DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
R. S. Patton, Director

State: California

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
Topographic | Sheet No. | Hydrographic

LOCALITY
North of Golden Gate
Pt. Bonita to Rocky Pt.

1929

CHIEF OF PARTY
O.W. Swainson
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

To Accompany Topographic Sheet No. F 454-521

California Coast: Rocky Point to Pt. Bonita

C.W. Swainson, H. & G. Eng. Chief of Party

1929
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

To Accompany Topographic Sheet F

Instructions

The topography on this sheet was executed under the Director's instructions to the Commanding Officer, Steamer PIONEER, Dated April 9, 1929.

Limits and Scale

The topography included on the sheet, surveyed on a scale of 1 to 10,000, covers the shore line of California from Rocky Point to Point Bonita, including the shore line of Rodeo Lagoon. It is joined on the west by sheet E of this season's work. The topography of the shore line north of the Golden Gate survey this year ends at Point Bonita. It is resumed south of the Golden Gate at Point Lobos on sheet G.

Control and Survey Methods

The usual survey methods were used. Recoverable triangulation stations existed at intervals of about 1 mile along the shore line from Point Bonita to station Little Lagoon. A new station was established at Rocky Point and U. S. Engineer's signal "Slide", 1 mile south of this, made use of. Between triangulation points the closing error of traverse run was kept below the allowable limit and adjusted on the sheet. Offlying rocks were located by at least three intersecting cuts and the limits of the larger rocks determined by tangents.

General Description of Topographic Features

The shore line from Rocky Point to Point Bonita is marked by bold dirt cliffs which drop almost perpendicularly to the water. The base of the cliff in most places coincides with the mean high water line, outside of which are numerous rocks and boulders with some gravel. Short stretches of sand beach exist in the bights southeast of station Little Lagoon and north of Bird Island.

In the bight southeast of station Little Lagoon is a small summer resort known locally as Muir Beach.

Bird Island is connected with the mainland by a suspension bridge of substantial construction. The radio compass station previously maintained on the island has been dismantled.

At stations Slide, Little Lagoon and Elk permanent high wooden targets, painted white, have been established by the U. S. Engineers for use in surveying the channels to San Francisco Bay.
Comparison with Previous Surveys

The area was previously surveyed on sheets 400, 321 and 2128, scale 1 to 10,000.

In comparison with the present survey the following changes are noted:

On the original sheet the storm high water line was shown instead of the mean high water line. The difference between these lines is not apparent except along the sand beaches.

The shoreline in the vicinity of Rocky Point is in error about 50 meters as noted in the descriptive report accompanying topographic sheet E of this season's work.

On sheet 400 the projection just north of Gull Rock is labeled "Rocky Point" but should not be so designated. The point known as Rocky Point is 2/3 mile northwest of Gull Rock. It is correctly designated on the published charts.

The rock symbols shown on photostats of the original sheets are indefinite. Only those rocks shown on the present survey should be charted.

On sheet 400 two sunken rock symbols are shown close inshore 1/3 mile northwest of Gull Rock. No evidence of these rocks was visible at low water.

The marsh shown on sheet 400 1/3 mile east of station Little Lagoon no longer exists.

The area 300 meters southeast of station Elk, shown on sheet 400 as a marsh, is fast land and should be charted as such.

The small lake at the eastern end of Rodeo Lagoon is a reservoir, the north and west sides of which are formed by a concrete retaining wall.

In the vicinity of Point Bonita the correct location of all rocks is shown on the present survey. Sheets 321 and 2128 show these rocks in approximately their correct position but are somewhat in error in respect to the sizes of the various rocks.

The form lines shown in pencil on the sheet were transferred from the original sheets and checked in the field. They were found to be exceptionally accurate.

Landmarks

As noted above permanent targets have been erected by the U. S. Engineers over stations Slide, Little Lagoon and Elk. These are conspicuous from off-shore and should be charted.

No plane table locations of permanent value exist on the sheet.

Approved:

O. W. Swainson
Commanding Str. PIONEER

John A. Bond
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

The Topographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field No. E

REGISTER NO. 4521

State California

General locality Pacific Ocean, North of Golden Gate

Locality Rocky Point to Pt. Bonita to Rocky Pt.

Scale 1:10,000 Date of survey July 1929

Vessel U.S.C. & G.S.S. PIONEER


Inked by John A. Bond, H. & G. Engr.

Heights in feet above Mean Sea level to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval feet

Instructions dated April 9, 1929

Remarks

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GPO