

## Australian Hydrographic Office - Wollongong Media Release

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### **HODSU Deploys to Tasmania**

*by ABHSO Scott McCabe*

The Hydrographic Office Deployable Survey Unit (HODSU) deployed to Tasmania during May-June 2003 to re-survey areas that have not been surveyed since 1924 by HMS Pioneer. The popularity of tourism in the area and the passage of large cruise ships passing through Schouten Passage and the popular whale-watching area at Freycinet National Park, made this a priority task for the Navy's surveyors. A great number of landmarks and features around Tasmania were named by a French Naval Officer (Nicholas Baudin) in the 1790s.

The three areas surveyed by HODSU were Coles Bay, Schouten Passage and Blackman Bay on the East Coast of Tasmania. A total of 16 days was spent surveying parts of Coles Bay, Schouten Passage, and Blackman Bay. Good weather helped the HODSU complete all of the work that was tasked. A new chart AUS169 is planned for production by the Australian Hydrographic Office showing these new survey areas.



*Photo shows: LSHSO Jamie Looten, POMT Kevin Brown, & LCDR Mick Rigby on the ASV Wyatt Earp*

HODSU unit consists of OIC (LCDR Mick Rigby), Engineer (POMT Kevin Brown), and Hydrographic sailors (LSHSO Jamie Looten and ABHSO Scott McCabe). HODSU has an Antarctic Survey Vessel which is called the 'Wyatt Earp' currently based down in Hobart. This is the survey vessel HODSU normally takes down to Antarctica during the summer for approximately 2 months deployment.

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