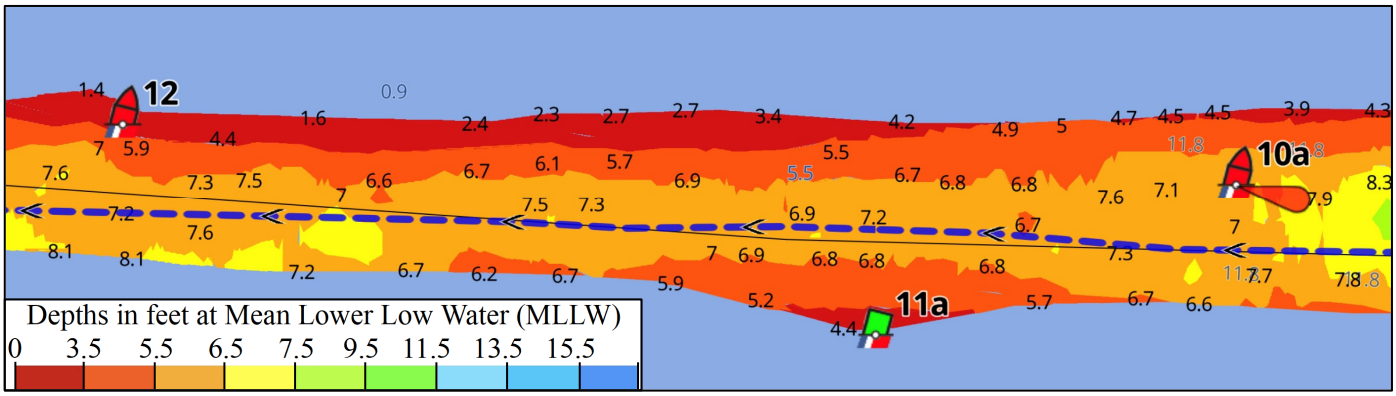
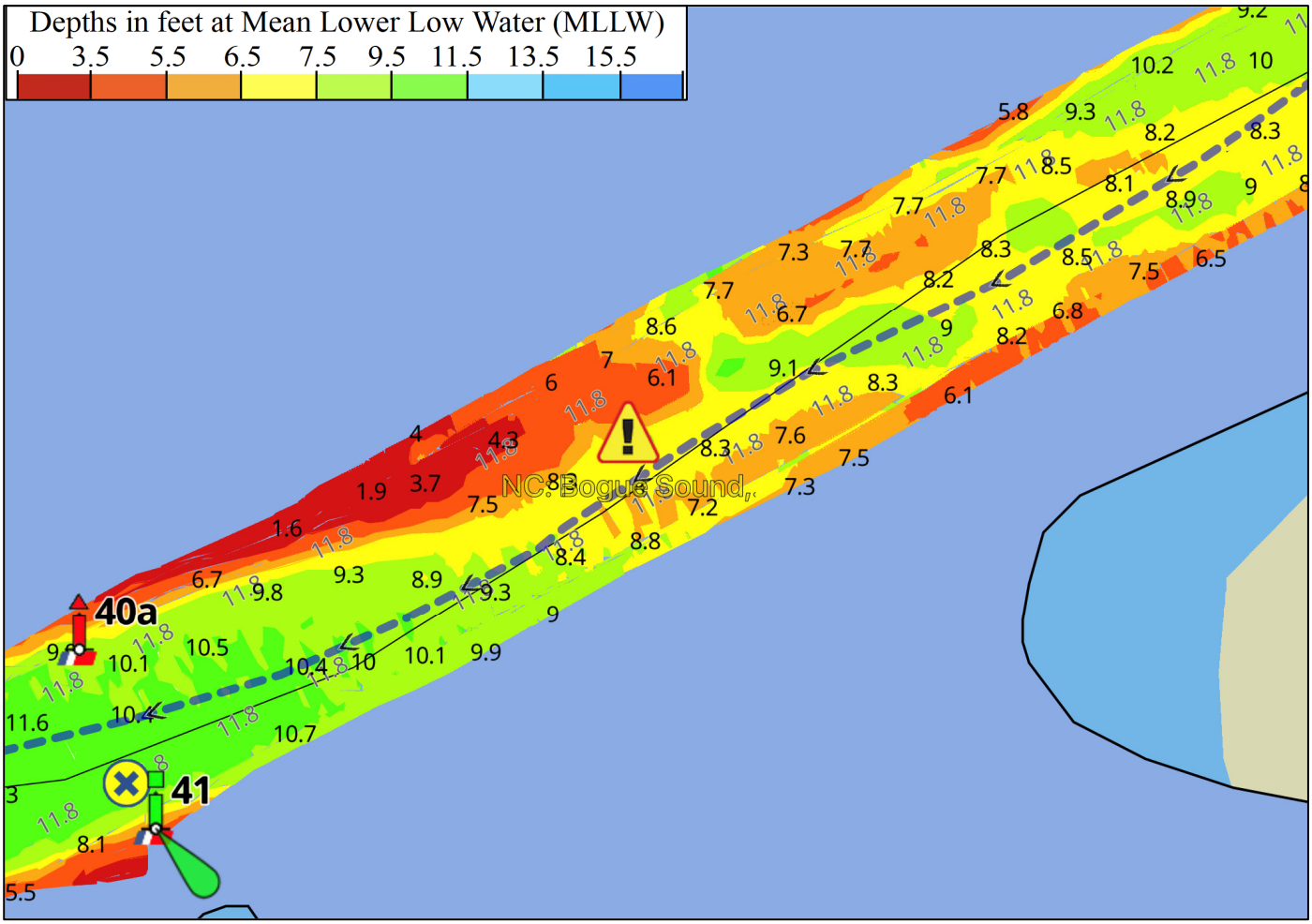
Spooner Creek Shoaling by R12/R10A MM 211 6.8 MLLW as of 8/15/2023

The channel was dredged in May of 2021 but it has shoaled. Be sure to check the NC: Spooner Creek, Shoaling by R12 ICW MM 210.5 icon for the latest information. The 8/15/2023 USACE survey is shown with the Bob423 track.

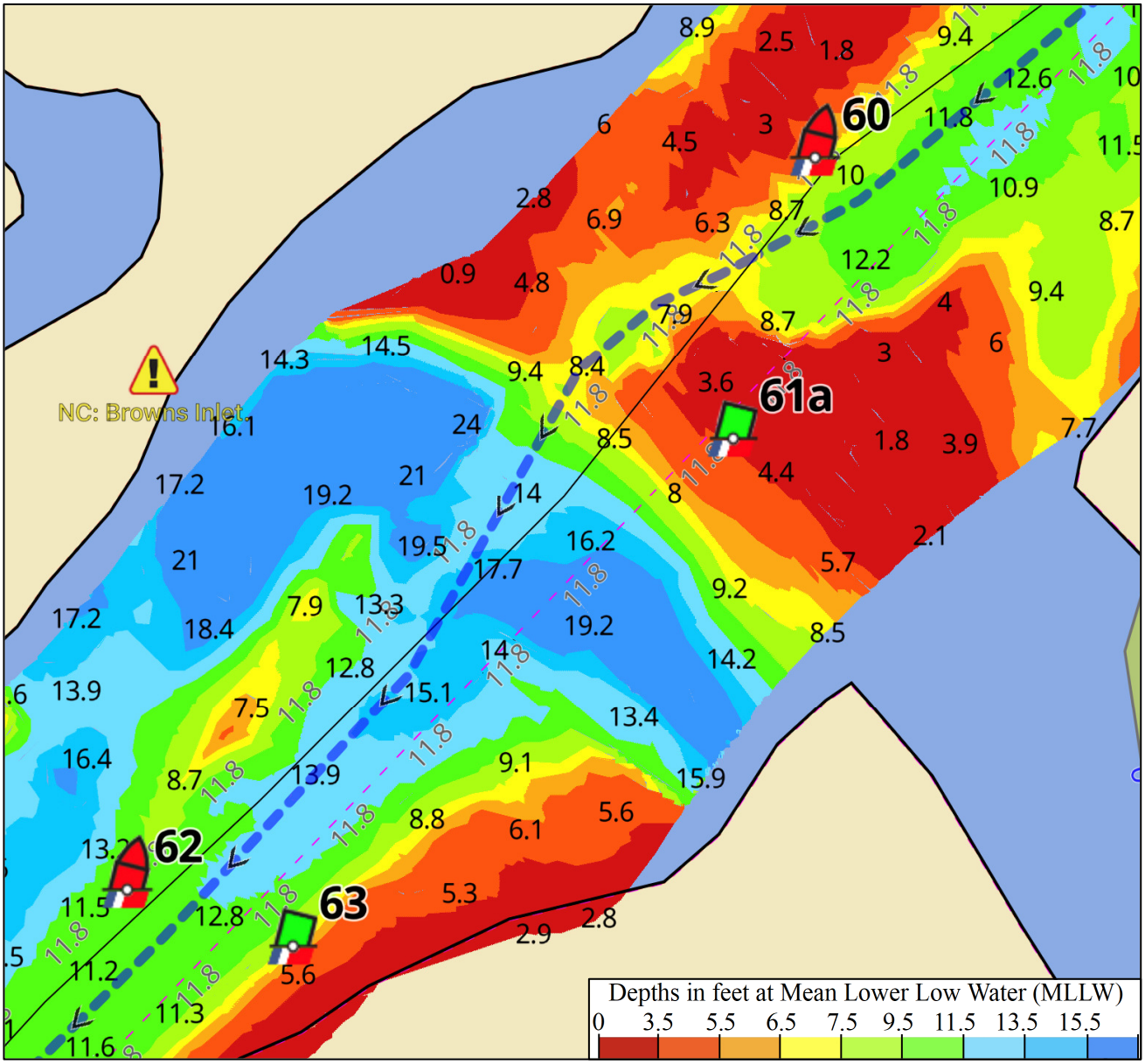


Swansboro Shoaling by R40A to R40 MM 224.4 8.8 MLLW as of 4/16/2023

Verbal directions are tough here due to a lack of ATONs. Going south from R40, stay centered until halfway to R40A, then watch your depth and feel your way between two shoals as shown above in the chart. The blue dotted line is the Bob423 track for 8.8 MLLW as of 4/16/2023 shown on the 4/25/2023 USACE survey. Check the NC: Bogue Sound, shoaling by R40A, ICW MM 224.4 for the latest status.



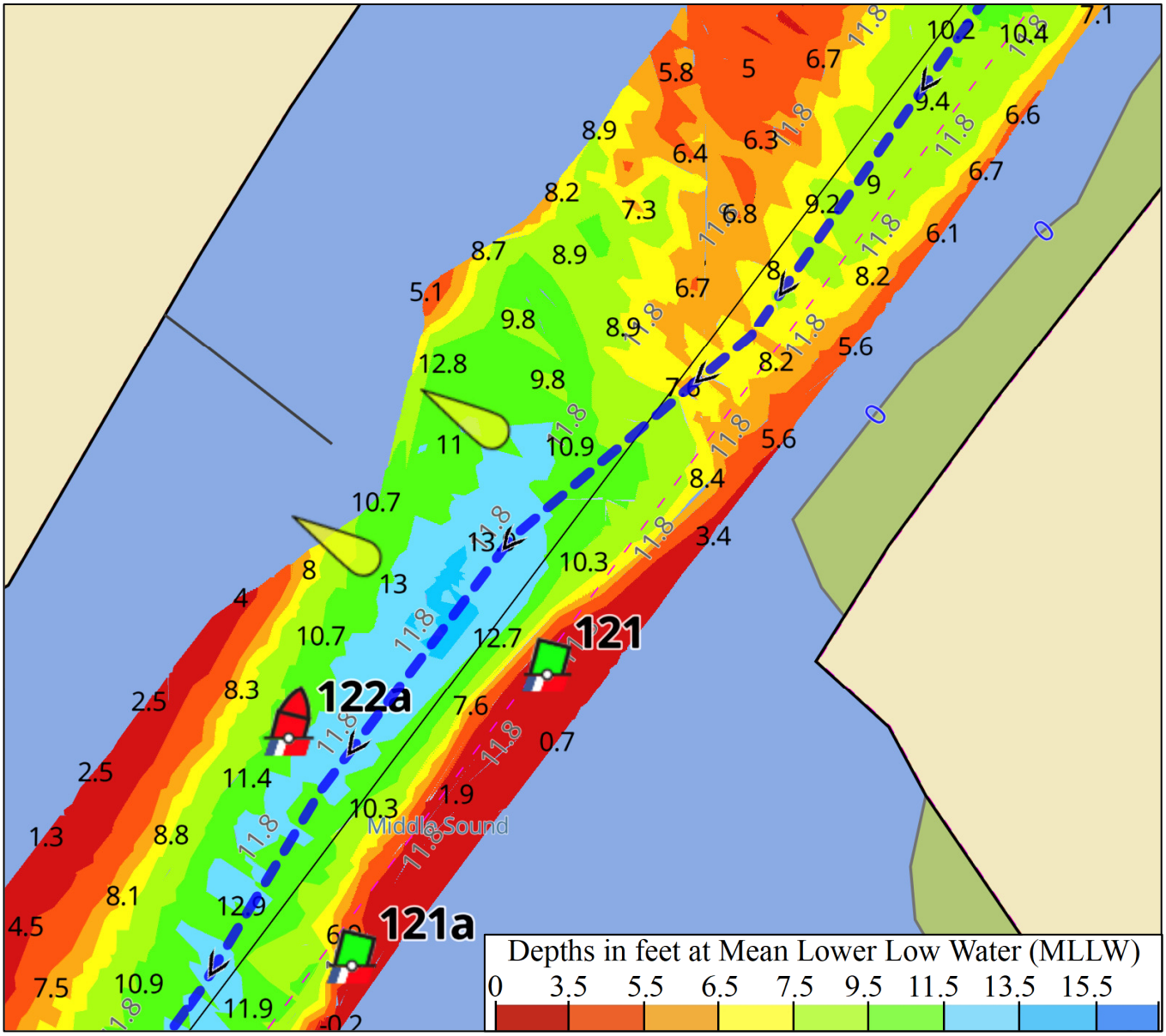
Browns Inlet MM 238.2 **8.4 MLLW as of 8/7/2023**



Browns Inlet is located in Camp Lejeune, a US Marine training center. The ICW is occasionally closed during exercises using live ammo so check ahead before starting in the morning. You can call ahead for notice of closures at 910-451-3064 or 910-451-4449. As you approach Camp Lejeune, you will see a sign at MM 235 that reads, “Stop do not proceed. Live firing in progress when flashing. Tune to AM 530”. There’s also a tower you can see from the ICW that will fly a large red flag when the ICW is closed. You may be escorted by a Navy patrol boat that monitors VHF 16. In the 10 years I’ve used the ICW, it has never been closed but it has happened at times. See WG Camp Lejeune Alert for further details.

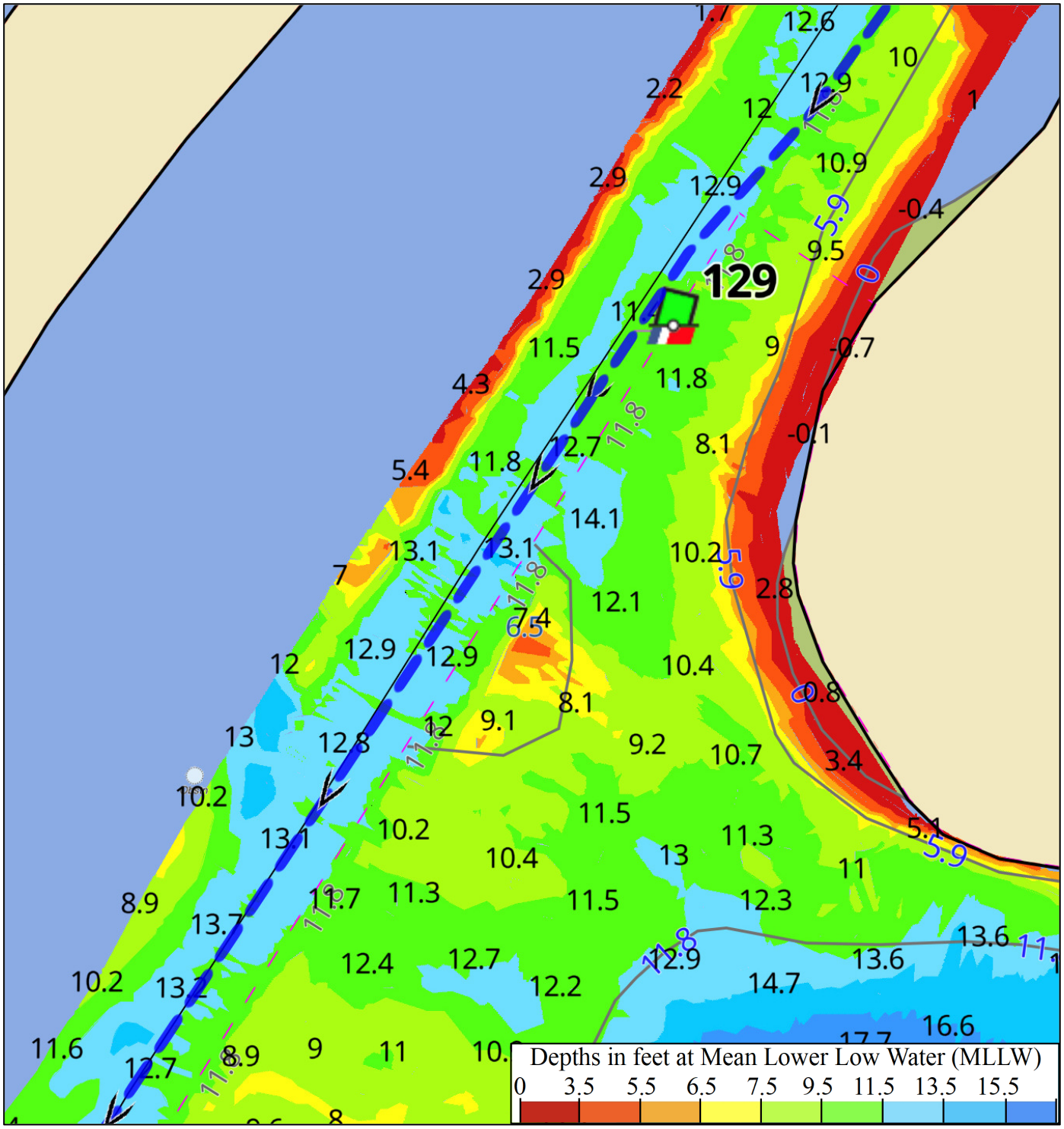
Browns Inlet was dredged in 2021. The 8/7/2023 USACE survey is shown with the Bob423 track for 8.4 MLLW. Be sure to check on the status of the shoaling at the NC: Browns Inlet, shoaling by G61A ICW MM 238.2.

Mason Inlet MM 280.2 **8.7 MLLW as of 4/15/2023**



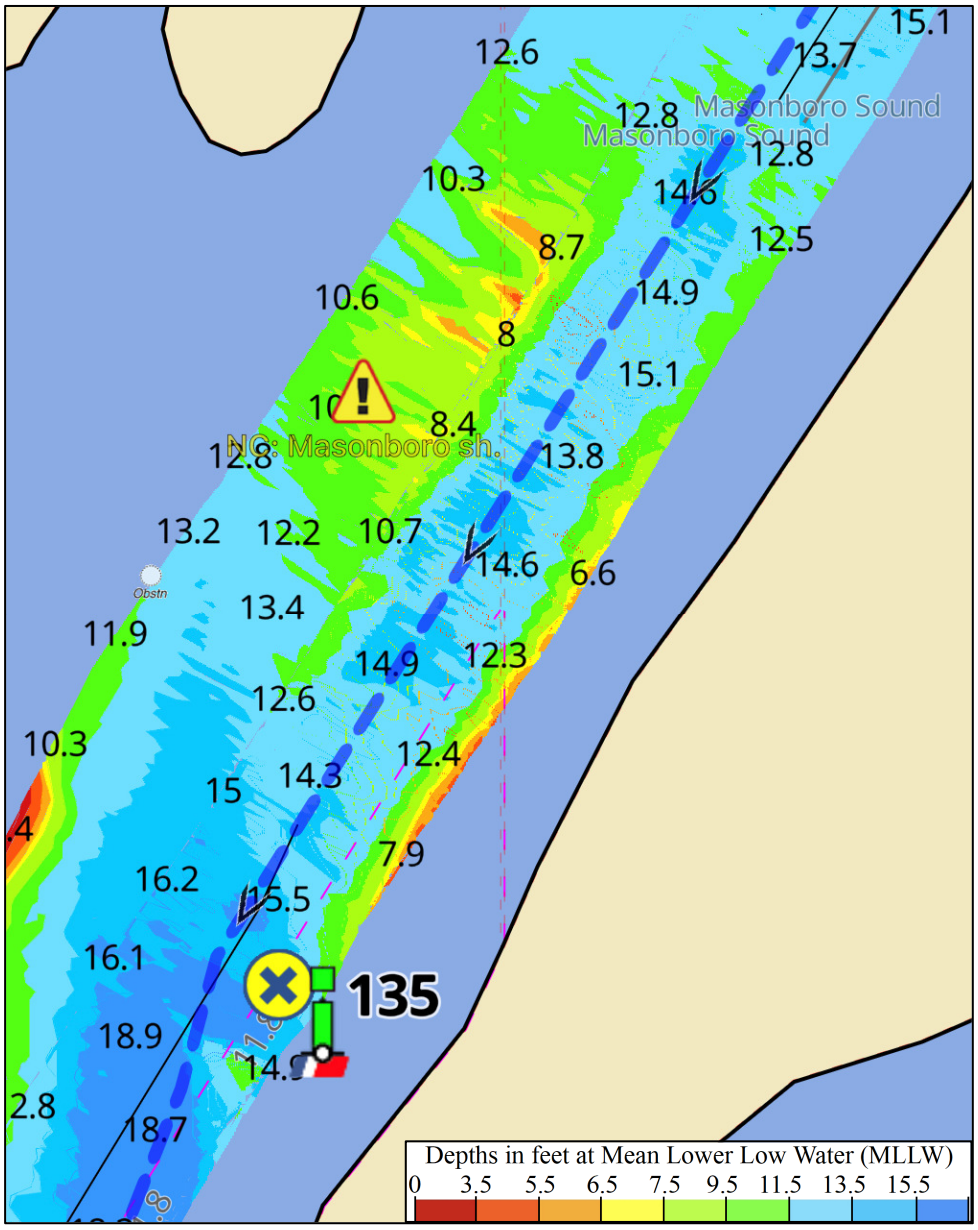
Mason inlet has been dredged. Follow the ATONs down the middle or just follow the Bob423 track as shown on the 6/15/2023 USACE survey in Aqua Map. I've been tracking this inlet since it's been dredged and it keeps getting shallower – okay for now. Watch for G121 to be moved farther into the channel to avoid the growing shoal on the green side. Be sure to check the latest status at [NC: Mason Inlet ICW shoaling MM 280.2].

Masonboro by G129, MM 285 **11 MLLW as of 7/20/2023**



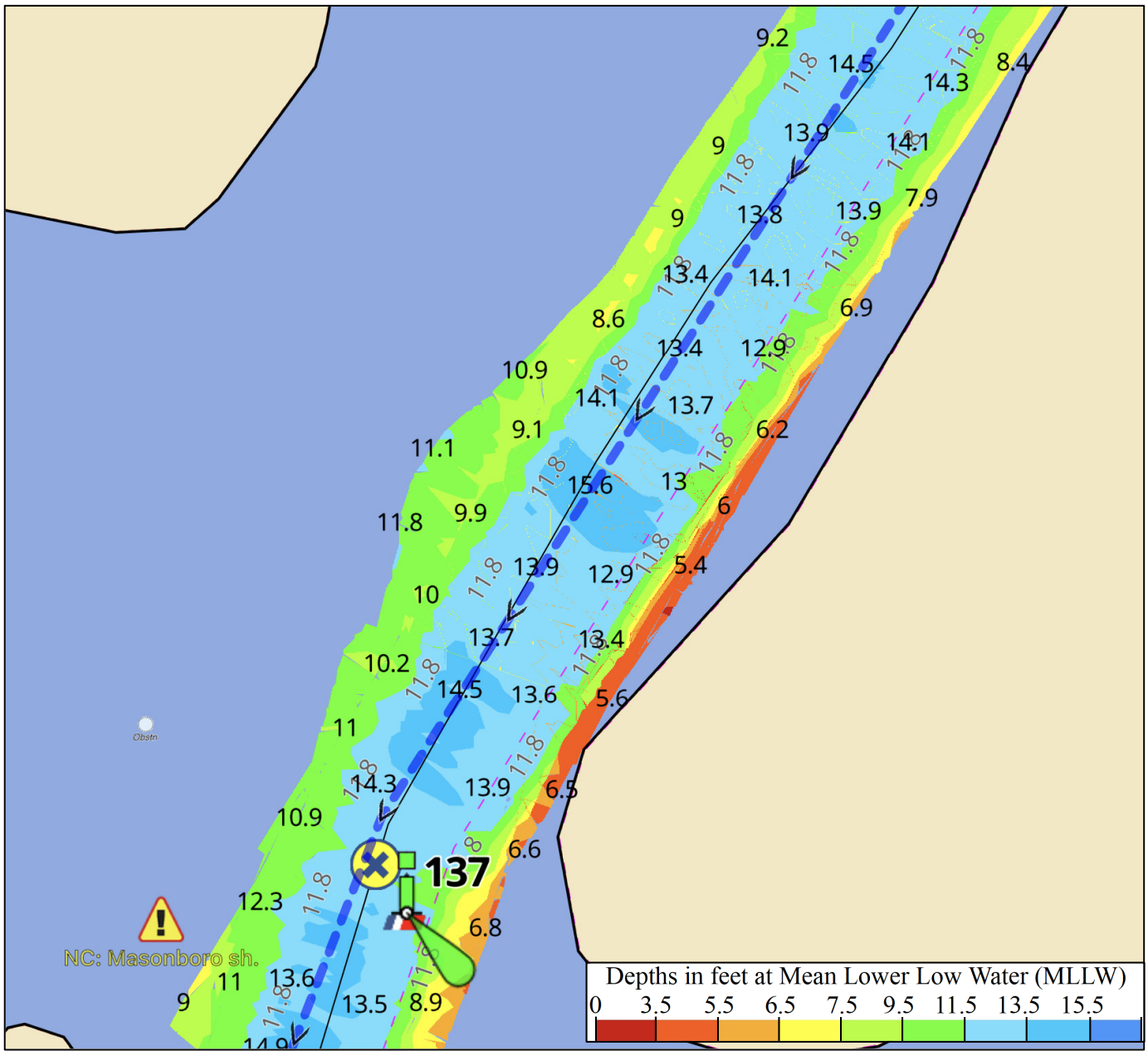
The 7/20/2023 USACE survey is shown in Aqua Map with the Bob423 track. This area was recently dredged. Now it's a straight through run. Check with [NC: Masonboro Inlet ICW shoaling by G129, MM285] for the latest status.

Masonboro by G135 MM 287.5 **13.8 MLLW as of 8/1/2023**



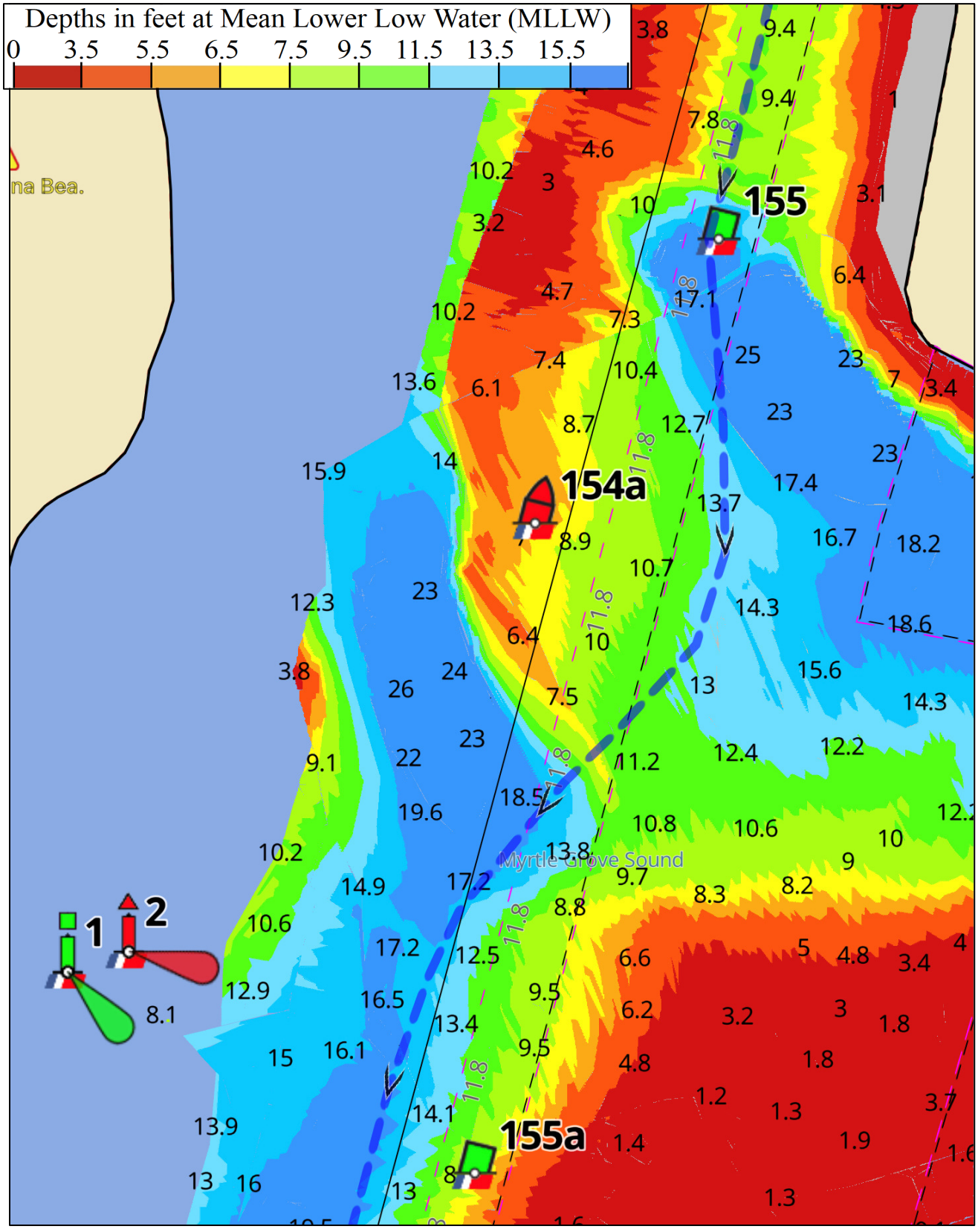
Last fall, there was a 4.1 MLLW shoal in the middle of the channel but it was dredged over the summer. Many boaters went aground but now it's clear! See NC: Masonboro shoaling by G135 MM 287.5 for the latest status. The dredge is clearing a shoal in Bogue Sound at R12, just south of Beaufort, NC. Most dredges are of the pick-it-up and transport-away type. This is one of the few that just slings it away.

Masonboro by G137, MM 288.4 **13.7 MLLW as of 8/1/2023**



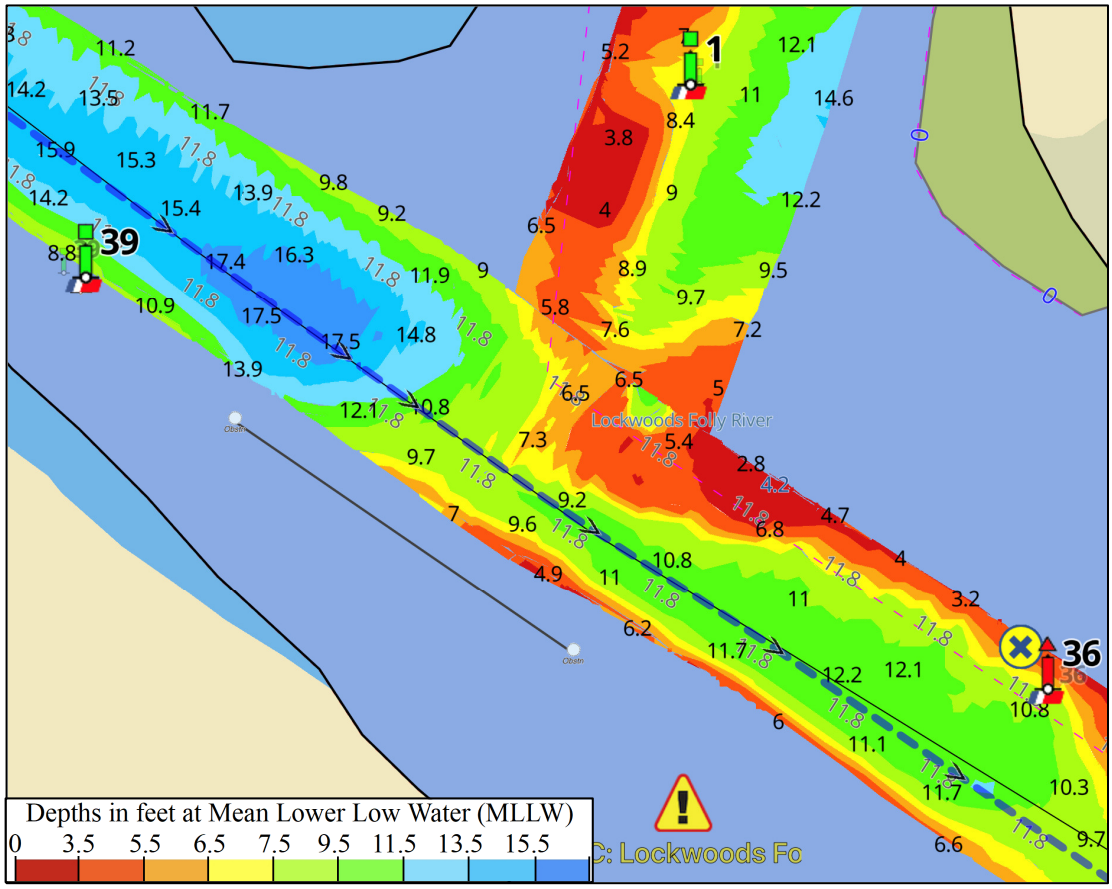
Another trouble area has been cleared over the summer! You used to go outside the channel for deep water, no more! The Bob423 track is shown on the 8/1//2023 USACE survey. Check the [NC: Masonboro shoaling by G137 MM 288.4] for the latest status.

Carolina Beach Inlet MM 293.7 **8.5 MLLW as of 5/5/2023**



Carolina Beach has once again started to shoal. The 8/14/2023 USACE survey is shown with the Bob423 track. Check the [NC: Carolina Beach Inlet at ICW, MM 293.7] to watch further shoaling.

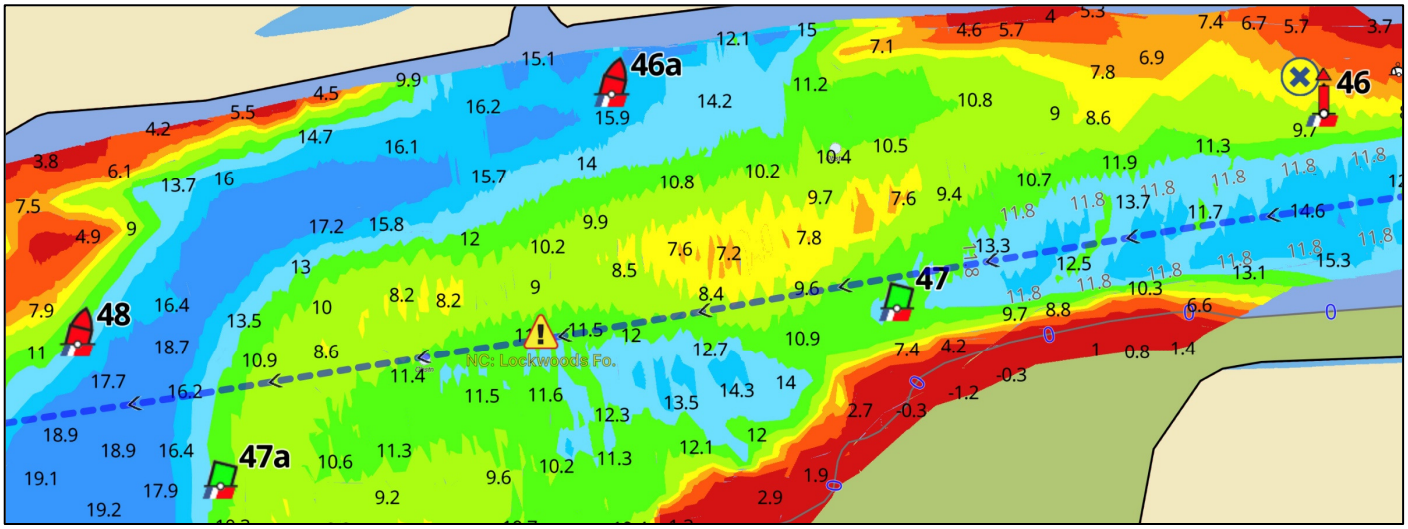
Lockwoods Folly Approach by R36, MM 320.29 — 8.3 MLLW as of 5/4/2023



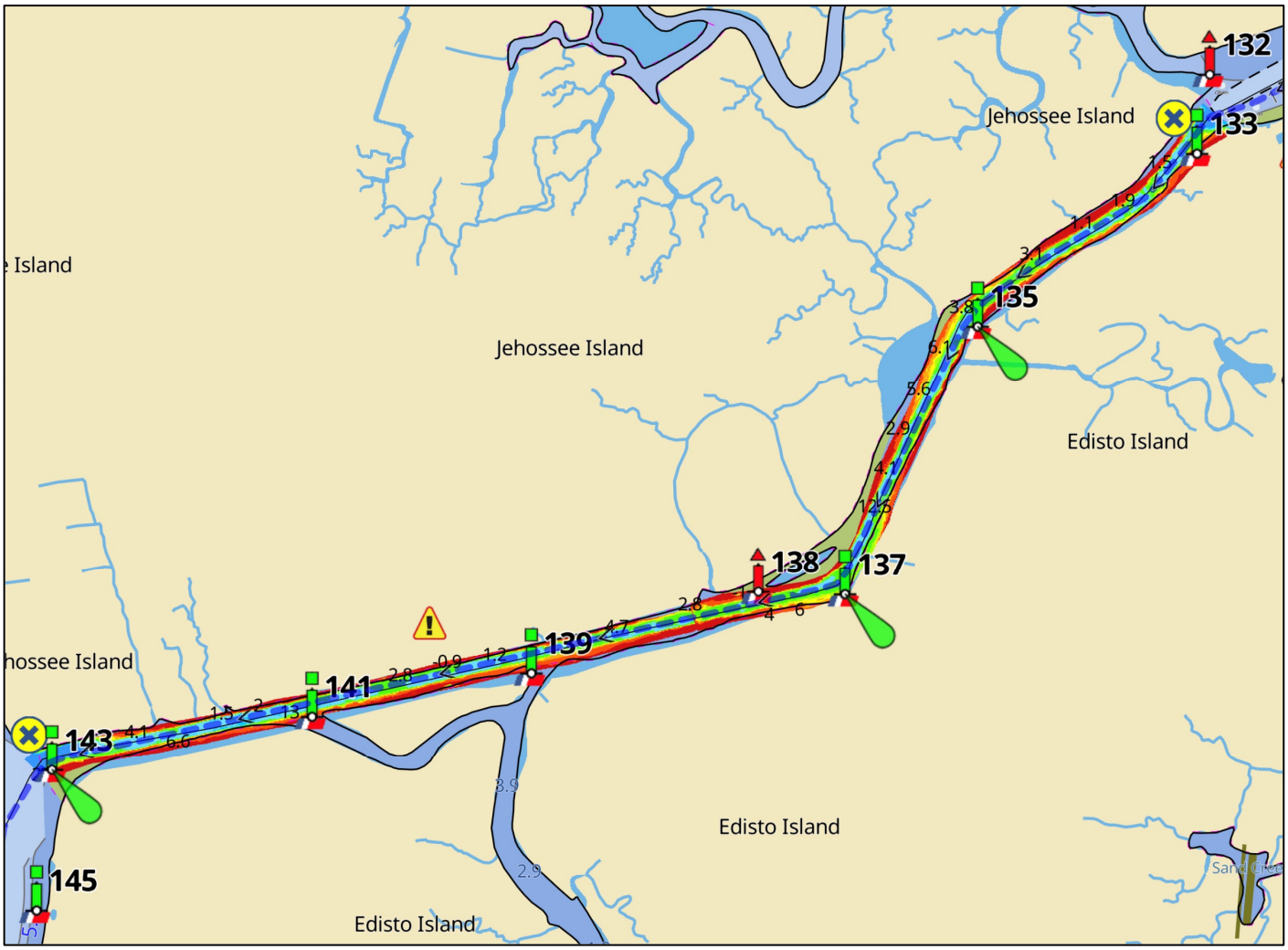
The approach to Lockwoods Folly was a problem in the spring of 2021 but since then it's been dredged, however, the original 12 MLLW dredged depth is now only 8.3 MLLW. Just check the NC: Lockwoods Folly Northern Approach shoaling MM 320 to be sure. The 1/26/2023 USACE survey is shown with the Bob423 track.

Lockwoods Folly MM 321 — 8.6 MLLW as of 8/21/2023

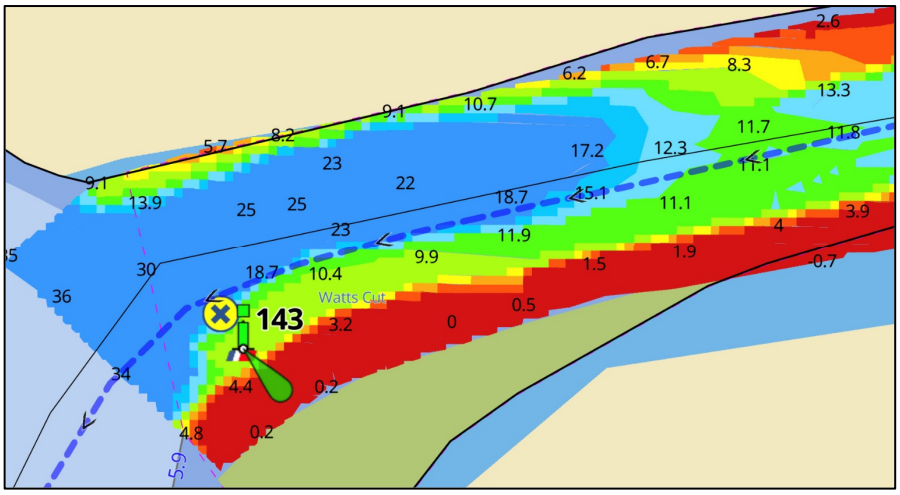
Lockwoods Folly, bottom chart, was just dredged yet again and so for probably a short time, it's fine but be sure to check this perennial shoaling area before coming through by accessing the NC: Lockwoods Folly, shoaling MM 321.3. The 8/21/2023 USACE survey is shown with the Bob423 track.



Watts Cut MM 503 **9.6 MLLW as of 8/4/2023**



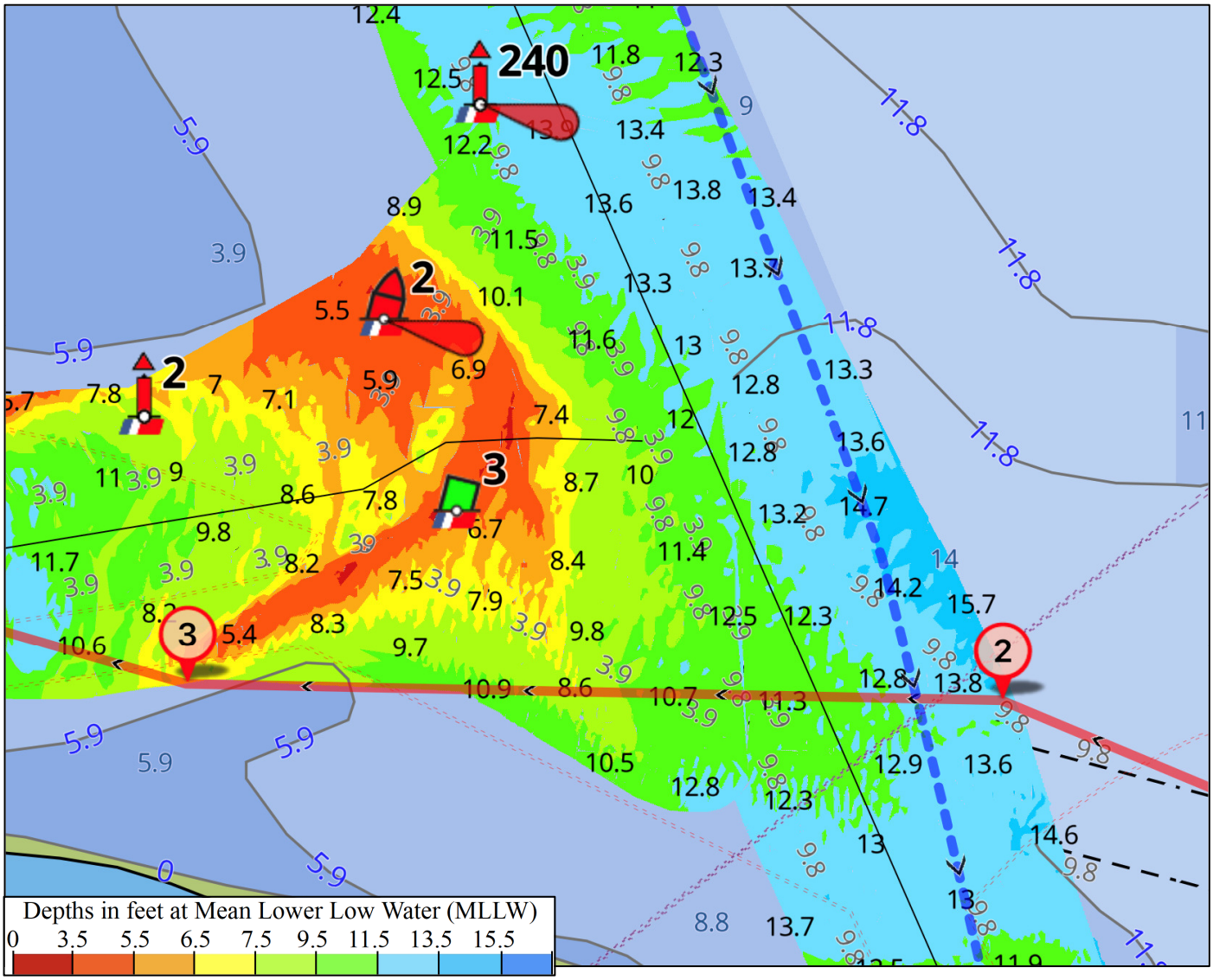
Watts Cut was dredged to 11 MLLW but has already shoaled to 9.6 MLLW. The Bob423 track has been changed to follow the centerline of the newly dredged channel.



The southern exit is show in the inset. The dredged channel is 90 feet wide the entire length of the cut.

I expect less water as the year progresses. Be sure to check the SC: Watts Cut shoaling MM 503 for the latest information.

St Lucie Inlet MM 987.4 **7.6 MLLW as of 4/17/2023**



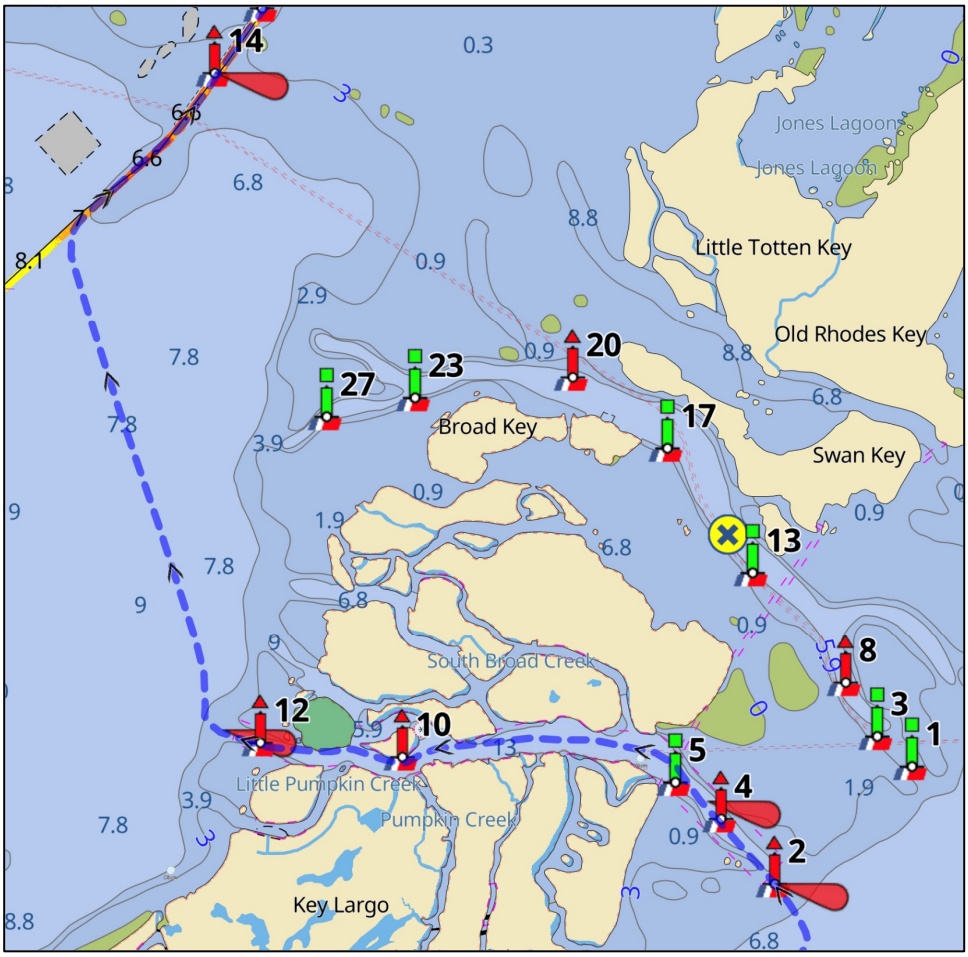
You are about to enter the Crossroads, so named because of four major channels entering one area. Fishing boats using the St Lucie inlet are going east-west, snowbirds are going north to south and south to north, and traffic to and from St Lucie River is coming and going from the west and usually turning north or south at the Crossroads. In short, expect anything.

The entrance to Manatee Pocket has shoaled to 4.5 MLLW between R2 and G3. The passage around the shoaling is shown by the solid red line representing a GPX route for 7.5 MLLW as of 7/19/2023. The GPX route is available for downloading at the Bob423 download site under the GPX tab at bobicw.blogspot.com.

There are efforts to get emergency dredging but nothing is committed as of 9/6/2023.

Angelfish Creek Passage MM 1120

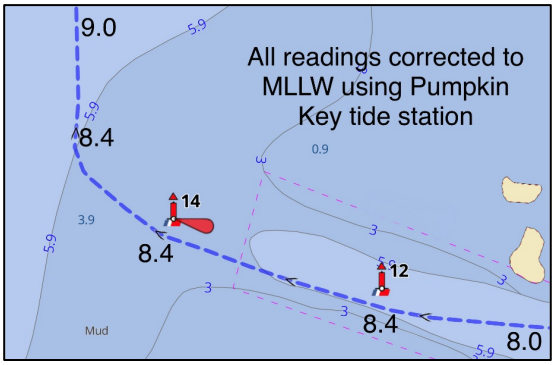
4.6 MLLW as of 9/6/2023

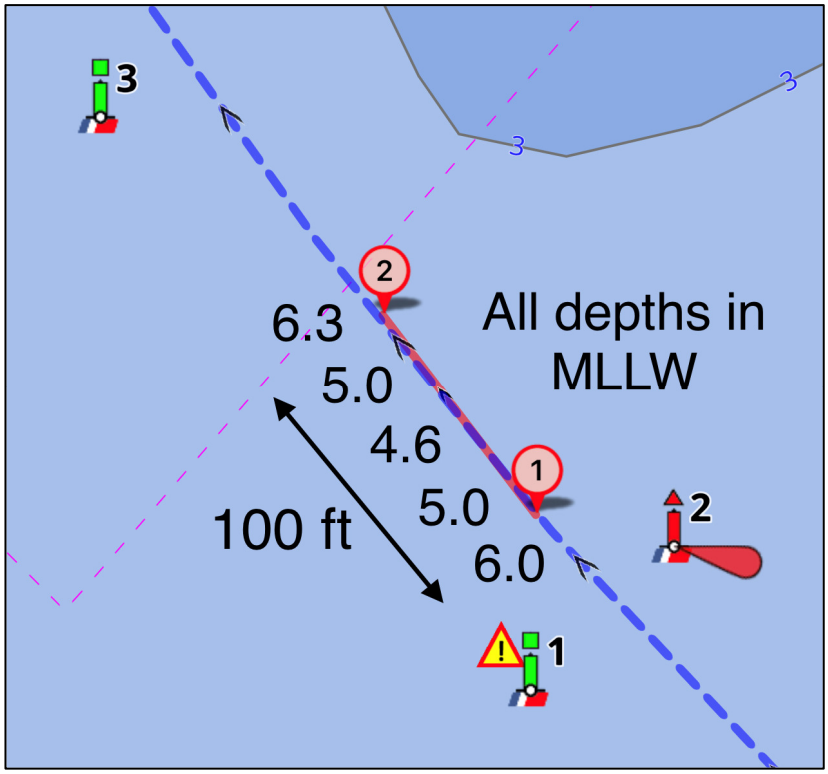


The deepest water bay to ocean passage going south after Key Biscayne is Angelfish Creek. The least water is on the ocean side (east side) of the track at 4.6 MLLW for 100 feet using the Ocean Reef Harbor tide station for the tide on the ocean side. The Pumpkin Key station is used on the bay side.

I took the Angelfish Creek passage on 3/28/2022 and the track is available for download at Bob423 Long Tracks.

The shallow area is 100 feet long with 4.6 MLLW for about 30 feet. Once past, the water deepens the rest of the way to at least 8 MLLW all the way to the bay side.





All the readings are in MLLW but you need to check one more source before taking the passage. NOAA maintains a water level station at Vaca Key with a real-time output over the internet at Vaca Key Water Levels. In the graph, note the actual vs predicted water levels for the area. The actual usually runs about 0.5 ft above MLLW and that 0.5 number is part of the 4.6 MLLW minimum depth seen. If the actual vs predicted were to be zero instead, then the 4.6 MLLW number could be 4 .1 ft instead.