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Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

O. H. Tammann

Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Type Sheet No. *2848*

LOCALITY:

Ushagab Island

1907

CHIEF OF PARTY:

W. W. Rhodes

U. S. C. & G. SURVEY.
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES.
JAN 2 - 1908

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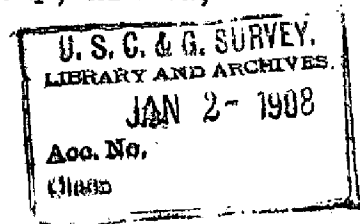
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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT to accompany Topographic

Sheet of Ushagat Island, Barren Island Group, Alaska,

1907.



Ushagat Island is the most Westerly and largest of the Barren Island Group which consists of six islands proper, and one islet, together with a number of large detached rocks.

The island has a bold and forbidding appearance and its shores are practically inaccessible except at the isthmus near the East end and at the several beaches fronting the valley which lies in the Northwestern part of the island.

Table Mountain, rising to an elevation of 1350 feet, occupies the East end of the island and is separated by a low narrow grass covered isthmus from the main part of the island.

The Southern part of the island consists of a group of high rocky peaks; Ushagat Peak, the highest, has an elevation of 1975 feet with steep slopes on the North and West sides.

The isthmus and valley already mentioned are grass covered, but the upper slopes of the mountains are barren of all vegetation and composed of more or less broken up masses of metamorphosed and igneous rock.

A fresh water lake, separated from the sea by a low sand beach, and a number of groups of scrub pine scattered throughout the valley, relieve the barren appearance of the island when viewed from the Northwest.

A great variety of wild fowl are found on the island, but no animals excepting a few land otter were seen.

There are no harbors: although a good anchorage in Northeasterly weather can be had in the Northerly of the two bights on the West end of the island.

There are no inhabitants and no communication from the main land. Mail steamers bound from Seldovia to Kodiak usually pass between Ushagat and East Amatuli Islands.

The prevailing weather during the Summer and Fall is E.N.E'ly with moderate to fresh breezes accompanied by fog, mist and rain, with frequent gales. In the late Summer and Fall fresh S.W.'ly breezes with clear, or slightly hazy weather, are of frequent occurrence.

The tidal currents run with great velocity between and outside of the islands, the current of the flood tide setting to the Northward being apparently the stronger.

During heavy weather in conjunction with Spring tides, the rips in the vicinity of the islands are frequently dangerous to navigation by small vessels.

Owing to the impossibility of reaching the Eastern islands of this group by small boat, the topographic party camped on Ushagat Island during the Fall of 1907, was unable to complete the work outlined.

A fair determination of the two Amatuli Islands and

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Cone Island may be had from the hydrographic sheet, their outlines being sketched from tangent cuts from the hydrographic work of the vessel.

Respectfully Submitted,

H. W. Rhodes.

Assistant, C. & G. Survey,
Commanding "McArthur".

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C. & G. SURVEY,
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES.

JAN 29 1908

POSITIONS OF POINTS

Taken From Topographic Sheet of Barren Islands, No.

Steamer "McArthur", 1907.

H. W. Rhodes, Assistant, Commanding.

OBJECT & DESCRIPTION	LAT.	D.M.	LONG.	D.P.	HEIGHT	REMARKS
"NORTH" - Highest Pt. Cen: of North Id.	58 58	19	152 09	337	570	Hyd. Signal.
"SPUR" - Highest Pt. N. W. end Ushagat Island	58 57	777	152 18	940	850	Top. "
"MID" - Highest Pt. on Mid Island	58 53	990	152 13	340		Hyd. "
"ROCK" - Highest Pt. on islet S.W. Of Ush. Id.	58 54	1145	152 22	405		Top. "
"GREEN" - Highest Pt. on Green Id.; S. of Ush. Id.	58 52	1600	152 19	285		Hyd. "
"WEST" - Centre of Islet N.W. of Ushagat Island	58 57	588	152 21	48		Top. "
MAGNETIC STATION - Near N. shore Ushagat Id.	58 56	356	152 15	486		



Scale $\frac{1}{30000}$