

Fugro Completes Deepwater AUV Surveys for Shell in US Gulf of Mexico



Fugro has completed several high-resolution geophysical surveys in the US Gulf of Mexico for the Shell International Exploration and Production Company. The project required data collection over multiple deepwater lease blocks in the greater Perdido and Mars development areas to support clearance of potential environmental, engineering, geological and archaeological hazards ahead of planned drilling activities.

As the preferred contractor for this project, Fugro deployed a Hugin autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) from its purpose-built survey vessel, the *Fugro Brasilis*. The Hugin AUV is depth-rated to 3000m and equipped with a multibeam echosounder, side-scan sonar and sub-bottom profiling sensors. As such, Fugro was able to acquire critical seabed information over the project area safely and efficiently, despite the challenging

water depths. Fugro also used a mix of onboard and in-house processing resources to meet an accelerated interpretation and reporting schedule.

Innovative Technology

“Shell’s 2019 AUV survey campaign onboard the *Fugro Brasilis* is another example of collaboration between Fugro and Shell to bring innovative technology and techniques to site investigations in ways that reduce HSSE exposure and survey duration, while simultaneously providing superior data quality and ancillary datasets,” said Shell Project Manager, Deanne Hargrave.

As a specialist in deepwater geophysical surveys, Fugro has acquired more than 172,000km of AUV data in the Americas region since the early 2000s. The current work for Shell began in July and finished in early October. The completed project totals over 8,500km of survey data.

<https://www.hydro-international.com/content/news/fugro-completes-deepwater-auv-surveys-for-shell-in-us-gulf-of-mexico>
