

Figure 1. Perspective view to north of head of Hueneme Canyon. Below perspective view, bathymetric profile A-A' shows that canyon begins directly offshore, in about 30 m deep 0.5 km offshore. Bottoms within halfway location of canyon suggest that, in past, canyon transported sediment from shallower nearshore region to deep Santa Monica Basin to south (Warwick and Farnsworth, 2009b). More recently, however, dredging activities within and near Channel Islands Harbor pipe sediment across head of canyon and deposit it to southeast. Therefore, Hueneme Canyon probably is no longer primary sediment contributor to Santa Monica Basin. Vertical exaggeration of perspective view, Zc distance across bottom, about 30 m.

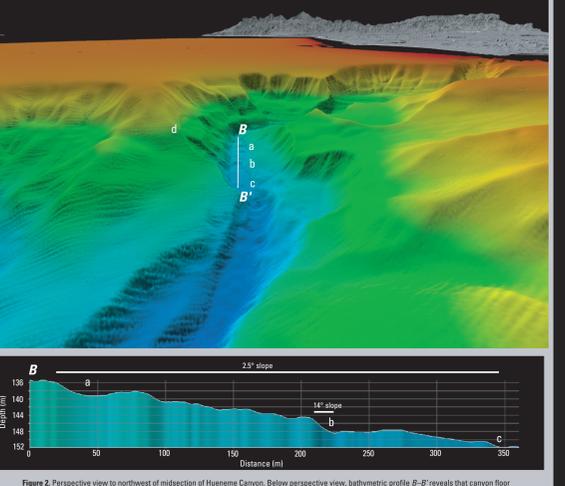


Figure 2. Perspective view to northwest of midsection of Hueneme Canyon. Below perspective view, bathymetric profile B-B' reveals that canyon floor generally dips about 2.5° overall in this area; however, slope is broken by series of steps that are characterized by locally steeper slopes (about 14°) and three flat, down-canyon plunge pools (a, b, c). Landslide headscarp (d) is evidence of slope failure in canyon wall; lack of obvious landslide deposit at base of scarp indicates transport of such deposits down canyon axis. Vertical exaggeration of perspective view, Zc distance across bottom, about 70 m.

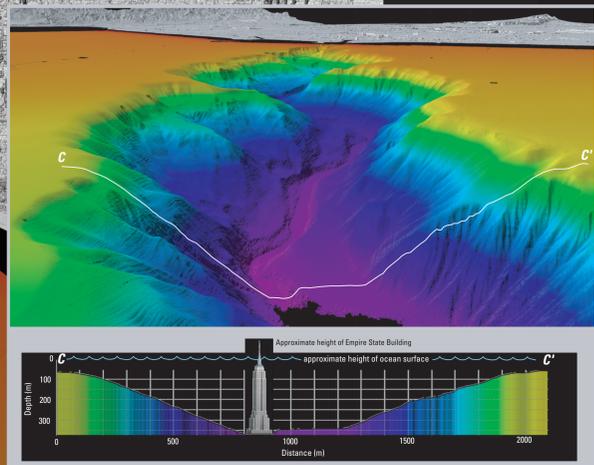


Figure 3. Perspective view to northeast of acoustic backscatter image of area east of Hueneme Canyon: lighter tones indicate stronger backscatter intensity, possibly from rock or sand; whereas darker tones indicate weaker backscatter intensity, possibly from finer sediments. Two linear features of higher backscatter (a, b), roughly perpendicular to shoreline, are outfall pipes. This yellow line shows path of camera sled, towed 1 to 2 m over seafloor, that captured video and photographs. Yellow rectangle shows location of video mosaic (Fig. 4) generated from video captured within region of slightly higher backscatter. Vertical exaggeration of perspective view, Zc distance across bottom, about 1.5 km.

Figure 4. Video mosaic of area east of Hueneme Canyon, which reveals that seafloor is composed of thin layer of sand over bedrock and patches of gravel (see Figure 3 for location). Algae are attached to harder surfaces. Video mosaic created using software developed by Dr. Yuri Rubanov, Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping, University of New Hampshire, through joint U.S. Geological Survey-University of New Hampshire cooperative agreement.

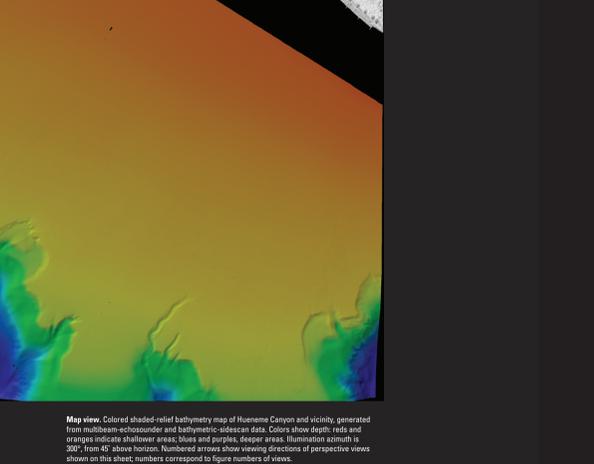


Figure 5. Perspective view to northeast over deeper section of Hueneme Canyon. Below perspective view, bathymetric profile C-C' crossing canyon shows that, in this area, canyon is about 2,000 m (1.2 miles) wide and about 370 m (1,214 ft) deep, almost as deep as Empire State Building in New York City is tall. Top of Empire State Building is 381 m (1,250 ft) high, lower on top of building is additional 92 m (303 ft) high. West wall of canyon (on left) has slightly steeper average slope (22°) than east wall (15°). Vertical exaggeration of perspective view, Zc distance across bottom, about 2.2 km.

Map view. Colored shaded-relief bathymetry map of Hueneme Canyon and vicinity, generated from multibeam-echosounder and bathymetric-sidescan data. Colors show depth: reds and oranges indicate shallower areas; blues and purples, deeper areas. Illumination azimuth is 300°. View 45° above horizon. Numbered arrows show viewing directions of perspective views shown on this sheet; numbers correspond to figure numbers of views.

DISCUSSION

Mapping California's State Waters has produced a vast amount of acoustic and visual data, including bathymetry, acoustic backscatter, seismic-reflection profiles, and seafloor video and photography. This data are used by researchers to develop maps, reports, and other tools to assist in the coastal and marine spatial-planning capability of coastal-zone managers and other stakeholders. Seafloor-character, habitat, and geologic maps are used for fisheries management, for designation of Marine Protected Areas, for monitoring of environmental change such as sea-level-rise impacts, for prediction of sediment and contaminant budgets and transport, and for assessment of earthquake and tsunami hazards. To achieve these goals, it is helpful to integrate the different datasets and then view the results in three-dimensional representations such as those displayed on this data integration and visualization sheet for Hueneme Canyon and vicinity.

The map view in the center of the sheet is similar to the colored shaded-relief bathymetry map of Hueneme Canyon and vicinity (sheet 1 of this report). Numbered arrows show viewing directions of the perspective views on this sheet (Figs. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6); the numbers indicate the figure number of the perspective view.

The perspective views and bathymetric profiles in figures 1, 2, and 5 show the colored shaded-relief bathymetry of Hueneme Canyon, as viewed from the south, southeast, and southwest, respectively. These views show a few examples of the complexity of the canyon terrain and try to match the scale of the terrain with more commonly known structures.

Draping the acoustic-backscatter imagery (see sheet 3 of this report) over the bathymetry data (Fig. 3) highlights the relation between the backscatter intensity and the seafloor morphology, as well as any anthropogenic influences on the seafloor.

Video-mosaic images created from seafloor digital video (Fig. 4) display the geologic (rock, sand) and biologic complexity of the seafloor. Whereas photographic captures high-quality snapshots of a small area of the seafloor, video mosaics can capture larger areas and, thus, can show transitional zones between different seafloor environments.

Block diagrams (Fig. 6), which combine the bathymetry with seismic-reflection-profile data, help reveal the stratigraphic and structural relations between the surface and subsurface.

REFERENCES CITED

Slater, R.W., Trizenberg, P.J., Hart, P.E., Druat, A.E., Normark, W.R., and Conrad, J.E., 2008, High-resolution chirp and mini-sparker seismic-reflection data from the southern California continental shelf - Gavota to Mugu Canyon U.S. Geological Survey Open File Report 2008-1246, accessed April 5, 2011, at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2008/1246/>.

Warwick, J.A., and Farnsworth, K.L., 2009b, Dispersal of river sediment in the southern California Bight, in Lee, H.J., and Normark, W.R., eds., Earth science in the urban ocean—The Southern California Continental Borderland, Geological Society of America Special Paper 454, p. 53-67.

EXPLANATION

Depth (in meters) and illumination (bright areas are illuminated, facing false sun; dark areas are in shadow, facing away from false sun)

0 Shallow
100
200
300
400 Deep

Direction of illumination from false sun—Position of false sun is at 300° azimuth, 45° above horizon (arrows included in explanation for illustration purposes only, not shown on map)

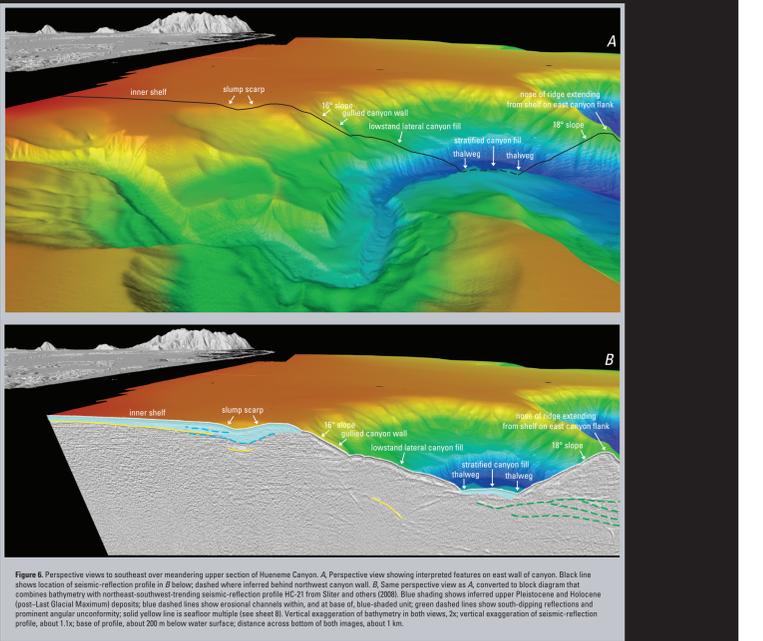


Figure 6. Perspective views to southeast over meandering upper section of Hueneme Canyon. A, Perspective view showing interpreted features on east wall of canyon. Black line shows location of seismic-reflection profile in B below; dashed where inferred behind northwest canyon wall. B, Same perspective view as A, converted to block diagram that combines bathymetry with northeast-southwest trending seismic-reflection profile HC-21 from Silver and others (2008). Blue shading shows inferred upper Pleistocene and Holocene (post-Last Glacial Maximum) deposits; blue dashed lines show erosional channels within, and at base of, blue-shaded unit; green dashed lines show south-dipping reflections and prominent angular unconformity; solid yellow line is seafloor multiple trace sheet B. Vertical exaggeration of bathymetry in both views, Zc; vertical exaggeration of seismic-reflection profile, about 1.5x; base of profile, about 200 m below water surface; distance across bottom of both images, about 1 km.

Onshore elevation data from NOAA Coastal Services Center. Data collected by EarthData International in 2002-2003 and from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers data collected by Lynn Parsons in 2005. Offshore shaded-relief bathymetry from map on sheet 2 of this report. Offshore bathymetric sidescan data from 114. NOT INTENDED FOR NAVIGATIONAL USE.



Data Integration and Visualization, Hueneme Canyon and Vicinity, California
By
Peter Darnell
2012



Bathymetric profiles in figures 1, 2, 5, and 6 by Peter Darnell, 2011. Acoustic backscatter imagery in figure 3 from map on sheet 3 of this report. Video mosaic image in figure 4 by Peter Darnell, 2010, using software developed by Dr. Yuri Rubanov, Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping, University of New Hampshire, through joint U.S. Geological Survey-University of New Hampshire cooperative agreement. Seismic-reflection profile in figure 6 from sheet 8 of this report. GIS analysis and digital cartography by Madeline E. Gorden and Stephen L. Phillips. Edited by Terry A. Lindquist. Manuscript approved for publication July 25, 2012.

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