

Summary View of Multibeam Survey Technique



Data	Resolution			Key Points
Coverage	Vertical	Horizontal	Image	Noy : Ollito
				Point Dataset, dense data
Medium Swath				Far greater coverage than single beam, higher resolution
2-7 times water				Backscatter data can be used to characterize sediment
	cm	m	l m	Common Frequency Ranges: 200 – 450 kHz
dopuii	_			Coverage limited in shallow water
Point Data				High costs and complexity for acquisition and processing
	Coverage Medium Swath 2-7 times water depth	Coverage Vertical Medium Swath 2-7 times water depth cm	Coverage Vertical Horizontal Medium Swath 2-7 times water depth cm m	Coverage Vertical Horizontal Image Medium Swath 2-7 times water depth cm m m

Raw Data¹

Data Collection¹

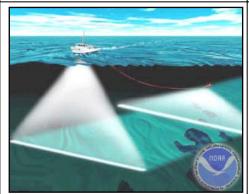
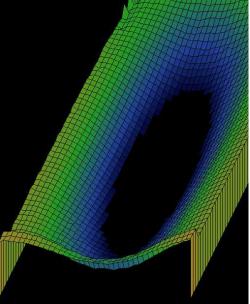


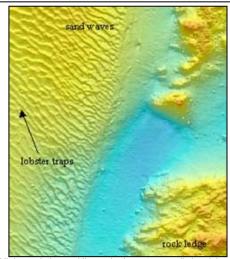
Illustration of a research vessel with a hull-mounted multibeam sonar and a towed side-scan sonar system.



Operator station for the shallow and deep-water multibeam sonar systems. All system operation occurs through computer interface.

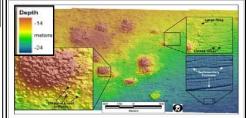


Bathymetry is plotted in real time on the computer screen as multibeam data are collected.



Processed Data²

High-resolution multibeam bathymetry can distinguish very small bottom features.



A color, hill-shaded model view of a high-resolution multibeam data set acquired in the vicinity of Central Long Island Sound Dredged Material Disposal Site in New York.

¹Data collection and raw data images provided by NOAA Coast Survey.

²Processed data images provided by Science Applications International Corporation.