits record the migration of the island. The two existing embayments indicate northwesterly migration, the presently forming embayment seems to indicate a shift in migration direction to westerly. A westward migration of Cross Island is in agreement with the migration direction of other barrier islands along this section of the Beaufort Sea coast.

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Sand and gravel is in high demand on the northslope as construction material. Most of the barrier islands including Cross Island, are composed of sand and gravel. Some of the islands near Prudhoe Bay have already been mined. It is anticipated that others will be soon. For this reason it is important to know the gravel sources that supply the islands with new material, and to know how erosion and deposition change the shapes and locations of the islands.

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From 1949 to 1974, Cross Island has lost 6 to 7 meters a year on the seaward side. It is becoming narrower, because the landward side is not accreting at the same rate. Possibly most of the eroded material can be accounted for by spit accretion, mainly on the west end. Various types of evidence indicate that Cross Island presently is not received gravel from an outside source. It represents a lag deposit of sand and gravel, and should not be mined, especially since it is one of the more important Eider duck nesting grounds in the area.

A manuscript under preparation shows that Cross Island is the focal point for the early winter shear lines in the sea ice. Major ridges form close to the island, and ice shove commonly affects the beaches. Other islands in the area, protected from shear zone dynamics, are little affected by ice shove. Ice shove brings cobbles and pebbles, found by diving near the beach at 15 to 20 ft depth, up onto the beach face. This ice shove may be one of the reasons why Cross Island is 4 to 5 ft higher than the characteristic barrier islands along Simpson Lagoon. The bottom off Cross Island also slopes much steeper than off other islands that are protected from shear zone dynamics, as shown in the above report (Fig. 2). Grounded ridges off the island commonly remain stationary throughout the summer. Therefore, the north side is almost completely protected from wave action during the average year. Photos A and B were taken during an unusually ice-free summer.

The above observations on Cross Island may have certain implications for offshore development and construction by man, because of some similarities between the island and artificial drilling islands used

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elsewhere in the Arctic. It lies further offshore, and in deeper water than those, and is exposed to pack ice drift. In fact, Cross Island controls the pack ice drift, and the extent of the relatively undeformed fast ice. Further studies of ice dynamics in relationship to the island may provide information on the feasibility of modifying the ice zonation off Prudhoe Bay.







by shoals.

### A study of the repetitive rate of ice gouging in Harrison Bay, Beaufort Sea

Knowledge of the repetitive rates and depth of ice gouging on the continental shelf of the Beaufort Sea is important for several reasons: 1) it provides an indirect method of determining the maximum ice-keel depth distribution, important for pressure ridge studies, 2) it provides insights on the rates at which bottom sediments and benthic communities are being reworked and disrupted by the physical action of ice, important for the marine geologist and biologist, 3) it may serve as a guide in the planning and design of offshore pipelines and other bottom mounted installations.

In 1973 a precise range-range navigation system was available for the first time for our Beaufort Sea studies. Using this navigation system, we surveyed three particular tracks between Prudhoe Bay and Harrison Bay, which we plan to resurvey occasionally with side-scan sonar, in order to determine the repetitive rates of ice gouging on the shelf. The three track lines of 1973 were resurveyed in 1975. Unfortunately, ice during these two years has prevented us from extending these survey lines from the coast far enough offshore to study the entire zone of predominantly grounded ice (stamukhi zone). Also, the quality of the sonar records obtained during the two surveys is not equal, making a comparison of bottom features difficult. However, the results from the comparison of one of these three transects, Harrison Bay, are significant, and are reported below.

## METHODS AND RESULTS

A group of 3 side-scan sonar survey lines from 1973 were resurveyed in 1975 to study the changes in ice gouging patterns within the 2 year period. Line 1 from 1973 and line 14 from 1975 extend to the northwest from Thetis Island. Line 2 from 1973 and line 13 from 1975 extend directly north from Spy Island. Line 3 from 1973 and line 7 from 1975 extend northward from near Argo Island of Prudhoe Bay. Still earlier sonar records (from 1972), lines 17 and 20, ran transverse to lines 2 and 13 and were used to check the instrument resolution stability between 1973 and 1975 by running over the same bottom 3 times with the same equipment. The 1972 and 1975 records were able to resolve features of similar relief with equal clarity, while the 1973 records lack sharp resolution, giving the impression of viewing a rather featureless bottom. Lines 2 and 3 from 1973 could not be compared to their 1974 counterparts because of this lack of resolution. Only line 1 showed enough detail to make a comparison with its 1975 counterpart, Line 14 (Fig. 1).

By steering the vessel on a range of two landmarks - a cabin on Thetis Island and the tower at the Oliktok DEW site - the two tracks matched almost precisely along the southeastern two thirds of the line. Further seaward visuals were lost, but using the range-range navigation system we were able to steer the boat within a 50-m distance of the previous survey, done by the same method. Thus, gouges on the seafloor with certain characteristics could be identified in the surveys separated by a two-year period, as will be shown later.

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On cursory inspection of the two years' records, the 1973 data indicated a nearly featureless bottom with a few subdued gouges, while the bottom in 1975 was criss-crossed by numerous crisp appearing gouges. This difference at first was interpreted to represent a dominantly waveand current reworked bottom in 1973, and a great increase in new gouges since then. However, close examination and matching of the two record sets showed a large number of faint gouges in the 1973 data, that could be clearly identified as the same features seen again in the 1975 data, but with much better resolution and crispness. The 1975 record also showed many gouges that were clearly post-dating the older survey. These new gouges commonly were still crisper in appearance; indicating steeper relief, than the older gouges identified on the 1973 records. Still, a large number of old gouges had to be dated by noting when a positively identified 1973 or older gouge had cut through them. In this way many fainter gouges could identified on the 1975 record which could not be seen on the 1973 record.

The next step in our analysis was the preparation of trace overlays that distinguishes the 1973 and older gouges from those post-dating the 1973 survey. This was done as described below.

All gouges visible on the 1973 records of relatively low quality were traced on overlays. Those that had easily distinguished features, such as unusual patterns, intersections of gouges with characteristic angles, and notable curves and bends, commonly could be identified again on the 1975 records. These gouges were used to accurately match the 1973 records to the 1975 records. As a next step an overlay of the 1975 records

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was prepared, with all gouges seen in the 1973 records traced as dashed lines (Fig. 2). On this overlay we also traced in solid lines all of the 1975 gouges that were clearly more pronounced (giving stronger reflections) than those shown as dashed lines. The gouges represented by solid lines were formed between 1973 and 1975. If these pronounced gouges had been present during the 1973 survey, we certainly would have detected them.

In summary, figure 2 shows as dashed lines the gouges seen in both the 1973 and 1975 records, and as solid lines the post-1973 gouges. But all small gouges below the limits of resolution in the 1973 records are deleted. The number of 2 year or younger gouges shown therefore give a conservative value for the rate of ice gouging along this particular transect.

In order to determine the rate at which the sediments along the survey track are being reworked by ice gouging, the fathograms recorded along with the sonographs were analyzed. The fathograms show the crossectional relief of ice gouges directly below the vessel. The width of new gouge incisions below the general level of the sea floor were used to give a conservative estimate of the ratio of the area gouged within two years to the total area along the track. The fathogram used for this determination represented 10 km of survey track, of which .65 km was gouged within two years. Assuming that no area is gouged more than once, the total area would be reworked by ice within 30 years. The .65 km value is conservative, because it does not include the very small gouges, and because it assumes that the gouge incisions were produced by efficient **actually cutting tools**. At the gouge incisions were produced by efficient

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than the measured width of the gouge.

If the present sea level has been constant (within a few meters) over the last 8,000 years, the sedimentation rate along the survey track can be estimated from the thickness of the Holocene marine sediments seen in sub-bottom profiles recorded simultaneously. The average thickness of Holocene sediments is 5 meters. The sedimentation rate, therefore, is estimated to be 6.3 cm/100 years for the last 8,000 years. The average gouge depth, also measured off the fathogram, is approximately 30 cm. Within the 30 years that the entire bottom is gouged to an average depth of 30 cm, only 2 cm of sediment will be deposited. Thus, the stratigraphic column should be completely reworked before any sediment is buried deep enough to escape the action of the ice.



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FIG. 1

Trackline for line 14 in 1975 which was rerun over line 1 from 1973. The lines match so closely only line 14 is shown here for clarity. The letter guides given are for reference in location in figure 2. Gouge rates were calculated from times 1745 to 1900 along the trackline.



The upper three lines were taken from the 1975 FIG. 2 sonograph, showing the 1973 and older gouges as dashed and the post-1973 gouges as solid lines. The bottom line was taken from the 1973 record and shows how the 1973 and 1975 sonograph records can be matched using characteristic gouge patterns seen in both.

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### SHOAL MIGRATION UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ICE: A COMPARISON STUDY 1950-1975

During the course of our summer operations with small boats, which began in 1970, we have commonly noted the existence of grounded ice on offshore shoals. This grounded ice generally appears to be of pressure ridge origin, with a sail 5 to 8 m high, a keel of at least 10 m, and in plain view much longer (the order of kms), parallel to depth contours than wide. Pack ice fragments and floes frequently accumulate along the seaward side of these grounded ridges, which act as fences. In many cases the grounded ridges mark a distinct boundary between the scattered ice on the inner shelf and tightly packed ice on the central shelf. Figure 1 is an example of such a boundary.

The areal distribution of such grounded ridge systems was determined for the area between Cross Island and Cape Halkett from ERTS-1 satellite imagery of early July, 1973. Systems of well developed pressure ridges, shear ridges, and linear hummock fields corresponding to major shear events between the polar pack ice and shorefast ice from the previous winter were recorded in the imagery as pronounced lineations within the ice of the inner shelf.

A striking correlation between the areal distribution of linear ridge systems and charted shoal, can be seen in Figure 2. This winter relationship along with summer observations led us to suspect an interaction between ice dynamics and shoals found along the inner Arctic.

The inner shelf bathymetry between Long Island and Oliktok Point is shown in Figure 3. It is based on a dense pattern of accurately

controlled sounding lines run by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey from 1949 through 1951. Using all original data from U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey smooth sheets, the bathymetry was contoured at 1 m intervals.

During the summer of 1975, the U.S.G.S. R/V KARLUK completed bathymetric surveys across a number of the shoals seen in Figure 3. With a Del Norte Trisponder system and shore control stations at the established bench marks indicated by triangles in Figure 3, the navigational control for the surveys was accurate to within <u>+</u> 5 meters. From the 1949/51 and 1975 surveys a comparison of certain shoal cross sections and their locations was made. These are presented in Figure 4, with individual profiles keyed to Figure 3 by letters A through H. The 1949/51 bottom configuration is represented by the dashed line, the new configuration by a solid line, which also shows micro-relief due to ice gouging.

The shoals are very subtle features, considering that the vertical exaggeration is about 1:30. The seaward one (A) has shifted landward by about 200 m, retaining its shape, while the landward one (B) shifted only 120 m, but increased in size. Among the shoals north of Cottle Island, C is closest to shore. Considering that the dashed line represents an average drawn through a number of data points on the contour chart, while the solid line was traced directly from the fathogram with all detail, the two profiles are remarkably similar. Ridge cross sections but one D through H, located farther offshore, show pronounced changes. All have migrated landward through distances of 100 to 400 meters (avg. +200 m), and all but D have undergone considerable changes in shape. In general, the offshore shoals most exposed to dynamic forces within the shear zone,

have changed more than those further inshore.

. . • . • . . . The offshore shoals between Harrison Bay and Cross Island have also been studied with various seismic profiling techniques. The sononin Elime conno elemente por entrempelo elemente. Holocene marine sediments in this region generally are only several Lurang tak summer of 1771 and 1976 and meters thick on a flat-lying sub-bottom reflector. The shoals correspond to a thickening marine section, indicating that they are constructional itan e 100 monte Estabarrona, évenetes travelles es as features post-dating the last transgression. The shoals and the modern barrier island are rather similar in cross-sectional view. However, onau control dou coa sum anto casa a to prove the shoals are composed of well sorted sand with a trace of individual . 1919 - El any 1919, suffrens of competences. pebbles, while the barrier islands consist of sandy gravel to gravelly sand. The shoals, therefore, do not appear to represent drowned barrier f tear oltiozi tidžile, kater to locus, , gʻ lette islands. One to 3-m high nearshore bars are known to be migrating under . Tilo (collal, color la generae del · · · . the influence of summer waves and currents. The larger shoals under discussion clearly are not formed by similar nearshore processes. All available evidence leads to the conclusion that the shoals aggeretu on 12 anno 1111. The search. under discussion are not hydraulic bedforms related to open-water eur 11 - menticune ins enses sentis.  $\overline{a} \in A$ conditions, but that they were formed, and presently are migrating, under 1 con intresso in side office the state of influence of ice-related processes. Future studies will have to show ie clieset ti *en*rol. ----whether such shoals form by a) the bulldozing action of ice during one or several major events, b) the cumulative effects of several thousand years of ice push by grounded ridges along the edge of the Pacific Gyre til the Toothin as in constrain and rubbing against the continent, c) winter currents intensified along major ----grounded ridge systems to concentrate available sediments into sand **\_\_\_\_**\*` ridges, or whether d) several of these processes act together to form the Alteria Les Caleria de Selas en la Serva shoals. •

The findings presented here are the first solid evidence for a relationship between anomalies in the overall profile of an Arctic shelf and boundary processes of the Beaufort Gyre Pack ice. These findings have extremely important implications for offshore development in the Arctic especially concerning the construction of artificial islands.



Figure 1. Oblique aerial photograph taken northeast of Pt. Barrow on August 13, 1975. Grounded ridges occur along lines paralleling isobaths (upper fourth of photo) marking a distinct boundary between scattered ice on the inner shelf (central portion of photo) and tightly packed ice on central shelf.

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Figure 2. Generalized model of ice drift within area of detailed study, indicating movement of pack ice along well defined shearlines, dominant wind direction and location of charted shoals (hatched areas). A striking correlation is seen between distribution of shoals and major ice lineations seen in ERTS-1 images which represent shear ridges, pressure ridges, and linear hummock fields.



Figure 3. Bathymetry of inner shelf, within central portion of study area. The contours are based on 1949 through 1951 soundings, taken from U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey smooth sheets. The location of individual shoal cross sections shown in Figure 4 are keyed in alphabetic order. Benchmarks used for the 1975 survey are shown by triangles.



Figure 4. Comparison of shoal locations and cross sectional profiles from 1949/51 (dashed line) and 1975 (solid line) surveys. All the shoals but one have migrated landward through distances of 100 to 400 meters.

# SURFACE CURRENT OBSERVATIONS - BEAUFORT SEA, 1972

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# By

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Peter Barnes and Richard Garlow

# U. S. Geological Survey

# OPEN FILE REPORT

75-619

This report is preliminary and has not been edited or reviewed for conformity with Geological Survey standards

## SURFACE CURRENT OBSERVATIONS - BEAUFORT SEA, 1972

by Peter Barnes and Richard Garlow

Sediment transport via water and ice in the Beaufort Sea off northern Alaska is related to the movement of the surficial waters. As development proceeds along the north slope of Alaska, a knowledge of the potential drift trajectories of water, ice, sediment and pollutants will be needed. In an attempt to better define the probable paths and rates of transport, 4200 surface drift cards were dropped during the U. S. Coast Guard WEBSEC cruise of August and September, 1972 (Hufford and others, 1974).. The results of this release are the subject of this report. Because the data presented here will be used primarily by those interested in solving problems of transport, the emphasis has been placed on data presentation . rather than a detailed analysis of the circulation.

The drifter used in this study consisted of a 10 by 15 cm printed orange card encased in a 6 mil clear plastic envelope (Figure 1). A 1/2 inch steel washer was sealed in the bottom of the drifter as ballast. In order to reduce the direct effect of wind on the cards, the air trapped in the envelope was adjusted prior to sealing such that less than 2 cm of freeboard existed. Problems were encountered in achieving an adequate seal and an estimated 5 percent drifters sank when launched. Others have been quite sturdy; surviving several arctic winters with more than 20% of the returns being found in 1975.

Drifter release and recovery data are summarized in Table 1. The low rate of return (1.8%) is expected in this remote area. The 1970 population of the North Slope Borough was 3,385. With the additional installations



Figure 1. Reproduction of drift card used in this survey. Post Paid card was placed in 6 mil plastic envelope with 1/2 inch washer and heat sealed.

at Prudhoe Bay, the present population is estimated near 5,000. More cards were returned (5.2%) from the nearshore releases; a situation common to surveys of this type (Kolpack, 1971; Conomos and others, 1971). In view of the sparse population of the north slope of Alaska and the short season when beaches are not snow and ice covered the recovery rate is considered very good. Recoveries have come predominately from the existing population centers; Barrow, Prudhoe Bay, Barter Island and the DEW line sites. The late summer (September) release of many of the drifters limited the time for transit to the beaches prior to freezeup when surface water motion ceases and the drifters could have been incorporated into the coastal ice or the polar pack. Although cards have been found and returned for three consecutive summers, there is no data suggesting drifters were not already ashore before freezeup in 1972.

The direction of drifter movement as summarized in Table 2 and on Figure 2, shows a dominance (79%) of westerly movement. About half of the recovery points were essentially onshore from their release points (distance to shore  $\geq$  half distances traveled parallel to shore). If the onshore movements are not considered as part of the directional data, the ratio of west to east drifters remains about the same with about 80% of the drifters moving west.

Velocity data are sparse, with only 9 useable recoveries occuring prior to freezeup in 1972 (Table 3). Rates of drift range from less than 1 cm/sec to almost 38 cm/sec. The lowest velocities were seen in those two cards which drifted essentially onshore. Drifters traveled westerly at the highest velocities with an average drift rate of 18 cm/sec (1/3 knot).

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The one rate of drift calculated for an easterly direction (7.5 cm/sec) was less than 1/2 the average westerly rate.

### Discussion

Although the data are limited and do not justify a detailed analysis, several general observations are in order. The surface currents are reportedly variable (U. S. Hydrographic Office, 1968). East of the Sagavanirktok River the drifters predominately moved eastward while all recoveries west of the Sagavanirktok invariably were to the west of their respective release points (Figure 2). Thus it would appear that a divergence in surface current drift existed in 1972 on the inner shelf off the Sagavanirktok River delta. The onshore surface water east of the delta flow toward Barter Island and water west of the delta flowed toward Barrow.

Curiously, the oceanographic values reported by Hufford and others (1974) show a change in character in this same area. Located off the Sagavanirktok are the salinity and temperature minimums and ice and dissolved oxygen maximums (Hufford and others, 1974). East of 146° upwelling is evident (Hufford and others, 1974). To the west an intrusion of Bering sea water is postulated along the shelf break with a compensating westerly flow on the inner shelf (Mountain, 1974).

In a more intensive study of surface currents in the Canadian Beaufort Sea, using much more elaborate drifters, MacNeill and Garrett (1974) found surface currents generally moving at about 5% of the wind speed and within 45° to the right of the wind direction. The drifter velocities that these workers reported are similar to the velocities that we observed (Table 3). However, velocities reported in Table 3 are not based on a sufficient number of data to warrant comparisons with wind data.

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Date released	Number released	Number recovered	Percent recovered				
		<i>i</i>					
8 August -	2925	9	0.3%				
11 September	(released from	n ice breaker in waters					
-	deeper than 2	deeper than 20 meters)					
21 August -	1275	66	5.2%				
6 September	(released from	(released from coastal vessel in water					
	depths less than 20 meters)						
TOTALS	4200	75	1.8%				

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# Table 1. Drifter release and recovery data

Direction of movement	number	percent	
Easterly	16	21	
Westerly .	59	· 79	
East along coast	8	11 (22%)	
Onshore	38	50 ( - )	
West along coast	29	39 (78%)	

# Table 2. Summary of drifter movements

Release Date	Recovery Date	Days adrift	Distance (miles)	Rate (mi/day)	Rate (cm/sec)	Direction	Recovery Location
21 Aug	22 Aug	1 <u>+</u>	15	15+	32.0 <u>+</u>	West	Lagoon
21 Aug	27 Aug	6	<b>`</b> 17.5	2.9	6.3	West	Lagoon
21 Aug	27 Aug	6	24	4	8.6	West	Oliktok
23 Aug	26 Aug	3	17	5.7	12.0	West	Kup. R.
23 Aug	28 Aug	5	• 8	0.62	1.3	South	Prudhoe Bay
23 Aug	9 Sept	16	7	0.44	0.9	(onshore) South	Prudhoe Bay
29 Aug	19 Sept	21	73	3.5	7.5	(onshore) East	Barter
3 Sept	ll Sept	8	107	13.3	29.0	West	Cape Simpson
6 Sept	9 Sept	3	53	17.7	38.0	West	Barrow
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# Table 3. Drifter speed comparison and data 1972

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# DISTRIBUTION AND CHARACTER OF ICINGS IN

# NORTHEASTERN ALASKA

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# Peter Barnes

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Form of publication: 1) ERTS final report

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2) Journal - Arctic

### Abstract

An examination of the distribution of river icings seen AERTS-1 satellite imagery and high- and low-altitude aerial photography of Alaska's North Slope indicates these features are numerous and widespread east of the Colville River and rare to the west. Where icings occur, stream channels are wide and often form braided channels. Their distribution can be related to changes in stream gradient and to the occurrence of springs. Large icings, such as on the Kongakut River, often remain through the summer melt season to form the nucleus of icings in the succeeding winter. Major icings also are likely to have. a profound influence on the nature of permafrost. The map of river icings may serve as a guide to the occurrence year-round flowing water, a sparse commodity in the area.

### Introduction

Repetitive ERTS-1 imagery can be used for seasonal observations of river icings on a regional scale. Although the existence of icings on the North Slope of Alaska (Fig. 1) has been known for sometime (Leffingwell, 1919), regional mapping and seasonal monitoring have not been attempted. Here we present a study of the distribution, longevity and character of arctic river icings, and speculate on the causes, effects, and their importance to man's development in the region.-

Icing refers to the process of progressive ice growth or accretion on a pre-existing ice surface. It is an imprecise term in that it is also used to designate many other phenomena of the Arctic. In reference to arctic rivers, it is used both as designating the processes of ice build up and for the actual body of ice thus formed. Equivalent terms are the Russian "naled" and the German "aufeis", both of which mean on or upon ice.

The type of icing we are concerned with here develops when water repeatedly or continuously emerges onto the land or ice surface during the winter at subfreezing temperatures, freezing in successive layers. Commonly this water may seep from the ground, a river or from a spring (Carey, 1973; Anisimova, 1973). Thus, icings may be classified genetically as ground-, river-, or spring-icings.

Russian studies (Anisimova, 1973) have shown that in some river basins in Northeastern Siberia icings (naleds) accumulate up to 25-30% of the annual volume or river flow and up to 60-80% of the subsurface drainage. Icings commonly year after year in the same locations, and

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generally have the same morphologic character. River floodplains often are widened as spring flood waters are forced to flow around the periphery of the icing mounds. The size and location of icings is a function of 1) source discharge (stream, groundwater, or spring), 2) hydrostatic head, and 3) geologic setting.

Icings which appear to grow throughout the winter indicate perennial fresh water sources which might be used by man. Considering the present rapid development of the region, knowledge of the distribution and character of icings could have important implications. In addition, construction projects such as roads are effected by icings which are either naturally occuring or are induced by the construction activity (Anderson and others, 1973). Potentially, any alteration of a balanced hydrologic-permafrost-geologic regime may induce the formation of icing. In areas where icing areas extend to the coast, as in the Icy Reef area (Fig. 2), icings have a definite influence on the deltaic and coastal/ marine processes.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Northslope of Alaska falls into three major physiographic provinces (Wahrhaftig, 1965, and Figure 1): 1) the Arctic Coastal Plain, 2) the Arctic Foothills Province, and 3) the Brooks Range. The coastal plain is a broad, low-relief tundra surface with numerous lakes, that includes the deltas and meandering streams draining the higher terrain to the south. The Foothills Province is characterized by rolling terrain with some bluffs along the river courses. Most of the known springs occur in this province, and it is marked by an abrupt decrease in river gradients.

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Both the Arctic Coastal Plain and the Foothills province narrow toward the east, where the Brooks Range approaches the coast near the Canadian boundary. The Brooks Range is the source for all of the northward flowing rivers.

The seasonal freeze-thawcycle controls the development and dissipation of river ice in northern Alaska. All of the rivers of the north slope flow in the zone of continuous permafrost. River ice forms during mid- to late-September, after mean temperatures fall below freezing. By late December, when mean temperatures are below -20°C, river ice is commonly more than one meter thick. Ice continues to thicken to a maximum of about two meters until May, when temperatures rise above freezing and the melt season begins. During late May and early June, thawing proceeds rapidly, flow begins on top of river and sea ice, and eventually most of the river ice breaks up and flows downstream (Walker, 1974). During summer, temperatures are above freezing and streamflow is unimpeded by ice.

Two conditions must be met before an icing forms. First, there must be a source for water flowing beneath the initially frozen surface. Secondly, there must be a barrier to the flow of water which forces it to the surface. These barriers are commonly provided by the total freezing of the river cross section, permafrost formation, reduction in aquifer permability due to permafrost, or outcrops of impermeable strata (Sokolov, 1973; Carey, 1973).

River icings develop after the formation of the seasonal ice cover (Carey, 1973). If water remains unfrozen below the ice cover - in the

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stream channel or in an alluvial layer above the permafrost or bedrock it will continue to flow as long as water is supplied to the system. If flow is sufficiently restricted, as by a sudden change in stream gradient, or by a decrease in the permeability or thickness of the channel fill, water will be forced upward over the river ice. Continuing or subsequent overflows will build sheets of fresh ice over the original icing. The total thickness may reach 5 to 6 meters under such conditions (Pewe, 1973; Williams, 1953, 1970). Icings can occur at several points along a river or only at isolated points.

### METHODS

Imagery from the multi-spectral scanner (MSS) of the Earth Resources Technology Satellite - 1 (ERTS-1) was used to delineate icings on the North Slope of Alaska and adjacent areas of Canada. Our satellite coverage extends from the coast to about 200 km inland. Imagery was received from late July 1972 through the fall of 1973 except during the polar night (mid-October through late February). Thus, it was possible to monitor one seasonal cycle of river icing and to compare the extent of icing remnants during August and September of 1972 with those of 1973.

Successive coverage of the study area occurred at 18 day intervals. Overlap of successive images often provided three days of continuous coverage of a given location. However, since delineation of ground features is dependent on the absence of cloud cover, the frequency of our observations was often limited by weather conditions.

Each image covers an area approximately 100 nautical miles square at a scale of about 1:1,000,000. This scale enables us to clearly identify

icing patches larger than about 300 meters square. Smaller icings are discernable when high contrast of ice-tundra or water-snow scenes are imaged.

The scanner operates in four spectral bands: band 4, 500-600 nm (green), band 5, 600-700 nm (red), band 6, 700-800 nm (visible-near IR), and band 7, 800-1100 nm (near IR). One image is taken in each band for every satellite pass.

During the summer months, bands 4 and 5 show the greatest contrast between the icings, the unfrozen channels, and the surrounding tundra. On these images, icings appear white, channels and deltas are light-toned, and the higher ground a darker shade (Figs. 6a, d). During the winter, MSS band 7 shows the greatest contrast between the icings and the snow covered tundra and stream channels (Fig. 6b). In these images fresh ice or water appear dark, while the surrounding terrain is white, except where relief is sufficient to produce shadows.

Additional information was available from a high altitude U-2 flight of 21 June, 1974 (NASA Flight No. 74-101). This flight utilized a RC-10 camera with color infrared film at a flight altitude of 65,000 ft (19.9 km) on flight lines north and south over the Sagavaniktok River and east and west across the middle of the Arctic Coastal Plain.

### DISTRIBUTION OF ICINGS

River icings detectable on ERTS-1 imagery during late winter are shown in Figure 2. The Colville River is the largest of the rivers in the study area. In a cursory analysis of imagery of rivers west of, and including the lower Colville, almost no icings were identified, with the

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exception of a distinct icing along the Ikpikpuk River ( $155^{\circ}W$  long.), about 40 km from the coast.

East of the Colville River, most of the larger streams between the Anaktuvuk and Firth Rivers show icings in the foothills province. The larger deltas also commonly show icings. Fewest icings occur in the reaches between the foothills and the river mouths.

The downstream ends of icings are more diffuse and feather-like, presumably because surface flow continues downstream for varying distances after initial overflow. These downstream tails may extend for considerable distances and connect icing patches. For instance, the Canning River shows almost continuous icing from the Brooks Range to within about 10 km of its. mouth (Figs. 2 and 3).

The distribution of icings shows good correlation with that of the shallow reaches of braided streams (Figs. 1 and 2). However, whether icings are the cause or the result of the braiding is not clear. During, summer, the elevated surfaces of icing remnants may be obstacles to stream flow, causing diversion of channels around ice patches. On the other hand, low altitude aerial photos show channels dissecting icing patches during spring flooding (Fig. 4).

A comparison of known perennial springs (Childers et al., 1973) with the sites of river icings shows that all of the springs correspond with locations of icing deposits (Figs. 1 and 2). Icings may indicate other unmapped springs, especially in areas with no apparent upstream water sources (Williams and Van Everdingen, 1973). Presumably, perennially flowing springs would exist at or upstream from such icings.

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#### DEVELOPMENT OF ICINGS

ERTS imagery from mid-September to the shut-off of the cameras for the arctic night in late October 1972, does not show new icing development. Many rivers were still flowing at this time indicating that the basic requirements or an initial ice cover and water flow barrier had not yet been met.

During the period from the first 1973 imagery in early March until spring break-up in June, many icings increased in size. However, some were apparently unchanged throughout this part of winter, indicating that their water sources may have been cut off or frozen prior to March.

During the first week of August, 1973, weather conditions permitted continuous coverage of most of the study area. At this time, remnants of most of the larger icings are visible (for example .1376-21112, 1378-21164, 3 & 5 August). There are considerably less extensive than the winter icings, and some undoubtedly melted before autumn freeze-up. The largest icings of the previous winter, such as on the Kongakut-Sagavaniktok and Canning Rivers, still had remnants in September (for example 1410-20533, 1414-21162). It is probable that these large icings do remain for more than one season under favorable conditions. Perennial icing should promote a perturbation in the permafrost regime by lowering summer temperature. This would seemingly promote the development of icings in the following winter. In this sense long-lived icings may be self-perpetuating.

#### ICINGS ON THE KONGAKUT RIVER

The delta of the Kongakut River (Kangikat on some charts) located in

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the Arctic Wildlife Refuge (Fig. 2), repeatedly came to our attention as we studied icings. Icings on this river are particularly spectacular and long lived. The delta ice buildup commonly extends into the lagoon seaward of the delta front and out to Icy Reef. This interaction of river icings with the marine environment and delta front is unique along the Alaskan coastline.

Icy Reef was named by the Franklin expedition in August 1826, when heavy ice outside the reef necessitated dragging boats over the mudflats at the mouth of the Kongakut River to Beaufort Lagoon (Leffingwell, 1919). Leffingwell's description thus indicates that the name did not result from the extension of icings aufeis into the lagoon.

Icings on the delta were present throughout the year of our ERTSimage coverage (Figs. 5 and 6). During the winter of 1972/73 the icings increased in size (Fig. 5c & d) starting sometime after September and continuing through March, 1973, (April and May imagery were cloudy). With the start of the thaw season in late May and continuing to late August the icings decreased in size, undergoing about a 10 fold change in areal extent (Figs. 5e, f, g, h, and 6c & d). It appears that the extent of the icing was essentially unchanged from mid-August to mid-September, 1973 (Figs. 5a, b, h, i).

During the winter of 1973 the icing extended into the lagoon in front of the delta (Figs. 5c & d; 6b). An image obtained about two weeks after the initiation of river flow (Figs. 5e and 6c), indicates that icing deposits remained in the lagoon through the flooding period. Field observations during August 1972 and September 1973 as well as the ERTS

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imagery shown in Figures 5g, h, i and 6a, d reveal no ice present in the lagoon during these periods. However, during field operations in late August of 1971 we observed ice in the lagoon behind Icy Reef and according to the Coast Pilot (1964) ice is commonly present in the lagoon behind Icy Reef throughout the summer.

In trying to explain the lagoon ice seen in 1971 and reported in ier en alla manda del la completa de la completa de la completa de la completa de la completa de la completa d the Coast Pilot, we considered that the coastline may have retreated ing the second second second second second second second second second second second second second second second very recently off the Kongakut River, and that permafrost may be near in the contract of the contract of the terminal metally contracted to be the the surface in the lagoon, thereby enhancing the summer occurrence of ice andan ole a caracterization de Escarece de la começão e começão de taracteriza by lowering the water temperature regime in the lagoon. A comparison of - - - - -Leffingwell's (1919) map of the coastline, which is quite accurate in most areas, with the modern maps, suggested such a drastic retreat of the coastline over a period of about 35 years. However, further investi--- · --gations of aerial photography taken during the past 20 years and modern initian and the second second second second second second second second second second second second second second coverage reveal that the early maps are in error and that the coastline te porto de la cuale de companya de la traduce, se atéricação de autorea; is rather stable. t die state in it is the state of the state

It has become apparent from the study of ERTS imagery that the river icing process is an important factor influencing the marine processes along the delta front of the Kongakut River. A comparison of 1972 and 1973 imagery in mid-August and early September shows little difference in the size of the Kongakut River icing, although channel patterns through it are somewhat different (Figs. 5a, b; 6h, i). In following years of favorable icing formation, the lagoon in front of the delta remains ice covered through the summer. The fact that icings on the delta last through the summer make them the logical loci for the formation of icing of the succeeding winter.

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## CLIMATE AND ICINGS

In order to assess the effect of weather conditions on the size of icings, monthly rainfall and snow accumulation data for the nearest weather station (Barter Island) were analyzed for 1971, 1972 and 1973 (U.S. Dept. Commerce, 1971-1973).

Heavy summer precipitation would presumably favor icing development during the following winter by creating an abundant ground water supply. In contrast, the insulating effect of heavy snowfall during the early winter would decrease the growth rate of river ice cover, thus producing unfavorable icing conditions. Heavy snow cover late in the winter may extend the period of icing activity by preserving lower temperatures in the ground, but according to Carey (1973), this insulating effect is less important than rain and snow conditions during the preceding summer and early winter.

During the two seasons studied, the influence of varied summer precipitation was apparently balanced by differing with snowfall conditions. Precipitation was much greater than average during the summer of 1971 and below average for the following summer season. Groundwater conditions would therefore have been more favorable for icing development during the winter of 1971-72 than in the following winter. On the other hand, snowfall was heavier during early winter 1971 than during the same period of 1972, which would insulate the ground and lead to less favorable icing conditions in 1971-72. Opposing this effect is the fact that snowfall during late winter was greater in 1972 than in 1973, a condition that is more favorable to 1971-72 icing.

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Due to the contrasting and balancing climatic influences during 1971-1973, it is not possible to evaluate the impact of climate on icing growth with our present information. Our data suggest that there appears to be no significant difference in the amount of icings during the two summers of ERTS observations (Figs. 5b, i; 6a, d). In order to assess the variability in weather and icing conditions, several more seasons would have to be studied.

#### DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Icings on the North Slope of Alaska are widespread, but are concentrated east of the Colville River, at the heads of deltas, and where streams leave confined mountain channels. The Colville River has few icings and virtually none along the lower two thirds of its course. One might assume that there is continuous flow along the channel under the ice with the flow discharging into the sea. The work of Walker and others (Arhborg and others, 1966; Walker, 1974) has shown that there probably is a sub-ice channel that extends to the sea, even at the maximum ice growth. However, Walker's work also shows that highly saline water occurs below the ice covering along the channel thalweg from the delta front upstream for 60 km. This would suggest that either there is no continuous source of water in the drainage basin of this large system, or that the river flow is so greatly reduced in volume and force that it can be accommodated in a thin layer between the ice and the intruding salt water wedge. The lack of springs along this river (Fig. 1) suggest that there may be virtually no winter fresh water flow in the Colville River system. This would be significant in any search for a year round water supply.

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In pumping from a river with little or no winter recharge, the fresh water in the stream could easily be depleated to a point where salt water is encountered. Pumping for the Prudhoe Bay Complex on the Sagavaniktok River, which has numerous icings (Pig. 2), indicating year-round water recharge, has already forced overwintering river fish to retreat to isolated pockets within the river bed.

Icings influence the ground temperature and permafrost in such a way as to encourage the repeated development of icings in the same locations. The presence of icings into the long summer days when ground temperatures are revised and surficial thaw layer is formed, would cause a change in the albedo of the icing area, reflecting much of the incoming solar energy. Therefore, ground temperatures would be lower and/or the active layer above the permafrost thinner. This in turn would enhance an icing development in the same area during the following freeze season, as a permafrost barrier would tend to form at these locations first.

The morphology of the stream where icings occur in some instances may be shaped by icings. Under some conditions major portions of the spring-flood waters initially are forced to detour around icings, widening the stream banks in icing areas. Thus most of the braided sections of streams and rivers shown in Figures 1 and 2 are probably the location of recent or present day icings.

Icing on the deltas appear to be readily dissected by the seasonal river flow (Fig. 4). There appears to be sufficient depth in the flood, to overtop the icing, such that the water flow seeks low areas within the icing, which then form the forerunners of the channels dissections.

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Icings which extend into the lagoon off the delta of the Kongakut River are bounded on the seaward side by Icy Reef, a barrier beach (Figs. 5 and 6). The new lagoon ice is floating at the beginning of the winter. It is depressed by the load of icing tails to where it rests on the bottom. Subsequently, there must be a mound of ice covering the delta and lagoon. During the flooding of the river, water flowing over this mound will bypass the delta and lagoon to beyond the barrier island. Since most of the river sediment load is carried at this time (Walker, 1974) the sediments will also bypass the delta and lagoon.

During the glacial episodes along the arctic coast of Alaska, the icing environment must have been quise different. The climate was colder and dryer (Hopkins, 1967), thus less surface water would be available, the flow season would be shorter, and the depth of winter freeze more severe. Icings of the type seen in the Arctic today would probably be more widespread at lower latitudes. However, icings along the arctic coast would be concentrated in areas where thermal springs are found today. River icings along the Alaskan Arctic coast would probably be more widespread due to the shorter thaw season and the greater probability that icings would last from one year to the next.

The map of icings (Fig. 2) also is a map of fresh water sources for potential utilization by man. The map may also serve as a guide in the planning of future construction activities, which might interact with the hydrologic regime to create potential problems. To the biologist icing locations are overwinterizing sites for some fish species (Childers and others, 1973). The relative absense of icings west of the Colville River

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is a phenomena that suggests limited water resources or extensive µnimpeded groundwater flow. Considering the importance of a water supply in the arctic this should be investigated.

#### CONCLUSIONS

1. Icings on the North Slope of Alaska are widespread, but are

- concentrated east of the Colville River, primarily at the heads of deltas, and where the streams leave the confined mountain channels.
- 2. Some of the larger icings can last through the summer melt season, to form the nucleus of the following years icing growth, although channels may dissect the icings.
- 3. It appears that the summer flow of the streams, in forming shallow braided channels and delta head distributaries, are forerunners to the formation of icings in these areas.
- 4. Some icings are, and others may be, the loci of groundwater discharge in the form of springs. They are thus potential sources of year-round fresh water for man's activities.
- 5. Precipitation patterns should have an effect on icing patterns; however, the major controlling climatic factors tended to cancel each other in the two years studied and the influence is, as yet, unknown.

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Figure 1. Location map showing physiographic provinces and stream

patterns.





imagery



Figure 3. Icings on lower Canning and Sagavanirktok Rivers on April 19, 1973. ERTS 'magery ID nos. 1270-21175 and 622 1270-21181.



Figure 4. Icing on Kongakut River Delta, near Canadian/Alaskan boundary (Fig. 5). The name "Icy Reef" may be related to the fact that the lagoon in some summers remains ice covered. (Photo courtesy by Andrew Short, L.S.U., Inst. of Coastal 623 Studies).







Figure 6. Comparative ERTS imagery of the icing on the Kongakut River Delta, September 1972 through September 1973. ERTS Imagery nos. 1050-20541 6238-20435, 1318-20476, 1409-20475.

# A "HERRING-BONE" PATTERN OF POSSIBLE TAYLOR-GORTER-TYPE FLOW ORIGIN SEEN IN SONOGRAPHS

by

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ABSTRACT

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The potential usefulness of side-scan sonor in detailed studies of helical flow phenomena is indicated by records obtained within a shallow Arctic lagoon. The records reveal a "herring-bone" - like pattern of current aligned linear reflectors with branching diagonals. Major longitudinal reflectors have no detectable relief and are believed to represent current-aligned, winnowed zones of the lagoon's silty fine sand. The winnowing processes are interpreted to occur along regions of helical cell divergence, suggesting a three-dimensional Taylor-Görter flow origin.

#### INTRODUCTION

Large scale "herring-bone" patterns were observed with side-scan sonar on the floor of a shallow, Arctic lagoon. The patterns strongly suggest an origin by a helical flow system of the Taylor-Görter type. Such three-dimensional flow also referred to as Langmuir circulation, has been described by Allen (1968) as consisting of an array of pairs of oppositely rotating helical spiral vortices, whose axes lie parallel to the direction of primary (net) flow. Depositional features ascribed to such flow have been observed in subaerial, intertidal and abyssal environments, but apparently not in lagoonal environments at such scale or definition as observed in our sonographs.

## REGIONAL SETTING

The pattern was found in the shallow eastern part of "Leffingwell Lagoon", here name in honor of E. de K. Leffingwell, a pioneer geologist who studied this part of Arctic Alaska. The lagoon is located 90 km east of Prudhoe Bay, and is separated from the Beaufort Sea by Flaxman Island (Fig. 1).

The island is a remnant of the inundated coastal plain, and is marked by tundra capped bluffs up to 7 m in height. Both the island and the mainland shore are retreating by erosion (Lewellen, 1970) except near the very eastern end of the lagoon, where a small distributary of the Canning River is discharging, building extensive shoals (Fig. 1). Bathymetric contours shown in Figure 1 are based on U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey smooth sheets nos. 7851 and 7852. A major inlet east of the island connects the lagoon and the open sea. The only analyzed

sediment sample collected in the shallow eastern part of the lagoon, consists of silty fine sand (mean dia. 0.125 mm).

Ice plays a dominant role in the lagoon's environment. It starts forming in late September, attains a maximum thickness of 2 m by April-May, and breaks up in late June. The ice canopy rises and falls throughout the winter. These fluctuations are related to small astronomical tides (< .5 m) and to more significant meterologic tides, which during westerly summer storms can exceed +3 m (Reimnitz et al., 1972), and with easterly winds reach -1 m. Such fluctuations cause cracking of the ice and periodic adfreezing of sediments to the underside of the ice landward of the 2 m depth contour, as described by Barnes and Reimnitz (1974). They also suggested that flow constriction during the late stages of ice growth results in intensified currents landward of the 2 m isobath, possibly resulting in winnowing and transport of sediments to beyond the 2 m depth contour.

ERTS-1 satellite imagery of June 12, 1973 indicates that the Canning River flooded the lagoon ice as far west as the central part of Flaxman Island. This arctic phenomenon and associated processes and results have been described by Reimnitz and Bruder (1972), Reimnitz et al., (1974), Walker (1974), Barnes and Reimnitz (1974) and Reimnitz and Barnes (1974). The flooding proceeds to its maximum extent within about 2 days. Initially, the floodwaters depress the floating portion of the ice canopy seaward of the 2 m depth contour, rapidly displacing.large volumes of water below. The river water subsequently drains at holes and cracks, i.e. strudel (Reimnitz and Bruder, 1972), and flows seaward

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under the floating ice. During this period the cross section for flow is greatly reduced by the presence of ice in the shallow lagoon.

Starting about mid-July, the lagoon is ice free and its sediments subjected to reworking by wind generated waves and currents. Fetch is limited for all but westerly winds, which generally result in a raised sea level. Eight days prior to our survey of September 5, 1975, westerly winds of more than 20 m/sec were recorded at Barter Island, located 42 km east of the study area (N.O.A.A. Climatological Data, v. 61, no. 7). Winds remained westerly for the next six days with average speeds less than 6 m/sec. Light northerly winds were recorded during the survey.

## METHODS

Side-scan sonar and precision fathometer records where obtained concurrently along the track lines shown in Figure 1. The survey was carried out aboard the U.S. Geological Survey's R/V KARLUK. The sidescan sonar transmits short bursts of high frequency (105 kHz) sound in fan-shaped beams on each side of the survey track. The return echoes, when processed and graphically recorded, produce an acoustic picture (sonograph) of the seabed, detailing morphology and spacial distributions not delineated by fathometers (Belderson et al., 1972). In the sonographs the distance parallel to the ship's track (length) is dependent on ship's speed and rate of paper advance. Across the record (width) the scale is fixed for a given scan angle. In the records shown (Figs. 2 and 4a) the width scale is exaggerated relative to the length scale by a factor of 2.0.

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The fathometer employed an 8°-cone-angle, 200-kHz transducer capable of resolving bottom relief of about 20 cm. Direct observations of the seabed were made by underwater TV with video tape recorder. Navigation during the survey was based on radar ranges and considered accurate to within 200 m.

#### DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Alternating light and dark, irregular, roughly parallel bands were observed on the sonographs in water shallower than 2.5 m in the eastern part of the lagoon (Fig. 2). The dark lineations represent zones where seafloor reflections are strong relative to those from the intervening bottom. The zones lie approximately parallel to 85° - 265° T and trend toward 50° - 230° T near the lagoon's eastern inlet (Fig. 1). No detectable relief was associated with the lineations on either the side-scan sonar or fathometer records. The vertical line across the right hand portion of Figure 2 marks a 70° easterly course change. During the turn individual lineations can be followed into a more complex pattern revealed in sonographs along a course more nearly parallel to their dominant trend (Fig. 4a). Viewed from this course the spacing of bands is slightly expanded relative to that of the oblique crossing due to scale (width) exaggeration. In this orientation one can clearly discern that minor reflectors, spaced 1 to 3 m apart, branch off from the major longitudinal reflectors, which are spaced between 6 and 8 m apart at angles between 35° and 50° forming a herring-bone pattern. One can also see that the major longitudinal reflectors commonly bifurcated foring 30° to 48° angles opening to the east.

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By lowering a TV camera from the vessel while it was drifting in this area (Fig. 1) we saw symmetric sand ripples, too small to show on the sonographs. The ripple crests trend north-south, with wave lengths of 6 to 8 cm and heights of 1 to 2 cm. The ripples were considerably disturbed by bioturbation and contained some organic debris in the troughs. Aperhaps 0.5 cm,  $\neq$  thick suspension lager locally covered the entire sea floor. Bottom sediment collected during these observations consisted of silty fine sand. Figure 1 Figure 1 illustrates representative orientation of the small scale ripple crests along the track surveyed.

#### DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Comparing the sonographs with the TV images and with the fathograms, we find that the herring-bone pattern has no detectable (< 20 cm) relief. Newton and Stefanon (1975) have shown that subtle differences in sediment grain sizes (between muddy and washed sand) with no associated relief were clearly defined in sonographs obtained with a system identical to that used in our survey. We suggest that the dark linear reflectors in our sonographs similarly represent coarse fractions winnowed from the fine silty sand covering the lagoon floor. The fact that winnowed zones where not observed with the TV camera may be due to their being partly masked  $a \ge 0$ by suspended matter, and due to inadequate resolution with this tool.

The direction of primary flow in the study area, inferred from the configuration of the lagoon and the location of the tidal inlet and river input are plotted in figure 1 and are found to be nearly parallel to representative orientations of the major lineations.

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Current aligned bedform patterns similar to those seen in our sonographs have been attributed to secondary Taylor-Görter type flow (Karcz, 1967; Houbolt, 1968; Hanna, 1969; and Hollister et al., 1974). Secondary flow of this type has been described by Karcz (1967) as "flow which has been split into a series of longitudinal vortex tubes with an alternating sense of rotation. The individual flow filaments advance helically, and the kinematic picture of the flow is that of a system of arrays of spiral flow threads" (Fig. 3). Bedforms resulting from such flow characteristically exhibit current parallel lineations which commonly bifurcate in the up-current direction, forming tuning fork junctions similar to those seen in our sonographs (Fig. 4a) (Folk, 1971). It has also been shown that the major longitudinal bedforms frequently have superimposed small-scale ripples trending transverse to the direction of primary flow (van Straaten, 1951; Karcz, 1967). In some cases, secondary current produced bedforms branch obliquely from major longitudinal features in herring-bone patterns, as observed by Hollister (1974) and Folk (1971). These secondary bedforms apparently lie transverse to the skin-friction lines of the flow system, as illustrated by Allen (1968) and shown in Figure 3.

The characteristic bedform patterns attributed to three-dimensional helical flow regimes discussed above are strikingly similar to those seen in our sonographs. Using the pattern from figure 4a as a base, and assuming that (1) the major longitudinal lineations represent erosional zones corresponding with flow divergence at the sea floor;

(2) the minor diagonal lineations lie transverse to the skin-friction lines of a secondary flow system (Fig. 3); and (3) the tuning fork junctions open upcurrent, a near-bottom flow regime may be interpreted. Such an interpretation is shown in Figure 4b. We pointed out that assumption (2) implies that the minor diagonal lineations are associated with some relief, which we did not detect. An alternative possibility is that they represent winnowed zones parallel to the skin-friction lines of the secondary flow system and result from a tertiary flow regime. Such a tertiary regime would imply a more complex flow pattern than previously thought.

While the interpretation of the minor diagonal lineations remains questionable, we believe it is reasonable to assume that Taylor-Görter type flow is responsible for the formation of the pattern observed in our study. The factors producing the flow itself are still unanswered. Sonographs obtained in 1973 indicate a similar pattern in the same areas and depths, which implies a permanence or recurrence of the pattern. It may be significant that the pattern is only apparent in areas shallow than 2.5 m, where the constriction and intensification of flow by an ice cover can be expected <u>under several different conditions</u>. However, it must be noted that the strong westerly winds recorded prior to our survey are likely to have generated waves and currents capable of considerable reworking of the surficial sediments and it may be that the helical flow was produced by such currents in an icefree lagoon.

One of the alternative routes for a proposed gas line to Canada crosses the study area. The possibility that under-ice processes, so

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poorly known in the shallow lagoons of the Arctic, re-distribute sediments, points to the need for detailed studies in this environment. We feel that the spacial distributions resolvable using side-scan sonar will prove useful in these studies and future studies of bedforms and sediment distribution patterns of helical flow origin.

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## FIGURE CAPTIONS

Figure 1. Chart of Leffingwell Lagoon showing track lines, inferred trend of primary flow, and representative orientations of major lineations and small scale ripple crests.

- Figure 2. Side-scan sonar record obtained oblique to trend of major lineations. The dark bands paralleling the ship's track near the outer margin of each channel of the sonographs presented are reflections from the ship's wake. Individual reflectors may be traced through a 70° course change marked by vertical line on the right.
- Figure 3. · Vortices of Taylor-Görter type flow and skin-friction vectors associated with such flow, modified from Allen (1968). Regions of helical cell convergence and divergence are indicated respectively by broken and solid black bands.

Figure 4. A. Side-scan sonar record taken on a course nearly parallel to trend of major lineations revealing "Herring-Bone" pattern and "Tuning-fork" junctions.

> B. Line drawing of major and minor lineations seen in figure 4a showing interpreted secondary flow vectors and zones of implied helical cell divergence (solid black bands) and convergence (broken black bands).

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PAIRED VORTICES OF TAYLOR-GÖRTER HELICAL FLOW

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FIG 3





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# HEAVY-MINERAL TRENDS IN THE BEAUFORT SEA

# Ву

Gretchen Luepke

75-667 Open-file report 1975

This report is preliminary and has not been edited or reviewed for conformity with Geological Survey standards

# HEAVY-MINERAL TRENDS IN THE BEAUFORT SEA

Gretchen Luepke

Abstract

Sediments of the Beaufort Sea, off the North Slope of Alaska contain a great variety of heavy minerals. These include garnet, chrome spinel, augite, pigeonite, diopside, hornblende, enstatite, hypersthene, epidote, clinozoisite, zoisite, apatite, tourmaline, chloritoid, sphene, zircon, and opaque minerals. Much rarer constituents are glaucophane, lamprobolite, rutile, kyanite, staurolite, and riebeckite.

The heavy-mineral fractions that were not treated with hydrochloric acid contain "iron-stained aggregates", grains of unidentifiable material encrusted with limonite. Samples containing relatively high percentages of iron-stained aggregates and altered opaque minerals occur in depths less than 10 m and within 16 km from shore.

Garnet increases in abundance from east to west, which corresponds to a similar increase in garnet abundance in coastal outcrops of the Gubik Formation sands. Only garnet and iron-stained aggregates appear to have source-related distribution patterns. The other heavy minerals lack distinct distributive provinces, reflecting an environment dominated by intense mixing by ice-gouging and bioturbation and a homogenous source area. Waves and currents are not strong enough to sort sediments at depths greater than 10 m except during summer storms.

The source of the Beaufort Sea heavy minerals is dominated by contributions from the Alaskan North Slope deposits of Tertiary and younger age. The Colville River, largest in the region, is probably the most influential in transporting sediments, but because of wave and current-mixing of sediments on the shelf, exact contributions from each river drainage cannot be ascertained. Coastal erosion of the Gubik Formation is probably at least as important as the Colville River in supplying heavy minerals to the Beaufort Sea.
## HEAVY-MINERAL TRENDS IN THE BEAUFORT SEA

# Introduction

<u>Purpose</u>. As part of the environmental-baseline studies of the offshore North Slope of Alaska, a study was made of the heavy minerals in the Beaufort Sea to ascertain the source areas and transport routes of sediments on the continental shelf.

Setting. The Beaufort Sea lies north of Alaska from Point Barrow eastward to the islands of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago (fig. 1). The present study area extends from Point Barrow to Barter Island, off the Alaska coast.

Two geomorphic provinces dominate the North Slope of Alaska. The arctic coastal plain is a gently-sloping surface of low relief extending from the coast to the arctic foothills. The Gubik Formation, a dominantly marine unit of Pleistocene age, blankets the entire coastal area immediately adjacent to the Beaufort Sea (Payne and others, 1951). Thickness averages about  $\mathcal{P}$  metres. The Gubik unconformably overlies the Sagavanirktok Formation (Early Tertiary) and the formations of the Colville and Nanushuk groups (Cretaceous) (see fig. 2). Pack ice covers the shelf for nine months of the year, eliminating waves and mitigating the effects of wind-driven currents and storm tides. During the open-water period, the most common waves observed have periods of 2 to 3 seconds and heights of 20-30 cm. Surface currents nearshore are wind-driven. Meteorological tides are of larger amplitude than astronomical tides in the arctic coastal zone (Wiseman, Suhayda and Hsu, 1974, p. 51-59).

Eighty percent of the North Slope (see fig. 1) drains into the Beaufort Sea (Walker, 1974, p. 517). The 600-km Colville River and its massive tributary system drain seventy-eight percent. Rivers such as the Kuparuk and Sagavanirktok are comparatively short and empty into lagoons bounded by offshore bars and barrier islands (Walker, 1974, p. 537).

Barnes and Reimnitz (1974, p. 444) measured currents below the ice cover that show an overall westward movement of near-bottom water on the inner shelf at 2 cm/sec parallel to the coastline. Mountain (1974, p. 27) notes an eastward flow of surface water on the outer shelf. Hufford (1974, p. 569) states that subsurface currents appear to behave independently and often opposite of surface currents; 1971 and 1972 measurements showed bottom currents flowing eastward at speeds less than 15 cm/sec.

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Subsurface currents may change directions from season to season. But long-range sediment transport along the coast appears to be westerly. Documentation of this westerly transport is multifaceted: Barrier islands migrate westward (Wiseman and others, 1973, p. 161; Reed and Sater, 1974, p. 563); sediment plumes from rivers, seen on ERTS-1 imagery, veer westward (Barnes and Reimnitz, 1974, p. 444); ice moves dominantly westward under the influence of the Pacific Gyre off northern Alaska (Reimnitz and Barnes 1974, p. 301).

Previous studies show that weight percentages of heavy minerals in different size fractions in the Beaufort Sea are unrelated to grain size. Table 1 lists the specific areas studied and the sizefractions in which weight-percentages of heavy minerals were determined.

TABLE 1. Studies of heavy-mineral weight-percentages in the Beaufort Sea.

Reference	Area/Sediment type Size-	fractions compared
Naidu & Sharma 1972, p. 7-8	Point Barrow to Barter Is. Offshore sediments	0.75-0.25 mm 0.25-0.125 mm 0.125-0.062 mm
Dygas, Tucker & Burrell 1972, p. 112	Colville River sands; coastal & barrier-beach sands	0.25-0.125 mm 0.125-0.062 mm 0.062-0.038 mm
Burrell, Dygas & Tucker 1974, p. 125-126	Simpson Lagoon, btw. Oliktok & Beechey points offshore sediments	0.500-0.250 mm 0.250-0125 mm 0.125-0.062 mm
This report	Point Barrow to Barter Is Offshore Sediments	. 2.00-0.062 mm

The percent of heavy minerals in the areas studied by the above authors averages about 5%; only rarely do fractions contain percentages of heavy minerals greater than 10%. The beach and river sands contain higher overall percentages of heavy minerals than do the offshore sands.

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Naidu and Mowatt (1974) discuss relative heavy-mineral weightpercents in deltaic and shallow-water Beaufort Sea sediments, noting a more normal grain-size relationship (i.e., higher heavy-mineral percents with decreasing grain-size) in the deltaic sediments.

Studies of heavy-mineral distribution patterns have been made in other shelf seas bordering the Arctic Ocean. Holmes (1967) did not find enough significant differences in heavy-mineral assemblages of the Laptev Sea (fig. 1) to attempt any interpretation. General uniformity of mineral composition in the East Siberian Sea was also noted by Naugler (1967). However, he found garnet decreases uniformly toward the center of the study area from the west, and orthopyroxene dominates the eastern regions. Silverberg (1972) studied heavy-mineral distributions in both the Laptev and East Siberian seas and identified three heavy-mineral provinces: clinopyroxene-garnet (west); amphibole-clinopyroxene-epidote central; and clinopyroxene-epidote-amphibole-opaque minerals (east).

Carsola (1954, p. 1570) examined Beaufort Sea sediment with a binocular microscope and noted that heavy minerals appeared to constitute a varied assemblage. The present study, the first to study in detail heavymineral species in Beaufort Sea sediment, confirms this impression.

<u>Methods</u>. Heavy-minerals were separated in tetrabromoethane (S.G. = 2.96), from microsplits of the sand-size fractions (2.0-0.062 mm) of 153 samples (Table 2). Three surface samples were taken at the mouth of the Colville and Sagavanirkto, rivers and 20 km upstream in the Kuparuk River; all other samples were taken in offshore areas (fig. 1). The weight of the splits ranged from 3.5 to 28.0 grams (average = 14 g).

TABLE 2. Weight-percentages of heavy minerals the sand-size fraction (2.0-0.062 mm). For sample locations refer to Figure 1. Percentages marked with asterisk (\*) are an average of two.

SAMPLE	• HEAVY-MINERALS	SAMPLE	• HEAVY-MINERALS	SAMPLE	% HEAVY-MINERALS	SAMPLE	• HEAVY-MINERALS
	0.70	30	 1 7	76	1.9	113.	0.57
1.	2.0	20.	± •,′ 2 B	77	4.6	114.	0.62
2.	2.0	39.	0.40	78	1.8	115.	0.93
3.	0.84	40.	0.40	79	2 1	116.	0.97
4.	1./	41.	1.5	80	2 3	117.	1.3
5.	1.3	42.	2.0	Q1	2.3	118.	0.59
6.	1.6	43.	2.9	82	2.5	119.	0.60
7.	1.5	44.	2.3	. 83	0.92	120.	1.0
8.	2.0	45. AC .	2.0	84	0.96	121.	0.35
9.	0.10	40.	2.1	95	2 7	122.	0.15
10.	2.5	47.	0.24	,00,	1 2	123.	0.77
11.	4./	40.	0.38	87	1 8	124.	1.3
12.	1.1	49.	1.5	07.	1.0	125	1.3
13.	1.2	50.	1 0	00.	0.77	126.	1.4
14.	1.2	51.	1.2	09.	0.17	127.	0.47
15.	2.4	52.	0.77*		1 5	128	1.4
16.	. 3.4	53.	1.4	91.	0.22	129. '	1.0
17.	1.8	54.	0.76	92.	0.22	130.	1.1
18.	1.3	55.	0.48	93.	0.86	131	0.64
19.	1.7	56.	0.59	94.	3.6	132.	0.79
20.	2.8	5/.	1.2	95.	2.0	133.	1.6
ດ <sup>21.</sup>	2.4	58.	1.2	. 90.	0 93	134	0.41
r 22.	1.3	59.	0.79	<i>97.</i>	0.90	135.	0.77
∞ 23 <b>.</b>	0.50	60.	0.78	90.	1 2	136.	0.81
24.	0.54	61.	0.05	100	0.56	137.	0.44
25.	1.0	62.	0.27	100.	0.90	138.	0.70
26.	1.1	63.	0.25	101.		139.	0.70
27.	4.3	64.	0.30*	102.	1 2	140	0.69
28.	2.1	65.	0.45	103.	0.41	141.	0.91
29.	1.3	66.	0.29	104.	0.43*	142.	0.79
30.	1.8	67.	0.30	105.	0.43	143.	0.40
31.	1.0*	68.	0.69	107	0.60	144.	1.2
32.	2.0	69.	0.56	107.	0.60*	145.	1.05
33.	2.1	70.	0.79	100.	0.94	146.	0.66
34.	1.9	/1.	0.32	110	0.33	147.	1.1
35.	1.8	72.	0.30	111	0.11	148.	1.9
36.	1.4	13.	1.0	112	0.93	149.	1.9
37.	2.2	14.	1.9	<b>۵</b> که که ک		150.	1.3
		/5.	1.0		•	151.	1.4
	• • • •					152.	0.80
	T11. 7					153.	0.75

Table 2.

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153.

The heavy-mineral concentrates were sieved and grains were mounted in Lakeside 70 (n - 1.56). Some of the concentrates prepared early in the study were not microsplit. Comparisons of slides prepared with and without splitting revealed no major differences in mineral frequencies. Point-counts were made of 42 selected samples (see Table 3; fig. 1 for locations) in the 0.25 - 0.062 mm size range; for seven of these samples the 0.25 - 0.125 mm size range; for seven of these samples the 0.25 - 0.125 mm size range was also point-counted, to determine if sizerelated differences in mineralogy occurred. No significant differences were detected.

Heavy minerals were identified and counted following a line in the grain mount where the cross-hairs touched a grain. To help insure a random count, half the total number of grains were counted in east-west sweeps, the other half in north-south sweeps. Care was taken that the two areas did not overlap.

This method actually gives only number frequency, which gives a sample bias, in that a larger grain is more likely to be encountered during the analysis than a smaller one. The discrepancy is minimized by counting a limited size range (Galehouse, 1969, p. 814). Grains were identified as to mineralogic species when possible. The opaque minerals and aggregates were separated into iron-stained and unstained groups (see Table 3).

To insure the preservation of apatite, no samples were initially treated with HCl. Later, microsplits of five selected heavy-mineral concentrates were heated in concentrated Hcl over low heat for 30-45 min. The results were compared with the respective nontreated microsplits.

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 TABLE J. Minutalogic composition of point-counted samples from the Busufort Sea. Date only for 48 grain-sizes (0.125-0.062 mm) not treated with hydrochloric acid. Data for 38 sizes (0.25-0.125 mm) are not significantly different. Sample depths from Barnes, Reimnitz, Gustafuon and Latern, 1973.

 Image: Structure of the structure of

SAMPLE	DEPTH	STAINING	RATIO	4			<u>;</u> ; ;			A LOUNT			s/**	L C	-				Y 3			1	
		Aggreg.	Opaq.		<u> </u>	/S. E.			<u> </u>	/o	<u> </u>			-	•		-			•	27.3 1)	1.	300
	22	0.54	0.20	14.0	19.0	10.3	,	,,,	10.3	۰. ۲. a	6.7	7.7	0.7	0.7	0.2	2.0	0.3		o.s /	_	• 2)	1.5	600
	/8	0.58	0.13	11.0	10.0	17.0	3.0	5.7	19.7	•	•		•	•	•				-	-	23.7 1)	-	300
	31	0.66	0.30	11.7	20.3	11.0	5.0	2.1	24 3					•	•				-	-	25.7 1)	_	300
	<b>4</b> 0	0.56	0.74	11.0	20.3	12.7	4.0	2.1	24.3	•				•	•	_			-	-	19.7 1)	-	300
	100	1.21	0.00	20.0		9.7	8.0		19.1	5.0	14.7	6.3	1.3	0.3	0.3	2.0			•	-	-	0.7	300
	21	0.71	0.17	11.7	22.7	16.0	5.3	2.0	21.7	•	•	•		•	•	•		_	-	-	18.7 1)	_	300
	49	1.00	0.21	12.1	6.7	6.7	5.0	4.7	21.7	4.0	10.7	5.3	0.7	-	1.0	1.0	_	-	0.3	_	-	-	300
	21	1.51	0.78	12.2	18.7	28.2	2.0	4.7	20.3	•	3.8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	-	10.2 1)	-	600
	. •					•														1	3), 4)		
10	7.2	2.35	1.25	21.0	8.7	20.3	1.0	16.7	16.0	1.3	10.7	3.3	1.0	. •	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	300
11	4.5	4.68	7.50	13.1	10.5	49.2	0.8	7.9	8.7	0.5	5.6	2.1	0.5	0.3	-	0.5	-	-	-	0.3	-	-	390
12	140	0.92	0.28	10.7	12.0	11.0	8.3	1.7	34.7	•	7.7	•	•	•	•	•	•	-	-		14.0 1) 3)	•	300
13	20	1.20	4.00	6.7	23.0	27.7	1.7	4.3	19.3	•	•	•	•	•	-	-	•	•	-	-	17.3 1	-	300
14	2.0	4.26	1.71	6.3	13.0	55.3	_	3.3	12.7	1.7	4.0	1.7	1.7	·	-	-	•	-		0.3	-	-	300
15	1.7	2.92	4.80	9.7	15.7	45.7	1.0	6.3	7.3	2.0	4.7	2.7	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.7	•	•	•		-	2.7	300
16	17	1.14	1.64	29.0	12.3	14.0	3.3	7.0	19.7	1.0	8.0	3.7	0.3	0.3	•	•	1.0	0.3	-	-	-	-	300
17	18	1.72	3.19	29.3	10.0	17.7	1.7	2.3	21.3	2.7	6.3	5.0	0.7	1.0	· - ·	0.7	0.3	0.3	-	-	-	0.7	300
18	63	0.83	0.33	6.7	23.3	19.3	2.7	2.3	22.3	•	•	•	•	•	•	· -	•	•	-	-	23.3 1	-	300
19	48 .	1.28	0.17	16.3	16.3	21.0	2.0	2.7	16.7	6.3	7.0	6.3	0.7	0.7	-	1.3	-	-	0.3	-	• 2)	2.3	300
20	23	1.30	0.37	21.0	12.3	16.0	1.0	2.7	24.3	2.0	10.3	7.0	0.3	0.3	-	0.7	0.3	-	-	-	-	1.7	300
21	10.5	1.06	0.57	25.7	18.0	19.0	3.0	8.3	11.3	1.7	2.0	6.3	o.7	0.7	•	1.7	-		-	-	-	1.7	300
22	4.6	2.82	2.43	8.0	18.3	51.7	0.3	8.0	1.3	0.3	2.3	8.3	0.3	1.3	•	•	•	•	•	•	• 2)	-	300
23	1.7	2.05	5.33	6.3	21.7	44.3	0.7	1.0	10.3	•	2.7	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	-	13.0 1	-	300
24	1.0	1.20	1.08	9.0	30.0	36.0	0.7	5.0	6.3	•	2.3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		-	10.7 1	-	300
25	93	1.12	0.36	20.0	18.3	16.3	1.3	2.7	19.3	4.3	5.0	8.3	1.3	1.0	0.7		-	-	0.3	•	0.3 3	0.7	300
26	33	0.93	0.43	22.0	15.0	14.0	3.7	5.0	14.3	3.0	9.7	6.3	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.3	-	0.3	-	-	0.3 2	1.3	300
27	22	1.10	0.23	28.3	10.0	11.0	3.7	8.3	19.7	4.3	6.7	3.7	1.0	1.0	0.3	1.0	-	-	0.3	-	-	0.7	300
28	4.6	1.61	1.12	12.0	23.3	37.7	1.3	5.3	2.7	1.0	3.7	7.3	0.3	1.3	-	2.0	-	0.3	-	-	-	1.7	300
29	0.9	2.29	2.36	28.0	16.0	36.7	•	3.0	5.3	0.7	1.3	3.7	0.7	1.3	0.3	1.7	-	0.7	-	-	0.3 4	0.3	300
30	6.1	0.46	0.61	23.0	31.7	14.7	2.3	6.3	1.3	1.0	1.3	8.7	2.0	1.0	2.0	3.7	•	-	•	-	* 2)	1.0	300
31	8.5	2.24	1.40	12.0	20.5	45.8	0.7	5.5	4.5	0.5	3.2	6.2	0.3	•	-	0.5	•	0.2	-	-	-	0.2	600
32	29	0.88	1.08	8.3	26.0	23.0	1.0	3.7	20.7	{ •	•	•	•	•	-	•	-		•	-	17.3 1	) -	300
33	46	0.81	0.60	10.7	23.3	19.0	2.3	1.7	25.7	•	•		•	•	•	-	•	-	•	-	17.3 2	) -	300
34	#1	0.79	0.45	14.0	15.7	12.3	4.7	2.3	26.7	3.3	15.0	4.3	-	0.7	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.7	300
35	33	0.81	0.85	16.7	15.7	12.7	1.3	10.0	14.0	2.7	17.0	6.7	0.3	1.0	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	1-	1.7	300
36	2.0	1.92	1.69	11.7	24.3	46.7	0.3	2.3	7.3	-	2.7	2.3	0.7	0.3	-	-	0.3	-	-	-	· -	1.0	300
37	16	0.95	1.42	21.0	12.7	12.0	1.3	7.0	15.7	2.3	18.0	6.3	•	2.3	0.3	1.0	-	-	-		-	-	300
38	26	0.84	0.69	15.7	23.7	19.8	1.1	2.7	11.7	2.2	11.5	8.4	0.4	0.5	-	0.2	-	-	-	'	'  <b>-</b>	2.0	549
39	4	0.65	0.12	28.7	13.3	8.7	2.0	2.0	26.3	4.0	10.3	3.3	-	0.3	-		[	-	-	'	· -	1.0	300
40	sfc	5.06	7.57	20.0	11.7	59.0	0.7	3.3	0.7	-	0.3	1.0	1.3	1.	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.3	-			0.3	300
41	sfc	3.18	3.08	32.7	12.7	40.3	0.7	2.3	1.3	0.3	2.0	4.3	1.3	0.7			0.7	0.7			(1)5)		1300
42	sfe	2.38	2.00	9.0	118.3	43.7	1.3	_ 2.3	15.7	1 0.7	4.3.7	t 2.3	[1.3	10.3	10.3	•	10.7	1 -	F •	10-3	11-	1 -	1300

\* mineral seen but not counted sfc=surface sample

 1) total percent of all "species; complete species counts were not made for the sample

 2) staurolite

 3) kyanite

 4) rieheckite

 5) lawsonite

• . Micas and carbonate grains were noted in most samples, particularly those taken close to shore. Because of their wide specific-gravity range (2.7 - 3.1 for the micas, 2.7-2.9 for calcite and dolomite; from Allman and Lawrence, 1972, p. 181, Table 28), they are not considered true "heavy minerals" and are therefore omitted from the point-counting.

Description of Heavy Minerals

A great variety of heavy minerals were identified: opaque minerals, garnet, chrome spinel, augite, diopside, pigeonite, hornblende, enstatite, hypersthene, epidote, clinozoisite, zoisite, apatite, tourmaline, chloritoid, sphene, and zircon. Extremely rare, but positively identified, were glaucophane, lamprobolite, rutile, kyanite, staurolite, and riebeckite. One grain of lawsonite was seen in the acid-treated microsplit of the Kuparuk River heavymineral concentrate.

<u>Opaque minerals</u>. Opaque minerals compose an average of 17% of the heavy minerals counted, with extremes at 6% and 35%. Magnetite is present (detected with a horseshoe magnet) in virtually all samples. Where magnetite was not detected, the percent of heavy minerals was consistently less than 1%, and the weight of the heavymineral fraction less than 0.1 g. The lack of magnetite in these samples is probably a function of either the small heavy-mineral fraction or of sorting. Ilmenite is probably also present, although opaque grains with a whitish (leucoxene?) alteration were rare. Pyrite (authigenic) was seen in the 0.25 - 0.125 mm fraction of sample 70ABP-1.

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The forms of the opaque grains ranges from crystalline to wellrounded. Some grains were surficially altered to iron-oxide. This will be discussed later.

Treatment in hydrochloric acid did not systematically change the percents of opaque minerals. Usually the counts remained within + 5%, but in one sample the percentage decreased 24%.

<u>Chrome spinel</u>. Chrome spinel composes between 1 and 8 percent of the heavy minerals in all samples. This mineral is usually partially translucent and isotropic. The grains show very high / relief and forms varying from crystalline to well-rounded. Concoidal fractures may be present. Translucent beer-bottle-brown-colored grains are probably picotite (Morris, 1952). Similar translucent to nearly opaque grains are blood-red, an anomalous color for picotite.

<u>Garnet</u>. Percentages of garnet ranged from 1 to 11%. Samples containing greater than 5% garnet all lay west of Cape Halkett (fig. 3). East of Cape Halkett the distribution is uniformly low. Colorless and pink garnet occurs in all samples. The colorless variety generally is more numerous and more etched than the pink variety. In samples taken west of Cape Halkett, garnets with yellowish hues were seen; this was the rarest variety noted. All garnets were rounded to some degree and many contained inclusions. No systematic attempt was made to identify these inclusions, although in one sample they were clearly rutile.

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<u>Clinopyroxene</u>. As a group, clinopyroxenes constitute a range of 11 to 26% of all samples, with a maximum of 35%. HCl-treatment, while not necessarily rendering species more identifiable, invariably increased the percentage of identifiable clinopyroxene grains by at least 7% and as much as 18%. The sample from the Colville River contained 34% clinopyroxene after acid treatment, compared to 16% before treatment.

These differences did not alter the overall distribution of clinopyroxenes. The percentages of this group ranged from 1 to 16% within 18 km of the coast and from 13 to 35% beyond 18 km.

Augite, diopside, and pigeonite were identified, but it was frequently impossible to identify a clinopyroxene as to species, even where the sample was acid-treated. Because of this difficulty, the clinopyroxene were grouped together for correlation purposes.

Augite, the most abundant clinopyroxene, had many colors: green, brown, colorless, occasionally purplish. Form ranged from prismatic to well-rounded. Saw-toothed etching of grains was occasionally noted.

Diopside, the most difficult clinopyroxene to positively identify, had a very high birefringence and a characteristic extinction angle (about 39°).Where identified, diopside and pigeonite occurred in roughly equal amounts, always less than 5% of the heavy mineral fraction.

Hornblende. Hornblende, with its characteristic extinction angle  $(12 - 30^{\circ})$  and pleochroism, constitutes 1 to 18% of all samples, usually less than 11%. HCl-treatment did not systematically alter the percentages of hornblende identified. However, lamprobolite grains

were more likely to be found in acid-treated samples, possibly because they were masked by limonitic alteration in untreated samples. Overall hornblende percentages tend to increase with distance from shore.

The blue-green and green varieties of hornblende occur in about equal proportions. The brown varieties, if present, are less abundant than either green or blue-green varieties. Lamprobolite (basaltic hornblende) was seen in 14 samples but it is extremely rare, always composing less than 1% of the heavy-mineral fraction. It is distinguished from ordinary brown hornblende by its much smaller extinction angle  $(0-12^{\circ})$  and red-brown color.

Orthopyroxene. Enstatite and hypersthene rarely exceed 4% of the heavy-mineral fraction. Enstatite occurs slightly more frequently than hypersthene. Enstatite may occur as prismatic or rounded grains; hypersthene more commonly is prismatic.

The pleochroism of the hypersthene is in general extremely faint, indicating that the variety may be ferrohypersthene (Naugler, 1967, p. 42). True hypersthene, with its intense pleochroism, is not as common as ferrohypersthene in these sediments. In some cases hypersthene could only be distinguished from enstatite is by its optic sign.

Epidote group. In the Beaufort Sea sediments, the epidote groups constitutes an average of 6% of the heavy-mineral fraction, with extremes at 2% and 9%. Acid-treatment slightly increased the number of identifiable epidote grains.

Epidote (pistacite) is the most common mineral of this group. It is optically negative and characteristically yellow-green but occasionally colorless. Epidote aggregates (yellow-green grains which do not go extinct) are common, sometimes exceeding the number of single-crystal grains.

Clinozoisite and zoisite are generally less common than epidote; together they may equal the amount of epidote. Zoisite appears to be the more common of the two, though these minerals may be hard to distinguish. Both ferrian (normal interference colors) and non-ferrian (anomalous deep-blue interference colors) varieties of zoisite are present.

<u>Apatite</u>. Apatite constitutes about 1% of the heavy-mineral fraction of all samples mostly in small, equidimensional to elongate, rounded grains. The mineral occasionally occurs in prismatic grains. Apatite was not seen in acid-treated samples.

Apatite is a uniaxial mineral, but sometimes grains may show a pseudo-biaxial figure (Milner, 1940, p. 243). In the Beaufort Sea sediments, pseudo-biaxial figures were seen most commonly in thick grains (birefringence in first-order yellow). Such grains can be confused with zoisite, although this mineral is optically positive in contrast to apatite.

<u>Tourmaline</u>. Tourmaline is ubiquitous but generally composes less than 1% of the heavy-mineral fraction. Although an acid-treated microsplit from the Kuparuk River contains 3%, acid-treatment did not in general increase the amount of identifiable tourmaline.

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Both brown and blue-gray varieties of tourmaline are present, although the brown variety is by far more common. Grain-form ranges from prismatic to well-rounded. Overgrowths are rare.

<u>Chloritoid</u>. Chloritoid usually constitutes less than 1% of the heavy-mineral fraction. The largest amount (3%) of chloritoid was seen in the acid-treated sample from the Kuparuk River. It occurs as small, platy grains.

Sphene. Except for one sample containing 2% sphene, this mineral invariably makes up less than 1% of the heavy-mineral fraction. The grains are colorless to yellow-brown and rounded.

Zircon. Zircon, though rare, is present in nearly all samples. Several varieties were seen: euhedral, colorless, unzoned crystals; colorless to slightly yellow, rounded, ovoid grains; pinkish, zoned crystals.

Some grains identified as zircon showed very small extinction angles. The interference figures of such grains appeared to be uniaxial positive but could also have been biaxial positive with a low 2V. It is therefore possible that such grains are monazite, a mineral difficult to distinguish from zircon.

Other minerals. Glaucophane, kyanite, staurolite, riebeckite, and lawsonite occurred too sporadically to be significant. Glaucophane, however, was identified consistently in samples from the Colville River and its delta. Rutile, though extremely rare, was identified in samples near the mouths of the Sagavanirktok and Kuparuk rivers and in many samples west of the Sagavanirktok.

Aggregates. The term "aggregate" refers here to a grain containing one or more minerals identifiable in varied degrees. Two categories of aggregates were point-counted.

The first group, called here "unstained aggregates", is made up of grains consisting of two or more minerals (for example, an opaque mineral and a clinopyroxene), or an unidentifiable grain which did not go extinct.

The second category consists of "iron-stained aggregates". Such grains are not mineralogically identifiable but are encrusted with a yellow-orange iron-oxide material, probably limonite. Treatment with HCl does not render these grains identifiable, but does destroy the limonite, leaving the grains white.

Both categories of aggregates combined generally compose 20 to 50% but could, in a few samples, constitute as much as 71% of the heavy-mineral fraction. Samples containing more than 60% aggregates occur invariably within 16 Km of the coast. Of the five acidtreated samples, the percentages of aggregates remained about the same in two and decreased in the others.

Discussion

Distribution. The heavy minerals never composed more than 5% the sand-size fraction (see Table 2). No significant relationship was apparent between percent of heavy minerals and either mean grainsize or depth of sample. The patterns of concentration were quite random, though percentages greater than 1% seemed to lie in a belt beyond the barried islands and generally shoreward of the shelf break. Percentages are comparable to those obtained by other workers (Burrell, Dygas and Tucker, 1974; Dygas, Tucker and Burrell, 1972; Naidu and Mowatt, 1974; Naidu and Sharma, 1972). Of all the heavymineral species, only garnet and iron-stained aggregates show any definite distribution patterns in the Beaufort Sea. Both of these patterns may well be source-dependent.

Six samples of the Gubik Formation taken near Point Barrow contain an average of 8.5% garnet, a maximum of 15%. On the other hand, samples of the Gubik taken at six different localities east of the Colville River, between Simpson Lagoon and Prudhoe Bay, contain less than 1% garnet.

The higher percentages of garnet in marine sediments west of Cape Halkett (fig. 3) would seem to suggest either a westward direction for sediment transport or little transport from the source rocks. Currents effectively keep the garnet supplied from the Gubik Formation moving westward.

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In samples containing high percentages of iron-stained aggregates, the opaque minerals present commonly show iron-oxide alteration. For both groups the <u>staining ratio</u>, the ratio of the <u>frequency</u> of iron-stained to unstained grains, was calculated.

As seen in Figure 4b the staining ratio for opaque minerals is generally less than 1.0. Only close to the mouths of the major rivers does the ratio exceed 2.0. The staining ratios for aggregates (fig. 4a) follow a similar pattern. Only one sample at the mouth of the Sagavanirtok contains relatively few iron-stained aggregates. This same sample also

The percentage of iron-stained grains (opaque minerals + aggregates) diminishes rapidly with increasing depth to about 20 m, beyond which the percentage remains on the order of 19.5%, never exceeding 27% (fig. 5).

The prevalence of iron-stained aggregates at lesser depths close to shore probably results from proximity to source. These aggregates occur in the Pleistocene Gubik Formation, which forms seacliffs bordering the coastline. The widespread Cretaceous formations of the region are commonly oxidized at the surface (David M. Hopkins, oral commun., 1975). The low clinopyroxene percentages within 18 km of the coast are probably an artifact resulting from extensive iron-staining of grains in samples from this area.

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Table 4. Minerals of the Beaufort Sea grouped as to average specific gravity.

Avg. S.G. = 3.0 - 3.49Apatite<br/>Augite<br/>Clinozoisite<br/>Diopside<br/>Enstatite<br/>Epidote<br/>Glaucophane<br/>Hypersthene<br/>Lamprobolite<br/>Lawsonite<br/>Pigeonite<br/>Riebeckite<br/>Tourmaline<br/>Zoisite

Avg. S.G. = 3.5 - 4.49

Chloritoid Chrome spinel Garnet Hørnblende Kyanite Limonite Rutile Sphene Staurolite

'Avg. S.G. = 4.5 - 5.5

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Opaque minerals Zircon

Data from Allman and Lawrence 1972, Table 28, p. 181, supplemented where necessary with data from Milner, 1940.

Closely associated samples, particularly in shallow water, tend to show distinctive differences in mineralogy; percentages of opaque minerals, for example, may differ by 10-15%. To examine possible reasons for these differences, all identified minerals were divided into three specific-gravity groups (Table 4). The percent of minerals in the "low" specific-gravity range (3.0-3.49) is dominated by the amount of pyroxene; the "medium" range (3.5-4.5) by iron-stained aggregates (limonite S.G. = 3.6-4.0); and the "high" range (greater than 4.5) by opaque minerals. Because the distribution of iron-stained aggregates appears to be controlled by proximity to the shoreline, the ratio of minerals in the high range to that of the low range was used. This quantity is defined as the <u>density ratio</u>.

Density Ratio (D.R.) =  $\frac{\$ \text{ minerals of } S.G. 74.5}{\$ \text{ minerals of } S.G. = 3.0-3.49}$ 

Density ratios for 32 samples were plotted against depth (fig. 6). In depths greater than 20 m, D.R. never exceeds 1.1. In water shallower than 20 m, several samples have D.R. greater than 1.1, and two near the mouth of the Sagavanirktok exceed 1.8. Although some samples from water depths less than 20 m have low density ratios, the highest values occur only in shallow water.

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Although the number of samples from this study with very high density ratios is too small to be statistically significant, it is interesting to speculate on the origin of the apparent decrease in density-ratio range with depth where source is not a factor. A wide range of density ratios in closely-spaced samples suggests hydraulic sorting. A narrow range of density ratios would suggest mixing.

Hydraulic sorting. Waves in the Beaufort Sea normally range from 2 to 3-second periods and 20 to 30 cm height. A storm of Pingok Island (see fig. 1) in 1972 produced swells of 9 to 10-second periods and 1.5 to 2.5 m height. The storm lasted several days and produced longshore currents with velocities as much as 50 cm/sec. (Wiseman, Syhayda and Hsu, 1974, p. 51).

Threshold orbital velocities  $(u_m)$  which would act to sort sediments may be calculated for the typical and extreme wave regimes noted above from the equations of Komar and Miller (1974).

Table 5 shows  $u_m$  as calculated for waves of given period (T) height (H), and water depth (h).

TABLE 5. Representative threshold orbital velocities for specific waves.

T, sec.	H, cm	<u>h, m</u>	u <sub>m</sub> , cm/sec	sed.grain-size moved						
3	30	4	9.8	0.085 mm						
10	250	10	107	. <b>11.93</b> mm						
10	250	15	80	6.05 mm						
10	<b>2</b> 50	20	63	3.47 mm						
10	250	30	43	1.42 mm						
10	、 <b>2</b> 50	50	20	<b>0.22</b> mm						

Table 6. Non-opaque minerals and formations of Alaska North Slope . where identified (Brosge, Whittington and Morris, 1966; Keller, Morris and DeHerman, 1961; Morris, 1952; Patton and Tailleur, 1964, Payne and others, 1951; and this paper)

FORMATION	Beaufort Sea Sediments	Gubik/Meade Unit	Sagavanirktok	Prince Creek/ Tuluvak Tongue	Schrader Bluff	Beabee	Chandler	Ninuluk	Grandst <b>and</b>	Topagoruk	Tuktu	Fortress Mt.	Torok	Okpikruak	Tiglukpuk	Kingak	Shublik
MINERAL						·											
Garnet	x	x	x	×	x	x	x	x	x				x		· <b>X</b>	x	
Chrome spinel	x	x		x	x	x	×	x	x		x						
Augite	x	x										x	x	x	x	x	
Hornblende	x	x		x	x	2	x	1	1			X•	x	x	x		
Epidote	x	x		•								x		x	x		
Zoisite	x	x							•					x			
Clinozoisite	x	x				÷											
Tourmaline	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	×		x	x	x			x	x
Apatite	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	•				x				
Glaucophane	x	x		x	x	x		x	x			X				•	
Hypersthene	x	x															•
Chloritoid	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x								
Zircon	x	<b>x</b> .	x	x	x		3	4	3	3	3	3	3		3		5
Rutile	x				6												
Sphene	x	x							· · ·					x			
Kyanite	x		x														
Staurolite	x												x		,		
			1) 2)	) blud ) gred	e-gre en	en		4) 5)	clea: ovoi	r pri d	isms						

3) zoned

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6) seen only in Sentinel Hill Member

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A certain threshold orbital velocity is required to initiate transport of a given sediment-grain-size. Thus a wave of T-10 sec and  $u_{max} = 20$  cm/sec will move 0.20 mm (medium-grained) sand at depths of 50 m. But a wave of T=3 sec and  $u_{max} = 9.8$  cm/sec will <u>not</u> move 0.125 mm (fine-grained) sand at a depth of 4 m (Komar and Miller, 1974, p. 772, fig. 7).

Therefore, during the three-month summer period of normal waves in the Beaufort Sea, sands are influenced by waves only in the shallowest depths, probably less than 5 m, and wave-generated currents are not likely to be significant for sorting. Waves from storm such as that observed in 1972 would be strong enough to sort sediments over most of the shelf. In winter, waves are unimportant, due to ice-cover.

At shallow depths off river mouths, the bottom is dotted with strudel scours (Reimnitz, Rodeick and Wolf, 1974, p. 418, fig. 11), depressions caused by water pouring through drain holes in the ice cover during the spring ice-breakup (Reimnitz and Bruder, 1972, p. 162). These depressions could serve as concentrating areas for heavy minerals. The scouring process itself is potentially a sorting mechanism. For grains of a given size, the minerals with higher specific gravities are more likely to resist further transport once deposited, especially in a depression (Brady and Jobson, 1973, p. 26).

In depths greater than 15 m, ice-gouging of the seafloor is most pronounced in winter (Barnes and Reimnitz, 1974, p. 464, fig. 19) in winter. Sediments within areas of strong ice-gouging are probably deeply disturbed. Thicknesses of Recent sediments are 5 m or less, well within the range of the deepest modern gouges (Reimnitz and Barnes, 1974, p. 302). In heavily-gouged areas, older material may be mixed in with surface sediments (Reimnitz and Barnes, 1974, p. 346).

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Both bioturbation and ice-gouging are undoubtedly at work in waters deeper than 15 m. During summer, the potential for ice-gouging is present in shallow water but decreases with increasing depth because of fewer ice keels with drafts sufficient to reach the bottom (Barnes and Reimnitz, 1974, p. 463). Seasonal effects of bioturbation are unknown at present. The random pattern of mineral distribution reflects this mixing process.

Source area. A series of six samples from the Meade Unit of the Gubik Formation were collected from the 2.5 m interval of an ice cellar at 9 m depth, at the Naval Arctic Research Laboratory near Point Barrow. Most of the minerals identified in the Beaufort sediments, including iron-stained aggregates, are represented in the Meade Unit samples. The Gubik Formation characteristically contains rounded grains (Morris, 1952). The Meade Unit however, also contains many prismatic grains; hypersthene is almost exlucsively prismatic. Beaufort Sea sediments contain both rounded and prismatic grains.

Kyanite has been identified in the Sagavanirktok Formation (Payne and others, 1951). Sphene is present in trace amounts in the Okpikruak Formation (Keller, Morris and Detterman, 1961), as well as the Gubik Formation Meade Unit (this paper). Staurolite was tentatively identified by Keller in the Killik-Itillik region (Tailleur, oral commun., 1975). The mineral identified in earlier works by Morris as andalusite was found to be apatite (Patton and Tailleur 1964, p. 72). The present study confirms this identification.

A summary table (Table 6) lists non-opaque minerals identified in the Beaufort Sea and the formation onshore in which they have been found. Minerals not previously identified in either the Beaufort Sea sediments on the Alaska North Slope are diopside, pigeonite, enstatite, lamprobolite, riebeckite, and lawsonite. These minerals are, however, sufficiently uncommon that they were probably not encountered at the time.

Because there are no distinctive exotic heavy minerals described in the Beaufort Sea sediments, ice-rafting does not appear to be significant.

Sediment is probably shed directly from the coastal cliffs as well as transported as bed-load by major rivers and small, local streams. Also, much of the sediment may be relict.

It seems reasonable to say that the source of the Beaufort Sea sediments is the Alaskan North Slope and dominantly the Gubik Formation. Because of the extensive mixing of the sediment and lack of distinctive mineral assemblages, the contribution of each major drainage to the Beaufort Sea is masked.

#### Conclusions

In sediments of the Beaufort Sea, heavy minerals never composed over 5% of the sand-size fraction. Twenty-four heavy-mineral species have been identified. This great variety attests to the mineralogic immaturity of the sediments and to the heterogeneity of the source area.

Except for garnet and iron-stained aggregates, the heavy minerals lack distinct distribution provinces. The iron-stained aggregates occur in highest percentages in samples within 16 km of shore. They are probably derived from the sea cliffs bordering the Beaufort. The garnet occurs in greatest amounts west of Cape Halkett, reflecting a higher percent of garnet in the Gubik formation west of the Colville River compared to east of the river. Higher percentages of garnet may also be a reflection of the dominant westward transport of sediments in the area.

Waves and currents in the Beaufort Sea are not strong enough to sort sands at depths greater than 5 m except during summer storms. Therefore, the overall uniformity of heavy-mineral distribution suggests an environment dominated by mixing processes. Bioturbation and icegouging are believed to be the most significant. Sorting processes seem to occur only in depths of 1-15 m. Strudel scours may serve as concentration areas for heavy minerals.

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Figure 2. Generalized stratigraphic column of Cenozoic and Mesozoic rocks of Alaska's North Mlope (Colville River region). (After Gryc and others, 1956, p. 212, fig. 2).





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