

Mean High Water Administrative Process

Notification to Department (Section 177.37, F.S.)

If the survey is to be recorded or submitted to any court or agency of the state or local government, then a copy of the survey shall be submitted to the department within 90 days after completion of the work.

Standards for establishment of local tidal datum (Section 177.38, F.S.)

Use of the mean high water elevation or methodology indicated on the labins.org site constitutes procedural approval.

If a short-term tide study is required to determine the mean high water elevation, the methodology will be indicated on LABINS.org. In some areas there may be information which is not available on LABINS.org; Surveyors may wish to contact the Bureau of Surveying & Mapping (the Bureau) to determine if additional information is available.

The Bureau acts as a repository of Mean High Water surveys (Section 177.29(2)(h)) and will not check your map. The Department only provides approval of methodologies for establishing the Mean High Water elevations. Approval of methodology does not constitute approval of the location of the sovereign boundaries.

The Bureau requests copies of the field observations and computations so that the data can be verified and used for densification of the mean high water interactive map, at their discretion.

The local tidal datum must be preserved by referring it to tidal benchmarks.

Upon request, the Bureau will assist Professional Surveyors and Mappers in tidal surveying and mapping by providing any technical information we have available.

The Bureau requests a maximum drawing size of 24"x36" for filing in the repository.