Drill Cuttings, Drill Fluids, and Muds Discharge Modeling for

Burger J Well

Drilled by the Drill Ship Noble Discoverer

Located Offshore Chukchi Sea, Alaska

Prepared for:

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Report No.	Burger_J_SO**7**_NOBLE_DISCOVERER

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The primary goal of this environmental numeric modeling was to simulate the dispersion and deposition of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds discharges from the drilling operation by the drill ship Noble Discoverer at the prospect well site Burger J located offshore Chukchi Sea using the Offshore Operators Committee Mud and Produced Water Discharge Model (OOC Model). The prospect well Burger J is located in block **6912** area of Posey. The depth of water is **43.90** meters (m). The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations were performed for the six discrete drilling intervals divided into two discharge scenarios: sea floor (**013**) and sea surface (**001**). The sea floor discharges occur from the drilling intervals **1, 2,** and **3** and the sea surface discharges occur from the drilling intervals **4, 5,** and **6**. The sea floor discharges occur at **1.83** m (or **6** feet) above the sea floor and the sea surface discharges occur at **6.71** m (or **22** feet) below the sea surface. Moreover, approximately **2,427** barrels (bbls) of the water based muds will be discharged at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970.80** bbls per hour (bbls/hour) for **2.5** hours. These constitute discharges described in Permit no.: **AKG-28-8100** as discharge **013** (Muds, Cuttings, and Cements at the Seafloor) and discharge **001** (Water-Based Drilling Fluids and Drill Cuttings).

The cements, water based dill cuttings, and drill fluids mass discharge rate (effluent) for drilling intervals **1, 2,** and **3** for the sea floor (**013**) discharges are: **82.86, 148.57,** and **86.64** bbls/hour, respectively. These sediments will be pumped away via use of a pump at the sea floor. A flexible hose suction pipe will intake a large volume of sea water to move the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids from the seafloor and will discharge from a **12.0** inch internal diameter discharge pipe at **14,000** bbls/hour. This yields into **169.0, 94.2,** and **161.6** pre-dilution factors before discharging into the ambient for the drilling intervals **1, 2,** and **3**, respectively. The discharge pipe of the seafloor pump is located at **1.83** m (or **6**.**0** feet) above the seafloor and oriented horizontally aligned with the direction of the current, which is to the east.

The water based dill cuttings and drill fluids mass discharge rate (effluent) for drilling intervals **4, 5,** and **6** for the sea surface (**001**) discharges are: **89.87, 93.46,** and **18.49** bbls/hour, respectively. Sea water at a rate of **10.83** bbls/hour will be added to the drill cuttings and drill fluids before discharging into the ambient during the drilling of the bottom hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **4, 5,** and **6** for the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenario. This yields into **1.1, 1.1,** and **1.6** pre-dilution factors before discharging into the ambient for the drilling intervals **4, 5,** and **6**, respectively. The pre-diluted water based dill cuttings and drill fluids discharge rate (effluent) for drilling intervals **4, 5,** and **6** for the sea surface (**001**) discharges are: **100.70, 104.29, and 29.32** bbls/hour, respectively.

The outer diameter of the pipe for the sea surface discharge is **15.0** inches. It runs through the main deck of the drill rig Noble Discoverer and comes out on the bottom of the ship. The drilling draft varies from **6.71** m to **7.68** m approximately. Therefore, the surface discharges occur at a depth between **6.71** m and **7.68** m from the sea surface. The internal pipe diameter of **14.25** inches was used for modeling the sea surface discharge scenario based on a **0.75** inches of total pipe wall thickness. The discharge pipe is oriented vertically downward with respect to the sea surface and discharges at approximately **6.71** m below the sea surface for modeling the sea surface discharge scenario.

The water based drill fluids for the top hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **1**, **2**, and **3**, for the sea floor (**013**) discharge scenario is composed of primarily sea water, which includes **30** pounds (lbs.) of bentonite, **0**.**5** lbs. of xanthan gum, and **0**.**03** lbs. of Gelex bentonite extender in each barrel of sea water.

The water based drill fluids for the bottom hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **4**, **5**, and **6**, for the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenario is composed of primarily sodium chloride (NaCl) brine system. Sodium chloride brine systems are single-salt solutions of sodium chloride and water. Saturated sodium chloride brine has a density of **1,198** kilograms per cubic meter **(**kg/m^3) or **10** lbs. per gallon (lb/gal**)** and used as a base drill fluids for the bottom hole section. Barite at the rate of **1**.**413** lb/gal is added to the base drill fluids to increase the weight of the drill fluids to **1,318.13** kg/m^3 (or **11** lb/gal**)** for drilling the interval **04** of the bottom hole section. Moreover, barite at

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the rate of **2.83** lb/gal is added to the base drill fluids to increase the weight of the drill fluids to **1,438** kg/m^3 (or **12** lb/gal) for drilling the intervals **05** and **06** of the bottom hole section.

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations both for the sea floor (**013**) and the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenarios were performed for two sets of currents speed: mean currents and maximum currents. This provides a sensitivity analysis of the numeric model results to the model input parameter: currents speed. The current speed of **7** centimeters per second (cm/sec) was used as the mean value and **25** cm/sec was used as the maximum value in the OOC model.

The solids deposition on the seabed from the effluents discharged during the six discrete drilling intervals and the rig's surface pits were compiled using the Graphical User Interface Discharge Offshore (GUIDO, version **7.3**) software for the OOC model yielding the total solids deposition loading and total thickness distribution on the seabed from the drilling operation by the drill ship Noble Discoverer at the Burger J well site.

The OOC model predicted total amount of solids loading on the sea floor as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds at the mean currents are: (i) **100** kg/m^2 at **50** m, (ii) **10** kg/m^2 at **150** m, (iii) **1** kg/m^2 at **425** m, (iv) **0.1** kg/m^2 at **1,100** m, and (v) **0.01** kg/m^2 at **2,750** m distances approximately from the source towards the direction of the current.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **1000-, 100-, 10-, 1-, 0.1-, 0.01-,** and **0.001**-kg/m^2 at the mean currents are: **0.109, 0.276, 0.657, 4.404, 19.025, 146.246,** and **745.901** hectares (ha), respectively.

The OOC model predicted maximum deposit thickness at the mean currents is **228.9** cm, which occurs at **10** m to the east and **30** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **110** m to the east from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **120** m x **45** m rectangle area (or **0.560** ha) at the mean currents. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **200**-, **100**-, **10**-, and **1**-cm are: **0.085**, **0.104**, **0.248**, and **0.560** ha, respectively.

The OOC model predicted total amount of solids loading on the sea floor as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds at the maximum currents are: (i) **100** kg/m^2 at **90** m, (ii) **10** kg/m^2 at **300** m, (iii) **1** kg/m^2 at **900** m, and (iv) **0.1** kg/m^2 at **2,200** m distances approximately from the source towards the direction of the current.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **1000**-, **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0.1**-, **0.01**-, and **0.001**-kg/m^2 at the maximum currents are: **0.109**, **0.337**, **1.231**, **3.707**, **18.212**, **135.284**, and **216.375** ha, respectively.

The OOC model predicted maximum deposit thickness at the maximum currents is **189.7** cm, which occurs at **10** m to the east and **30** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **190** m to the east from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **210** m x **50** m rectangle area (or **1.057** ha) at the maximum currents. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **100**-, **10**-, and **1**-cm are: **0.102**, **0.275**, and **1.057** ha, respectively.

The impacts on the ambient from the drilling operations at the Burger J well in terms of solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is limited to an area: **0.560** ha at the mean currents and **1.057** ha at the maximum currents. The impacts at **100** m from the discharge source are: solids deposit thickness in the range of **1** to **3** cm at the mean currents and **3** to **10** cm at the maximum currents on the seabed. The impacts on the ambient water in terms of the TSS concentrations at **100** m from the discharge source are: **6.1** to **238.2** mg/l at the mean currents and **11.7** to **320.4** mg/l at the maximum currents. The impacts at **300** m from the source are: solids deposit thickness of less

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than **1** cm on the seabed both for the mean and maximum currents. The impacts on the ambient water in terms of the TSS concentrations at **300** m from the discharge source are: **1**.**3** to **109.7** mg/l at the mean currents and **3.8** to **97.7** mg/l at the maximum currents. The overall impacts on the ambient from the drilling operations at the Burger J well by the drill ship Noble Discoverer can be classified as low.

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TABLE OF ACRONYMS

bbls	Barrels
bbls/hour	Barrels per hour
cc	Cubic centimeter
cm	Centimeters
cm/sec	Centimeters per second
°C	Degrees Celsius
ft	Feet
g	Grams
g/cc	Grams per cubic centimeter
gal	Gallons
ha	Hectares
kg	Kilograms
kg/m^2	Kilograms per square meter
kg/m^3	Kilograms per cubic meter
km	Kilometers
lb	Pounds
lb/gal	Pounds per gallon
m	Meters
m/s	Meters per second
mg	Milligrams
mg/l	Milligrams per liter
psu	Practical salinity scale unit
sec	Seconds
TSS	Total suspended solids

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SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The numeric simulations for the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds discharges from the drilling operation by the drill ship Noble Discoverer at the prospect well site Burger J located offshore Chukchi Sea were performed using the Offshore Operators Committee Mud and Produced Water Discharge Model (OOC Model). The prospect well Burger J is located in block **6912** area of Posey. The depth of water is **43**.**90** meters (m). The location of the well Burger J, within the burger field offshore the Chukchi Sea is presented in **Figure 1-1**. The Burger J well coordinates: easting-northing and latitude-longitude are presented in **Table 1-1**. The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations were performed for the six discrete drilling intervals divided into two discharge scenarios: sea floor (**013**) and sea surface (**001**). The sea floor discharges occur from the drilling intervals **1**, **2**, and **3** and the sea surface discharges occur from the drilling intervals **4**, **5**, and **6**. The sea floor discharges occur at **1**.**83** m (or **6** feet) above the sea floor and the sea surface discharges occur at **6**.**71 m (or 22 feet)** below the sea surface. Moreover, approximately **2**,**427** barrels (bbls) of the water based muds will be discharged at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970**.**80** bbls per hour (bbls/hour) for **2**.**5** hours. These constitute discharges described in Permit no.: **AKG**-**28**-**8100** as discharge **013** (Muds, Cuttings, and Cements at the Seafloor) and discharge **001** (Water-Based Drilling Fluids and Drill Cuttings).

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations both for the sea floor (**013**) and the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenarios as listed below were performed for two sets of currents speed: mean currents and maximum currents. This provides a sensitivity analysis of the numeric model results to the model input parameter: currents speed. The modeled discharge scenarios are:

- **Discharge Scenario 1a**: **Sea Floor Discharges (013) at Mean Currents**
  Muds, cuttings, and cements discharges prior to the installation of the riser near the sea floor.

- **Discharge Scenario 1b: Sea Surface Discharges (001) at Mean Currents**
  Water based drill fluids and drill cuttings discharges after the installation of the riser near the sea surface. Moreover, approximately **2**,**427** bbls of water based muds will be discharged at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970**.**80** bbls/hour for **2**.**5** hours.

- **Discharge Scenario 2a**: **Sea Floor Discharges (013) at Maximum Currents**
  Muds, cuttings, and cements discharges prior to the installation of the riser near the sea floor.

- **Discharge Scenario 2b: Sea Surface Discharges (001) at Maximum Currents**
  Water based drill fluids and drill cuttings discharges after the installation of the riser near the sea surface. Moreover, approximately **2**,**427** bbls of water based muds will be discharged at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970**.**80** bbls/hour for **2**.**5** hours.

The drilling operations for the Burger J well would be conducted by the drill ship Noble Discoverer. The drilling operation for each discharge scenario (sea floor and sea surface) would be conducted in three different intervals yielding a total of six (**2** discharge scenarios × **3** drilling intervals per scenario) drilling intervals as presented in **Table 1-2**.

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Figure 1-1: Location of the Burger Field
Prospect Well: Burger J

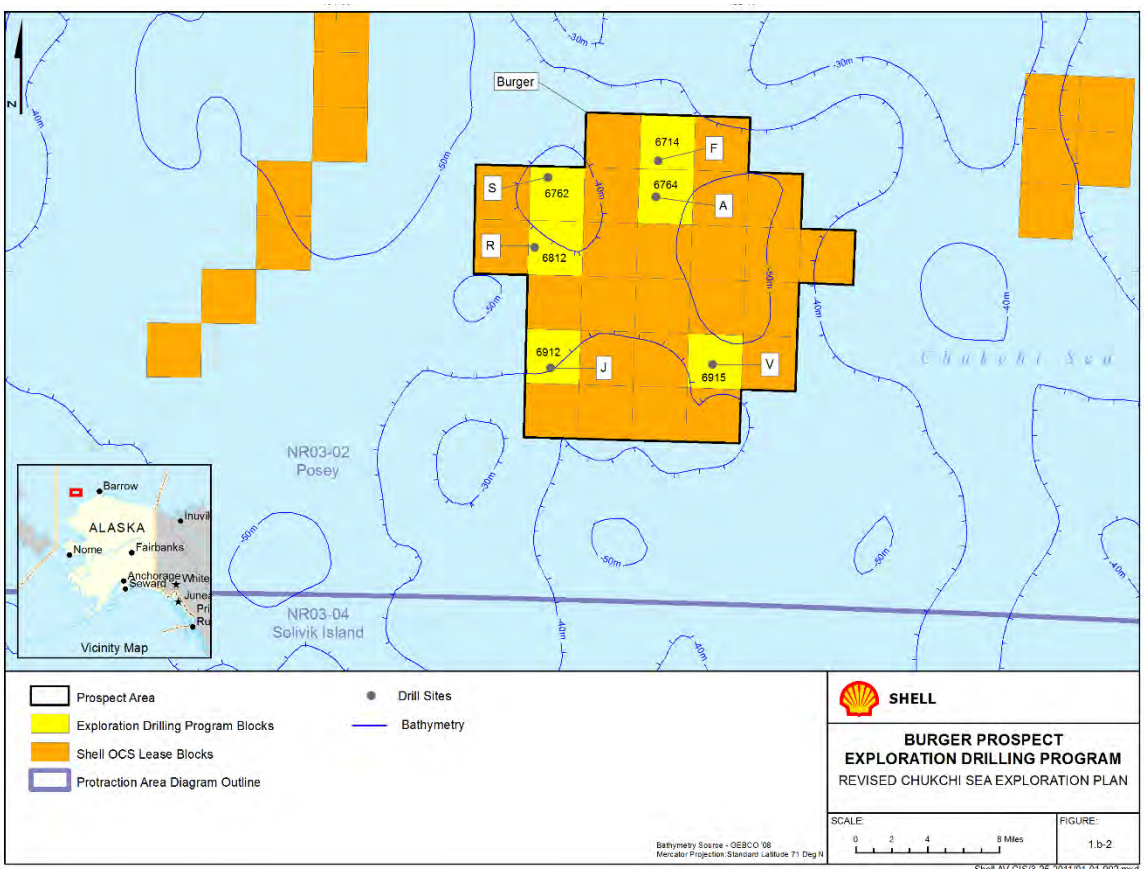

Table 1-1: Location of the Prospect Well Burger J

Prospect Well	Area	Block	Coordinates				Water Depth (m)
			Easting (m)	Northing (m)	Latitude	Longitude	
Burger J	Posey	6912	555,036.01	7,897,424.42	N71° 10' 24.03"	W163° 28' 18.52"	43.90

Table **1-2** presents the detailed drilling operation and the effluent data for the prospect well Burger J. This table presents the following data: discharge scenarios, drilling intervals, duration of drilling, footage drilled, volume of total water based drill cuttings including washout, volume of total water based drill fluids, volume of total effluent, effluent (or cuttings mass) discharge rate, volume of seawater added, volume of total pre-diluted effluent, and the pre-diluted effluent discharge rate. The estimated volumes of the water based drill cuttings including fifty percent (**50** %) washout and drill fluids for the six drilling intervals vary from a low of **687.70** bbls to a high of **5,468.57** bbls. The durations of drilling vary from a low of **5.2** hours to a high of **66.0** hours. The effluent or cuttings mass discharge rates vary from a low of **18.49** to a high of **148.57** bbls/hour. Cement is discharged only for the sea floor discharge scenario during the drilling intervals **2** and **3**. It is included in the volume of the drill cuttings. Moreover, approximately **2,427** bbls of the water based muds will be discharged at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970.80** bbls/hour for **2.5** hours.

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Table 1-2: Drilling Operation for Burger J

DISCHARGE SCENARIOS, DRILLING INTERVALS, VOLUMES OF DRILL CUTTINGS, AND EFFLUENT DISCHARGE RATES

Discharge Scenario	Drilling Intervals	Durations of Drilling or Pumping	Footage Drilled	Total Water Based Drill Cuttings including 50% Washout[1]	Total Water Based Drill Fluids[2]	Total Effluent (water based drill cuttings + drill fluids)	Effluent Discharge Rate	Seawater Added to the Effluent	Total Pre-diluted Effluent (water based drill cuttings + drill fluids + seawater)	Pre-diluted Effluent Discharge Rate
		(Hours)	(feet)	(bbls)	(bbls)	(bbls)	(bbls/hour)	(bbls)	(bbls)	(bbls/hour)
Sea Floor	1	66.00	50	4,628.57	840.00	5,468.57	82.86	918,531.43	924,000.00	14000.00
	2	5.20	123	316.29	456.29	772.57	148.57	72,027.43	72,800.00	14000.00
	3	34.40	1,086	1,070.17	1,910.17	2,980.34	86.64	478,619.66	481,600.00	14000.00
Sea Surface	4	23.30	1,066	348.99	1,744.94	2,093.93	89.87	252.34	2,346.27	100.70
	5	29.00	2,816	451.73	2,258.67	2,710.40	93.46	314.07	3,024.47	104.29
	6	37.20	1,484	114.62	573.09	687.70	18.49	402.88	1,090.58	29.32
	Discharge from Rig's Surface Pits	2.50	-	-	2,427.00	-	970.80	-	2,427.00	970.80

Notes to Table 1-2

1: Cement is discharged during the drilling intervals **2** and **3**. It is included in the volume of drill cuttings.

2: Volume of the water based muds discharges from the rig's surface pits.

The cements, water based dill cuttings, and drill fluids mass discharge rate (effluent) for drilling intervals **1**, **2**, and **3** for the sea floor (**013**) discharges are: **82.86**, **148.57**, and **86.64** bbls/hour, respectively. These sediments will be pumped away via use of a pump at the sea floor. A flexible hose suction pipe will intake a large volume of sea water to move the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids from the seafloor and will discharge from a **12.0** inch internal diameter discharge pipe at **14,000** bbls/hour. This yields into **169.0**, **94.2**, and **161.6** pre-dilution factors before discharging into the ambient for the drilling intervals **1**, **2**, and **3**, respectively. The discharge pipe of the seafloor pump is located at **1.83** m (or **6.0** feet) above the seafloor and oriented horizontally aligned with the direction of the current, which is to the east.

The water based dill cuttings and drill fluids mass discharge rate (effluent) for drilling intervals **4**, **5**, and **6** for the sea surface (**001**) discharges are: **89.87**, **93.46**, and **18.49** bbls/hour, respectively. Sea water at a rate of **10.83** bbls/hour will be added to the drill cuttings and drill fluids before discharging into the ambient during the drilling of the bottom hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **4**, **5**, and **6** for the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenario. This

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yields into **1**.**1**, **1**.**1**, and **1**.**6** pre-dilution factors before discharging into the ambient for the drilling intervals **4**, **5**, and **6**, respectively. The pre-diluted water based dill cuttings and drill fluids discharge rate (effluent) for drilling intervals **4**, **5**, and **6** for the sea surface (**001**) discharges are: **100**.**70**, **104**.**29**, and **29**.**32** bbls/hour, respectively.

The outer diameter of the pipe for the sea surface discharge is **15.0** inches. It runs through the main deck of the drill rig Noble Discoverer and comes out on the bottom of the ship. The drilling draft varies from **6.71** m to **7.68** m approximately. Therefore, the surface discharges occur at a depth between **6**.**71** m and **7**.**68** m from the sea surface. The internal pipe diameter of **14.25** inches was used for modeling the sea surface discharge scenario based on a **0**.**75** inches of total pipe wall thickness. The discharge pipe is oriented vertically downward with respect to the sea surface and discharges at approximately **6.71** m below the sea surface for modeling the sea surface discharge scenario.

The water based drill fluids for the top hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **1**, **2**, and **3**, for the sea floor (**013**) discharge scenario is composed of primarily sea water, which includes **30** pounds (lbs.) of bentonite, **0**.**5** lbs. of xanthan gum, and **0**.**03** lbs. of Gelex bentonite extender in each barrel of sea water.

The water based drill fluids for the bottom hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **4**, **5**, and **6**, for the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenario is composed of primarily sodium chloride (NaCl) brine system. Sodium chloride brine systems are single-salt solutions of sodium chloride and water. Saturated sodium chloride brine has a density of **1,198** kilograms per cubic meter **(**kg/m^3) or **10** lbs. per gallon (lb/gal**)** and used as a base drill fluids for the bottom hole section. Barite at the rate of **1**.**413** lb/gal is added to the base drill fluids to increase the weight of the drill fluids to **1,318.13** kg/m^3 (or **11** lb/gal**)** for drilling the interval **04** of the bottom hole section. Moreover, barite at the rate of **2**.**83** lb/gal is added to the base drill fluids to increase the weight of the drill fluids to **1,438** kg/m^3 (or **12** lb/gal) for drilling the intervals **05** and **06** of the bottom hole section.

1.1 The OOC Model

The Offshore Operators Committee (OOC), a consortium of companies operating in the waters of the Gulf of Mexico, sponsored development of a model to predict the fate of the effluents discharged offshore (Alam and Brandsma **2013**; Brandsma and Smith, **1999**). The OOC model predicts the fate of drilling mud, cuttings, or produced water discharged from a single pipe. Up to **12** classes of particulates may be contained in the effluent. Particulates may be solids or oil droplets. The model predicts the concentrations of particulates and liquid effluents in the water column and the deposition of solid particles on the sea floor. There are no restrictions on the nature of the receiving environment simulated by the OOC model. Bathymetry may be variable or constant depth. Currents and hydrography may change spatially and temporally. Sea state may change temporally. The model couples an integral plume model of initial dilution and dynamic spreading with a far-field cloud-tracking model.

The OOC model has been validated against laboratory and field data (O'Reilly et al., **1989**; Smith et al, **1994**; and Smith et al., **2004**). The OOC model is maintained with the aid of an automated validation system. The validation system produces an HTML report documenting the results of simulating **681** experiments in twenty-five laboratory studies and four field studies (Brandsma, **2004**), including a field study of cuttings deposition on the sea floor. The model has been used by several major oil companies around the globe, universities, MMS, and EPA. The model has been applied to offshore Brazil, Gulf of Mexico, Nigeria, North Sea, and Pacific Ocean.

The Graphical User Interface Discharge Offshore (GUIDO), version **7**.**3** software (Alam and Brandsma, **2013**) for the OOC model performs pre- and post-processing for the Fortran-based OOC model. It allows the user to prepare inputs in convenient systems of units, checks and, if necessary, adjusts inputs for consistency and submits the inputs for execution by the OOC model, in interactive or batch mode.

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1.2 Settling Velocity Distribution for Solids in Muds and Cuttings

The solids in drilling discharges have a range of particle sizes (Brandsma and Smith, **1999**). As a result, the settling behavior of the effluent solids is described by a distribution of settling velocities rather than a single settling velocity. The Report and User Guide (Brandsma and Smith, **1999**) of the OOC Model presents examples of solids fall velocity data sets for water-based mud, water-based mud cuttings, and oil-based mud cuttings. The Report and User Guide states that these data sets can be used for modeling studies in cases where no site specific data are available on the fall velocity distribution of the effluent solids.

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids discharges for both the sea floor and sea surface discharge scenarios were performed using the fall velocity classes for water based mud cuttings presented in the OOC model Report and User Guide (Brandsma and Smith, **1999**) for the prospect well Burger J. The volume fractions of the fall velocity classes were adjusted for the effluent for each drilling intervals based on the actual volume of the total cuttings solids present in the volumes of the total effluent. The fall velocity classes for water based mud cuttings from the Report and User Guide is presented in **Table 1-3**. The actual value of the density for the solids was used in the numeric simulations for each drilling intervals.

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations of the water based muds discharges from the rig's surface pits were performed using the fall velocity classes for water based mud presented in the OOC model Report and User Guide (Brandsma and Smith, **1999**) for the prospect well Burger J. The volume fractions of the fall velocity classes were adjusted based on the actual volume of the total solids such as barite present in the volume of the total effluent. The fall velocity classes for water based mud from the Report and User Guide is presented in **Table 1-4**. The actual value of the density for the solids was used in the numeric modeling of the water based muds discharges from the rig's surface pits.

The fall velocities for different sediment particle sizes and classes are presented in **Table 1-5** (Keith Dyer, **1986**).

The ambient and the effluent characteristics used in the OOC models for the Burger J well are described in detailed in **Sections 2** and **3**. The model domain is described in **Section 4**. The model results at the mean and maximum currents are described in details in **Sections 5** and **6. Section 7** presents the sensitivity analysis**. Section 8** describes the summary and conclusion. **Section 9** lists the references cited in this technical report.

Table 1-3: Fall Velocity Classes for Water Based Mud Cuttings (Brandsma and Smith, 1999)

Class	Density (g/cc)	Volume Fraction	Fall Velocity (feet/s)	Fall Velocity (cm/s)
1	2.65	0.04272	0.000004430	0.0001350264
2	2.65	0.03204	0.000055300	0.0016855440
3	2.65	0.03738	0.000716000	0.0218236800
4	2.65	0.01602	0.007638000	0.2328062400
5	2.65	0.01068	0.047480000	1.4471904000
6	2.65	0.09612	0.131600000	4.0111680000
7	2.65	0.08544	0.321400000	9.7962720000
8	2.65	0.08010	0.443500000	13.5178800000
9	2.65	0.13350	0.852200000	25.9750560000

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Table 1-4: Fall Velocity Classes for Water Based Mud (Brandsma and Smith, 1999)

Class	Density	Volume Fraction	Fall Velocity	
	(g/cc)		(feet/s)	(cm/s)
1	3.377000	0.000530000	3.68000E-02	1.1216640000
2	3.377000	0.002110000	1.40000E-02	0.4267200000
3	3.377000	0.010160000	2.70000E-03	0.0822960000
4	3.377000	0.010160000	2.10000E-03	0.0640080000
5	3.377000	0.007000000	1.68000E-03	0.0512064000
6	3.377000	0.007000000	1.43000E-03	0.0435864000
7	3.377000	0.005280000	9.85000E-04	0.0300228000
8	3.377000	0.002640000	4.85000E-04	0.0147828000
9	3.377000	0.004220000	2.00000E-04	0.0060960000
10	3.377000	0.003700000	9.00000E-05	0.0027432000

Table 1-5: Fall Velocities for Different Sediment Particle Size and Classes (Keith Dyer, 1986)

Sediment Size Class	Particle Size (mm)	Fall Velocity (cm/s)
		Keith Dyer (1986)
Chunks	> 2.0	65
Sand	0.062 - 2.0	32
Coarse Silt	0.016 - 0.062	0.32
Fine Silt	0.004 - 0.016	0.027
Clay	< 0.004	< 0.01

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SECTION 2.0 AMBIENT CHARACTERISTICS

The OOC model was used for the numeric simulations of the dispersion and deposition of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds discharges from the prospect well Burger J located offshore Chukchi Sea. The required model input data for the ambient are described in this Section.

2.1 DEPTH OF WATER

The ambient water characteristics data set presented in **Table 2-1** for the planned drilling period was used for the dispersion and deposition numeric simulations of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds discharges using the OOC model for both the sea floor and sea surface discharge scenarios. The ambient water depth at the Burger J well site is **43.90** m. The planned drilling period is within the open water season of July thru October.

2.2 TEMPERATURE AND SALINITY

The stratification of the ambient temperature and salinity for the open water season is presented in **Figures 2-1** and **2-2**, respectively. The temperature of the ambient water varies from **4** degrees Celsius (°C) at the surface stratum to - **0.5** °C at the bottom stratum, with a significant stratification occurring at **15** m depth. The salinity of the ambient water varies from **30** Practical Salinity Scale Unit (psu) at the surface stratum to **32** psu at the bottom stratum.

Table 2-1: Ambient Water Characteristics for the Burger Field, for the planned drilling period

Water Depth	Temperature	Salinity	Mean Current		Maximum Current	
			Speed	Direction (from True North)	Speed	Direction (from True North)
m	°C	psu	cm/s	°T	cm/s	°T
0.0	4.00	30.0	7.0	90	25.0	90
15.0	3.50	30.5	7.0	90	25.0	90
20.0	-0.25	31.5	7.0	90	25.0	90
43.9	-0.50	32.0	7.0	90	25.0	90

2.3 CURRENT SPEED

The report "Physical Oceanographic Measurements in the Klondike and Burger Survey Areas of the Chukchi Sea: **2008** and **2009**" (Figures **2** and **3**, Weingartner and Danielson, **2010**) for the year **2008** states the following: Mean current speeds within the Herald and Barrow Canyons are swift (**25** centimeters per second (cm/s)), more moderate in the Central Channel (**10** cm/s), and generally < **5** cm/s elsewhere. The prospect well Burger J is located in **71°** N and **163°** W. It can be seen from Figure **3** (Weingartner and Danielson, **2010**) that the mean flow vectors (blue arrows) in the vicinity of **71°** N and **163°** W are approximately in the range of **3** cm/s to **10** cm/s.

Therefore, the current speed of **7** cm/sec is used in the model as the average value. The current speed of **25** cm/sec is used as the maximum value in the OOC model. The currents turn eastward to enter the Barrow Canyon at **71°** N (Ref: Page **4**, Physical oceanographic measurements in the Klondike and Burger prospects of the Chukchi Sea: **2008** and **2009**). The current speed is distributed uniformly with the depth with a prevailing direction of flow to the east for the planned drilling period in the OOC model.

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2.4 Winds Speed and Wave Height

The wind speed during the open water season steadily increases from July through October as presented in **Figure 2-3**. The approximate values for the **50**-percentile rank wind speeds for July, August, September, and October are **6.8**, **7.8**, **9.5**, and **10.3** meters per second (m/s), respectively. The tentative drilling period for Burger J is beginning of August to mid-September. The average value for **50**-percentile rank wind speeds for the month of August and September i.e., **8.7** m/s was used for the Burger J well.

The wave height during the open water season also steadily increases from July through October as presented in **Figure 2-4**. The approximate values for the **50**-percentile rank wave heights for July, August, September, and October are **1.2**, **1.4**, **1.8**, and **1.9** m, respectively. The average value for **50**-percentile rank wave height for the month of August and September i.e., **1.6** m was used for the Burger J well.

Figure 2-1: Ambient temperature for open water season, Burger Field, Chukchi Sea

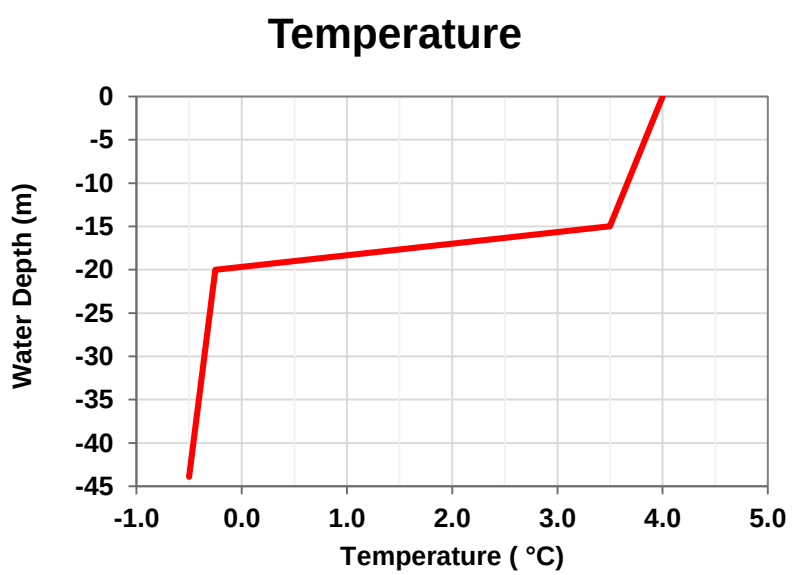

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Figure 2-2: Ambient salinity for open water season, Burger Field, Chukchi Sea

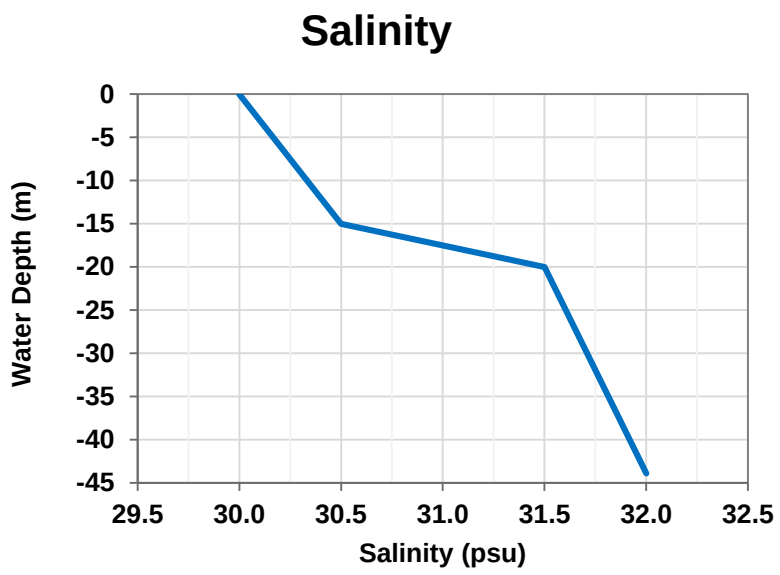

Figure 2-3: Wind speed for open water season, Burger Field, Chukchi Sea

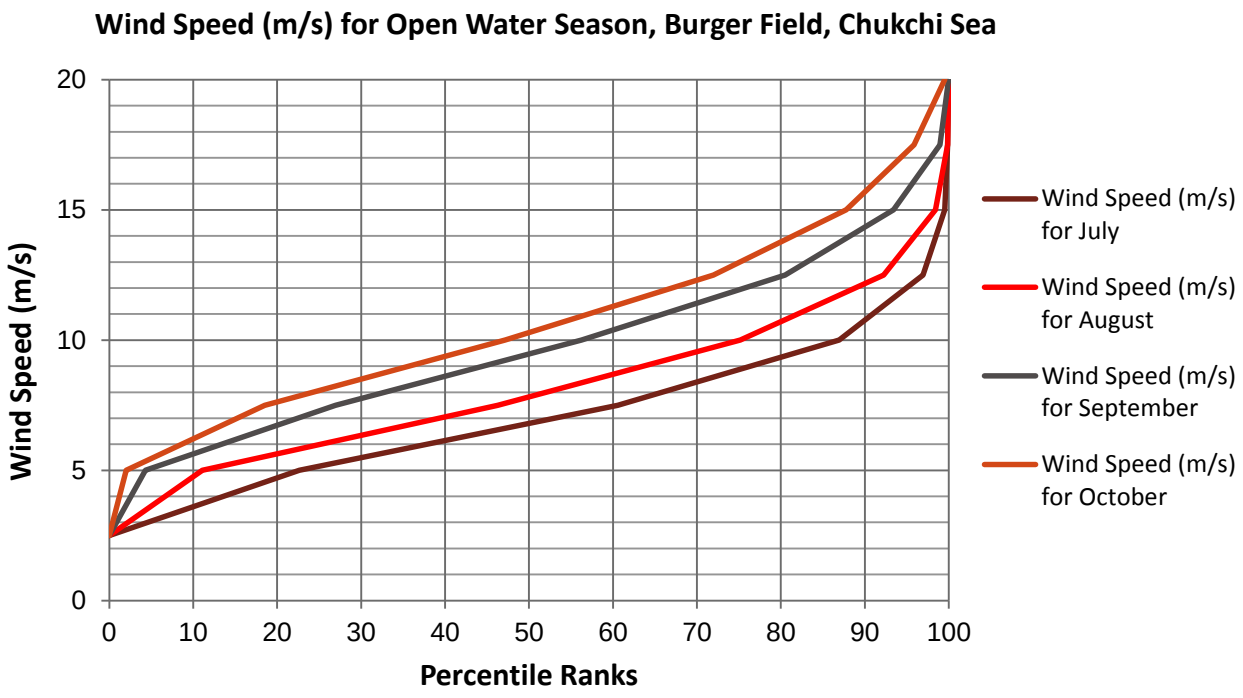

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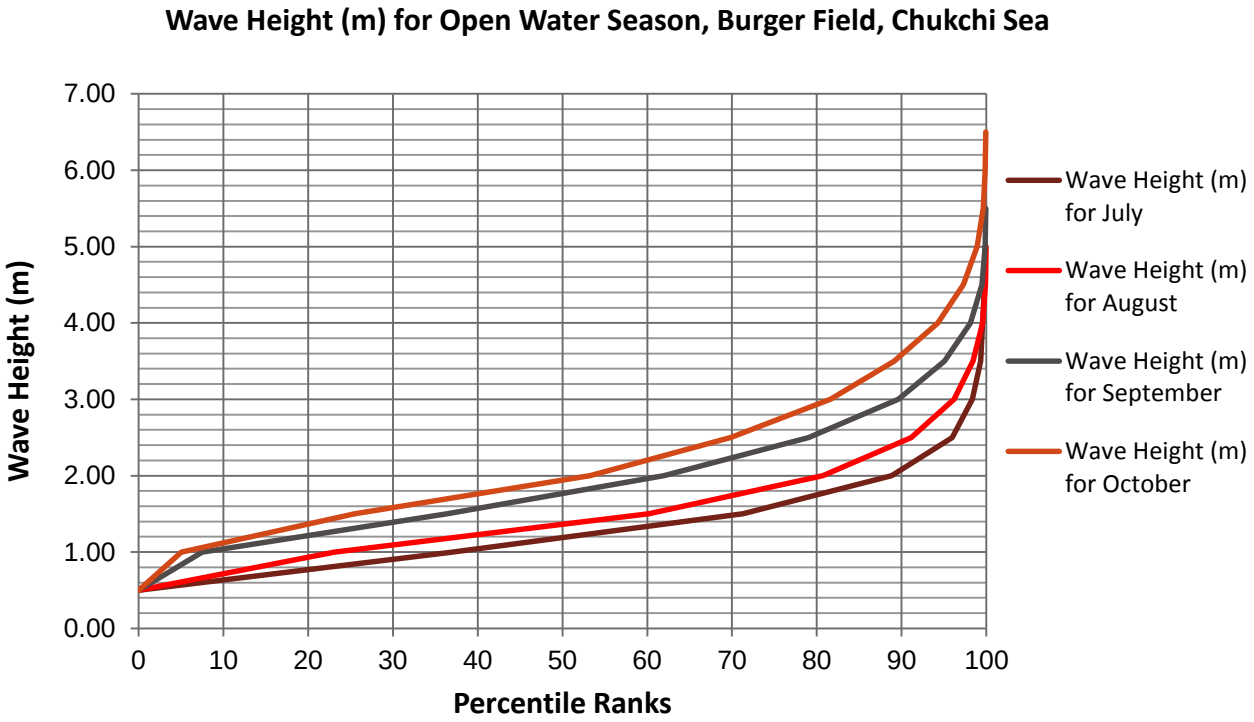
Figure 2-4: Wave height for open water season, Burger Field, Chukchi Sea



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SECTION 3.0 EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS

The OOC model was used for the numeric simulations for the dispersion and deposition of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds discharges from the drilling operation at the prospect well Burger J located offshore Chukchi Sea. The required model input data for the effluent are described in this Section.

3.1 DISCHARGE SCENARIOS

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations both for the sea floor (**013**) and the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenarios as listed below were performed for two sets of currents speed: mean currents and maximum currents. This provides a sensitivity analysis of the numeric model results to the model input parameter: currents speed. The modeled discharge scenarios are:

- **Discharge Scenario 1a**: **Sea Floor Discharges (013) at Mean Currents**
  Muds, cuttings, and cements discharges prior to the installation of the riser near the sea floor.

- **Discharge Scenario 1b: Sea Surface Discharges (001) at Mean Currents**
  Water based drill fluids and drill cuttings discharges after the installation of the riser near the sea surface. Moreover, approximately **2**,**427** bbls of water based muds will be discharged at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970**.**80** bbls/hour for **2**.**5** hours.

- **Discharge Scenario 2a**: **Sea Floor Discharges (013) at Maximum Currents**
  Muds, cuttings, and cements discharges prior to the installation of the riser near the sea floor.

- **Discharge Scenario 2b: Sea Surface Discharges (001) at Maximum Currents**
  Water based drill fluids and drill cuttings discharges after the installation of the riser near the sea surface. Moreover, approximately **2**,**427** bbls of water based muds will be discharged at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970**.**80** bbls/hour for **2**.**5** hours.

3.2 DRILLING INTERVALS, DRILLING DURATIONS, AND EFFLUENT DISCHARGE RATES

The drilling operation for the Burger J well would be conducted by the drill ship Noble Discoverer. The drilling operation for each discharge scenario (sea floor and sea surface) would be conducted in three different intervals yielding a total of six (**2** discharge scenarios × **3** drilling intervals per scenario) drilling intervals. Moreover, approximately **2,427** bbls of the water based muds will be discharged at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970**.**80** bbls/hour for **2.5** hours.

The effluent characteristics from the drilling operation are presented in details in **Table 3-1** for each of the six drilling intervals for Burger J. Table **3**-**1** presents the detailed drilling operation and the effluent data for the prospect well Burger J. This table presents the following data: discharge scenarios, drilling intervals, duration of drilling, footage drilled, volume of total water based drill cuttings including washout, volume of total water based drill fluids, volume of total effluent, effluent (or cuttings mass) discharge rate, volume of seawater added, volume of total pre-diluted effluent, and the pre-diluted effluent discharge rate. The estimated volumes of the water based drill cuttings including fifty percent (**50** %) washout and drill fluids for the six drilling intervals vary from a low of **687.70** bbls to a high of **5,468.57** bbls. The durations of drilling vary from a low of **5.2** hours to a high of **66.0** hours. The effluent discharge rates vary from a low of **18.49** to a high of **148.57** bbls/hour. Cement is discharged only for the sea floor discharge scenario during the drilling intervals **2** and **3**. It is included in the volume of the drill cuttings.

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Table 3-1: Drilling Operation for Burger J

DISCHARGE SCENARIOS, DRILLING INTERVALS, DURATIONS OF DRILLING AND EFFLUENT DISCHARGE RATES

Discharge Scenario	Drilling Intervals	Durations of Drilling or Pumping	Footage Drilled	Total Water Based Drill Cuttings including 50% Washout[1]	Total Water Based Drill Fluids[2]	Total Effluent (water based drill cuttings + drill fluids)	Effluent Discharge Rate	Seawater Added to the Effluent	Total Pre-diluted Effluent (water based drill cuttings + drill fluids + seawater)	Pre-diluted Effluent Discharge Rate
		(Hours)	(feet)	(bbls)	(bbls)	(bbls)	(bbls/hour)	(bbls)	(bbls)	(bbls/hour)
Sea Floor	1	66.00	50	4,628.57	840.00	5,468.57	82.86	918,531.43	924,000.00	14000.00
	2	5.20	123	316.29	456.29	772.57	148.57	72,027.43	72,800.00	14000.00
	3	34.40	1,086	1,070.17	1,910.17	2,980.34	86.64	478,619.66	481,600.00	14000.00
Sea Surface	4	23.30	1,066	348.99	1,744.94	2,093.93	89.87	252.34	2,346.27	100.70
	5	29.00	2,816	451.73	2,258.67	2,710.40	93.46	314.07	3,024.47	104.29
	6	37.20	1,484	114.62	573.09	687.70	18.49	402.88	1,090.58	29.32
	Discharge from Rig's Surface Pits	2.50	-	-	2,427.00	-	970.80	-	2,427.00	970.80

Notes to Table 3-1

1: Cement is discharged during the drilling intervals 2 and 3. It is included in the volume of drill cuttings.
2: Volume of the water based muds discharges from the rig's surface pits.

The water based drill fluids for the top hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **1**, **2**, and **3**, for the sea floor (**013**) discharge scenario is composed of primarily sea water, which includes **30** pounds (lbs.) of bentonite, **0.5** lbs. of xanthan gum, and **0.03** lbs. of Gelex bentonite extender in each barrel of sea water.

The water based drill fluids for the bottom hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **4**, **5**, and **6**, for the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenario is composed of primarily sodium chloride (NaCl) brine system. Sodium chloride brine systems are single-salt solutions of sodium chloride and water. Saturated sodium chloride brine has a density of **1,198** kg/m^3 (or **10** lb/gal**)** and used as a base drill fluids for the bottom hole section. Barite at the rate of **1.413** lb/gal is added to the base drill fluids to increase the weight of the drill fluids to **1,318.13** kg/m^3 (or **11** lb/gal) for drilling the interval **04** of the bottom hole section. Moreover, barite at the rate of **2.83** lb/gal is added to the base drill fluids to increase the weight of the drill fluids to **1,438** kg/m^3 (or **12** lb/gal) for drilling the intervals **05** and **06** of the bottom hole section.

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3.3 Discharge Pipe Size and Height

A pump will be used at the sea floor during the drilling of the top hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **1**, **2**, and **3** for the sea floor (**013**) discharges. A flexible hose suction pipe will intake a large volume of sea water to move the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids from the seafloor and will discharge from a **12.0** inch internal diameter discharge pipe at **14,000** bbls/hour. The discharge pipe of the seafloor pump is located at **1**.**83** m (or **6**.**0** feet) above the seafloor and oriented horizontally aligned with the direction of the current, which is to the east.

The outer diameter of the pipe for the sea surface discharge is **15.0** inches. It runs through the main deck of the drill rig Noble Discoverer and comes out on the bottom of the ship. The internal pipe diameter of **14.25** inches was used for modeling the surface discharge scenario based on a **0**.**75** inches of total pipe wall thickness. The drilling draft varies from **6.71** m to **7.68** m approximately. Therefore, the surface discharges occur at a depth between **6**.**71** m and **7**.**68** m from the sea surface. The discharge pipe is oriented vertically downward with respect to the sea surface and discharges at approximately **6.71** m below the sea surface for modeling the sea surface discharge scenario.

3.4 Fall Velocity Classes for Water Based Drill Cuttings

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids discharges for both the sea floor and sea surface discharge scenarios were performed using the fall velocity classes for the water based mud cuttings presented in the OOC model Report and User Guide (Brandsma and Smith, **1999**) for the prospect well Burger J. The volume fractions of the fall velocity classes were adjusted for the effluent classes for each drilling intervals based on the actual volume of the total cuttings solids present in the effluent. The fall velocity classes and volume fractions for the water based drill cuttings used for the Burger J well is presented in **Table 3-2**. The solids density varies from **2**.**65** grams per cubic centimeter (g/cc) to **3**.**07** g/cc, depending on the quantities of drill cuttings, bentonite, and barite present in the effluent.

3.5 Fall Velocity Classes for Water Based Muds

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulation of the water based muds discharges from the rig's surface pits was performed using the fall velocity classes for the water-based mud presented in the OOC model Report and User Guide (Brandsma and Smith, **1999**) for the prospect well Burger J. The volume fractions of the fall velocity classes were adjusted based on the actual volume of the total solids namely barite present in the effluent. The fall velocity classes and volume fractions for the water based muds used for the Burger J well is presented in **Table 3-3**. The actual value of the density for barite (**4**.**1** g/cc) was used in the numeric modeling.

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Table 3-2: Fall Velocity Classes and Volume Fractions for Water Based Drill Cuttings, Burger J

Well ID	Sediment Class in Drill Cuttings	Solids Density	Estimated Particle Diameter	Fall Velocity	Volume Fractions For Drilling Intervals					
		(g/cc)	micro meter (µm)	(cm/s)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Burger J	1	Varies from 2.65 to 3.07	1	0.0001350264	0.0004031	0.0003638	0.0001880	0.0143563	0.0168814	0.0118787
	2		4	0.0016855440	0.0003023	0.0002728	0.0001410	0.0107673	0.0126611	0.0089090
	3		15	0.0218236800	0.0003527	0.0003183	0.0001645	0.0125618	0.0147712	0.0103938
	4		50	0.2328062400	0.0001512	0.0001364	0.0000705	0.0053836	0.0063305	0.0044545
	5		125	1.4471904000	0.0001008	0.0000909	0.0000470	0.0035891	0.0042204	0.0029697
	6		250	4.0111680000	0.0009070	0.0008185	0.0004231	0.0323018	0.0379832	0.0267270
	7		500	9.7962720000	0.0008062	0.0007276	0.0003761	0.0287127	0.0337628	0.0237574
	8		1000	13.5178800000	0.0007558	0.0006821	0.0003526	0.0269181	0.0316527	0.0222725
	9		3600	25.9750560000	0.0012597	0.0011368	0.0005876	0.0448636	0.0527544	0.0371209

Table 3-3: Fall Velocity Classes and Volume Fractions for Water Based Muds, Burger J

Well ID	Sediment Class in Drilling Fluids	Solids Density	Estimated Particle Diameter	Fall Velocity	Volume Fractions
		(g/cc)	micro meter (µm)	(cm/s)	Discharge from Rig's Surface Pit
Burger J	1	4.1	75.0	1.121664	0.00082876183
	2		50.0	0.426720	0.00329941031
	3		20.0	0.082296	0.01588720795
	4		18.0	0.064008	0.01588720795
	5		16.0	0.051206	0.01094591099
	6		15.0	0.043586	0.01094591099
	7		12.5	0.030023	0.00825634429
	8		8.0	0.014783	0.00412817214
	9		5.0	0.006096	0.00659882062
	10		3.5	0.002743	0.00578569581

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3.6 Effluent Densities

The sea water density was computed using the Equation of State presented by Crowley (Crowley, **1986**). The computations for the solids density, solids volume fractions, and effluent bulk density for the water based drill cuttings and water based muds for the prospect well Burger J are presented in **Tables 3-4a** and **3-4b**.

Density of sea water at the surface = **1**,**023**.**80** kg/m^3.
Density of sea water at the bottom = **1**,**025**.**77** kg/m^3.
Density of drill cuttings = **2**,**650**.**00** kg/m^3.
Density of drilling fluid for drilling intervals **01**, **02**, and **03** (top hole section) = **1**,**076**.**13** kg/m^3.
Density of drilling fluid for drilling interval **04** (bottom hole section) = **1**,**318**.**13** kg/m^3.
Density of drilling fluid for drilling intervals **05** and **06** (bottom hole section) = **1**,**437**.**87** kg/m^3.

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Table 3-4a: Computations of Solids Density and Solids Volume Fractions for Burger J

Drilling Interval	Drill Fluids				Total Cuttings Solids [1]				Total Solids Mass	Total Solids Volume	Solids Density		Volume Fraction of Solids in Effluent
	Density	Volume		Mass	Density	Volume		Mass					
	kg/m³	bbls	m³	kg	kg/m³	bbls	m³	kg	kg	m³	kg/m³	g/cc	
1	1,076.18	840	134	143,724	2,650.00	4,629	736	1,950,092	1,961,323.28	740.20	2649.708	2.65	0.00503868
2	1,076.18	456	73	78,070	2,650.00	316	50	133,256	139,356.89	52.63	2647.771	2.65	0.00454731
3	1,076.18	1,910	304	326,829	2,650.00	1,070	170	450,880	476,418.75	179.97	2647.271	2.65	0.00235040
4	1,318.13	1,745	277	365,680	2,650.00	349	55	147,034	194,006.28	66.94	2898.158	2.90	0.17945427
5	1,437.87	2,259	359	516,340	2,650.00	452	72	190,323	311,881.33	101.47	3073.682	3.07	0.21101768
6	1,437.87	573	91	131,009	2,650.00	115	18	48,290	79,132.76	25.75	3073.682	3.07	0.14848353
Rig's Surface Pits	1,198.30	2,227	354	424,203	4,100.00	200	32	130,618	130,618.22	31.86	4,100.00	4.10	0.0825634

Note to Table 3-4a:

1: The water based muds discharges from the rig's surface pits contains barite solids and the corresponding density, volume, and mass presented above under "Total Cuttings Solids" are for barite and not for sea floor cuttings.

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Table 3-4b: Computations of Effluent Bulk Density for Burger J

Drilling Interval	Drill Fluids				Total Cuttings Solids [1]				Sea Water				Computation of Density of Effluent (Bulk Density)			
	Density	Volume		Mass	Density	Volume		Mass	Density	Volume		Mass	Total Mass	Total Volume	Bulk Density	
	kg/m³	bbls	m³	kg	kg/m³	bbls	m³	kg	kg/m³	bbls	m³	kg	kg	m³	kg/m³	lbs/gal
1	1,076.18	840	134	143,724	2,650	4,629	736	1,950,092	1,025.77	918,531	146,035	149,797,620	151,891,436	146,904	1,033.95	8.63
2	1,076.18	456	73	78,070	2,650	316	50	133,256	1,025.77	72,027	11,451	11,746,509	11,957,835	11,574	1,033.14	8.62
3	1,076.18	1,910	304	326,829	2,650	1,070	170	450,880	1,025.77	478,620	76,094	78,055,126	78,832,835	76,568	1,029.58	8.59
4	1,318.13	1,745	277	365,680	2,650	349	55	147,034	1,023.80	252	40	41,074	553,788	373	1,484.58	12.39
5	1,437.87	2,259	359	516,340	2,650	452	72	190,323	1,023.80	314	50	51,122	757,784	481	1,575.92	13.15
6	1,437.87	573	91	131,009	2,650	115	18	48,290	1,023.80	403	64	65,577	244,876	173	1,412.30	11.79
Rig's Surface Pits	1,198.30	2,227	354	424,203	4,100	200	32	130,618					554,821	386	1,437.87	12.00

Note to Table 3-4b:

1: The water based muds discharges from the rig's surface pits contains barite solids and the corresponding density, volume, and mass presented above under "Total Cuttings Solids" are for barite and not for sea floor cuttings.

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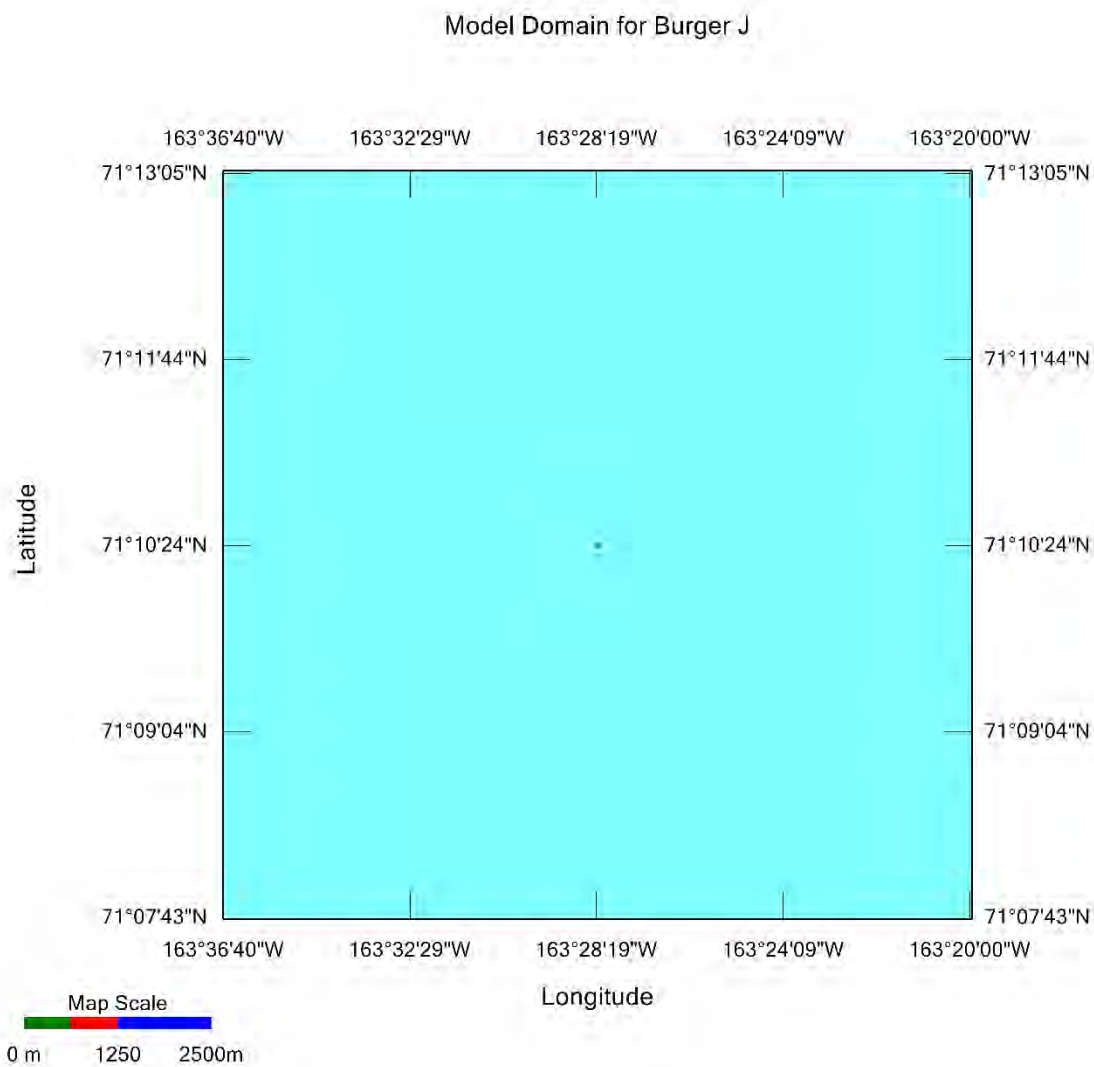
SECTION 4.0 MODEL DOMAIN

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds discharges for both the sea floor and sea surface discharge scenarios were performed using the OOC model as described in **Section 1**.

The model domain extends **5**,**000** m or **5.0** kilometers (km) in all directions from the discharge source. The model consists of **500** cells in the west-east direction and **500** cells in the north-south direction as well. Each cell is a **20** m × **20** m square. The well is located at the center of the model domain shown by a dot in **Figure 4-1**.

Figure 4-1: Model domain for the prospect well Burger J



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SECTION 5.0 DISPERSION AND DEPOSITION MODELING – MEAN CURRENTS

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids discharges from the drilling operation at the Burger J well site for both the sea floor (**D013**) and sea surface (**D001**) discharge scenarios at the mean currents were performed using the OOC model. The numeric simulations were carried out for the six drillings intervals for the actual drilling durations: **66.0**, **5.2**, **34.4**, **23.3**, **29.0**, and **37.2** hours as presented in **Table 5-1**. Moreover, numeric simulation was also carried out for the surface discharge of the water based muds at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970.80** bbls/hour for **2.5** hours. A **360**-second model time step (Δt) was used for the computer simulations of all discharges listed in Table **5-1**. The solids deposition on the seabed from the below listed discharges from the six discrete drilling intervals and the rig's surface pits were compiled using the GUIDO **7** for the OOC model yielding the total solids deposition loading and thickness distribution on the seabed from the drilling operation at the Burger J well site.

Table 5-1: Total Simulation Time, Model Time Step, and Discharge Rates for Burger J

Well ID	Discharge Scenario	Drilling Intervals	Durations of Drilling (Discharge)		The OOC Numeric Model Simulation			Depth of Water	Depth of Discharge	Effluent (Cuttings + Drill Fluids) Mass Discharge Rate	Pre-diluted Effluent Discharge Rate
					Total Simulation Time	Model Time Step (Δt)	Count of Total Model Steps				
			Hours	Seconds	Seconds	Seconds		m	m	bbls/hour	bbls/hour
Burger J	Sea Floor	1	66.00	237,600	237,600	360	660	43.90	42.07	82.86	14,000
		2	5.20	18,720	18,720	360	52	43.90	42.07	148.57	14,000
		3	34.40	123,840	123,840	360	344	43.90	42.07	86.64	14,000
	Sea Surface	4	23.30	83,880	83,880	360	233	43.90	6.71	89.87	100.70
		5	29.00	104,400	104,400	360	290	43.90	6.71	93.46	104.29
		6	37.20	133,920	133,920	360	372	43.90	6.71	18.49	29.32
		Rig's Surface Pits	2.50	9,000	9,000	360	25	43.90	6.71	970.80	970.80

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The OOC model predictions for the dispersion and deposition of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds in the near-field and far-field receiving water are presented in this technical report by the following effluent characteristics:

- Trajectory and shape of the discharge plume
- Total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in milligrams per liter (mg/l) in the water column
- Amount of deposition of the discharged solids in kilograms per square meter (kg/m^2) on the seabed
- Spatial extent of deposition (i.e., solids thickness distribution) in centimeter (cm) of the discharged solids on the seabed

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5.1 Model Results for Sea Floor Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 01

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-1**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **42.07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe of the sea floor pump at **14,000** bbls/hour. A flexible hose suction pipe of this sea floor pump moves the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids from the drill strings and discharges at **1.83** m (or **6** feet) above the seafloor. The discharge pipe is oriented horizontally aligned with the direction of the current, which is to the east. Therefore, the heavier discharge plume attempts to shoot horizontally as seen in Figure **5-1** and travels to the east to a distance approximately **0.35** m only from the discharge location before collapsing onto the sea floor due to the proximity of the plume near the sea floor. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-2**. The width of the plume is approximately **0.35** m at a distance **0.35** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **5-1** and **5-2**.

Figure 5-1: Trajectory of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 01

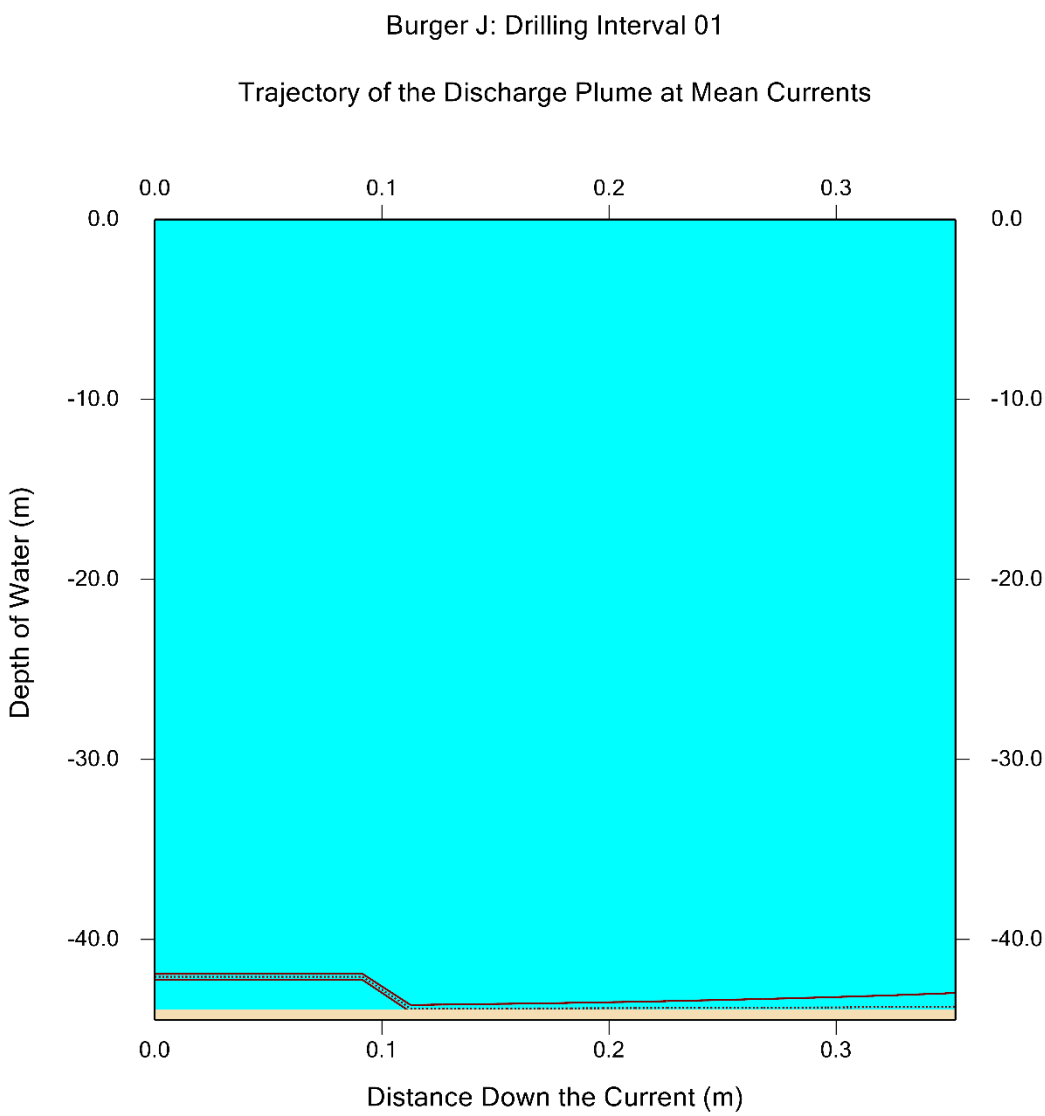

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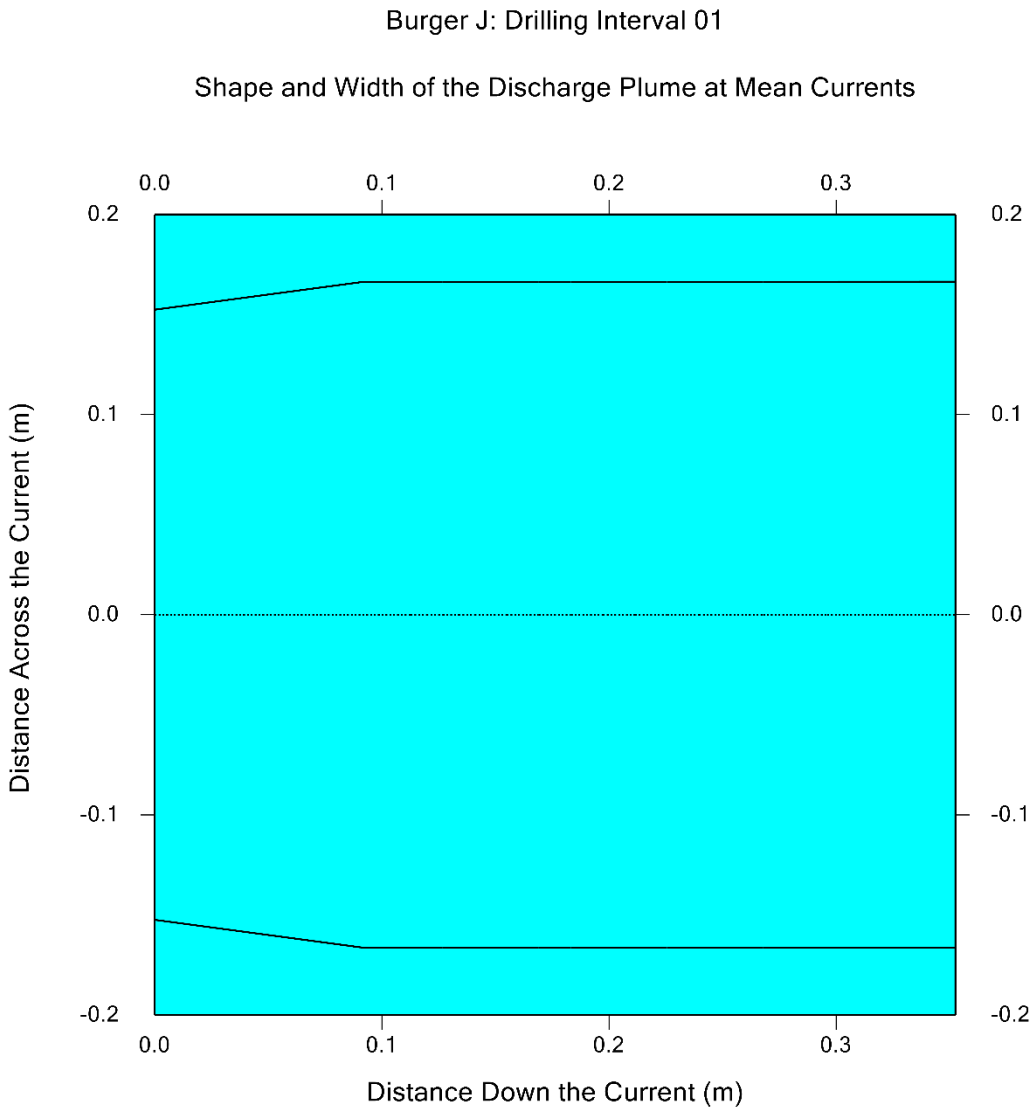
Figure 5-2: Shape and width of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 01



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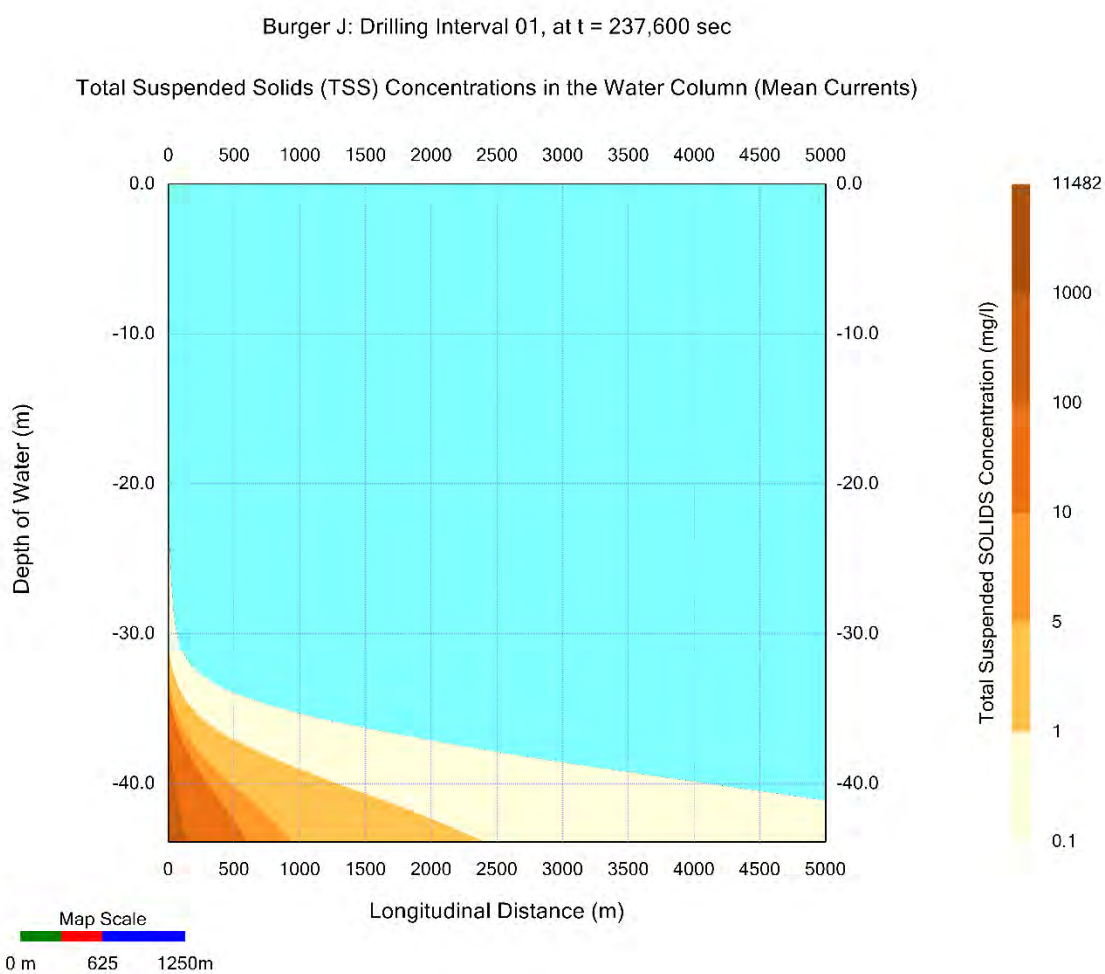
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **237**,**600** sec (or **66.0** hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 5-3**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **42**.**07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **5-3** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **11**,**482** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** mg/l and **10** mg/l at distances approximately **125** m and **600** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **600** and **950** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **950** and **2**,**400** m distances from the source. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **2**,**400** m from the discharge location. The effect of the sea floor pump is visible in this Figure **5**-**3**. The discharge plume is spreading farther horizontally to the east along the direction of the current than vertically. The TSS concentration is less than **1** mg/l at a depth approximately **30** m at or near the discharge location. It is less than **5** mg/l at a depth approximately **40** m at **500** m distance from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **1**,**420**.**1**, **516**.**0**, **131**.**8**, **27**.**5**, and **4**.**5** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 5-3: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at mean currents, Drilling Interval 01



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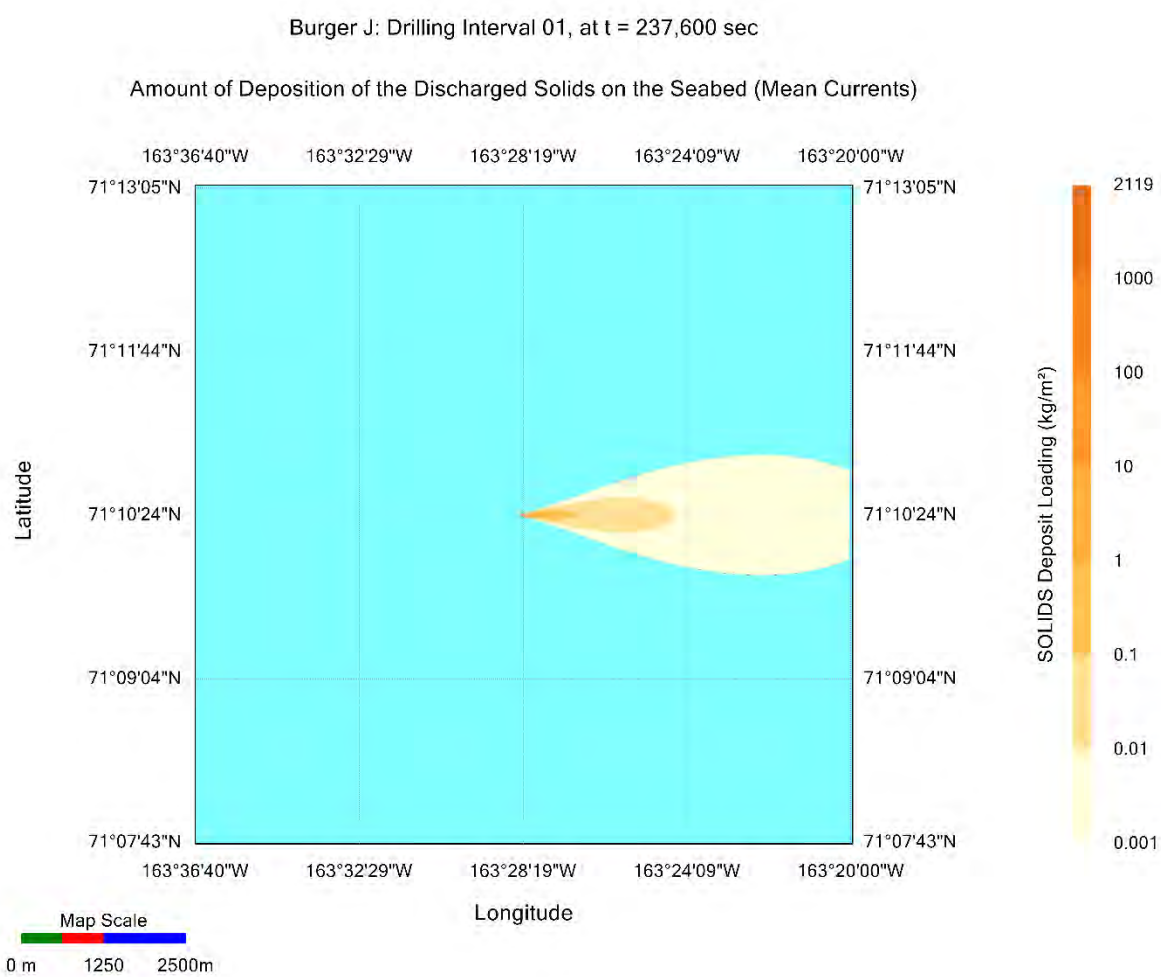
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **237**,**600** sec (or **66**.**0** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figure 5-4**. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **5**-**4**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **2**,**118** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the south from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **60** m and **325** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 and **0**.**1** kg/m^2 approximately between **325** and **850** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0**.**1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**01** kg/m^2 approximately between **850** and **2**,**300** m distances from the discharge location. The loading is less than **0**.**01** kg/m^2 beyond **2**,**300** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0**.**1**,- and **0**.**01**-kg/m^2 are: **0**.**167**, **0**.**342**, **1**.**375**, **9**.**715**, and **84**.**558** hectares (ha), respectively.

Figure 5-4: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 01



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **237**,**600** (or **66**.**0** hours) sec as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 5-5a** and **5-5b.** The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **5**-**5**a. The same results are presented in Figure **5**-**5**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **159.9** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the south from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **50** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **70** m x **40** m rectangle area (or **0**.**279** ha) as presented in Figure **5**-**5**b. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **100**-, **10**-, and **1**-cm are: **0**.**096**, **0**.**120**, and **0**.**279** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-5a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 01

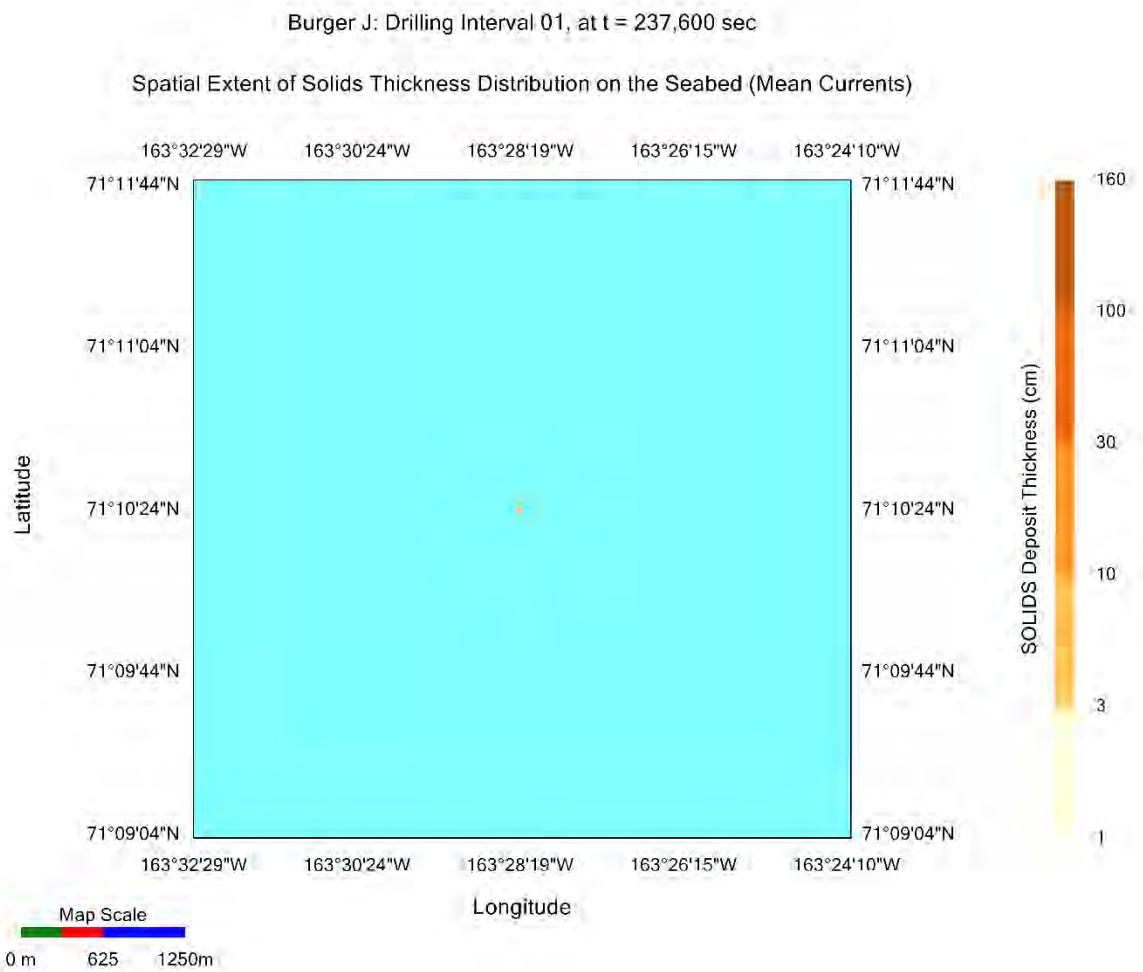

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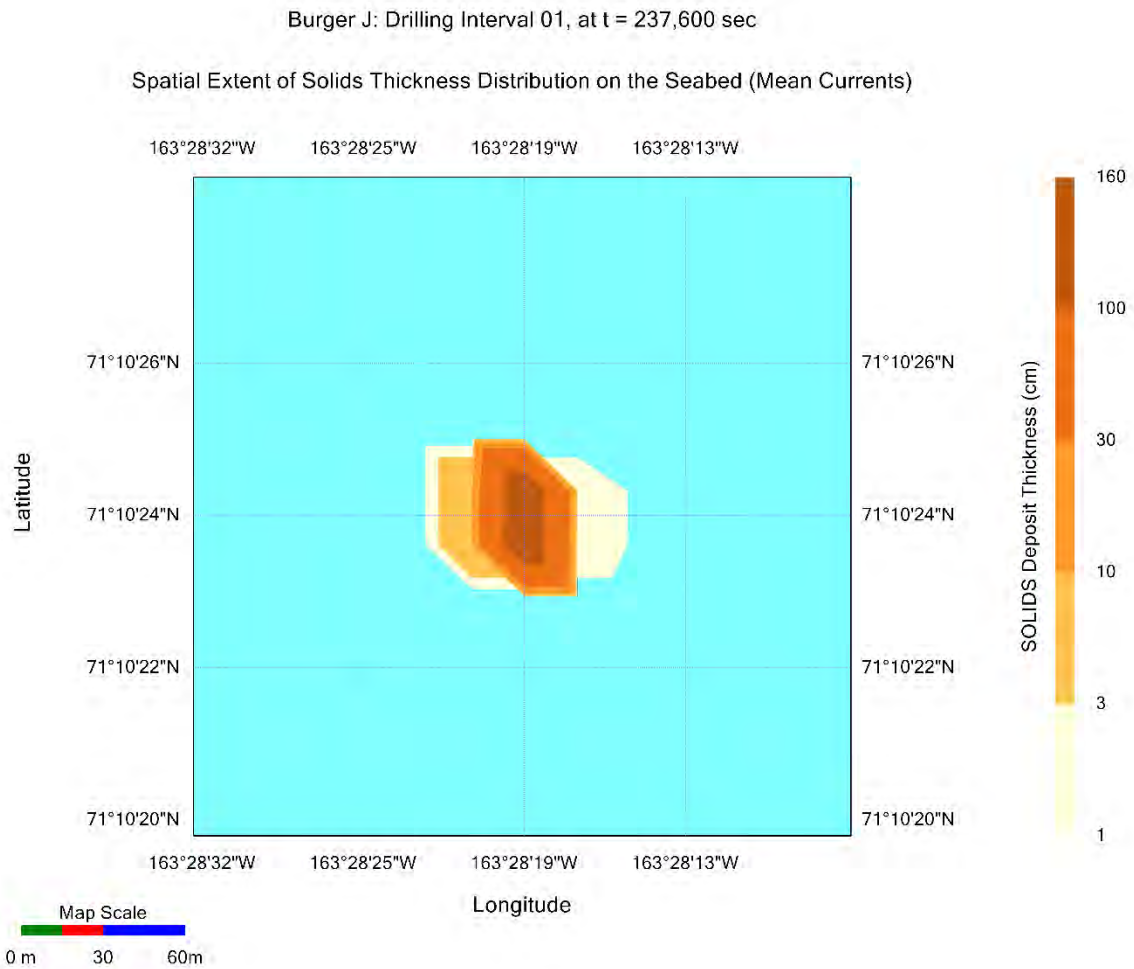
Figure 5-5b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 01 (Zoom In View)



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5.2 Model Results for Sea Floor Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 02

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-6**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **42.07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe of the sea floor pump at **14,000** bbls/hour. A flexible hose suction pipe of this sea floor pump moves the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids from the drill strings and discharges at **1.83** m (or **6** feet) above the seafloor. The discharge pipe is oriented horizontally aligned with the direction of the current, which is to the east. Therefore, the heavier discharge plume attempts to shoot horizontally as seen in Figure **5-6** and travels to the east to a distance approximately **0.35** m only from the discharge location before collapsing onto the sea floor due to the proximity of the plume near the sea floor. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-7**. The width of the plume is approximately **0.35** m at a distance **0.35** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **5-6** and **5-7**.

Figure 5-6: Trajectory of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 02

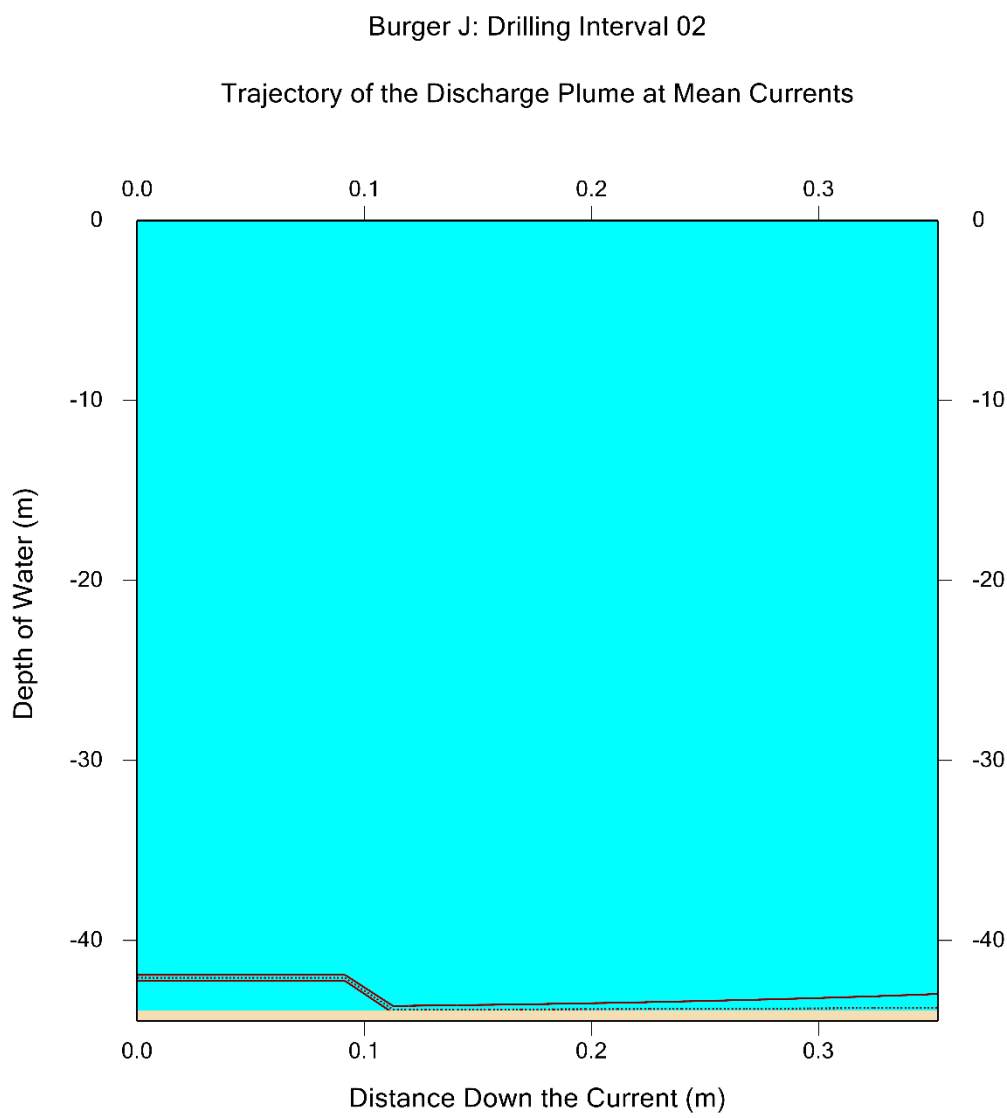

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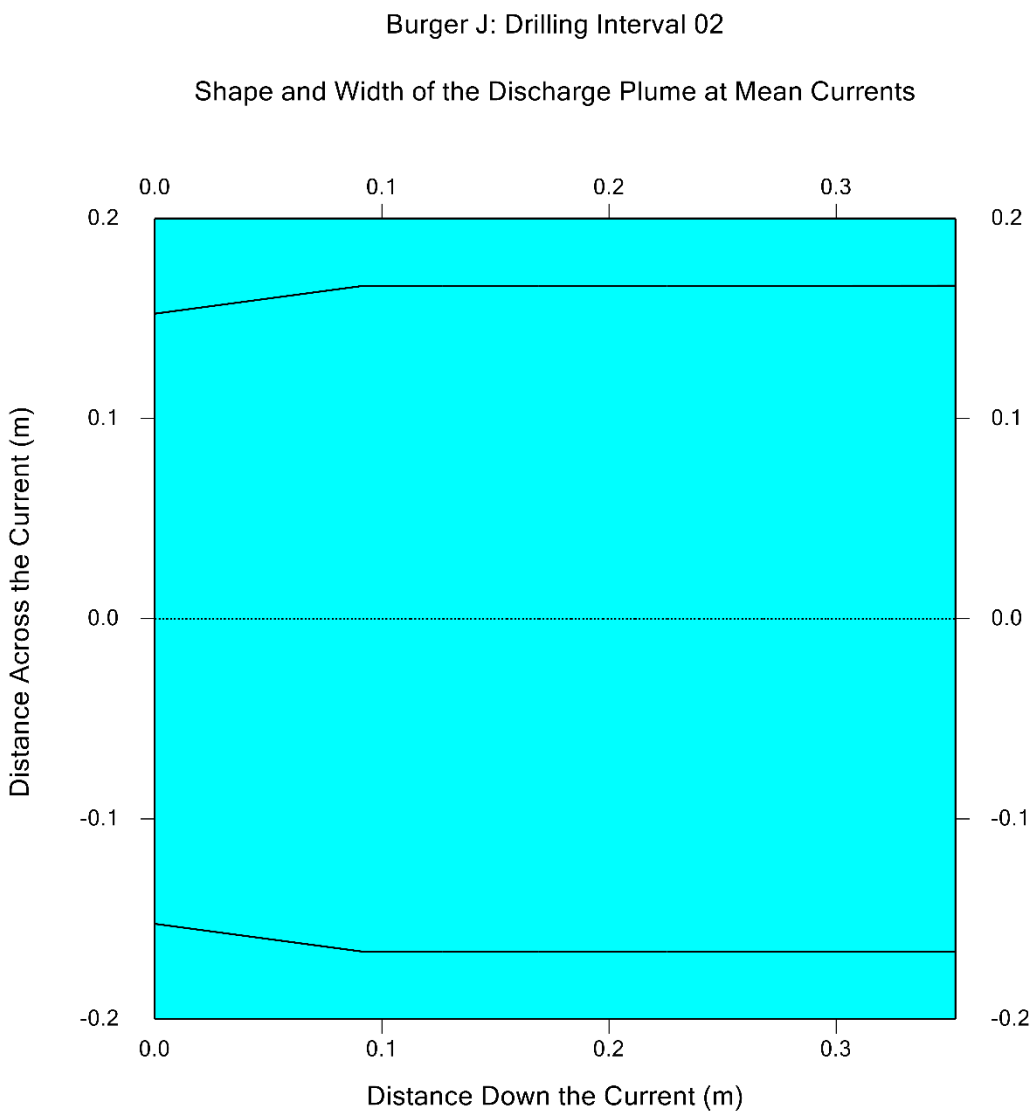
Figure 5-7: Shape and width of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 02



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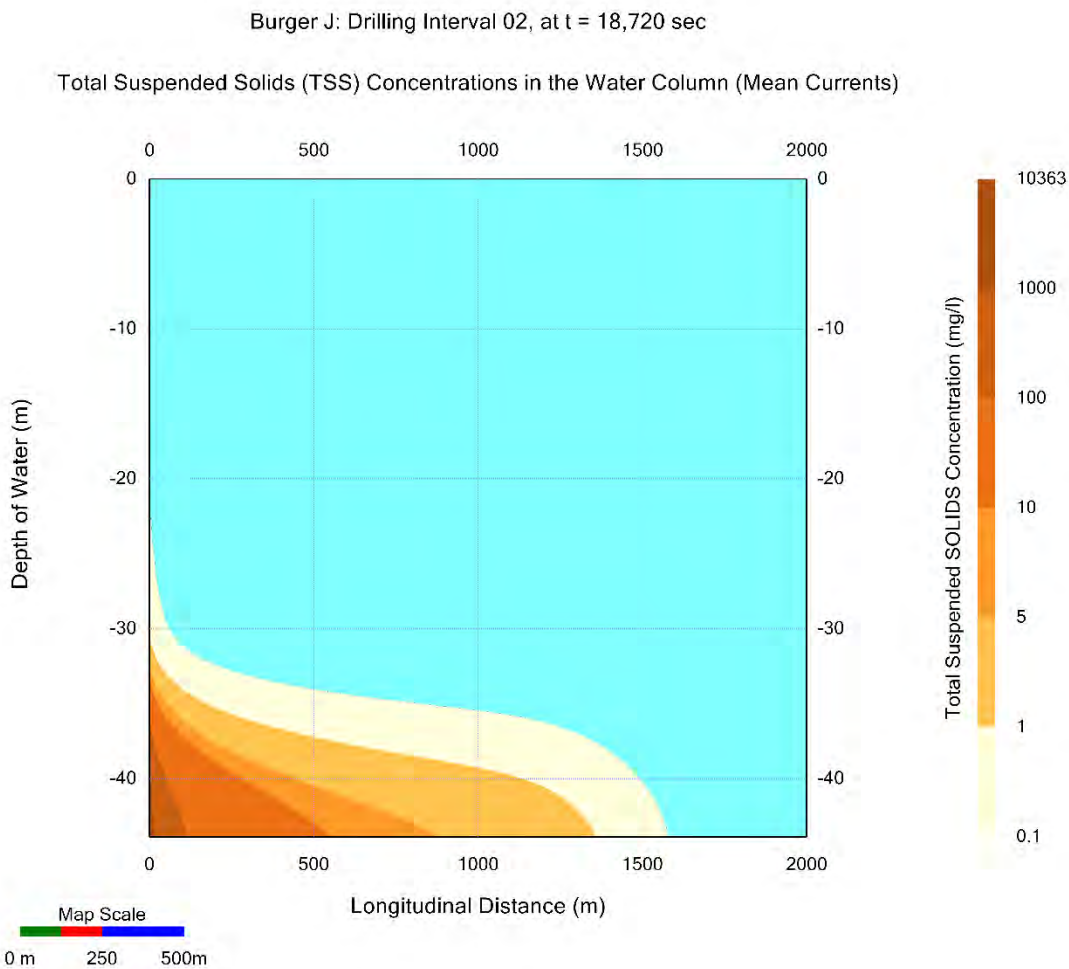
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **18**,**720** sec (or **5.2** hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 5-8**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **42**.**07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **5-8** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **10**,**363** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** mg/l and **10** mg/l at distances approximately **110** m and **550** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **550** and **875** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **875** and **1**,**350** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **1**,**350** m from the discharge location. The effect of the sea floor pump is visible in this Figure **5**-**8**. The discharge plume is spreading farther horizontally to the east along the direction of the current than vertically. The TSS concentration is less than **1** mg/l at a depth approximately **30** m at or near the discharge location. It is less than **5** mg/l at a depth approximately **40** m at **500** m distance from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **1**,**236**.**2**, **435**.**6**, **117**.**9**, **24**.**9**, and **4**.**0** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 5-8: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at mean currents, Drilling Interval 02



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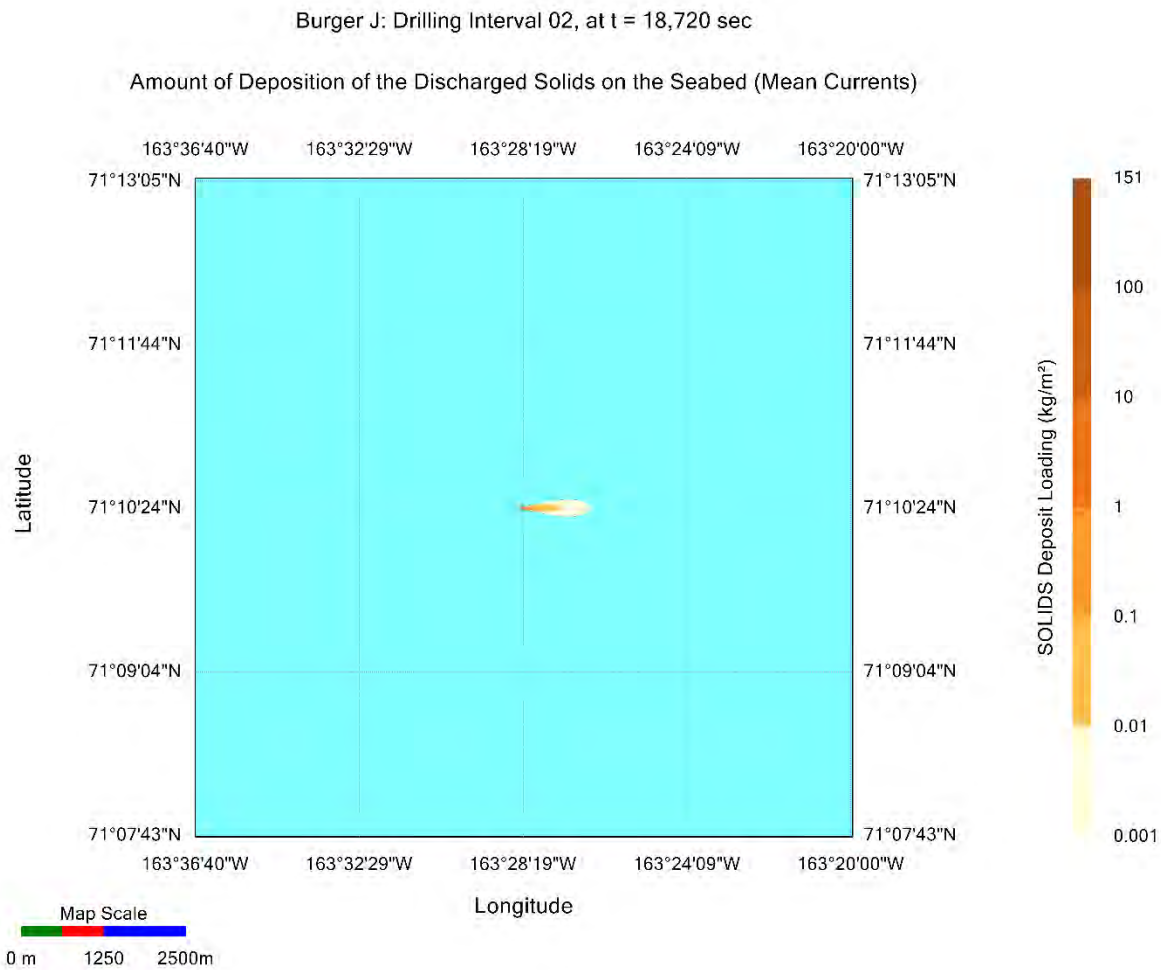
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **18**,**720** sec (or **5.2** hours) as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figure 5-9**. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **5**-**9**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading of **150** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **30** m and **50** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 and **0**.**1** kg/m^2 approximately between **50** and **250** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0**.**1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**01** kg/m^2 approximately between **250** and **600** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **0**.**01** kg/m^2 beyond **600** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0**.**1**-, and **0**.**01**-kg/m^2 are: **0**.**094**, **0**.**119**, **0**.**277**, **1**.**065**, and **4**.**754** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-9: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 02



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **18**,**720** sec (or **5.2** hours) as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 5-10a** and **5-10b.** The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location. But the solids deposit on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **5**-**10**a. The same results are presented in Figure **5**-**10**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **11.4** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **30** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **35** m x **35** m square area (or **0**.**119** ha) as presented in Figure **5**-**10**b. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **10**- and **1**-cm are: **0**.**085** and **0**.**119** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-10a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 02

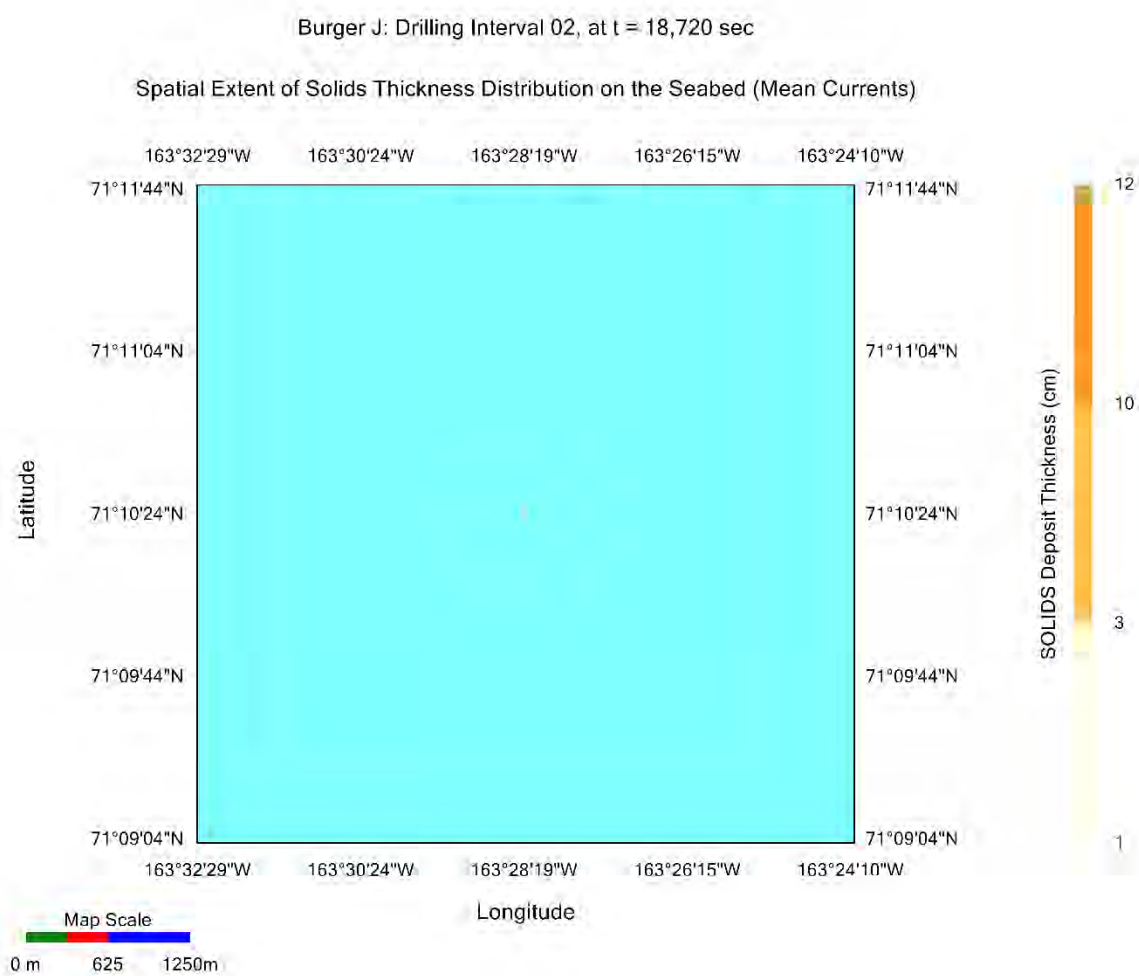

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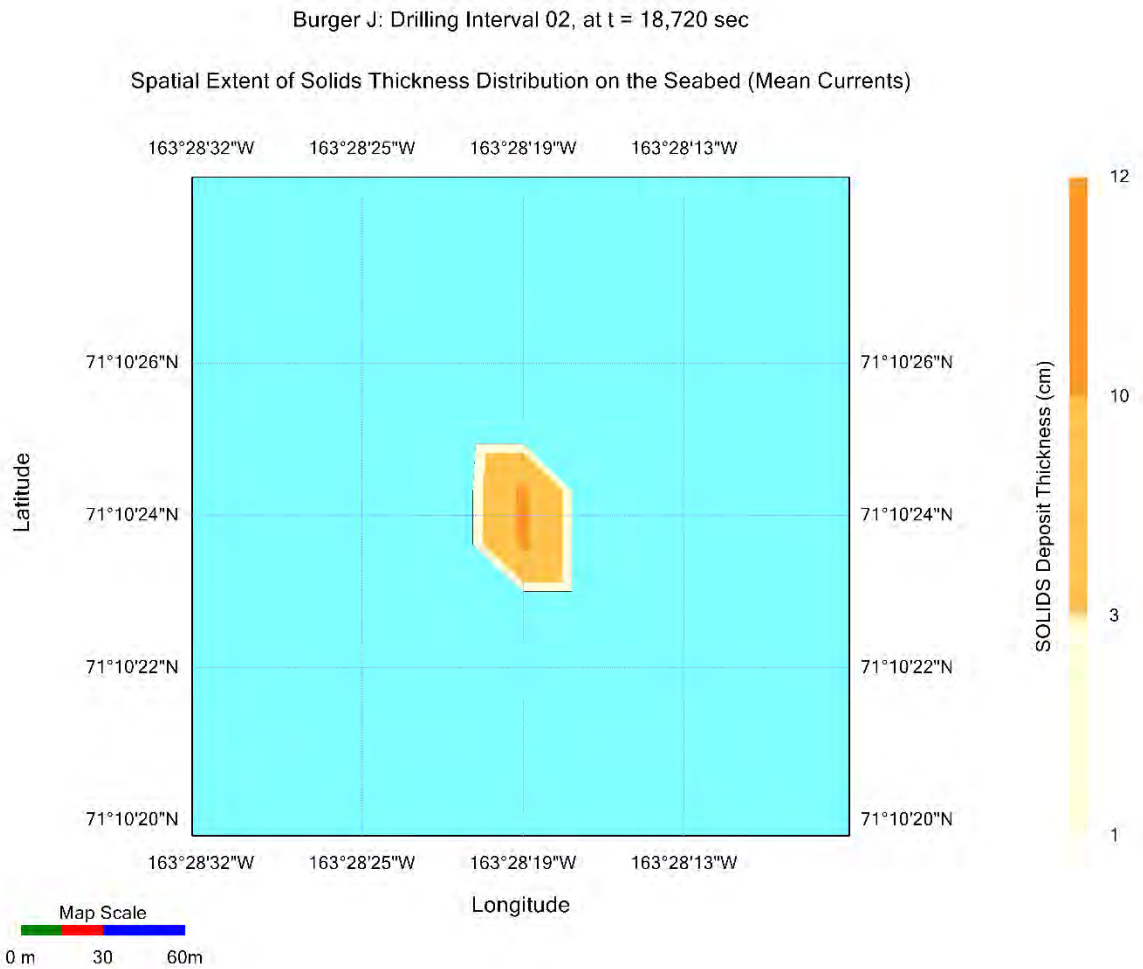
Figure 5-10b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 02 (Zoom In View)



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5.3 Model Results for Sea Floor Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 03

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-11**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **42.07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe of the sea floor pump at **14,000** bbls/hour. A flexible hose suction pipe of this sea floor pump moves the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids from the drill strings and discharges at **1.83** m (or **6** feet) above the seafloor. The discharge pipe is oriented horizontally aligned with the direction of the current, which is to the east. Therefore, the heavier discharge plume attempts to shoot horizontally as seen in figure below and travels to the east to a distance approximately **0.35** m only from the discharge location before collapsing onto the sea floor due to the proximity of the plume near the sea floor. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-12**. The width of the plume is approximately **0.35** m at a distance **0.35** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **5-11** and **5-12**.

Figure 5-11: Trajectory of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 03

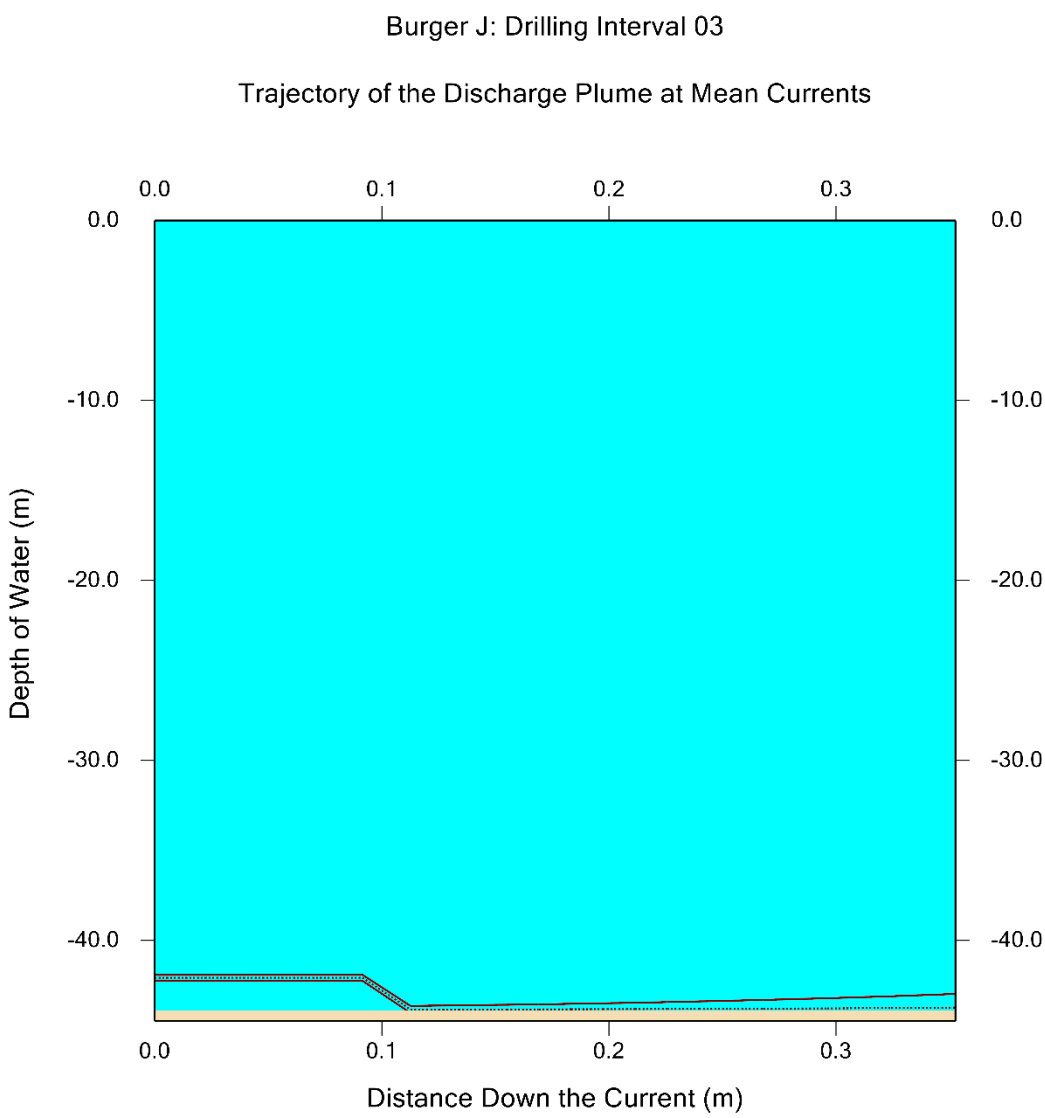

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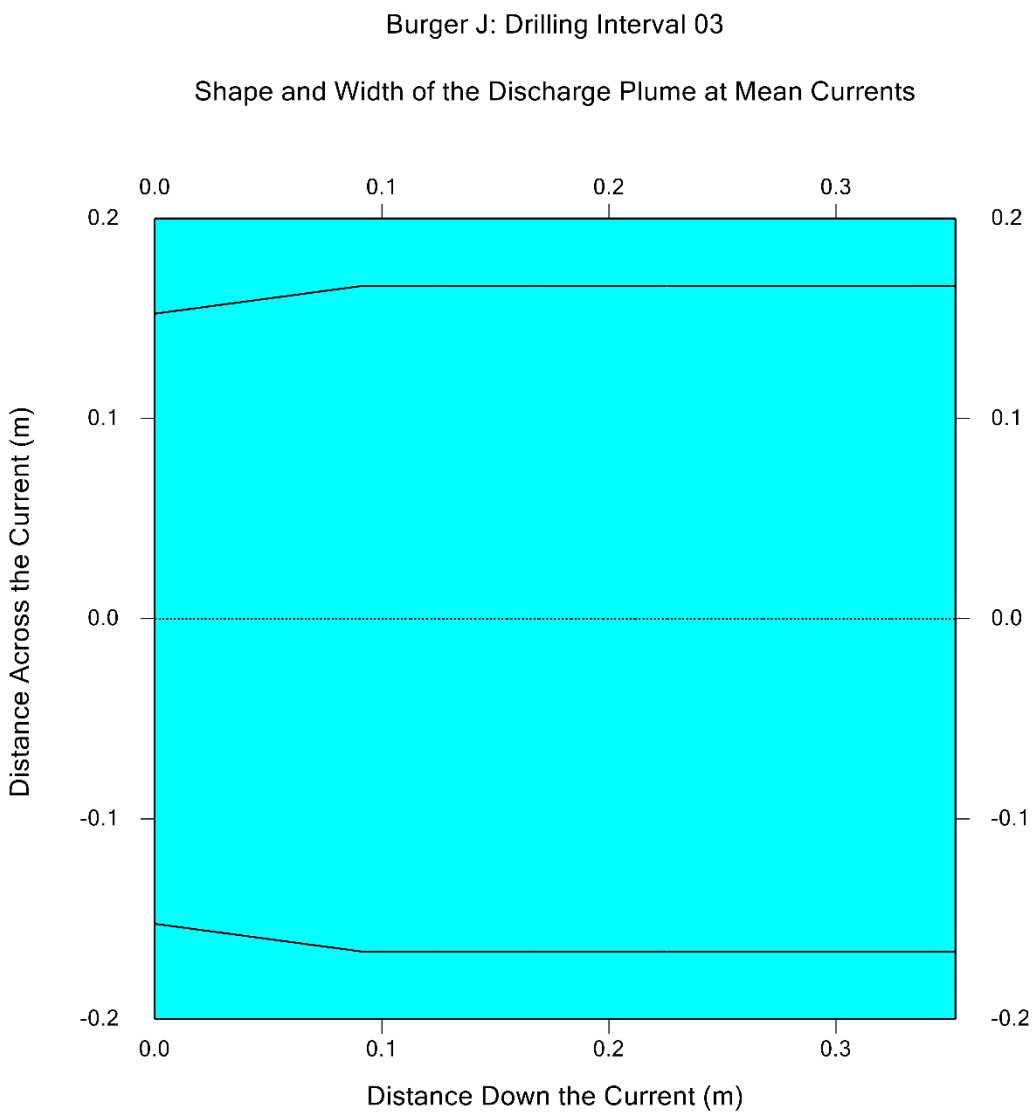
Figure 5-12: Shape and width of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 03



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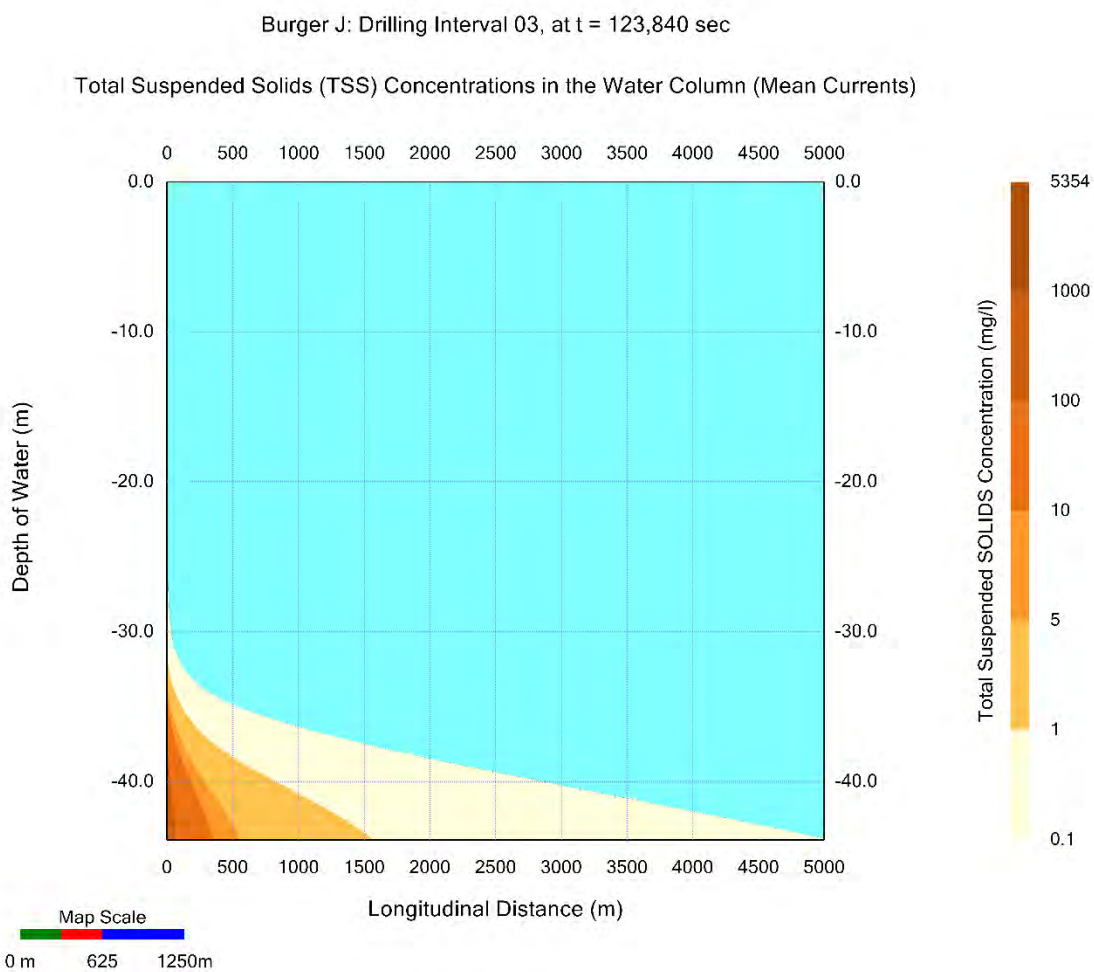
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **123**,**840** sec (or **34**.**4** hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 5-13**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **42**.**07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **5-13** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **5**,**354** mg/l occurs at the source. It decreases to a value of **100** mg/l at a distance approximately **70** m from the discharge location. It varies from **100** to **10** mg/l between **70** and **350** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **350** and **550** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **550** and **1**,**550** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **1**,**550** m from the discharge location. The effect of the sea floor pump is visible in this Figure **5**-**13**. The discharge plume is spreading farther horizontally to the east along the direction of the current than vertically. The TSS concentration is less than **1** mg/l at a depth approximately **30** m at or near the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l at a depth approximately **40** m at a distance **1**,**000** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **641**.**5**, **226**.**0**, **61**.**4**, **12**.**8**, and **2**.**1** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 5-13: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at mean currents, Drilling Interval 03



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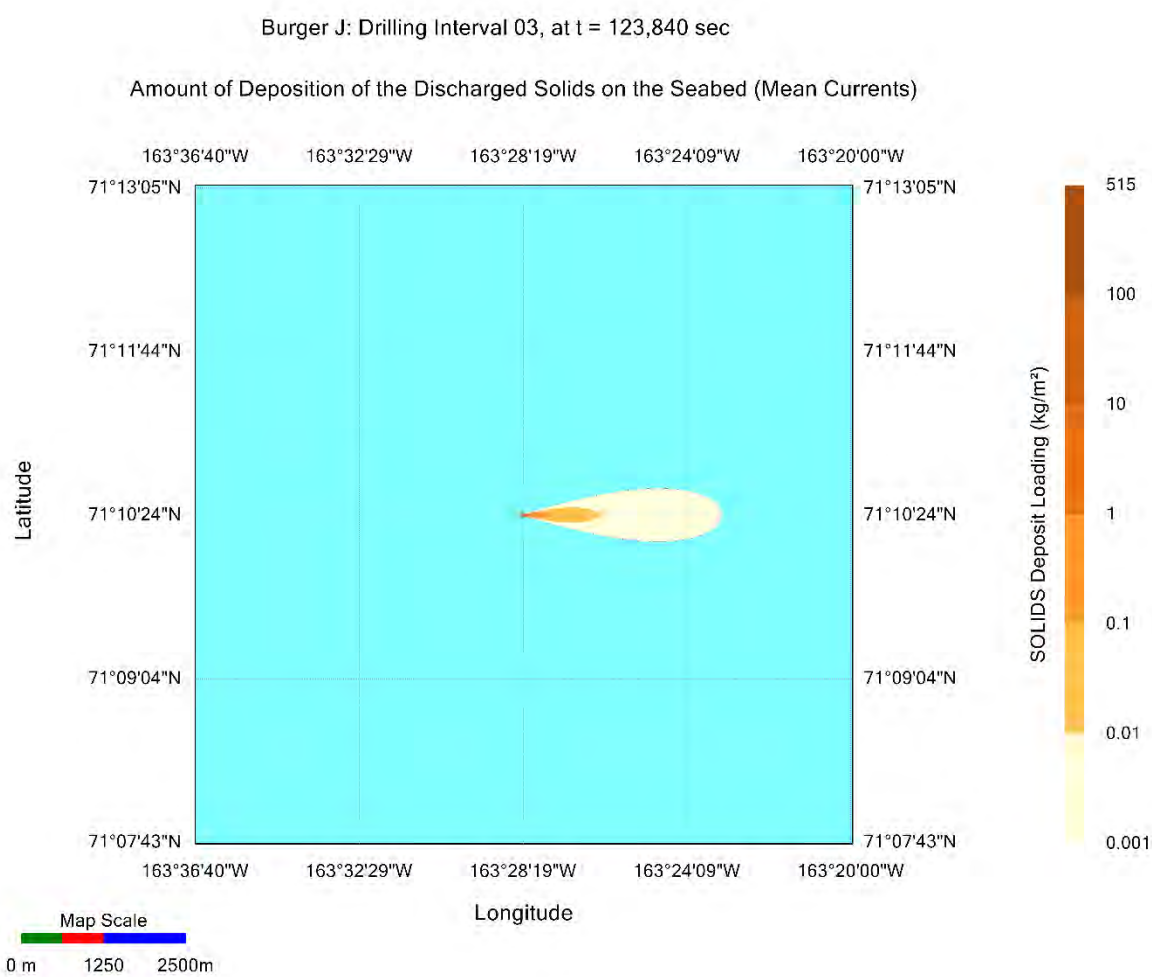
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **123**,**840** sec (or **34**.**4** hours) as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figure 5-14**. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **5**-**14**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **514** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **30** m and **125** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 and **0**.**1** kg/m^2 approximately between **125** and **450** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0**.**1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**01** kg/m^2 approximately between **450** and **1**,**200** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **0**.**01** kg/m^2 beyond **1**,**200** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0**.**1**-, and **0**.**01**-kg/m^2 are: **0**.**114**, **0**.**199**, **0**.**585**, **3**.**950**, and **19**.**533** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-14: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 03



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **123,840** sec (or **34.4** hours) as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 5-15a** and **5-15b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **5-15**a. The same results are presented in Figure **5-15**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **38.8** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **30** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **45** m x **40** m rectangle area (or **0.192** ha) as presented in Figure **5-15**b. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **10**- and **1**-cm are: **0.111** and **0.192** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-15a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 03

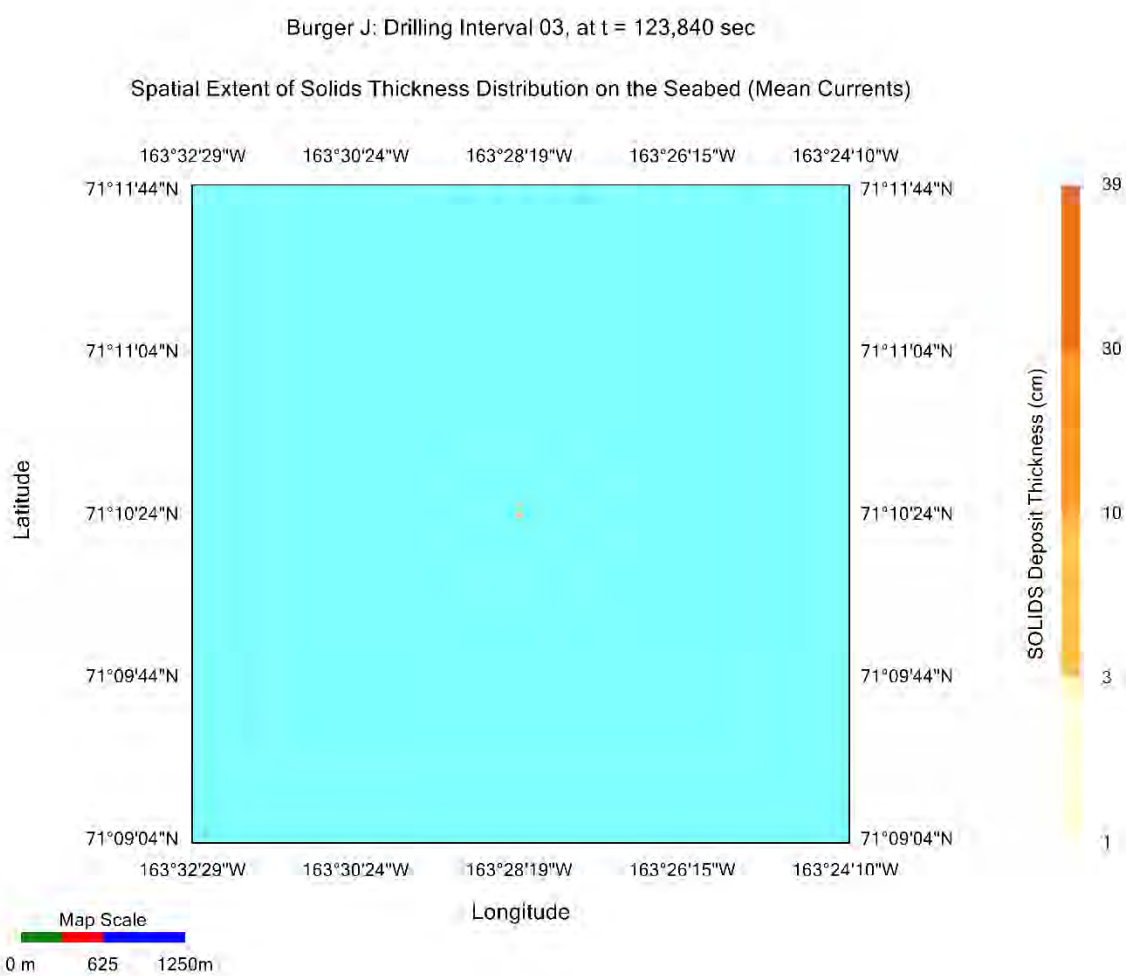

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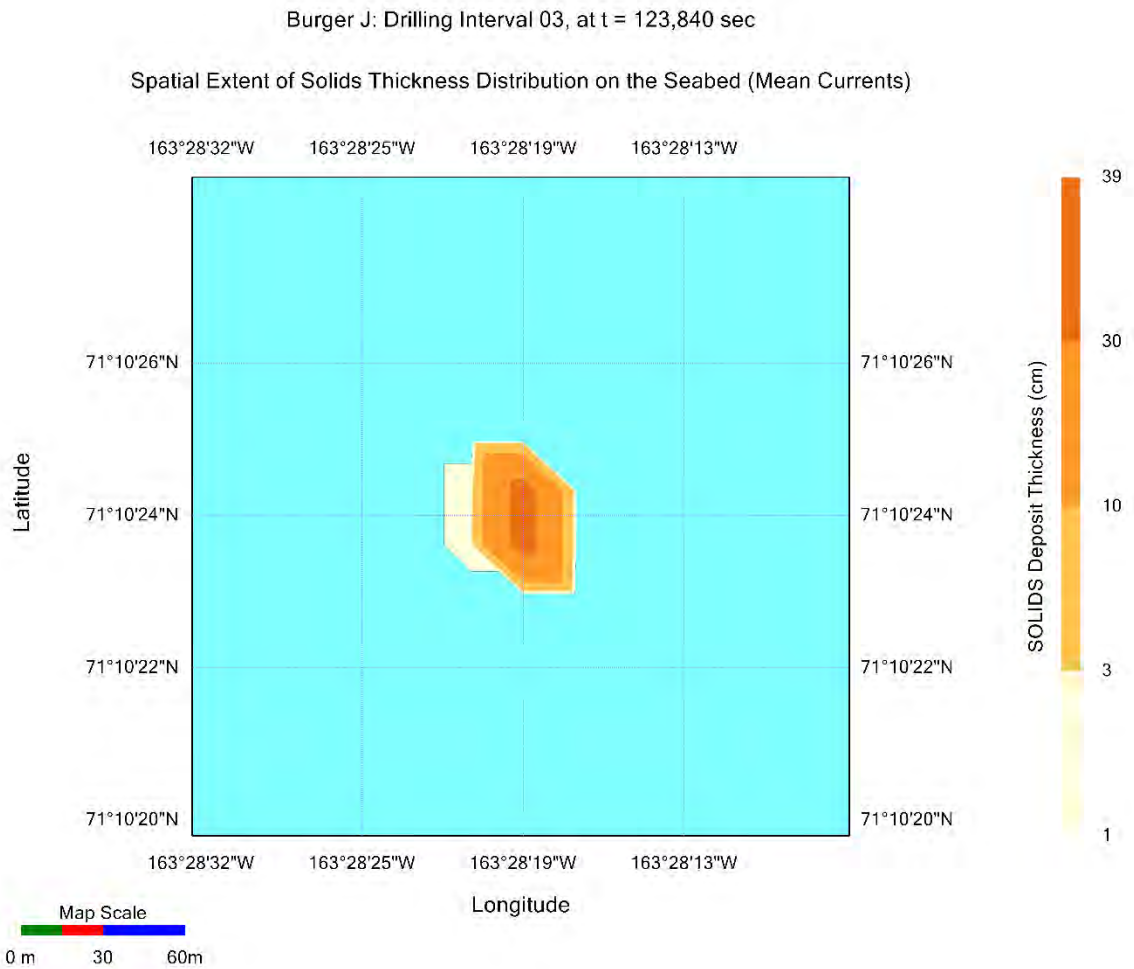
Figure 5-15b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 03 (Zoom In View)



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5.4 Model Results for Sea Surface Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 04

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-16**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m below the sea surface. The heavier plume travels approximately **4.0** m from the discharge location before collapsing into the ambient sea water due to the higher density of the discharge plume. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-17**. The width of the plume is approximately **4.5** m at a distance **4.0** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **5-16** and **5-17**.

Figure 5-16: Trajectory of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 04

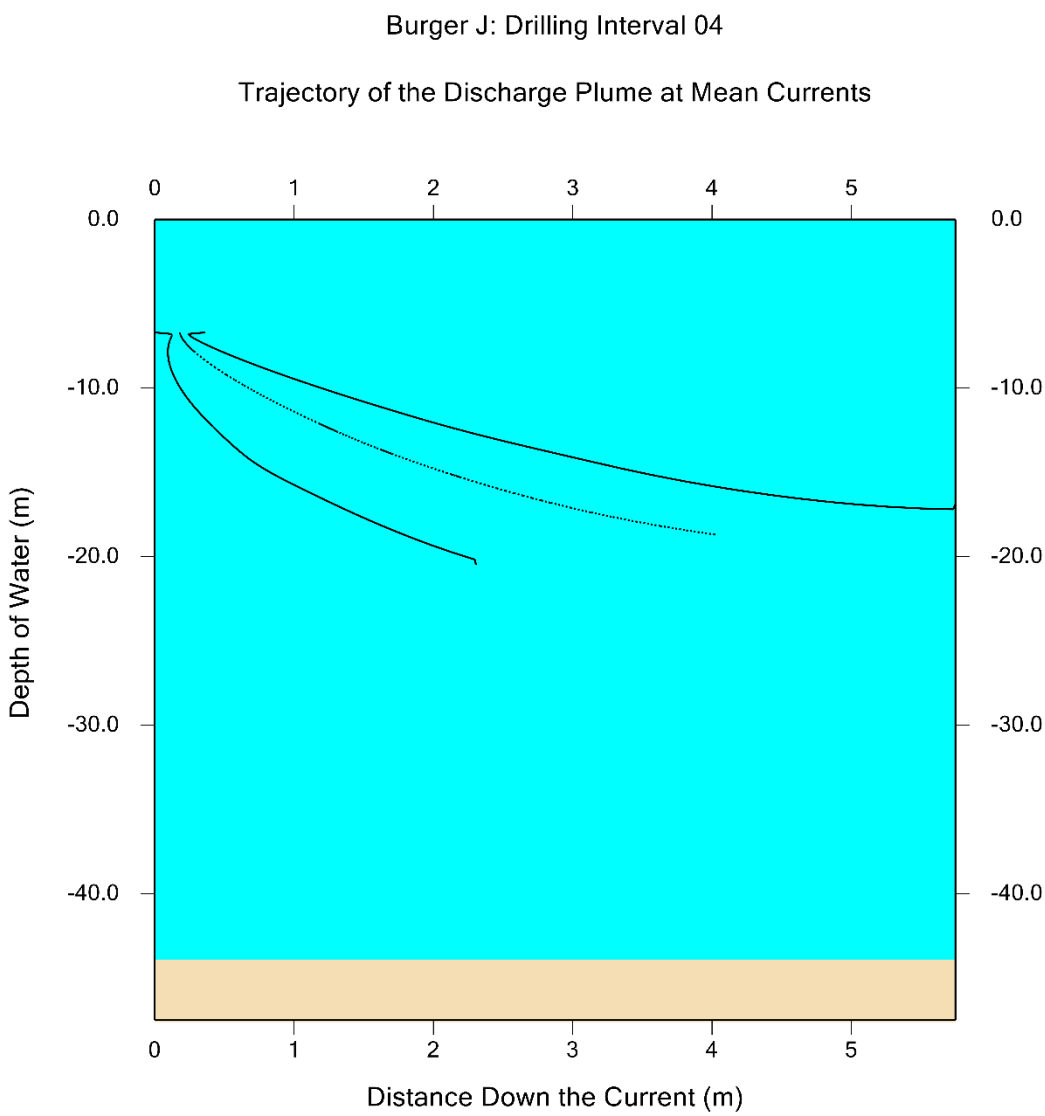

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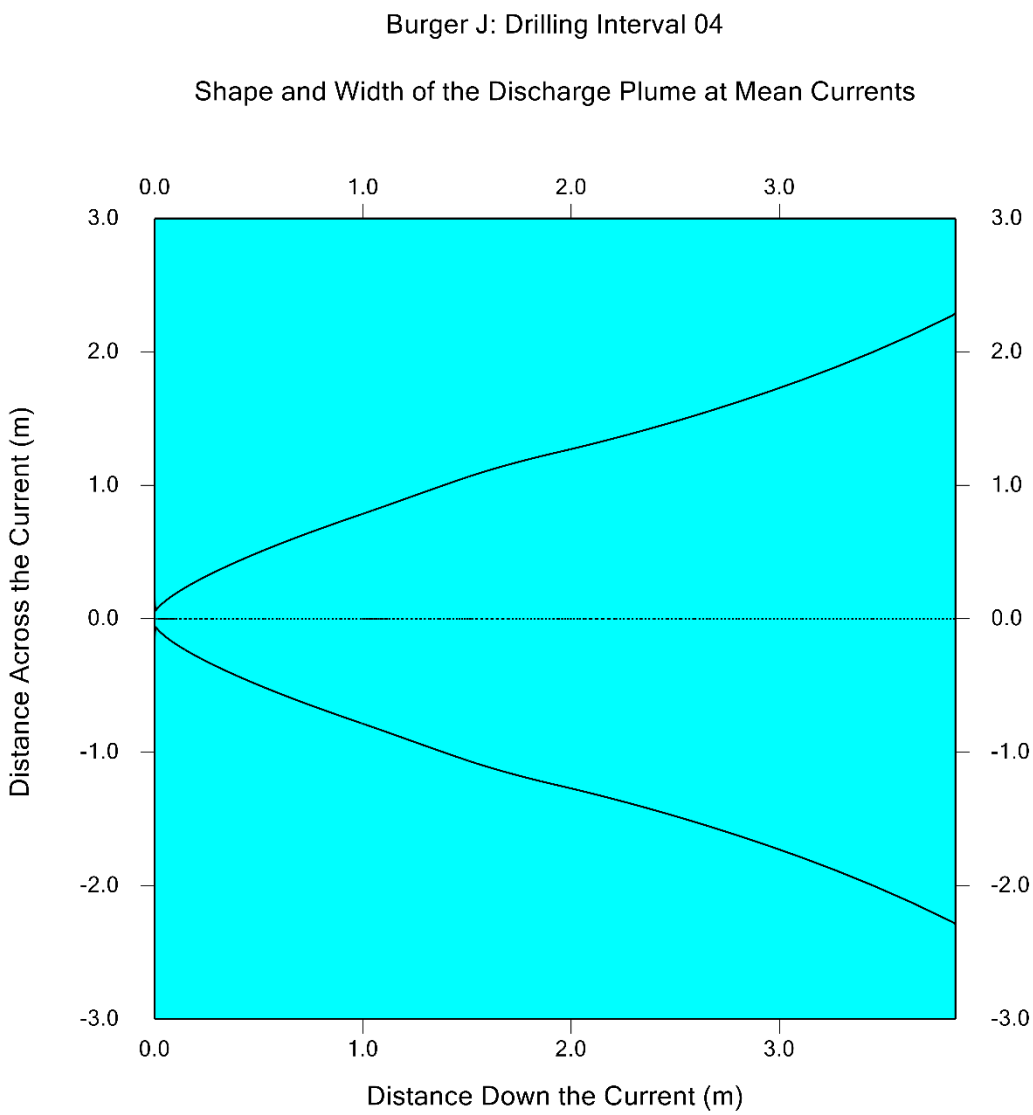
Figure 5-17: Shape and width of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 04



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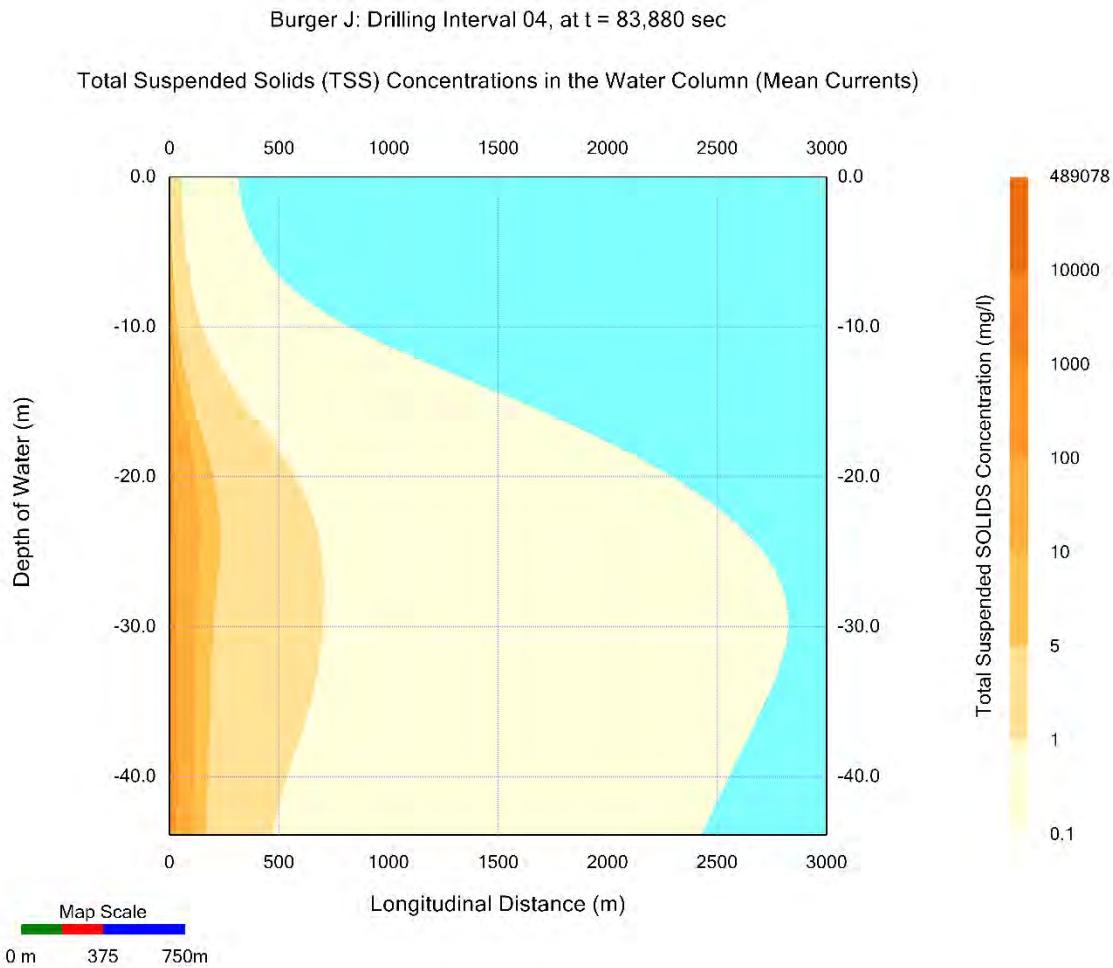
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **83**,**880** sec (or **23.3** hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 5-18**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m from a **14.25** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **5-18** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **489**,**078** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** and **10** mg/l at distances approximately: **35** and **140** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **140** and **230** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **230** and **700** m distances from the source. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **700** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **511**.**6**, **136**.**0**, **15**.**7**, **3**.**5**, and **0**.**6** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 5-18: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at mean currents, Drilling Interval 04



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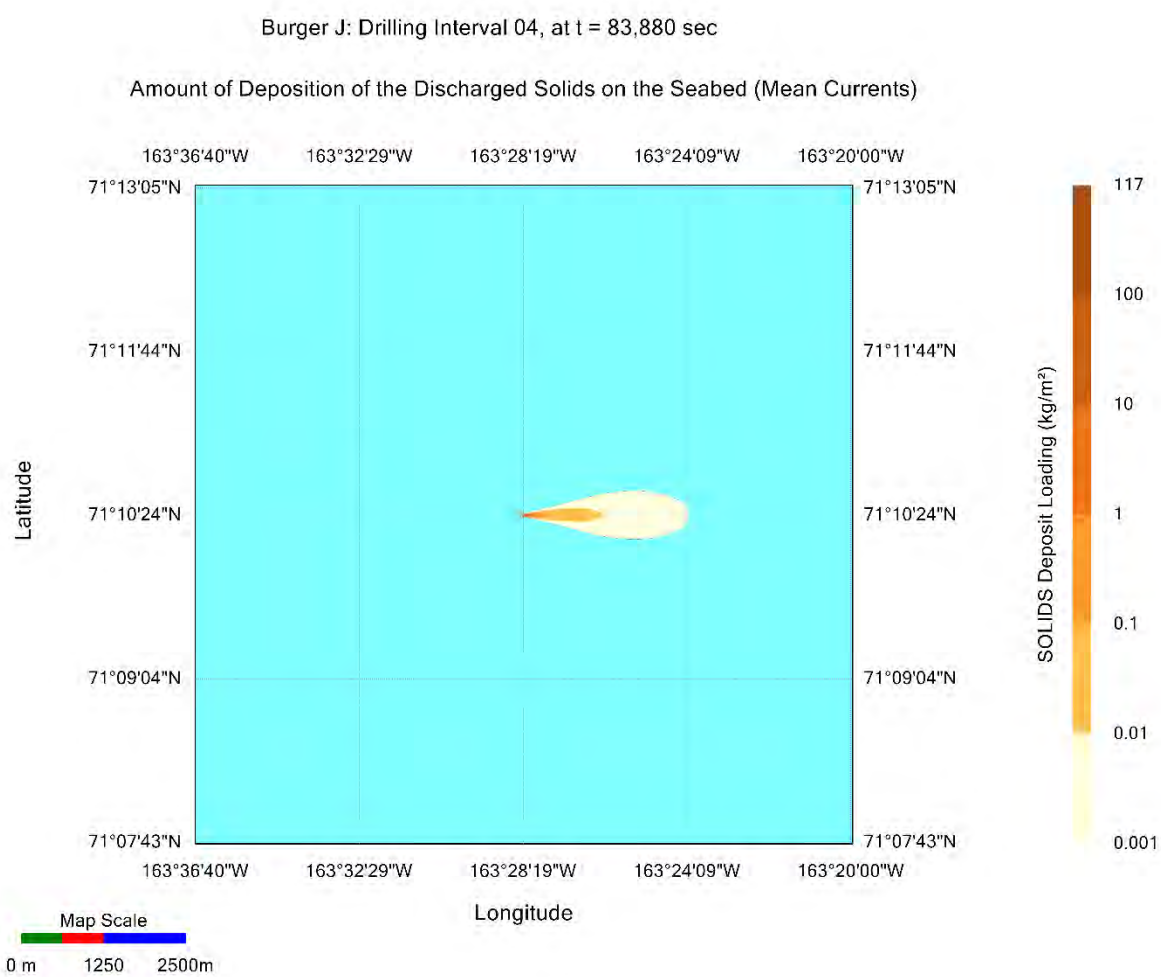
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **83,880** sec (or **23.3** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented **in Figure 5-19.** The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **5-19**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **116** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **70** m and **170** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0.1** kg/m^2 approximately between **170** m and **375** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0.1** kg/m^2 to **0.01** kg/m^2 approximately between **375** m and **1,250** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **0.01** kg/m^2 beyond **1,250** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0.1**-, and **0.01**-kg/m^2 are: **0.090**, **0.278**, **0.677**, **3.446**, and **18.530** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-19: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 04



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **83,880** sec (or **23.3** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 5-20a** and **5-20b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **5-20**a. The same results are presented in Figure **5-20**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **8.0** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **62** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **65** m x **40** m rectangle area (or **0.262** ha) as presented in Figure **5-20**b. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **5**- and **1**-cm are: **0.050** and **0.262** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-20a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 04

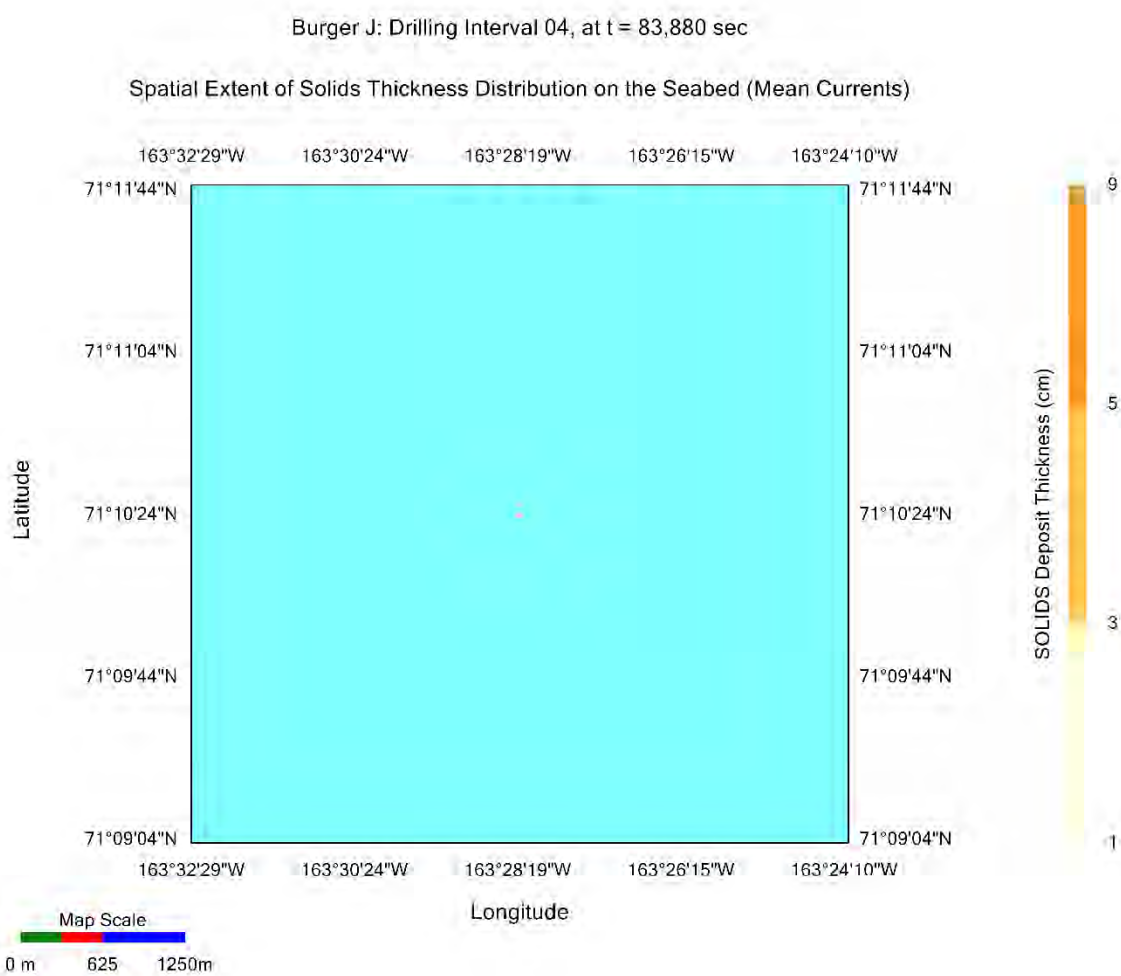

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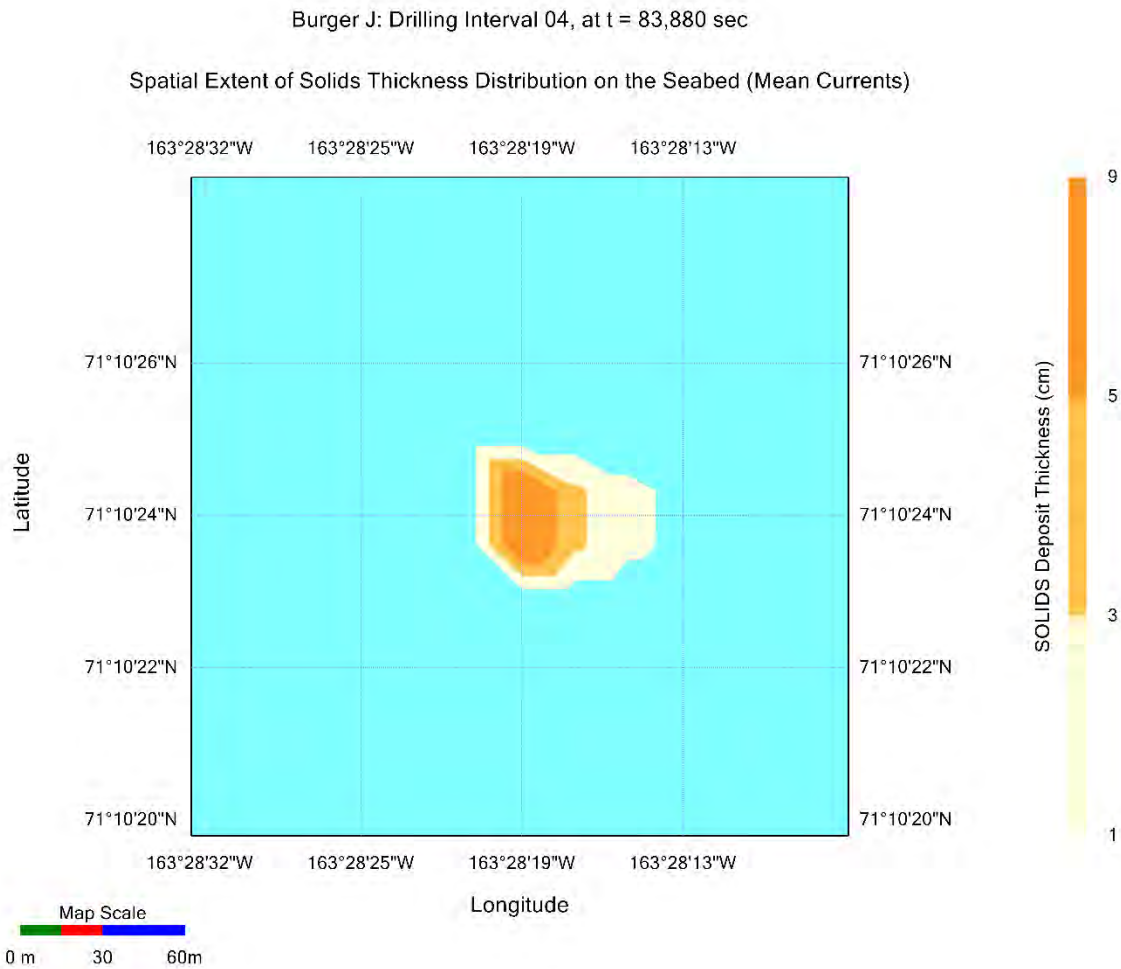
Figure 5-20b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 04 (Zoom In View)



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5.5 Model Results for Sea Surface Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 05

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-21**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m below the sea surface. The heavier plume travels approximately **3.8** m from the discharge location before collapsing into the ambient sea water due to the higher density of the discharge plume. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-22**. The width of the plume is approximately **5.0** m at a distance **3.8** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **5-21** and **5-22**.

Figure 5-21: Trajectory of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 05

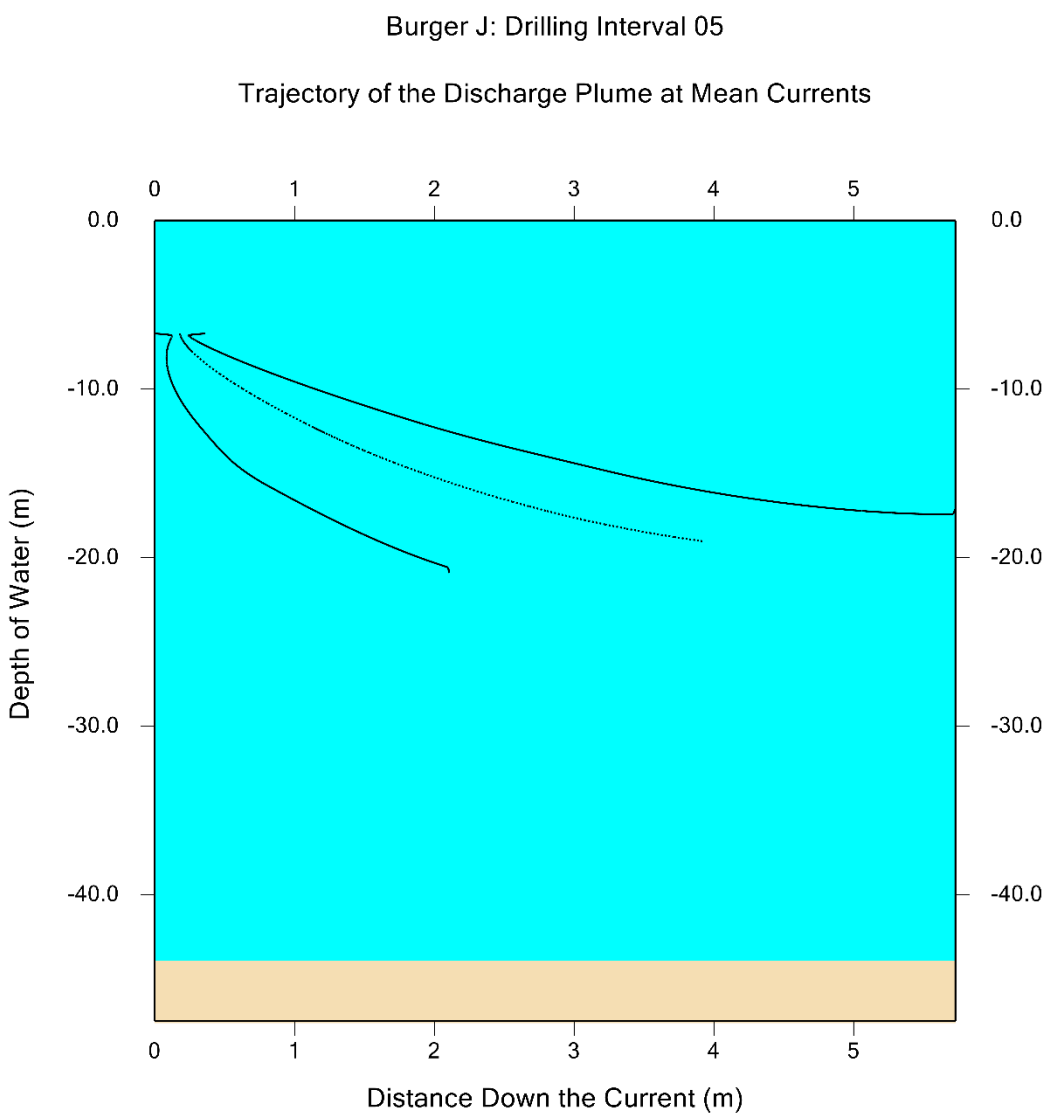

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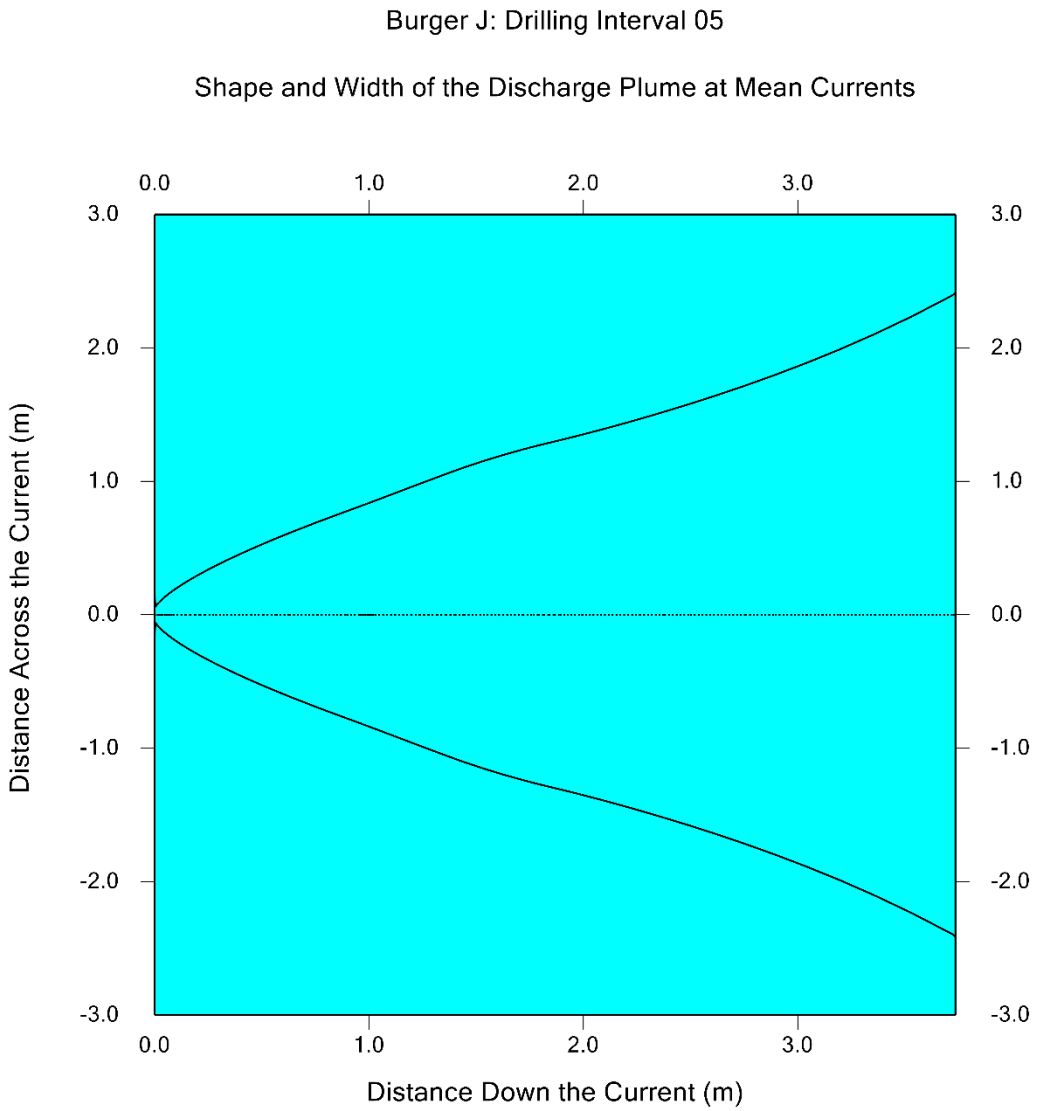
Figure 5-22: Shape and width of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 05



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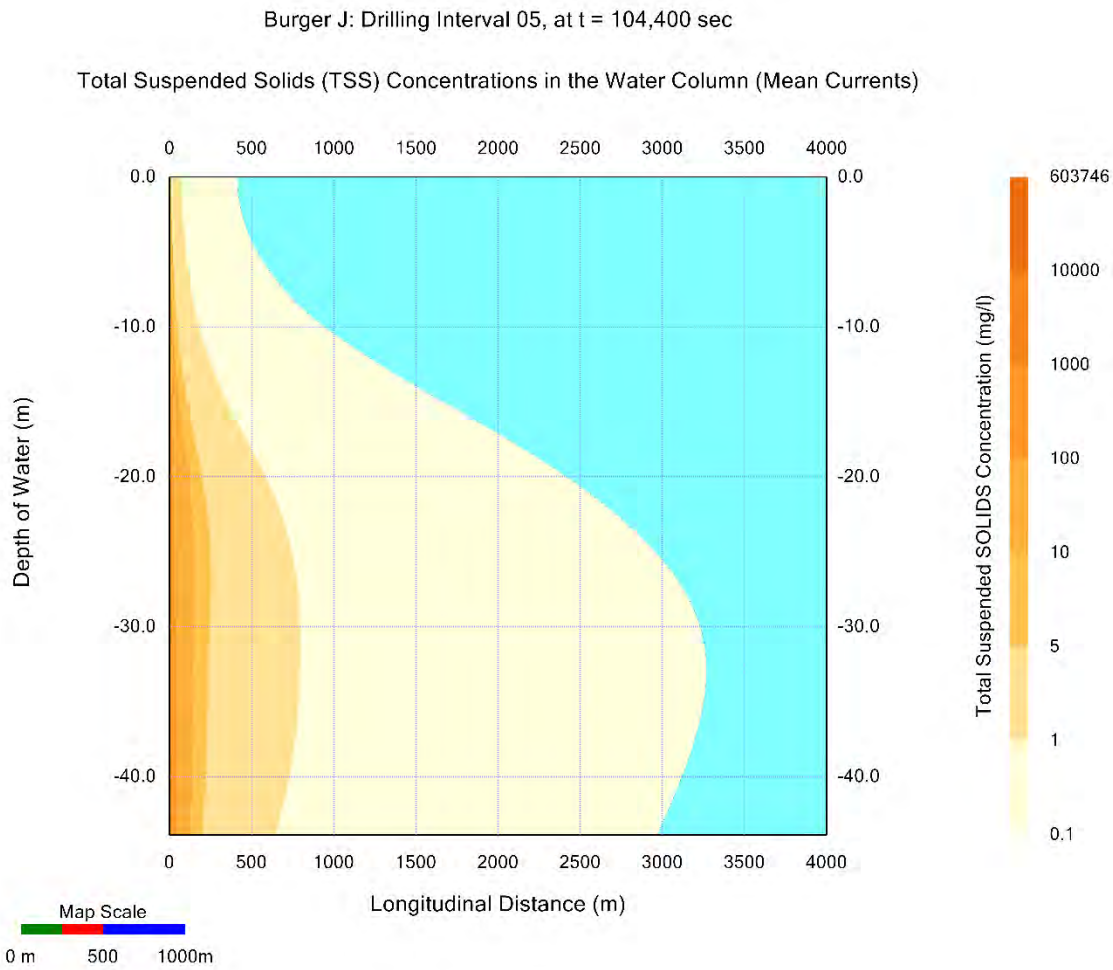
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **104**,**400** sec (or 29.0 hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 5-23**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m from a **14.25** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **5-23** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **603**,**746** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100 and 10** mg/l at distances approximately: **30** and **140** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **140** and **240** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **240** and **700** m distances from the source. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **700** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **597**.**1**, **159**.**8**, **18**.**4**, **4**.**0**, and **0**.**7** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 5-23: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at mean currents, Drilling Interval 05



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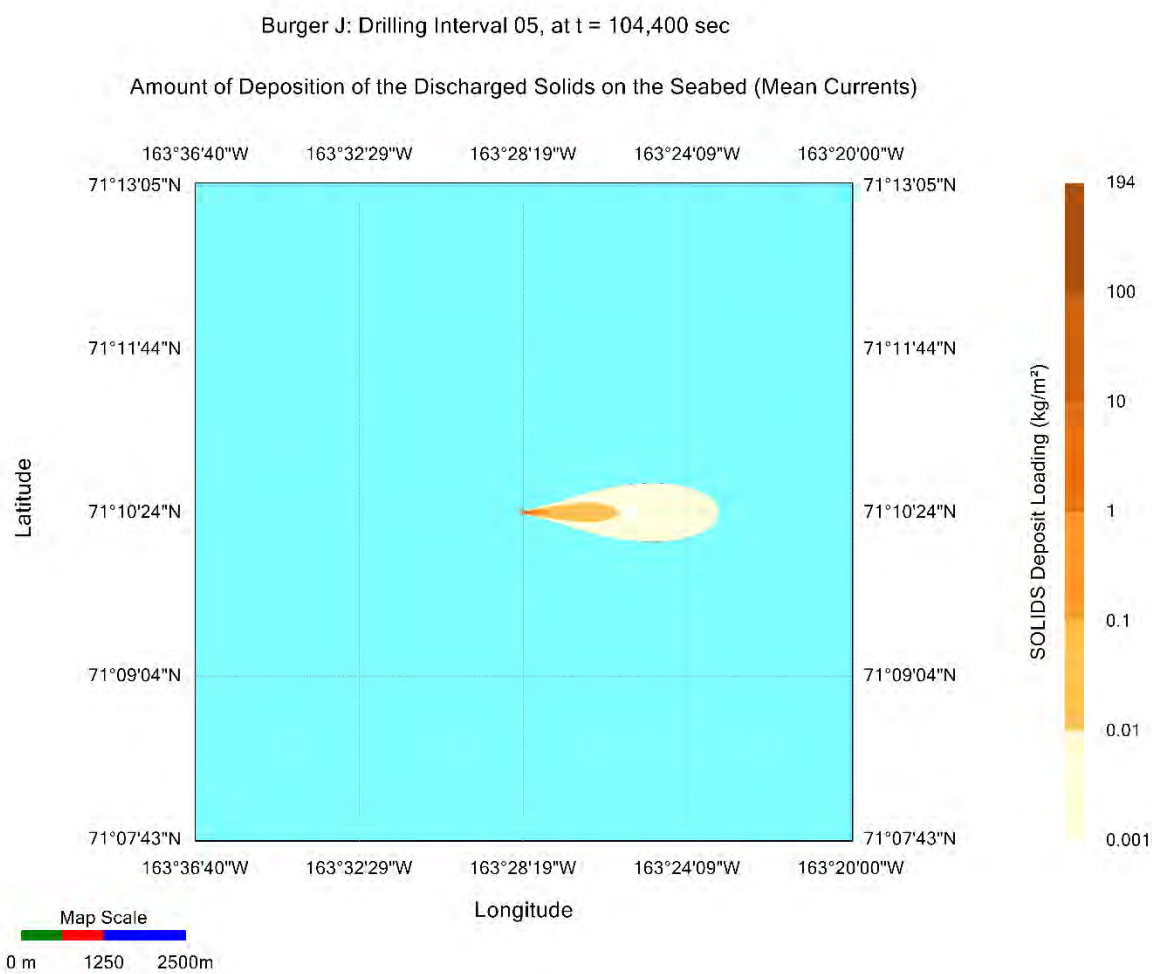
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **104**,**400** sec (or 29.0 hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figure 5-24**. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **5**-**24**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **194** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **80** m and **200** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0.1** kg/m^2 approximately between **200** m and **450** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0.1** kg/m^2 to **0.01** kg/m^2 approximately between **450** m and **1**,**450** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **0.01** kg/m^2 beyond **1**,**450** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0.1**-, and **0.01**-kg/m^2 are: **0.113**, **0.340**, **0.820**, **5.165**, and **29.587** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-24: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 05



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **104,400** sec (or 29.0 hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 5-25a** and **5-25b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **5**-**25**a. The same results are presented in Figure **5**-**25**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **12.6** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **70** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **70** m x **40** m rectangle area (or **0.278** ha) as presented in Figure **5**-**25**b. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **10**- and **1**-cm are: **0.094** and **0.278** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-25a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 05

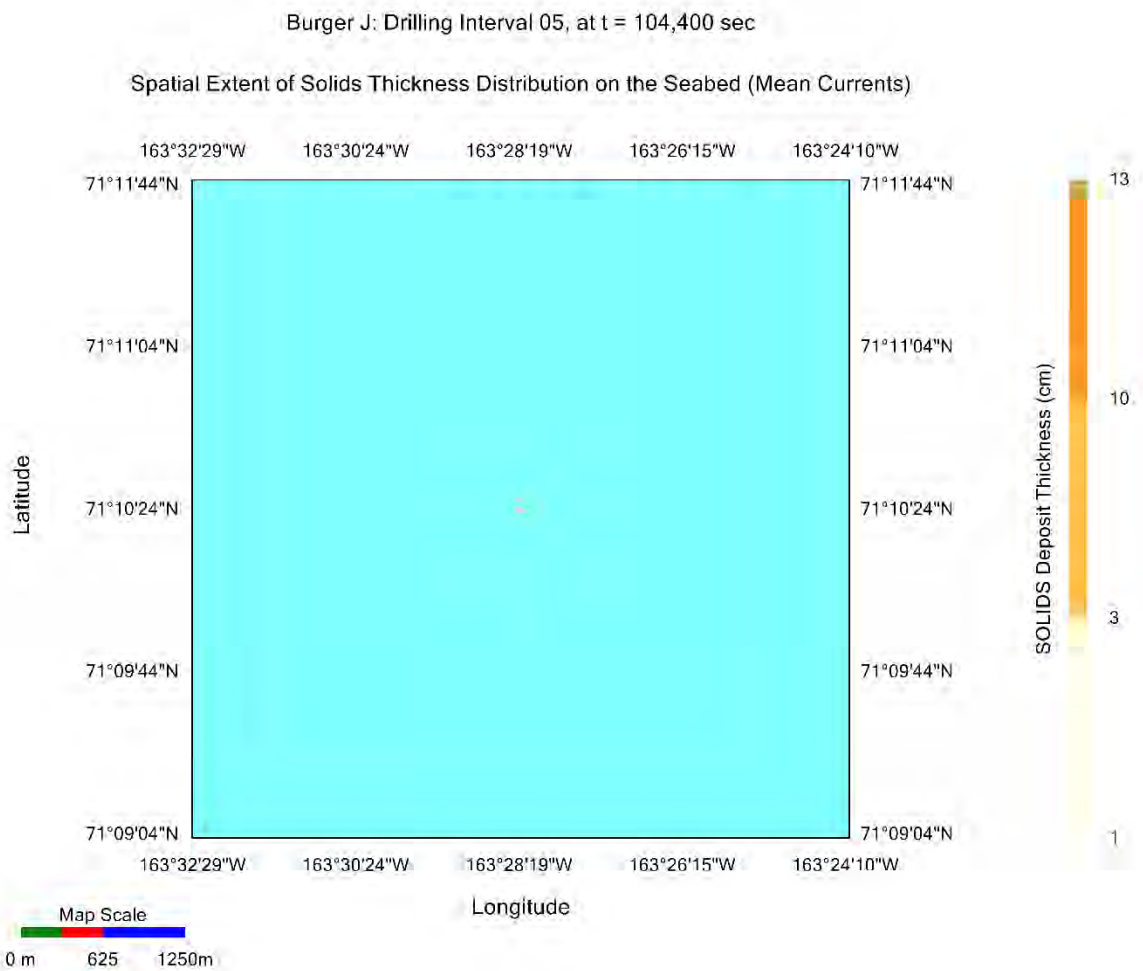

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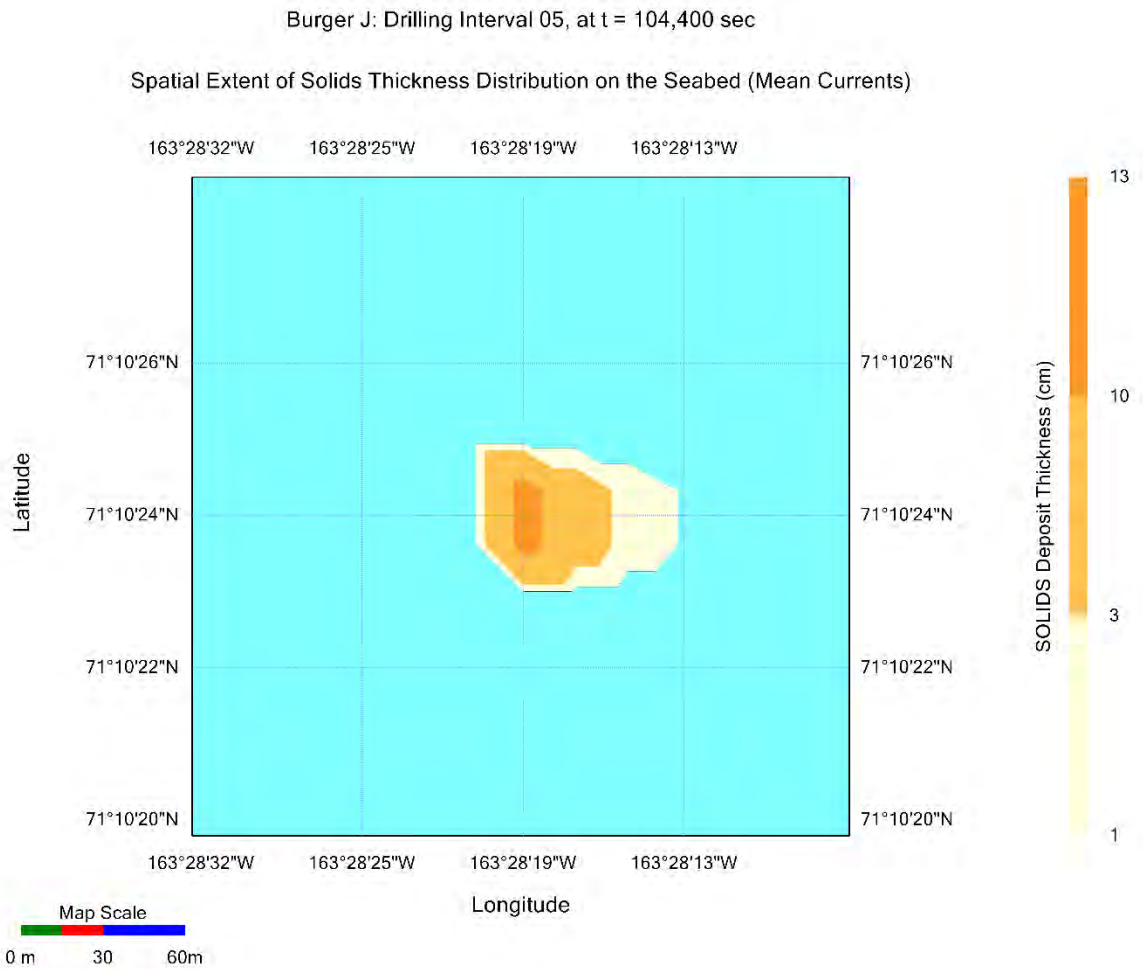
Figure 5-25b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 05 (Zoom In View)



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5.6 Model Results for Sea Surface Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 06

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-26**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m below the sea surface. The heavier plume travels approximately **3.0** m from the discharge location before collapsing into the ambient sea water due to the higher density of the discharge plume. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-27**. The width of the plume is approximately **2.5** m at a distance **3.0** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **5-26** and **5-27**.

Figure 5-26: Trajectory of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 06

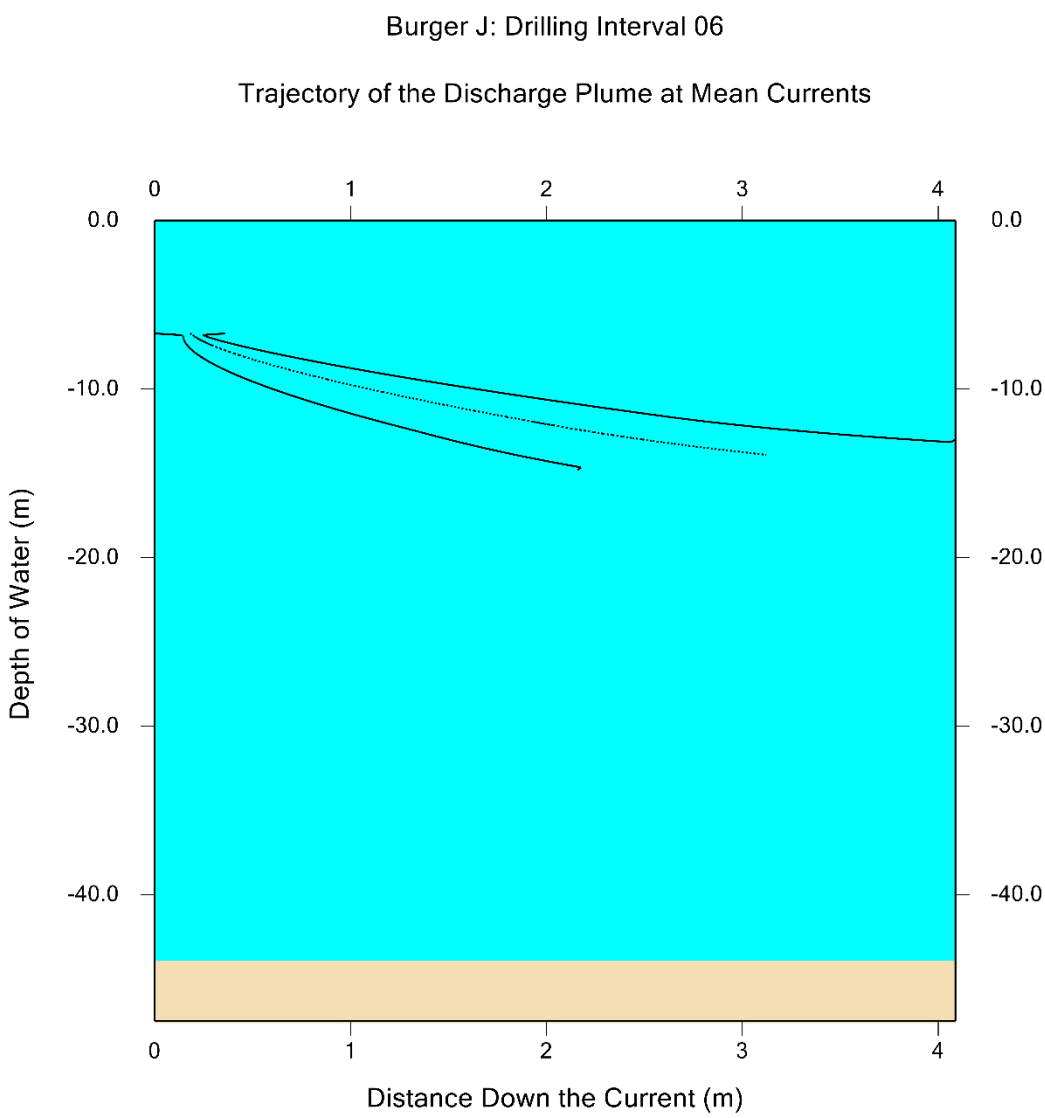

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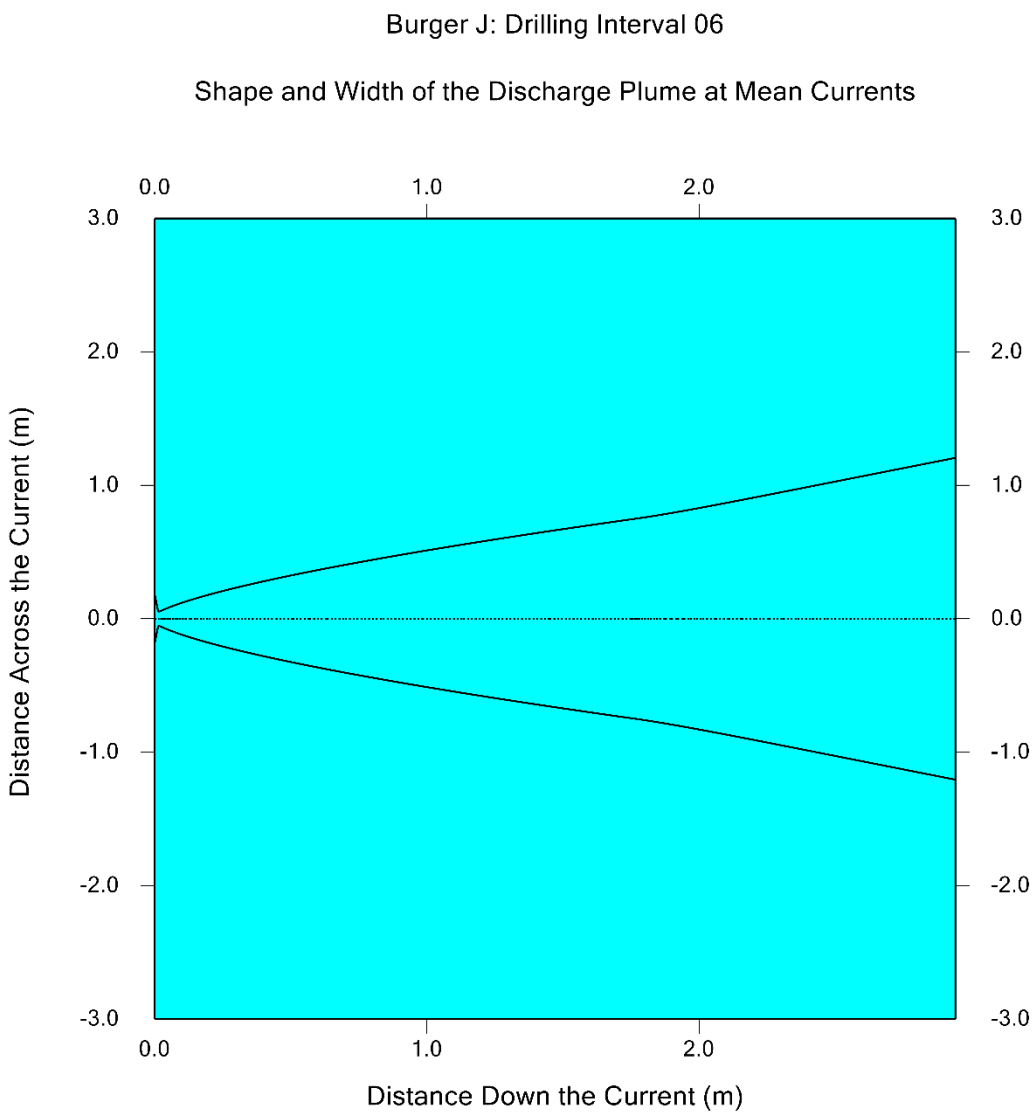
Figure 5-27: Shape and width of the discharge plume at mean currents, Drilling Interval 06



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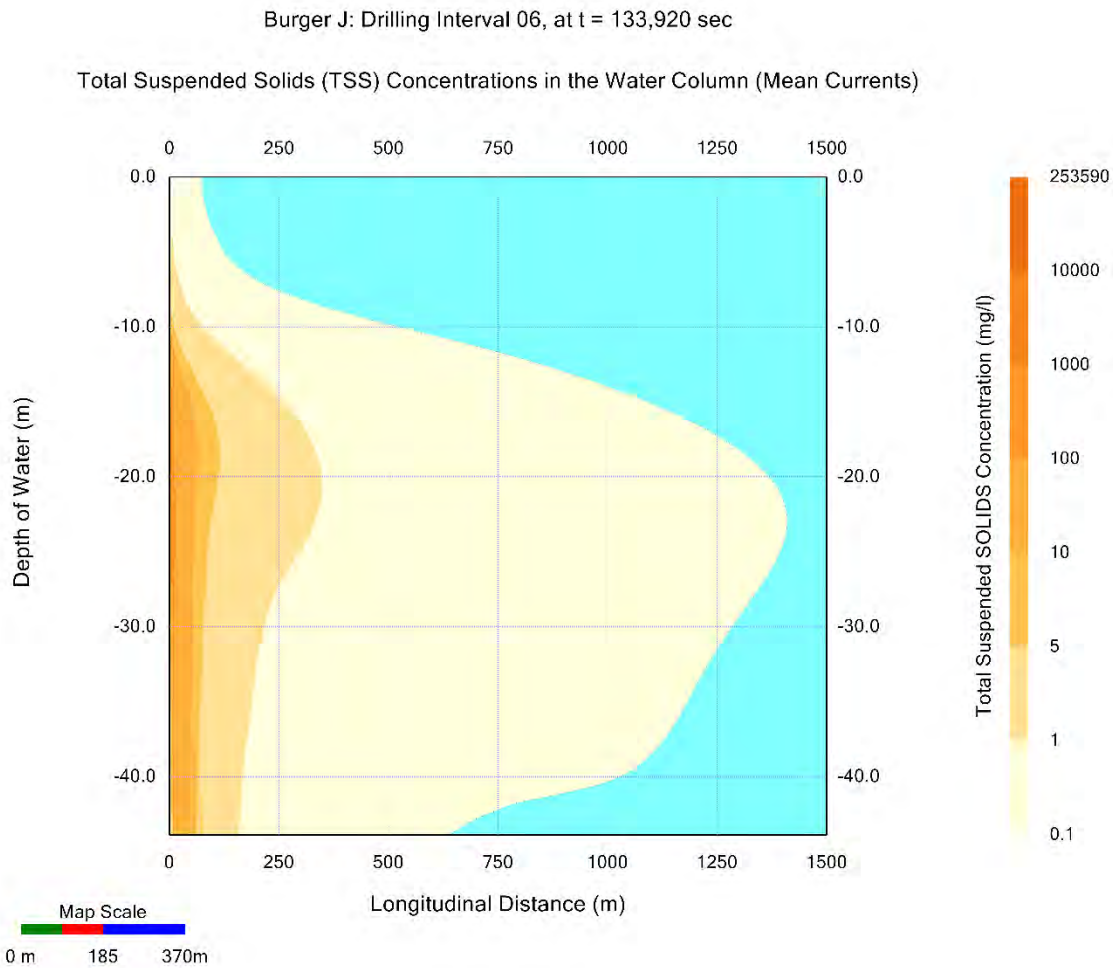
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **133**,**920** sec (or **37.2** hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 5-28**. . The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m from a **14.25** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **5-28** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **253**,**590** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** and **10** mg/l at distances approximately: **15** and **65** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **65** m and **115** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **115** m and **350** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **350** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **168**.**5**, **36**.**5**, **6**.**1**, **1**.**3**, and **0**.**2** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 5-28: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at mean currents, Drilling Interval 06



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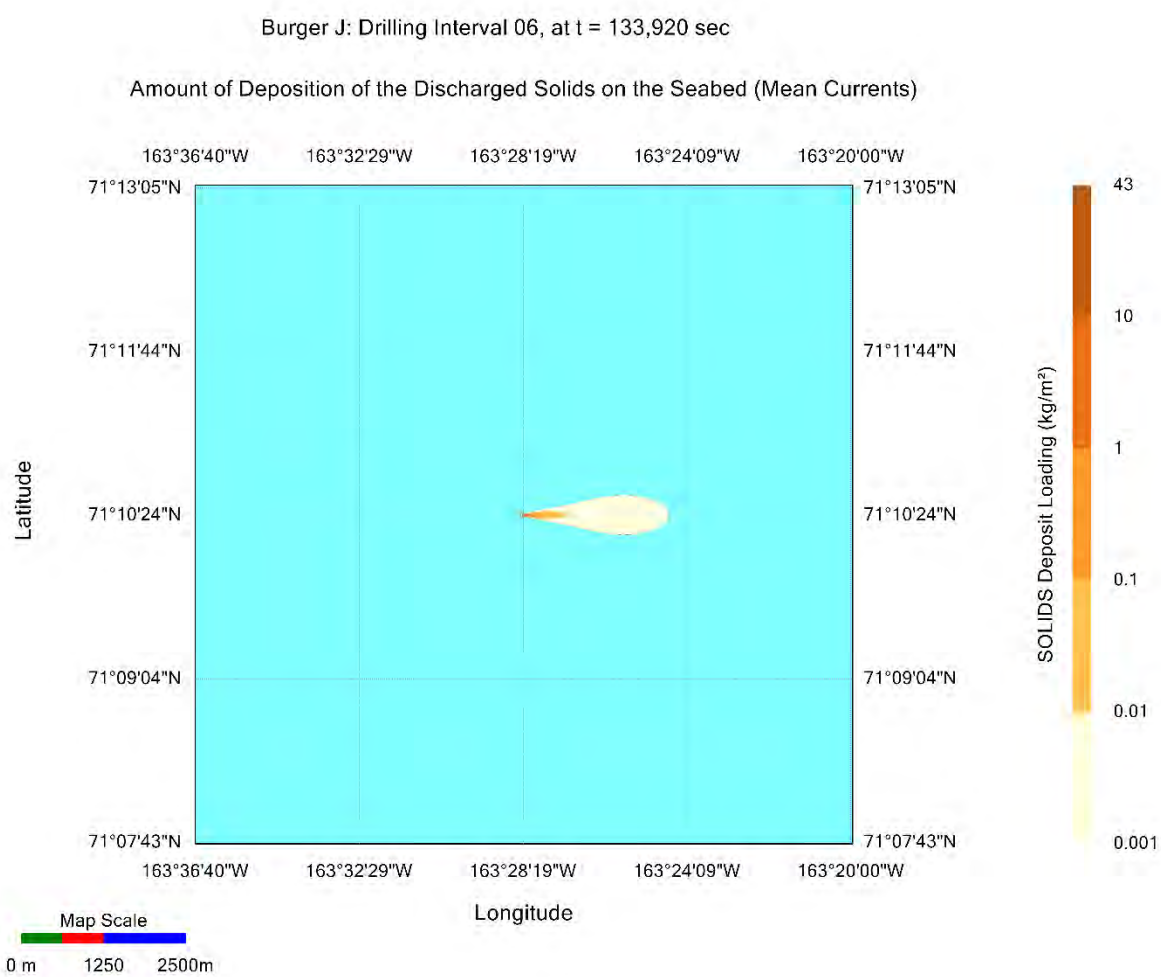
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **133**,**920** sec (or **37.2** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figure 5-29**. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **5**-**29**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **42** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the south from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **50** m and **120** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0.1** kg/m^2 between distances approximately **120** m and **300** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **0.1** kg/m^2 to **0.01** kg/m^2 approximately between **300** m and **675** m distances from the discharge location. The loading is less than **0.01** kg/m^2 beyond **675** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0.1**-, and **0.01**-kg/m^2 are: **0.000**, **0.197**, **0.504**, **1.220**, and **7.264** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-29: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 06



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **133,920** sec (or **37.2** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 5-30a** and **5-30b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **5-30**a. The same results are presented in Figure **5-30**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **2.8** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the south from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **40** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **40** m x **40** m rectangle area (or **0.179** ha) as presented in Figure **5-30**b.

Figure 5-30a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 06

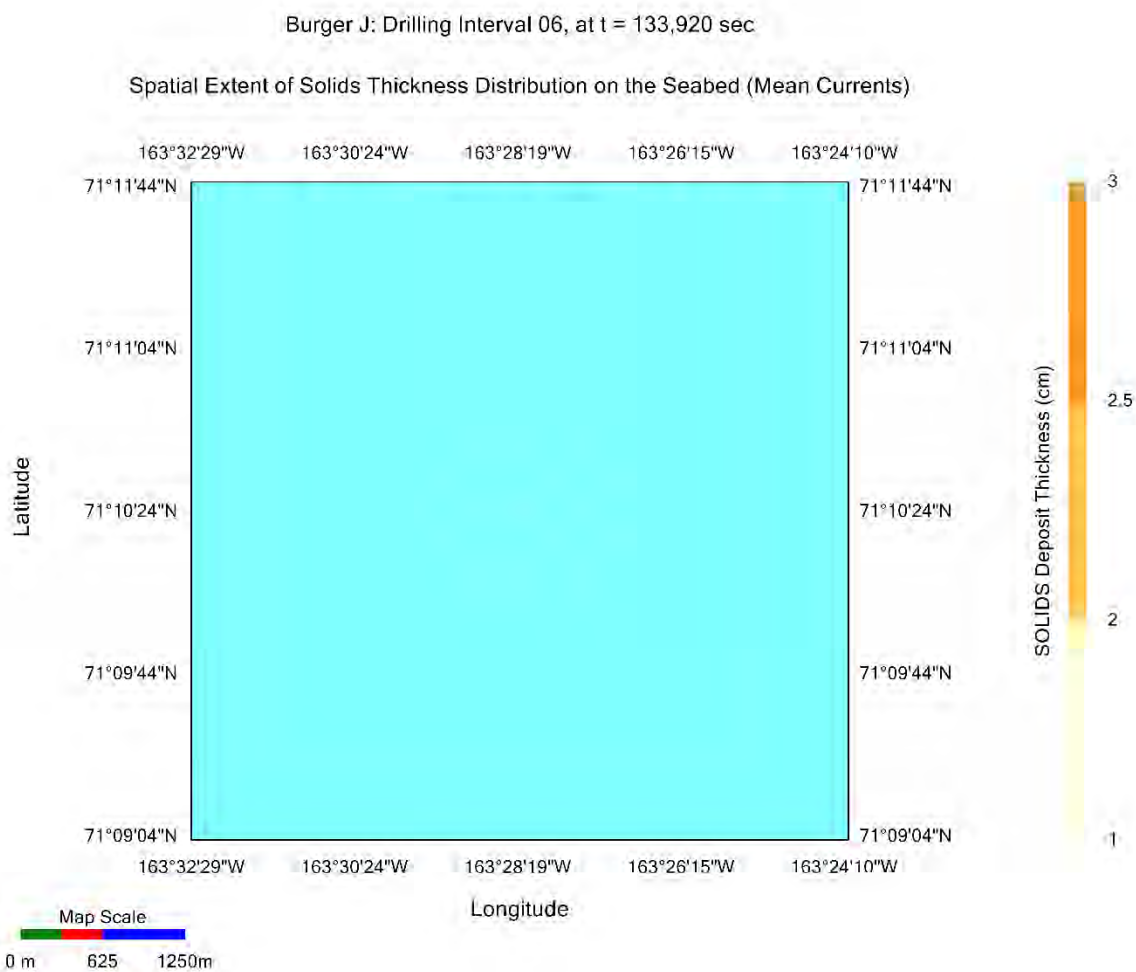

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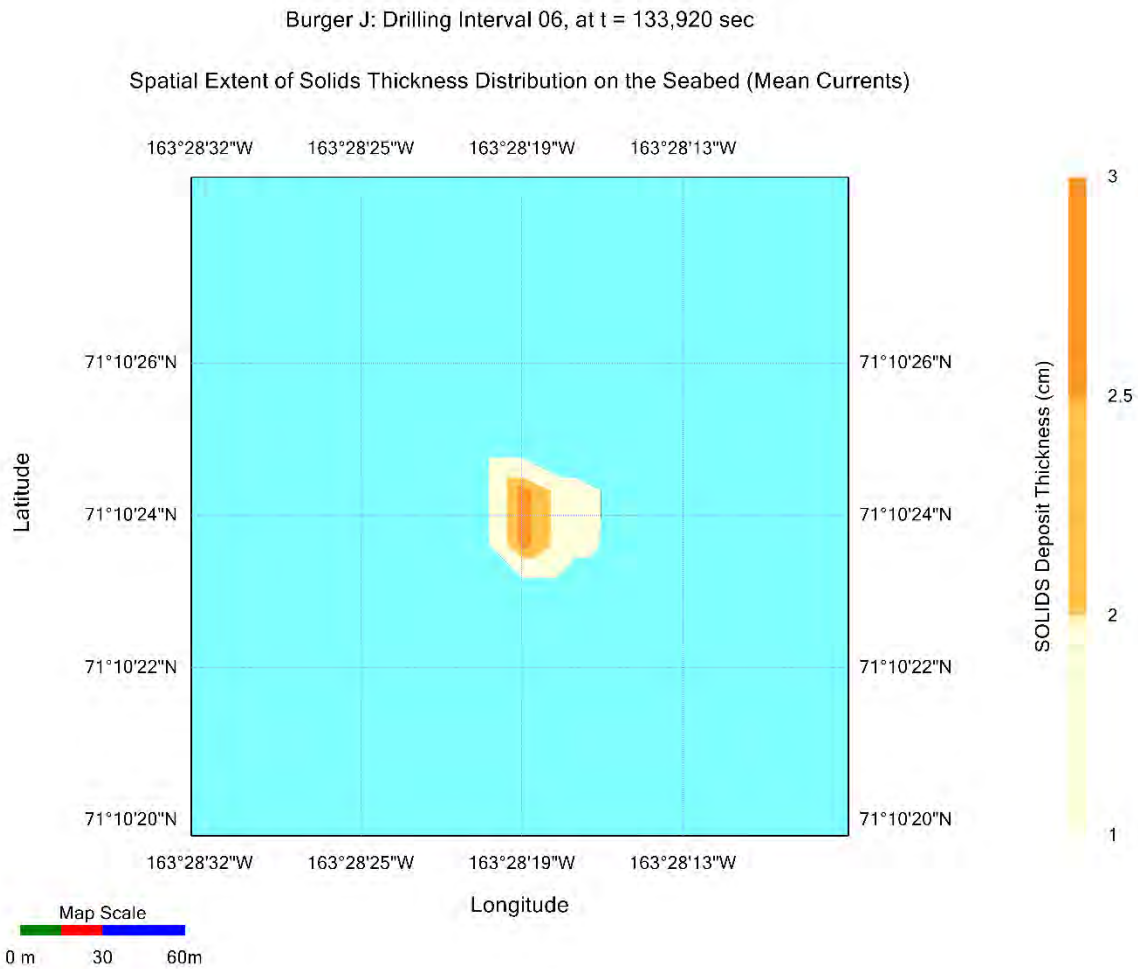
Figure 5-30b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Drilling Interval 06 (Zoom In View)



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5.7 Model Results for Sea Surface Discharge Scenario – Rigs Surface Pits

Water Based Muds Discharge from Rigs Surface Pits at the end of the Drilling Operation

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-31**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m below the sea surface. The heavier plume travels approximately **29.0** m from the discharge location before collapsing into the ambient sea water due to the higher density of the discharge plume. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 5-32**. The width of the plume is approximately **75.0** m at a distance **29.0** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **5-31** and **5-32**. The OOC model exhibits numerical oscillations or instability, which leads to the formation of a triangular loop in the upper boundary of the plume. But it dissipates and the upper boundary smoothed out after the numerical solution stabilized.

Figure 5-31: Trajectory of the discharge plume at mean currents, Rig's Surface Pits

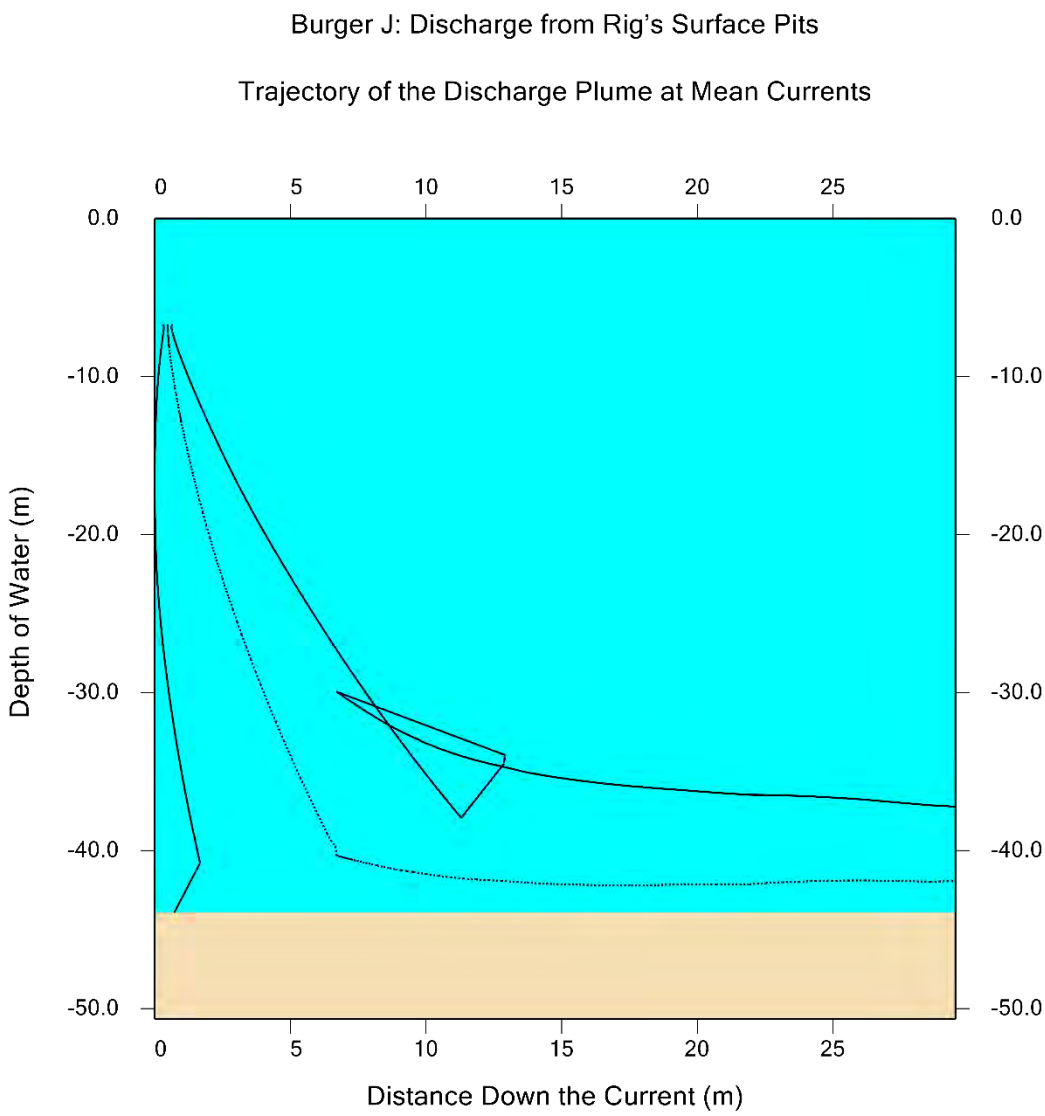

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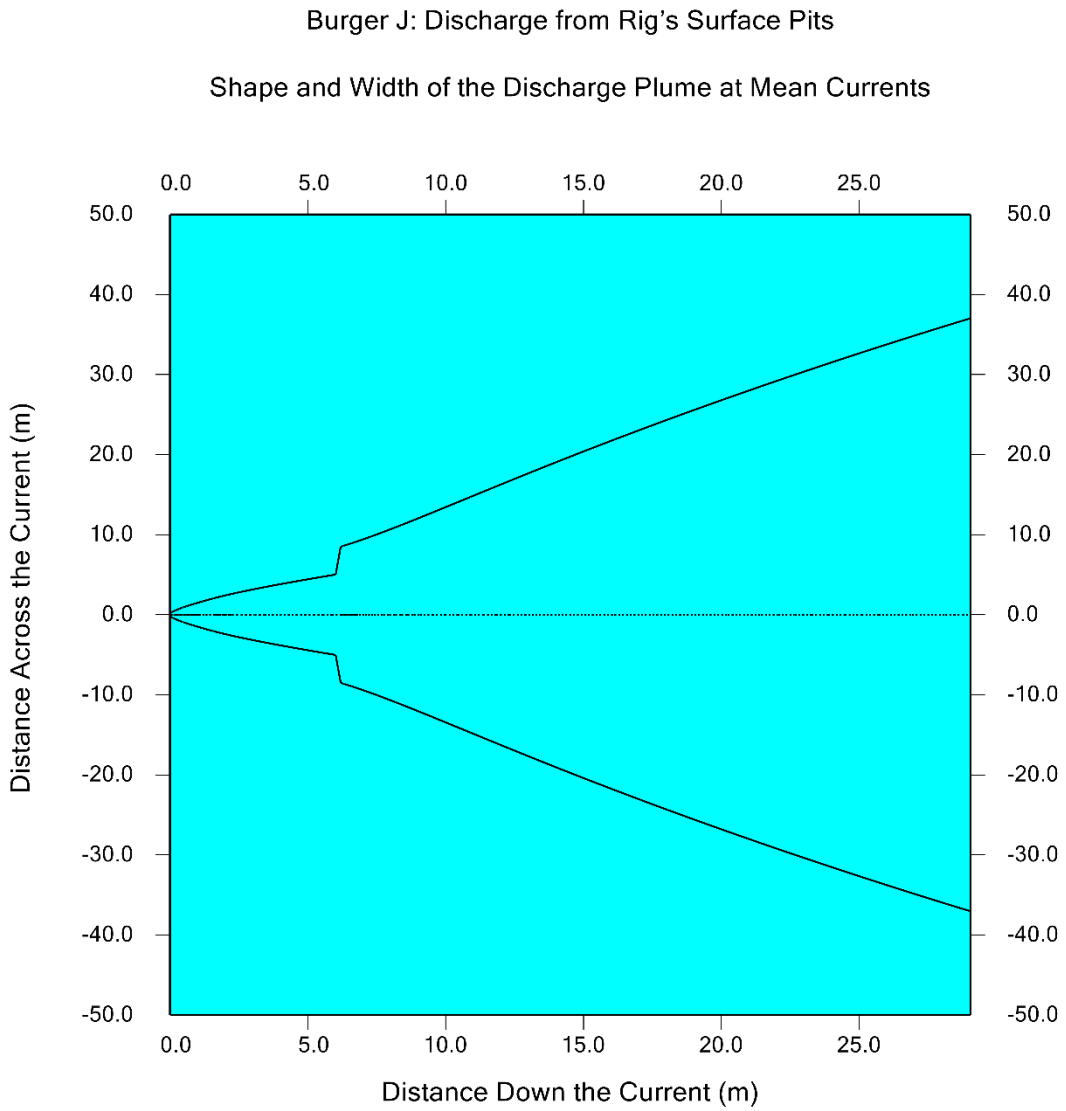
Figure 5-32: Shape and width of the discharge plume at mean currents, Rig's Surface Pits



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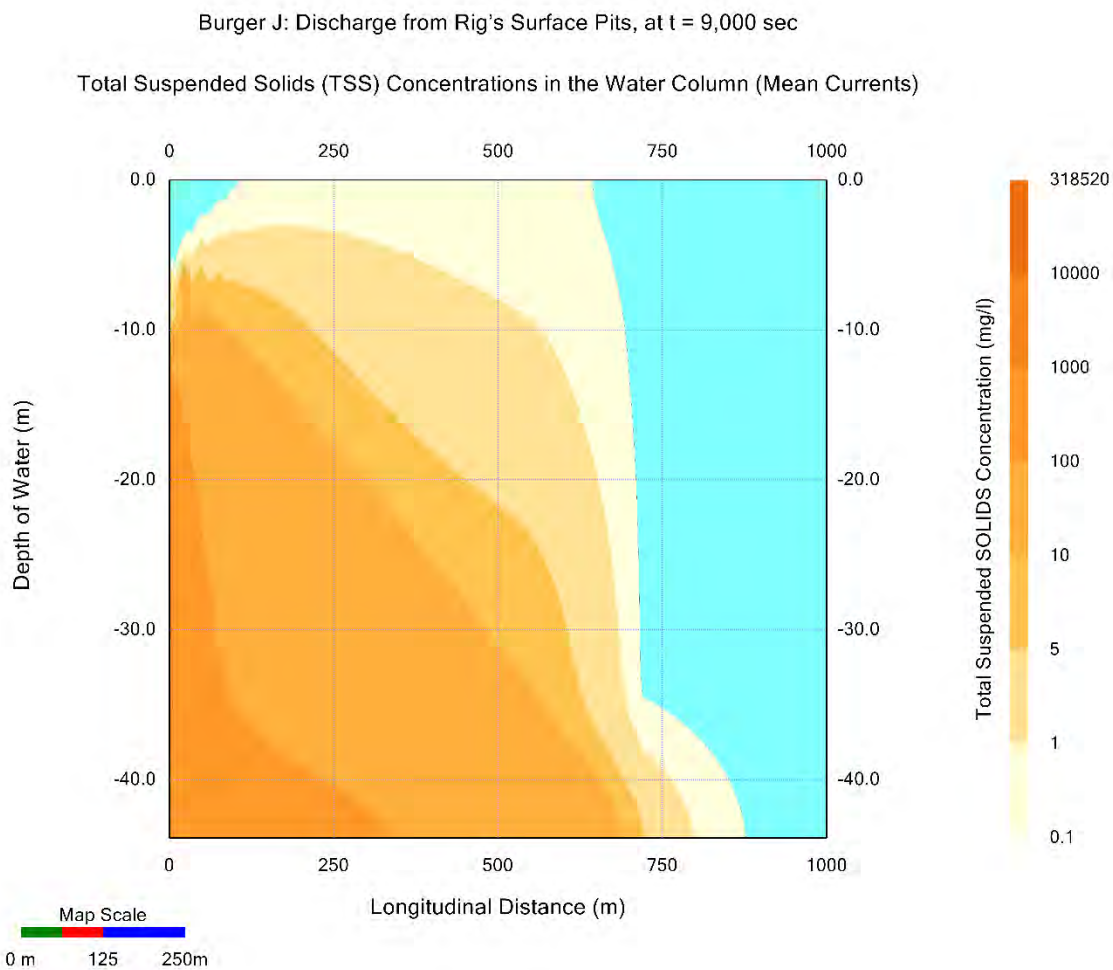
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentration in the water column at time, t = **9,000** sec (or **2.5** hours) which is the discharge duration for the water based muds from the rig's surface pits is presented in **Figure 5-33**. The depth of water is **43.90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m from a **14.25** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **5-33** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **318,520** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases rapidly to a value of **100** mg/l at a distance approximately **300** m from the discharge location. It varies from **100** to **10** mg/l between **325** m and **700** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **700** m and **725** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **725** m and **800** m distances from the source. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **800** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **576.8**, **449.8**, **238.2**, **109.7**, and **0.0** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 5-33: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at mean currents, Rig's Surface Pits



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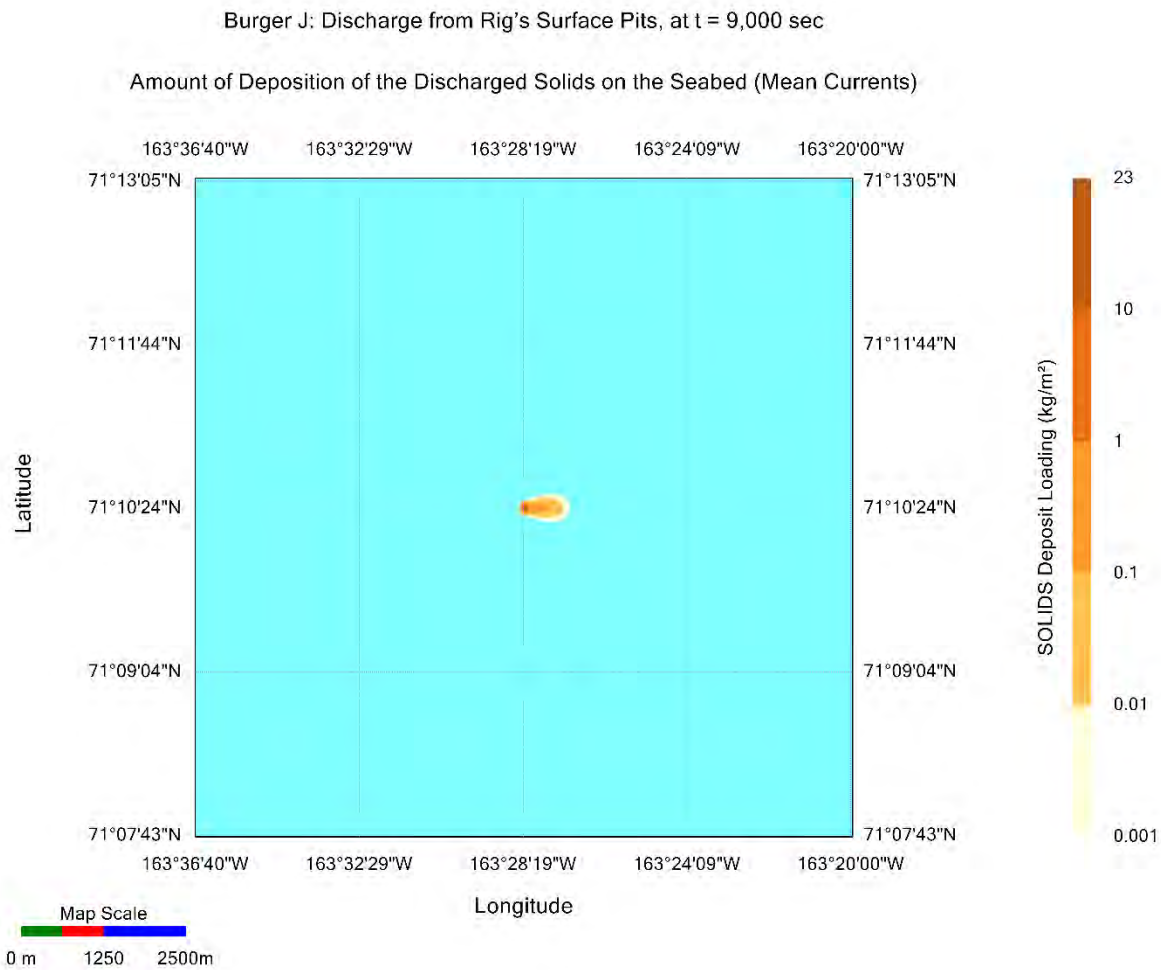
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **9,000** sec (or **2.5** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based muds from the rig's surface pits on a plan view is presented in **Figure 5-34**. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **5-34**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **23** kg/m^2 occurs at **30** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **60** m and **90** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0.1** kg/m^2 approximately between **90** m and **400** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0.1** kg/m^2 to **0.01** kg/m^2 approximately between **400** m and **600** m distances from the discharge location. The loading is less than **0.01** kg/m^2 beyond **600** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **10**-, **1**-, **0.1**-, and **0.01**-kg/m^2 are: **0.199**, **0.881**, **5.036**, and **15.113** ha, respectively.

Figure 5-34: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at mean currents, Rig's Surface Pits



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **9,000** sec (or **2.5** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based muds from the rig's surface pits on a plan view is presented in **Figures 5-35a** and **5-35b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **5-35**a. The same results are presented in Figure **5-35**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **1.1** cm occurs at **30** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **37** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **10** m x **20** m rectangle area (or **0.020** ha) as presented in Figure **5-35**b.

Figure 5-35a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Rig's Surface Pits

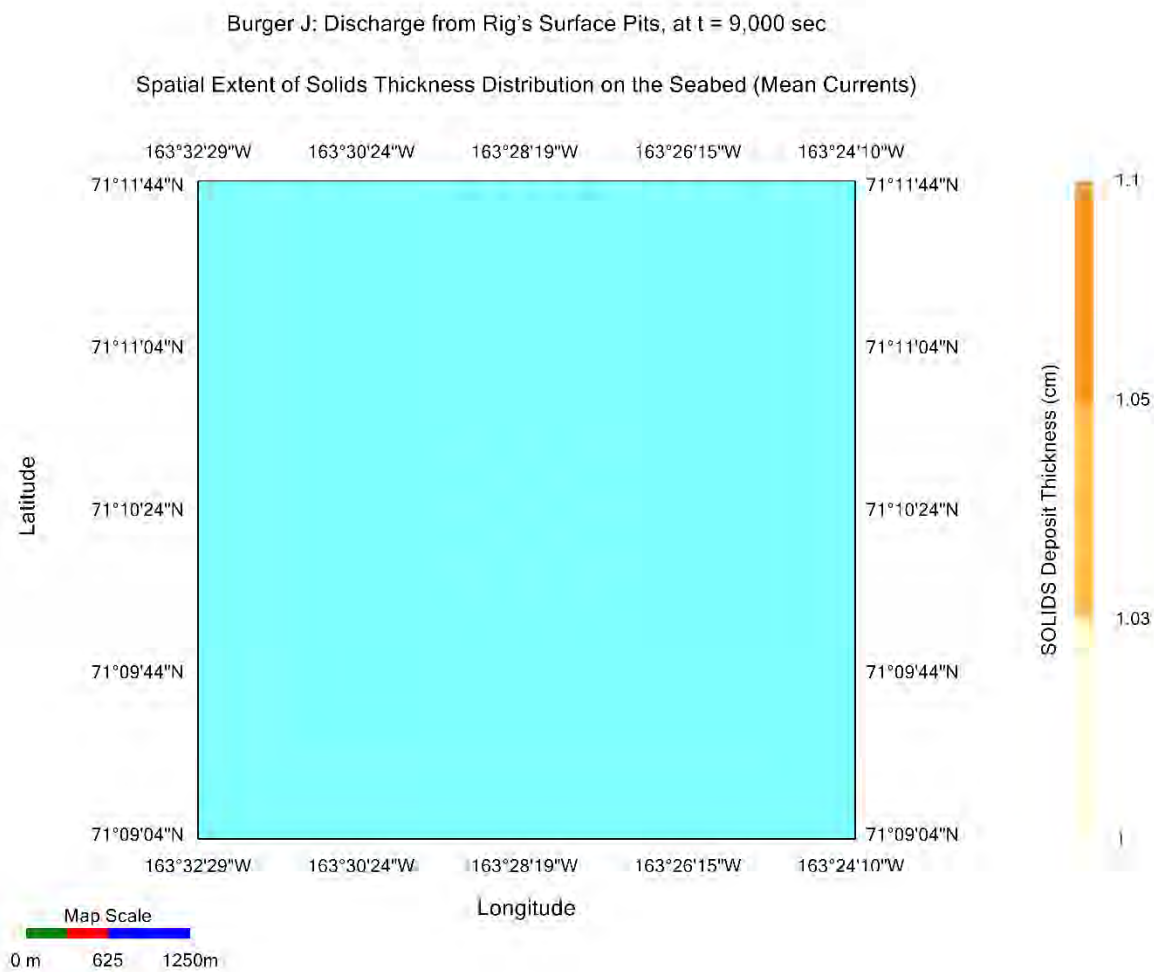

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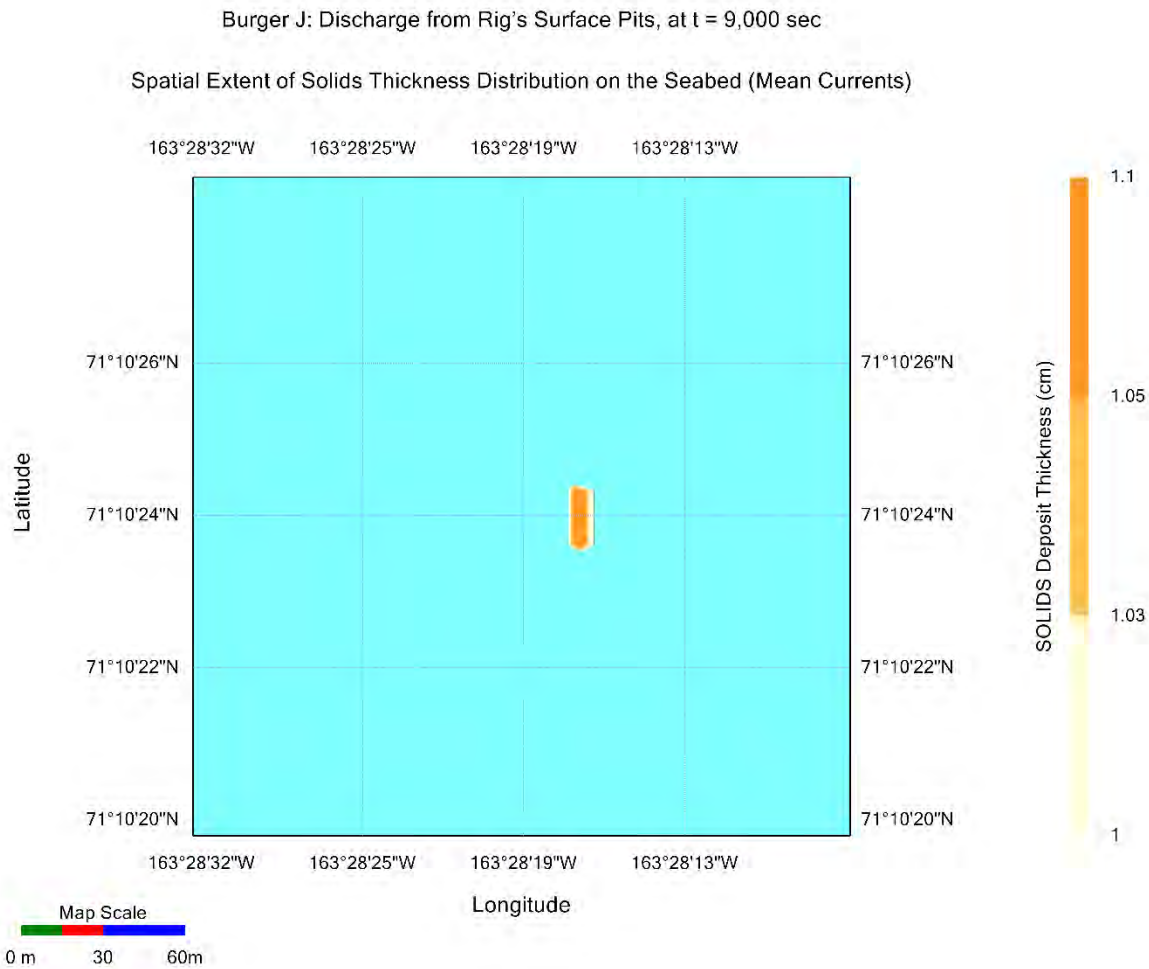
Figure 5-35b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Rig's Surface Pits (Zoom In View)



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5.8 Combined Model Results - Sea Floor and Sea Surface Discharges, Burger J

The spatial extent of the total amount of deposition of the discharged solids on the seabed from the six discrete drilling intervals (**01**, **02**, **03**, **04**, **05**, and **06**) and the rig's surface pits were compiled using the GUIDO **7** (version **7**.**3**) for the OOC model yielding the total solids deposition loading and thickness distribution on the seabed from the drilling operation at the Burger J well site.

Total Amount of Deposition of the Discharged Solids on the Seabed

The spatial extent of the total amount of solids loading at time t = **197**.**6** hours as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds on a plan view is presented in **Figures 5-36a** and **5-36b**. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location as presented in Figure **5**-**36**a. Figure **5**-**36**b presents a zoom in view of the model results, which shows approximately **2.5** km x **2.5** km area of the seabed. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The prevailing current direction is to the east. Therefore, the fate and transport of the discharge plume is towards the east only from the discharge location. The maximum loading of **3**,**145** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **30** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** kg/m^2 at a distance approximately **50** m from the discharge location as shown in Figure **5**-**36**b. It decreases: **100** kg/m^2 to **10** kg/m^2 between **50** m and **150** m; **10** kg/m^2 to **1** kg/m^2 between **150** m and **425** m; and **1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**1** kg/m^2 between **425** m and **1**,**100** m distances approximately from the discharge location. The loading is less than **0**.**01** kg/m^2 beyond **2**,**750** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **1000**-, **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0**.**1**-, **0**.**01**-, and **0**.**001**-kg/m^2 are: **0**.**109**, **0**.**276**, **0**.**657**, **4**.**404**, **19**.**025**, **146**.**246**, and **745**.**901** ha, respectively.

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Figure 5-36a: Total amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at mean currents, Burger J

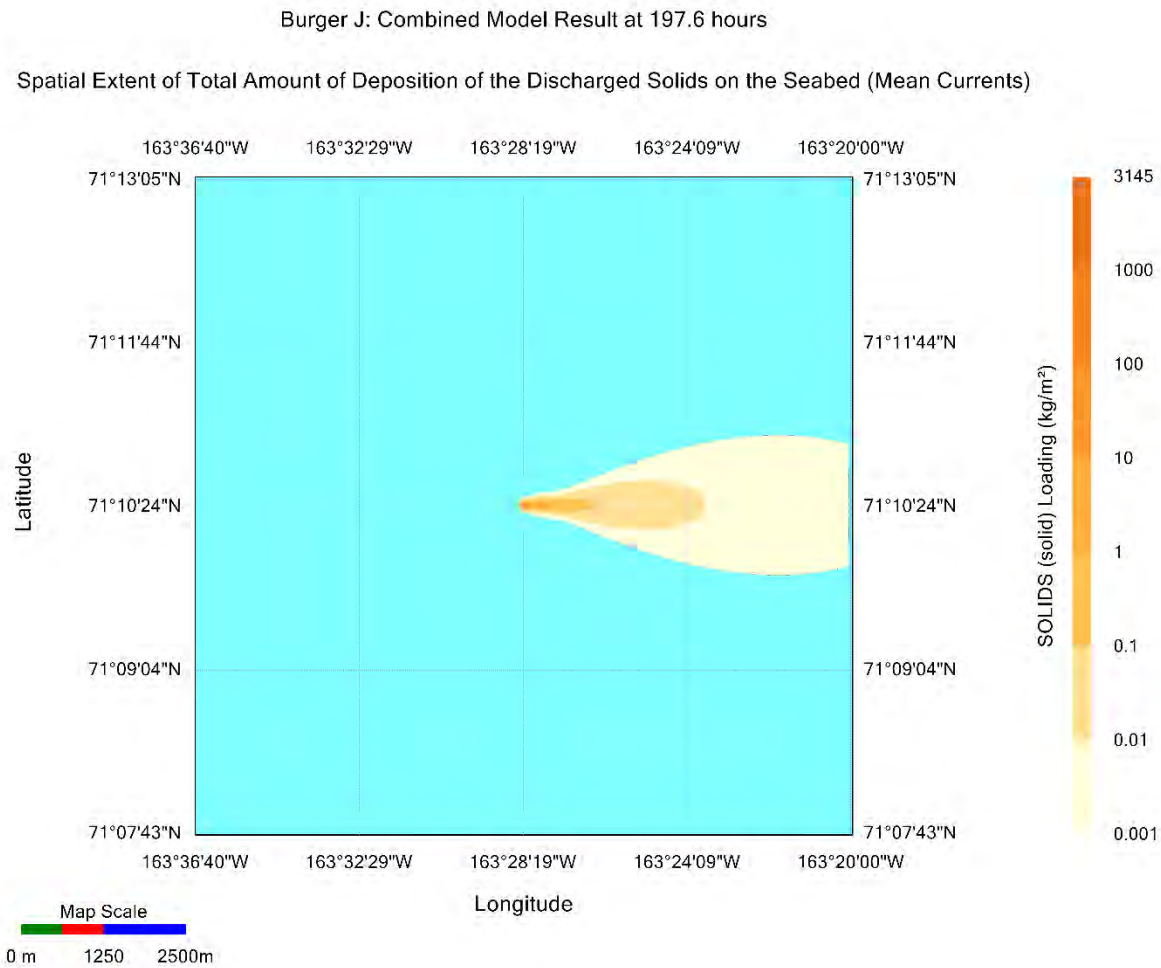

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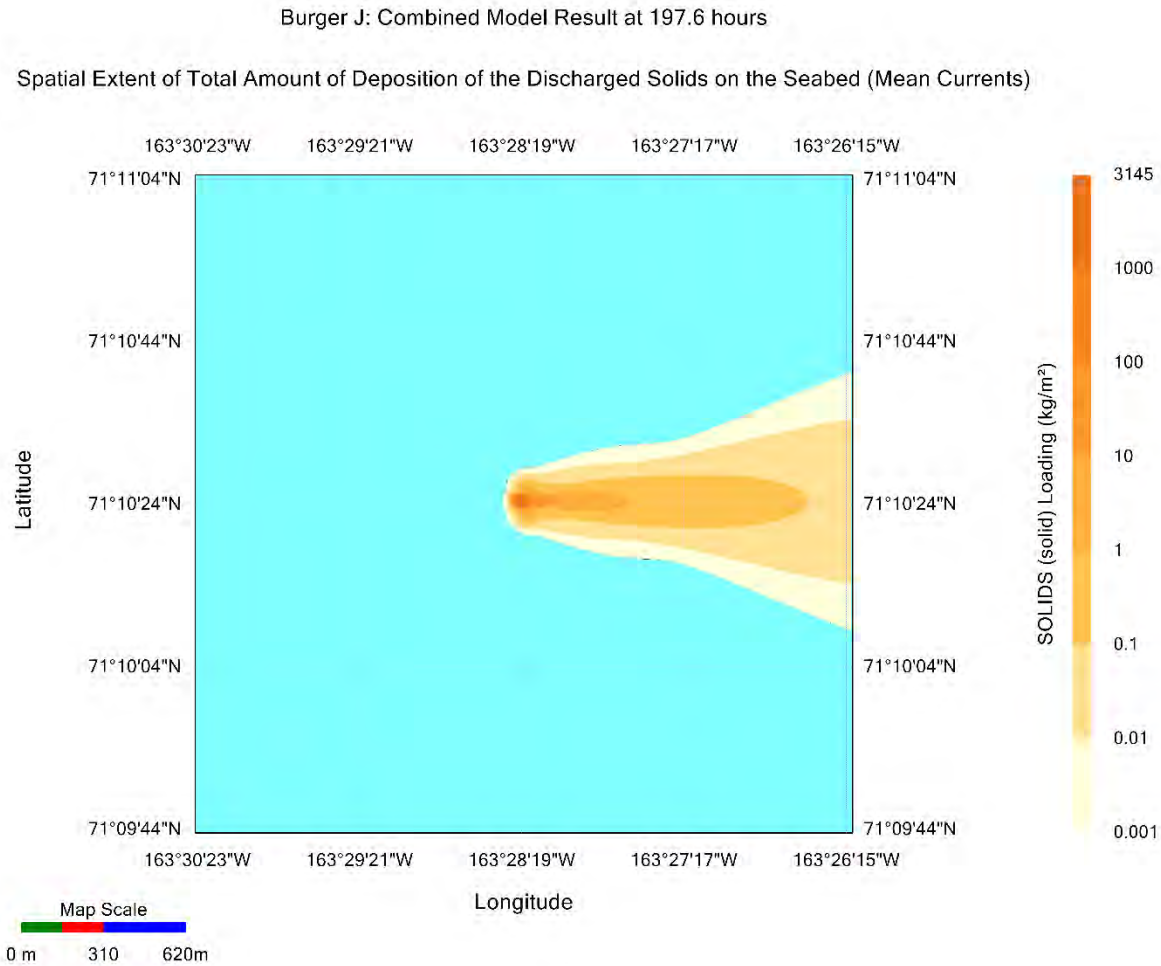
Figure 5-36b: Total amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at mean currents, Burger J (zoom in view)



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of the total solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time t = **197**.**6** hours as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds on a plan view is presented in **Figures 5-37a** and **5-37b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **5**-**37**a. The same results are presented in Figures **5**-**37**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The prevailing current direction is to the east. Therefore, the fate and transport of the discharge plume is towards the east only from the discharge location. The maximum deposit thickness of **228.9** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **30** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** cm at a distance approximately **20** m from the discharge location as shown in Figure **5**-**37**b. It decreases: **100** cm to **30** cm between **20** m and **25** m; **30** cm to **10** cm between **25** m and **45** m; **10** cm to **3** cm between **45** m and **70** m; and **3** cm to **1** cm between **70** m and **110** m distances approximately from the discharge location. It is less than **1** cm beyond **110** m approximately to the east from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **120** m x **45** m rectangle area (or **0**.**560** ha) as presented in Figure **5**-**37**b.

The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **200**-, **100**-, **10**-, and **1**-cm are: **0**.**085**, **0**.**104**, **0**.**248**, and **0**.**560** ha, respectively. The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit thickness is also presented graphically in **Figure 5-38**.

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Figure 5-37a: Spatial extent of total solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Burger J

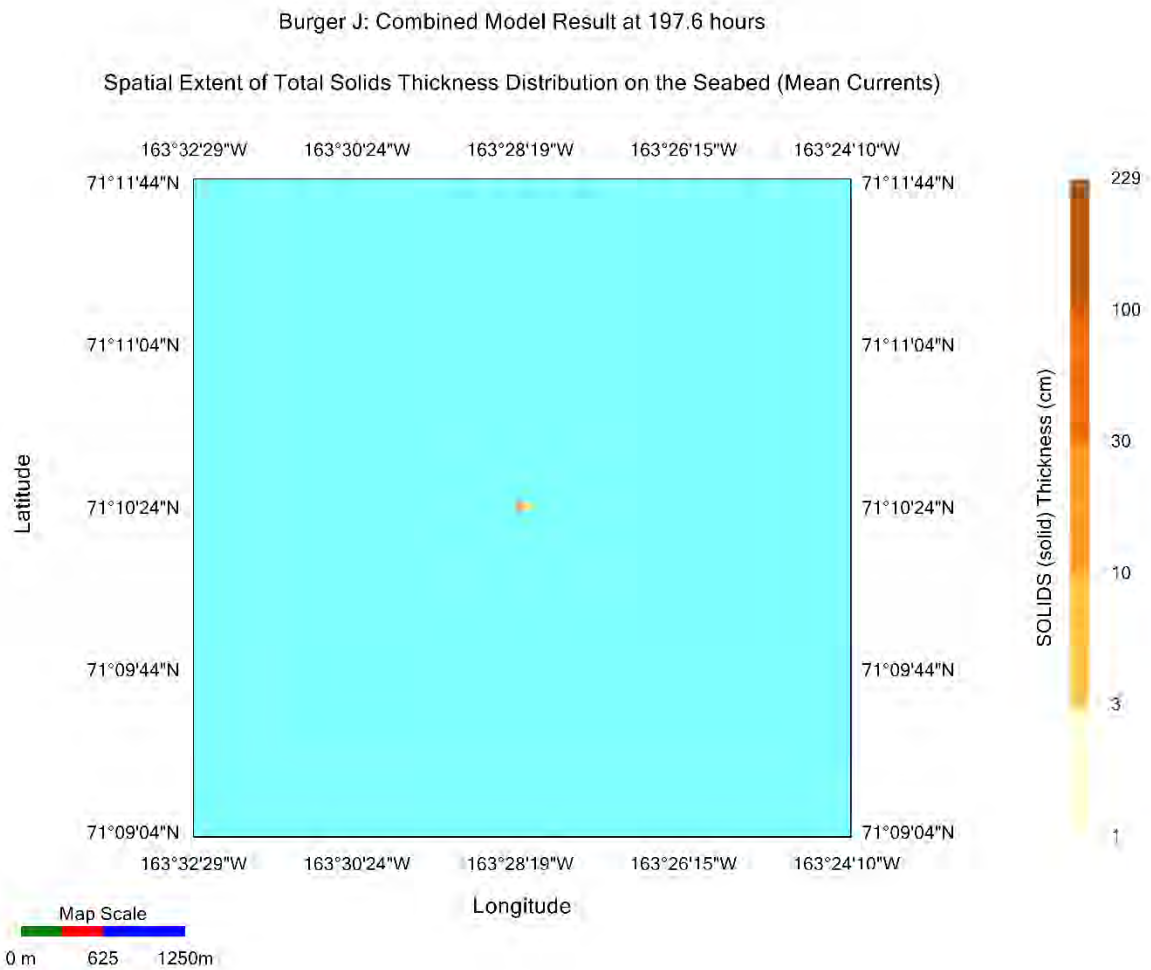

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Figure 5-37b: Spatial extent of total solids thickness distribution on seabed at mean currents, Burger J (Zoom In View)

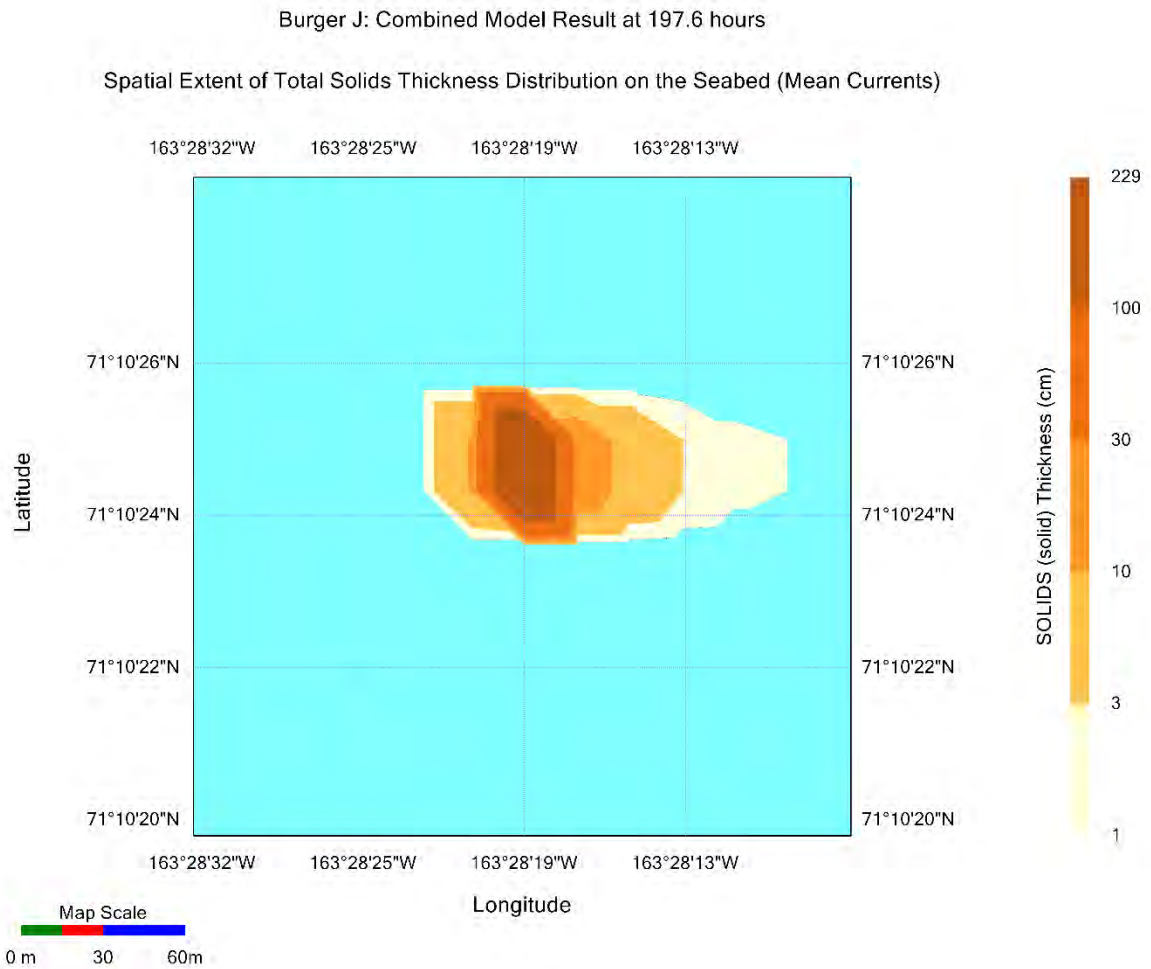

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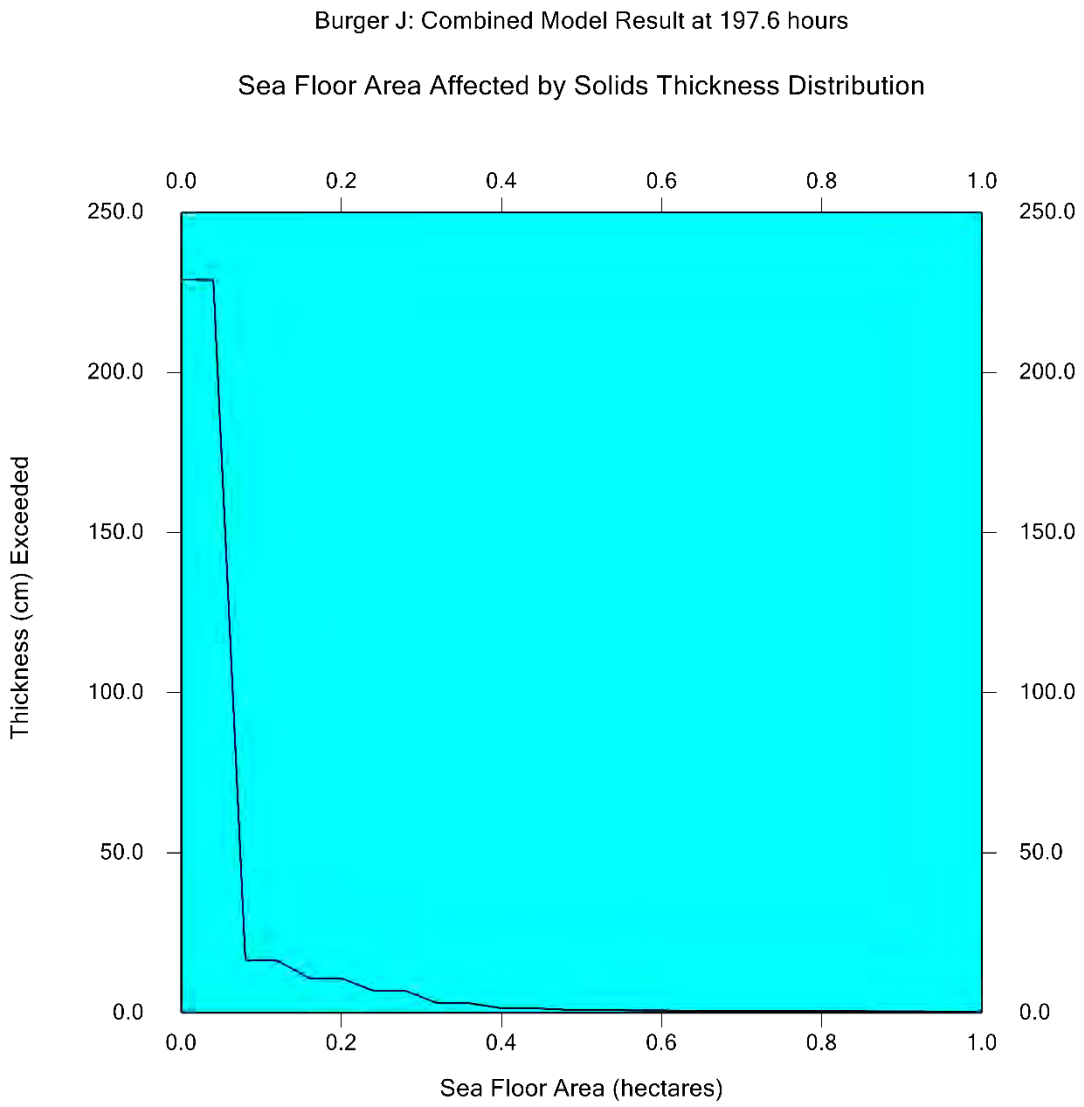
Figure 5-38: Sea floor area affected by solids thickness distribution at mean currents, Burger J



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The OOC model predictions for the solids deposition on the seabed from the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds discharges from the six discrete drilling intervals and the rig's surface pits at the mean currents speeds were compiled using the GUIDO **7** software yielding the total solids deposition loading and thickness distribution on the seabed from the drilling operation at the Burger J well site and are presented in **Table 5-2**. The sea floor areas affected at the end of the drilling operation at the Burger J well site by the solids deposit thickness larger than **100**-, **10**-, and **1**-cm are: **0**.**104**, **0**.**248**, and **0**.**560** ha, respectively as presented in Table **5**-**2**.

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column are presented in **Table 5-3**. The TSS concentrations during the drilling operations are: **6**.**1** to **238**.**2** mg/l at **100** m; **1**.**3** to **109**.**7** mg/l at **300** m; and **0** to **4**.**5** mg/l at **1000** m distances from the source. The maximum TSS concentrations occur during the discharge of the water based muds from the rig's surface pits for a duration of **2**.**5** hours only. They are: **238**.**2** mg/l at **100** m and **109**.**7** mg/l at **300** m distances from the source.

Table 5-2: Solids Deposition on the Seabed at Mean Currents

The OOC Model Predictions at Mean Currents											
Well ID	Discharge Scenario	Drilling Intervals	Durations of Discharge	Depth of Water	Depth of Discharge	Effluent Discharge Rate	Pre-diluted Effluent Discharge Rate	Solids Deposition on the Seabed			
								Total Area (ha) Covered by Solids Thickness Larger than 100-, 10-, and 1-cm			Maximum Deposit Thickness
			Hours	m	m	bbls/hour	bbls/hour	100 cm	10 cm	1 cm	cm
Burger J	Sea Floor	1	66.00	43.90	42.07	82.86	14,000.00	0.096	0.120	0.279	159.90
		2	5.20	43.90	42.07	148.57	14,000.00	-	0.085	0.119	11.35
		3	34.40	43.90	42.07	86.64	14,000.00	-	0.111	0.192	38.84
	Sea Surface	4	23.30	43.90	6.71	89.87	100.70	-	-	0.262	8.02
		5	29.00	43.90	6.71	93.46	104.29	-	0.094	0.278	12.59
		6	37.20	43.90	6.71	18.49	29.32	-	-	0.179	2.76
		Rig's Surface Pits	2.50	43.90	6.71	970.80	970.80	-	-	0.093	1.10
	At the end of the Drilling Operation							0.104	0.248	0.560	228.90

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Table 5-3: Total Suspended Solids (TSS) Concentrations in the Water Column at Mean Currents

The OOC Model Predictions at Mean Currents												
Well ID	Discharge Scenario	Drilling Intervals	Durations of Discharge	Depth of Water	Depth of Discharge	Effluent Discharge Rate	Pre-diluted Effluent Discharge Rate	Total Suspended Solids (TSS) Concentrations (mg/l) in Water Column at 10-, 30-, 100-, 300-, and 1000-m from the Source				
			Hours	m	m	bbls/hour	bbls/hour	10 m	30 m	100 m	300 m	1000 m
Burger J	Sea Floor	1	66.00	43.90	42.07	82.86	14,000.00	1,420.1	516.0	131.8	27.5	4.5
		2	5.20	43.90	42.07	148.57	14,000.00	1,236.2	435.6	117.9	24.9	4.0
		3	34.40	43.90	42.07	86.64	14,000.00	641.5	226.0	61.4	12.8	2.1
	Sea Surface	4	23.30	43.90	6.71	89.87	100.70	511.6	136.0	15.7	3.5	0.6
		5	29.00	43.90	6.71	93.46	104.29	597.1	159.8	18.4	4.0	0.7
		6	37.20	43.90	6.71	18.49	29.32	168.5	36.5	6.1	1.3	0.2
		Rig's Surface Pits	2.50	43.90	6.71	970.80	970.80	576.8	449.8	238.2	109.7	0.0

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SECTION 6.0 DISPERSION AND DEPOSITION MODELING – MAXIMUM CURRENTS

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids discharges from the drilling operation at the Burger J well site for both the sea floor (**D013**) and sea surface (**D001**) discharge scenarios at the maximum currents were performed using the OOC model. The numeric simulations were carried out for the six drillings intervals for the actual drilling durations: **66.0**, **5.2**, **34.4**, **23.3**, **29.0**, and **37.2** hours as presented in **Table 6-1**. Moreover, numeric simulation was also carried out for the surface discharge of the water based muds at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970.80** bbls/hour for **2.5** hours. A **360**-second model time step (Δt) was used for the computer simulations of all discharges listed in Table **6-1**. The solids deposition on the seabed from the below listed discharges from the six discrete drilling intervals and the rig's surface pits were compiled using the GUIDO **7** for the OOC model yielding the total solids deposition loading and thickness distribution on the seabed from the drilling operation at the Burger J well site.

Table 6-1: Total Simulation Time, Model Time Step, and Discharge Rates for Burger J

Well ID	Discharge Scenario	Drilling Intervals	Durations of Drilling (Discharge)		The OOC Numeric Model Simulation			Depth of Water	Depth of Discharge	Effluent (Cuttings + Drilling Fluids) Mass Discharge Rate	Pre-diluted Effluent Discharge Rate
					Total Simulation Time	Model Time Step (Δt)	Count of Total Model Steps				
			Hours	Seconds	Seconds	Seconds		m	m	bbls/hour	bbls/hour
Burger J	Sea Floor	1	66.00	237,600	237,600	360	660	43.90	42.07	82.86	14,000
		2	5.20	18,720	18,720	360	52	43.90	42.07	148.57	14,000
		3	34.40	123,840	123,840	360	344	43.90	42.07	86.64	14,000
	Sea Surface	4	23.30	83,880	83,880	360	233	43.90	6.71	89.87	100.70
		5	29.00	104,400	104,400	360	290	43.90	6.71	93.46	104.29
		6	37.20	133,920	133,920	360	372	43.90	6.71	18.49	29.32
		Rig's Surface Pits	2.50	9,000	9,000	360	25	43.90	6.71	970.80	970.80

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The OOC model predictions for the dispersion and deposition of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds in the near-field and far-field receiving water are presented in this technical report by the following effluent characteristics:

- Trajectory and shape of the discharge plume
- Total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in milligrams per liter (mg/l) in the water column
- Amount of deposition of the discharged solids in kilograms per square meter (kg/m^2) on the seabed
- Spatial extent of deposition (i.e., solids thickness distribution) in centimeter (cm) of the discharged solids on the seabed

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6.1 Model Results for Sea Floor Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 01

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-1**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **42.07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe of the sea floor pump at **14,000** bbls/hour. A flexible hose suction pipe of this sea floor pump moves the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids from the drill strings and discharges at **1.83** m (or **6** feet) above the seafloor. The discharge pipe is oriented horizontally aligned with the direction of the current, which is to the east. Therefore, the heavier discharge plume attempts to shoot horizontally as seen in Figure **6-1** and travels to the east to a distance approximately **0.35** m only from the discharge location before collapsing onto the sea floor due to the proximity of the plume near the sea floor. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-2**. The width of the plume is approximately **0.35** m at a distance **0.35** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **6-1** and **6-2**.

Figure 6-1: Trajectory of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 01

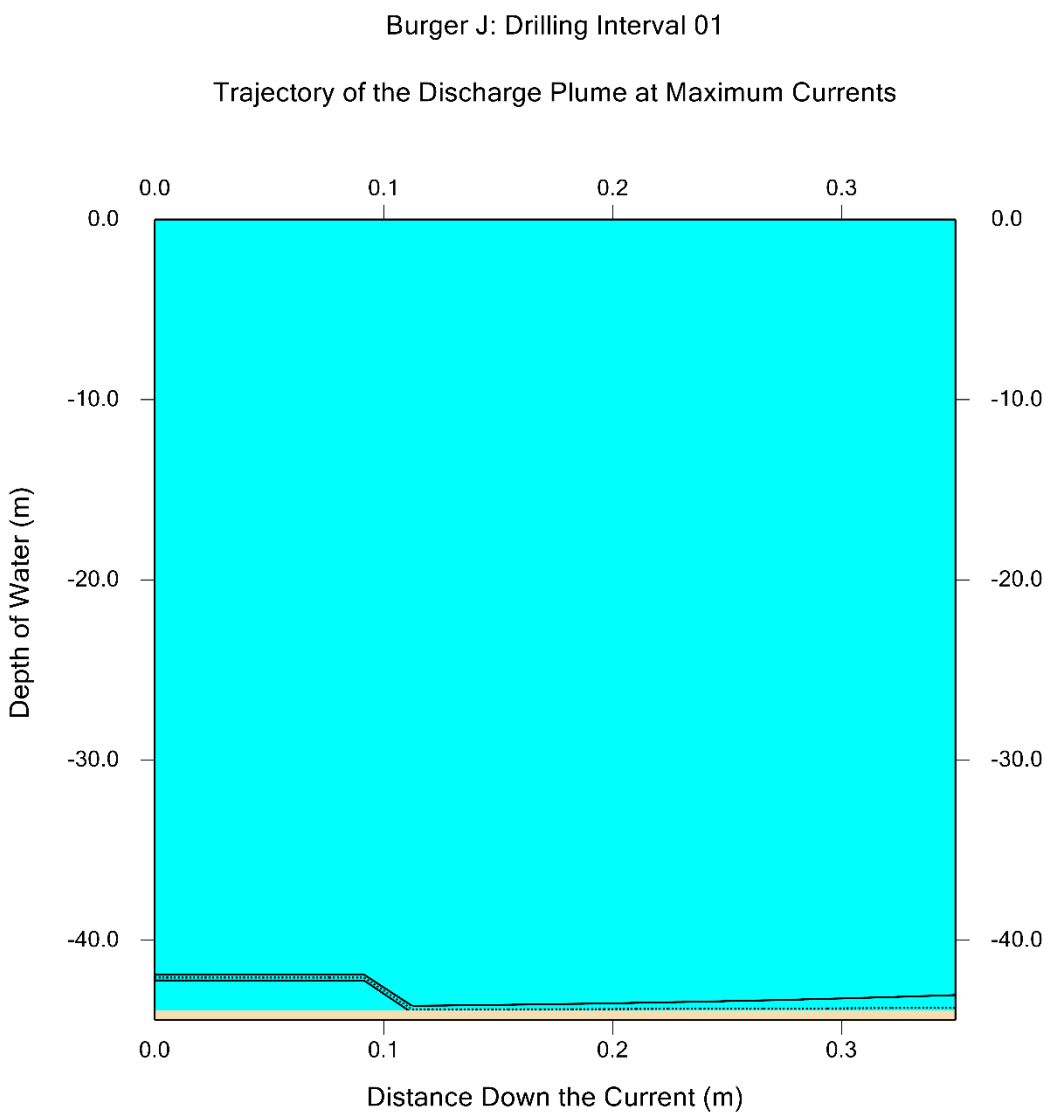

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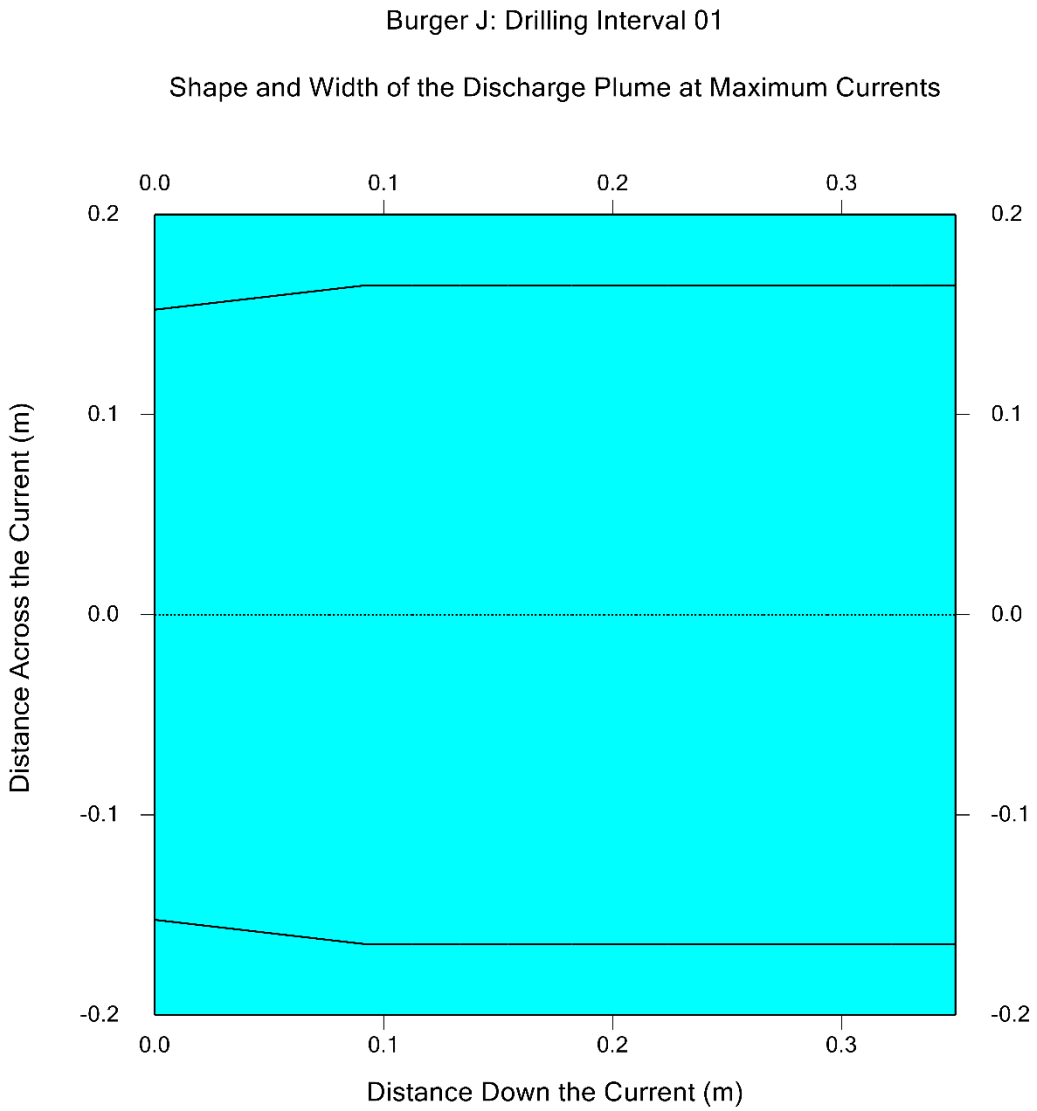
Figure 6-2: Shape and width of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 01



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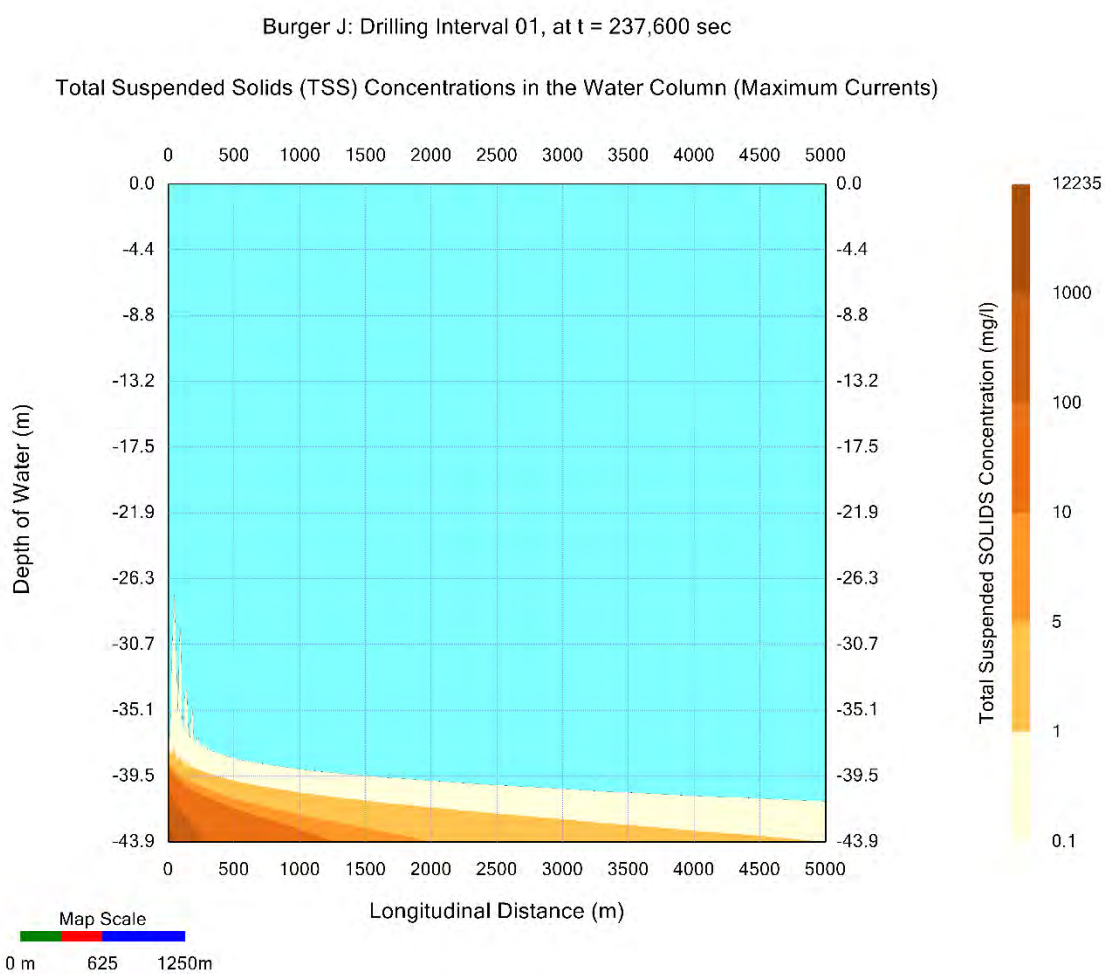
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **237**,**600** sec (or **66.0** hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 6-3**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **42**.**07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **6-3** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **12**,**234** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** mg/l and **10** mg/l at distances approximately **250** m and **1**,**200** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **1**,**200** and **1**,**900** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **1**,**900** and **4**,**750** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **4**,**750** m from the discharge location. The effect of the maximum currents speed is visible in this Figure **6**-**3**. The discharge plume is spreading farther horizontally to the east along the direction of the current than vertically. The TSS concentration is less than **1** mg/l at a depth approximately **35** m at or near the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l at a depth approximately **40** m at **500** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **2**,**440**.**3**, **894**.**4**, **320**.**4**, **89**.**6**, and **14**.**0** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 6-3: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 01



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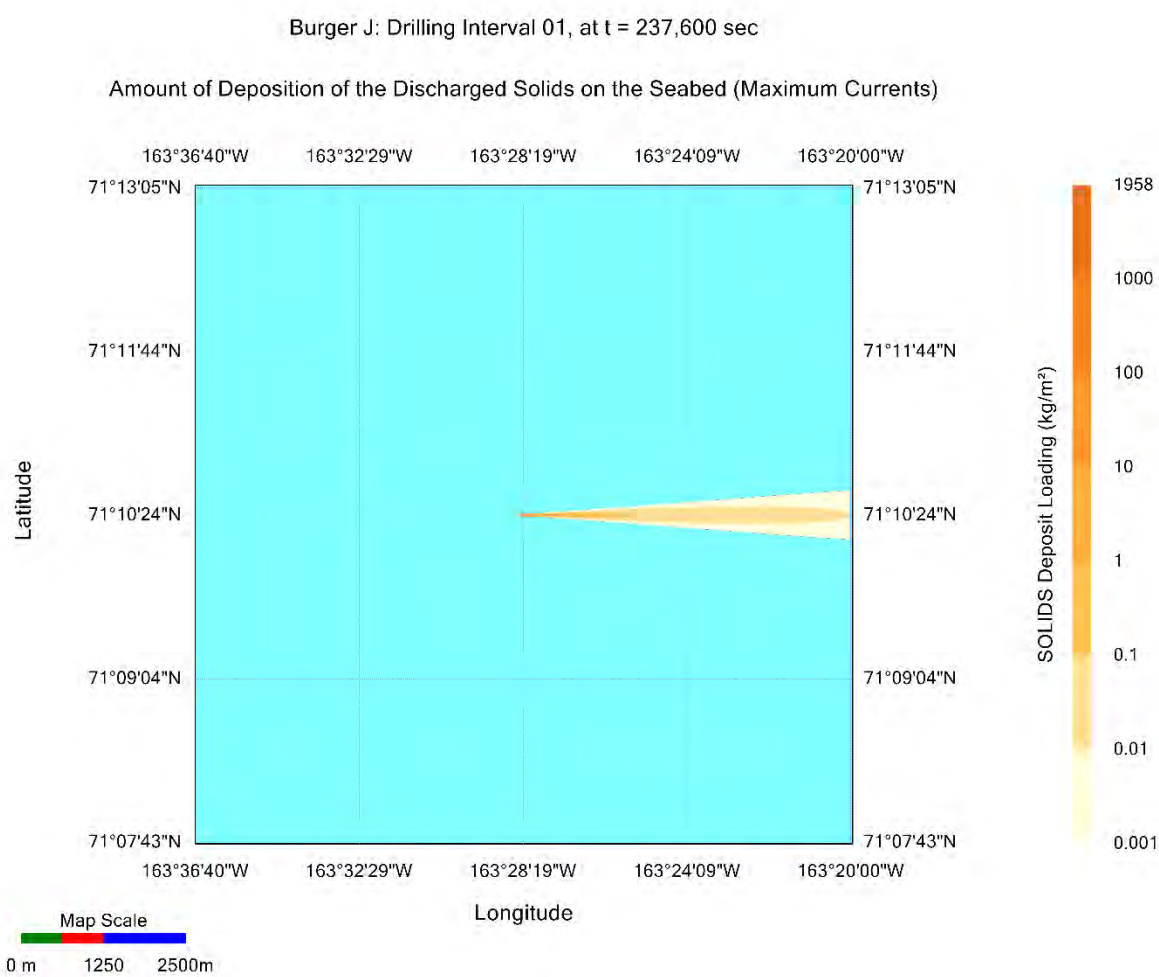
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **237**,**600** sec (or **66**.**0** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figure 6-4**. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **6-4**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **1**,**957** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the south from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **90** m and **575** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**1** kg/m^2 approximately between **575** and **1**,**650** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0**.**1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**01** kg/m^2 approximately between **1**,**650** and **5**,**000** m distances from the discharge location. The loading is less than **0**.**01** kg/m^2 beyond **5**,**000** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0**.**1**-, and **0**.**01**-kg/m^2 are: **0**.**192**, **0**.**481**, **2**.**328**, **9**.**490**, and **95**.**430** hectares (ha), respectively.

Figure 6-4: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 01



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **237**,**600** sec (or **66**.**0** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 6-5a** and **6-5b.** The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **6**-**5**a. The same results are presented in Figure **6**-**5**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **147.7** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the south from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **90** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **100** m x **45** m rectangle area (or **0**.**433** ha) as presented in Figure **6**-**5b**. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **100**-, **10**-, and **1**-cm are: **0**.**094**, **0**.**182**, and **0**.**433** ha, respectively.

Figure 6-5a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 01

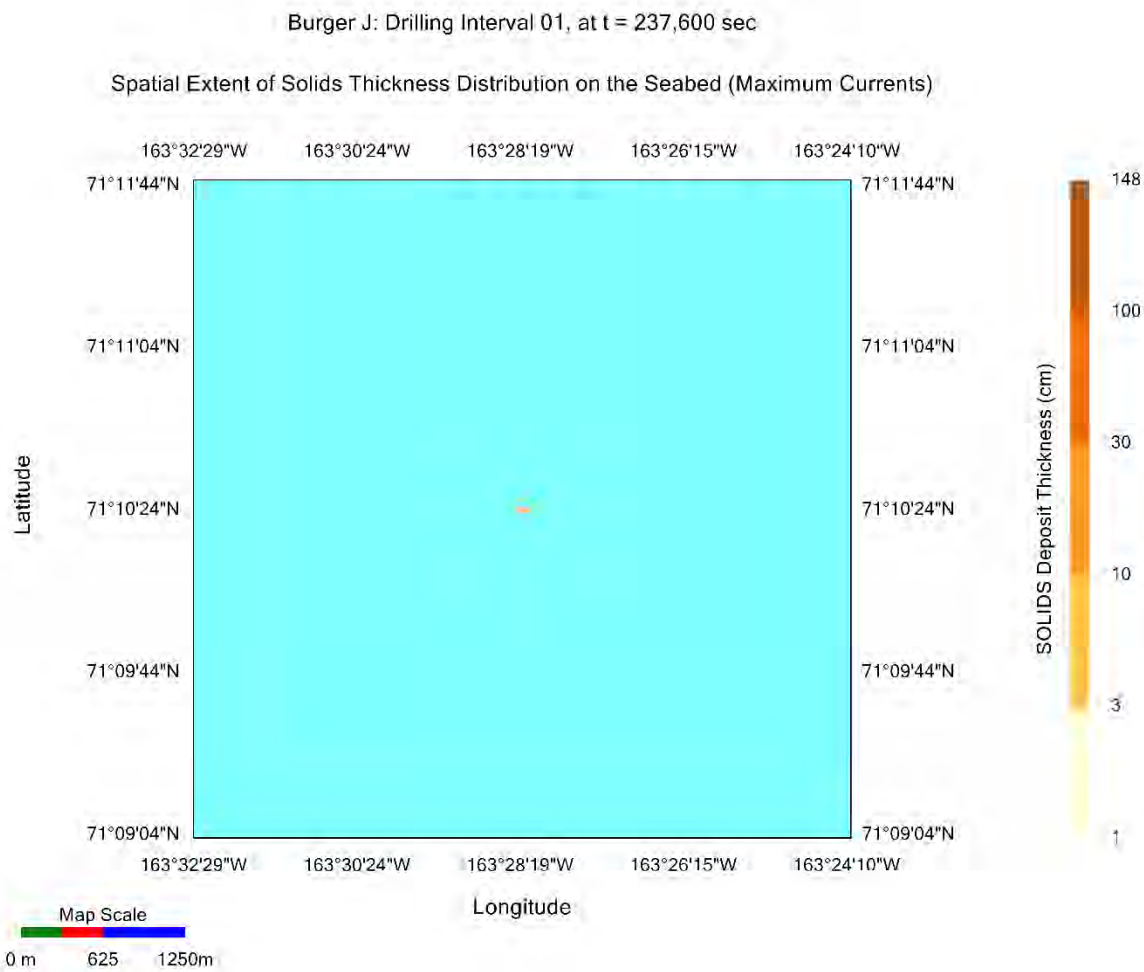

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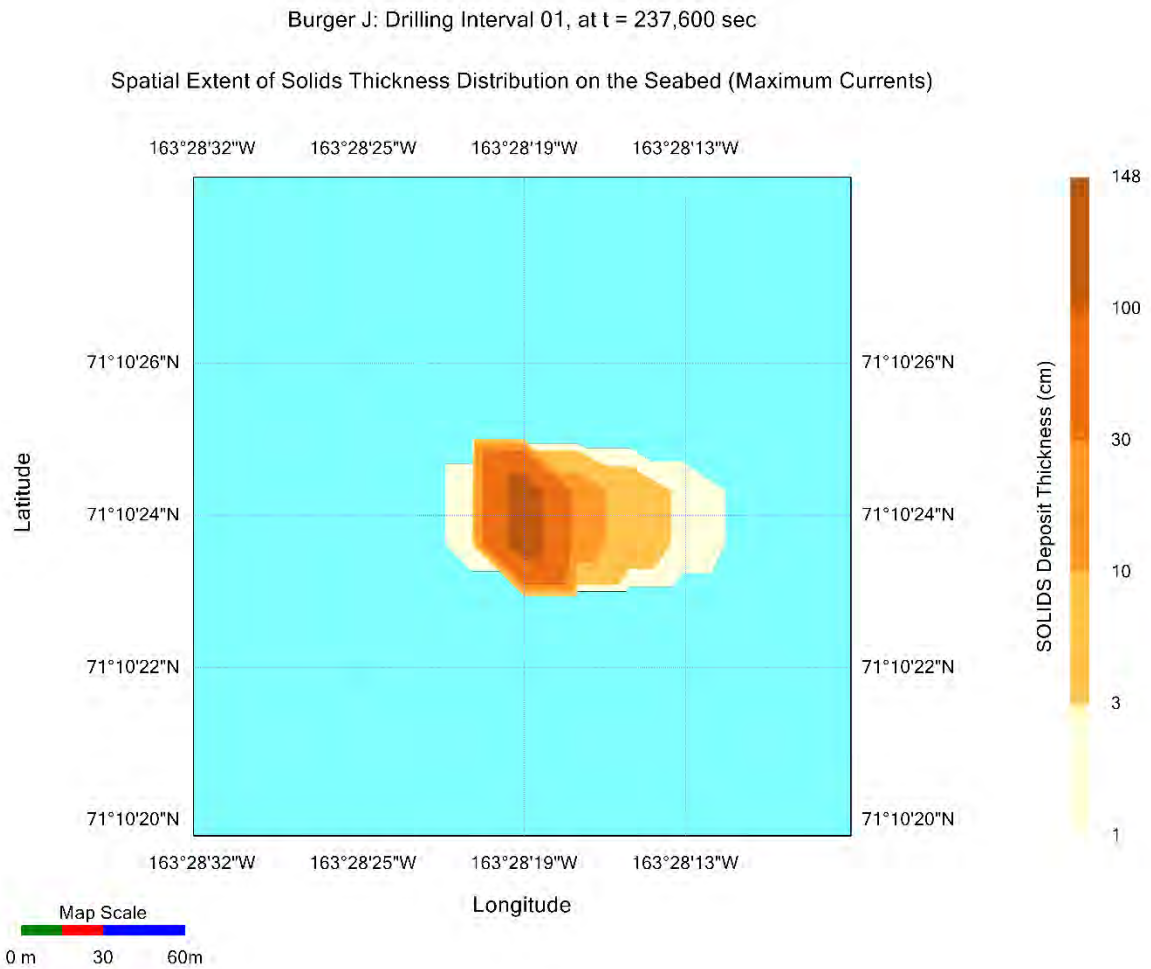
Figure 6-5b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 01 (Zoom In View)



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6.2 Model Results for Sea Floor Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 02

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-6**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **42.07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe of the sea floor pump at **14,000** bbls/hour. A flexible hose suction pipe of this sea floor pump moves the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids from the drill strings and discharges at **1.83** m (or **6** feet) above the seafloor. The discharge pipe is oriented horizontally aligned with the direction of the current, which is to the east. Therefore, the heavier discharge plume attempts to shoot horizontally as seen in Figure **6-6** and travels to the east to a distance approximately **0.35** m only from the discharge location before collapsing onto the sea floor due to the proximity of the plume near the sea floor. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-7**. The width of the plume is approximately **0.35** m at a distance **0.35** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **6-6** and **6-7**.

Figure 6-6: Trajectory of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 02

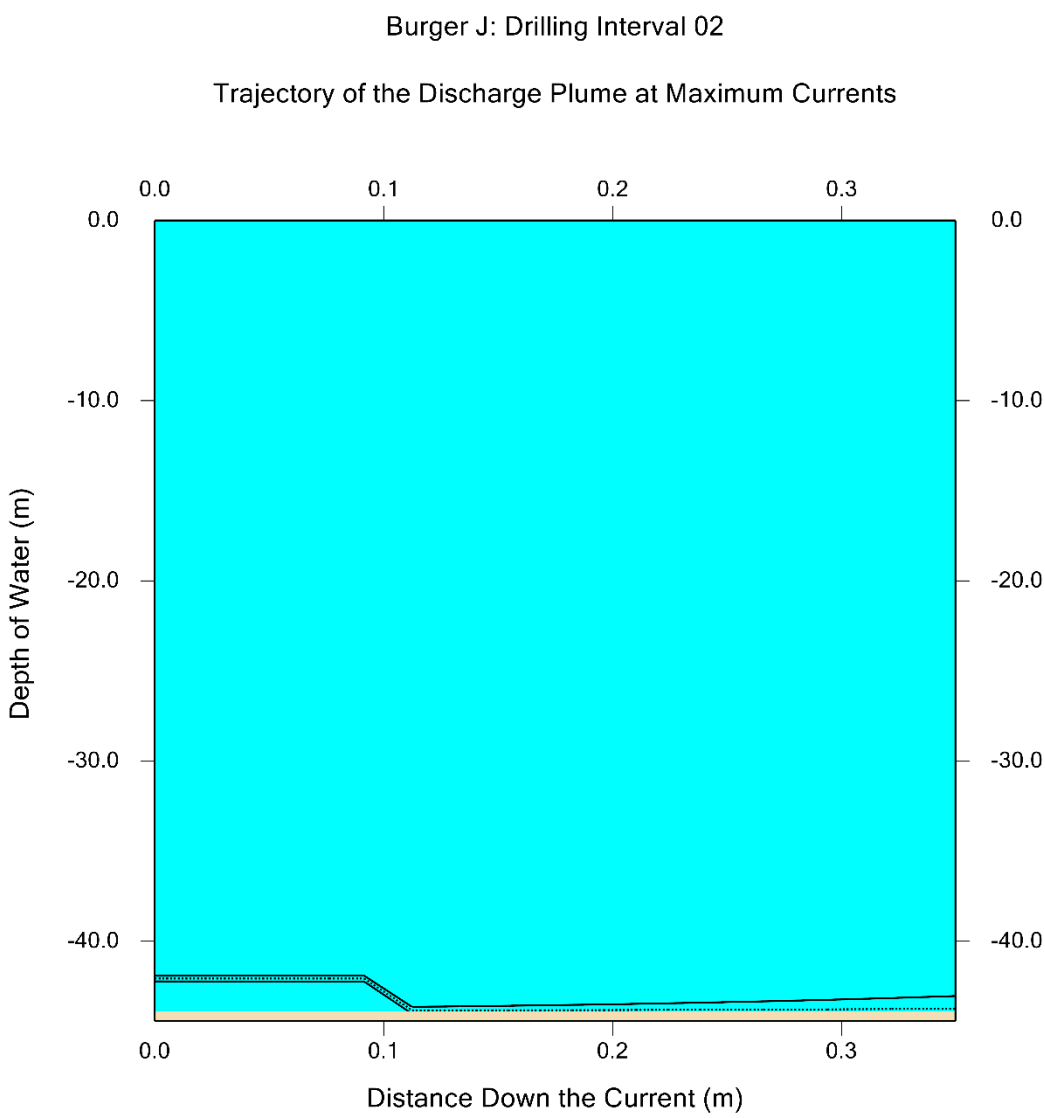

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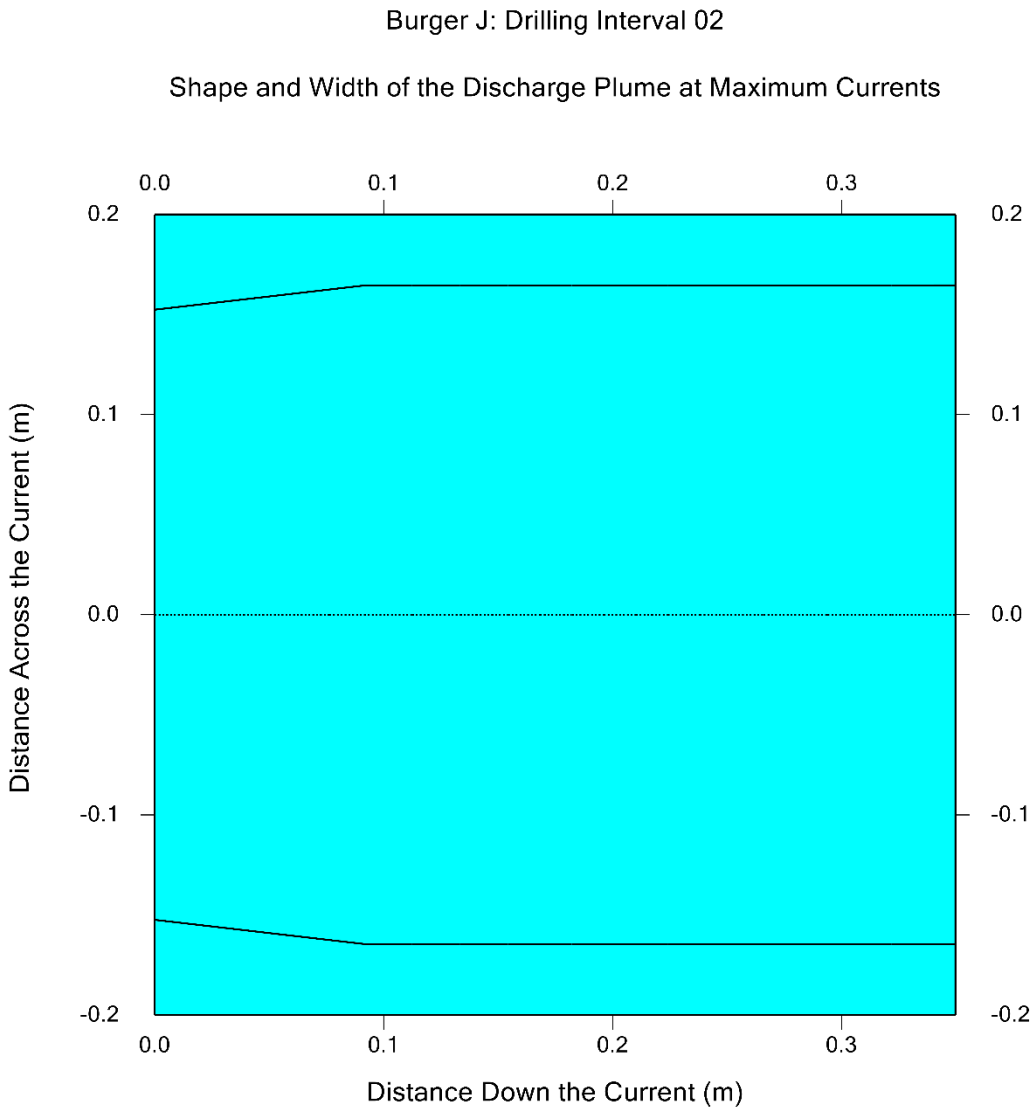
Figure 6-7: Shape and width of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 02



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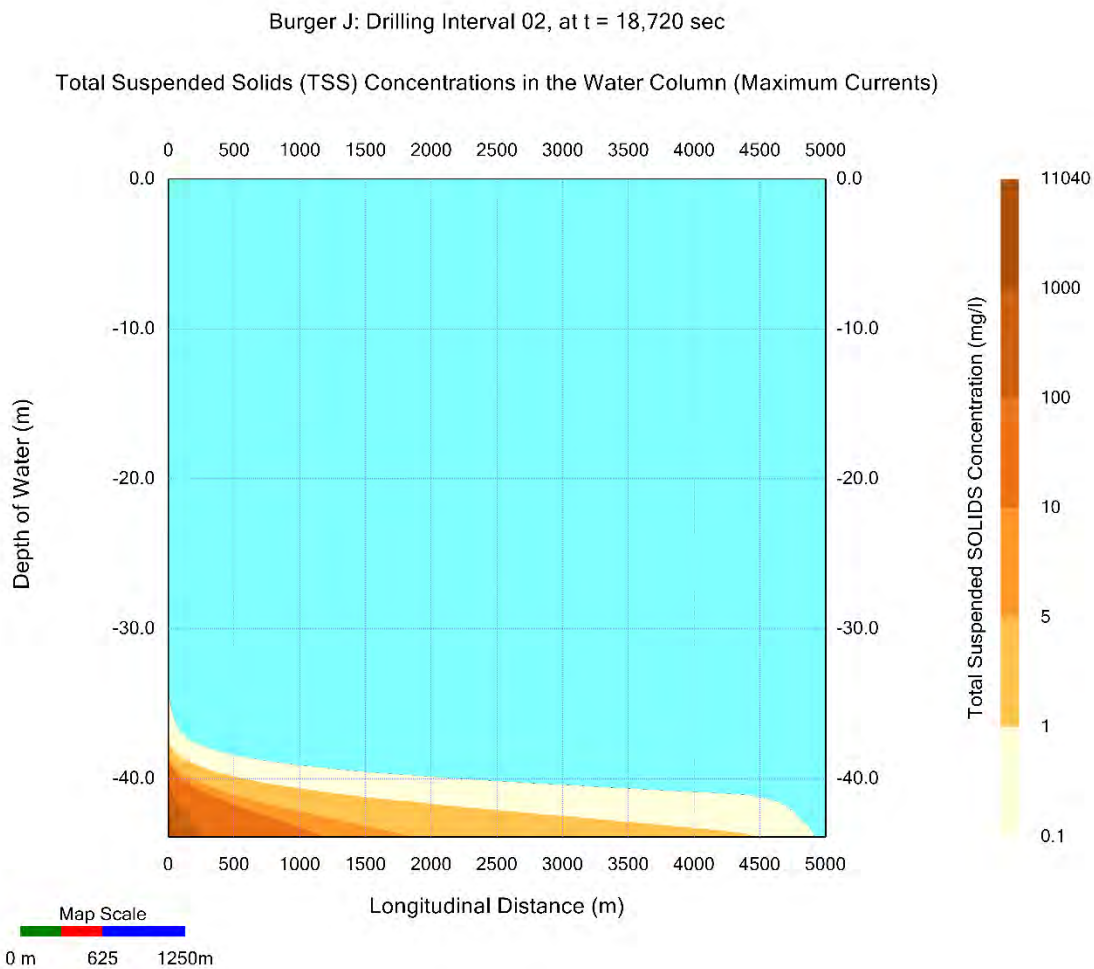
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **18**,**720** sec (or **5.2** hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 6-8**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **42**.**07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **6-8** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **11**,**040** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** mg/l and **10** mg/l at distances approximately **250** m and **1**,**100** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **1**,**100** and **1**,**800** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **1**,**800** and **4**,**500** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **4**,**500** m from the discharge location. The effect of the maximum current is visible in this Figure **6**-**8**. The discharge plume is spreading farther horizontally to the east along the direction of the current than vertically. The TSS concentration is less than **0**.**1** mg/l at a depth approximately **35** m at or near the discharge location. It is **1** mg/l or less a depth approximately **40** m at a distance **500** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **2**,**313**.**4**, **826**.**8**, **287**.**8**, **79**.**5**, and **12**.**7** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 6-8: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 02



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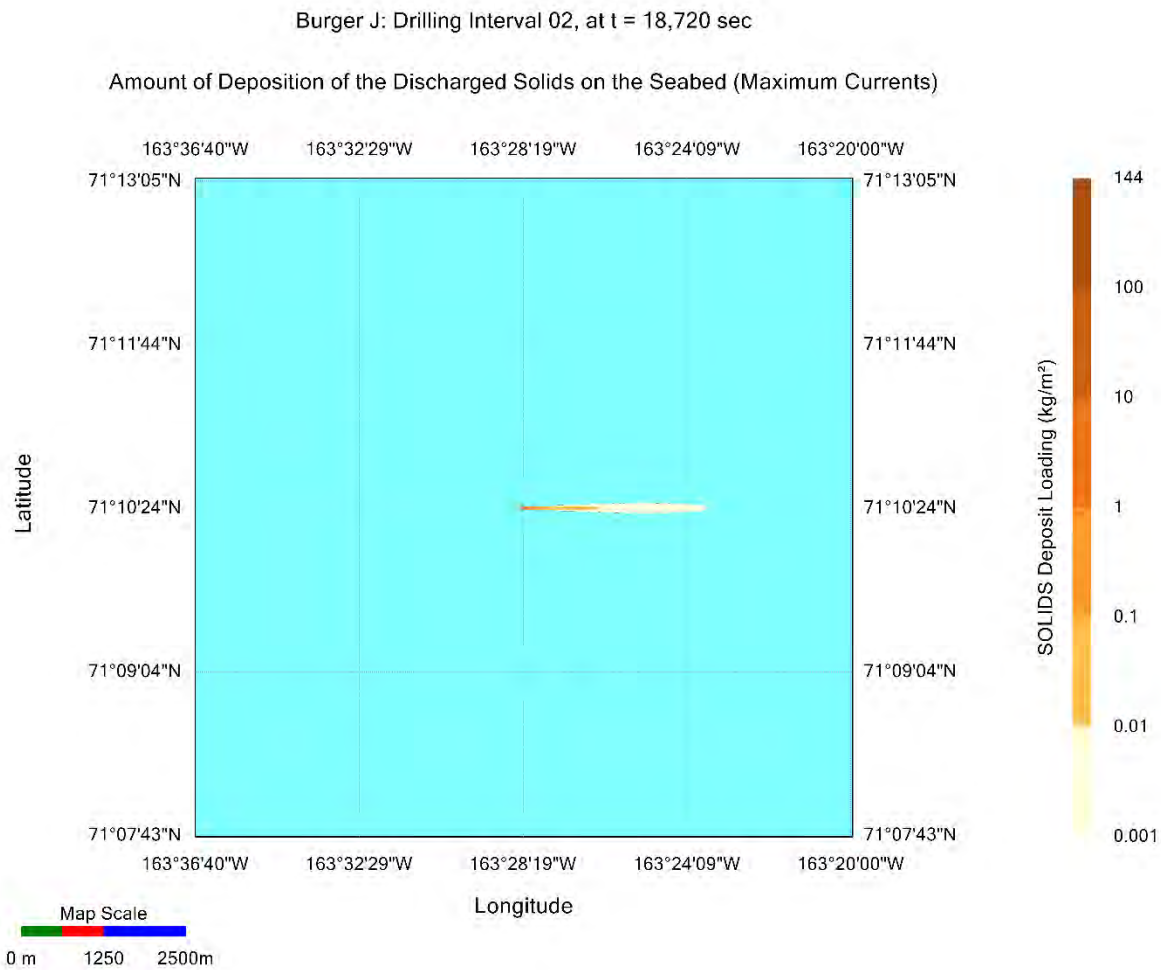
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **18**,**720** sec (or **5.2** hours) as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figure 6-9**. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **6**-**9**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading of **144** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **35** m and **85** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**1** kg/m^2 approximately between **85** and **375** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0**.**1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**01** kg/m^2 approximately between **375** and **1**,**150** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **0**.**01** kg/m^2 beyond **1**,**150** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0**.**1**-, and **0**.**01**-kg/m^2 are: **0**.**093**, **0**.**164**, **0**.**425**, **1**.**618**, and **4**.**989** ha, respectively.

Figure 6-9: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 02



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **18**,**720** sec (or **5.2** hours) as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 6-10a** and **6-10b.** The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location. But the solids deposit on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **6**-**10**a. The same results are presented in Figure **6**-**10**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **10.9** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **30** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **30** m x **40** m rectangle area (or **0**.**119** ha) as presented in Figure **6**-**10b**. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **10**- and **1**-cm are: **0**.**083** and **0**.**119** ha, respectively.

Figure 6-10a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 02

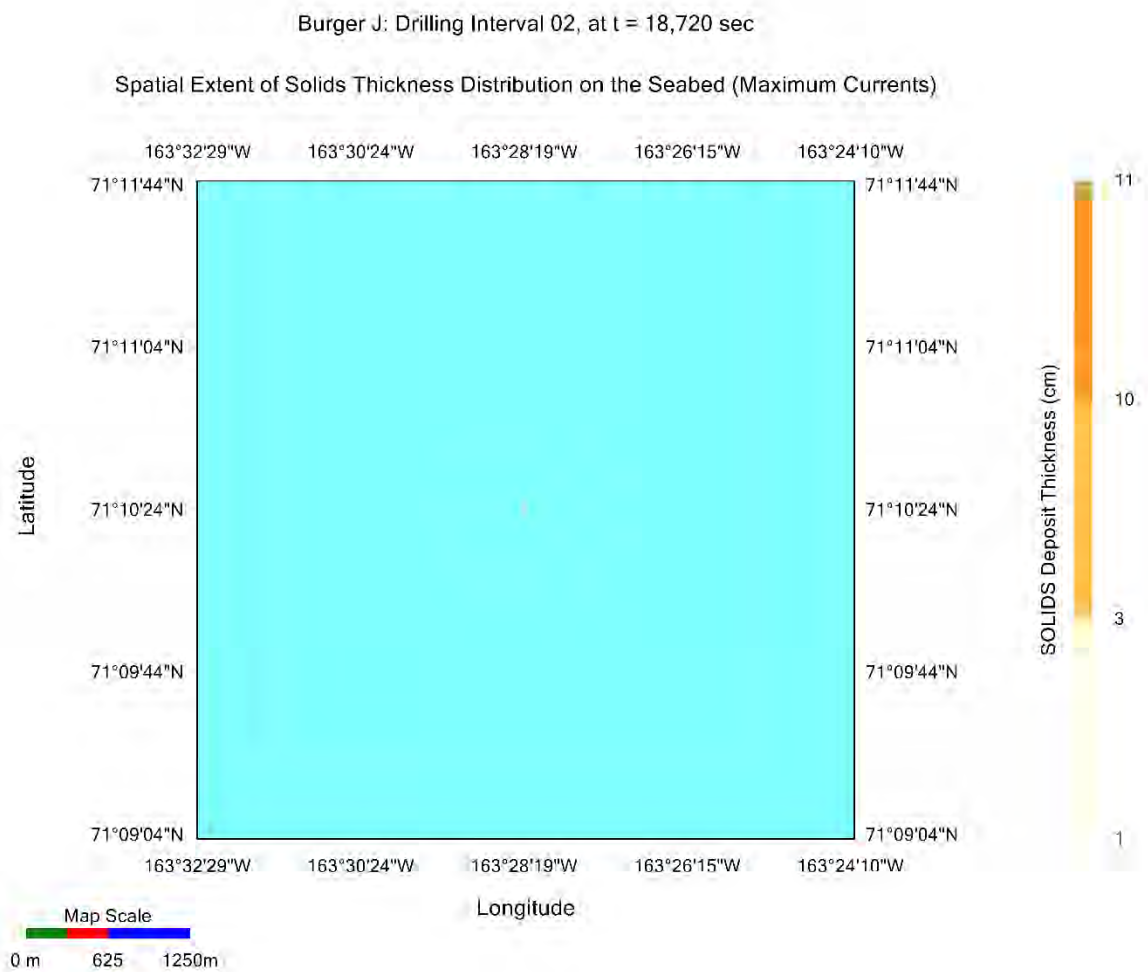

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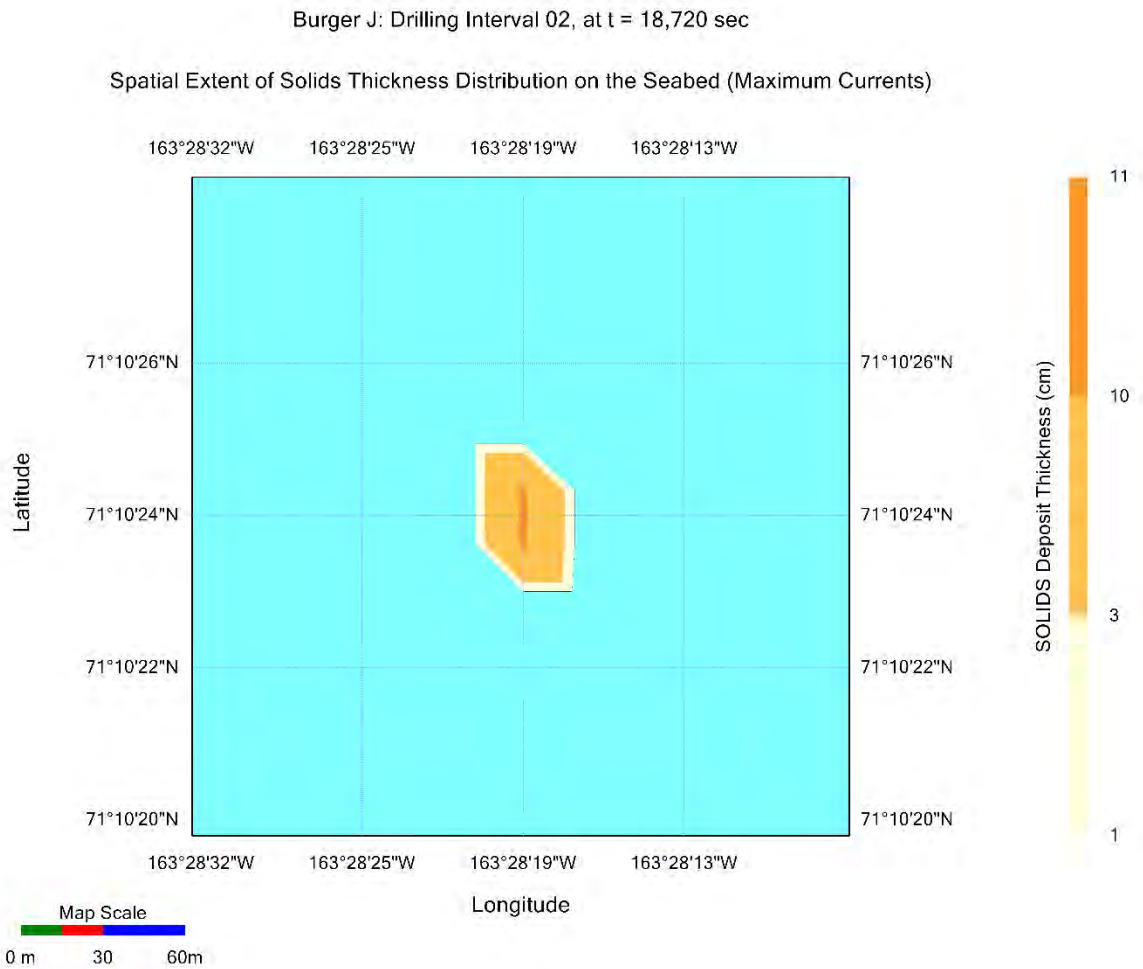
Figure 6-10b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 02 (Zoom In View)



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6.3 Model Results for Sea Floor Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 03

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-11**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **42.07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe of the sea floor pump at **14,000** bbls/hour. A flexible hose suction pipe of this sea floor pump moves the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids from the drill strings and discharges at **1.83** m (or **6** feet) above the seafloor. The discharge pipe is oriented horizontally aligned with the direction of the current, which is to the east. Therefore, the heavier discharge plume attempts to shoot horizontally as seen in figure below and travels to the east to a distance approximately **0.35** m only from the discharge location before collapsing onto the sea floor due to the proximity of the plume near the sea floor. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-12**. The width of the plume is approximately **0.35** m at a distance **0.35** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **6-11** and **6-12**.

Figure 6-11: Trajectory of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 03

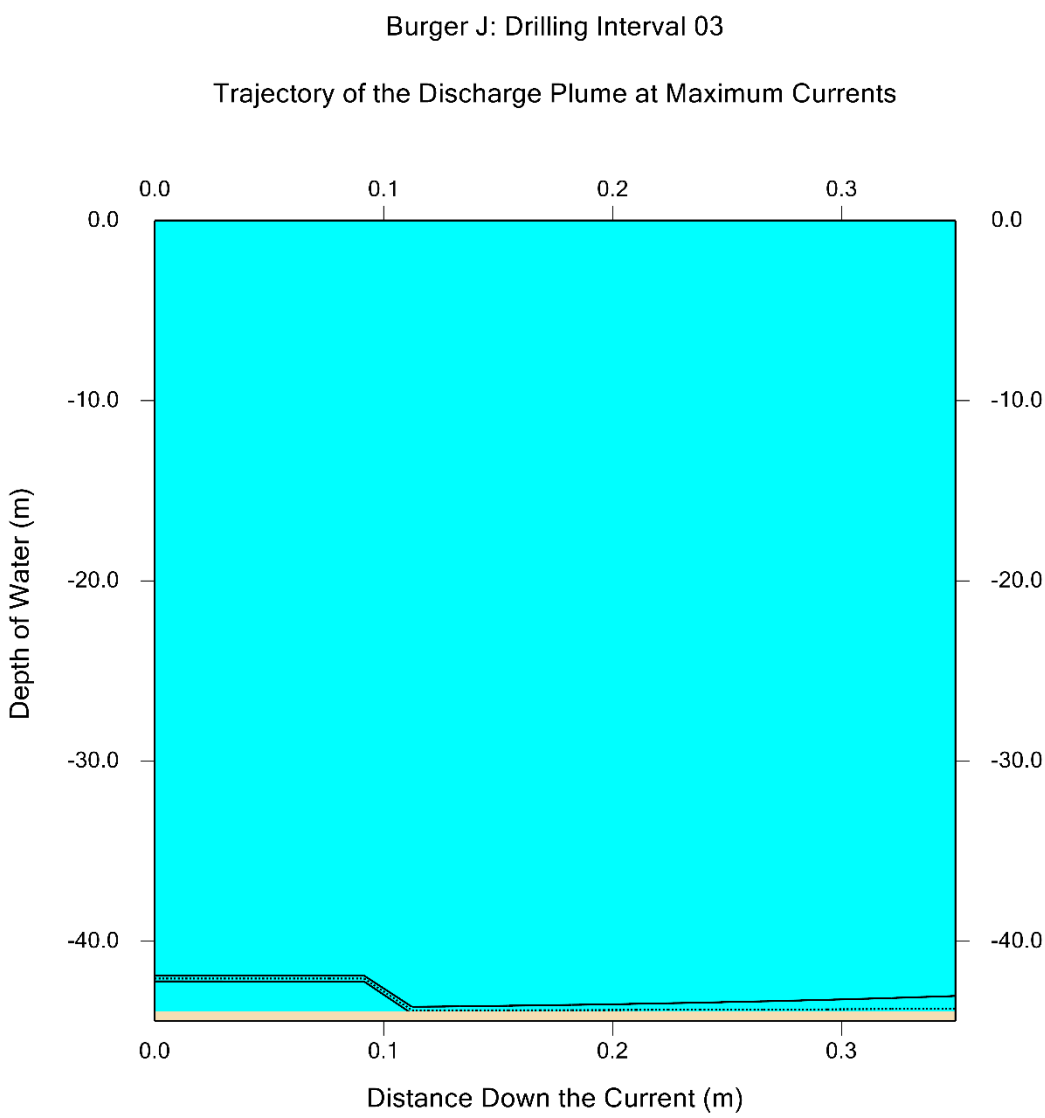

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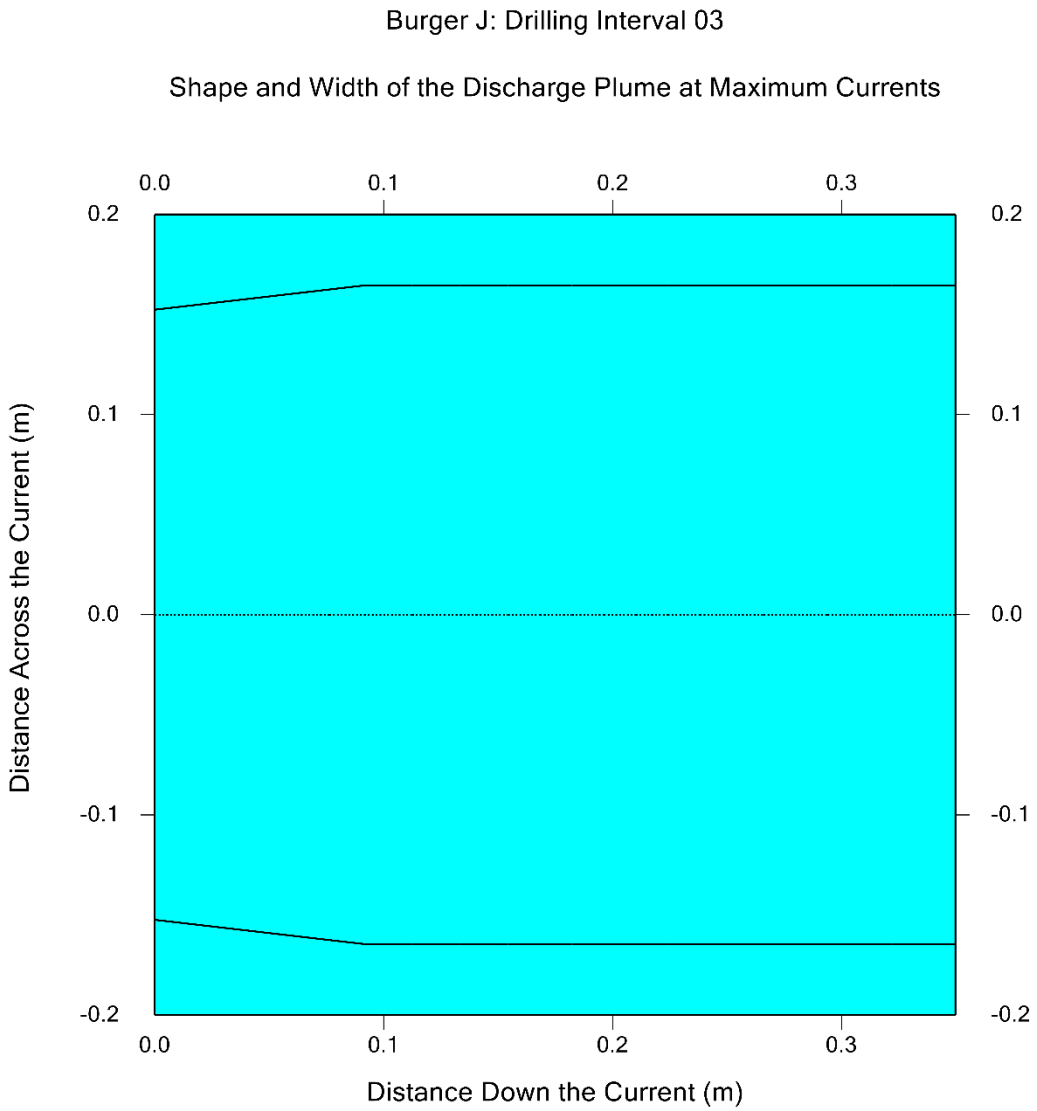
Figure 6-12: Shape and width of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 03



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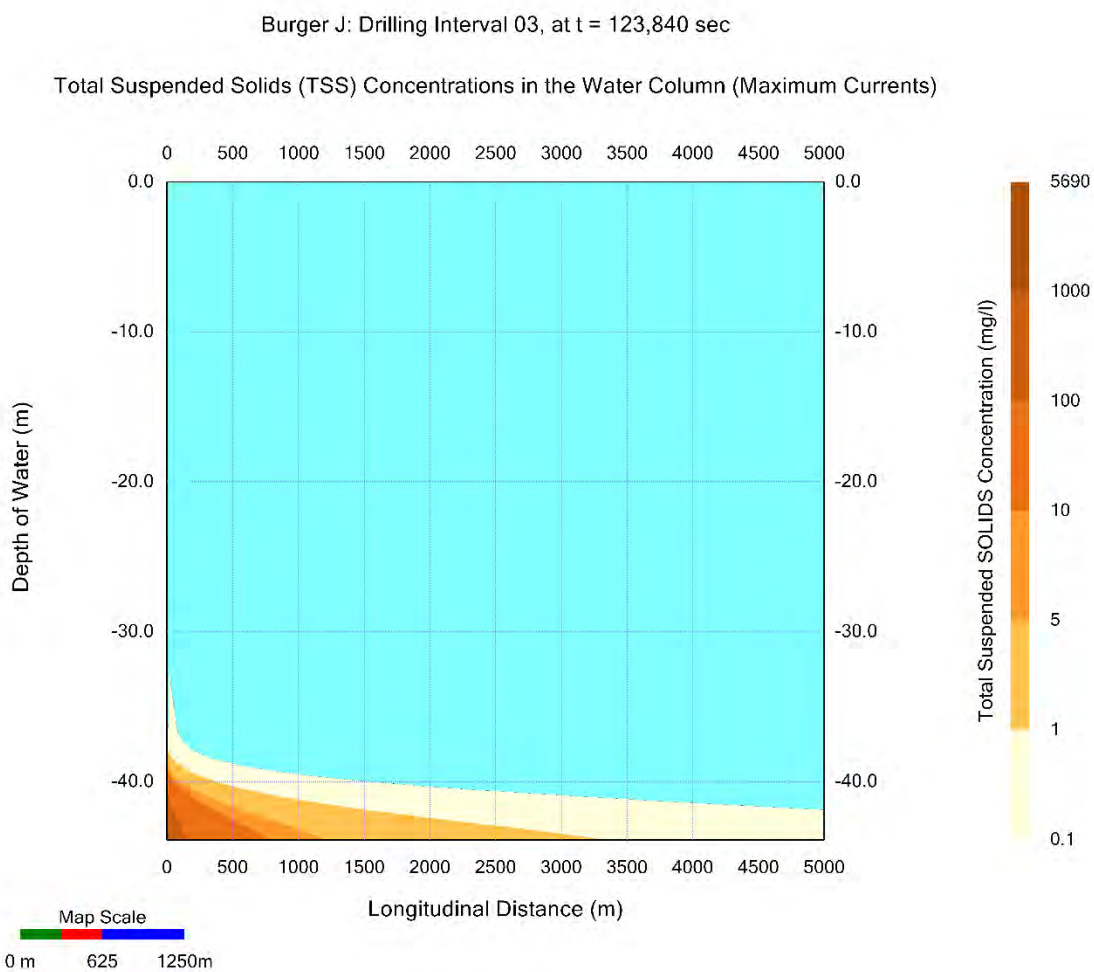
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **123**,**840** sec (or **34**.**4** hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 6-13**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **42**.**07** m from a **12.0** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **6-13** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **5**,**690** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** mg/l and **10** mg/l at distances approximately **125** m and **750** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **750** and **1**,**125** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **1**,**125** and **3**,**250** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **3**,**250** m from the discharge location. The effect of the maximum currents speed is visible in this Figure **6**-**13**. The discharge plume is spreading farther horizontally to the east along the direction of the current than vertically. The TSS concentration is less than **1** mg/l at a depth approximately **35** m at or near the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l at a depth approximately **40** m at a distance **500** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **1**,**095**.**9**, **430**.**9**, **151**.**2**, **42**.**1**, and **6**.**6** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 6-13: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 03



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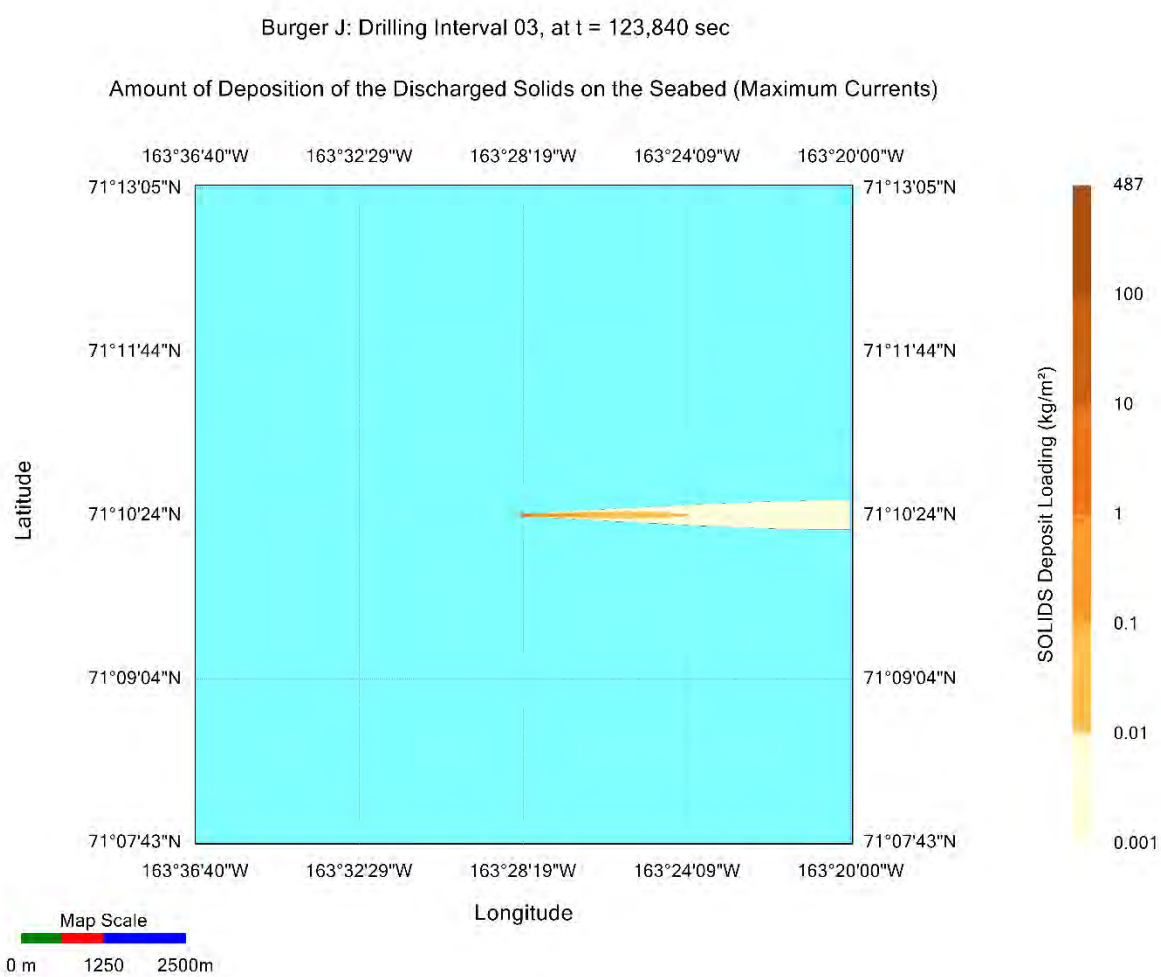
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **123**,**840** sec (or **34**.**4** hours) as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figure 6-14**. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **6**-**14**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **487** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **60** m and **120** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**1** kg/m^2 approximately between **120** and **900** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0**.**1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**01** kg/m^2 approximately between **900** and **2**,**500** m distances from the discharge location. The loading is less than **0**.**01** kg/m^2 beyond **2**,**500** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0**.**1**-, and **0**.**01**-kg/m^2 are: **0**.**114**, **0**.**264**, **0**.**583**, **3**.**640**, and **20**.**966** ha, respectively.

Figure 6-14: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 03



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **123,840** sec (or **34.4** hours) as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 6-15a** and **6-15b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **6-15**a. The same results are presented in Figure **5-15**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **36.8** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **55** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **60** m x **40** m rectangle area (or **0.247** ha) as presented in Figure **6-15**b. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **10**- and **1**-cm are: **0.112** and **0.247** ha, respectively.

Figure 6-15a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 03

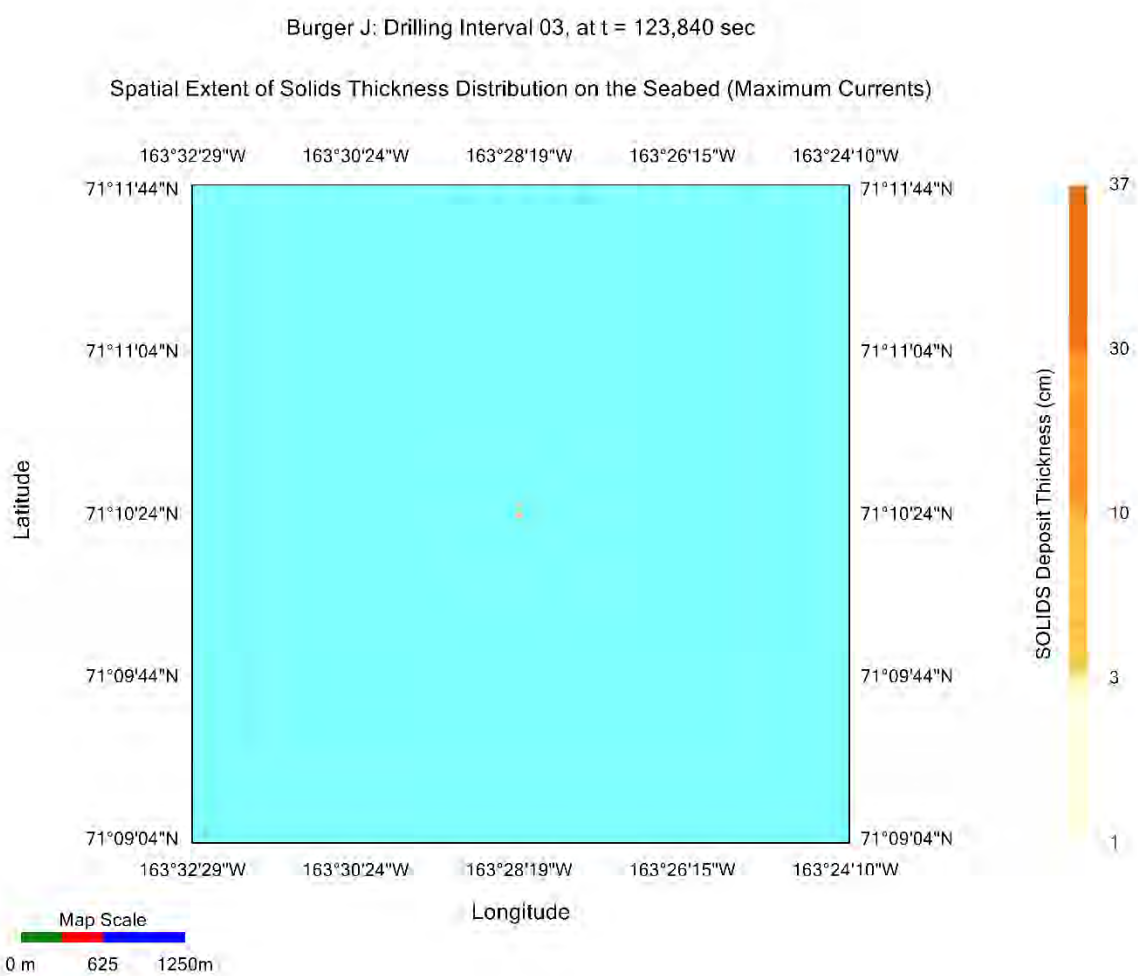

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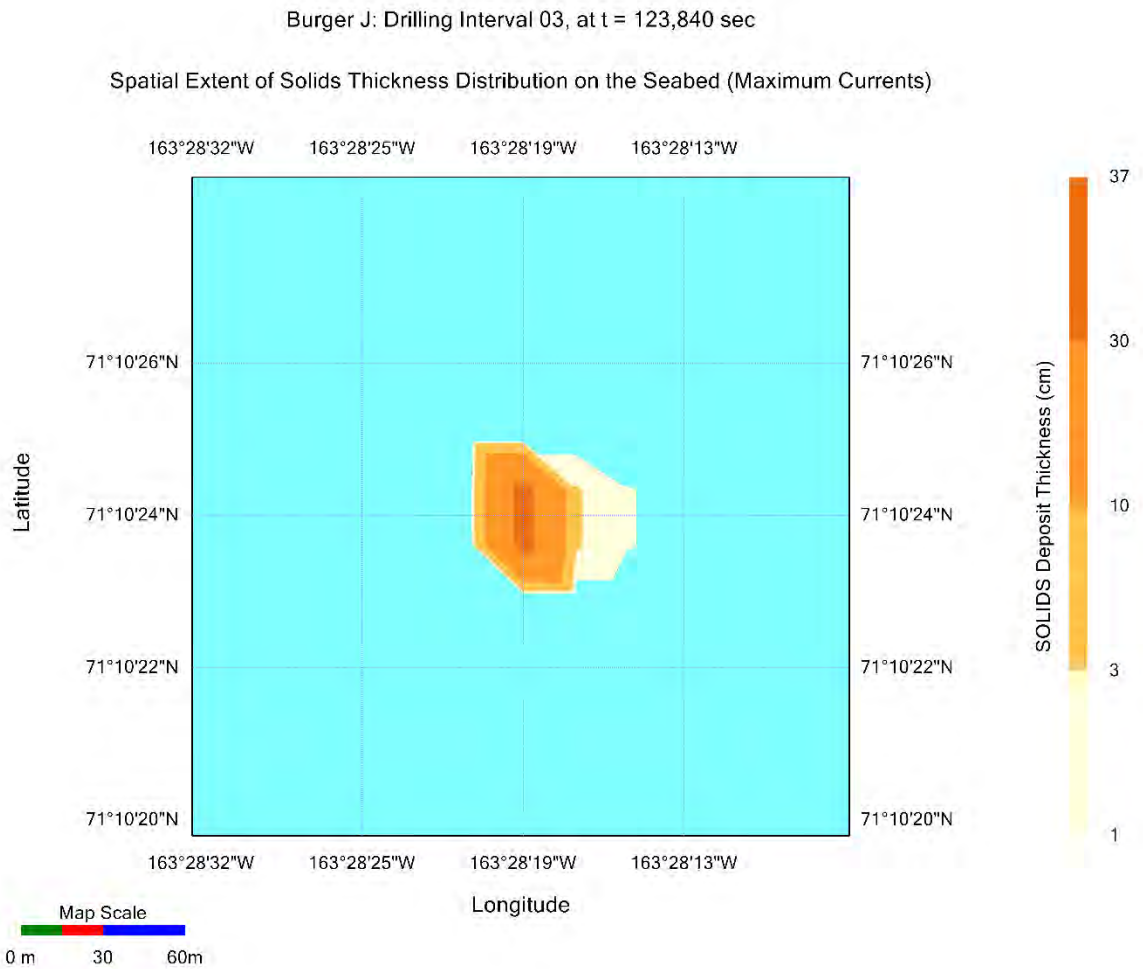
Figure 6-15b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 03 (Zoom In View)



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6.4 Model Results for Sea Surface Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 04

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-16**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m below the sea surface. The heavier plume travels approximately **7.0** m from the discharge location before collapsing into the ambient sea water due to the higher density of the discharge plume. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-17**. The width of the plume is approximately **3.5** m at a distance **7.0** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **6-16** and **6-17**.

Figure 6-16: Trajectory of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 04

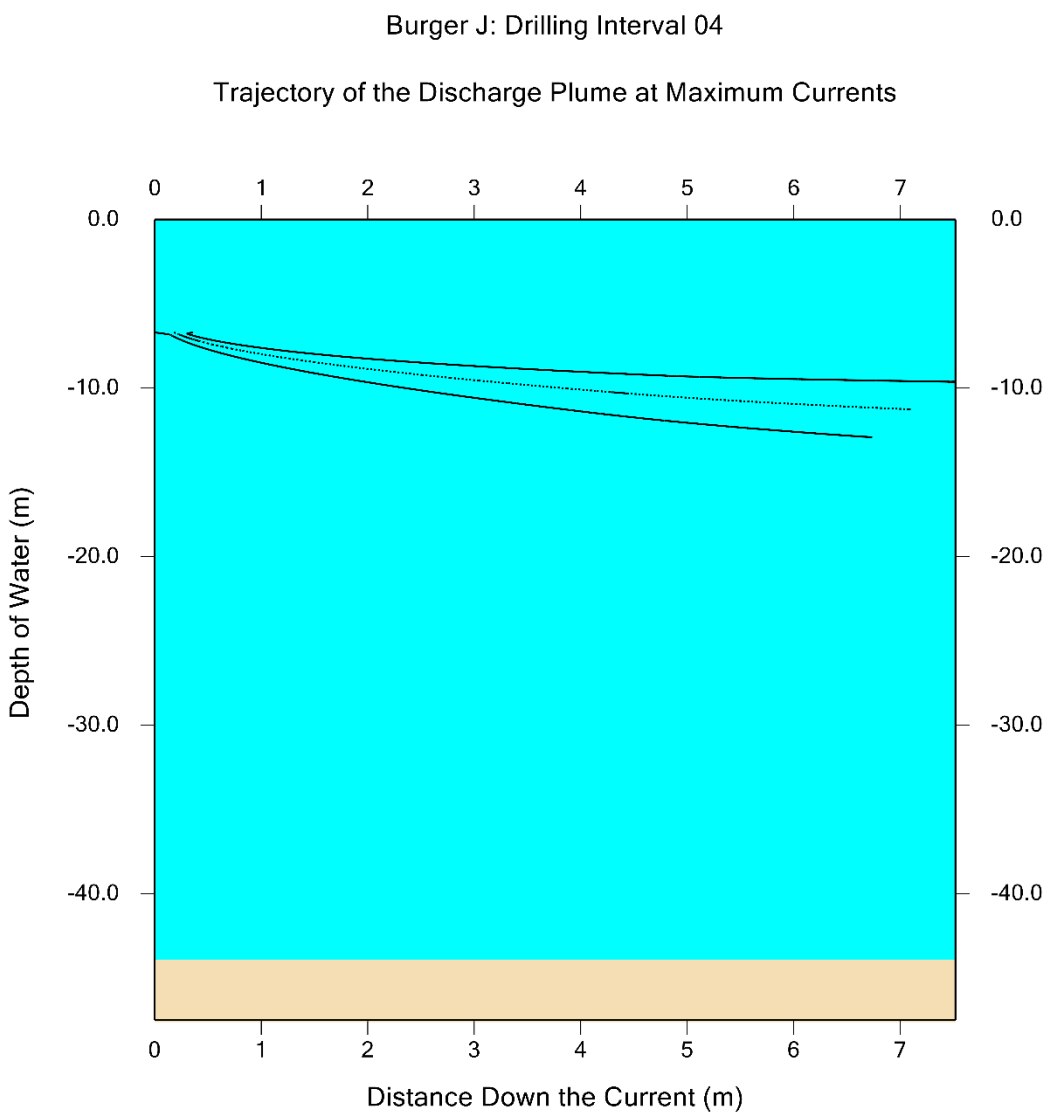

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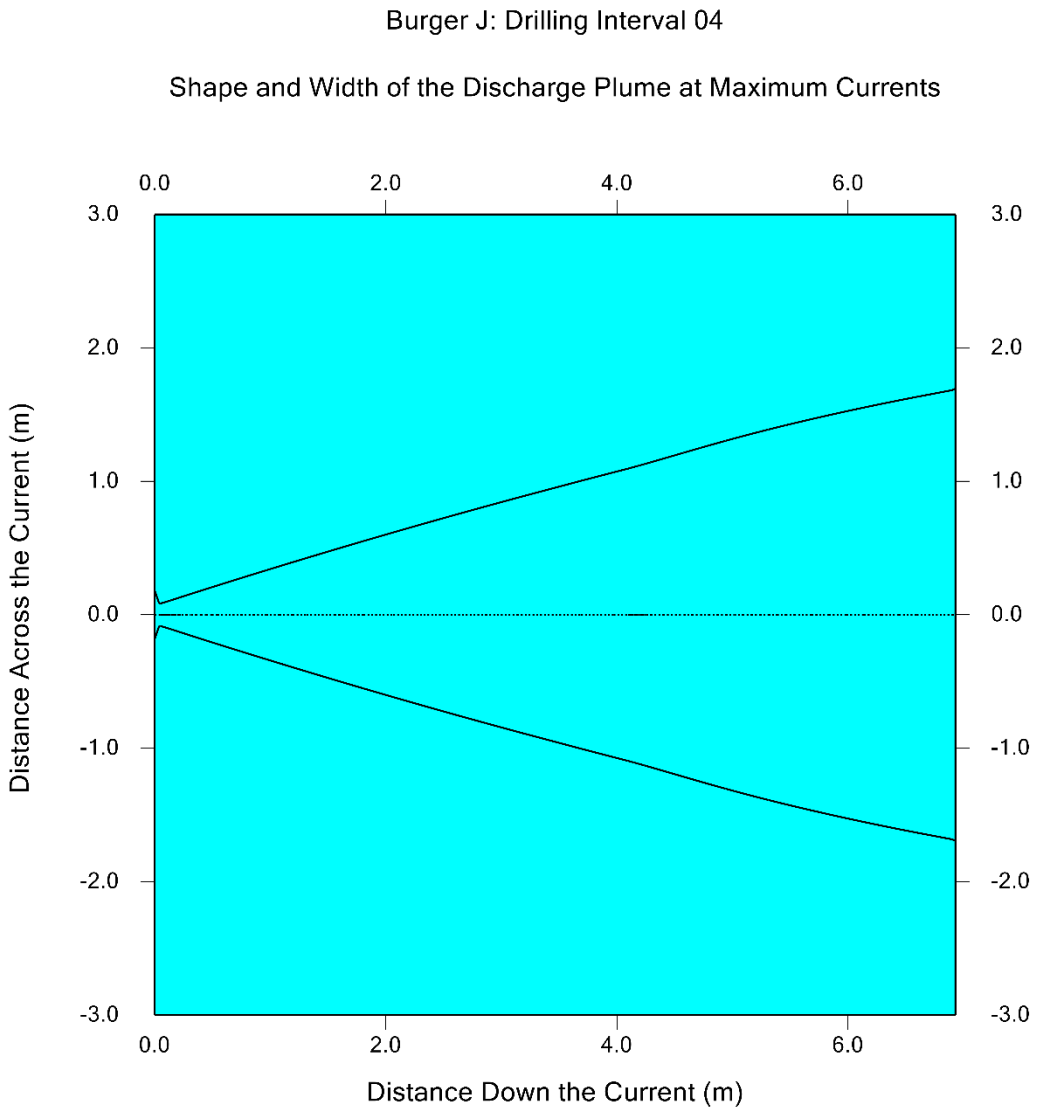
Figure 6-17: Shape and width of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 04



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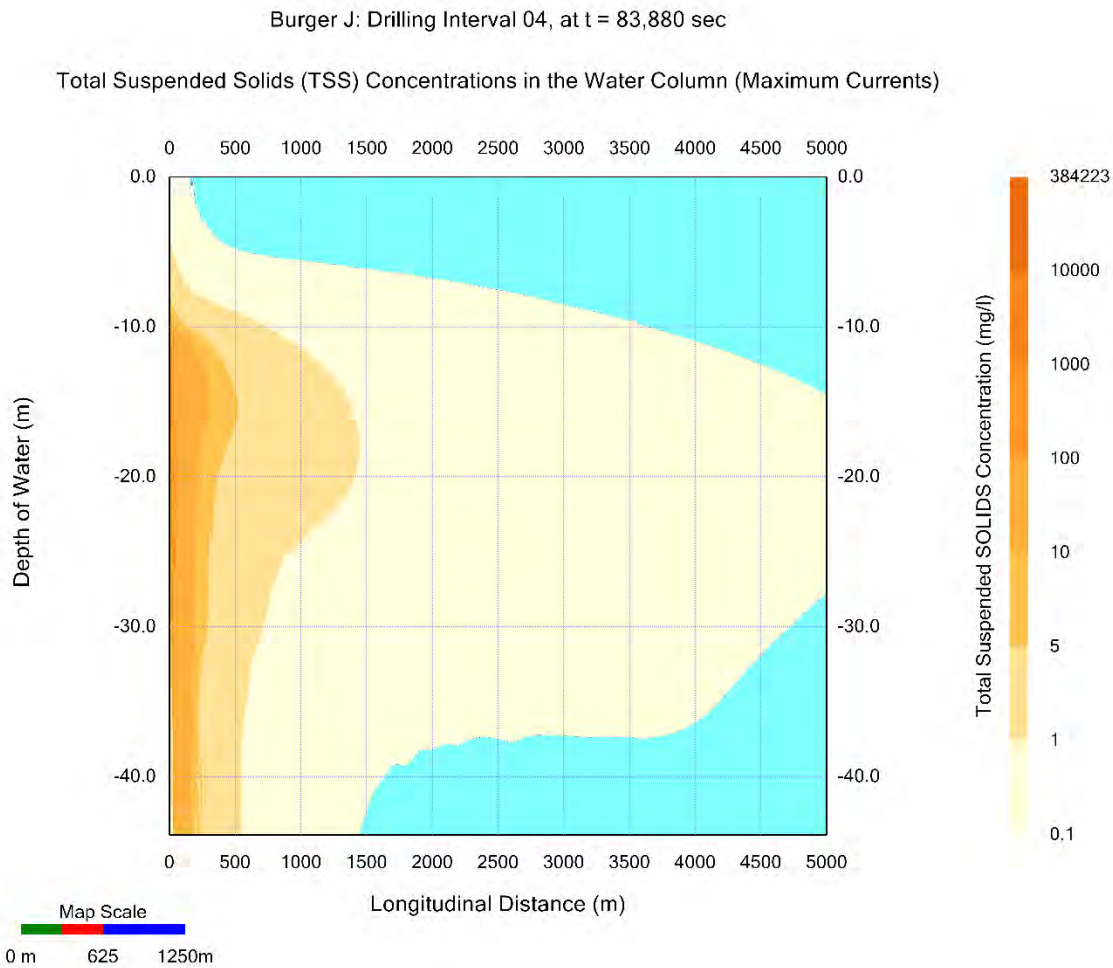
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **83**,**880** sec (or **23.3** hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 6-18**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m from a **14.25** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **6-18** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **384**,**223** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** and **10** mg/l at distances approximately: **50** and **300** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **300** and **500** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **500** and **1**,**500** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **1**,**500** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **784**.**4**, **264**.**2**, **51**.**7**, **10**.**4**, and **1**.**8** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 6-18: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 04



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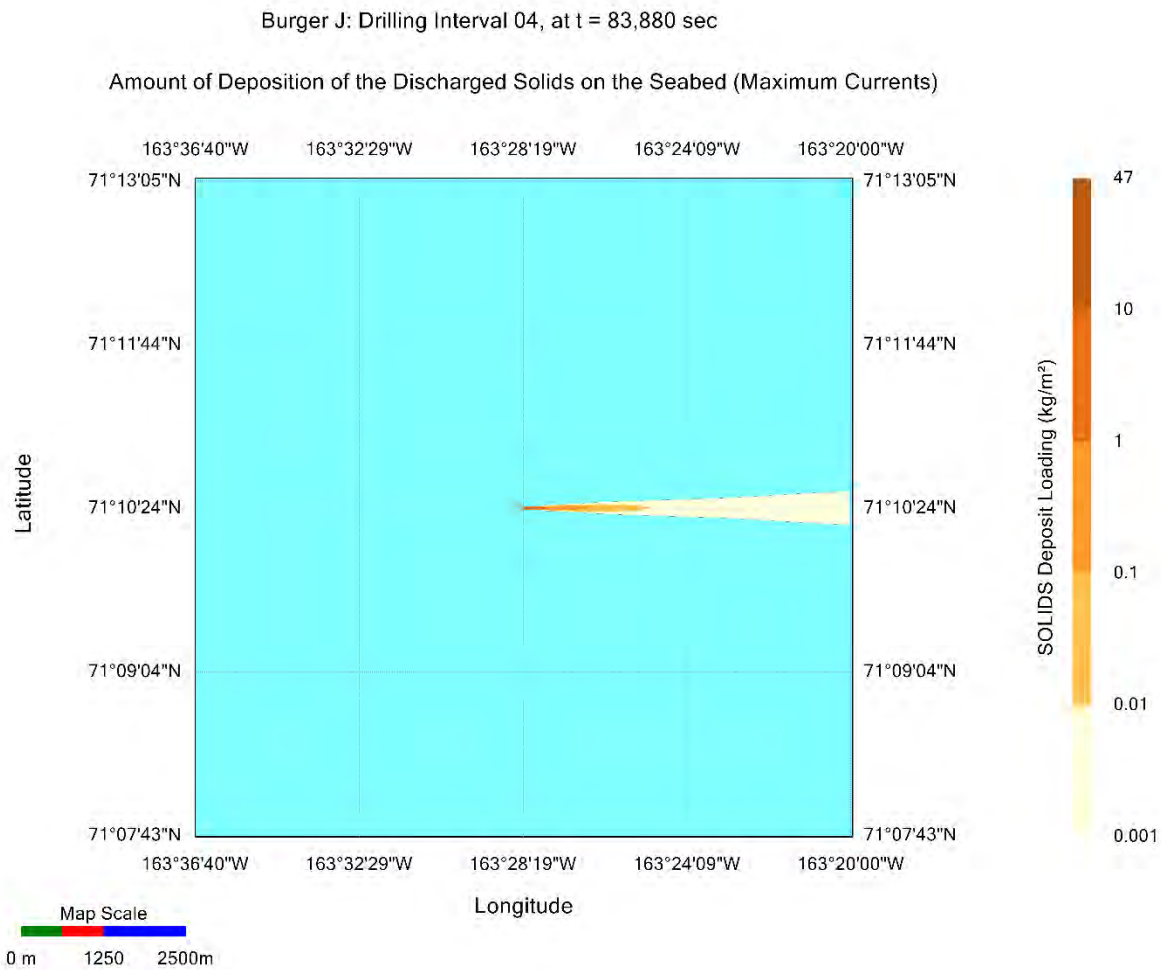
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **83,880** sec (or **23.3** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented **in Figure 6-19.** The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **6-19**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **47** kg/m^2 occurs at **50** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **130** m and **350** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0.1** kg/m^2 approximately between **350** m and **1,000** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0.1** kg/m^2 to **0.01** kg/m^2 approximately between **1,000** m and **2,000** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **0.01** kg/m^2 beyond **2,000** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **10**-, **1**-, **0.1**-, and **0.01**-kg/m^2 are: **0.461**, **1.310**, **4.026**, and **15.818** ha, respectively.

Figure 6-19: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 04



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **83,880** sec (or **23.3** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 6-20a** and **6-20b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **6-20**a. The same results are presented in Figure **6-20**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **3.2** cm occurs at **50** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **100** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately an **80** m x **40** m rectangle area (or **0.341** ha) as presented in Figure **6-20**b.

Figure 6-20a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 04

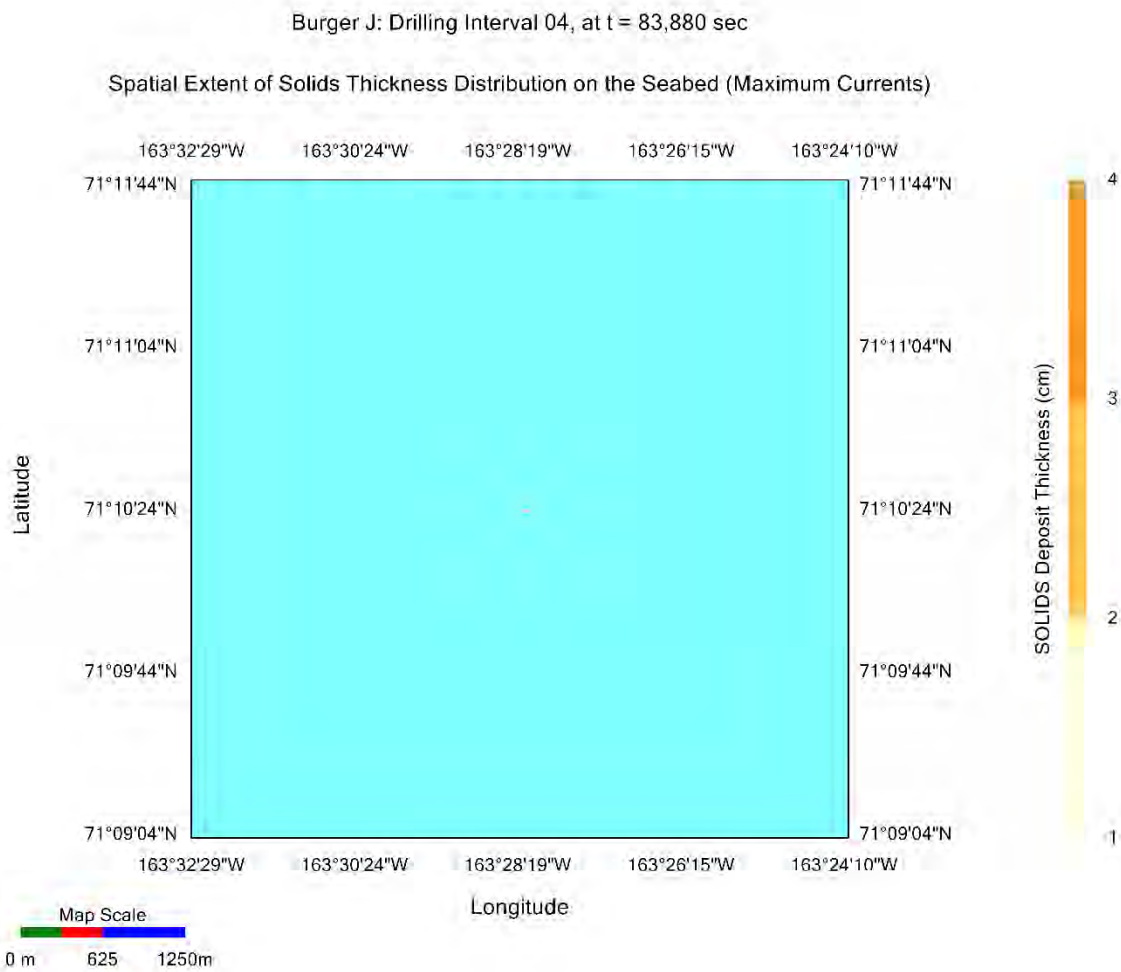

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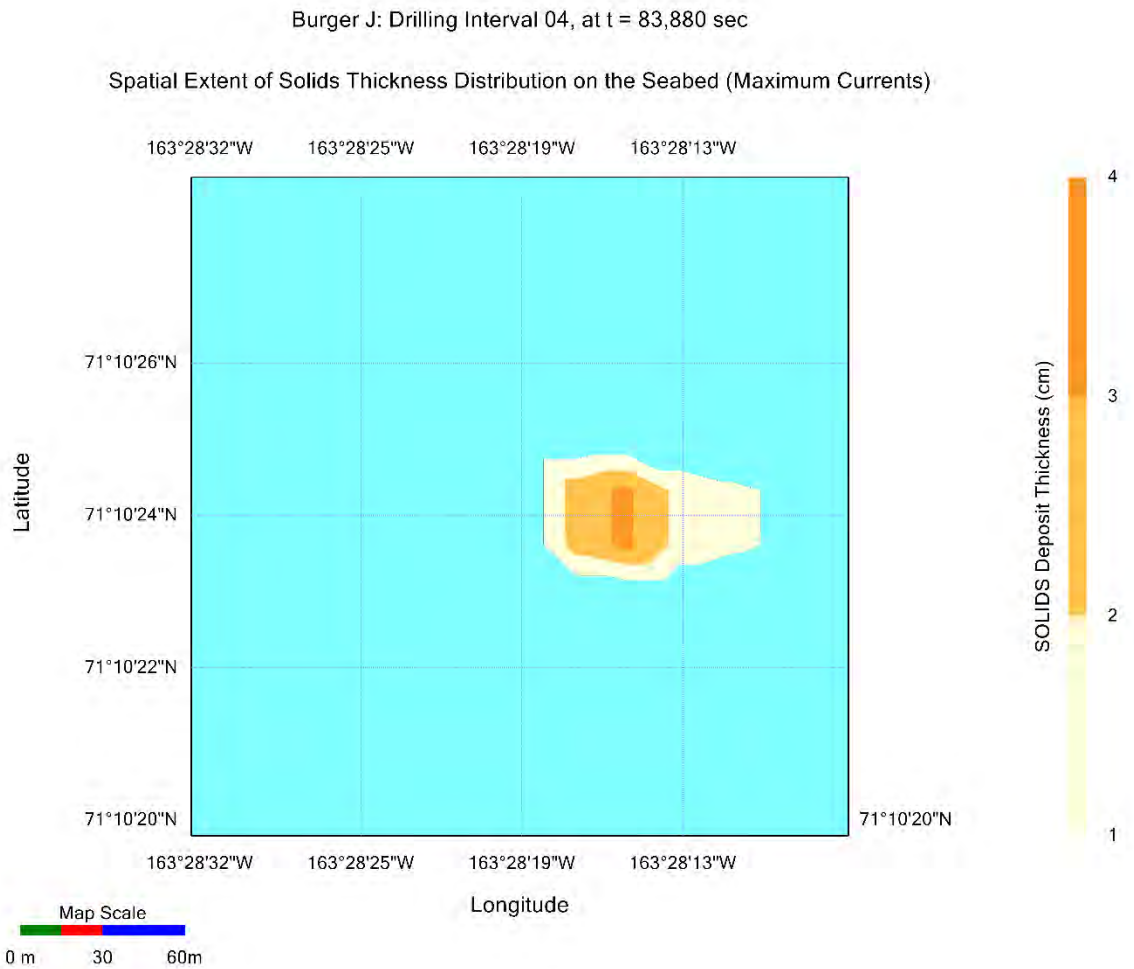
Figure 6-20b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 04 (Zoom In View)



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6.5 Model Results for Sea Surface Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 05

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-21**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m below the sea surface. The heavier plume travels approximately **7.0** m from the discharge location before collapsing into the ambient sea water due to the higher density of the discharge plume. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-22**. The width of the plume is approximately **3.5** m at a distance **7.0** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **6-21** and **6-22**.

Figure 6-21: Trajectory of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 05

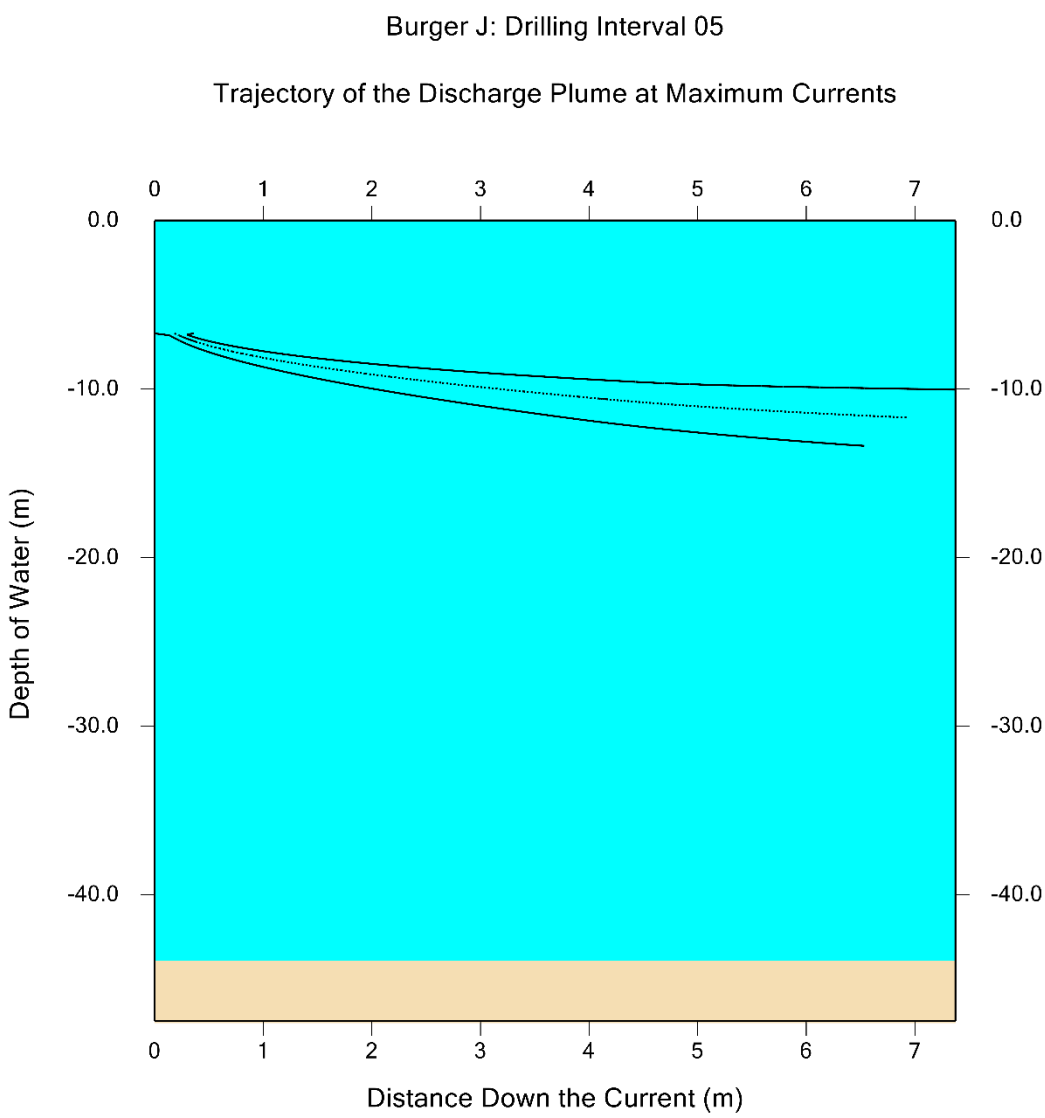

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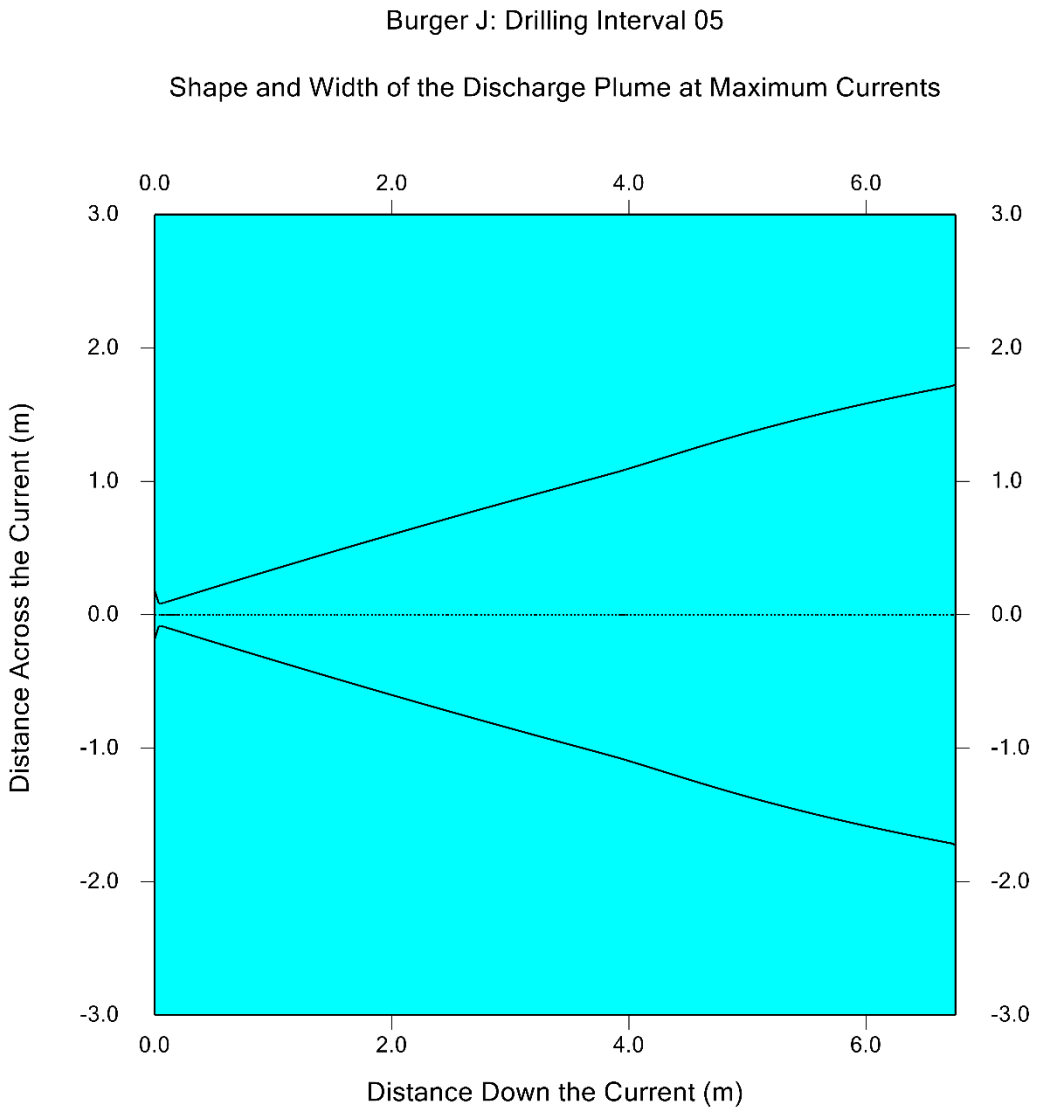
Figure 6-22: Shape and width of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 05



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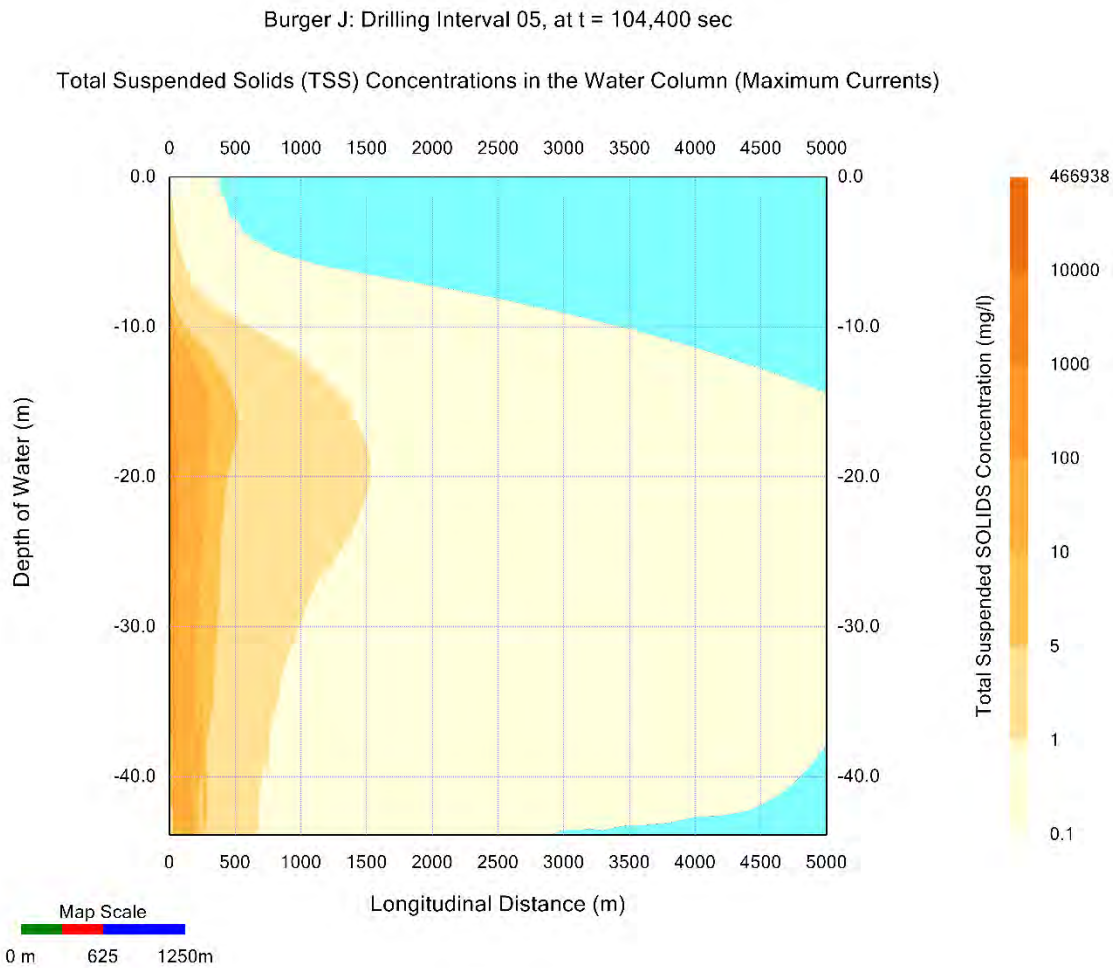
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **104**,**400** sec (or 29.0 hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 6-23**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m from a **14.25** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **6-23** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **466**,**938** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** and **10** mg/l at distances approximately: **75** and **300** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **300** and **500** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **500** and **1**,**500** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **1**,**500** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **928**.**1**, **308**.**0**, **82**.**5**, **10**.**6**, and **1**.**9** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 6-23: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 05



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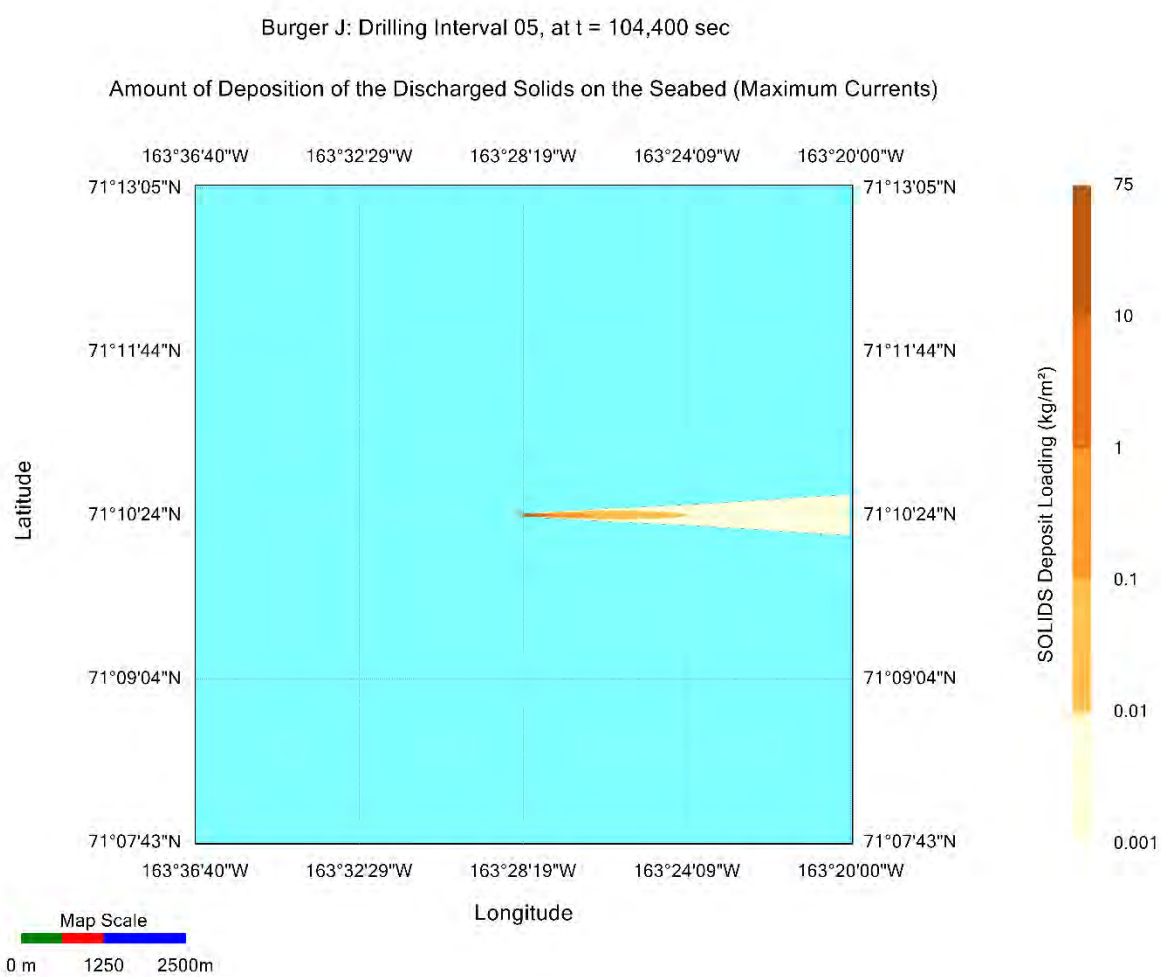
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **104**,**400** sec (or 29.0 hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figure 6-24**. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **6**-**24**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **74** kg/m^2 occurs at **50** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **180** m and **475** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**1** kg/m^2 approximately between **475** m and **1**,**125** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0**.**1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**01** kg/m^2 approximately between **1**,**125** m and **2**,**500** m distances from the discharge location. The loading is less than **0**.**01** kg/m^2 beyond **2**,**500** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **10**-, **1**-, **0**.**1**-, and **0**.**01**-kg/m^2 are: **0**.**660**, **1**.**919**, **4**.**580**, and **23**.**371** ha, respectively.

Figure 6-24: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 05



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **104**,**400** sec (or 29.0 hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 6-25a** and **6-25b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **6**-**25**a. The same results are presented in Figure **6**-**25**b but shows only **480** m x **480** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **4**.**8** cm occurs at **50** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **140** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **120** m x **40** m rectangle area (or **0**.**497** ha) as presented in Figure **6**-**25**b.

Figure 6-25a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 05

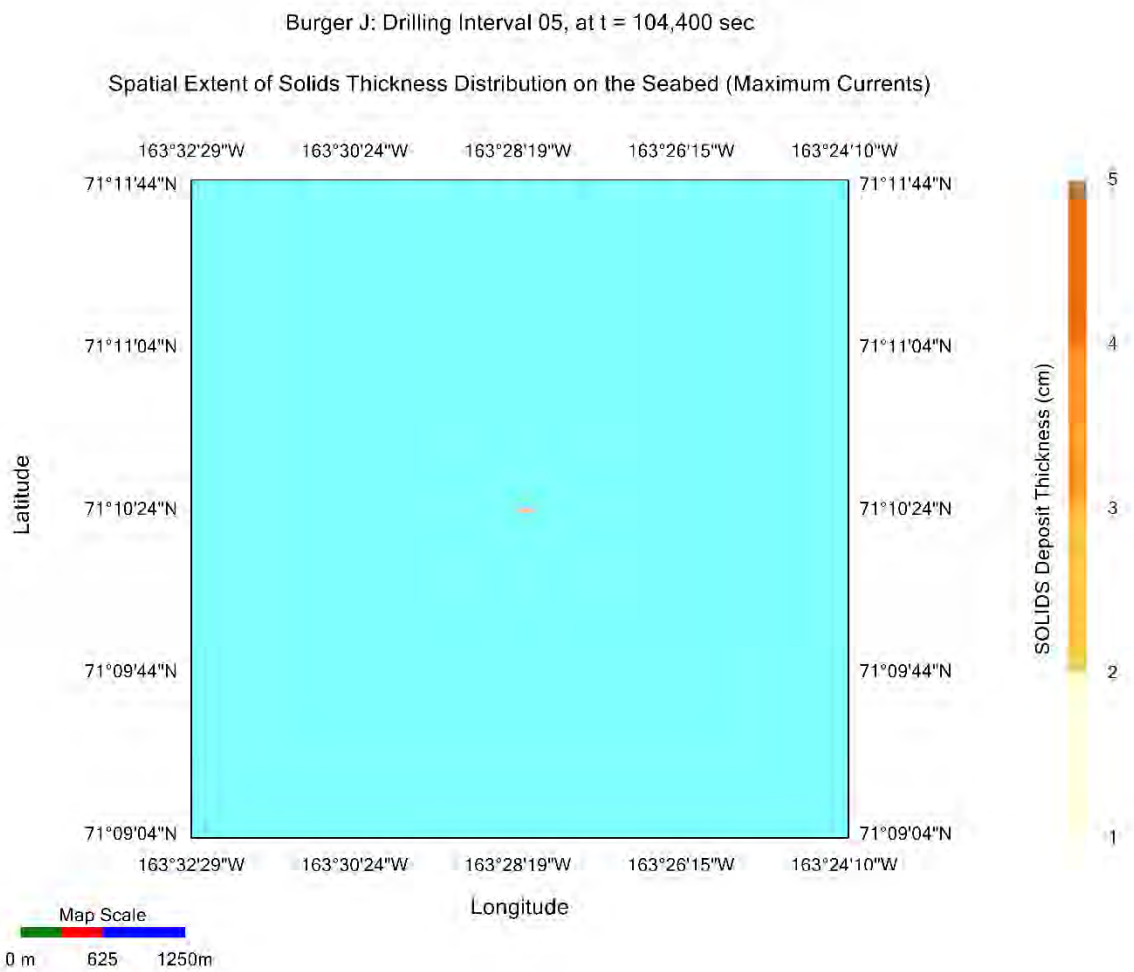

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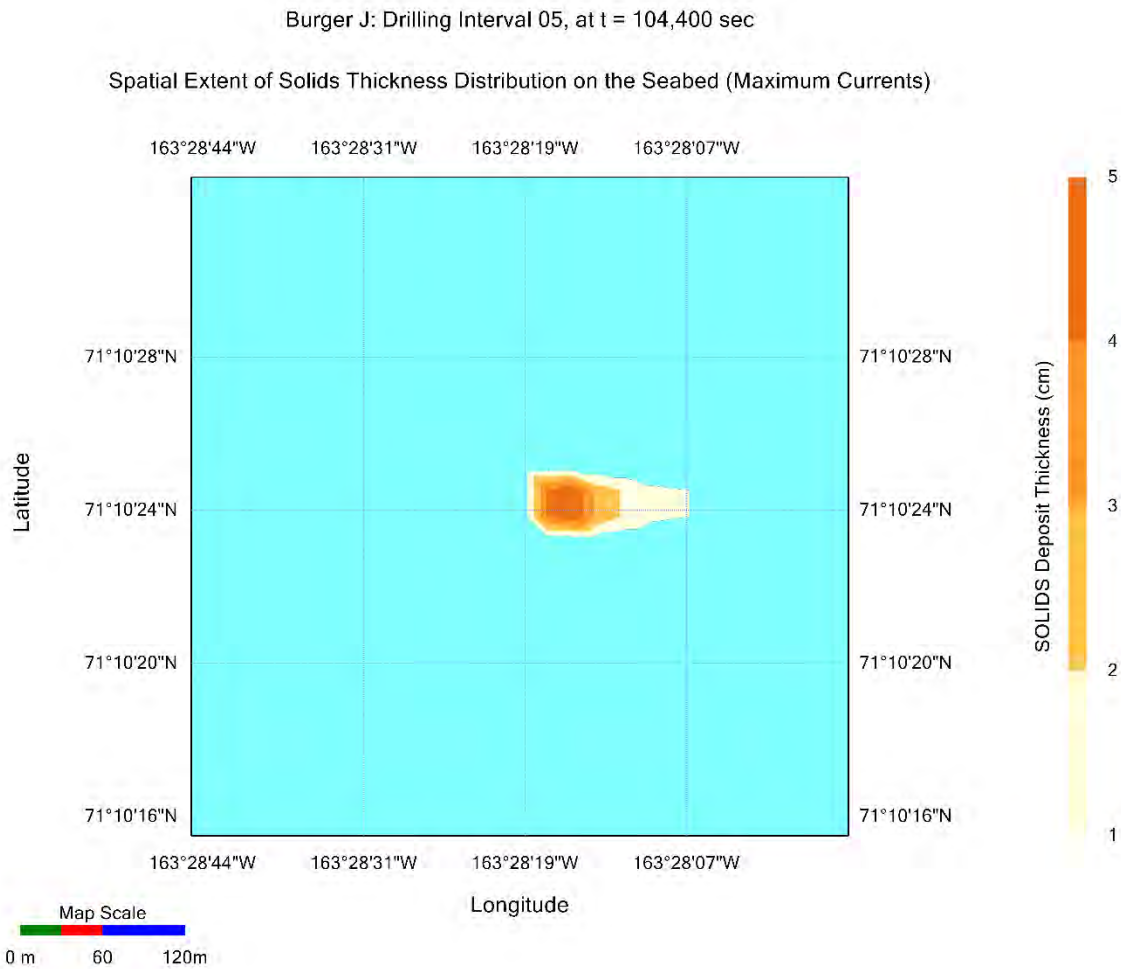
Figure 6-25b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 05 (Zoom In View)



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6.6 Model Results for Sea Surface Discharge Scenario – Drilling Interval 06

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-26**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m below the sea surface. The heavier plume travels approximately **6.0** m from the discharge location before collapsing into the ambient sea water due to the higher density of the discharge plume. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-27**. The width of the plume is approximately **2.2** m at a distance **6.0** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **6-26** and **6-27**.

Figure 6-26: Trajectory of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 06

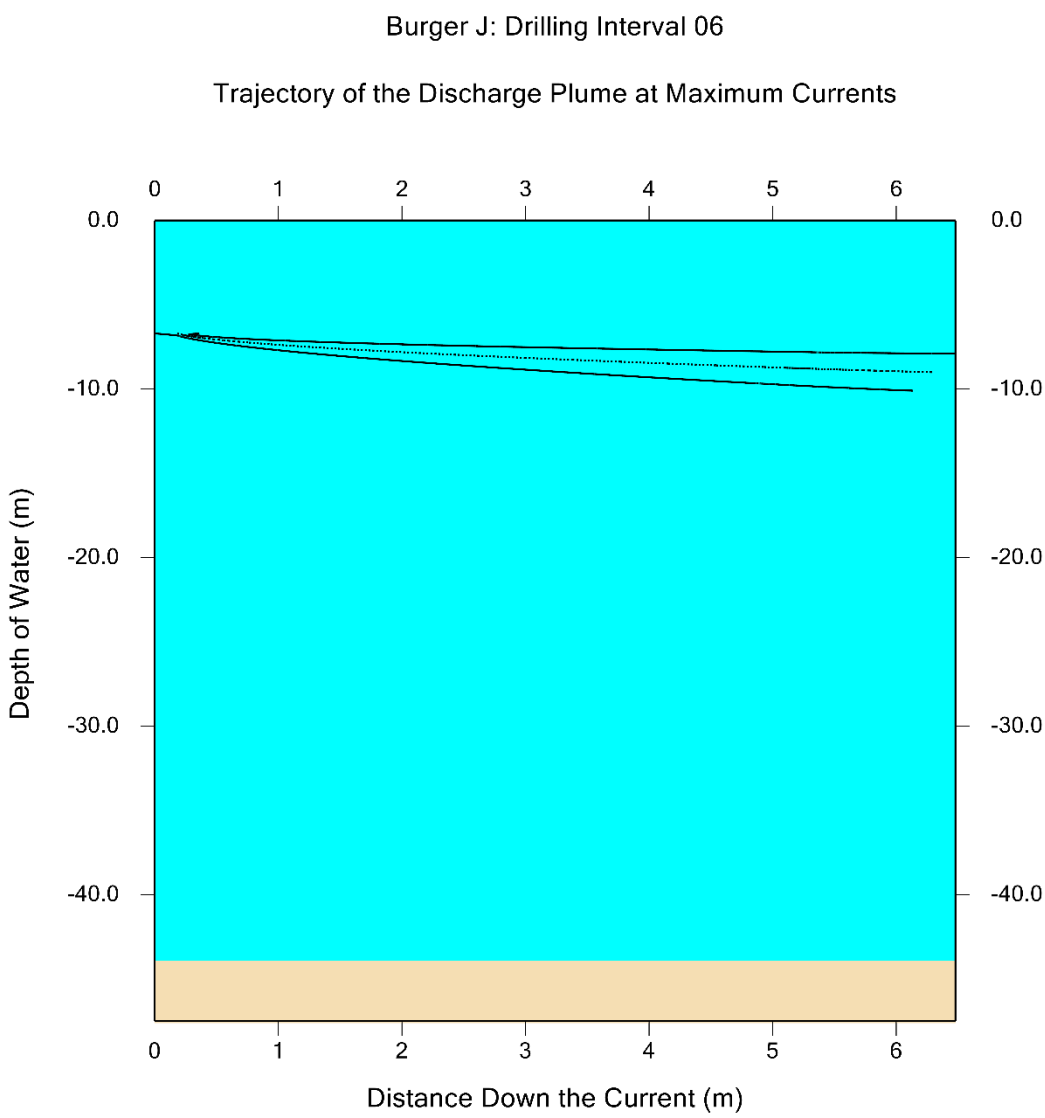

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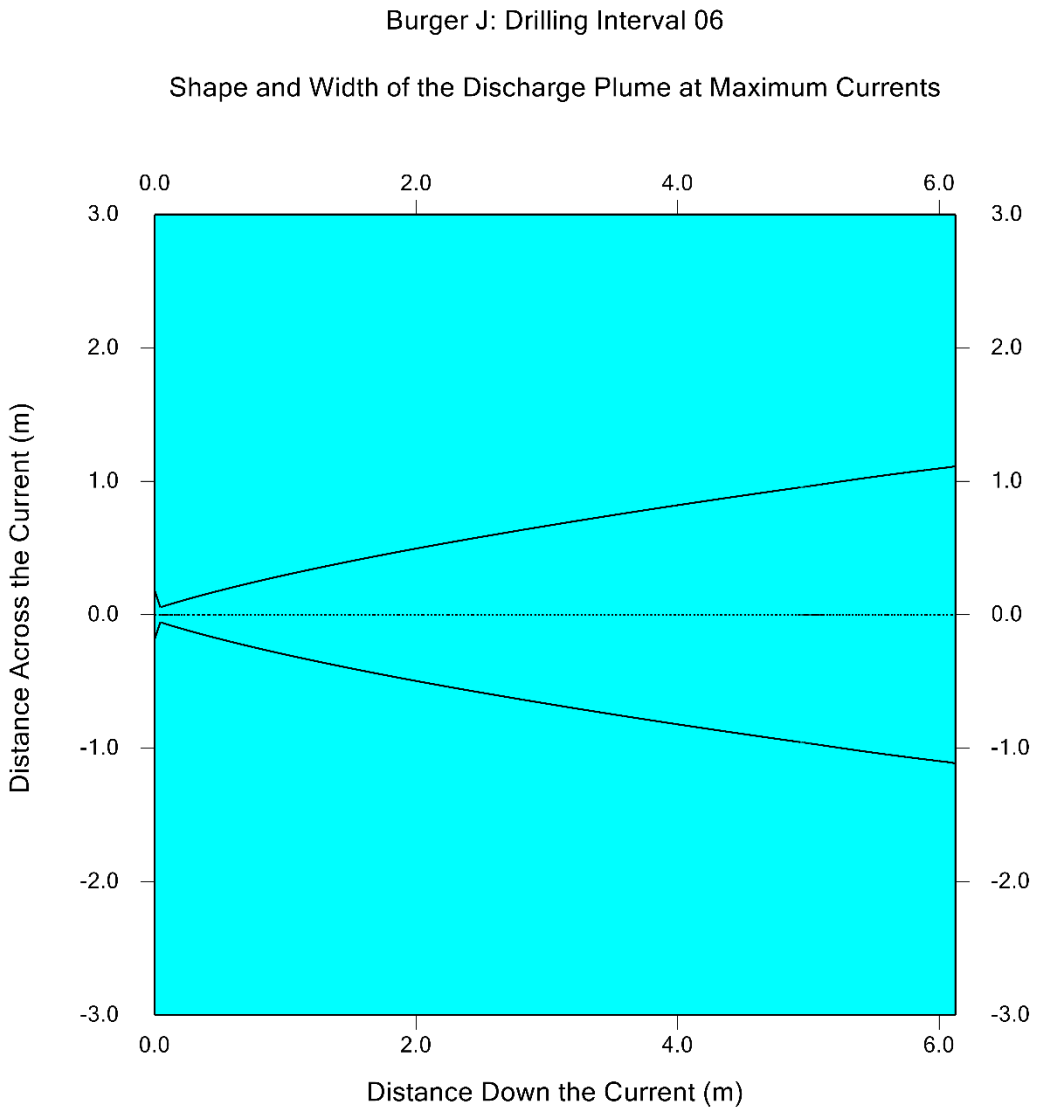
Figure 6-27: Shape and width of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 06



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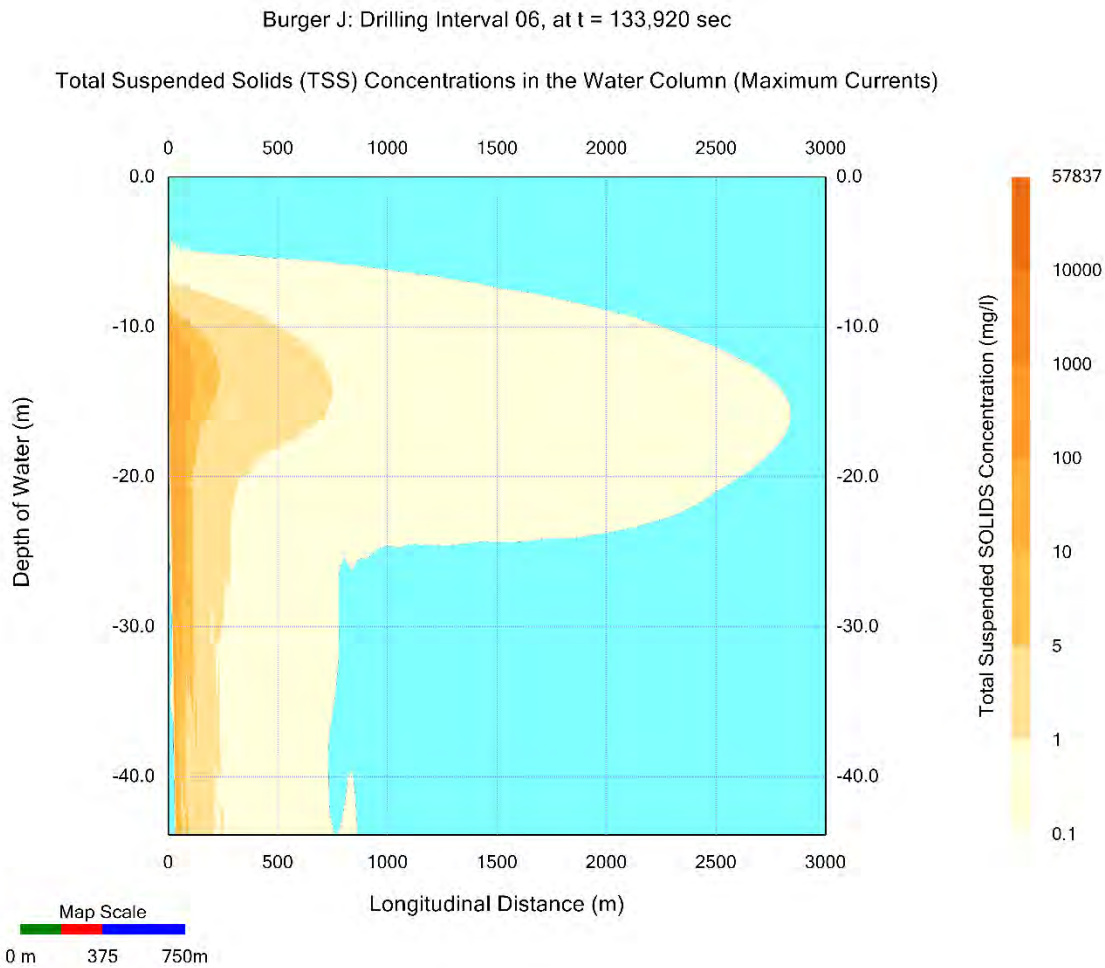
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column at time, t = **133**,**920** sec (or **37.2** hours) which is the discharge duration for this drilling interval is presented in **Figure 6-28**. The depth of water is **43**.**90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m from a **14.25** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure **6-28** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **57**,**837** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** and **10** mg/l at distances approximately: **15** and **120** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **120** m and **240** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **240** m and **750** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **750** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **142**.**3**, **53**.**8**, **11**.**7**, **3**.**8**, and **0**.**6** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 6-28: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 06



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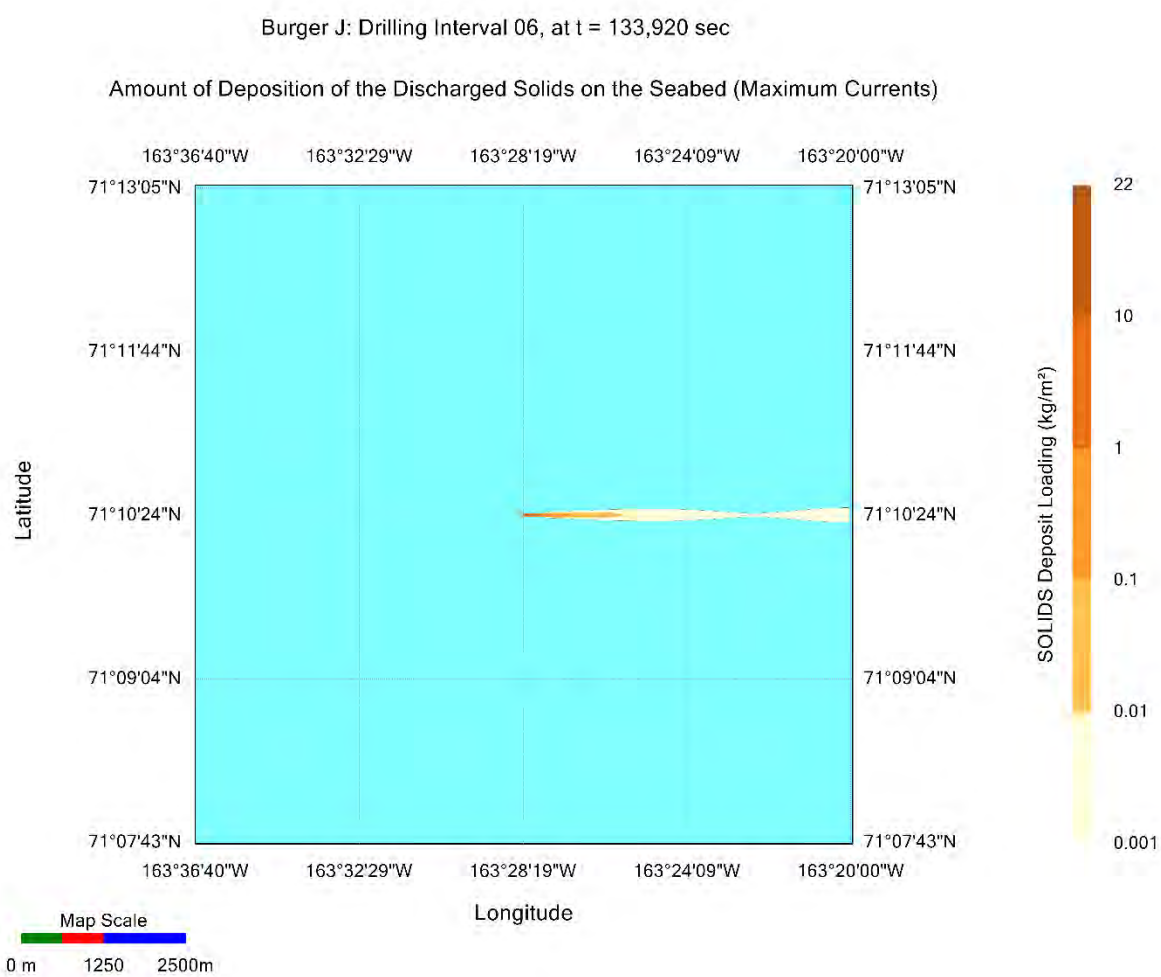
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **133**,**920** sec (or **37.2** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figure 6-29**. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **6-29**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **21** kg/m^2 occurs at **50** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **70** m and **280** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0.1** kg/m^2 approximately between **280** m and **750** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0.1** kg/m^2 to **0.01** kg/m^2 approximately between **750** m and **1**,**500** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **0.01** kg/m^2 beyond **1**,**500** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **10**-, **1**-, **0.1**-, and **0.01**-kg/m^2 are: **0.200**, **1.061**, **3.037**, and **10.019** ha, respectively.

Figure 6-29: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 06



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **133,920** sec (or **37.2** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based drill cuttings and drill fluids on a plan view is presented in **Figures 6-30a** and **6-30b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **6-30**a. The same results are presented in Figure **6-30**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **1.4** cm occurs at **50** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **60** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **25** m x **25** m rectangle area (or **0.063** ha) as presented in Figure **6-30**b.

Figure 6-30a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 06

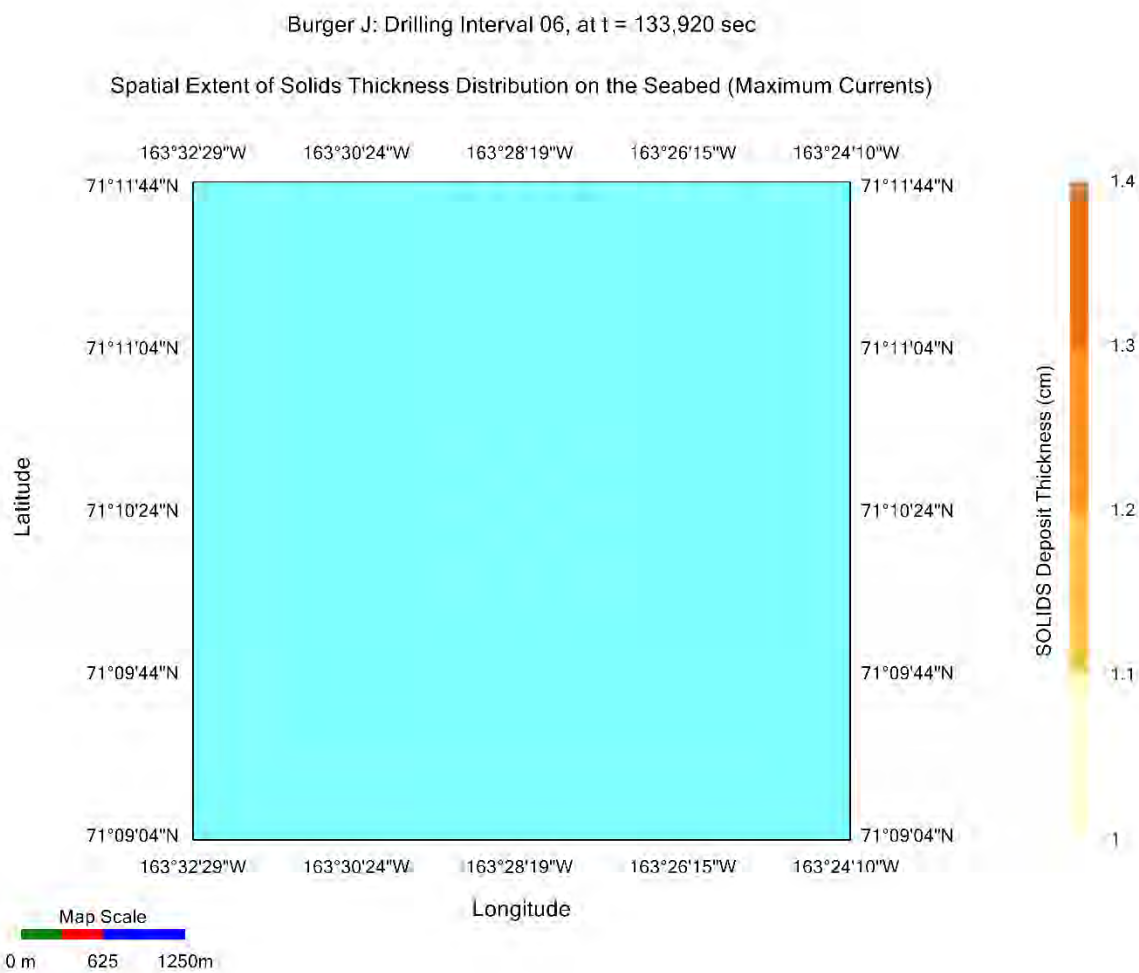

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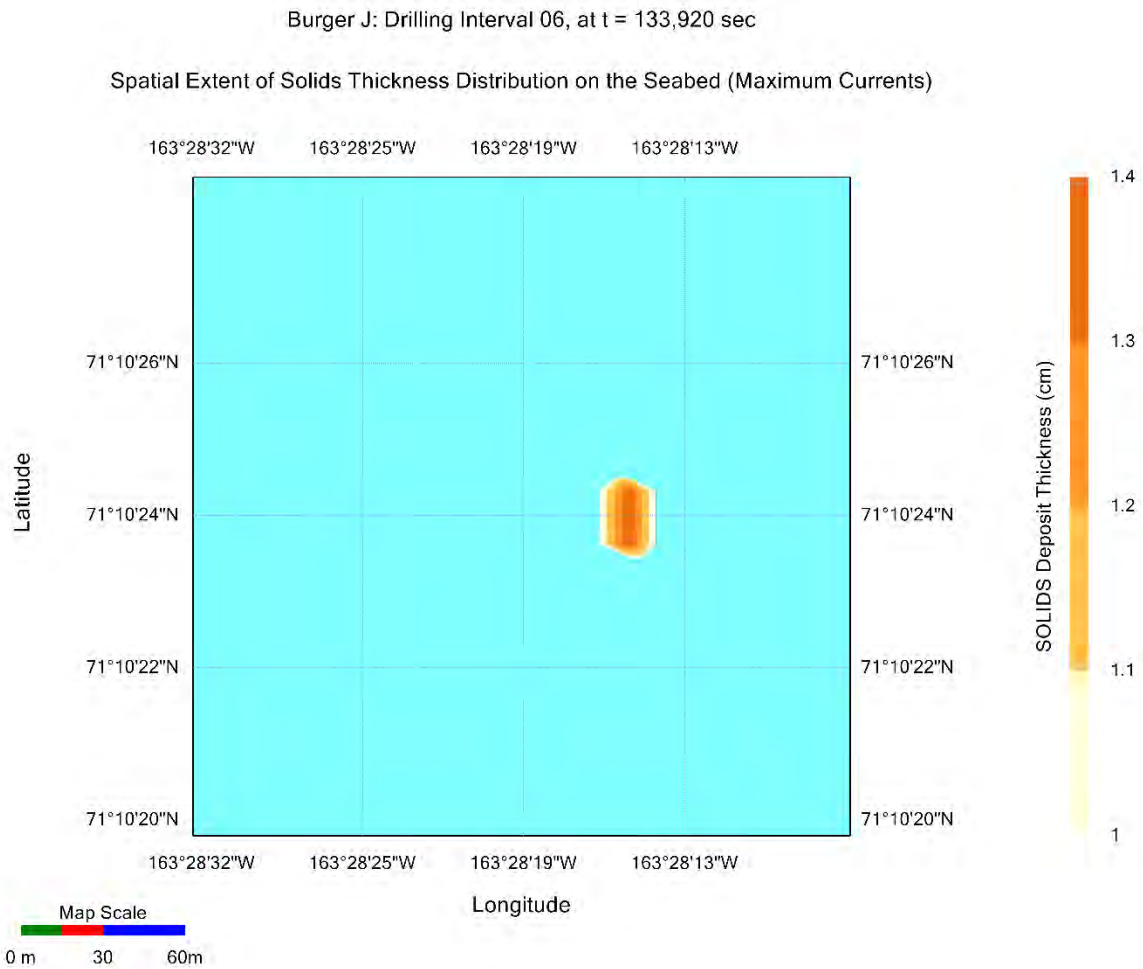
Figure 6-30b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Drilling Interval 06 (Zoom In View)



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6.7 Model Results for Sea Surface Discharge Scenario – Rigs Surface Pits

Water Based Muds Discharge from Rigs Surface Pits at the end of the Drilling Operation

Trajectory and Shape of the Discharge Plume

The trajectory of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-31**. The depth of water is **43.90** m and the discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m below the sea surface. The heavier plume travels approximately **160.0** m from the discharge location before collapsing into the ambient sea water due to the higher density of the discharge plume. The shape and width of the discharge plume is presented in **Figure 6-32**. The width of the plume is approximately **55** m at a distance **160.0** m from the discharge location. The solid lines present the outer boundaries and the dotted line presents the center line of the discharge plume in Figures **6-31** and **6-32**.

Figure 6-31: Trajectory of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Rig's Surface Pits

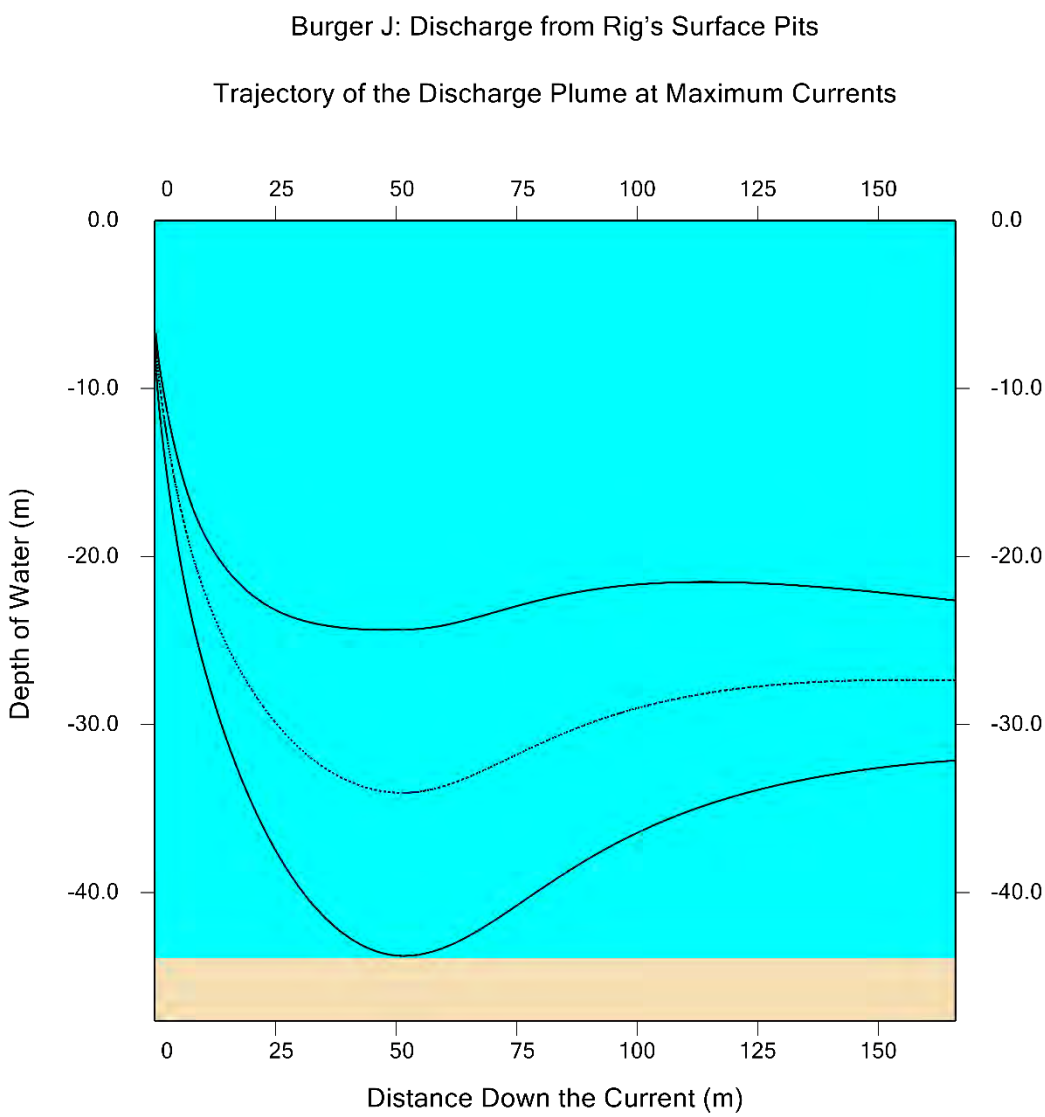

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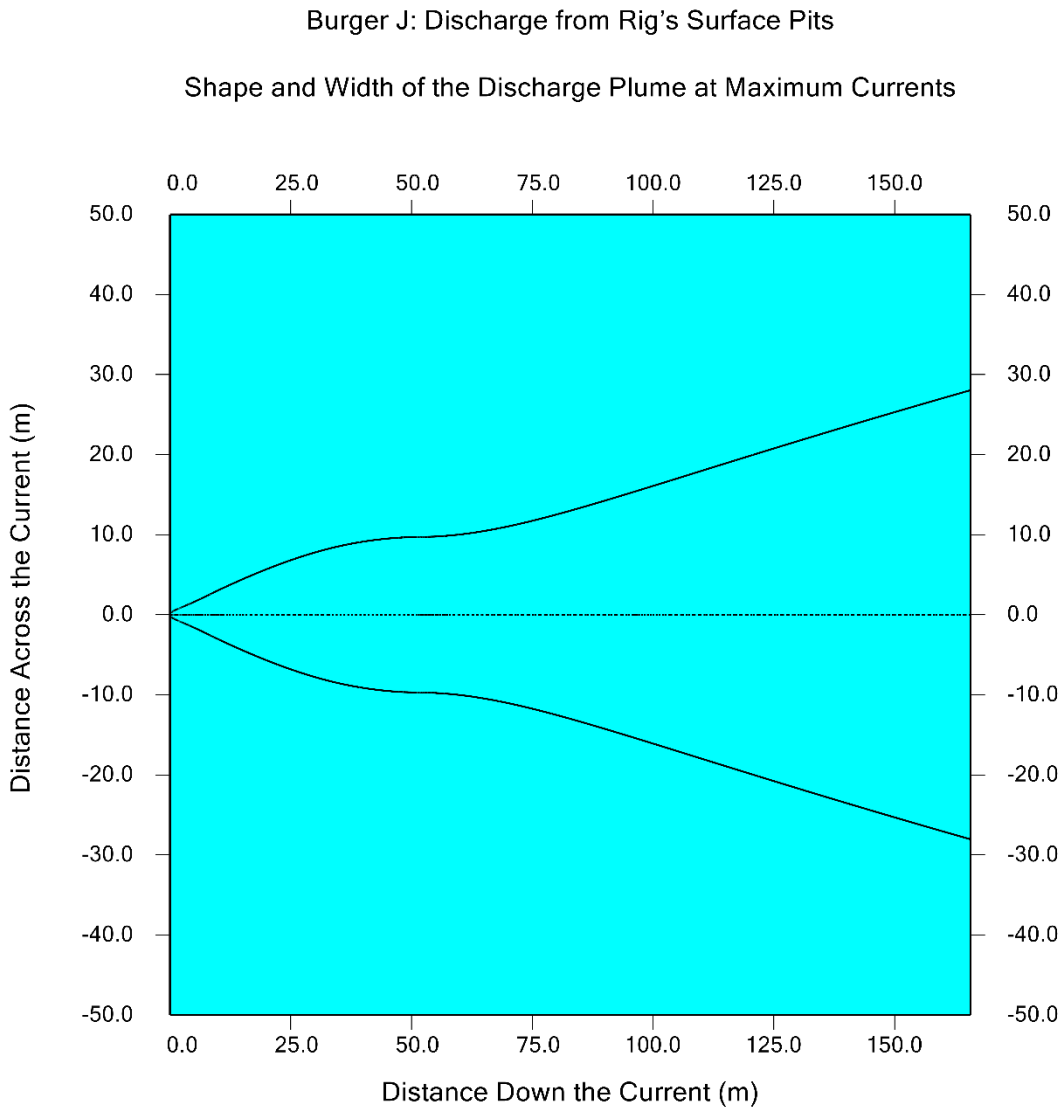
Figure 6-32: Shape and width of the discharge plume at maximum currents, Rig's Surface Pits



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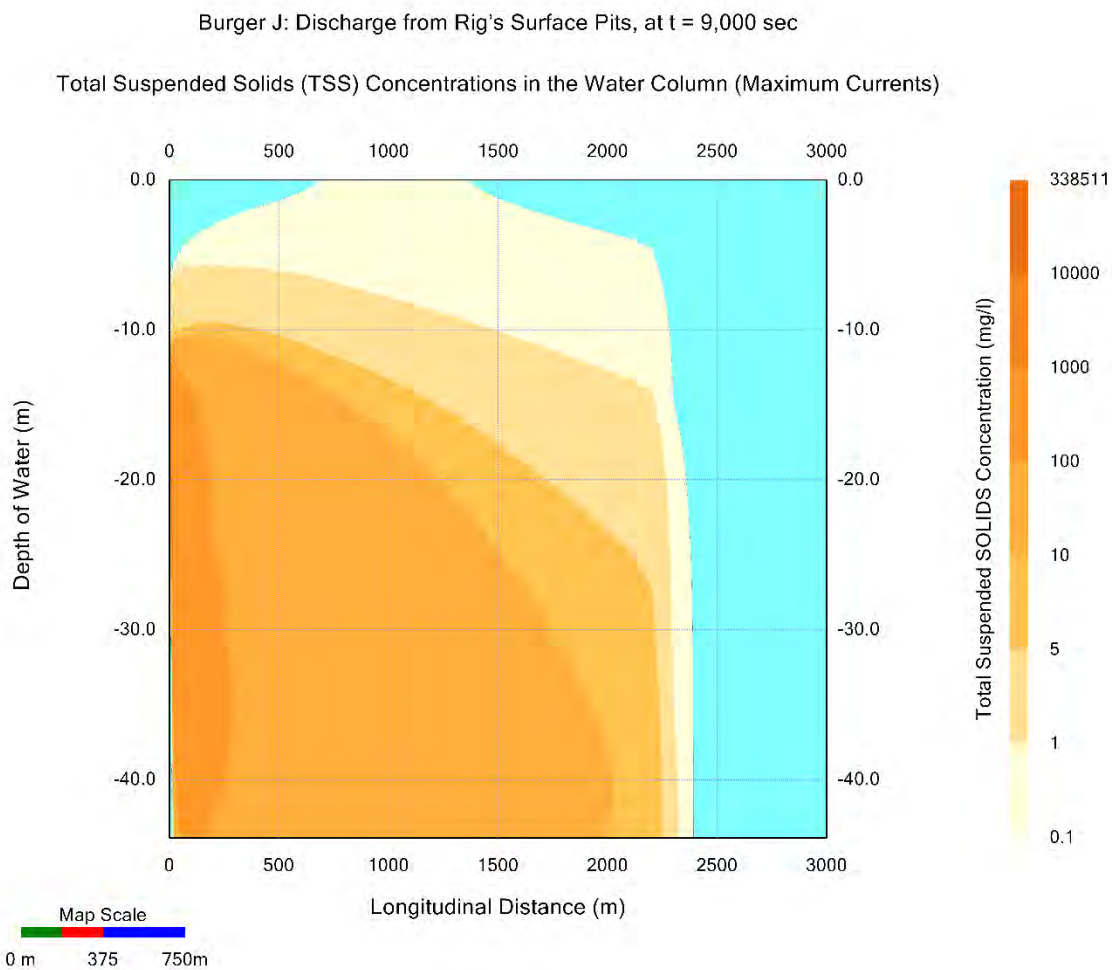
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (TSS) CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WATER COLUMN

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentration in the water column at time, t = **9,000** sec (or **2.5** hours) which is the discharge duration for the water based muds from the rig's surface pits is presented in **Figure 6-33**. The depth of water is **43.90** m at the discharge location. The discharge occurs at a depth of **6.71** m from a **14.25** inches internal diameter discharge pipe. Figure 6-**33** presents the maximum TSS concentrations attained during the discharge. The color filled contours present the variations of the TSS concentrations both with respect to the depth from the sea surface and the distance from the source by different color bands. The maximum TSS concentration **338,511** mg/l occurs at the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** mg/l at a distance approximately **300** m from the discharge location. It varies from **100** to **10** mg/l between **300** m and **2,000** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **10** to **5** mg/l between **2,000** m and **2,250** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **5** to **1** mg/l between **2,250** m and **2.325** m distances from the discharge location. It is less than **1** mg/l beyond **2,325** m from the discharge location.

The maximum TSS concentrations at **10**-, **30**-, **100**-, **300**-, and **1000**-m from the discharge location are: **1,807.4** **341.9**, **181.0**, **97.7**, and **31.3** mg/l, respectively.

Figure 6-33: Total suspended solids concentrations in water column at maximum currents, Rig's Surface Pits



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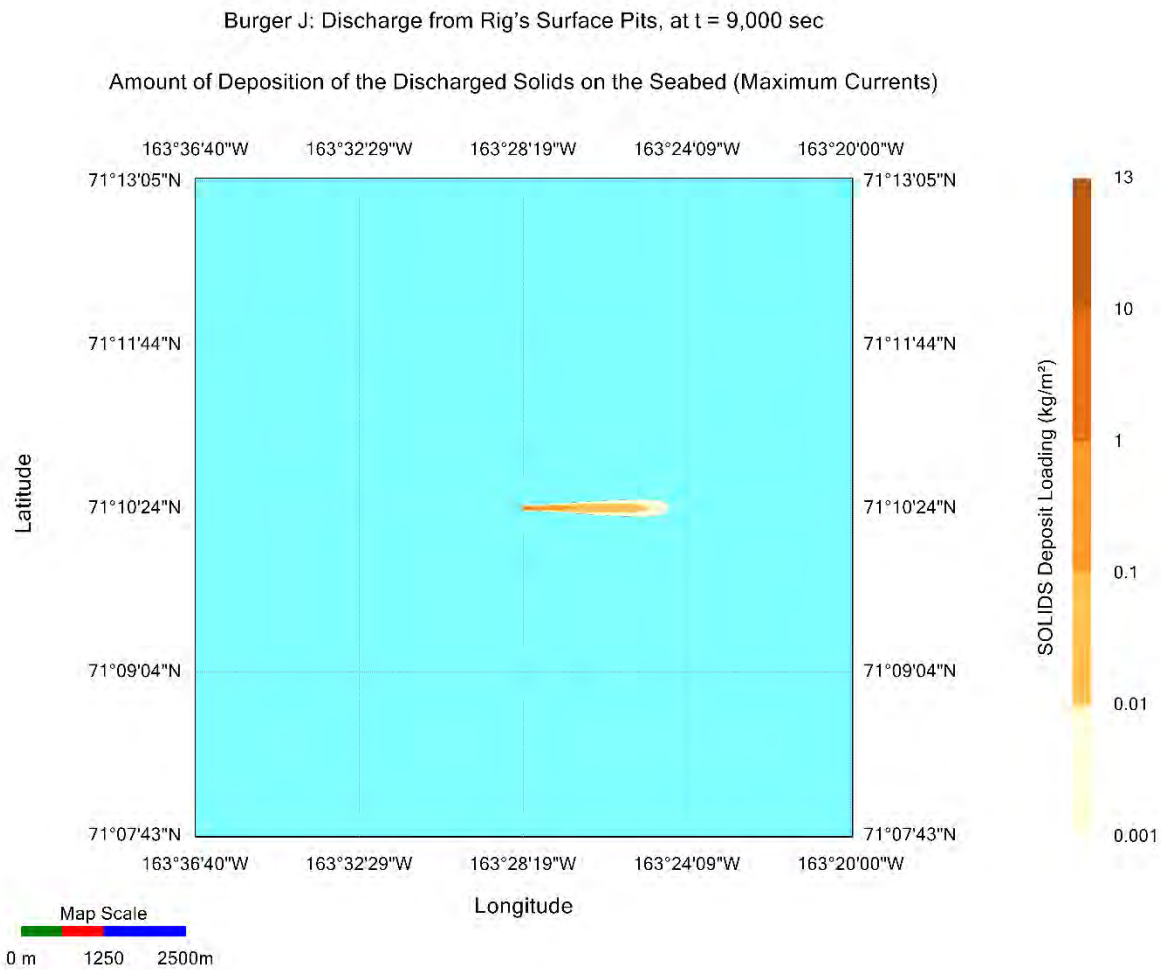
AMOUNT OF DEPOSITION OF THE DISCHARGED SOLIDS ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent and the amount of solids loading on the sea floor at time, t = **9,000** sec (or **2.5** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based muds from the rig's surface pits on a plan view is presented in **Figure 6-34**. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure **6-34**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of this figure. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The maximum loading **13** kg/m^2 occurs at **50** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **10** kg/m^2 and **1** kg/m^2 at distances approximately **70** m and **130** m, respectively from the discharge location. It varies from **1** kg/m^2 to **0.1** kg/m^2 approximately between **130** m and **850** m distances from the discharge location. It varies from **0.1** kg/m^2 to **0.01** kg/m^2 approximately between **850** m and **1,900** m distances from the discharge location. The loading is less than **0.01** kg/m^2 beyond **1,900** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **10**-, **1**-, **0.1**-, and **0.01**-kg/m^2 are: **0.161**, **0.440**, **3.283**, and **19.619** ha, respectively.

Figure 6-34: Amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at maximum currents, Rig's Surface Pits



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of solids thickness deposited on the sea floor at time, t = **9,000** sec (or **2.5** hours) as a result of the discharge of the water based muds from the rig's surface pits on a plan view is presented in **Figures 6-35a** and **6-35b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5.0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The maximum solids deposited thickness on the seabed is **0.6** cm, which is less than 1 cm as shown by a small dot, occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **6-35**a. The same results are presented in Figure **6-35**b but shows only **240** m x **240** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **0.1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **0.6** cm occurs at **50** m to the east and **10** m to the north from the discharge location.

Figure 6-35a: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Rig's Surface Pits

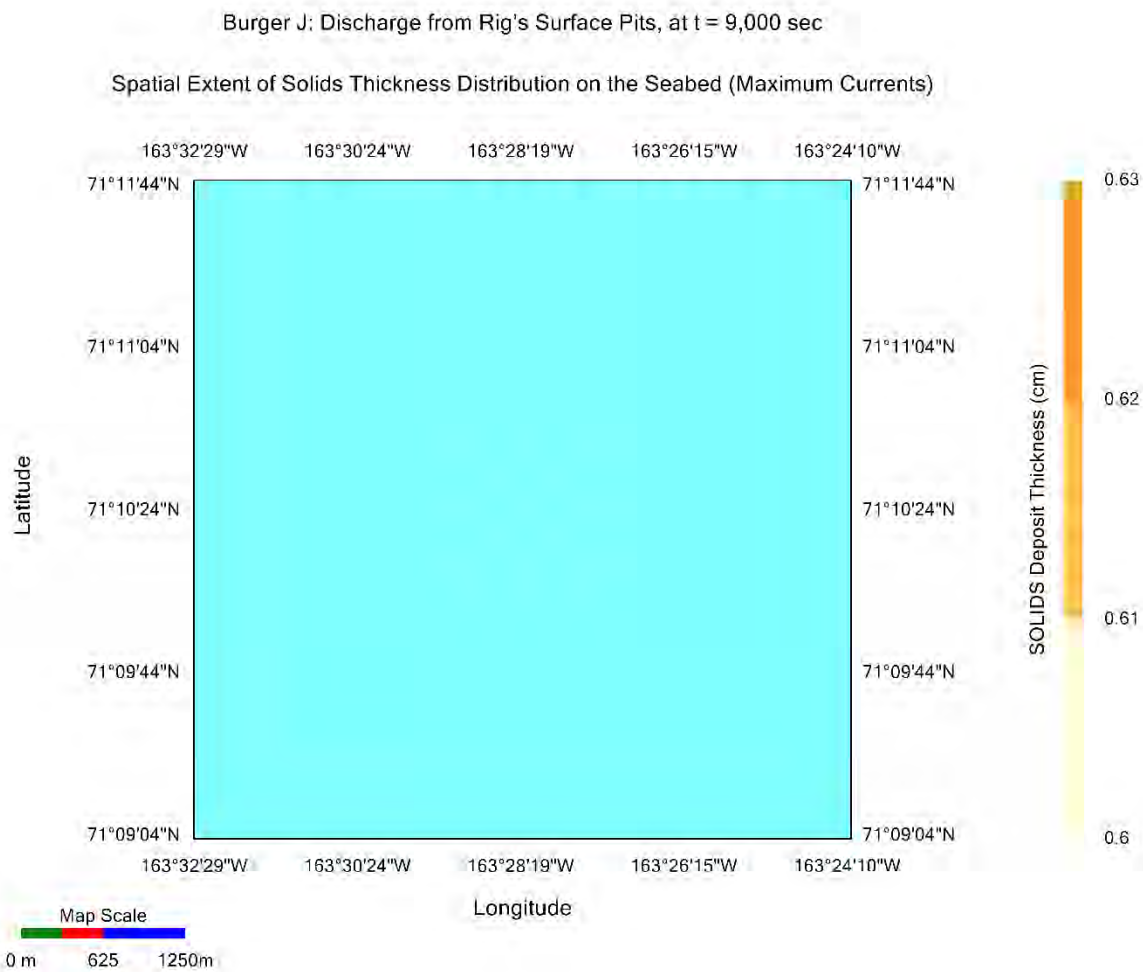

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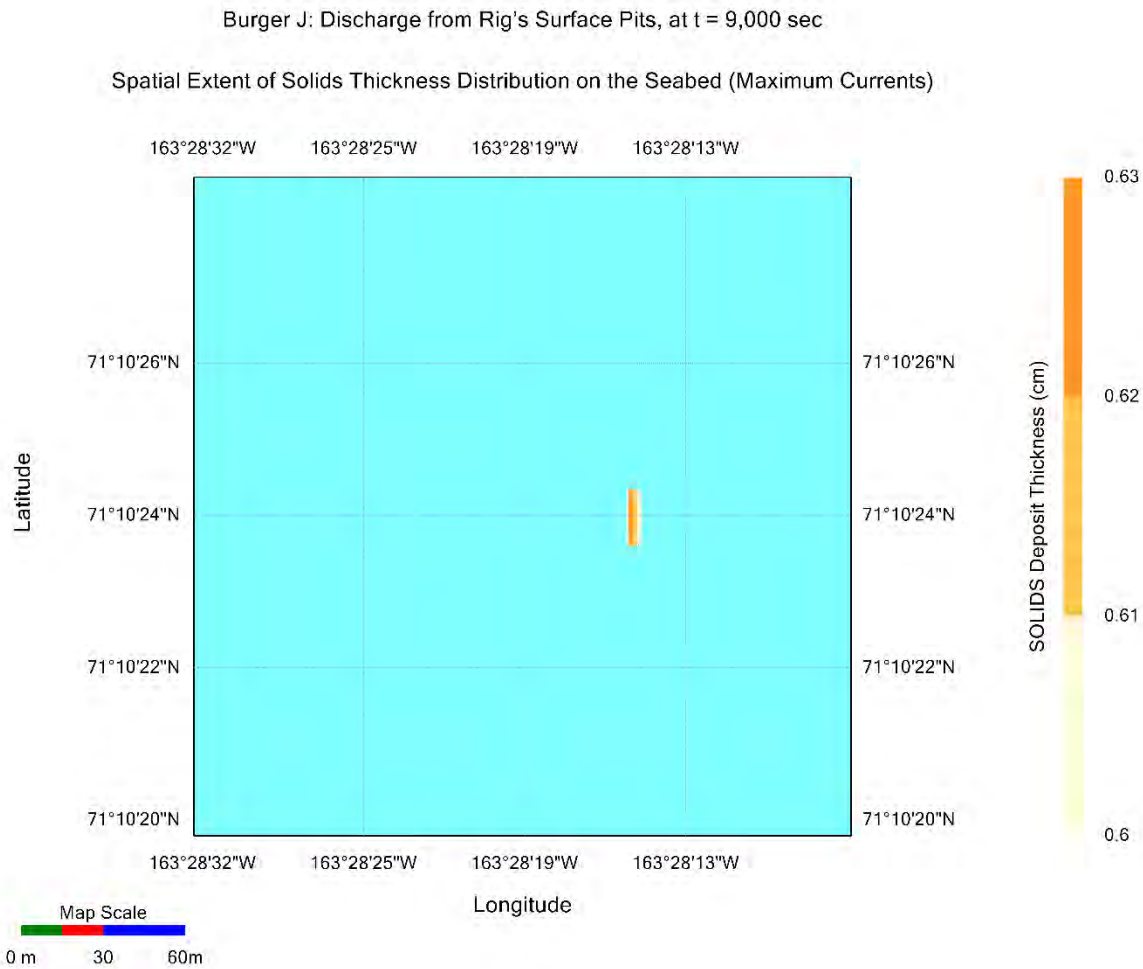
Figure 6-35b: Spatial extent of solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Rig's Surface Pits (Zoom In View)



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6.8 Combined Model Results - Sea Floor and Sea Surface Discharges, Burger J

The spatial extent of total amount of deposition of the discharged solids on the seabed from the six discrete drilling intervals (**01**, **02**, **03**, **04**, **05**, and **06**) and the rig's surface pits were compiled using the GUIDO **7** (version **7**.**3**) for the OOC model yielding the total solids deposition loading and thickness distribution on the seabed from the drilling operation at the Burger J well site.

Total Amount of Deposition of the Discharged Solids on the Seabed

The spatial extent of the total amount of solids loading at time t = **197**.**6** hours as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds on a plan view is presented in **Figures 6-36a** and **6-36b**. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location as shown in Figure 6-36a. Figure **6**-**36**b presents a zoom in view of the model results, which shows approximately **2.5** km x **2.5** km area of the seabed. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids loading on the sea floor in kg/m^2 by a particular color band. The prevailing current direction is to the east. Therefore, the fate and transport of the discharge plume is towards the east only from the discharge location. The maximum loading of **2**,**590** kg/m^2 occurs at **10** m to the east and **30** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** kg/m^2 at a distance approximately **90** m from the discharge location as shown in Figure **6**-**36**b. It decreases: **100** kg/m^2 to **10** kg/m^2 between **90** m and **300** m; **10** kg/m^2 to **1** kg/m^2 between **300** m and **900** m; and **1** kg/m^2 to **0**.**1** kg/m^2 between **900** m and **2**,**200** m distances approximately from the discharge location. The loading is less than **0**.**1** kg/m^2 beyond **2**,**200** m from the discharge location.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **1000**-, **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0**.**1**-, **0**.**01**-, and **0**.**001**-kg/m^2 are: **0**.**109**, **0**.**337**, **1**.**231**, **3**.**707**, **18**.**212**, **135**.**284**, and **216**.**375** ha, respectively.

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Figure 6-36a: Total amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at maximum currents, Burger J

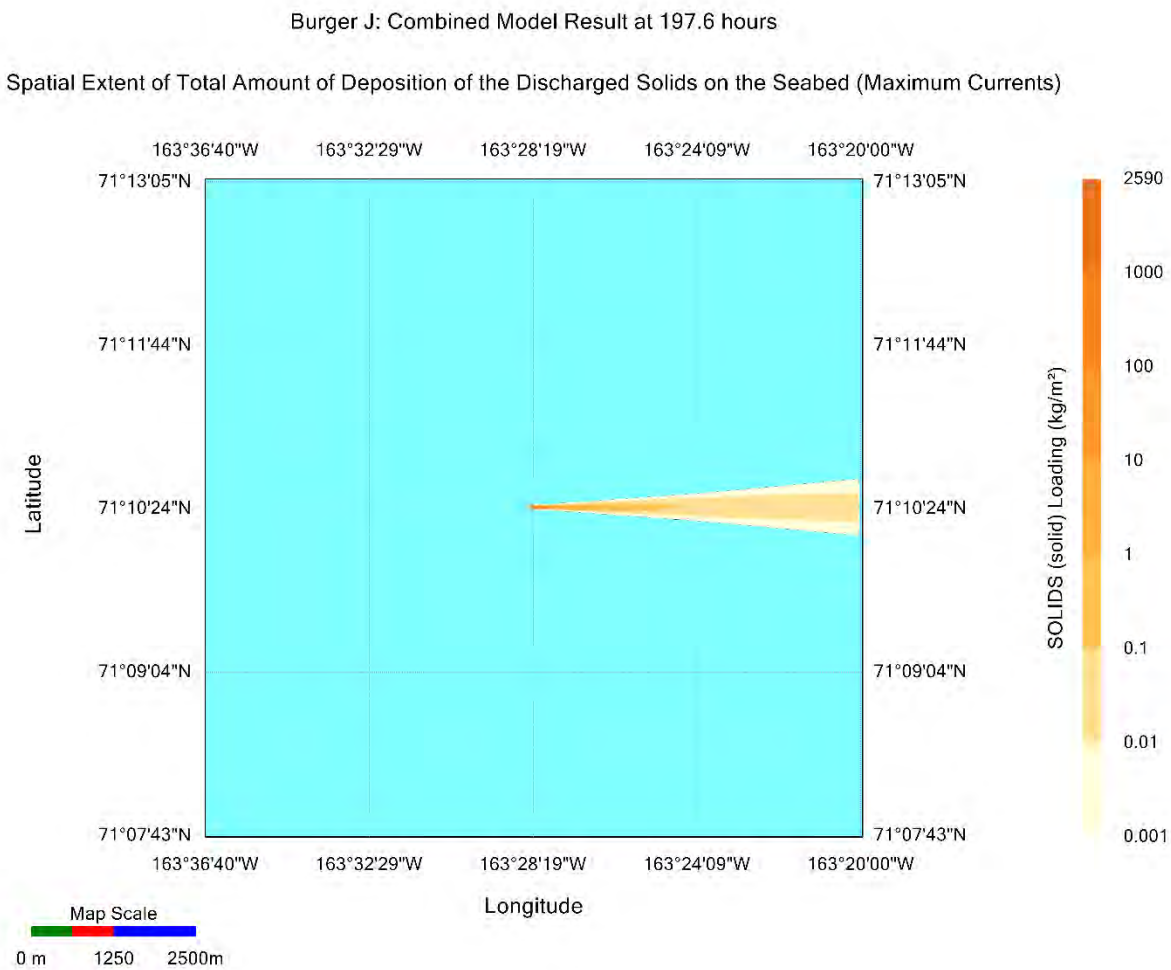

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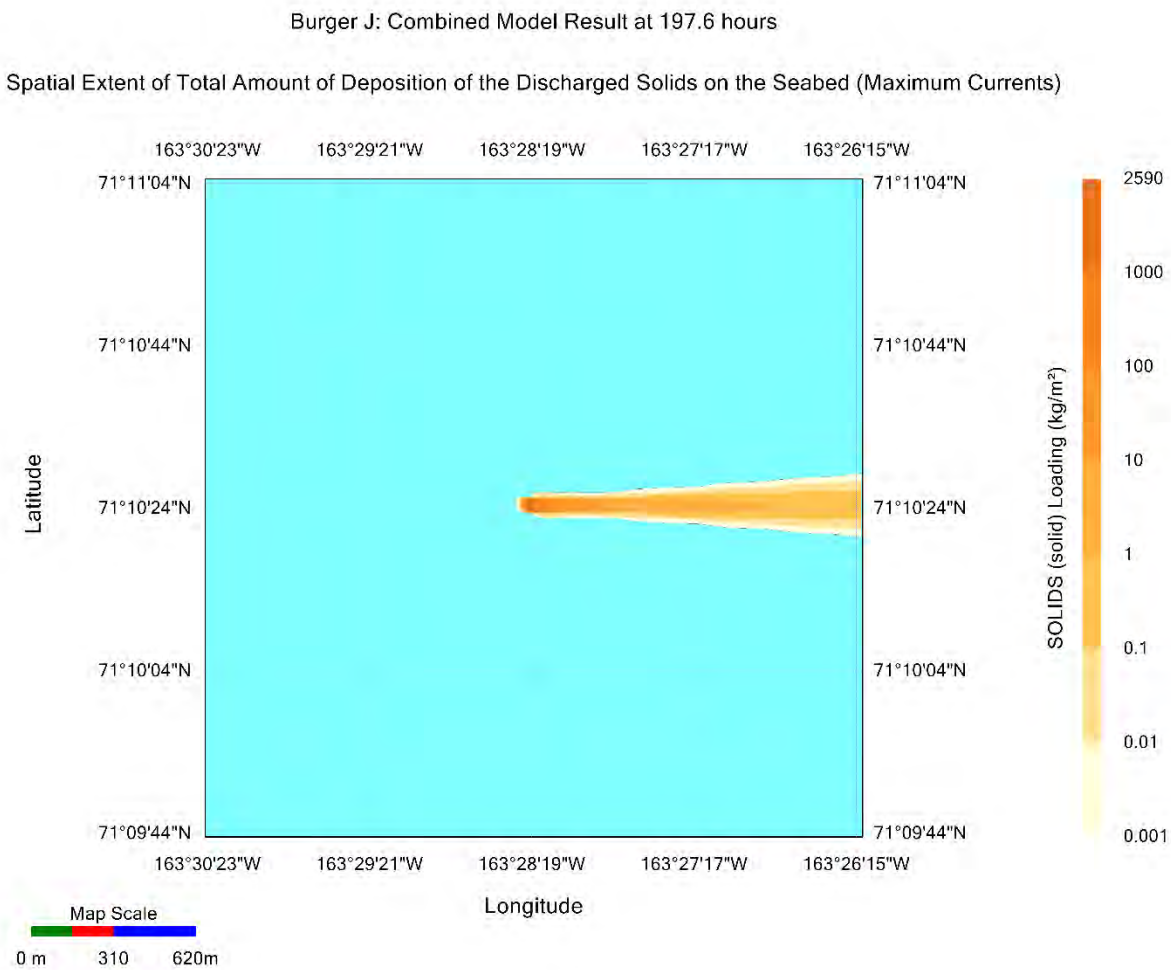
Figure 6-36b: Total amount of deposition of the solids on seabed at maximum currents, Burger J (zoom in view)



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SPATIAL EXTENT OF SOLIDS THICKNESS DISTRIBUTION ON THE SEABED

The spatial extent of the total solids thickness of **1** cm or larger deposited on the sea floor at time t = **197**.**6** hours as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds on a plan view is presented in **Figures 6-37a** and **6-37b**. The map scale is located at the bottom left corner of these figures. The color bar on the right provides the range of the solids deposit thickness on the sea floor in cm by a particular color band. The model domain extends to **5**.**0** km in all directions from the discharge location. The prevailing current direction is to the east. Therefore, the fate and transport of the discharge plume is towards the east only from the source location. The solids deposited on the seabed of thickness **1** cm or larger as shown occurs on a very small surface area compare to the **5** km x **5** km map surface area shown in Figure **6**-**37**a. The same results are presented in Figure **6**-**37**b but shows only **480** m x **480** m seabed surface with the well at the center to show the details of the solids accumulation of **1** cm or larger on the seabed. The maximum deposit thickness of **189.7** cm occurs at **10** m to the east and **30** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **100** cm at a distance approximately **20** m from the discharge location as shown in Figure **6**-**37**b. It decreases: **100** cm to **30** cm between **20** m and **30** m; **30** cm to **10** cm between **30** m and **70** m; **10** cm to **3** cm between **70** m and **120** m; and **3** cm to **1** cm between **120** m and **190** m distances approximately from the discharge location. It is less than **1** cm beyond **190** m approximately to the east from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **210** m x **50** m rectangle area (or **1**.**057** ha) as presented in Figure **6**-**37**b.

The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **100**-, **10**-, and **1**-cm are: **0**.**102**, **0**.**275**, and **1**.**057** ha, respectively. The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit thickness is also presented graphically in **Figure 6-38**.

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Figure 6-37a: Spatial extent of total solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Burger J

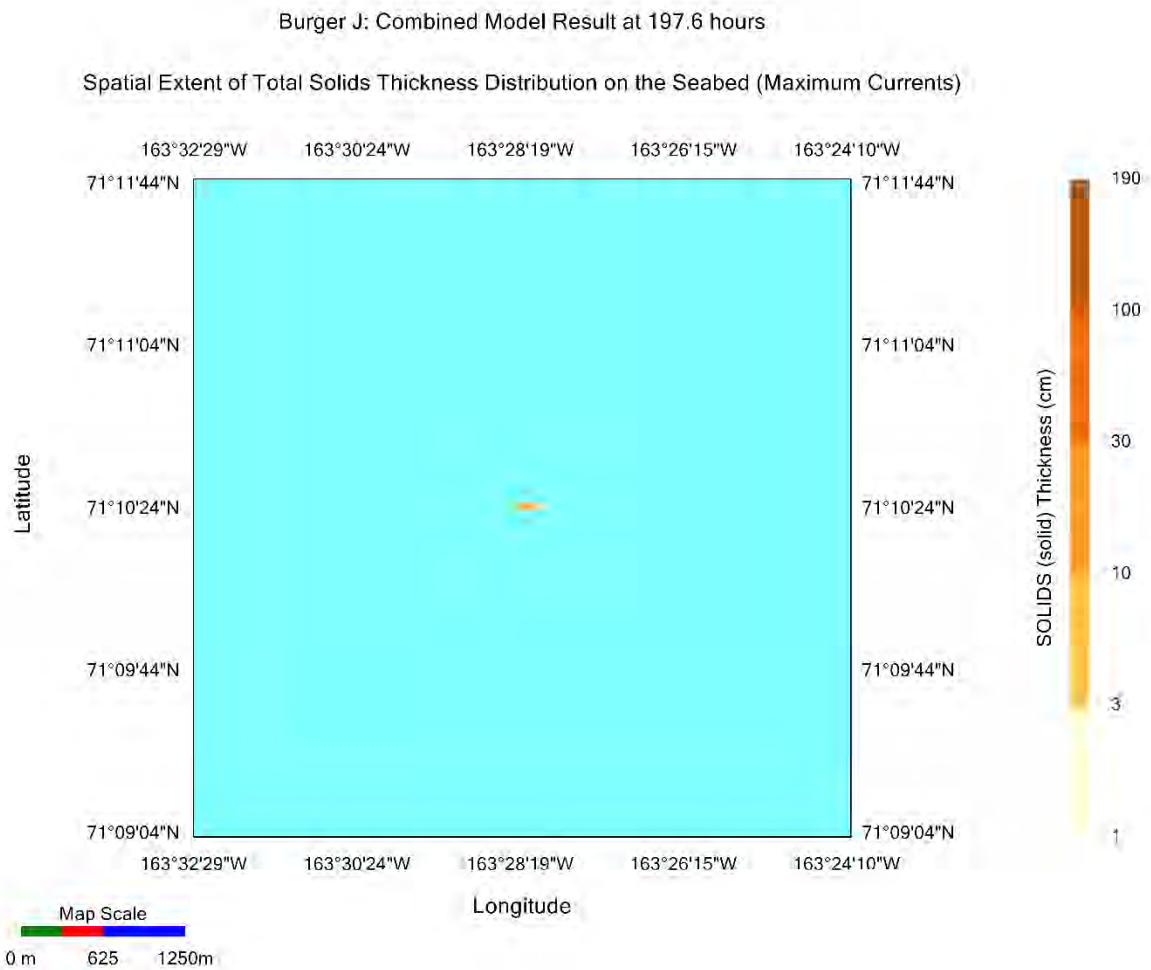

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Figure 6-37b: Spatial extent of total solids thickness distribution on seabed at maximum currents, Burger J (Zoom In View)

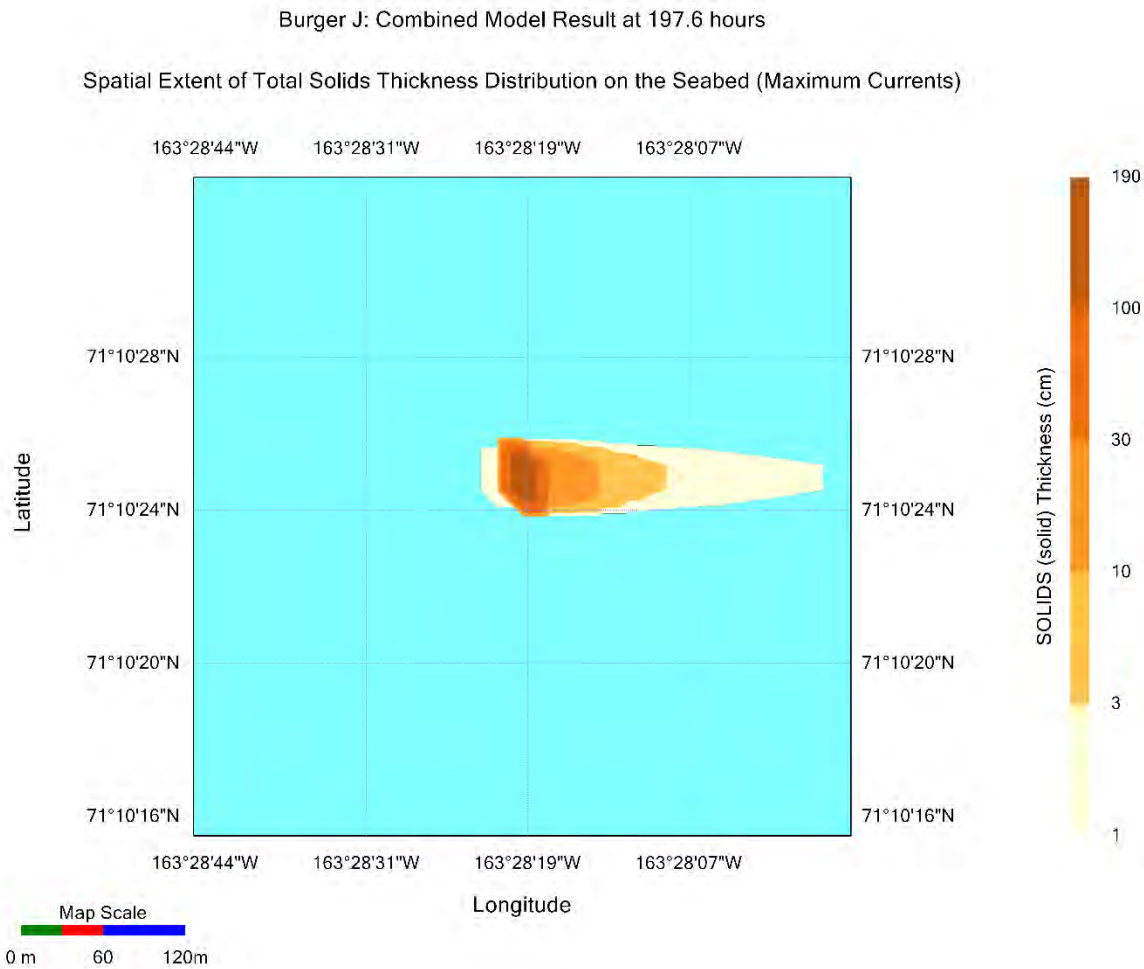

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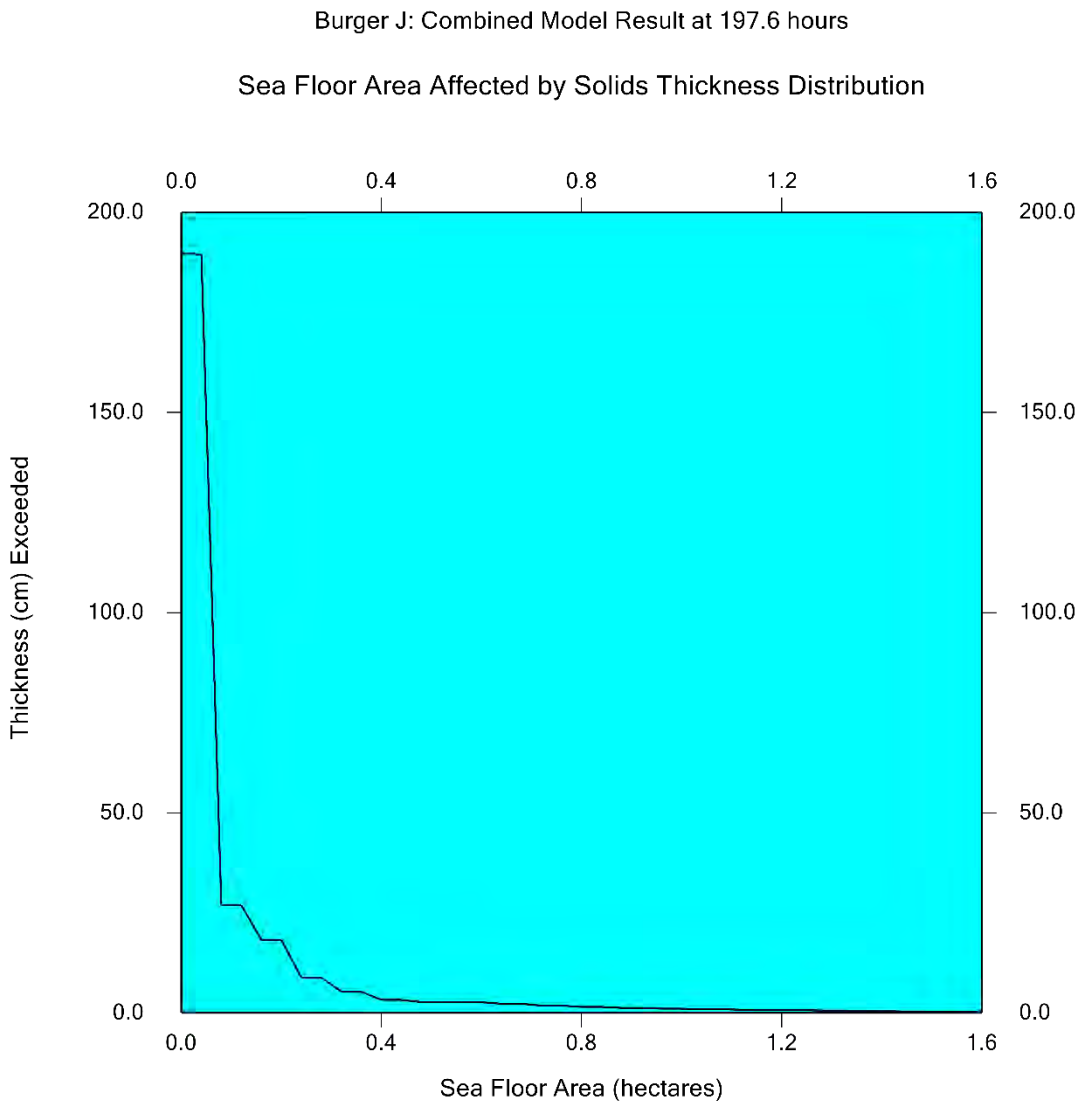
Figure 6-38: Sea floor area affected by solids thickness distribution at maximum currents, Burger J



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The OOC model predictions for the solids deposition on the seabed from the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds discharges from the six discrete drilling intervals and the rig's surface pits at the maximum current speeds were compiled using the GUIDO **7** software yielding the total solids deposition loading and thickness distribution on the seabed from the drilling operation at the Burger J well site and are presented in **Table 6-2**. The sea floor areas affected at the end of the drilling operation at the Burger J well site by the solids deposit thickness larger than **100**-, **10**-, and **1**-cm are: **0.102**, **0.275**, and **1.057** ha, respectively as presented in Table **6-2**.

The total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column are presented in **Table 6-3**. The TSS concentrations during the drilling operation are: **11.7** to **320.4** mg/l at **100** m; **3.8** to **97.7** mg/l at **300** m; and **0.6** to **31.3** mg/l at **1000** m distances from the discharge location.

Table 6-2: Solids Deposition on the Seabed at Maximum Currents

The OOC Model Predictions at Maximum Currents											
Well ID	Discharge Scenario	Drilling Intervals	Durations of Discharge	Depth of Water	Depth of Discharge	Effluent Discharge Rate	Pre-diluted Effluent Discharge Rate	Solids Deposition on the Seabed			
								Total Area (ha) Covered by Solids Thickness Larger than 100-, 10-, and 1-cm			Maximum Deposit Thickness
			Hours	m	m	bbls/hour	bbls/hour	100 cm	10 cm	1 cm	cm
Burger J	Sea Floor	1	66.00	43.90	42.07	82.86	14,000.00	0.094	0.182	0.433	147.73
		2	5.20	43.90	42.07	148.57	14,000.00	-	0.083	0.119	10.88
		3	34.40	43.90	42.07	86.64	14,000.00	-	0.112	0.247	36.76
	Sea Surface	4	23.30	43.90	6.71	89.87	100.70	-	-	0.341	3.23
		5	29.00	43.90	6.71	93.46	104.29	-	-	0.497	4.83
		6	37.20	43.90	6.71	18.49	29.32	-	-	0.103	1.39
		Rig's Surface Pits	2.50	43.90	6.71	970.80	970.80	-	-	-	0.63
	At the end of the Drilling Operations							0.102	0.275	1.057	189.73

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Table 6-3: Total Suspended Solids (TSS) Concentrations in the Water Column at Maximum Currents

The OOC Model Predictions at Maximum Currents												
Well ID	Discharge Scenario	Drilling Intervals	Durations of Discharge	Depth of Water	Depth of Discharge	Effluent Discharge Rate	Pre-diluted Effluent Discharge Rate	Total Suspended Solids (TSS) Concentrations (mg/l) in Water Column at 10-, 30-, 100-, 300-, and 1000-m from the Source				
			Hours	m	m	bbls/hour	bbls/hour	10 m	30 m	100 m	300 m	1000 m
Burger J	Sea Floor	1	66.00	43.90	42.07	82.86	14,000.00	2,440.3	894.4	320.4	89.6	14.0
		2	5.20	43.90	42.07	148.57	14,000.00	2,313.4	826.8	287.8	79.5	12.7
		3	34.40	43.90	42.07	86.64	14,000.00	1,095.9	430.9	151.2	42.1	6.6
	Sea Surface	4	23.30	43.90	6.71	89.87	100.70	784.4	264.2	51.7	10.4	1.8
		5	29.00	43.90	6.71	93.46	104.29	928.1	308.0	82.5	10.6	1.9
		6	37.20	43.90	6.71	18.49	29.32	142.3	53.8	11.7	3.8	0.6
		Rig's Surface Pits	2.50	43.90	6.71	970.80	970.80	1,807.4	341.9	181.0	97.7	31.3

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SECTION 7.0 SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations were performed both for the sea floor and sea surface discharge scenarios for two sets of currents speed: mean currents speed and maximum currents speed as listed in **Table 7-1**. This provides a sensitivity analysis of the model results: solids deposition presented in **Table 7-2** and total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations in the water column presented in **Table 7-3** to the model input parameter currents speed. It is evidenced from Table **7-2** that the maximum currents speed carries the discharged solids farther from the source and deposits over a larger sea floor area with a smaller peak value compared to those at the mean currents speed. The sea floor area covered by **1** cm or larger solids deposit at the mean and the maximum currents are: **0.560** and **1.057** ha, respectively. Whereas, the maximum deposit thickness at mean and maximum currents are: **228.9** and **189.7** cm, respectively. Therefore, the discharged solids at the maximum currents are deposited approximately over twice the sea floor areas compared to the mean currents but have a smaller peak thickness value.

The TSS concentrations at the maximum currents speed are generally significantly higher than those values at the mean currents speed due to the turbulent mixing at a higher flow velocity as presented in Table **7-3**. For example, the TSS concentrations at the maximum currents are approximately **2.4** times higher than those values at the mean currents for the sea floor discharge scenario at **100** m from the source. It is **2** to **4** times higher than those values at the mean currents for the sea surface discharge scenario at **100** m from the source except for the water based muds discharge from the rig's surface pits.

The OOC model predicted water based drill cuttings and drill fluids deposition thickness for each sediment class at the end of the drilling operation at the Burger J well site for both at the mean and maximum currents speeds are presented in **Tables 7-4** and **7-5**, respectively. The drill cutting deposition thickness for all the nine (**9**) sediment classes (Table **3-2**) are presented at: **10**, **30**, **90**, and **110** meters (m) from the source of the discharge. These tables also exhibit that the maximum currents speed carries the discharged solids farther from the source: smaller deposition thickness of drill cutting value at **10** m from the source and higher deposition thickness of drill cutting value at **30** m from the source compared to those at the mean currents speed.

Table 7-1: Mean and Maximum Currents Speed for the Burger Field, for July through October

Water Depth	Mean Current		Maximum Current	
	Speed	Direction (from True North)	Speed	Direction (from True North)
m	cm/s	°T	cm/s	°T
0.0	7.0	90	25.0	90
15.0	7.0	90	25.0	90
20.0	7.0	90	25.0	90
43.9	7.0	90	25.0	90

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Table 7-2: The OOC Model Predicted Solids Deposition at the Mean and the Maximum Currents Speed

The OOC Model Predictions at the Mean and the Maximum Currents Speed													
Well ID	Discharge Scenario	Drilling Intervals	Durations of Discharge	Effluent Discharge Rate	Solids Deposition on the Seabed at Mean Currents				Solids Deposition on the Seabed at Maximum Currents			
					Total Area (ha) Covered by Solids Thickness larger than 100-, 10-, and 1-cm			Maximum Deposit Thickness	Total Area (ha) Covered by Solids Thickness Larger than 100-, 10-, and 1-cm			Maximum Deposit Thickness
			Hours	bbls/hour	100 cm	10 cm	1 cm	cm	100 cm	10 cm	1 cm	cm
Burger J	Sea Floor	1	66.00	82.86	0.096	0.120	0.279	159.90	0.094	0.182	0.433	147.73
		2	5.20	148.57	-	0.085	0.119	11.35	-	0.083	0.119	10.88
		3	34.40	86.64	-	0.111	0.192	38.84	-	0.112	0.247	36.76
	Sea Surface	4	23.30	89.87	-	-	0.262	8.02	-	-	0.341	3.23
		5	29.00	93.46	-	0.094	0.278	12.59	-	-	0.497	4.83
		6	37.20	18.49	-	-	0.179	2.76	-	-	0.103	1.39
		Rig's Surface Pits	2.50	970.80	-	-	0.093	1.10	-	-	-	0.63
	At the end of the Drilling Operations				**0.104**	**0.248**	**0.560**	**228.90**	**0.102**	**0.275**	**1.057**	**189.73**

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Table 7-3: The OOC Model Predicted TSS Concentrations at the Mean and the Maximum Currents Speed

The OOC Model Predictions at the Mean and the Maximum Currents Speed														
Well ID	Discharge Scenario	Drilling Intervals	Durations of Discharge	Effluent Discharge Rate	Total Suspended Solids (TSS) Concentrations (mg/l) in Water Column at 10-, 30-, 100-, 300-, and 1000-m from the Source									
					Mean Currents					Maximum Currents				
			Hours	bbls/hour	10 m	30 m	100 m	300 m	1000 m	10 m	30 m	100 m	300 m	1000 m
Burger J	Sea Floor	1	66.00	82.86	1,420.1	516.0	131.8	27.5	4.5	2,440.3	894.4	320.4	89.6	14.0
		2	5.20	148.57	1,236.2	435.6	117.9	24.9	4.0	2,313.4	826.8	287.8	79.5	12.7
		3	34.40	86.64	641.5	226.0	61.4	12.8	2.1	1,095.9	430.9	151.2	42.1	6.6
	Sea Surface	4	23.30	89.87	511.6	136.0	15.7	3.5	0.6	784.4	264.2	51.7	10.4	1.8
		5	29.00	93.46	597.1	159.8	18.4	4.0	0.7	928.1	308.0	82.5	10.6	1.9
		6	37.20	18.49	168.5	36.5	6.1	1.3	0.2	142.3	53.8	11.7	3.8	0.6
		Rig's Surface Pits	2.50	970.80	576.8	449.8	238.2	109.7	0.0	1,807.4	341.9	181.0	97.7	31.3

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Table 7-4: Model Predicted Drill Cutting Deposition Thickness at Mean Currents Speed

The OOC Model Predicted Drill Cuttings Deposition Thickness of Each Sediment Class for the Prospect Well Burger J at the End of the Drilling Operation									
Well ID	Discharge Height Above Bottom Depth		Current Speed		Estimated Particle Diameter	Deposition Thickness of Drill Cutting (m)			
	Sea Floor	Sea Surface				At 10, 30, 90, and 110 meters			
	m	m	m/s		µm	10 m	30 m	90 m	110 m
Burger J	1.82	37.19	Mean Currents	0.07	1	0.094	0.003	0.000	0.000
					4	0.078	0.005	0.003	0.003
					15	0.127	0.022	0.005	0.004
					50	0.072	0.006	0.000	0.000
					125	0.037	0.005	0.002	0.002
					250	0.397	0.037	0.003	0.000
					500	0.370	0.060	0.000	0.000
					1000	0.392	0.004	0.000	0.000
					3600	0.648	0.000	0.000	0.000

Table 7-5 Model Predicted Drill Cutting Deposition Thickness at Maximum Currents Speed

The OOC Model Predicted Drill Cuttings Deposition Thickness of Each Sediment Class for the Prospect Well Burger J at the End of the Drilling Operation									
Well ID	Discharge Height Above Bottom Depth		Current Speed		Estimated Particle Diameter	Deposition Thickness of Drill Cutting (m)			
	Sea Floor	Sea Surface				At 10, 30, 90, and 110 meters			
	m	m	m/s		µm	10 m	30 m	90 m	110 m
Burger J	1.82	37.19	Maximum Currents	0.25	1	0.053	0.027	0.001	0.000
					4	0.043	0.023	0.002	0.002
					15	0.077	0.040	0.004	0.002
					50	0.062	0.004	0.003	0.002
					125	0.025	0.012	0.001	0.000
					250	0.354	0.046	0.001	0.001
					500	0.349	0.008	0.035	0.022
					1000	0.326	0.008	0.000	0.000
					3600	0.540	0.089	0.000	0.000

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SECTION 8.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The primary goal of this environmental numeric modeling was to simulate the dispersion and deposition of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds discharges from the drilling operation by the drill ship Noble Discoverer at the prospect well site Burger J located offshore Chukchi Sea using the Offshore Operators Committee Mud and Produced Water Discharge Model (OOC Model). The prospect well Burger J is located in block **6912** area of Posey. The depth of water is **43.90** meters (m). The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations were performed for the six discrete drilling intervals divided into two discharge scenarios: sea floor (**013**) and sea surface (**001**). The sea floor discharges occur from the drilling intervals **1, 2,** and **3** and the sea surface discharges occur from the drilling intervals **4, 5,** and **6**. The sea floor discharges occur at **1.83** m (or **6** feet) above the sea floor and the sea surface discharges occur at **6.71** m (or **22** feet) below the sea surface. Moreover, approximately **2,427**bbls of the water based muds will be discharged at the end of the drilling of the well from the rig's surface pits at a rate of **970.80** bbls/hour for **2.5** hours. These constitute discharges described in Permit no.: **AKG-28-8100** as discharge **013** (Muds, Cuttings, and Cements at the Seafloor) and discharge **001** (Water-Based Drilling Fluids and Drill Cuttings).

The cements, water based dill cuttings, and drill fluids mass discharge rate (effluent) for drilling intervals **1, 2,** and **3** for the sea floor (**013**) discharges are: **82.86, 148.57,** and **86.64** bbls/hour, respectively. These sediments will be pumped away via use of a pump at the sea floor. A flexible hose suction pipe will intake a large volume of sea water to move the cements, water based drill cuttings, and drill fluids from the seafloor and will discharge from a **12.0** inch internal diameter discharge pipe at **14,000** bbls/hour. This yields into **169.0, 94.2,** and **161.6** pre-dilution factors before discharging into the ambient for the drilling intervals **1, 2,** and **3**, respectively. The discharge pipe of the seafloor pump is located at **1.83** m (or **6**.**0** feet) above the seafloor and oriented horizontally aligned with the direction of the current, which is to the east.

The water based dill cuttings and drill fluids mass discharge rate (effluent) for drilling intervals **4, 5,** and **6** for the sea surface (**001**) discharges are: **89.87, 93.46,** and **18.49** bbls/hour, respectively. Sea water at a rate of **10.83** bbls/hour will be added to the drill cuttings and drill fluids before discharging into the ambient during the drilling of the bottom hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **4, 5,** and **6** for the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenario. This yields into **1.1, 1.1,** and **1.6** pre-dilution factors before discharging into the ambient for the drilling intervals **4, 5,** and **6**, respectively. The pre-diluted water based dill cuttings and drill fluids discharge rate (effluent) for drilling intervals **4, 5,** and **6** for the sea surface (**001**) discharges are: **100.70, 104.29, and 29.32** bbls/hour, respectively.

The outer diameter of the pipe for the sea surface discharge is **15.0** inches. It runs through the main deck of the drill rig Noble Discoverer and comes out on the bottom of the ship. The drilling draft varies from **6.71** m to **7.68** m approximately. Therefore, the surface discharges occur at a depth between **6.71** m and **7.68** m from the sea surface. The internal pipe diameter of **14.25** inches was used for modeling the sea surface discharge scenario based on a **0.75** inches of total pipe wall thickness. The discharge pipe is oriented vertically downward with respect to the sea surface and discharges at approximately **6.71** m below the sea surface for modeling the sea surface discharge scenario.

The water based drill fluids for the top hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **1**, **2**, and **3**, for the sea floor (**013**) discharge scenario is composed of primarily sea water, which includes **30** pounds (lbs.) of bentonite, **0**.**5** lbs. of xanthan gum, and **0**.**03** lbs. of Gelex bentonite extender in each barrel of sea water.

The water based drill fluids for the bottom hole section i.e., the drilling intervals **4**, **5**, and **6**, for the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenario is composed of primarily sodium chloride (NaCl) brine system. Sodium chloride brine systems are single-salt solutions of sodium chloride and water. Saturated sodium chloride brine has a density of **1,198** kg/m^3 (or **10** lb/gal**)** and used as a base drill fluids for the bottom hole section. Barite at the rate of **1**.**413** lb/gal is added to the base drill fluids to increase the weight of the drill fluids to **1,318.13** kg/m^3 (or **11** lb/gal**)** for drilling the interval **04** of the bottom hole section. Moreover, barite at the rate of **2**.**83** lb/gal is added to the base

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drill fluids to increase the weight of the drill fluids to **1,438** kg/m^3 (or **12** lb/gal) for drilling the intervals **05** and **06** of the bottom hole section.

The dispersion and deposition numeric simulations both for the sea floor (**013**) and the sea surface (**001**) discharge scenarios were performed for two sets of currents speed: mean currents and maximum currents. This provides a sensitivity analysis of the numeric model results to the model input parameter: currents speed. The current speed of **7** cm/sec was used as the mean value and **25** cm/sec was used as the maximum value in the OOC model.

The solids deposition on the seabed from the effluents discharged during the six discrete drilling intervals and the rig's surface pits were compiled using the Graphical User Interface Discharge Offshore (GUIDO, version **7**.**3**) software for the OOC model yielding the total solids deposition loading and total thickness distribution on the seabed from the drilling operation by the drill ship Noble Discoverer at the Burger J well site.

The OOC model predicted total amount of solids loading on the sea floor as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds at the mean currents are: (i) **100** kg/m^2 at **50** m, (ii) **10** kg/m^2 at **150** m, (iii) **1** kg/m^2 at **425** m, (iv) **0.1** kg/m^2 at **1,100** m, and (v) **0.01** kg/m^2 at **2,750** m distances approximately from the source towards the direction of the current.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **1000-, 100-, 10-, 1-, 0.1-, 0.01-,** and **0.001**-kg/m^2 at the mean currents are: **0.109, 0.276, 0.657, 4.404, 19.025, 146.246,** and **745.901** ha, respectively.

The OOC model predicted maximum deposit thickness at the mean currents is **228.9** cm, which occurs at **10** m to the east and **30** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **110** m to the east from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **120** m x **45** m rectangle area (or **0**.**560** ha) at the mean currents. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **200**-, **100**-, **10**-, and **1**-cm are: **0**.**085**, **0**.**104**, **0**.**248**, and **0**.**560** ha, respectively.

The OOC model predicted total amount of solids loading on the sea floor as a result of the discharge of the cements, water based drill cuttings, drill fluids, and water based muds at the maximum currents are: (i) **100** kg/m^2 at **90** m, (ii) **10** kg/m^2 at **300** m, (iii) **1** kg/m^2 at **900** m, and (iv) **0**.**1** kg/m^2 at **2**,**200** m distances approximately from the source towards the direction of the current.

The sea floor areas affected by solids deposit loading of more than **1000**-, **100**-, **10**-, **1**-, **0**.**1**-, **0**.**01**-, and **0**.**001**-kg/m^2 at the maximum currents are: **0**.**109**, **0**.**337**, **1**.**231**, **3**.**707**, **18**.**212**, **135**.**284**, and **216**.**375** ha, respectively.

The OOC model predicted maximum deposit thickness at the maximum currents is **189.7** cm, which occurs at **10** m to the east and **30** m to the north from the discharge location. It decreases to a value of **1** cm at a distance approximately **190** m to the east from the discharge location.

The sea floor area affected by solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is approximately a **210** m x **50** m rectangle area (or **1**.**057** ha) at the maximum currents. The sea floor areas affected by deposit thickness larger than **100**-, **10**-, and **1**-cm are: **0**.**102**, **0**.**275**, and **1**.**057** ha, respectively.

The impacts on the ambient from the drilling operations at the Burger J well in terms of solids deposit thickness of **1** cm or larger is limited to an area: **0.560** ha at the mean currents and **1.057** ha at the maximum currents. The impacts at **100** m from the discharge source are: solids deposit thickness in the range of **1** to **3** cm at the mean currents and **3** to **10** cm at the maximum currents on the seabed. The impacts on the ambient water in terms of the TSS concentrations at **100** m from the discharge source are: **6**.**1** to **238.2** mg/l at the mean currents and **11.7** to **320.4** mg/l at the maximum currents. The impacts at **300** m from the source are: solids deposit thickness of less than **1** cm on the seabed both for the mean and maximum currents. The impacts on the ambient water in terms of the TSS concentrations at **300** m from the discharge source are: **1**.**3** to **109.7** mg/l at the mean currents and **3.8** to

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97.7 mg/l at the maximum currents. The overall impacts on the ambient from the drilling operations at the Burger J well by the drill ship Noble Discoverer can be classified as low.

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