

# Acoustical Imaging for Underwater Inspection

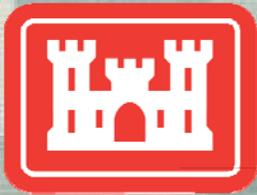
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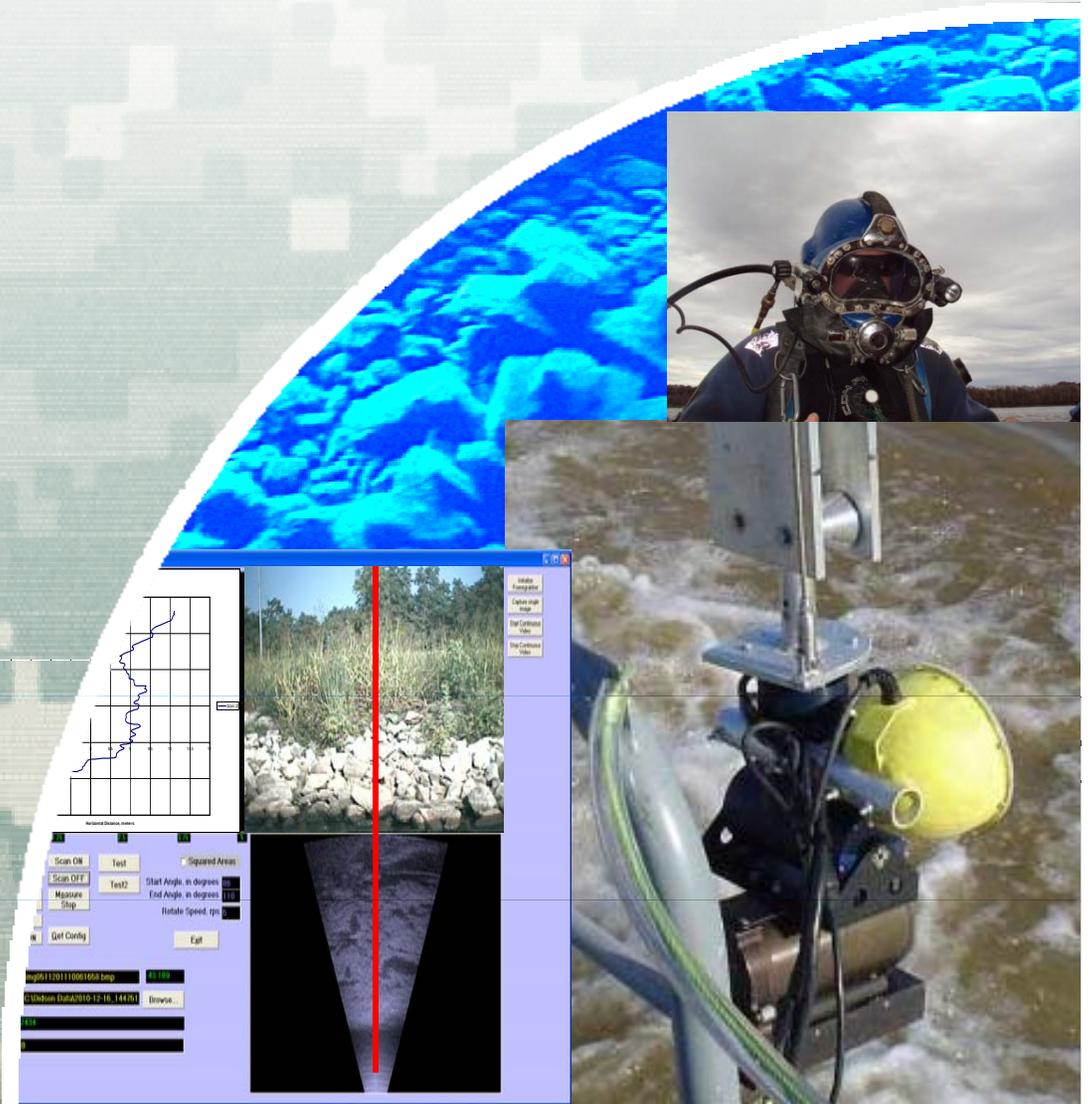
Electronics Engineer

ERDC Information Technology  
Laboratory

Oct 28, 2014



US Army Corps of Engineers  
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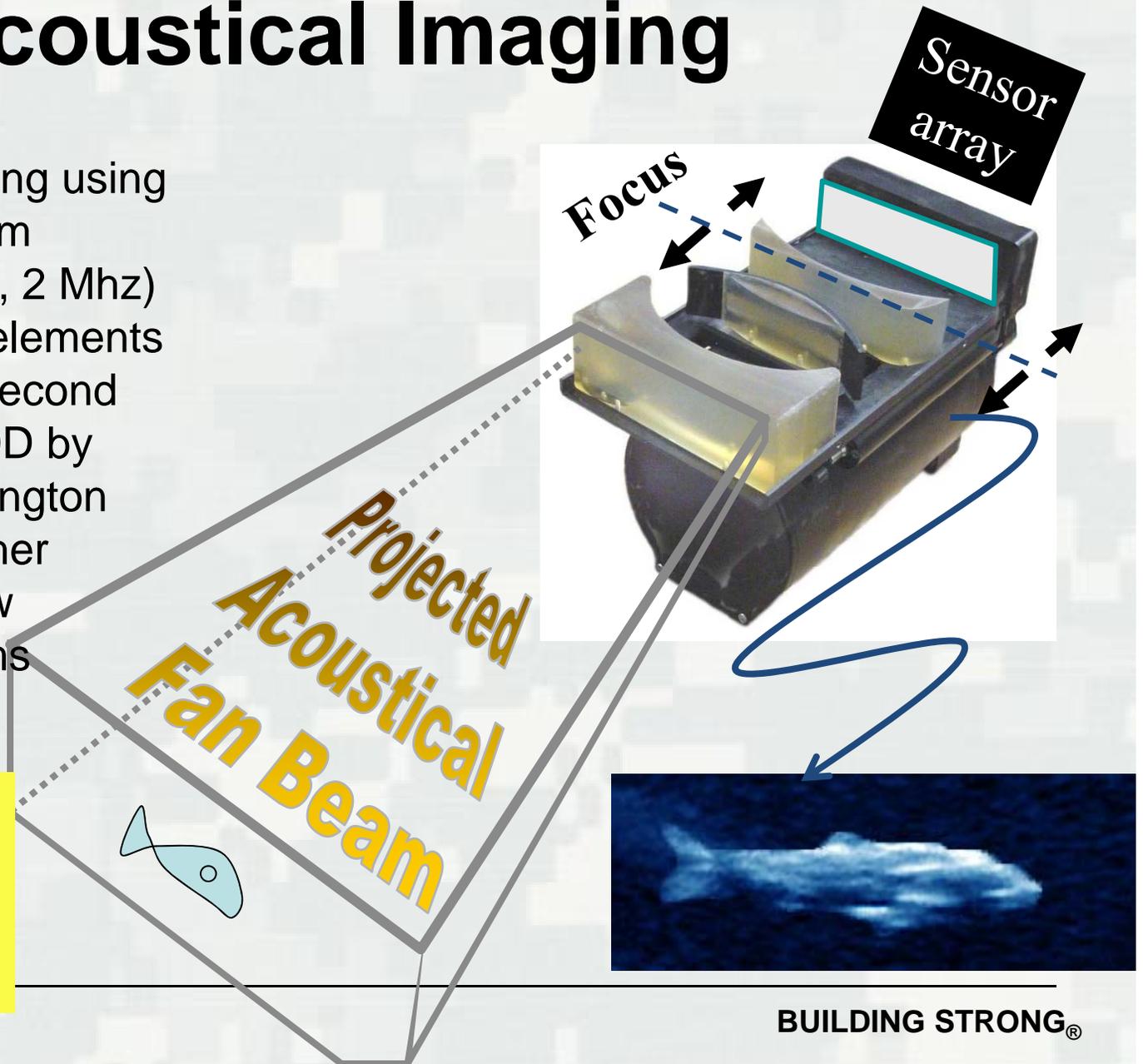


# High Resolution Acoustical Imaging

## Specifications:

- Mechanical focusing using complex lens system
- Dual frequency (1, 2 Mhz)
- 1-30M range, 96 elements
- Up to 12 frames/second
- Developed for DOD by University of Washington
- Larger Arrays, higher frequency units now Available 128 beams @ 3Mhz

The acoustic camera improves capabilities by offering superior resolution portability and speed compared to sidescan and beam forming approaches



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# High Resolution Acoustical Imaging Vs. Conventional Dive Inspection

## Diver only inspection

- Near zero visibility in turbid water
- Subjective verbal descriptions
- Potentially hazardous for diver
- Poor location referencing
- Limited to divers' perception

## Acoustical Imaging

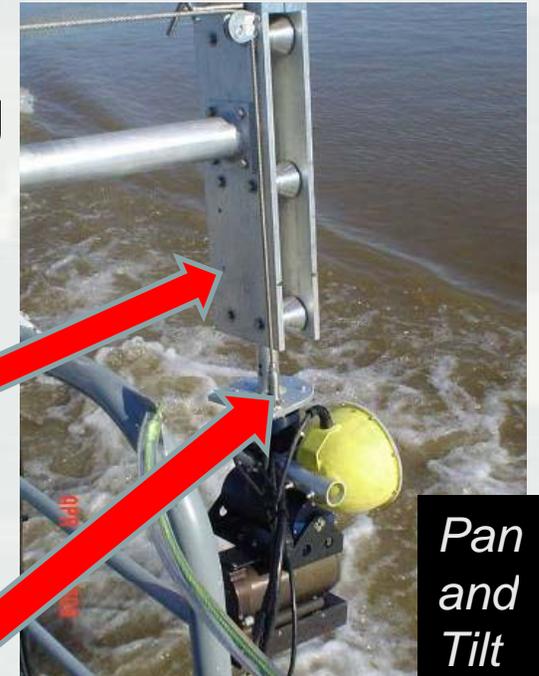
- Image unaffected by turbid water
- “Optical” digital record (2d -> 3d)
- Boat, ROV or diver deployed
- Data Tagging w/ Geo-referenced Position
- Real-time, noninvasive, and remote (3-90')



# Acoustical Imaging System

## Products developed to enhance Operation Of Acoustical Camera Imaging System

- Deployment System (Pole mounted for GPS location)
- High Speed Mosaicking of Images
- DDF Parser for file processing
- Integrated Sensor Platform Provide Geospatial
- Edge Detect Software (Used to build contour map)
- Technical Report ERDC/ITL-13-3
- Technical Note CHETN-IX-23



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# High Resolution Acoustical Imaging Deployment (Continued)

## Integration of Video Monitor for Diver Use

- 1) Increases Diver's Involvement of Inspection Process.
- 2) Improves Diver Safety



Latest Version of Diver Display

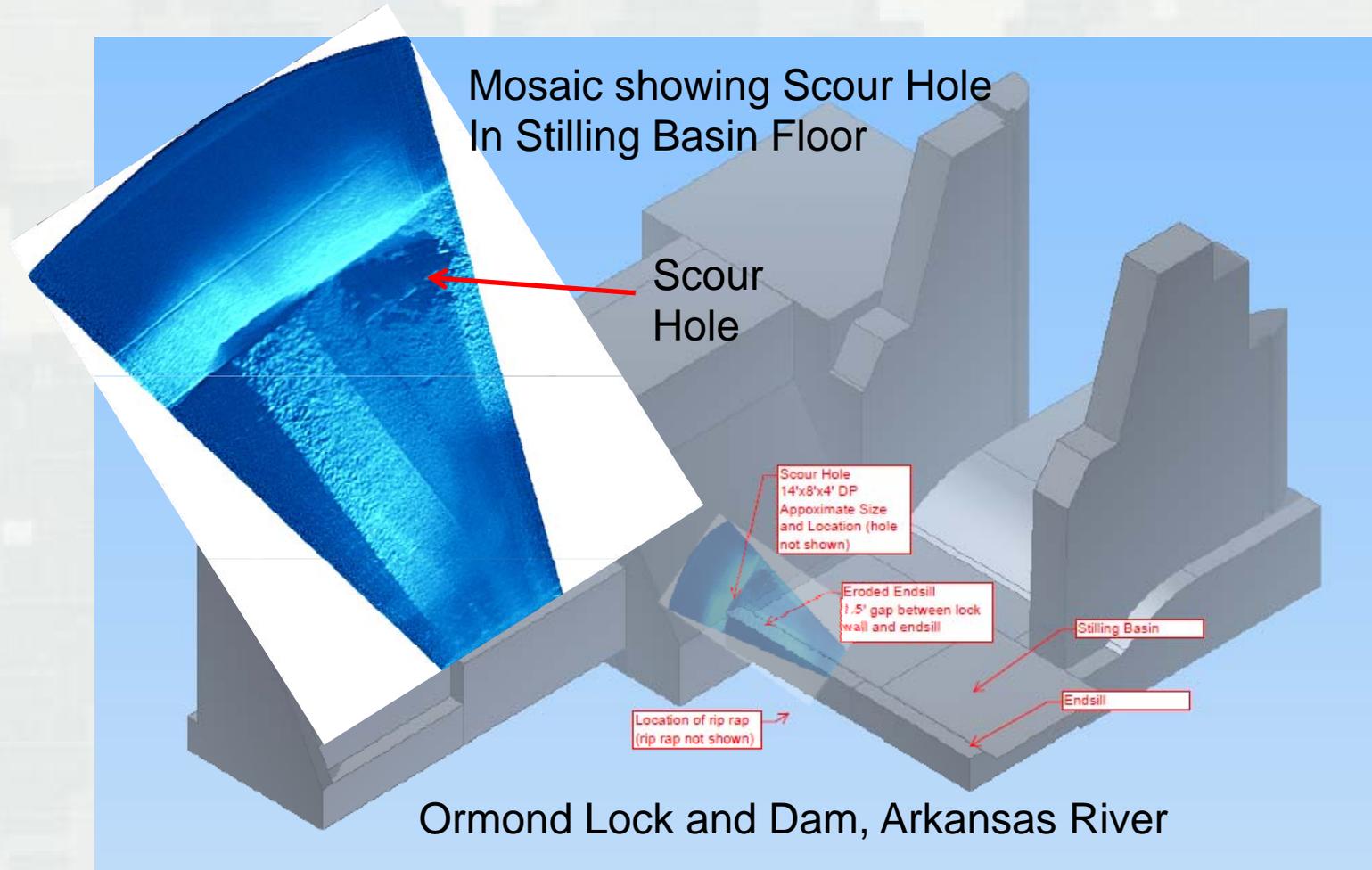


Early Versions of Diver Display



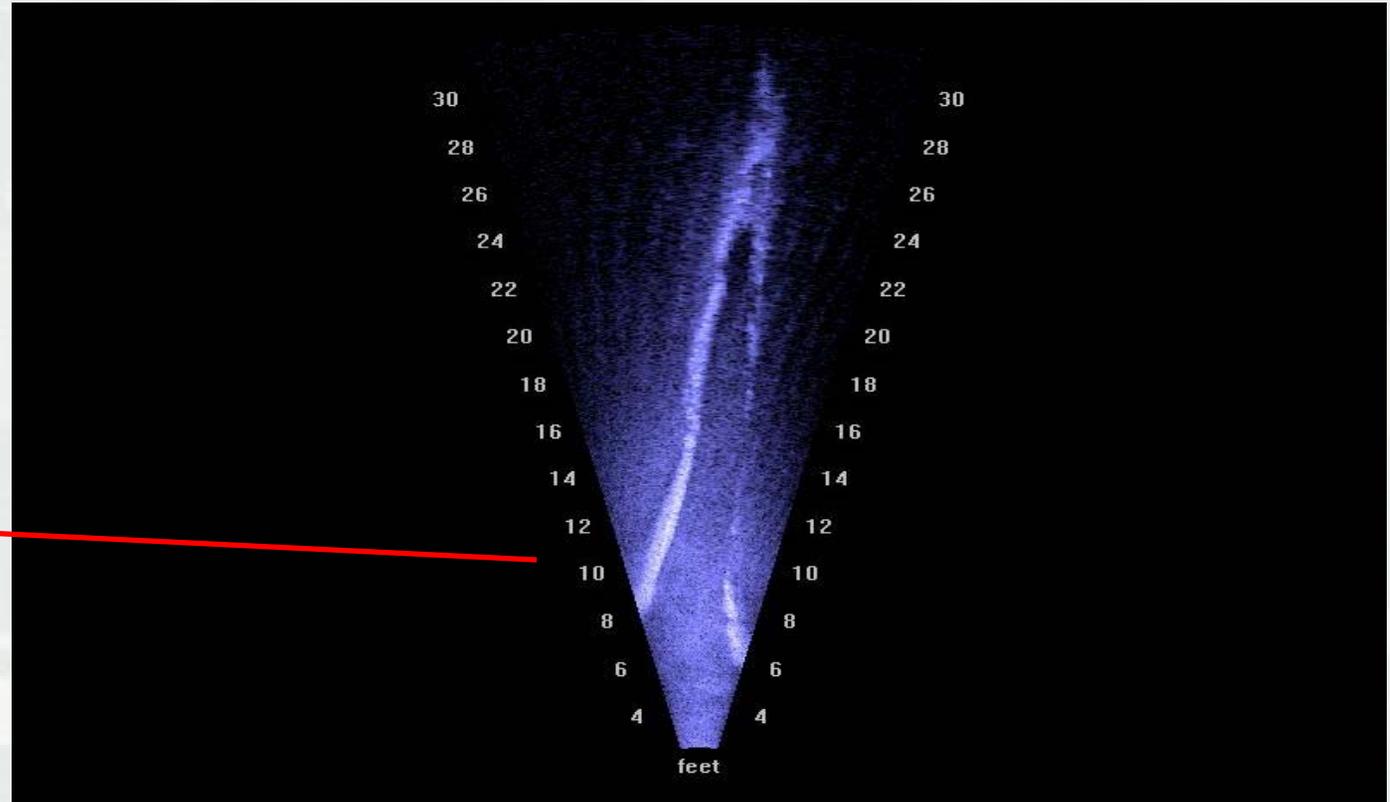
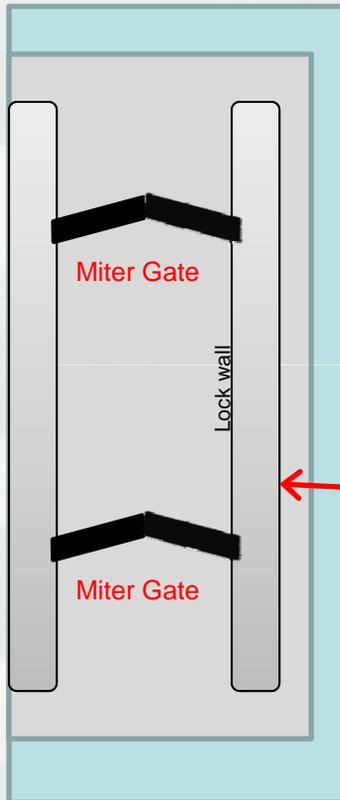
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# Acoustical Inspection of Scouring On Stilling Basin End Sill



# Acoustical Imaging of Lock and Dam #25

Nov 5 2012



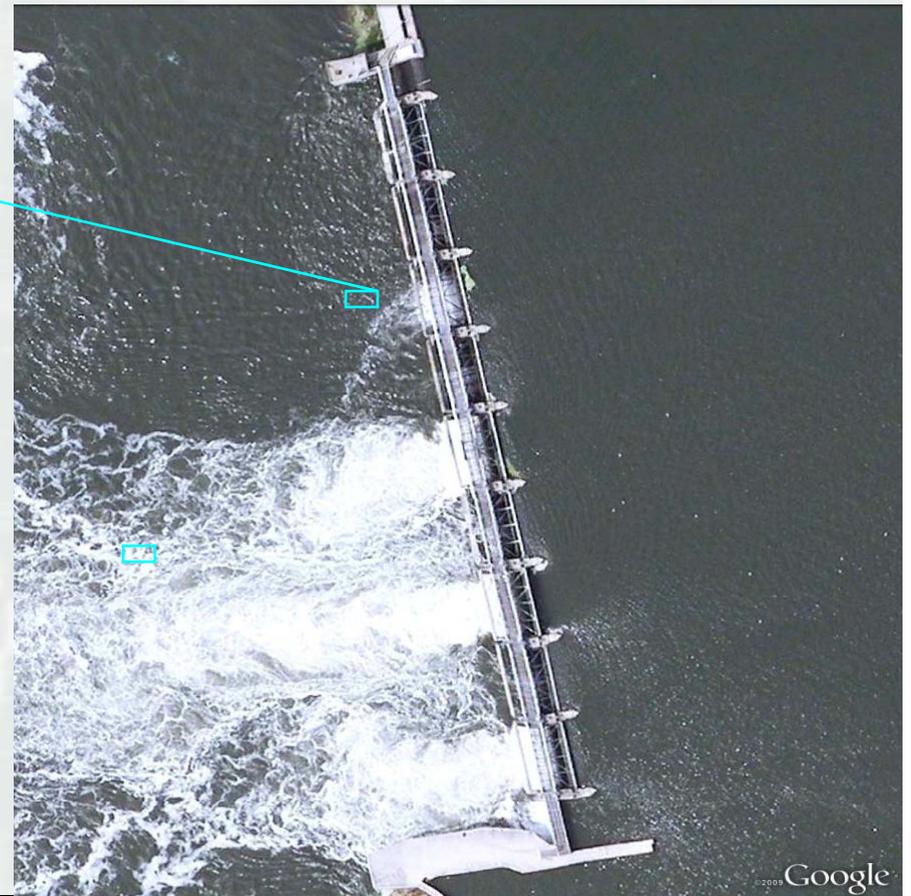
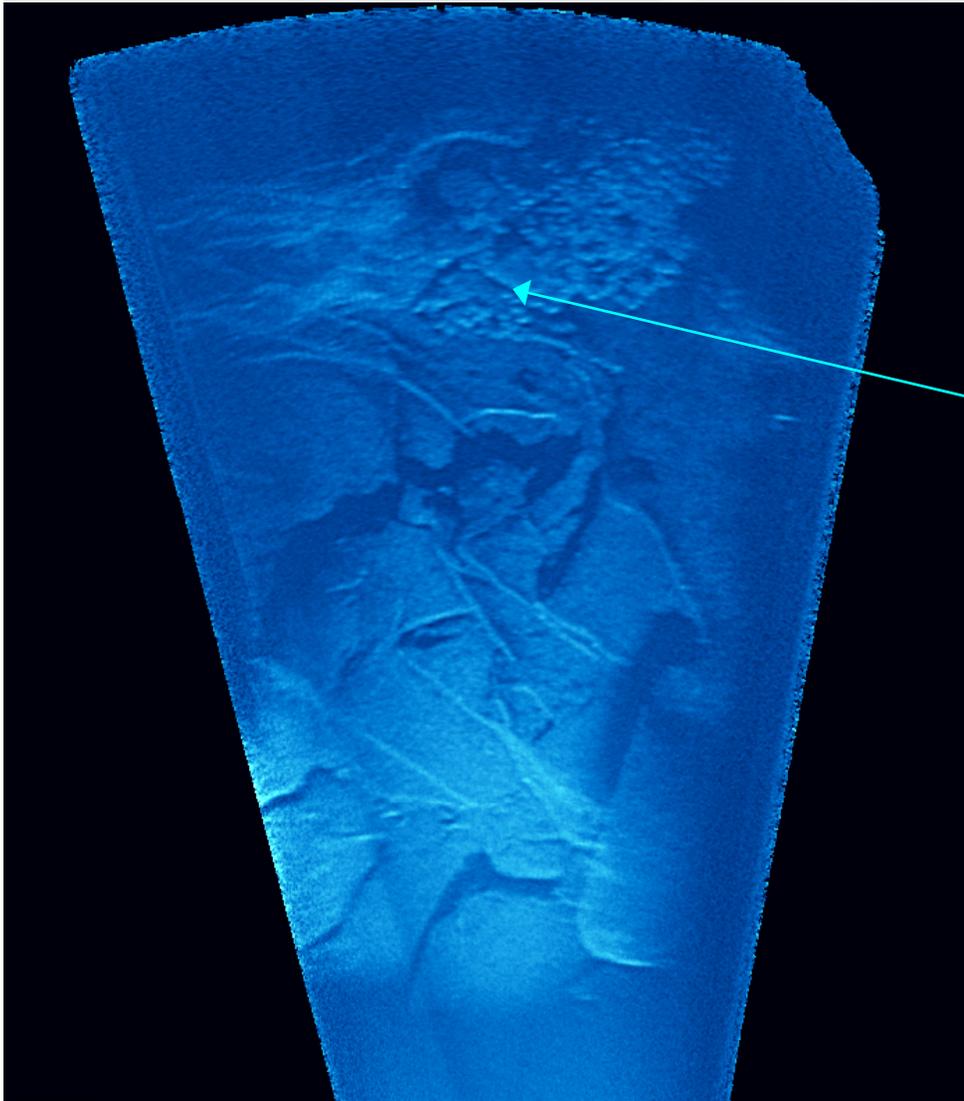
Scour Depth approximately 22 feet from edge of existing cracked concrete edge. Scour Depth estimated at 6 feet but could not be viewed directly as the diver was restricted in distance he could back from the target area. Arrow shows approximate location of this scoured area.



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# Acoustical Imaging of Dresden Dam Chicago District

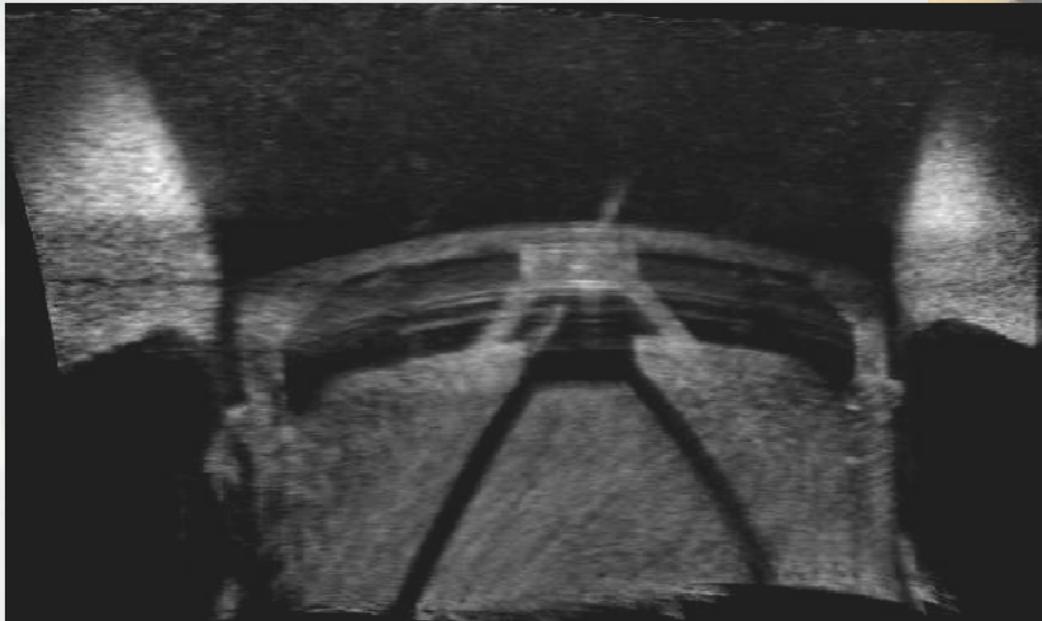
**Scour inspection  
below the dam.**



# Imaging Structural Elements

Acoustic Camera was used at Delaware Dam, Huntington District to look for obstructions in the gate slots.

- No slot problems were found.



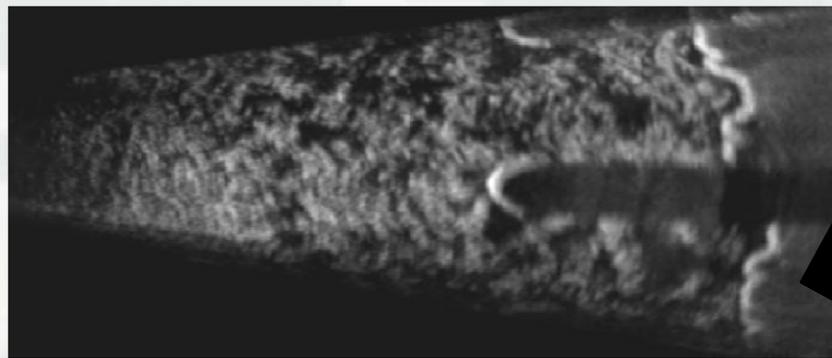
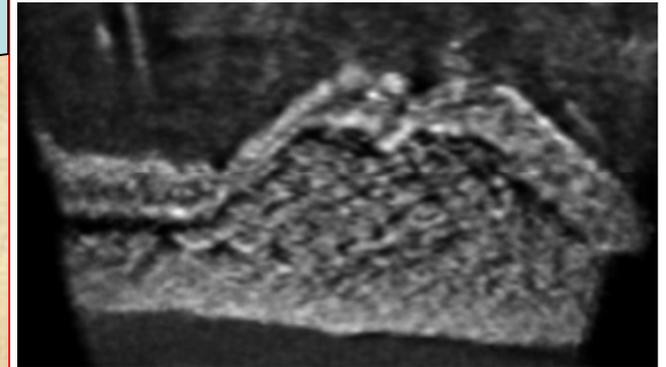
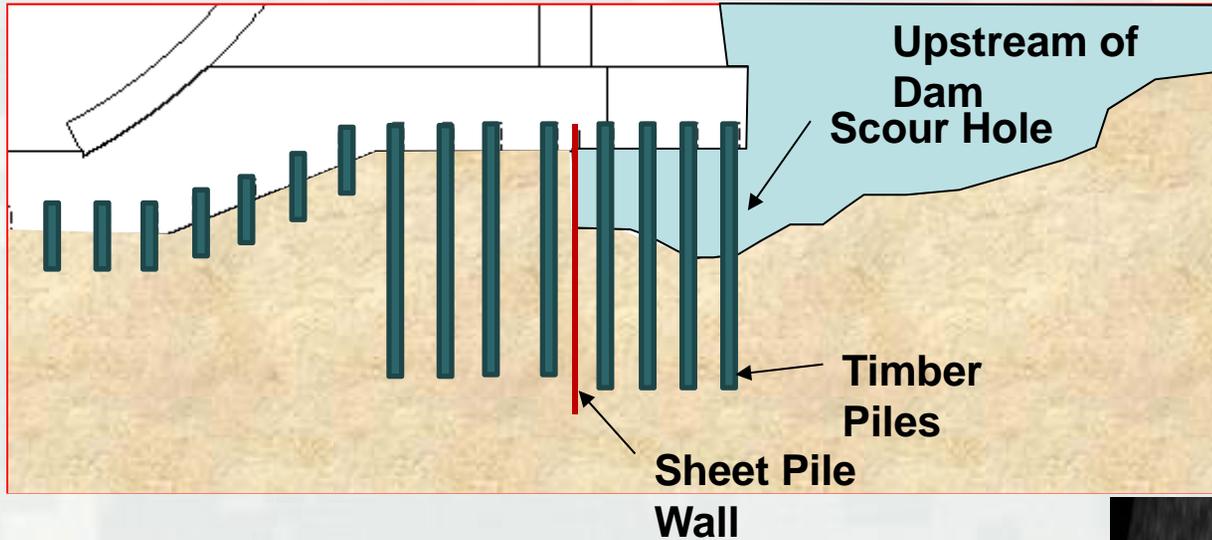
Maintenance gate being lowered

Note water opacity

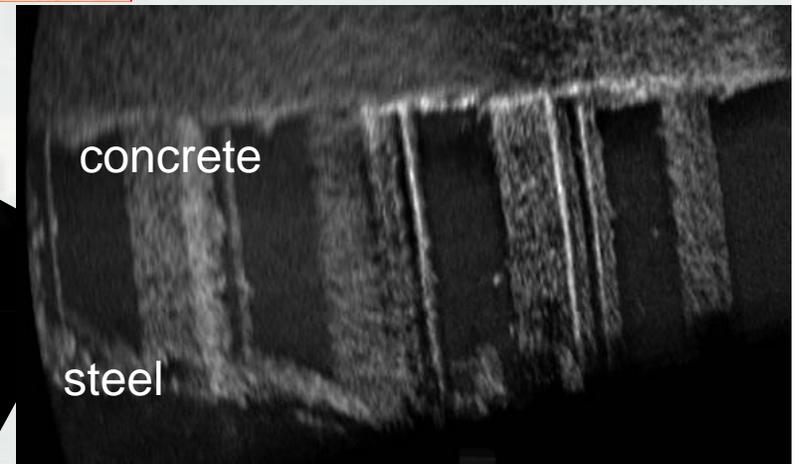
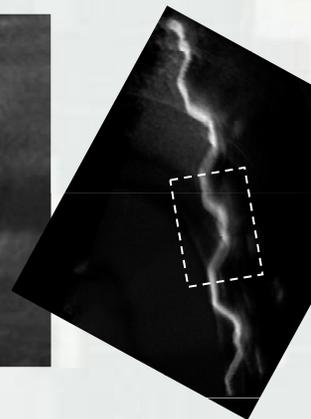


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# Inspection of Scour-exposed Components Mel Price Lock and Dam



Scour-exposed Timbers

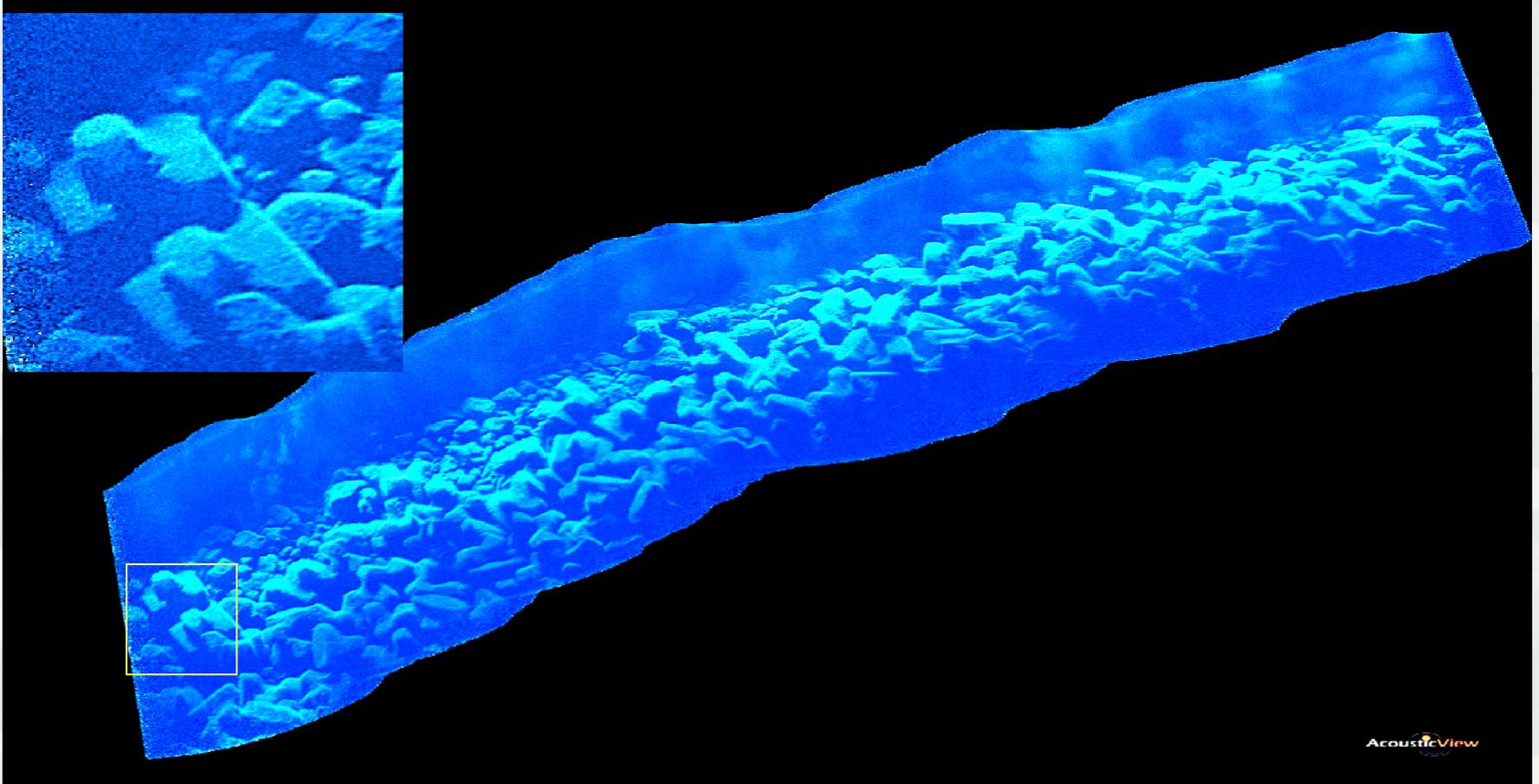


Scour-exposed  
Sheet Piles



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# New Image Mosaicking Capability in Near Real-time

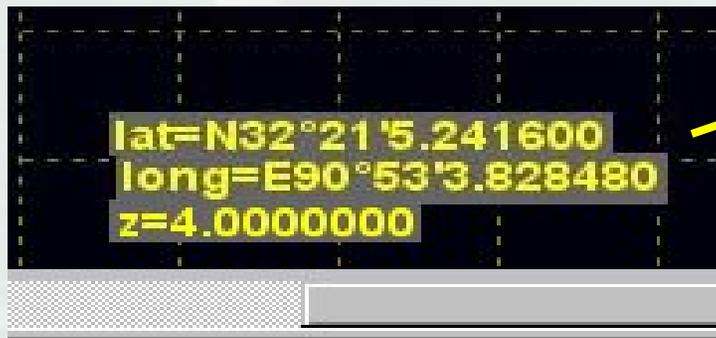


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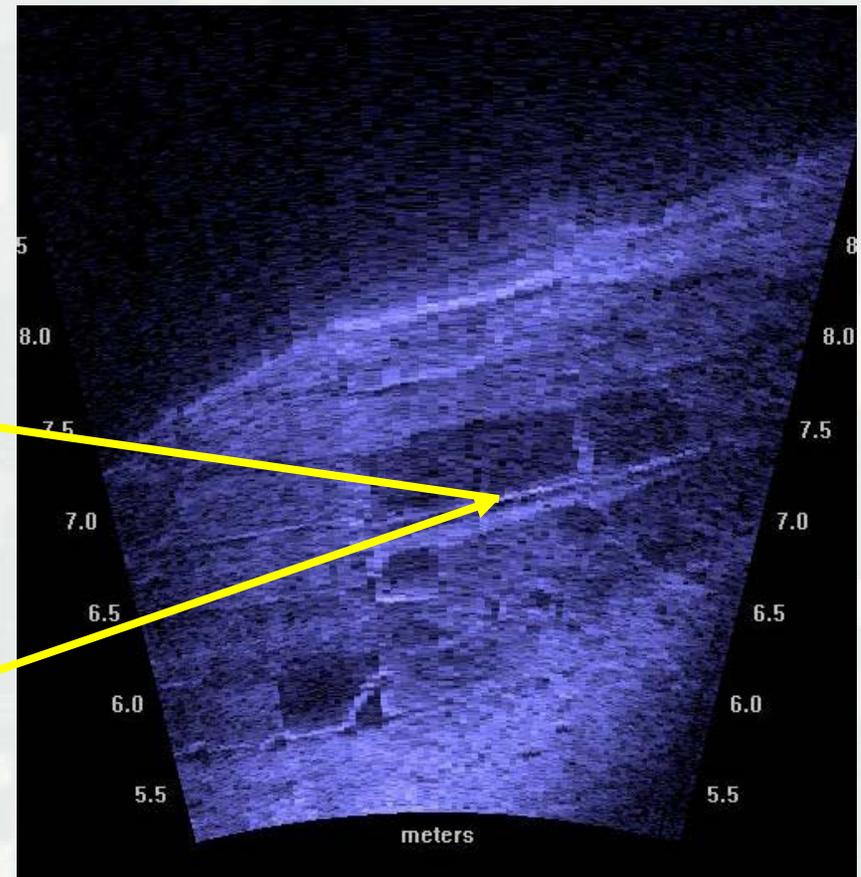
# GIS Referencing of Each Data Pixel



Adding Acoustical Camera Images to CorpsMap 3D



GIS Positional Data



Matting Along Mississippi River Bank



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# Acoustical Imaging

## Summary:

Underwater Acoustical Imaging using High Resolution acoustical cameras provides near photographic quality images, reduces the risk of diver injury and provides a permanent record of inspections. This system provides a tool for capturing high resolution 2d+ dimensional images of structures which can be exported via the DXF format to commercial software packages such as Right Hemisphere, AutoCAD, MicroStation, etc..



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