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U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: Alaska

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT:

Topographic Sheet No. 2292

LOCALITY:

Yukon Delta, A portion of Norton Sound, between St Michael Bay and Tolstoi Point

1899.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

R. L. Faris

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Norton Sound, Alaska.

Ikikiktoik Sheet (topographic)
Descriptive Report

The region of coast covered by this sheet lies on the south shore of Norton Sound between St. Michael Bay and Tolstoi Point, the eastern limit of the sheet not quite extending to Tolstoi Point.

The shore line along this coast is comparatively low in most places, being only from 5 to 10 feet high. About 1½ miles east of Ikikiktoik village a rocky bluff 30 feet high extends along the coast for half a mile; and a mile farther to eastward there is a similar bluff, 40 feet high and about one mile in extent along the coast. In the neighborhood of these bluffs are the only stretches of sand beach along the coast, and these stretches are very short ones. The rest of the coast is covered and strewn with rocks and boulders of volcanic origin, which makes it dangerous landing in small boats

when there is any swell coming in from the sea. There is always a swell here except in southerly weather. There are no harbors, except for rowboats at Ikikiktok.

About four (4) fathoms of water can be carried along this coast within 1/2 to 3/4 of a mile; from this line the water shoals up gradually towards shore. The waters along this coast have not been sounded but apparently there are no sunken rocks for off shore, or outlying dangers.

A rocky reef makes out to northwestward for 1/4 mile from the point at Ikikiktok.

The coast range of mountains lie several miles back from the shore line, but trend nearer the coast line farther to eastward.

The hills, two or three miles to the southeastward of Ikikiktok, being nearer the coast than the main range, serve as a landmark in locating the village from seawards.

Driftwood is scarce along this coast, but enough for cooking fuel can be found. There is no timber in this region, the only vegetation being moss and tundra which covers the country as far as the eye can see.

Small ponds and pools of fresh water, sufficient for camping purposes, can be found back from the shore in the tundra, and in the occasional drainage branches that come down to the shoreline. From the coast-line the land gradually rises to the coast range of mountains, several miles inland.

The shoreline and topography on this sheet is controlled by a plane table traverse line oriented by cuts, and angles at several points, on Crater, St. Michael and Stephens Mountains and Whole and Egg Islands, these being previously determined points (1890 and 1898)

The general conditions of wind, weather, fog, ice, etc, have already been published in the C. & G. Survey Coast Pilot for Norton Sound for 1900.

The only inhabitants in this region are a few Eskimos at Ikikiktoik. There are 3 or 4 summer houses scattered along the coast to westward of the above named village.

The coast line on this sheet is more than two miles to the northward of that sketched on the published Charts of the Survey.

R. L. Faris
Lieut. 3-1905