

## **Alaska Region Research Vessel (ARRV) Status Report**

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The ARRV is entering into the last part of the preliminary design phase. After a prolonged delay, the open water model test results have been received which include calm water resistance and sea-keeping characteristics. Generally speaking, the open water model test results show that the vessel will provide an excellent ride in seas up through category 5.

An acoustic survey of the R/V REVELLE was made in November thanks to the help of marine operations department of Scripps Institution of Oceanography. This acoustic survey was needed in order to establish the baseline for the ARRV underwater noise characteristics.

The ARRV design committee and consultants will hold a final meeting for the preliminary design in Seattle on 4-5 February 2003 at Glostien Associates. The primary tasks will be to discuss the radiated noise test results and open water model test and make final decisions on the hull design, propulsion and other key elements in the preliminary design. Additional items to be discussed will be: vessel design balance, laboratory and deck arrangements, science equipment outfit, final cost estimates, projected design and construction schedule, shoreside facilities improvements in Seward, and community outreach.

The final report for the preliminary design is expected by March 2003. The report will be available very shortly thereafter on the new ARRV web site or by CD.