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Manual  
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**Engineering and Design**  
**HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYING**

**1. Purpose.** This manual provides technical guidance for performing hydrographic surveys that support the planning, engineering design, construction, operation, maintenance, and regulation of navigation, flood control, river engineering, charting, and coastal engineering projects. Accuracy standards and quality control criteria are defined to establish U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)-wide uniformity in performing surveys involving dredging measurement, payment, and acceptance.

**2. Applicability.** This manual applies to all USACE commands having responsibility for performing, contracting, or monitoring hydrographic surveys in support of the Corps civil works activities.

**3. Discussion.** Hydrographic surveying is performed to determine the underwater topography of a project site. These surveys provide critical site plan data that are used in the planning, acquisition, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of various types of planned or previously constructed projects. Insufficient, inaccurate, or misinterpreted hydrographic surveys can contribute to costly errors and omissions in the various phases of project development. This directly impacts incidences of construction claims as well as navigation safety. Therefore, the intent of this manual is to establish definitive Corps-wide accuracy and quality control standards along with survey performance and procedural policy that will ensure uniform and accurate hydrographic surveying products. This will reduce costly errors, enhance the equitability of contracted construction administration, and increase the overall quality and safety of Corps navigation and flood control projects.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

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