

**Institute of Navigation GNSS 2011 Conference  
U.S. States and Local Government Subcommittee Session  
Inertially-Aided Post-Processed Kinematic GNSS  
for Nautical Charting  
September 19, 2011**

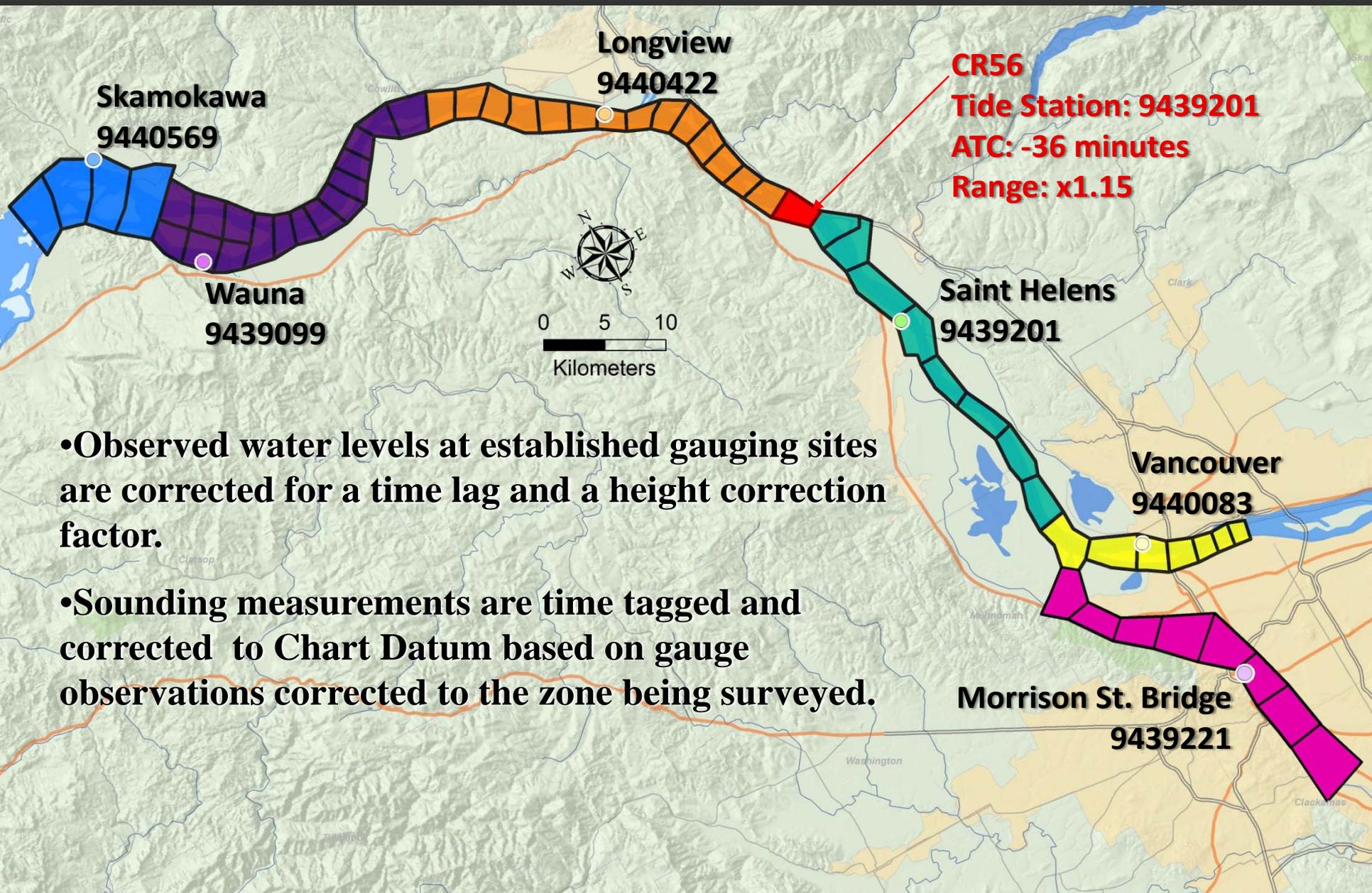


**Jon Dasler, P.E., P.L.S., C.H.  
David Evans and Associates, Inc.  
Marine Services Division**

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- Tidal Zoning (modeled water levels at survey vessel)
- Vessel Static Draft (changes in vessel loading)
- Vessel Dynamic Draft (changes in vessel speed)
- Long Period Heave (inertial systems unable to measure)

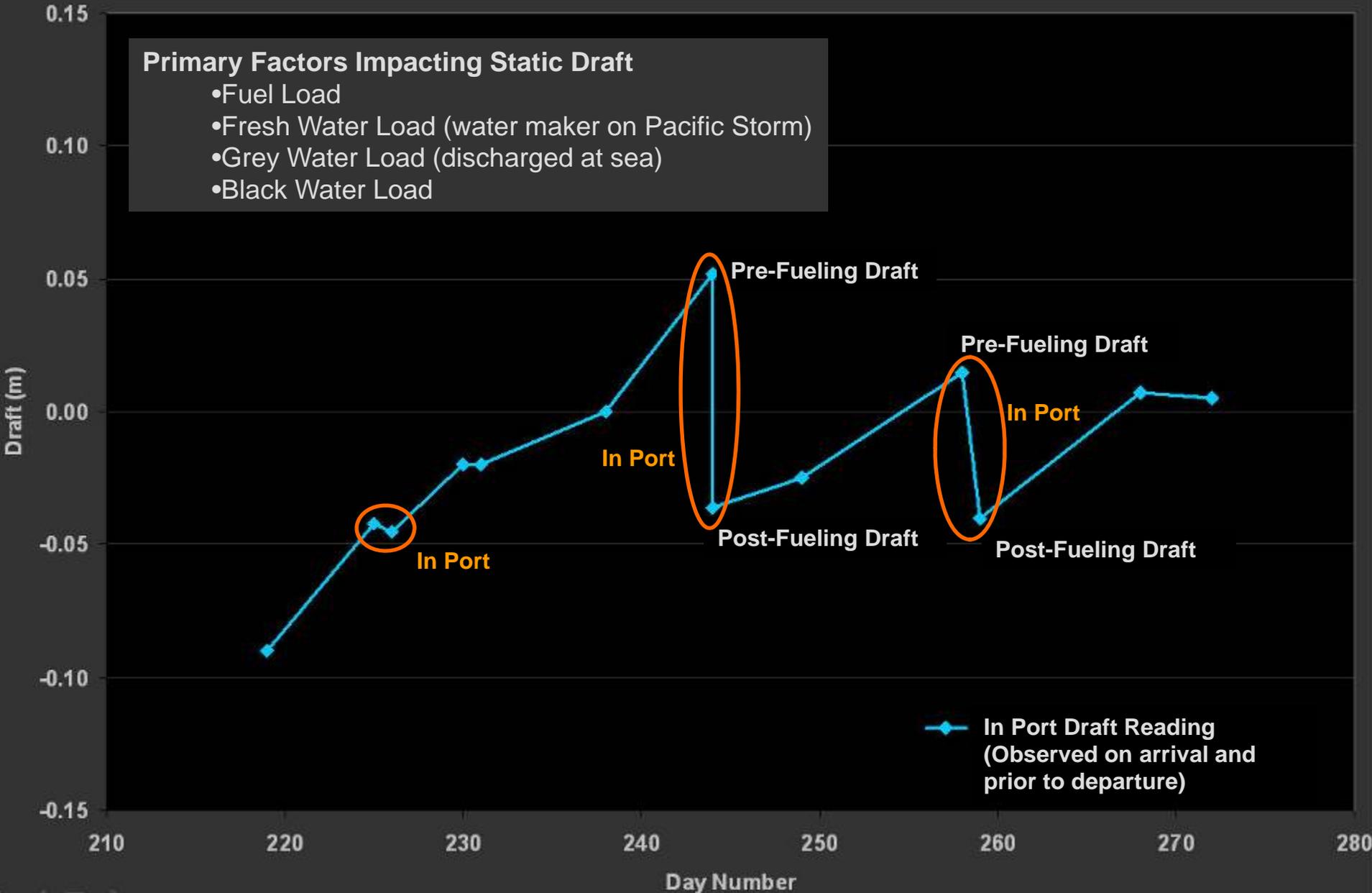
# Columbia River Discrete Zoning



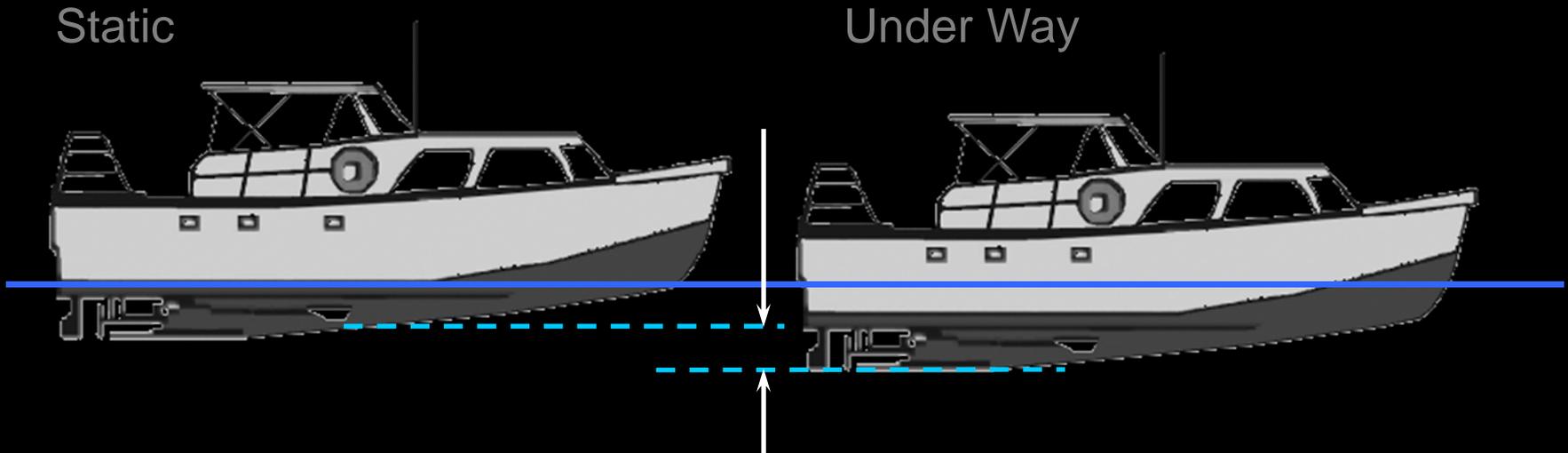
# R/V Pacific Storm Static Draft Readings

## Primary Factors Impacting Static Draft

- Fuel Load
- Fresh Water Load (water maker on Pacific Storm)
- Grey Water Load (discharged at sea)
- Black Water Load

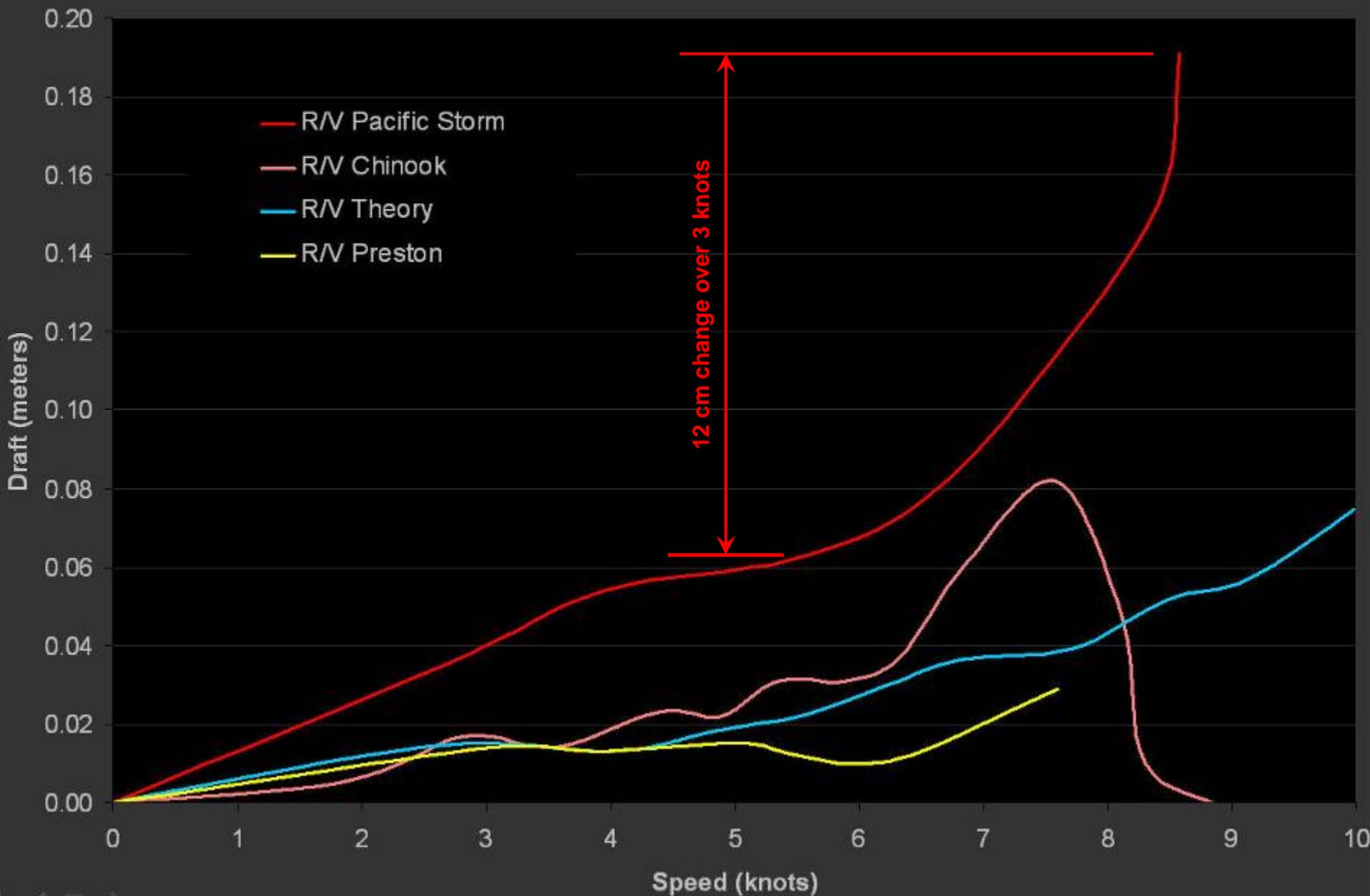


# Dynamic Draft Corrections

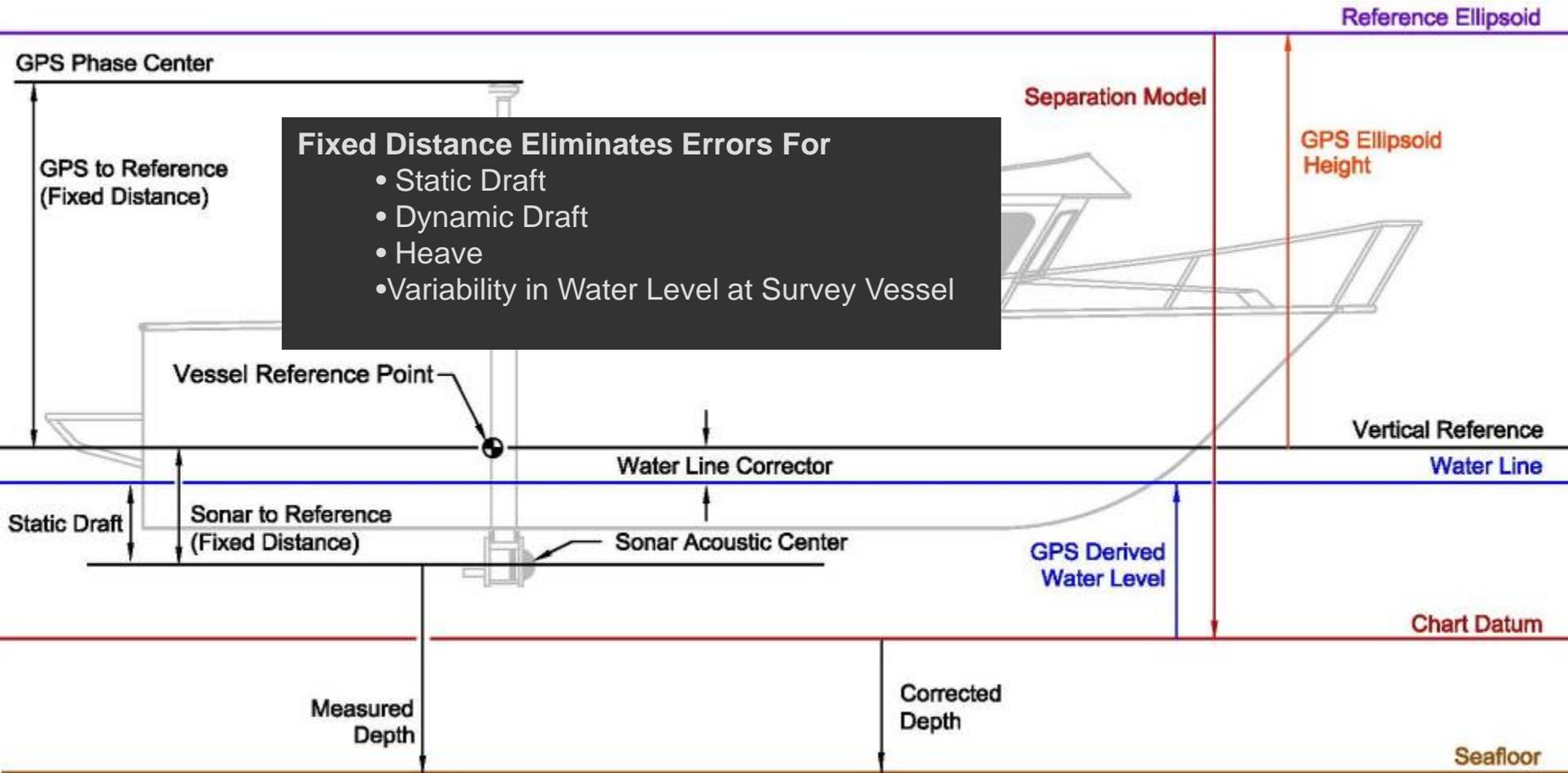


Settlement - The effect of moving the hull through the water causes a local depression in the water surface around the hull. Typically corrected by tables relative to speed over ground. In the Columbia River this can result in significant errors when running into or with a 2 knot current (4 knot speed change). This correction is measured directly with GPS, eliminating speed over ground application errors.

# Dynamic Draft



# Vertical Components of Inertially-Aided GNSS Hydrographic Surveying



$$\text{Water Level} = \text{Ellipsoid Height} - \text{Separation} - \text{Water Line Corrector}$$

# Inertially-Aided GNSS Derived Water Levels

- Applanix POS MV 320
- Processing Computer (PCS)
- Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU)
- Two Dual Frequency GNSS Antennas

Provides Vessel

- Position
- Heading
- Heave/Pitch/Roll
- Quality metrics



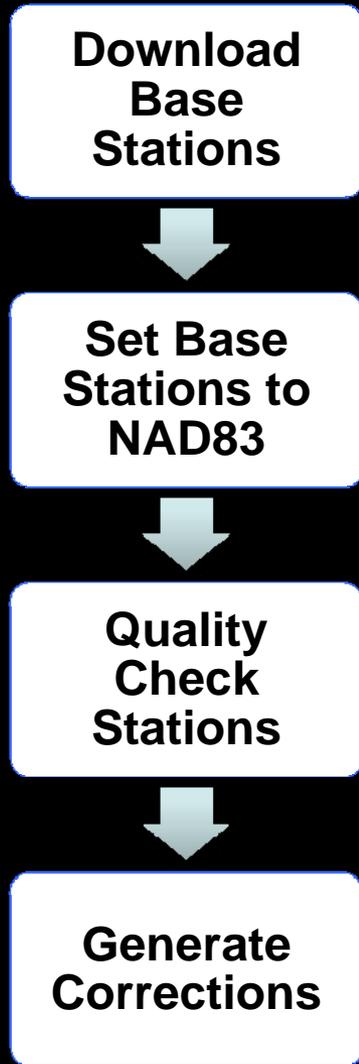
## Inertially-Aided Real Time Kinematic (RTK)

- Advantages
  - Provides real-time water levels that can be used for color swath coverage relative to chart datum
  - Provides real-time kinematic GNSS quality control
  - Seamless swath coverage in real-time for improved quality control and quality assurance for bathymetric data
- Disadvantages
  - Shore Support needed for base stations and radio link
  - Radio link can be problematic in some areas and may result in rejection of the survey if significant loss of corrections is encountered that can not be corrected with the strap down inertial system
  - Range from base station is limited by radio link or 20 km

## Inertially-Aided Post-Processed Kinematic (PPK)

- Post-processed tightly coupled inertial and GNSS data through Applanix POSPac MMS software
  - Computes time stamped Smoothed Best Estimate Trajectory (SBET) files through forward and reverse processing of data
- Advantages
  - Eliminates need for radio link
  - Distance from base can be extended up to 20 km using a single base
  - SmartBase solution allows for extended range from base stations
  - Improved accuracy over GPS outages from forward/backward smoothing
- Disadvantages
  - Real-time water levels not available for inshore coverage evaluation or quality control of GPS and bathymetric data
  - Range from base station is limited to 20 km for SingleBase solution
  - Potential for decreased accuracy with SmartBase solution

# SmartBASE Processing



**Coordinate Manager**

Station Information

Station ID: CHZZ

Antenna: Height: 0.079 m

Coordinate type: Method: Bottom of antenna mount

**SmartBase Quality Check Results Summary**

Here are the results from SmartBase Quality Check. The flashing icon below the results table suggests the next action.

Station	Status	Horizontal	Vertical	Total	Time Span	Output Coords
CHZZ	Control	0.000 m	0.000 m	0.000 m	47.28 h	Control
PABH	OK	0.001 m	0.001 m	0.001 m	47.28 h	Adjusted
P407	OK	0.000 m	0.000 m	0.000 m	47.28 h	Adjusted
P404	OK	0.000 m	0.001 m	0.001 m	47.28 h	Adjusted
P396	OK	0.000 m	0.000 m	0.000 m	47.28 h	Adjusted
P395	OK	0.000 m	0.000 m	0.000 m	47.28 h	Adjusted
P367	OK	0.000 m	0.001 m	0.001 m	47.28 h	Adjusted
P366	OK	0.001 m	0.001 m	0.001 m	47.28 h	Adjusted

Choose any of the available actions or click 'Continue' to proceed with the suggested action. The 'Output Coords' column contains the recommended coordinate setting for the next action.

Run the SmartBase Quality Check processor with the next best control candidate.

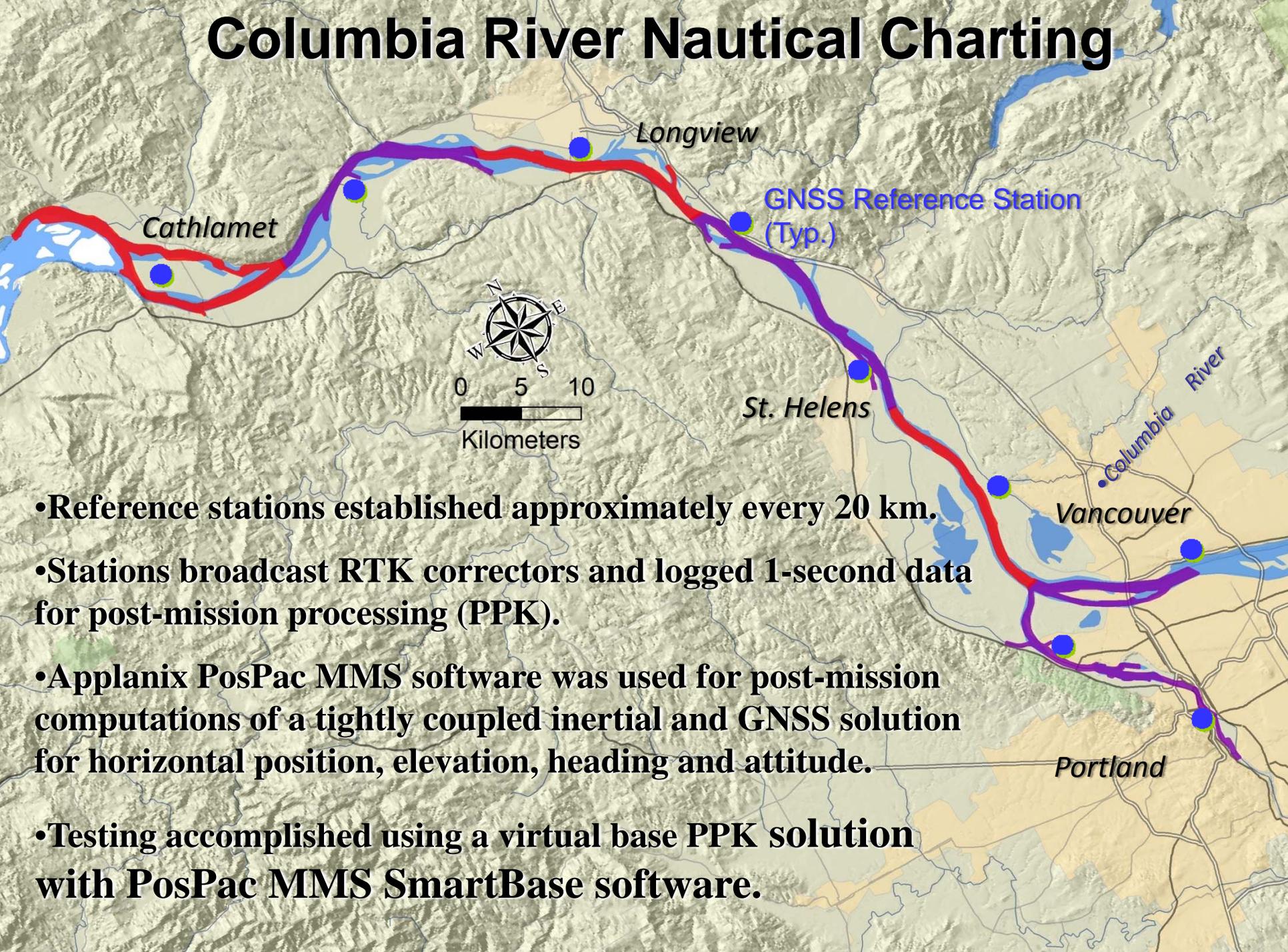
- Re-run the SmartBase Quality Check processor.
- Run the Applanix SmartBase processor.

Buttons: Continue, Close, Import Coordinates, Close

# Tightly Coupled Inertially-Aided GNSS Processing

The screenshot displays the POSpac MMS software interface for Mission 1. The main window shows a 2D plot of the mission path with stations labeled CABL, PABH, P407, CHZZ, P396, and P404. A 'GNSS-Inertial Processor Mission 1' dialog box is open, showing 'Forward processing' with 'Time Remaining: 0:09:22' and a progress bar at 6%. On the right, the 'GNSS-Inertial Processor' settings panel shows 'Mission 1', 'GNSS Mode: SmartBase', 'Base Station: ASB', and 'GAMS: Enabled'. Below this, the 'Status' panel indicates 'Alignment Status: Full Navigation' and 'Positioning Mode: Fixed NL'. The 'Message Log' panel shows a list of system messages, including '01126.002: Applixx SmartBase in use' and '01138.000: GAMS status changed to 4 (Degraded Float solution)'. At the bottom right, the status bar shows 'Snap Meter GPS 1 627800.306 m, 696954.809 m'.

# Columbia River Nautical Charting



- Reference stations established approximately every 20 km.
- Stations broadcast RTK correctors and logged 1-second data for post-mission processing (PPK).
- Applanix PosPac MMS software was used for post-mission computations of a tightly coupled inertial and GNSS solution for horizontal position, elevation, heading and attitude.
- Testing accomplished using a virtual base PPK solution with PosPac MMS SmartBase software.

# Methodology Evaluation at Water Level Gauge



0 50 100



Meters

*Willamette River*

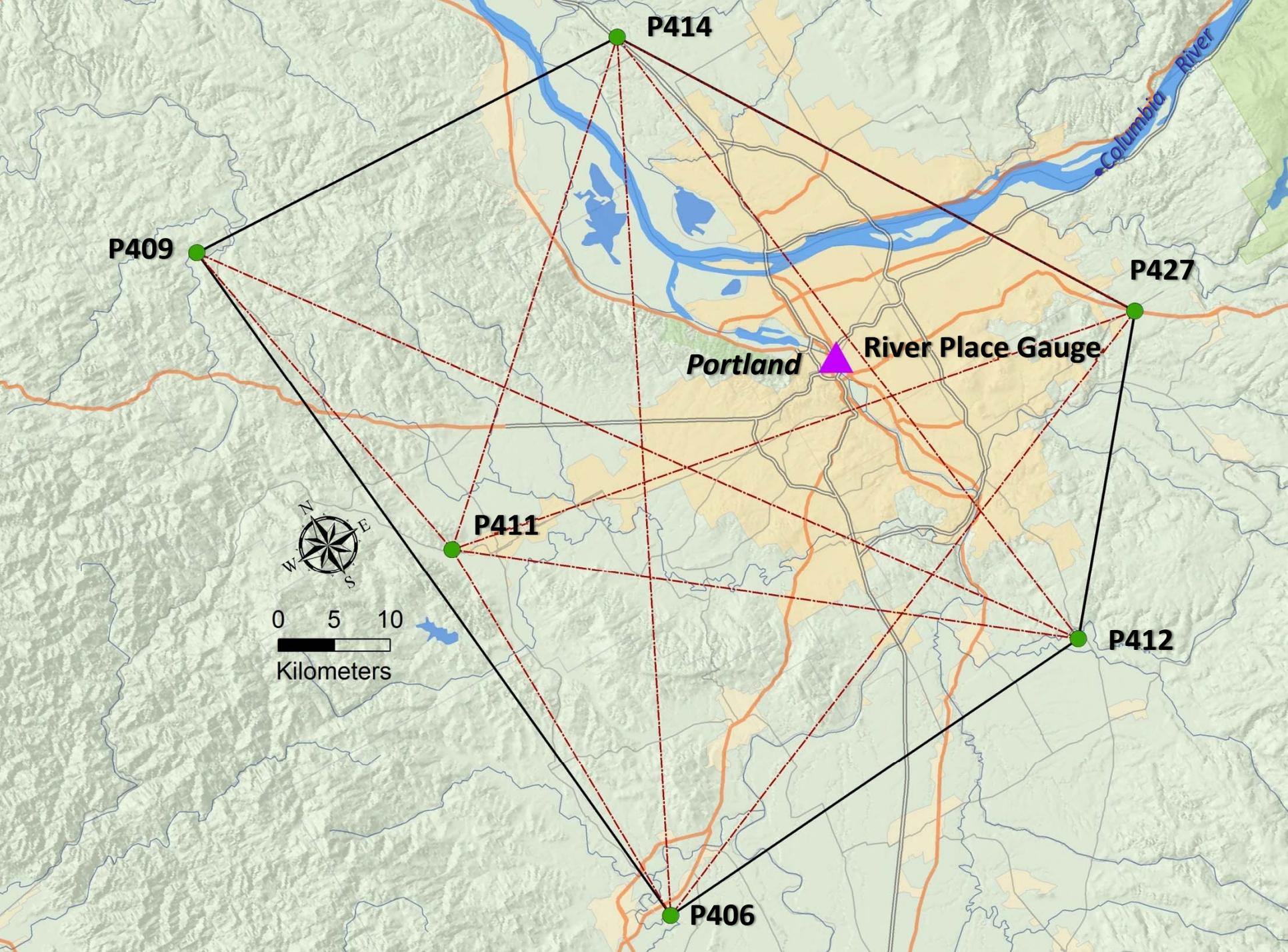


**Survey Vessel**

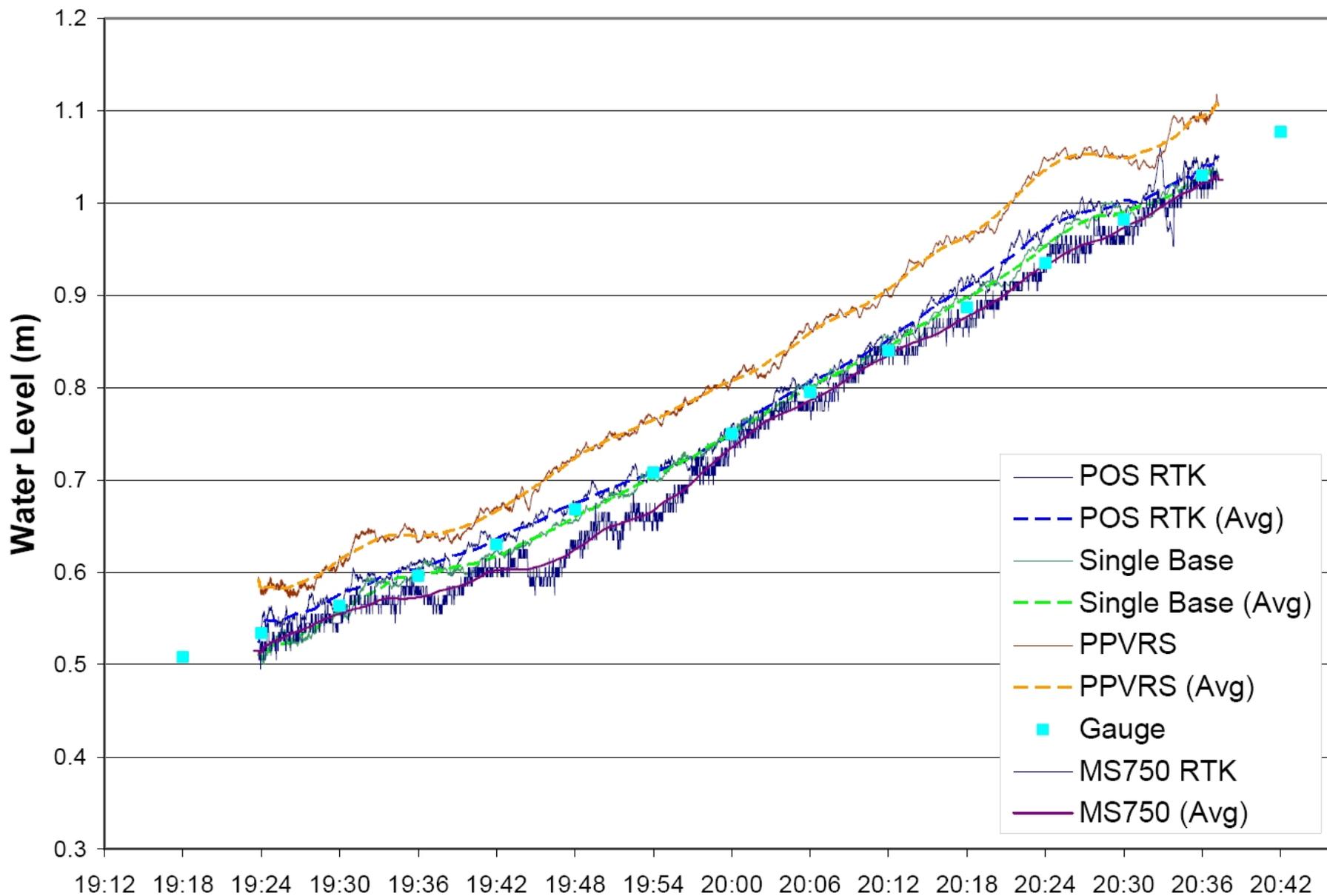
**River Place  
tide gauge**



**GPS Base Station  
on DEA roof**



# Inertially-Aided GNSS Compared to Gauge Observations

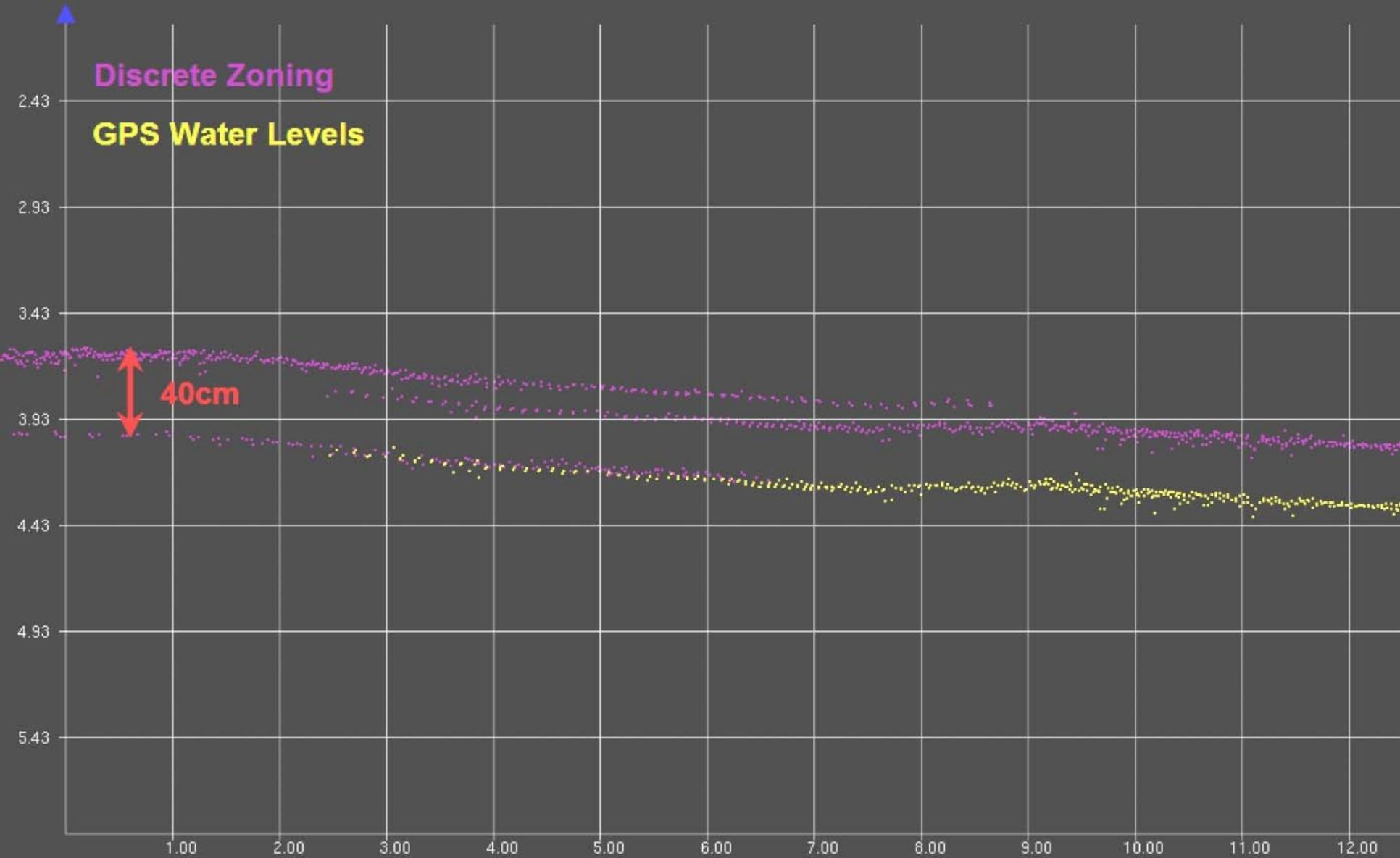


# Inertially-Aided GNSS Compared to Gauge Observations

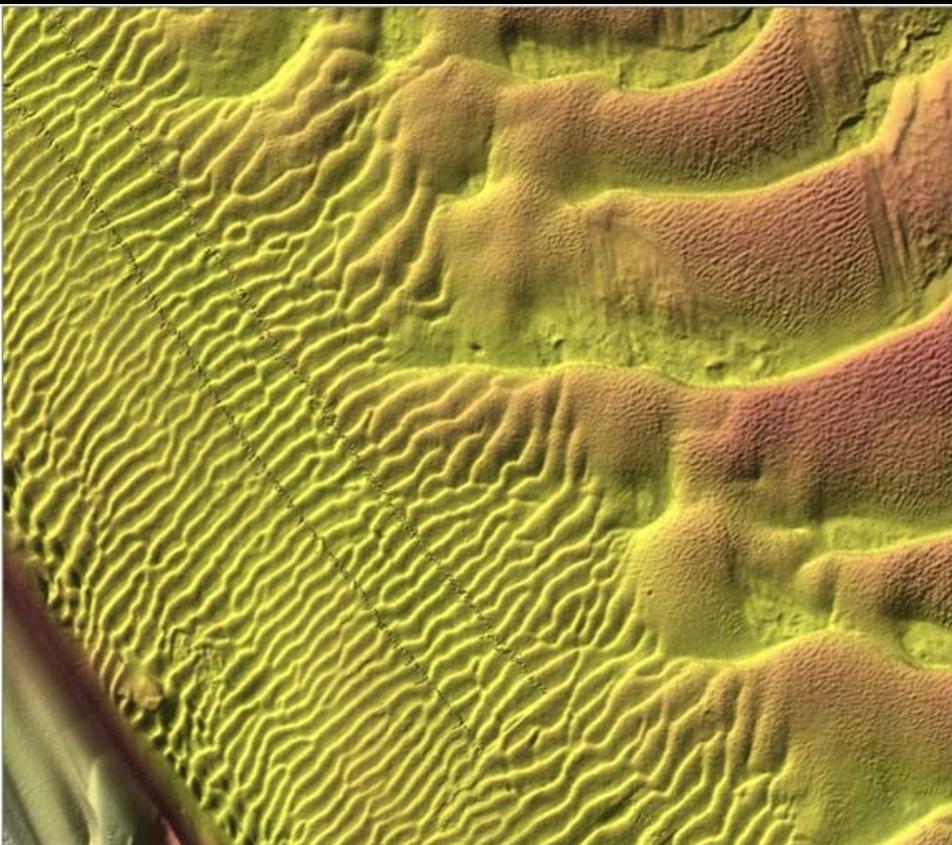
		POS RTK		POS Single Base		POS PPVRS		MS750	
	Gauge	Average	<i>Delta</i>	Average	<i>Delta</i>	Average	<i>Delta</i>	Average	<i>Delta</i>
19:24	0.534	0.541	-0.007	0.508	0.026	0.582	-0.048	0.514	0.020
19:30	0.564	0.576	-0.012	0.557	0.007	0.614	-0.050	0.555	0.009
19:36	0.596	0.604	-0.008	0.597	-0.001	0.639	-0.043	0.573	0.023
19:42	0.630	0.636	-0.006	0.617	0.013	0.666	-0.036	0.602	0.028
19:48	0.668	0.675	-0.007	0.660	0.008	0.724	-0.056	0.625	0.043
19:54	0.708	0.708	0.000	0.704	0.004	0.765	-0.057	0.667	0.041
20:00	0.750	0.751	-0.001	0.750	0.000	0.807	-0.057	0.735	0.015
20:06	0.795	0.807	-0.012	0.801	-0.006	0.860	-0.065	0.786	0.009
20:12	0.840	0.852	-0.012	0.845	-0.005	0.907	-0.067	0.835	0.005
20:18	0.887	0.909	-0.022	0.898	-0.011	0.965	-0.078	0.877	0.010
20:24	0.935	0.973	-0.038	0.954	-0.019	1.036	-0.101	0.933	0.002
20:30	0.982	1.003	-0.021	0.990	-0.008	1.049	-0.067	0.974	0.008
20:36	1.030	1.041	-0.011	1.029	0.001	1.094	-0.064	1.021	0.009
		<b>Mean</b>	<b>-0.012</b>		<b>0.001</b>		<b>-0.061</b>		<b>0.017</b>
		<b>Median</b>	<b>-0.011</b>		<b>0.000</b>		<b>-0.057</b>		<b>0.010</b>
		<b>Std Dev</b>	<b>0.010</b>		<b>0.011</b>		<b>0.017</b>		<b>0.013</b>

*all values in meters*

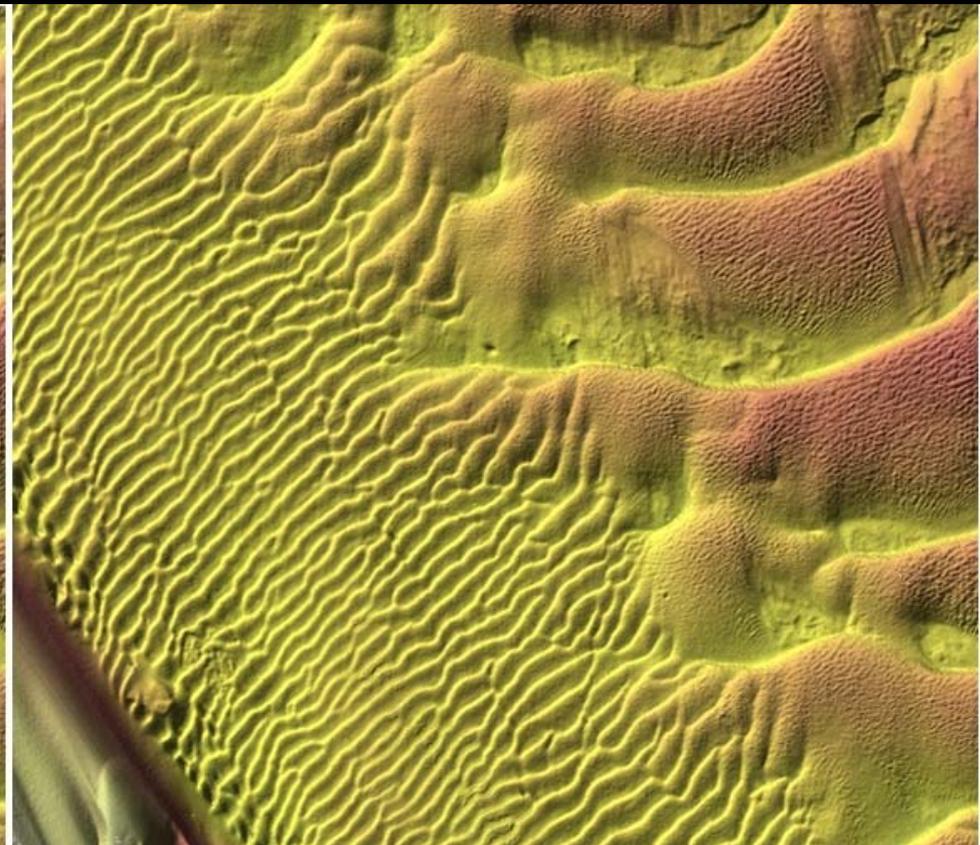
# Discontinuities in Application of Discrete Zoning



# Discontinuities in Discrete Zoning vs. GNSS



**Zoned Tides**



**Inertially-Aided GNSS Tides**

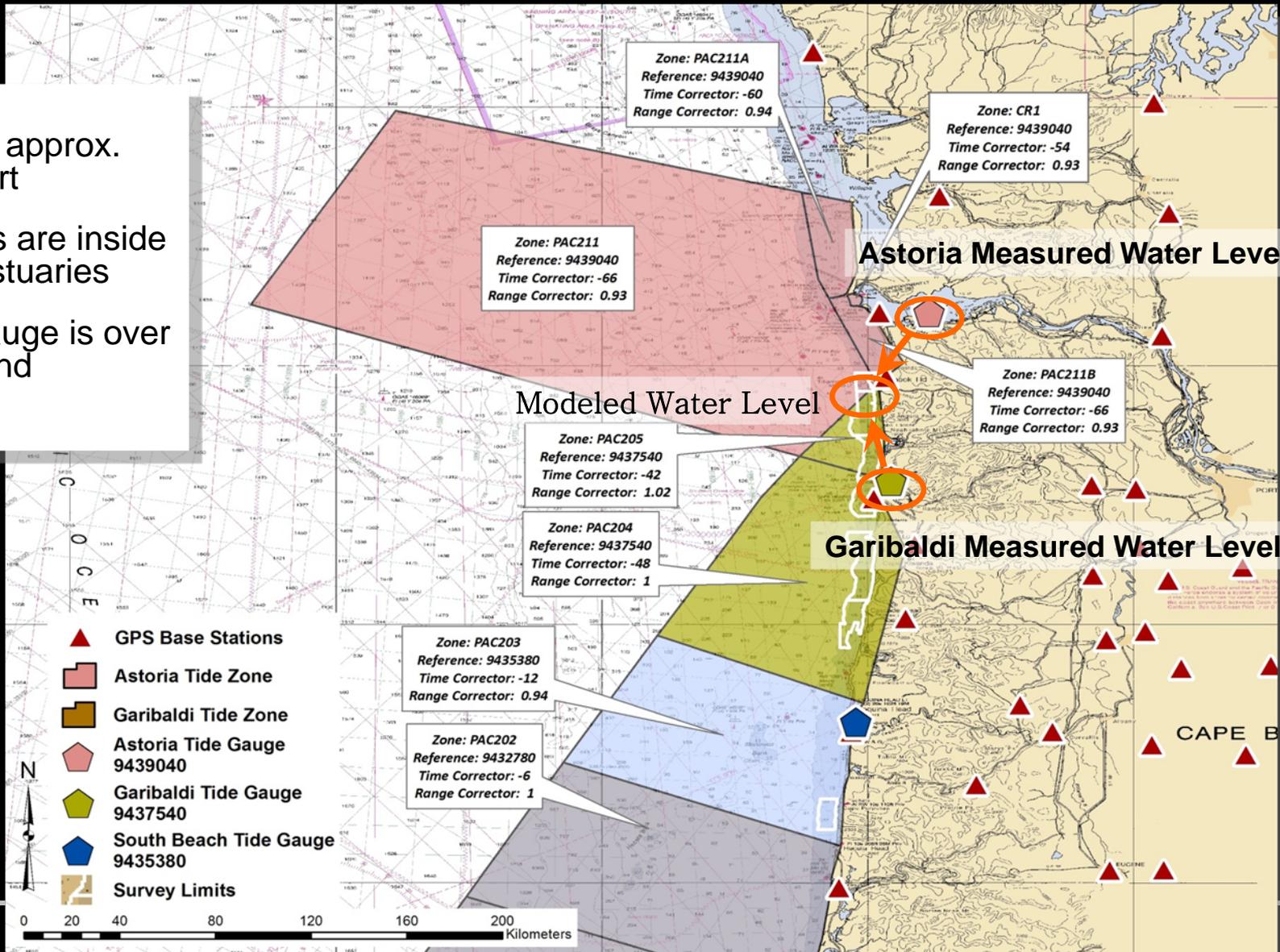


# Approach to Oregon Coast Water Levels for Charting

- Application of inertially-aided GNSS derived water levels.
- MLLW modeled relative to NAD83 Ellipsoid heights using VDatum and GEOID 03.
- Utilized an Applanix SmartBASE solution from existing NGS CORS and SOPAC GPS reference stations.
- Verified methodology by logged GNSS derived water levels at South Beach NWLON site for comparison.
- Compared GNSS water levels relative to zoned water levels from NOAA Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS) gauging stations.

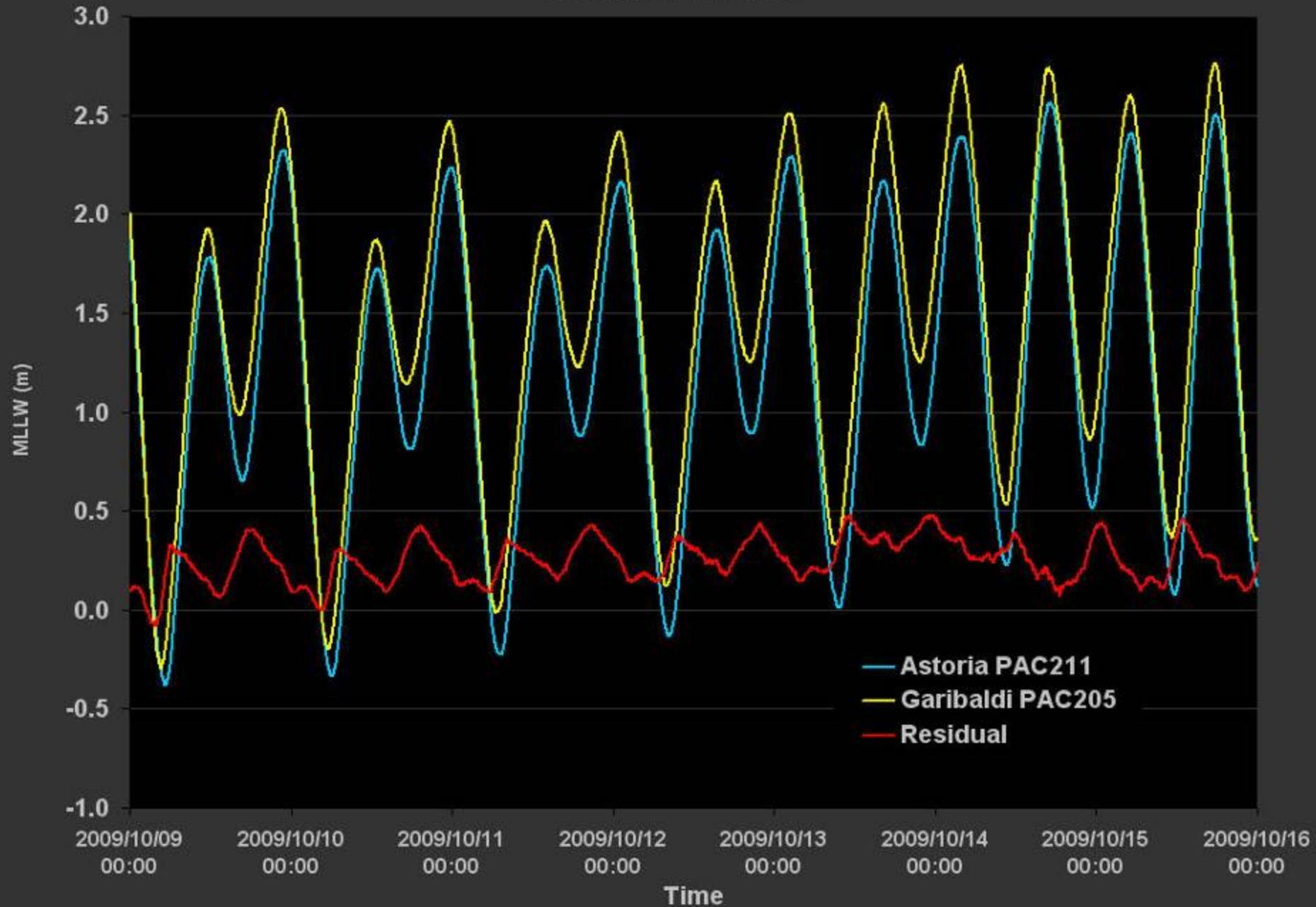
# Traditional Tide Zones & Gauges

- 3 Gauges approx. 50km apart
- All gauges are inside bays or estuaries
- Astoria gauge is over 30km inland



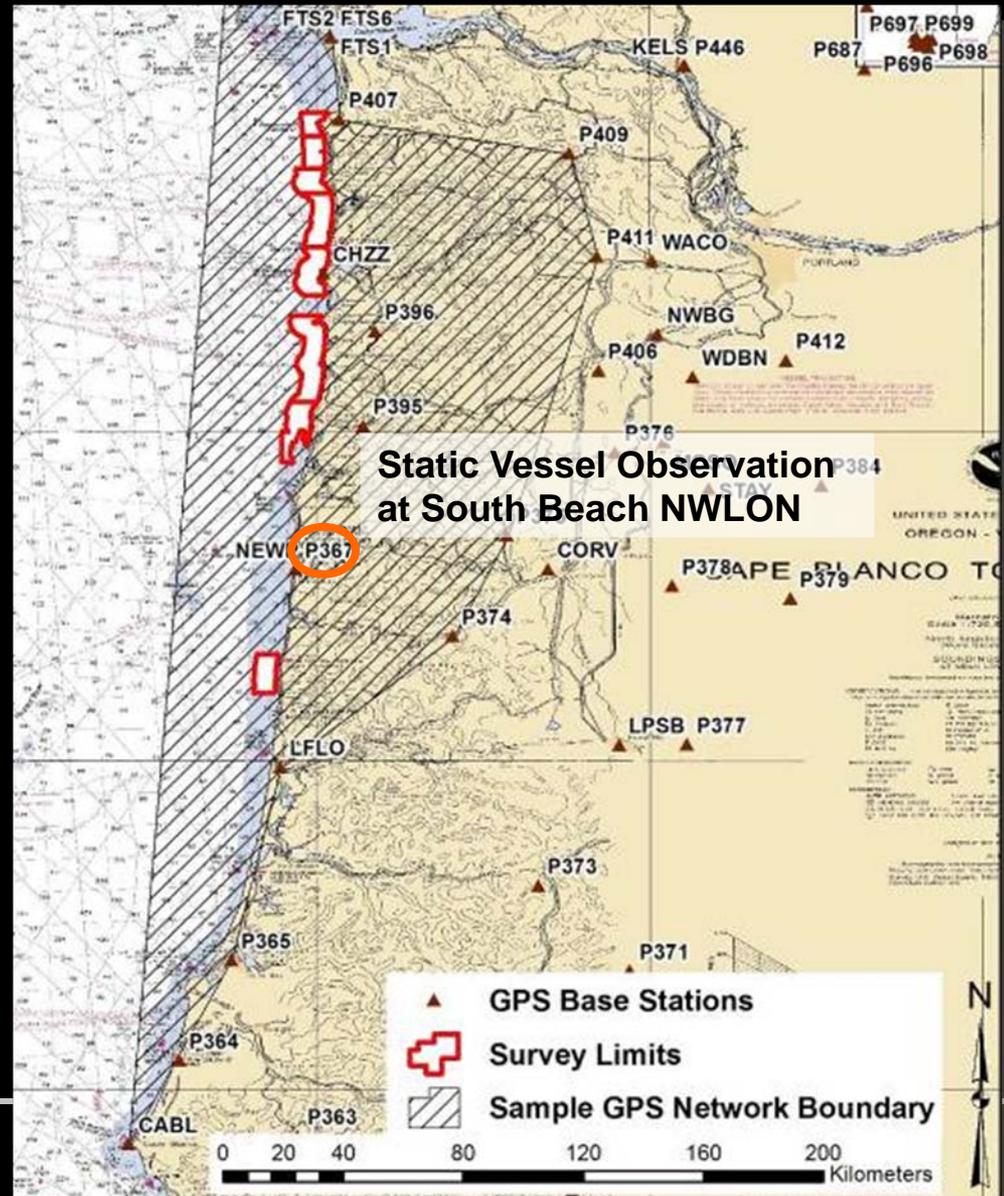
# Oregon Coast Comparison of Zoned Tides

October 9-17, 2009



# GPS Stations & Network Boundary

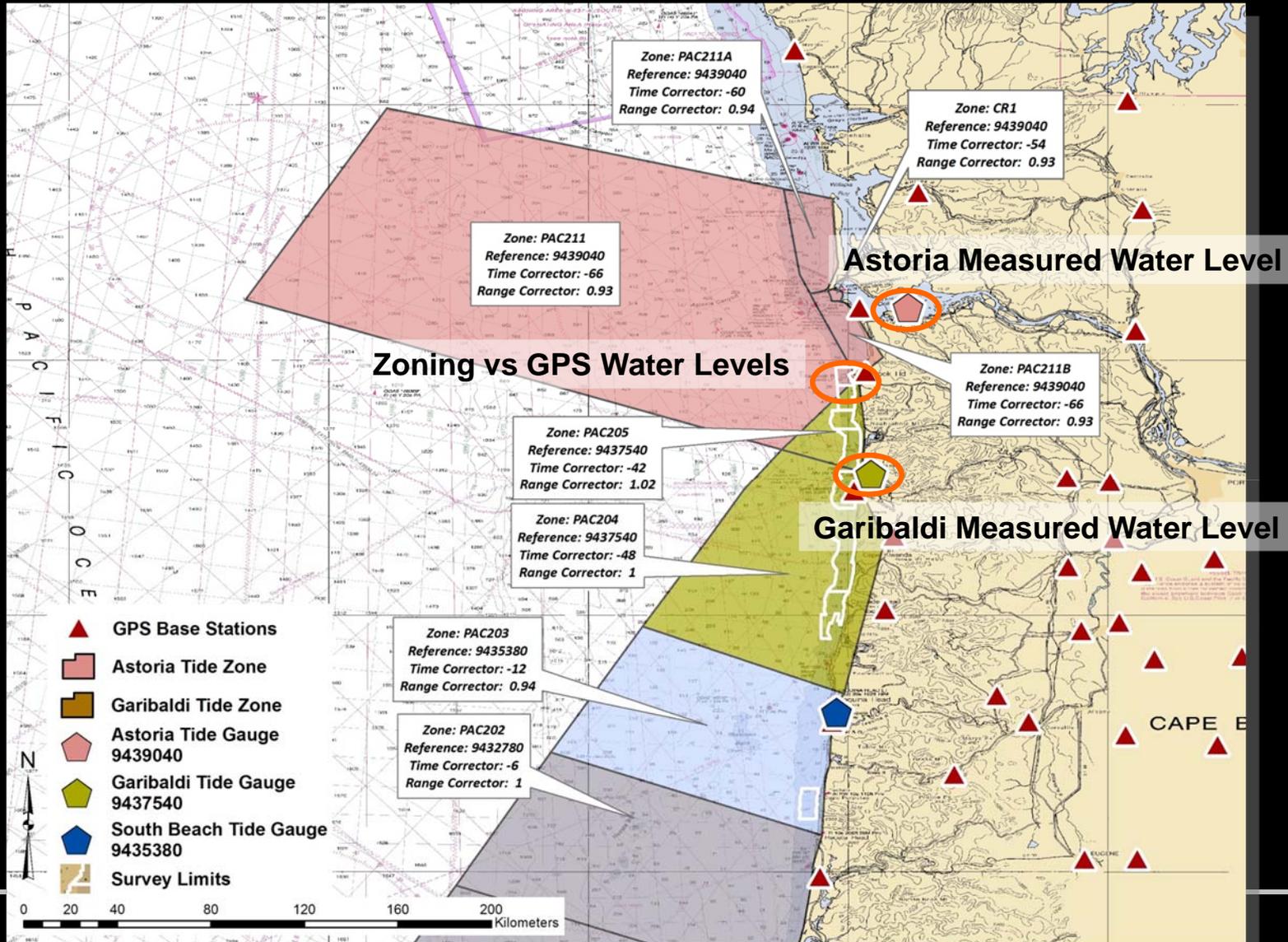
- Continuously Operating Reference Stations
  - NGS CORS
  - SOPAC
  - Precise Ephemeris
- Applanix SmartBASE
  - Average of 10 Base Stations per Sheet
- Modified VDATUM Bin File Applied in CARIS
  - NAD83 to MLLW
  - GEOID 03



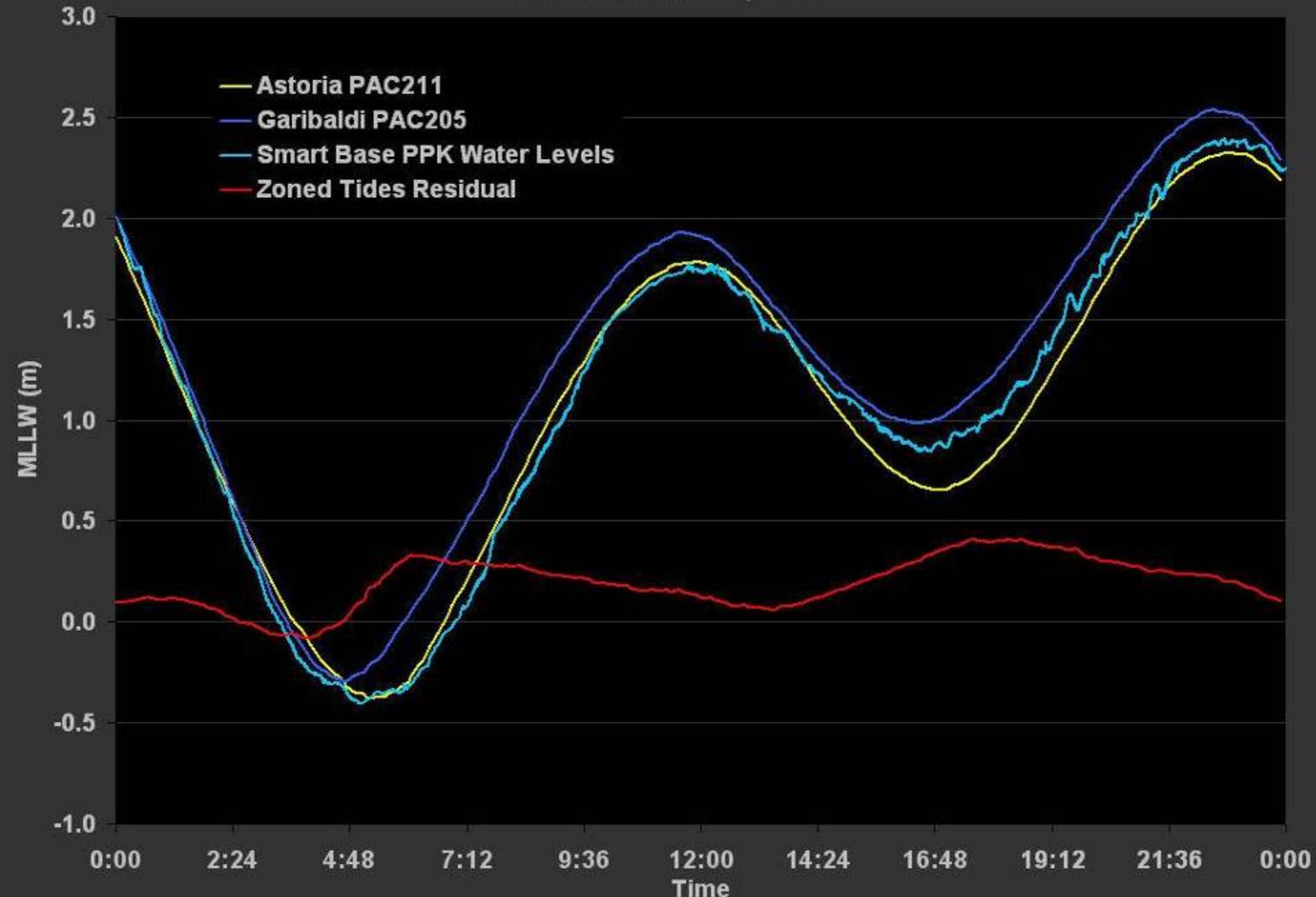
# R/V Pacific Storm Float Observation at South Beach, OR NWLON Station



# Traditional Tide Zones & Gauges Compared to VDatum and GPS



Oregon Coast Comparison of Zoned Tides and GPS Water Levels  
DN282 - October 9, 2009



# H12124 Test Area used for Comparison

- **Tides**

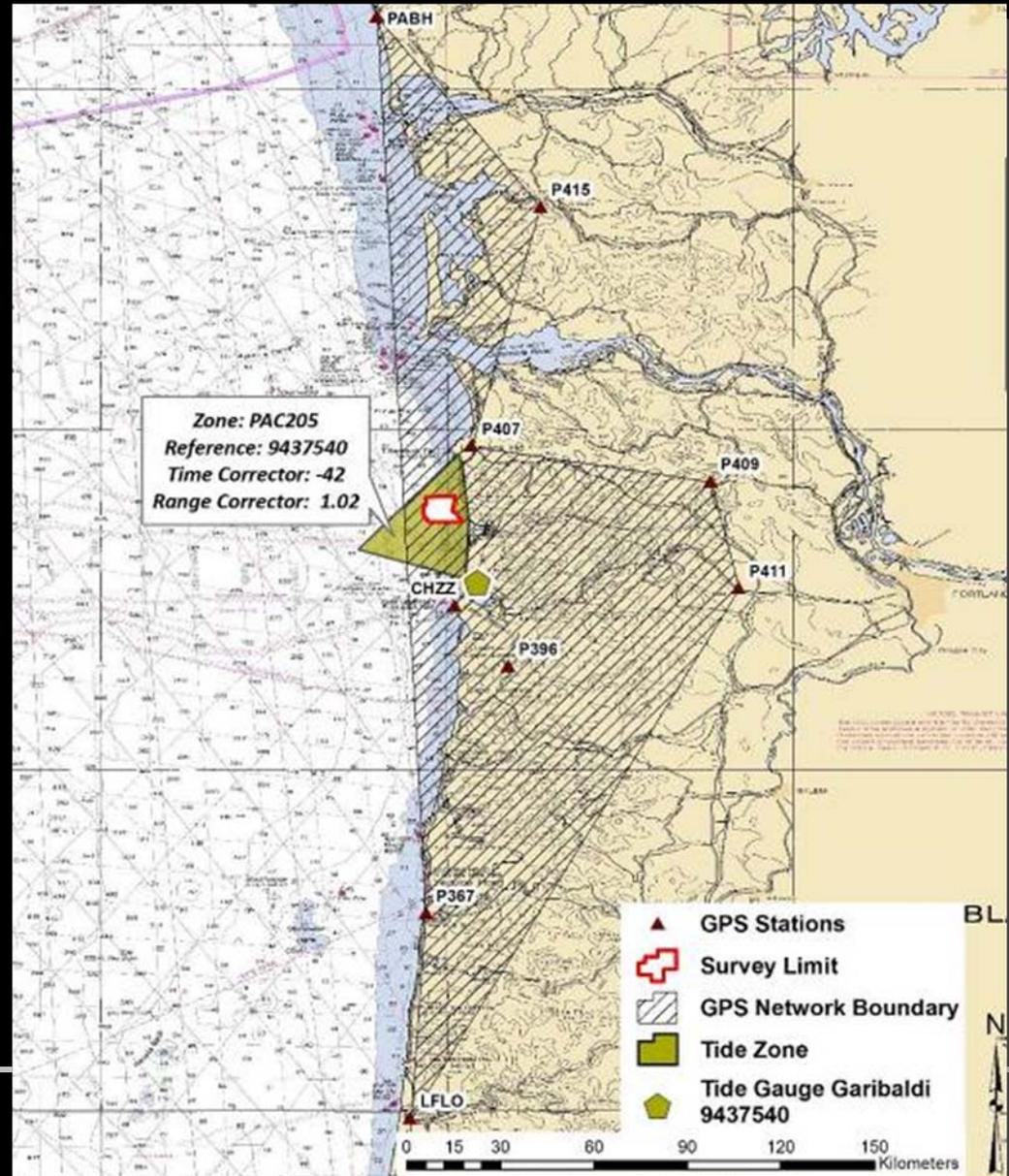
- One Tide Gauge
- One Tide Zone
- Verified Tides Used

- **GPS**

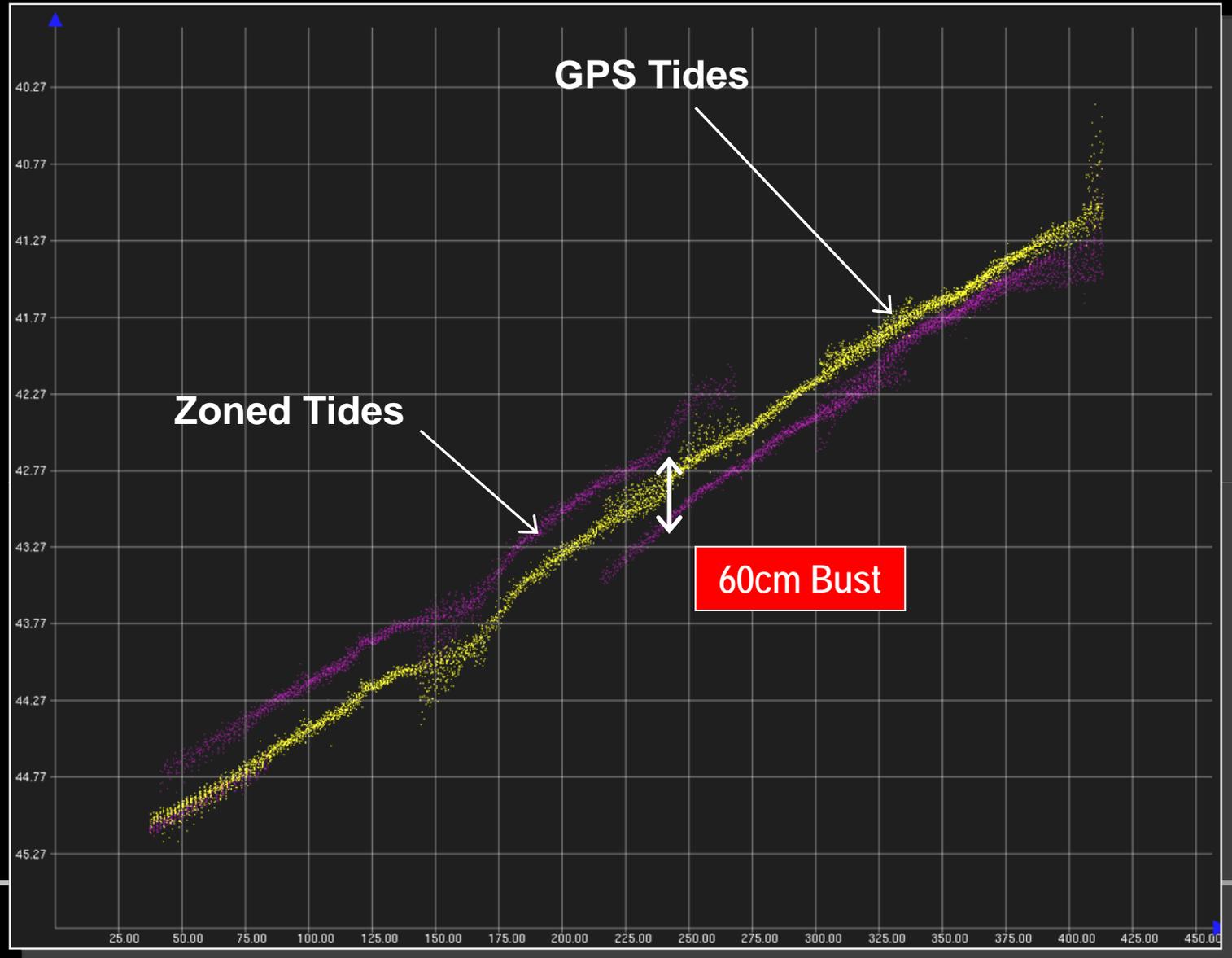
- 9 GPS Base Stations
- Applanix SmartBASE
- VDatum from NAD83 (GEOID 03) to MLLW applied in CARIS

- **Multibeam Data**

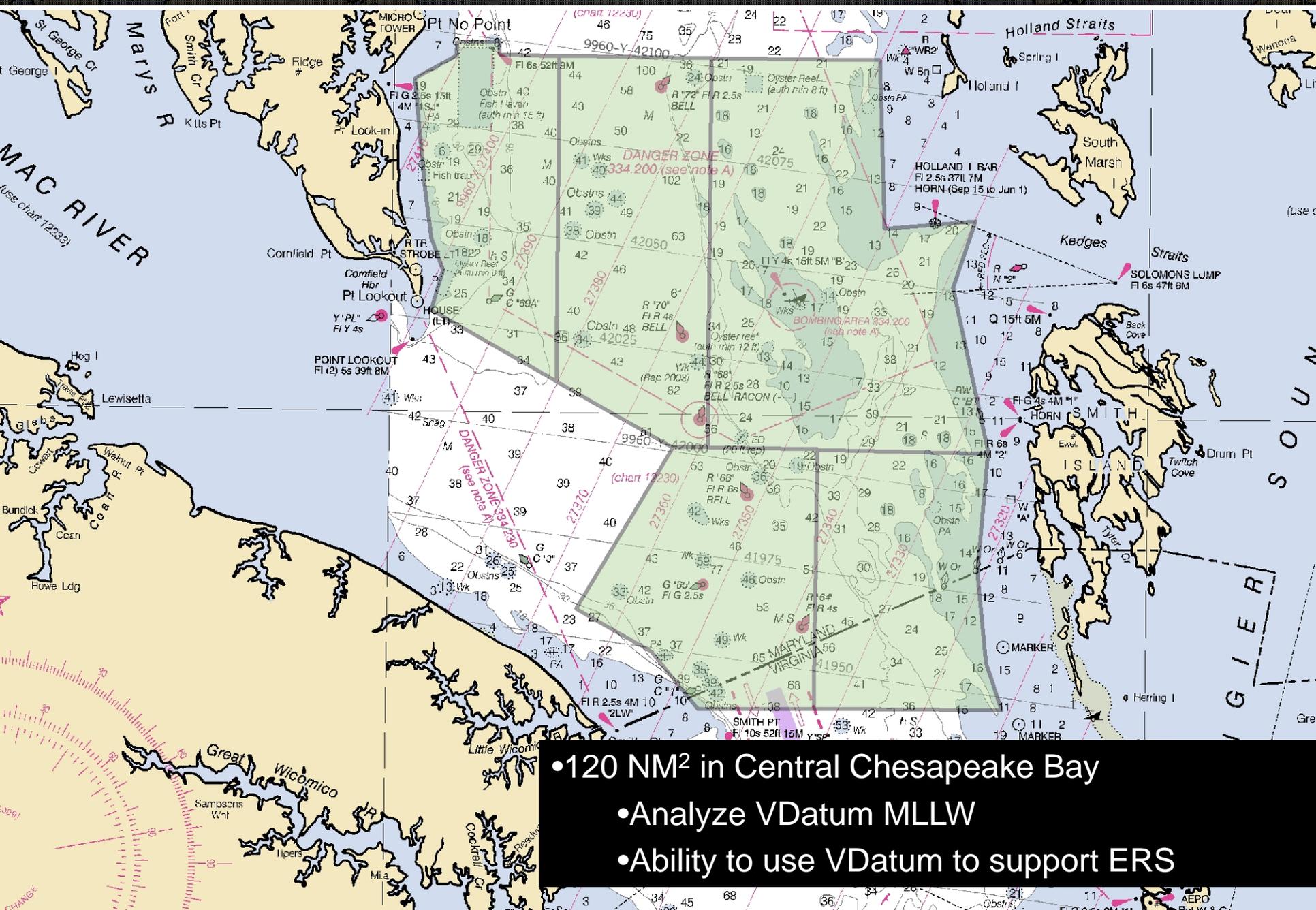
- Collected over 5 days
- 24 hour ops



# Comparison of Zoned Tides to Inertially-Aided GNSS



# Chesapeake Bay 2010 Nautical Charting Survey



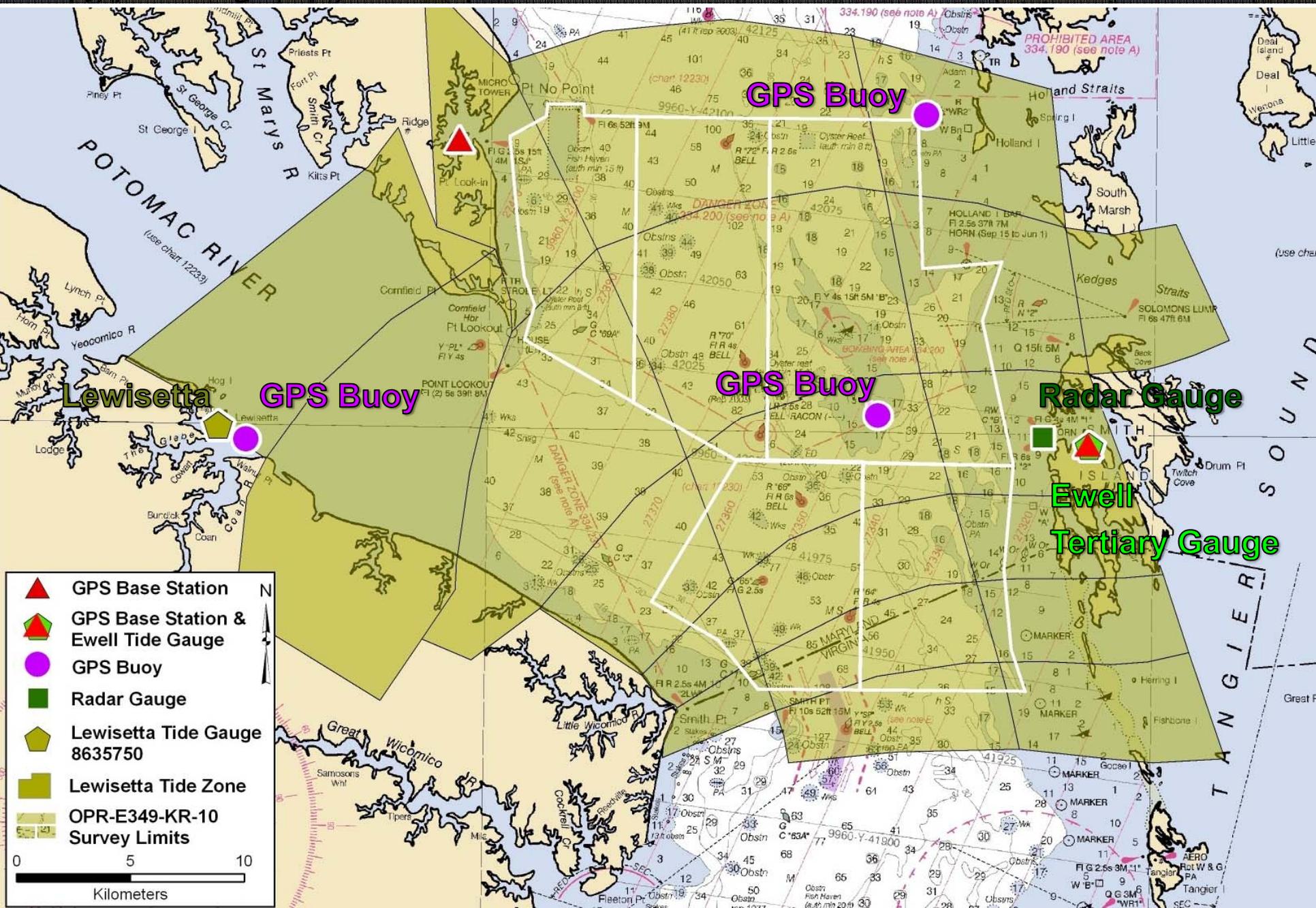
- 120 NM<sup>2</sup> in Central Chesapeake Bay
- Analyze VDatum MLLW
- Ability to use VDatum to support ERS

# GNSS Network for Chesapeake Bay

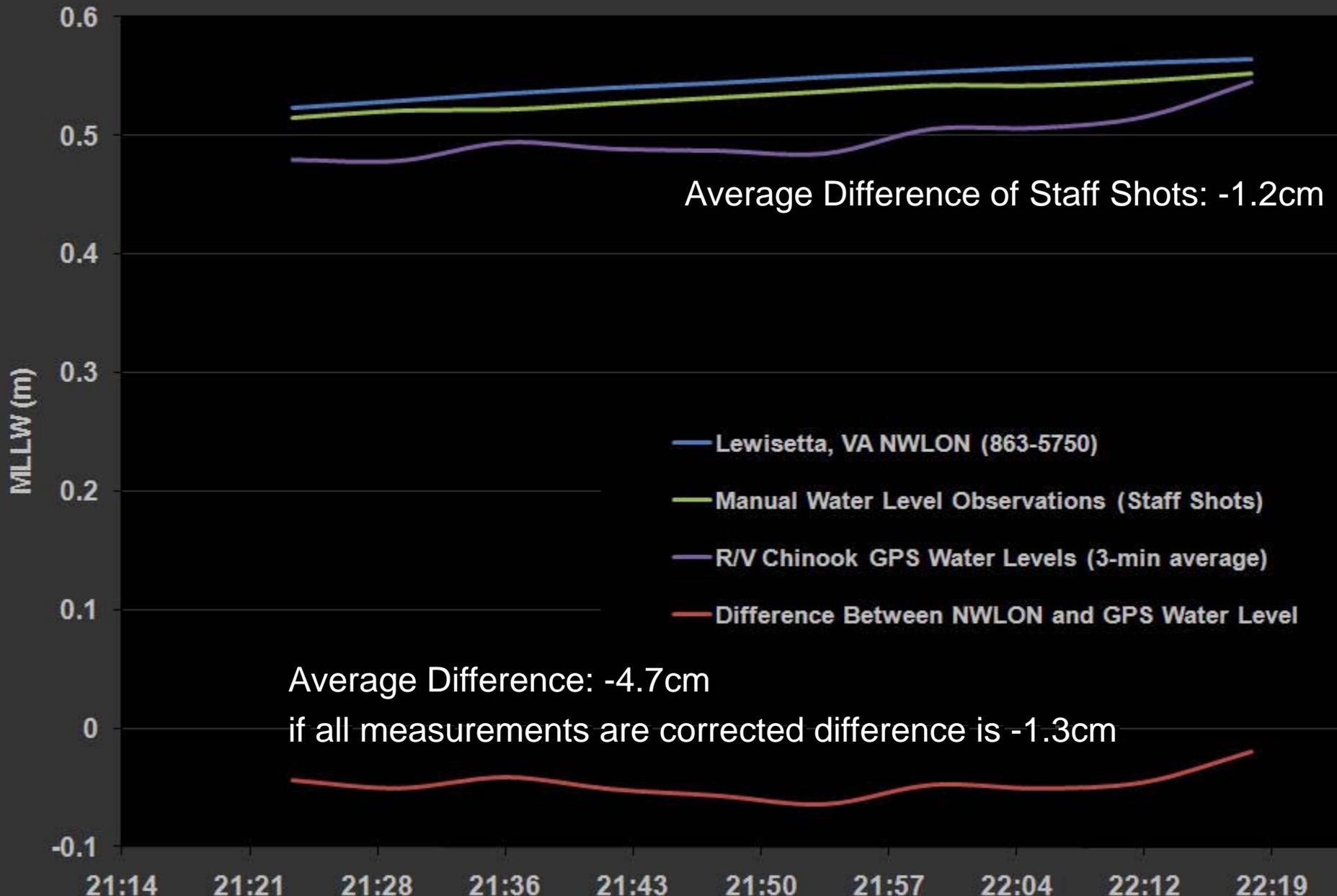
- NGS CORS
- Installed 2 additional sites
  - Trimble Net-R5 GNSS dual frequency receivers
- Enabled post processing of GNSS data using Applanix POSPac SingleBase solution
- Backup network of cooperative CORS stations for Applanix POSPac SmartBase solution



# MLLW VDatum Evaluation



*Lewisetta Water Level Observation Comparison*  
August 31, 2010

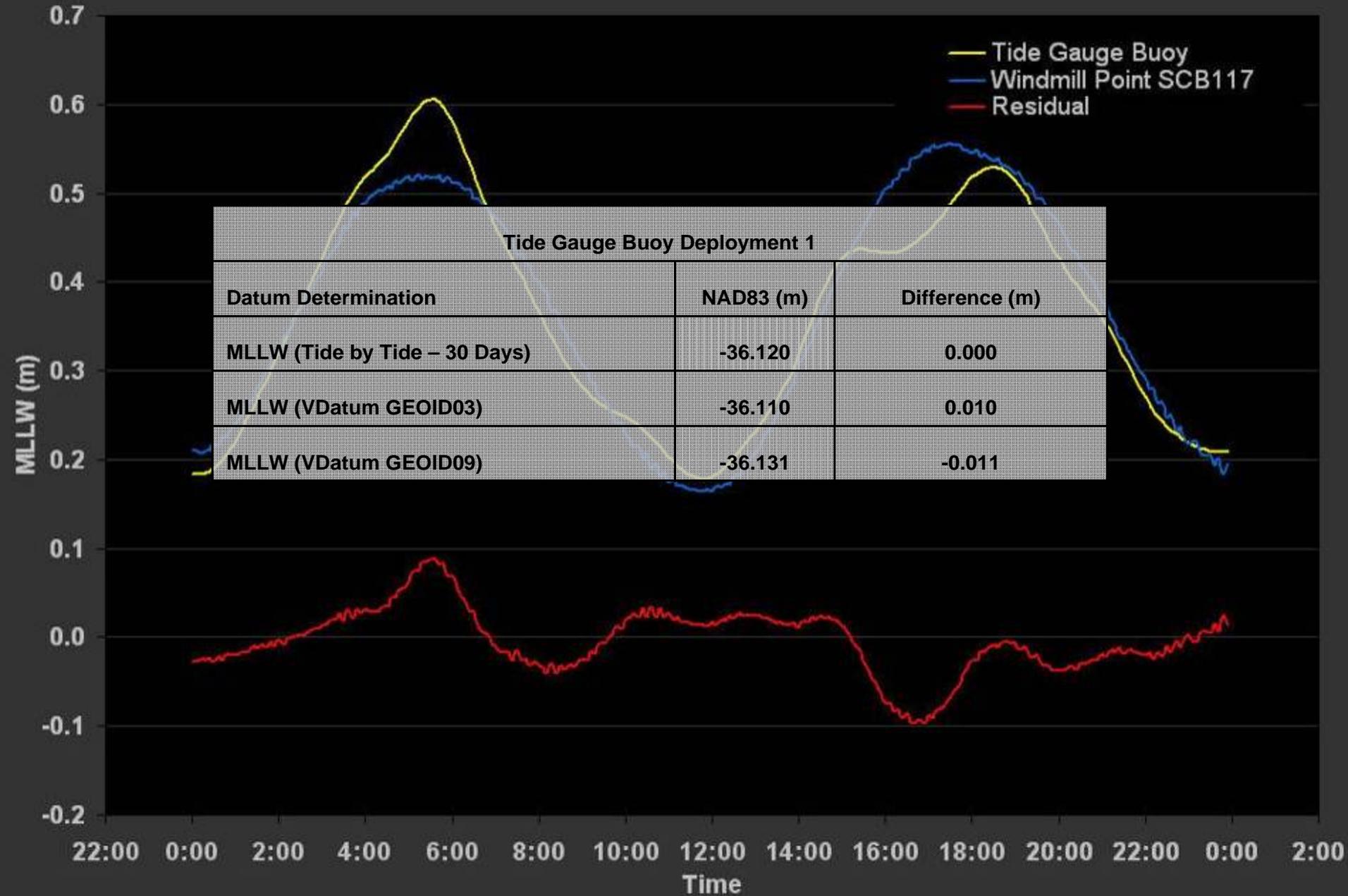


# GPS Tide Buoy

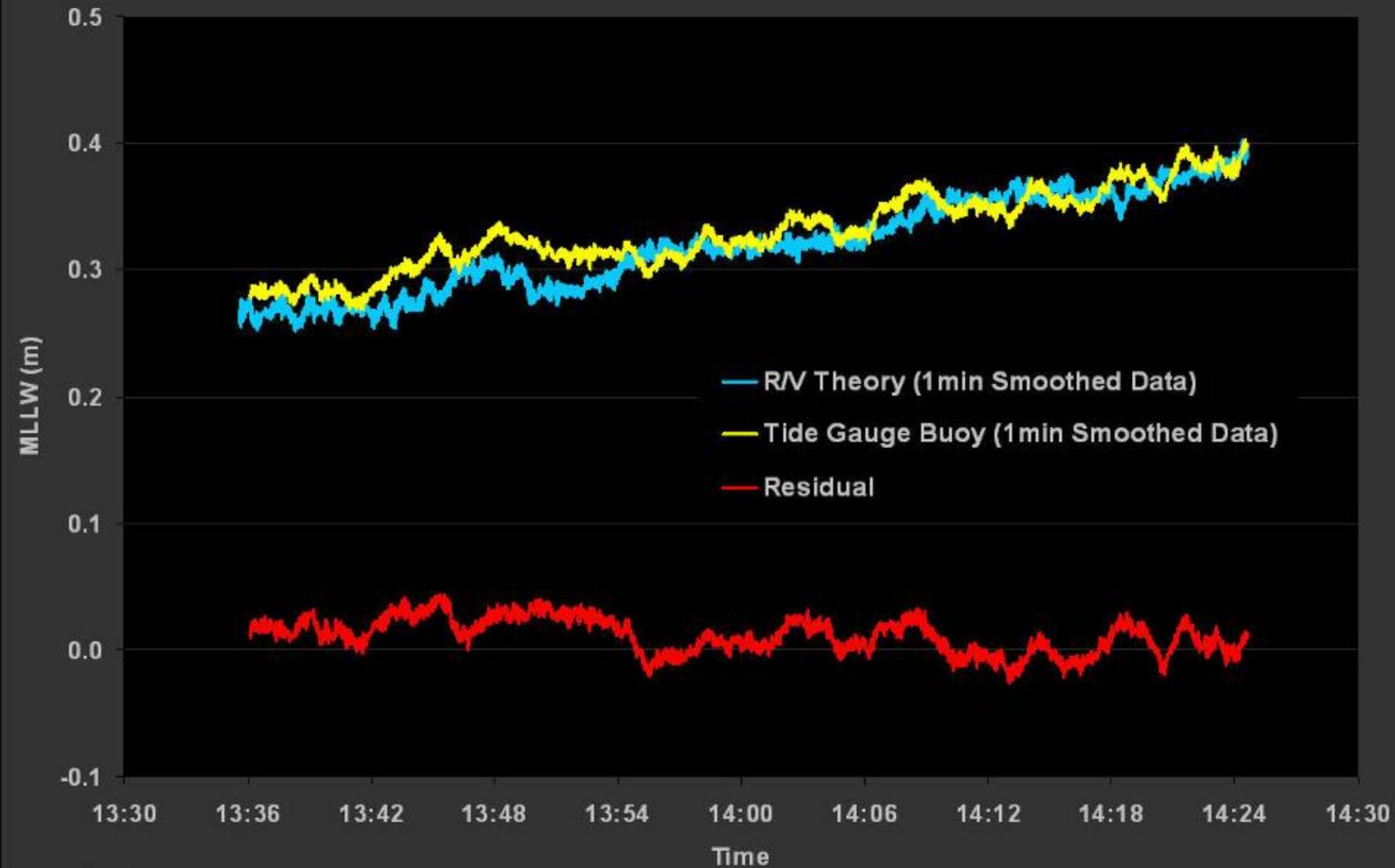
- AXYS Technologies Hydro Level Mini GPS Buoy
- Deployed in 3 locations bracketing survey area
- Deployment 1 at Lewisetta NWLON as system check
- 30 day datums computed relative to NAD83



# Difference Between Tide Gauge Buoy and Windmill Point SCB117 DN249 - September 6, 2009



# Difference Between GPS Buoy and R/V Theory Tide Float DN233 - August 21, 2009

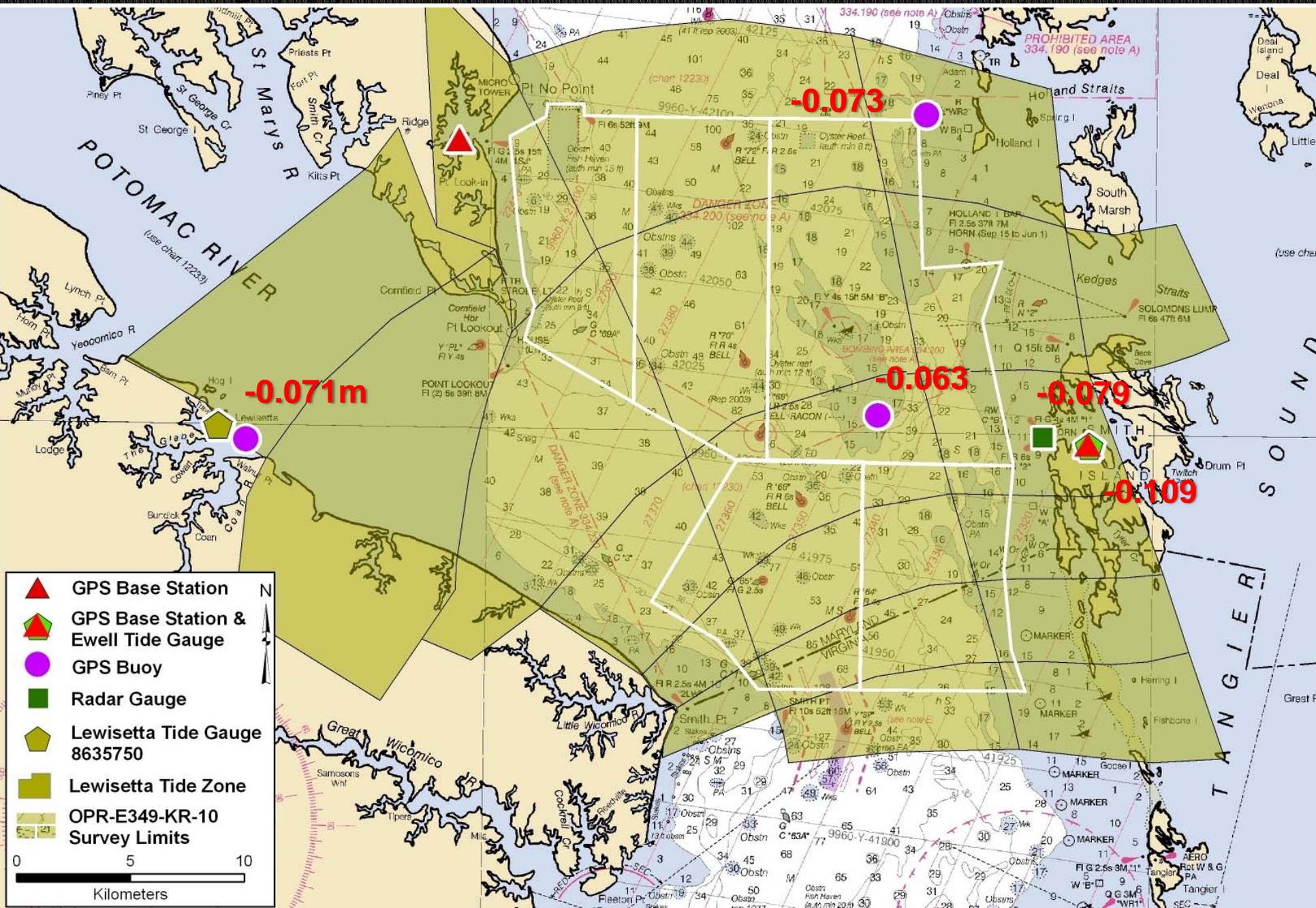


# Radar Gauge

- Installed on USCG Light west of Smith Island
- DAA Waterlog H3611
- Deployed for 90 day datum
- Ellipsoid height determined by GNSS

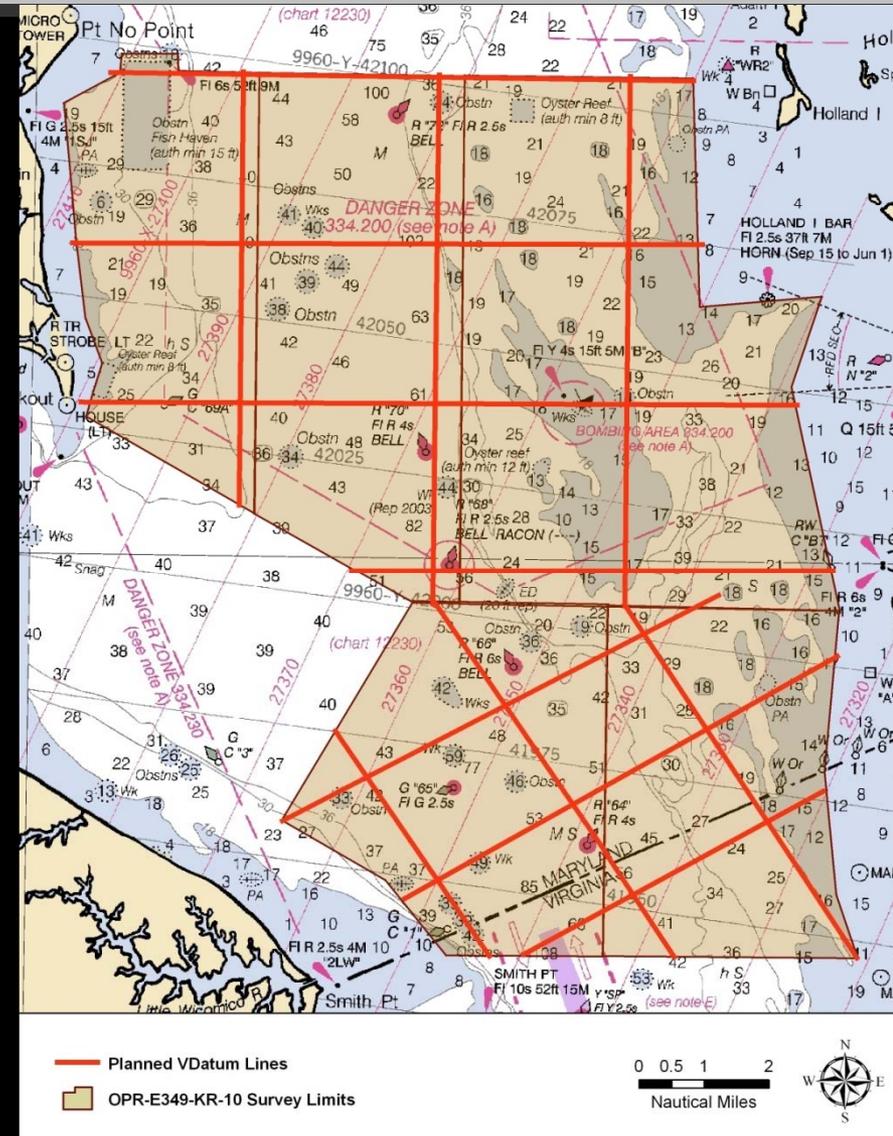


# VDatum Differences



# VDatum Test Lines

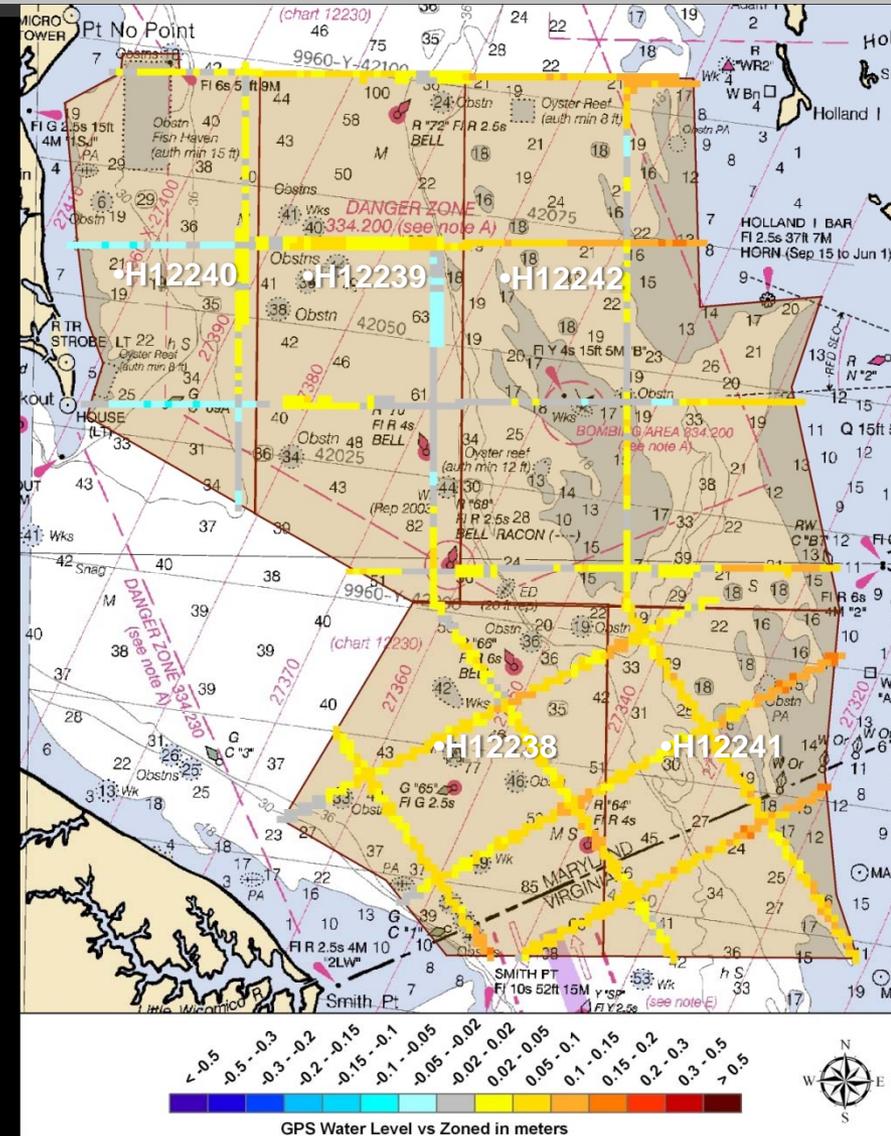
- Predetermined test lines
- Followed the slope of the geoid
- Followed the largest tide zoning range and phase correctors



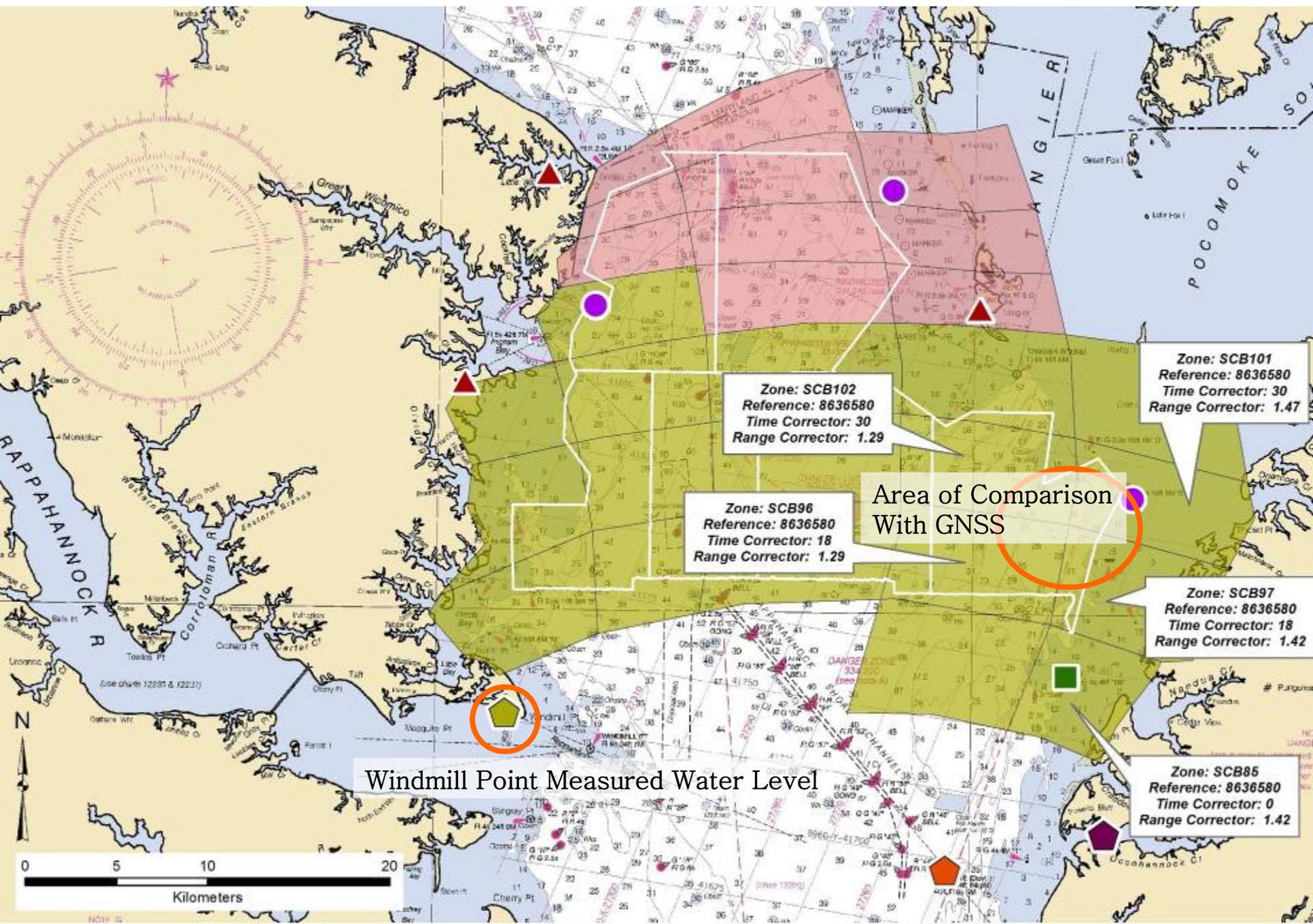
# Analysis of VDatum Test Lines

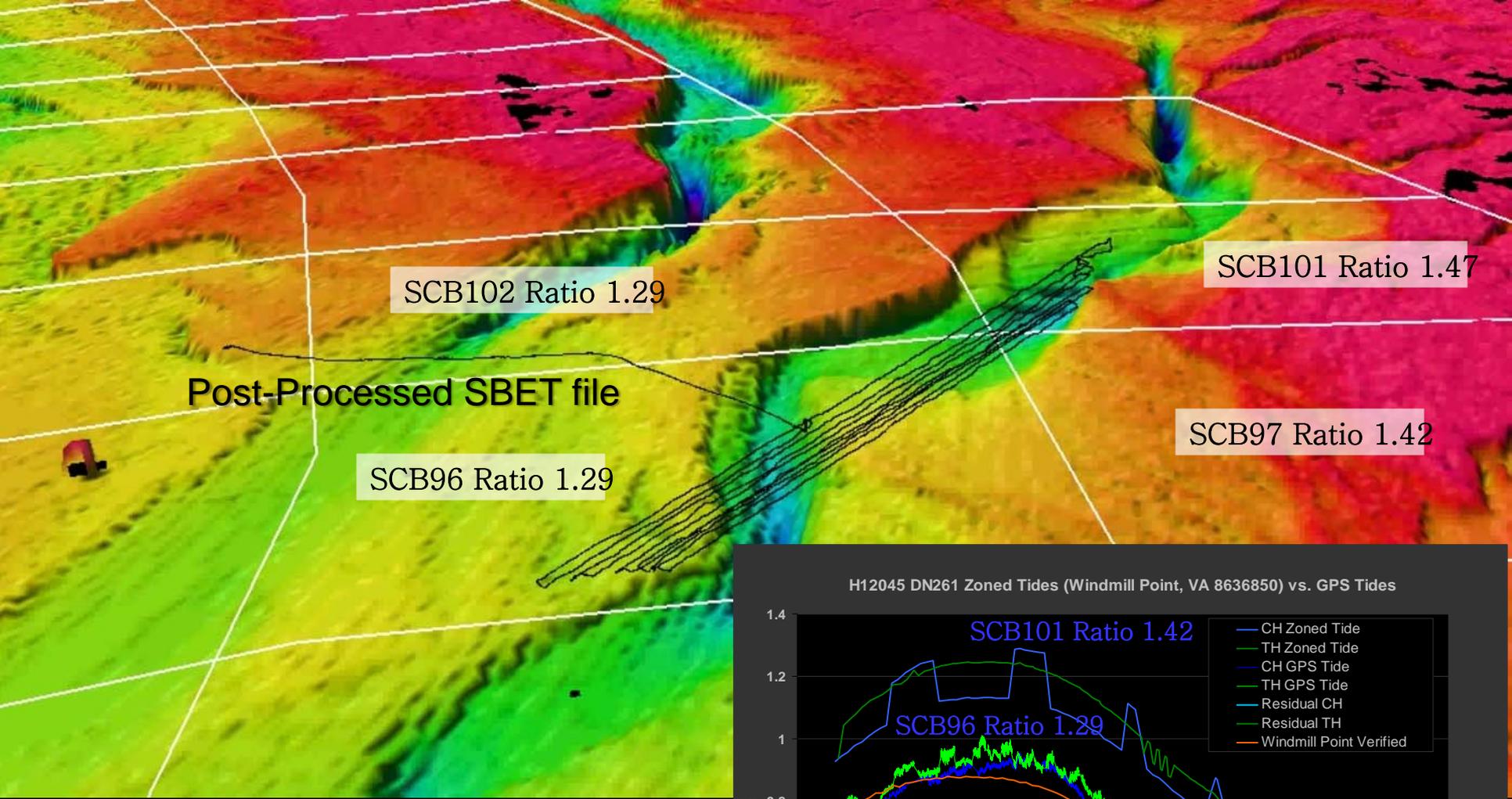
Survey	Minimum (m)	Maximum (m)	Mean (m)	Median (m)	Standard Deviation (m)
H12238	-0.030	0.180	0.062	0.060	0.032
H12239	-0.100	0.100	0.025	0.030	0.030
H12240	-0.110	0.100	0.002	0.010	0.033
H12241	-0.010	0.180	0.076	0.070	0.031
H12242	-0.090	0.180	0.050	0.040	0.047

- zoned tide greater than GPS water level
- zoned tide less than the GPS water level

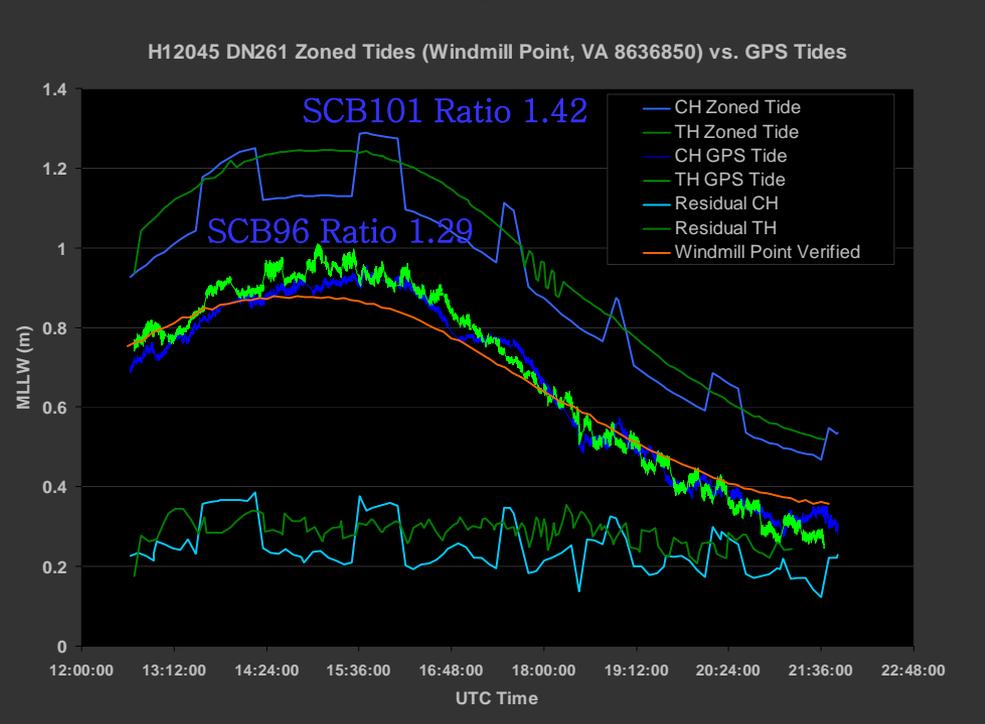


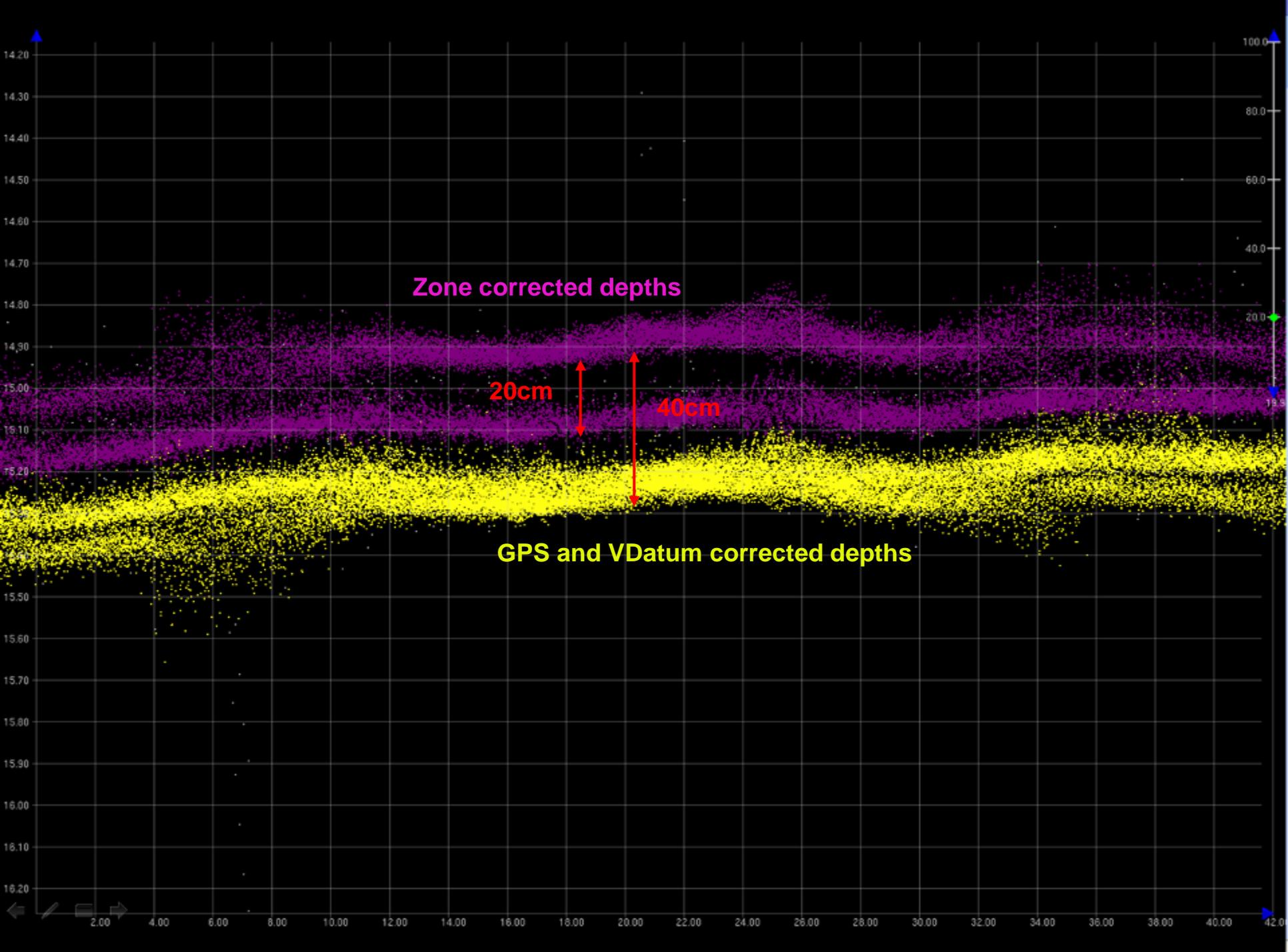
# Zoned Tides Vs. Vessel Inertially-Aided GNSS Measured Tides



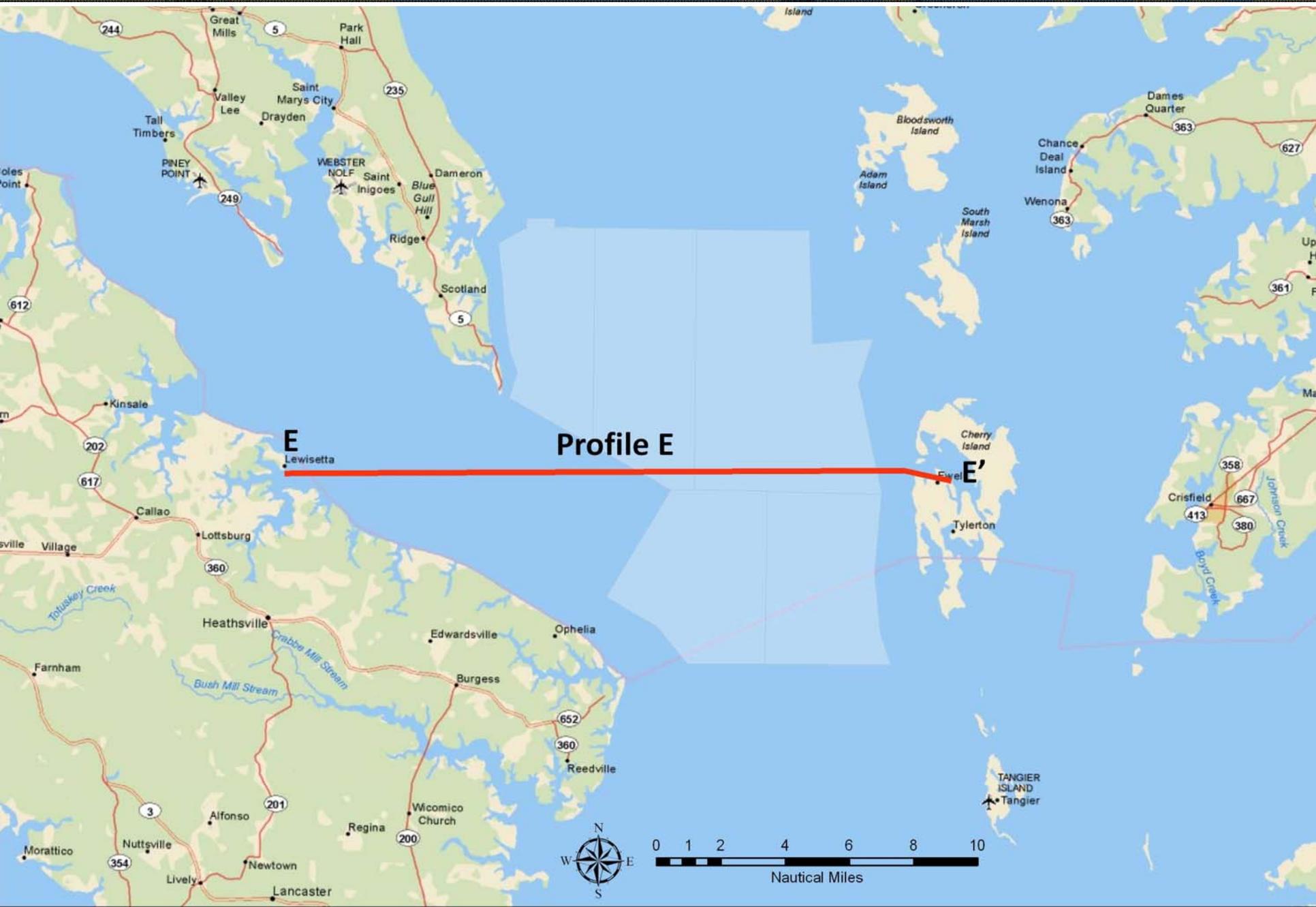


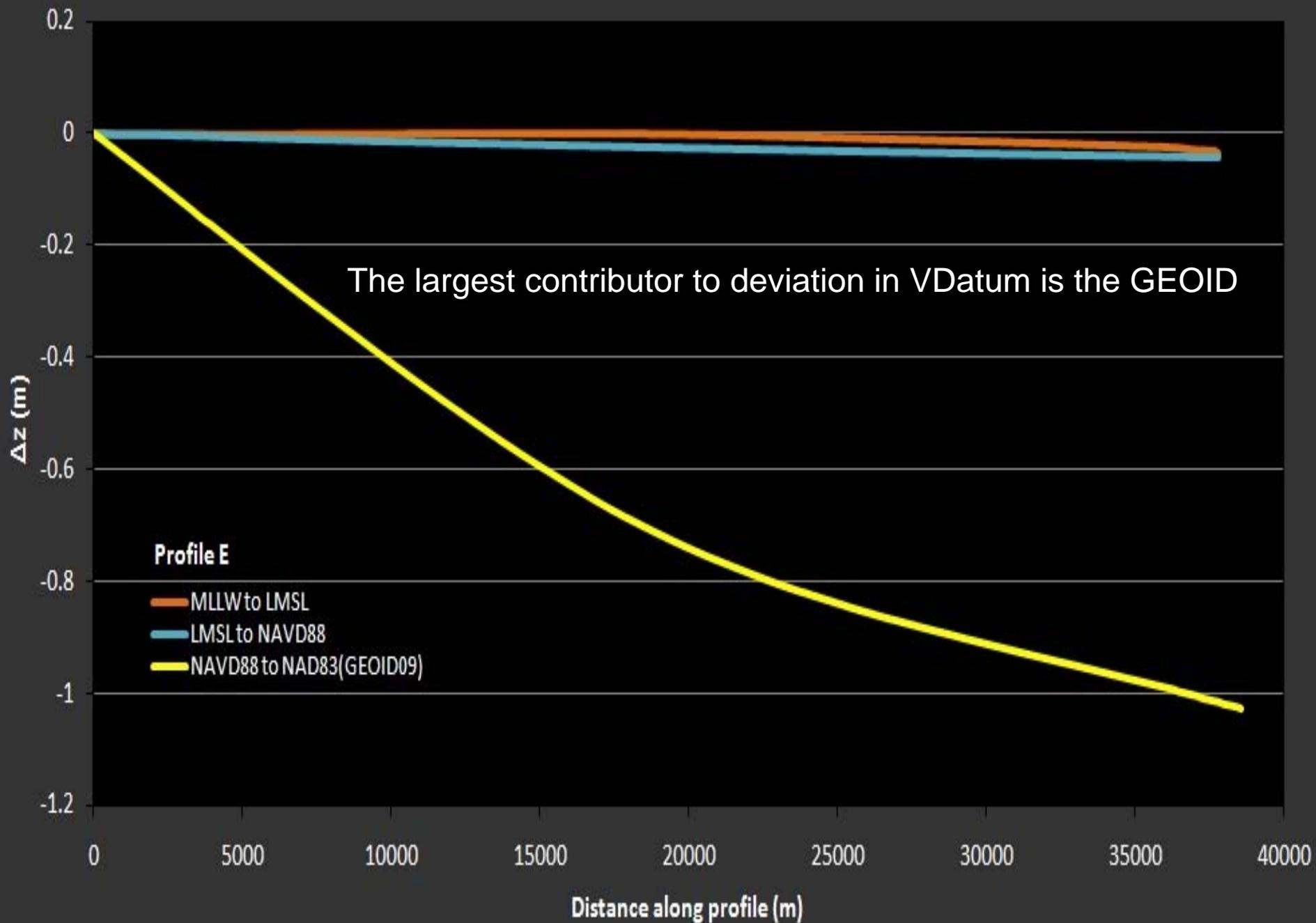
Zoned tides jump 18 cm between SCB 96 and SCB 101 at 1 meter tide level.



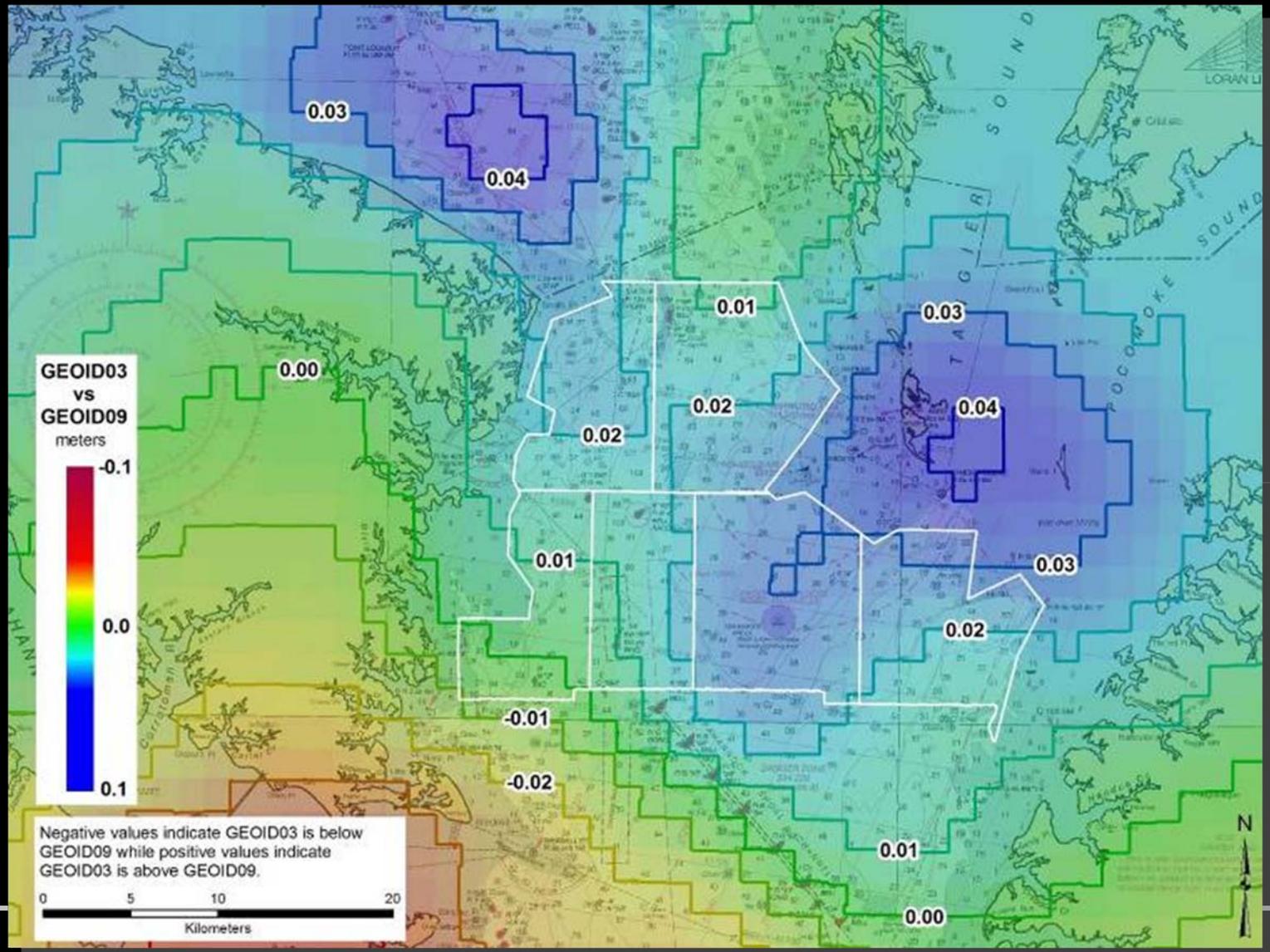


# Profile of VDatum Components





# Impact of GEOID03 versus GEOID09 over Survey Area



# Comparison of Water Level Uncertainty Values

**Table 1 Chesapeake Bay Project Vertical Uncertainty**

Method	Heave	Tide Measured	Tide Zoned	Delta Draft	Loading	Draft	Total Component
<i>Traditional Ranges<sup>i</sup></i>	0.05	0.01-0.05	0.01-0.40	0.01-0.03	0.01-0.30	0.01-0.20	0.05-0.544
Zoned Tides	0.050	0.000 <sup>ii</sup>	0.080	0.040	0.020	0.010	0.105*
GPS Water Levels (w/ heave)	0.050	0.035 <sup>iii</sup>	0.084 <sup>iv</sup>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.103
GPS Water Levels (w/o heave)	0.000	0.035 <sup>iii</sup>	0.084 <sup>iv</sup>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.091

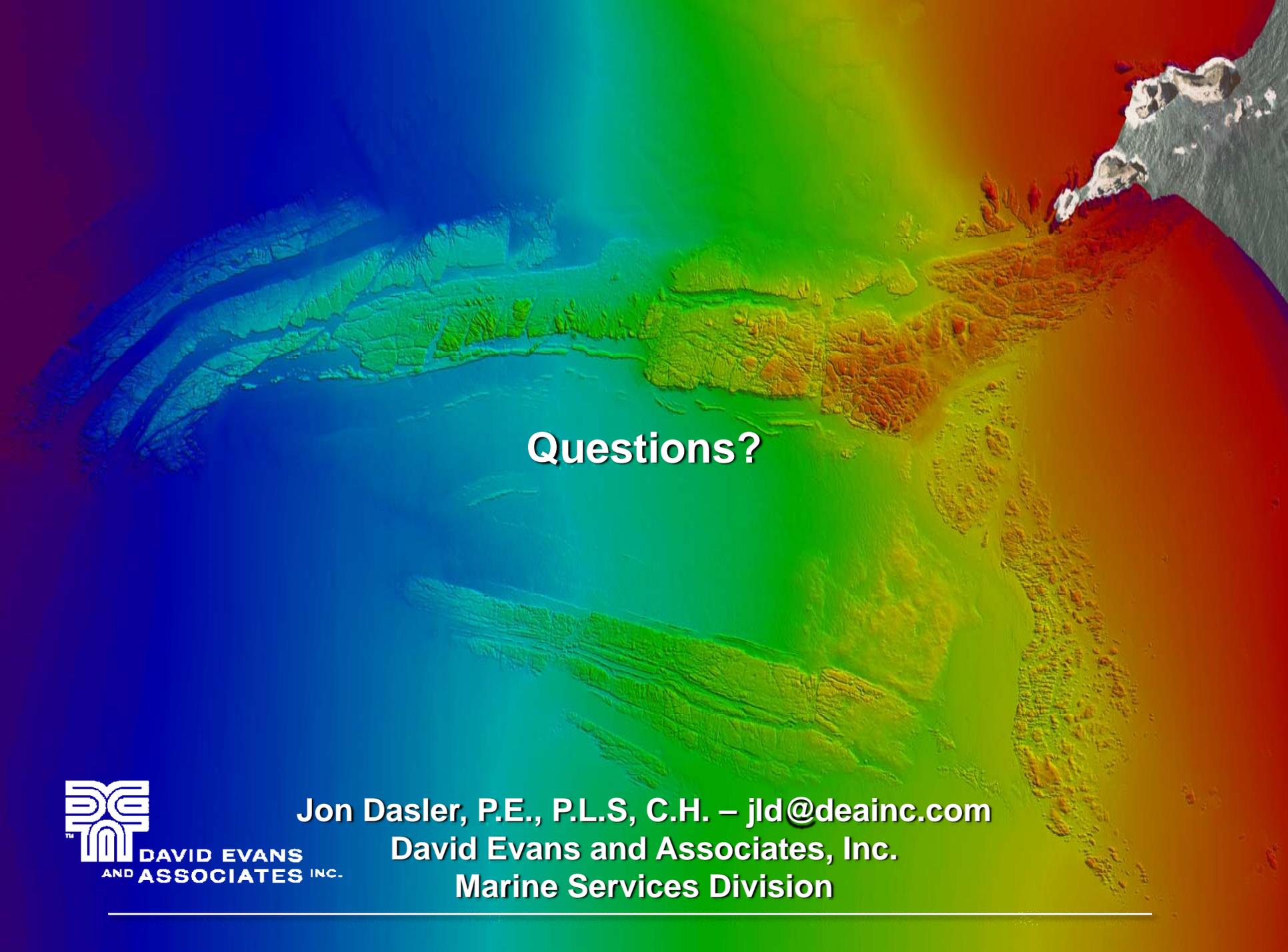
<sup>i</sup> NOAA Field Procedures Manual 2008, Chapter 4 Appendices

<sup>ii</sup> Total Tide Uncertainty Value for Windmill Point to Tangier Island included in the Tide Zoned Field

<sup>iii</sup> GPS Height Measurement Uncertainty

<sup>iv</sup> Separation Model Uncertainty

*\* Zoned Tides uncertainty is low and should be closer to 20 to 40 cm in some areas*



**Questions?**



**DAVID EVANS  
AND ASSOCIATES INC.**

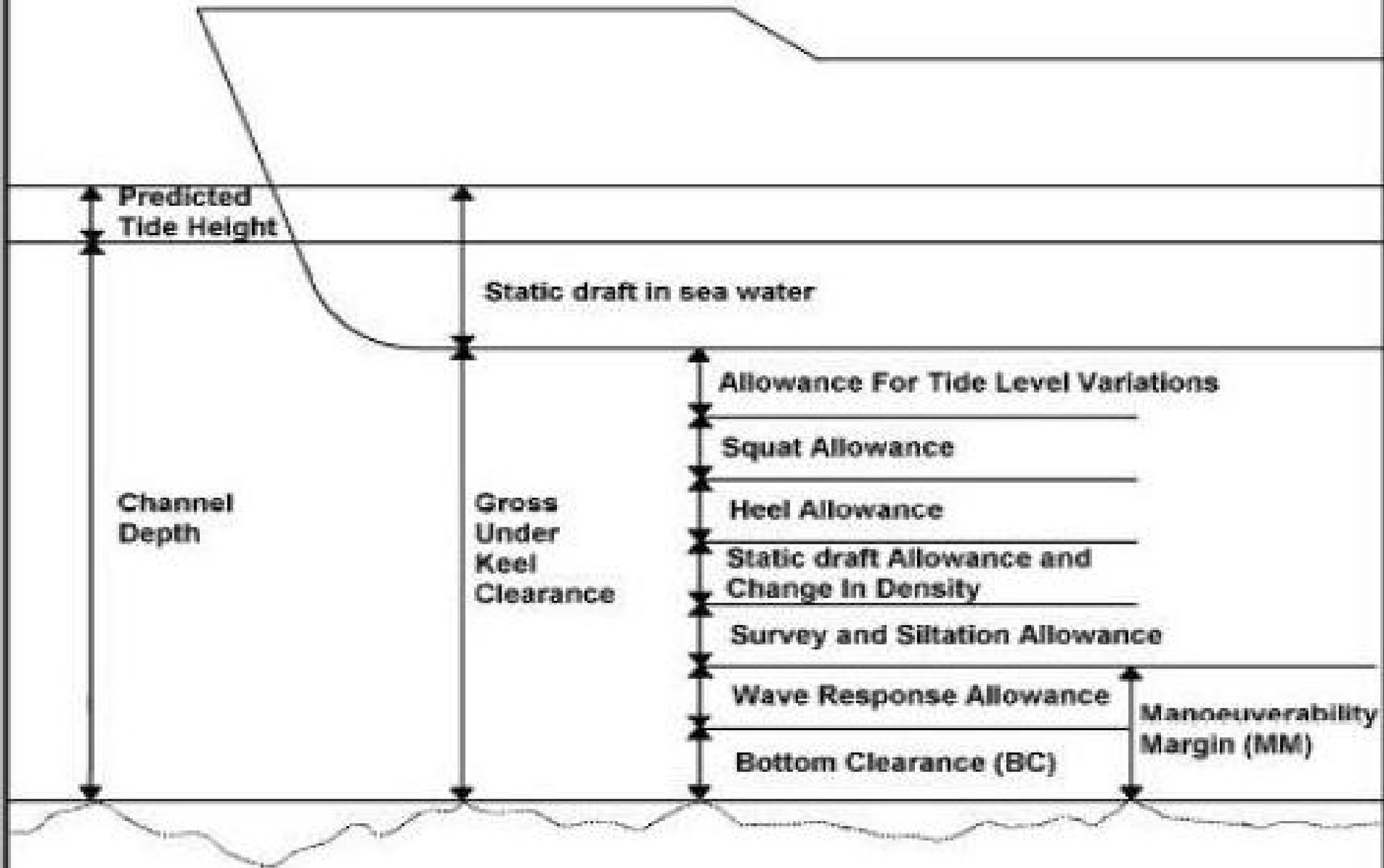
**Jon Dasler, P.E., P.L.S, C.H. – [jld@deainc.com](mailto:jld@deainc.com)**

**David Evans and Associates, Inc.**

**Marine Services Division**

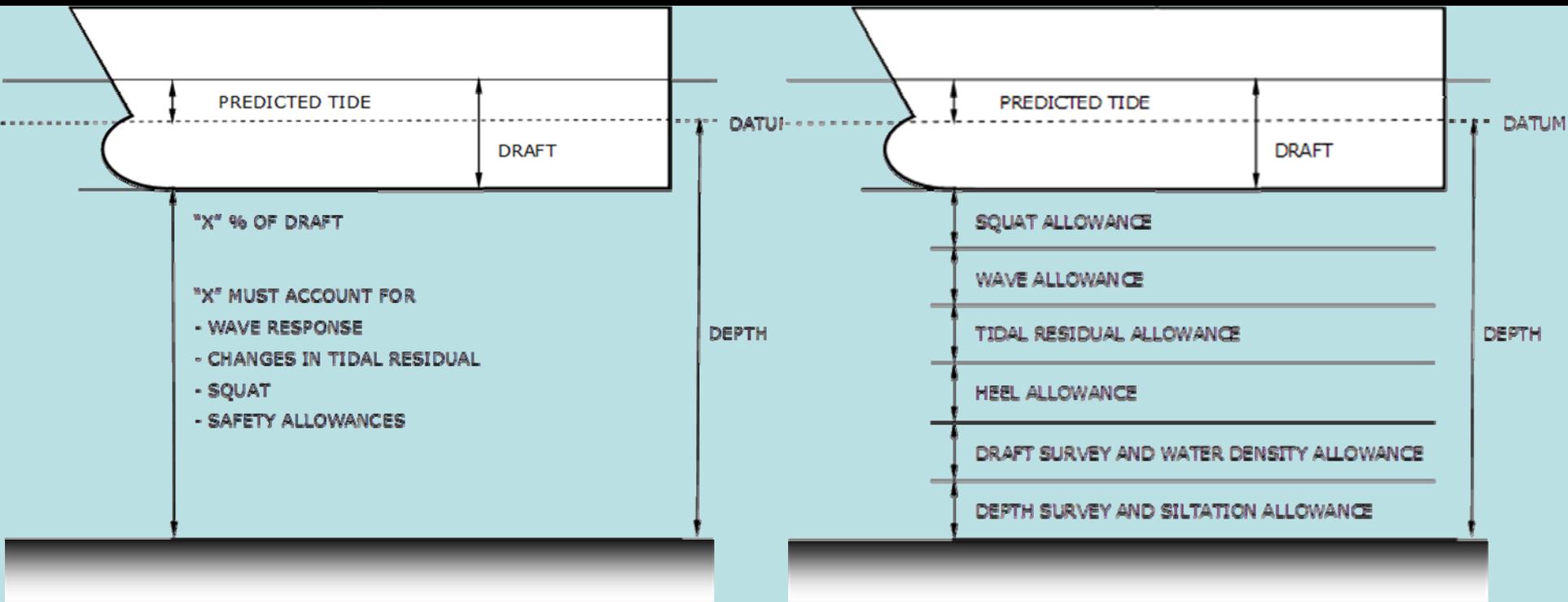
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# DYNAMIC UNDER KEEL CLEARANCE (DUKC) Schematic Diagram

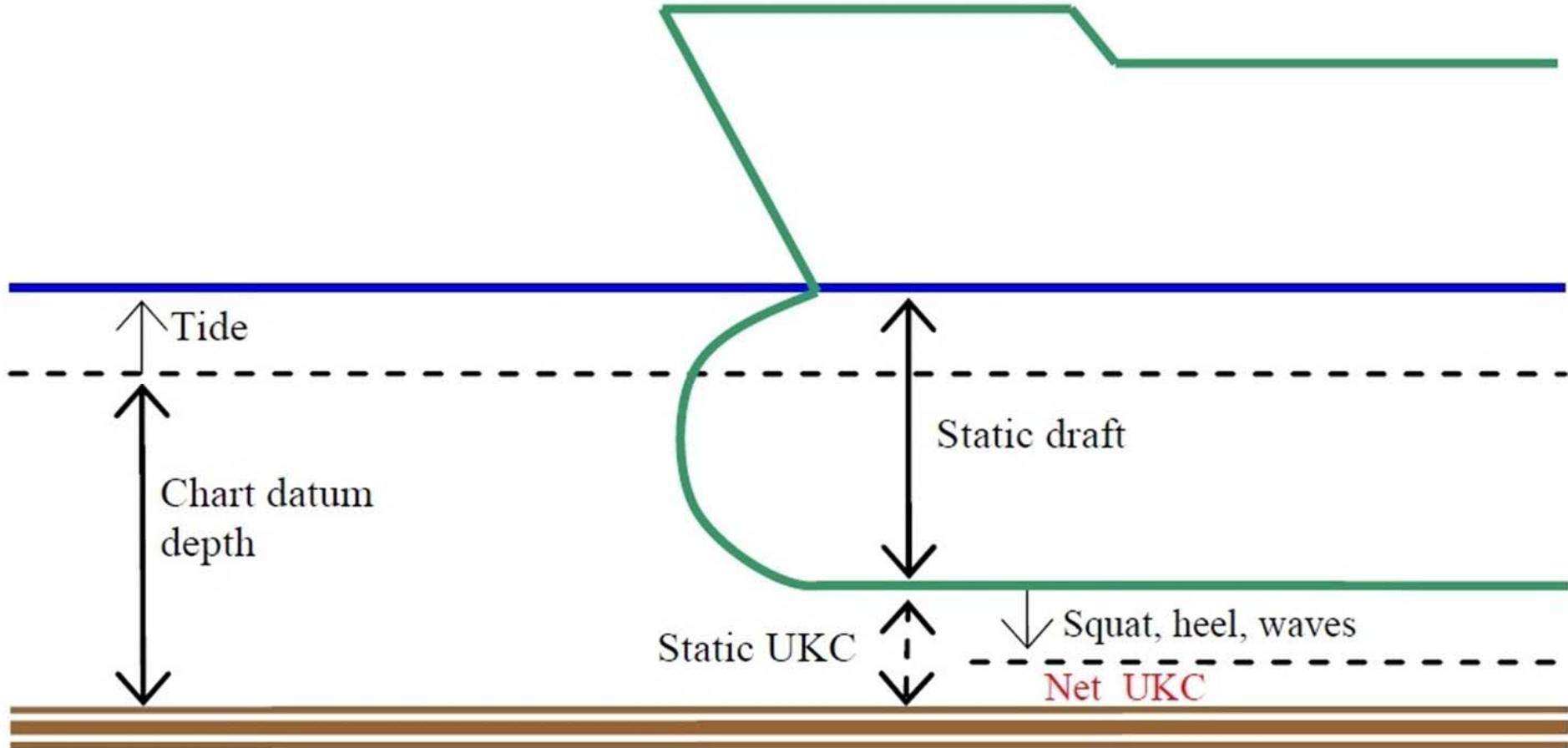


# Static UKC

# Dynamic UKC

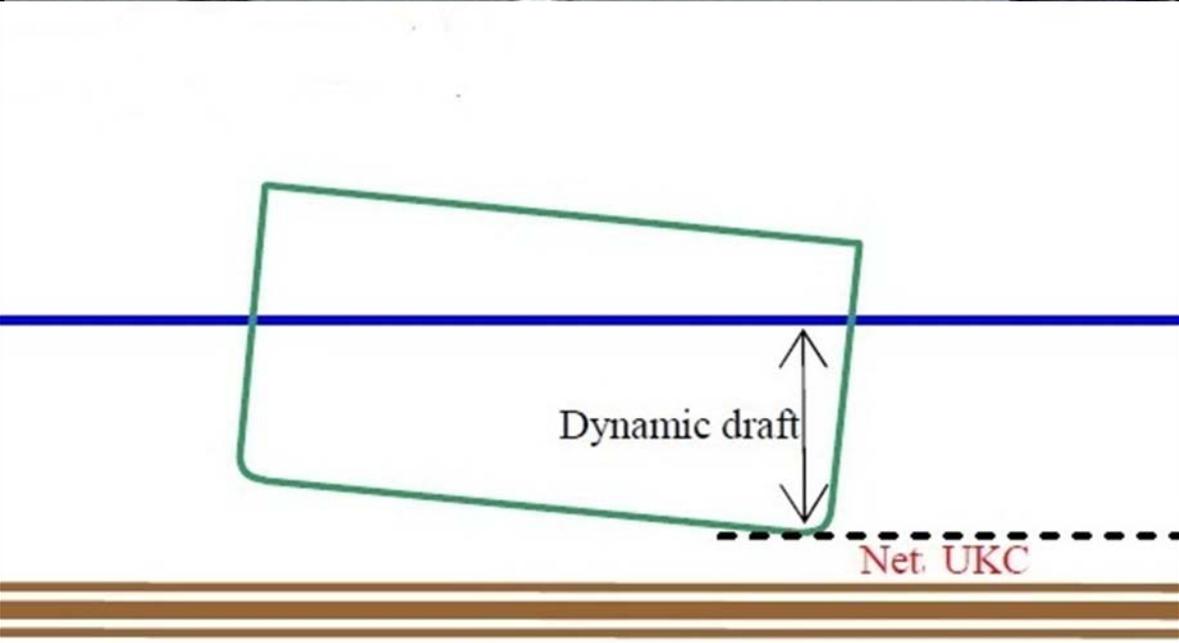


# Maneuverability Margin, Safety Margin, Bottom Clearance or Net UKC

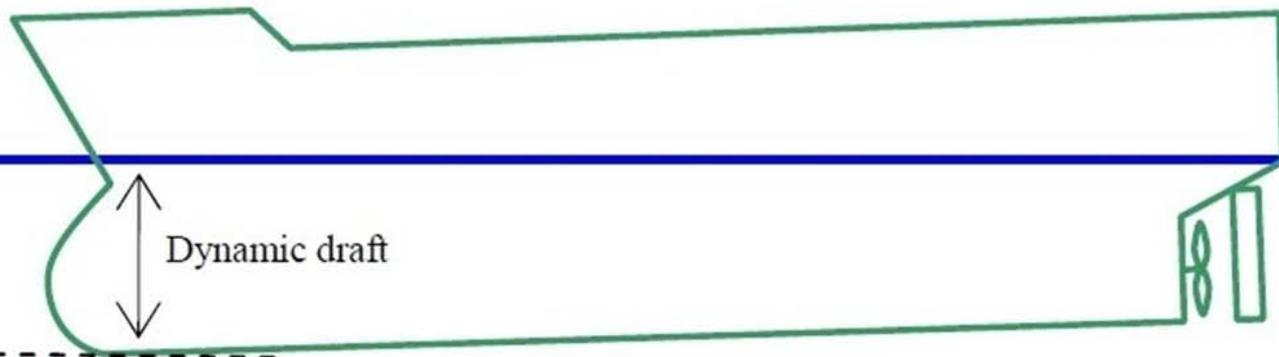




Roll / Heel  
1 foot per degree (100ft beam)



# Pitch / Squat



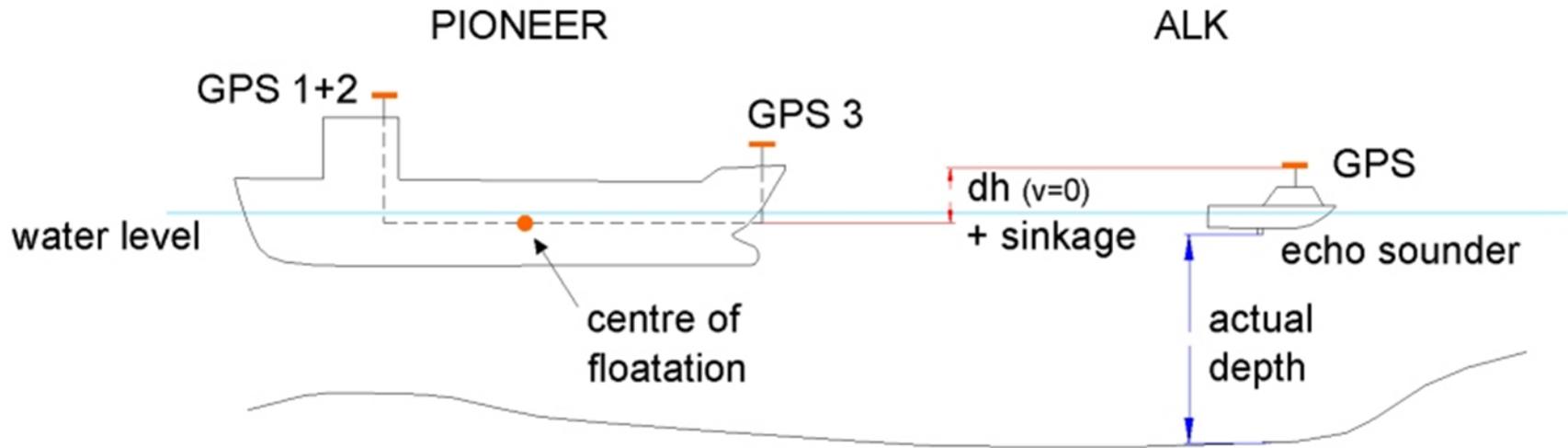
Net UKC

Dynamic draft

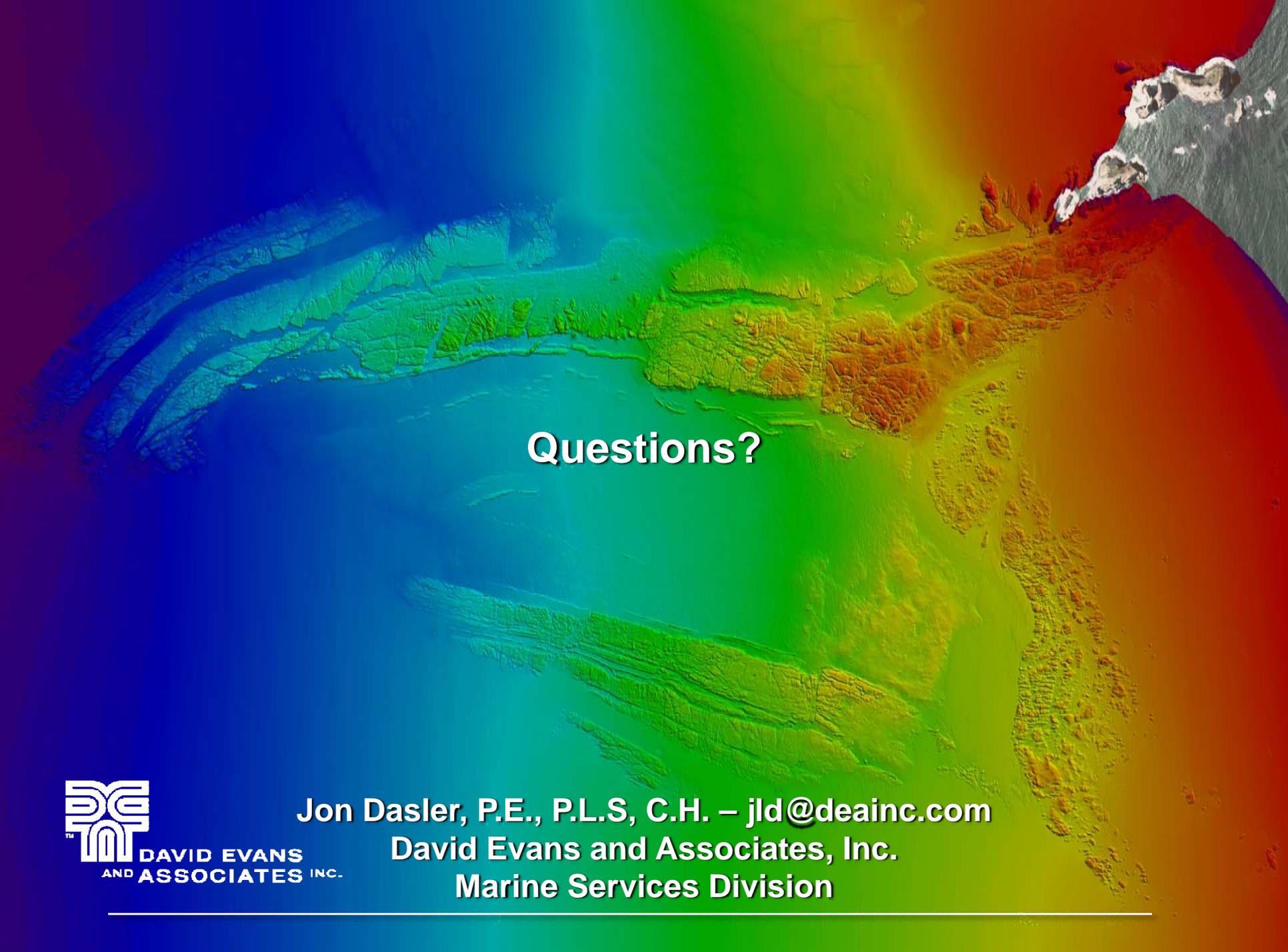
# Striking bottom in a harbor entrance



- Three onboard GNSS units
  - Port & Stbd bridge wings
  - Bow
- Shore-side GNSS units
- Inertially-aided GNSS equipped survey boat



**Fig. 1:** Simplified geometry: Alk escorting Pioneer



**Questions?**



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