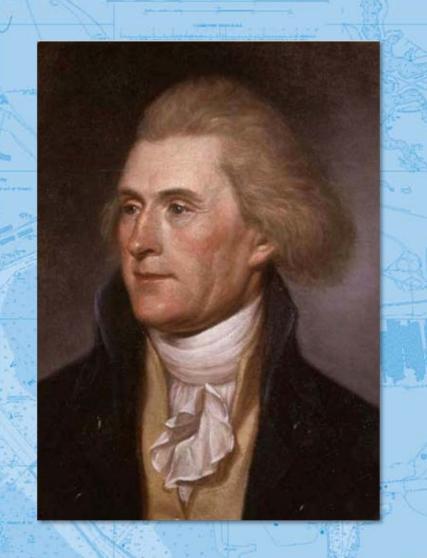


In 1807, Congress approved President Jefferson's plan for a survey of the coast.

"to cause a survey to be taken of coasts of the United States, in which shall be designated the islands and shoals and places of anchorage..."





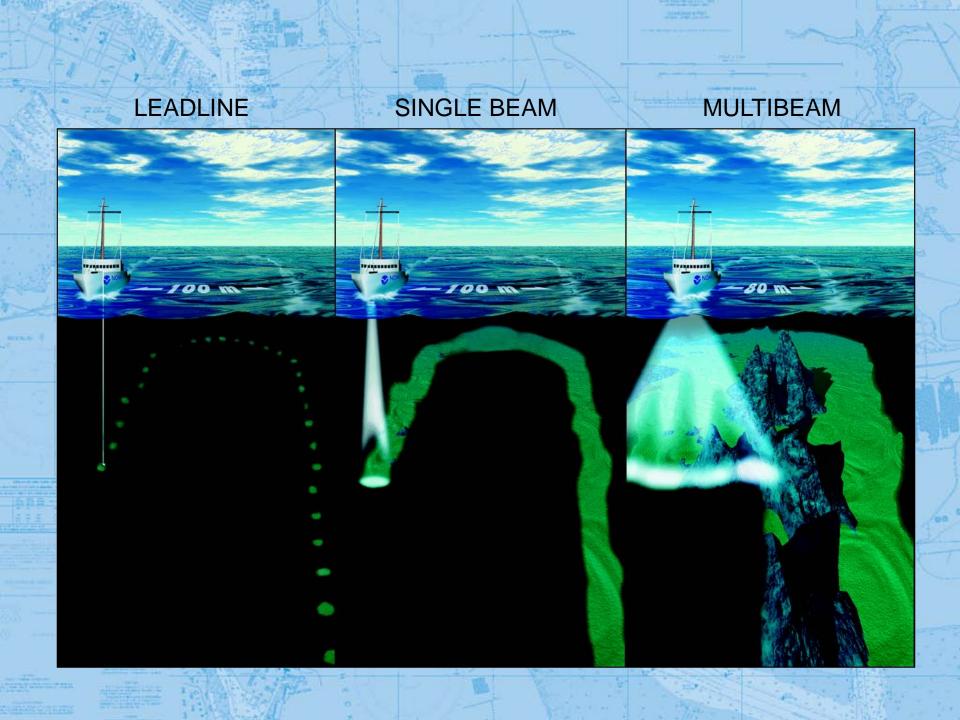


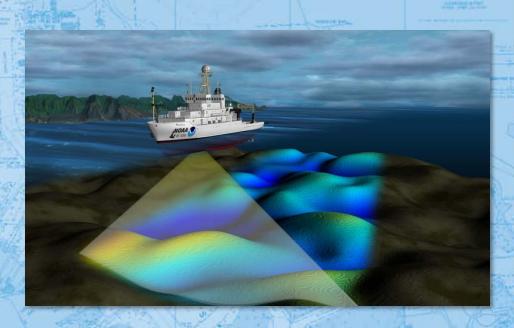
Egyptian tomb painting from 35 centuries ago shows a sounding pole to test depths.



1450BC







- NOAA mandate for surveys & charts covers all U.S. territorial waters and the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone
 - a combined area of 3.4 million square nautical miles
 - extends 200 nautical miles offshore from the nation's coastline
- NOAA maintains a suite of approximately 1,000 nautical charts