

University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System

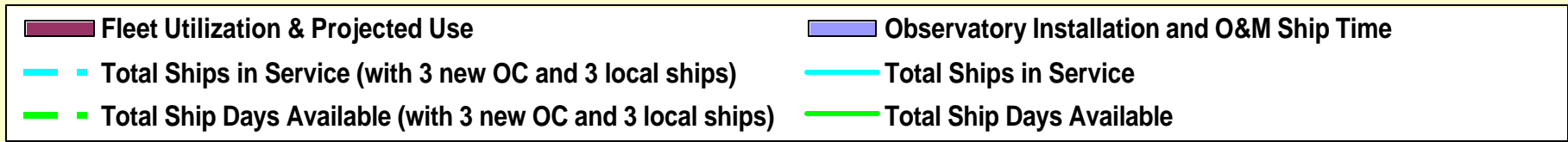
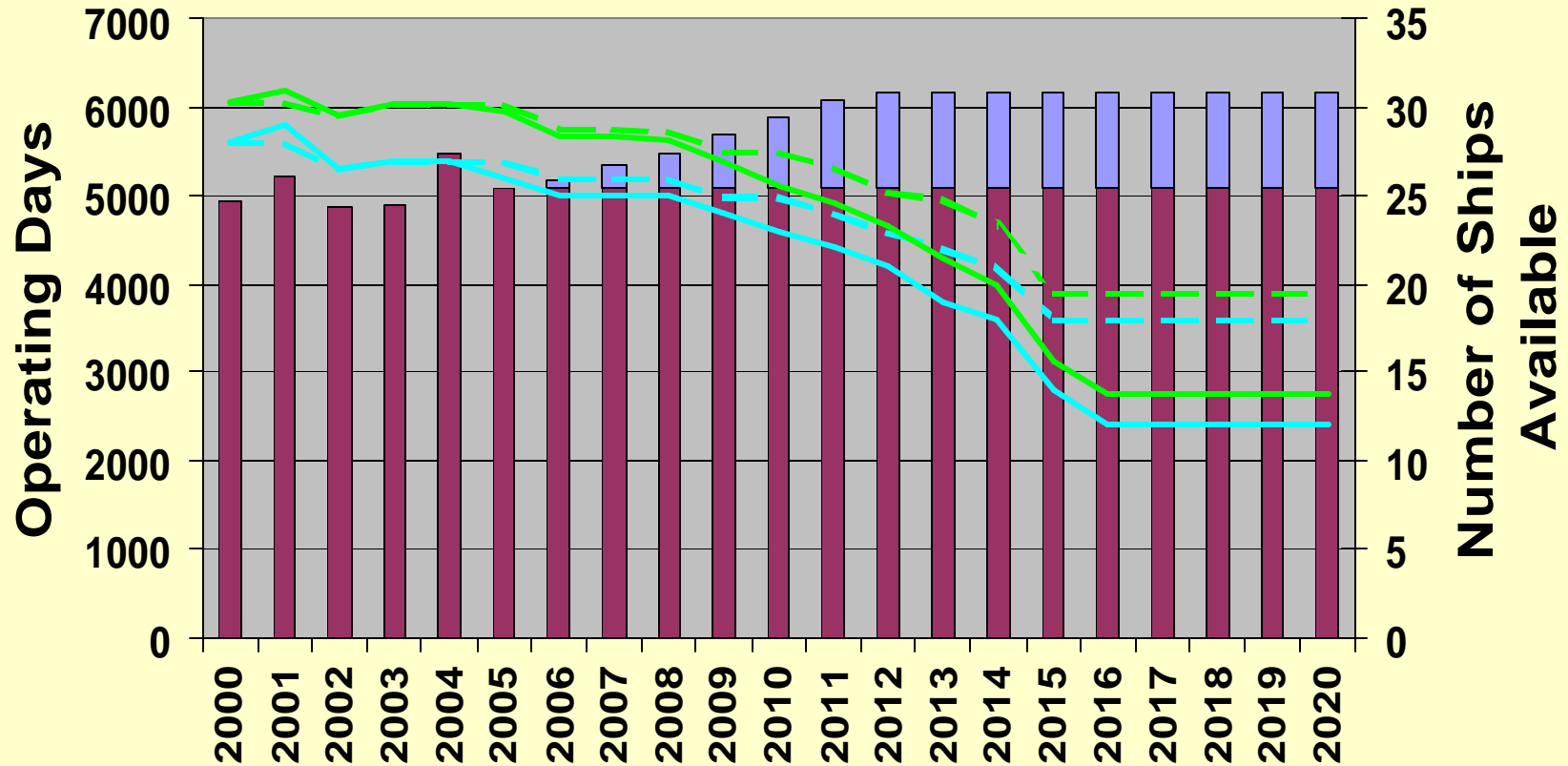
Fleet Improvement Committee

Report to RVTEC



November 3, 2004

UNOLS Fleet Utilization and Projections (2000 - 2020)



Fleet Renewal Activities

- **Regional Class Acquisition**
- **Ocean Class Acquisition**
- **Global Class SMR Development**
- **Ocean Observatory Facility Needs**
- **Input to FOFC Update of Fleet Plan**
- **Update UNOLS Fleet Improvement Plan**

Regional Class

- Phase III SMR Prioritization – completed July 1, 2004
- NSF will fund, NAVSEA will build
- Stay engaged in acquisition process (ongoing)
 - Provide feedback to NSF (IPT representation, Operational capabilities and Performance Rqmts)
 - Ensure community input

Ocean Class

- Provided feedback in Phase II study (complete)
- ONR will fund, NAVSEA will build
- Stay engaged in acquisition process:
 - Visit X-Craft (mid November)
 - Nichols Brothers Boat Builders, Whidbey Isl.
www.nicholsboats.com
- Provide a recommendation on hull form (end 2004)
- Navy Timeline:
 - Operator Selection – 2nd Quarter, FY05
 - IPT and Shipyard award by end of FY05

General Purpose Global Vessel SMR

Mid Life Refit considerations



2006 - *THOMPSON*

- **Steering Committee** formed to update Global Vessel General Purpose SMRs
- **Incorporate Heavy Lift** considerations to address ocean observatory and long coring needs.



2011 - *REVELLE*



2012 - *ATLANTIS*

Ocean Observatory Facility Needs

- Incorporated UNOLS working group recommendations into UNOLS Fleet utilization projections (April 2004)
- Initiated discussions with ORION office:
 - ORION/ESC is starting to develop an Implementation Plan, target completion: late summer 2005
 - FIC will keep abreast of Observatory facility needs and timelines

Vessel Retirement Dates and SLEP Estimates

- Eleven UNOLS ships >40 m have retirement dates prior to 2020 and are potential candidates for a SLEP
- Most of the ships (>40m) can have their lifetimes extended 5 and possibly 10 years for an estimated cost of \$1.025M-\$5M per ship for a 5-year life extension.
- Extension of retirement dates for most vessels <40m is not recommended.

Revised Retirement Dates

Preliminary Findings

- The SLEP estimates focus on maintaining the ship in an operational condition without enhancing the scientific capabilities of the platform.
 - Existing Intermediate Class and Regional Class vessels fall short of meeting the Ocean Class and Regional Class SMRs, respectively.
- Maintaining the current UNOLS fleet vessels beyond their designed service life will significantly impede the advance of ocean science relative to that possible with new ships that meet the SMR specifications.

Other Activities

- Update of UNOLS Fleet Improvement Plan
- Federal Oceanographic Fleet Renewal Plan vs. UNOLS Fleet Renewal/Improvement Plan
- EWING Replacement - proceeding
- ARR V - final drawings done, awaiting \$\$
- CHR V - delivery scheduled Oct. 2005
- ADA impacts on ship design
- ALVIN replacement - design in process