



ALASKA CURRENT METER PROJECT 2007

The project goal was to provide field support for tidal current mooring stations within the State of Alaska to update the NOAA Tidal Prediction Tables. The most recent data collected in the Prince William Sound (PWS) region is from 1976-1978 utilizing older technology and methods. Presently, 47 stations in the PWS region are published in the NOAA Tidal Current Tables. These stations are all secondary and referenced to only two sites. Additional reference stations were needed for PWS and Southeastern Alaska (SEAK). For the present study a total of sixty (60) stations were occupied, forty-five (45) stations in the PWS region and fifteen (15) in SEAK. Each deployment was a minimum of thirty-five (35) days. Five (5) of the sites were reference stations deployed for seventy (70) days, four in PWS and one in SEAK.

deployments of approximately 15 stations each were conducted for PWS. Two deployments of approximately 7 stations each were conducted for SEAK. Prior to each deployment, fresh batteries were installed and the compass calibrated for each current meter. CTD casts were collected for each deployment site. Reconnaissance measurements (depth and bottom substrate) were made during each deployment cruise of the stations for the follow-on deployment (e.g., recon of deployment 3 sites during deployment 2 cruise).

RESULTS

The project was 100% successful. All 60 deployed moorings were recovered with full data sets. The client found the project team was responsive and professional.



Deployment of mooring in Prince William Sound, AK.

SCOPE AND APPROACH

All meters and mooring equipment including hardware were government furnished. Evans-Hamilton, Inc. (EHI) was responsible for equipment checkout, including compass calibrations, shipping all equipment to AK, and procuring the deployment vessels. In addition, EHI located emergency response vessels in the event a mooring released prior to a retrieval cruise. The emergency contacts were located in multiple locations due to the large geographic area covered by the mooring locations. Three

Client Reference

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Project Timeframe

January – September 2007

