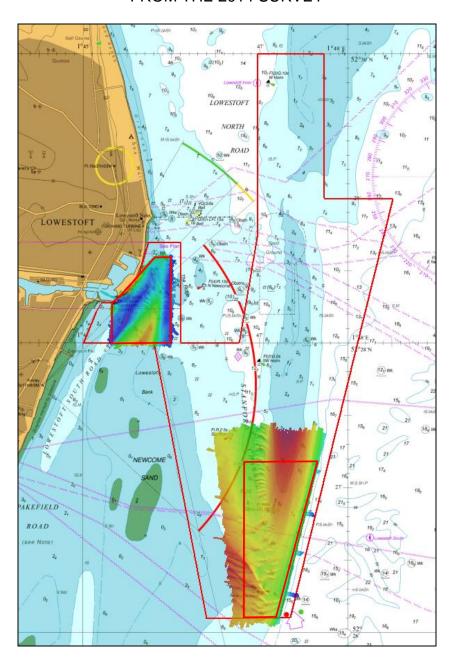


EAST ANGLIA APPROACHES TO LOWESTOFT

SUMMARY ASSESSMENT ON THE ANALYSIS OF ROUTINE RESURVEY AREA EA10 FROM THE 2014 SURVEY



EAST ANGLIA

APPROACHES TO LOWESTOFT

Summary Assessment EA10/2014

A summary assessment of the 2014 hydrographic survey of the area: to monitor recent seabed movement; to identify any implications for shipping; and to make recommendations for future surveys.

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APPROACHES TO LOWESTOFT, 2014

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The full area of EA10 is re-surveyed every three years; within that area two focused subareas (as shown on the front of this report are surveyed annually. These focused areas concentrate on the areas of greatest concern, taking into account sediment mobility, depth of water and draught of shipping using the areas.
- 1.2 This summary report looks at the latest focused survey and compares it against the previous survey. For more details on the area, including long-term changes, the more detailed report on the last full 3-year survey (conducted in 2012) should be consulted.

2 Description of the Area

- 2.1 One focused area (Area A) covers the ridge and sandwaves that lie at the southern entrance to Stanford Channel, while the other (Area B) covers the final approach to Lowestoft Harbour. A recommendation to reduce Area A limits by 40% was approved by the Civil Hydrography Working Group in December 2014, with those limits shown in this report.
- 2.2 Sediments in the area are mobile and subject to change as the banks evolve and sandwaves migrate.

3 Survey Data

3.1 The 2013 was conducted from 17 to 26 September and 9 November. The 2014 survey was conducted from 27 July to 14 August. Both surveys were conducted in conjunction with other areas. In both surveys, the Vertical Offshore Reference Frame (VORF) and GPS heighting were used to reduce depths to Chart Datum.

4 Changes since the 2013 Survey

4.1 A surface difference plot, showing changes between the two surveys is at <u>Annex A</u>. Changes in the 5-metre contour are shown in <u>Annex B</u>.

Entrance to Stanford Channel (Area A)

- 4.2 Depths in the entrance to Stanford Channel remain broadly similar to the 2013 survey. The minimum depth in the buoyed entrance remains at 6.7 metres over the same sandwave, which has migrated 30 metres in a southeast direction. A depth of 6.8 metres is also found 280 metres to the southeast of this, 50cm shoaler than depths in the area in the 2013 survey. The two sandwaves are shown in Annex C profile C-D.
- 4.3 Sandwaves to the south of the entrance, lying to the west and northwest of Newcome Sand buoy, have extended further into the channel, resulting in shallower depths. The sandwave closest to the entrance has a minimum depth of 4.5 metres charted, in depths of around 6.5 metres in the 2013 survey. This migration of the sandwave field is shown in Annex C profile E-F.
- 4.4 The 5-metre contour delimiting the southern end of Holm Sand has extended 70 metres to the south, but over a gentle slope with little change in depth. The bank has however extended seawards, as shown in Annex B.

Final Approach to Lowestoft (Area B)

4.5 In the far north of Area B the shoal inshore area has expanded seawards and an overlying ridge has shoaled. The minimum depth along the northern edge of Kirkley

- white light sector has reduced from 3.9 metres to 3.4 metres and moved 75 metres to the northeast. A cross-section along the northern edge of the white light sector shows this change at Annex C profile A-B.
- 4.6 The bank to the east of the inshore channel has expanded seaward slightly along its length, as shown in <u>Annex B</u>. In the south of the area, the western side of the bank has moved inshore, with the 5-metre contour moving 55 metres to the west.

5 Implications for Shipping

5.1 Changes in the buoyed entrance to Stanford Channel and final approach to Lowestoft present no new concerns to shipping. Changes that have occurred to the west of Newcome Sand buoy fall outside the route adopted by shipping, as shown in Figure 1 below showing the indicative shipping route based on AIS data.

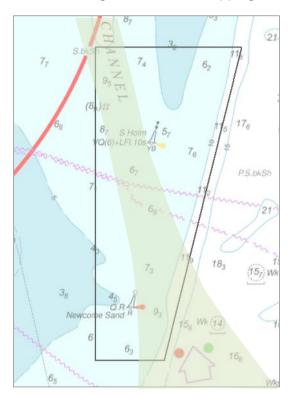


Figure 1: Indicative shipping route through Area A

6 Recommendations

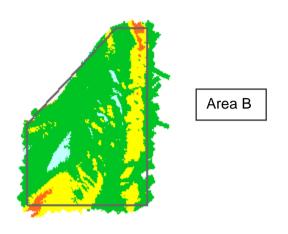
Entrance to Stanford Channel (Area A)

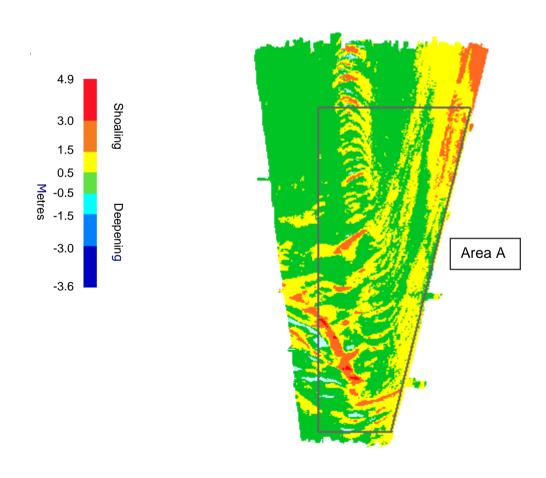
6.1 Changes in the south of the area and to sandwaves within the buoyed entrance support retaining the existing limits and survey frequency.

Final Approach to Lowestoft (Area B)

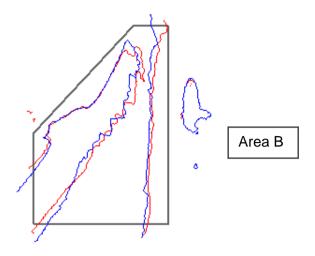
6.2 Changes in the south and north of the area support retaining the existing limits and survey frequency.

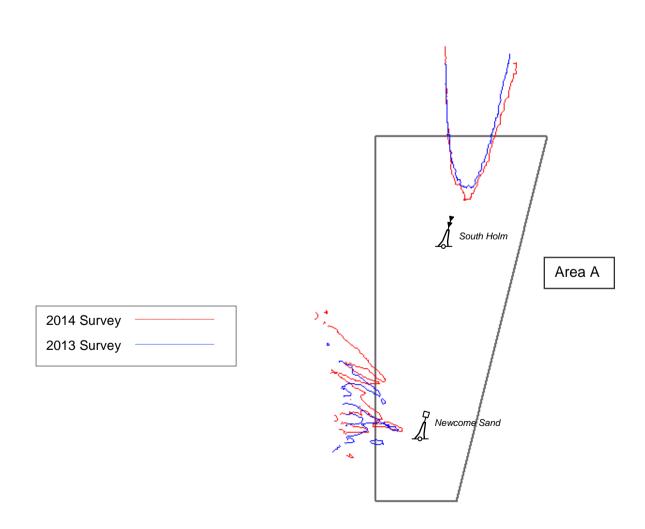
SURFACE DIFFERENCE LAYER SHOWING BATHYMETRIC CHANGES BETWEEN THE 2013 AND 2014 SURVEYS



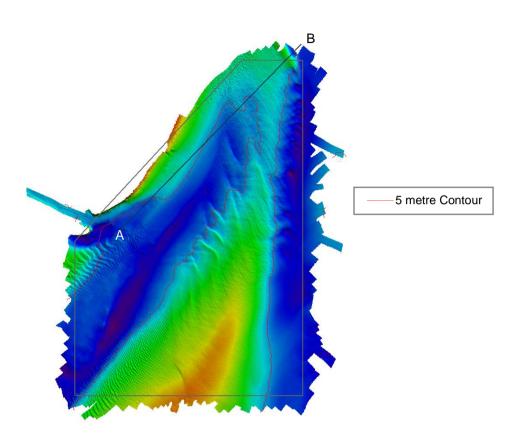


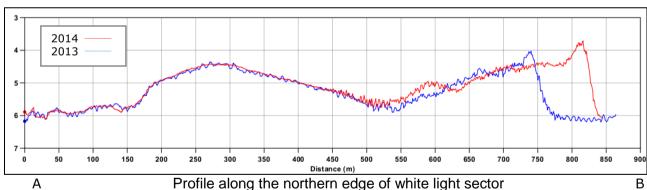
COMPOSITE DIAGRAM OF THE 5 METRE CONTOUR FROM THE 2013 AND 2014 SURVEYS





CROSS-SECTIONS FROM THE 2013 AND 2014 SURVEYS





Profile along the northern edge of white light sector

