

Job Report

R.P. Hofstetter,
Marine BiologistProject No. MO-1-D-2 Date 1 August 1960Project Name: Oyster Reef Development and Protection.Period Covered: 1 July 1959 - 30 June 1960. Job No. D-2

Survey of Oyster Reefs and Oyster Bottoms

Objectives: To locate and map existing oyster reefs and other bottom types suitable for oyster cultivation.

Procedures: Oyster reefs were located by use of a recording fathometer or by bottom soundings. Large reefs were staked off and sextant bearings were plotted for each stake, providing data on shape as well as size. A single bearing was plotted on small reefs and size was determined by measuring length and width with a 1200 foot cable mounted on a snapper reel.

Bottom suitable for oyster plantings was checked by sounding. Such areas were examined either for artificial reefs as part of Job B-3 or for private oyster leases.

Most of the survey work was done by Oyster Warden R.S. Hanson on the Boat Clam.

Findings: Oyster reef surveys during the project year were concentrated in the area west of the Houston Ship Channel between Red Bluff and Eagle Point. Sixteen of the known reefs were plotted. Most of them were small, ranging between one and ten acres in size. The largest reefs (25 acres or more) included Red Bluff, Scott's, Bayview and Todd's Dump. The total oyster area, excluding the 300 acre Todd's Dump, was estimated to be 200 acres. The five artificial reefs constructed in that area were not included in this survey.

Comments: The Red Bluff-Eagle Point area does not lack for "fishing reefs". However, most of the reefs are small and difficult to locate so that the average fisherman is unaware of their existence. Four of the larger reefs (Red Bluff, Scott's, Tin Can and Todd's Dump) have been marked with fishing buoys and plans have been made to mark the five artificial reefs. Because of the heavy boat traffic in the area, the marking of additional reefs is not recommended.

Prepared by R.P. Hofstetter

Accepted by

Howard T. Lee
Howard T. Lee

Marine Biologist

Date

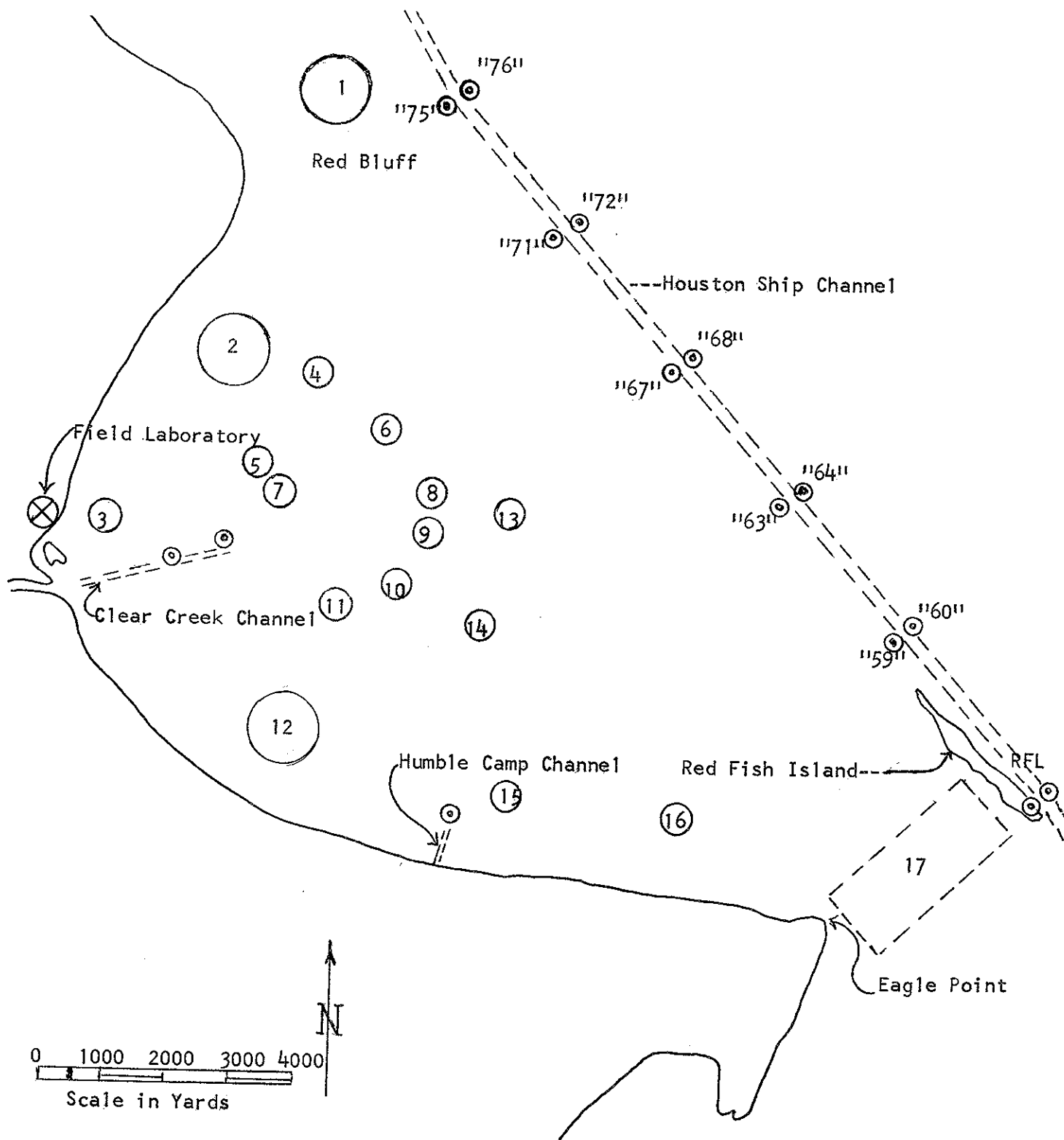
12 January 1961

Figure I

Partial Survey of Oyster Reefs in Red Bluff-Eagle Point Area, Galveston Bay

Reef	Approximate Acreage
1. Red Bluff	25-30 acres
2. Scott's	45-50 acres
3. Barrel	22 acres
4. Un-named	1 acre
5. Un-named	3 acres
6. De George	2 acres
7. Deep	15 acres
8. Un-named	3 acres
9. Un-named	2 acres
10. Little Tin Can	2 acres
11. Tin Can	9 acres
12. Bayview	40 acres
13. Lewis	1 acre
14. Un-named	4 acres
15. Humble Camp	5 acres
16. San Leon	15-20 acres
17. Todd's Dump	300-400 acres.

Figure II



(From Coast and Geodetic Chart 1282)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100