

National Oceanographic Partnership Program

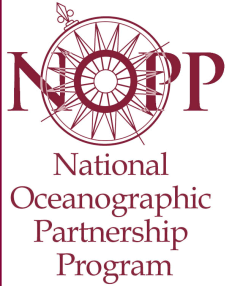
Update on the Federal Oceanographic Facilities Committee (FOFC)

Robert S. Winokur

Technical Director, Oceanographer of the Navy

FOFC Chair

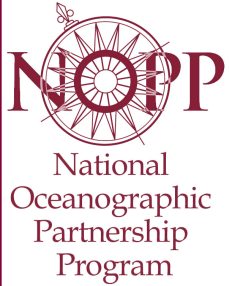
29-30 March 2005



FOFC Activity

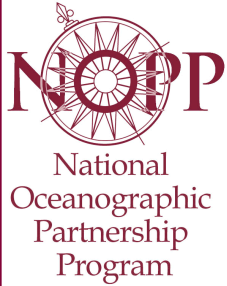
- Coordinated Federal Oceanographic Fleet Renewal Plan 2005 – 2025
- Updates and expands Dec 2001 National Academic Research Fleet Plan
- Agencies represented:

NAVY	USGS	EPA	USCG
NOAA	NASA	NSF	MMS
- Coordination with UNOLS



The Federal Oceanographic Fleet Renewal Plan: “A Coordinated National Plan” *Timeline for Completion*

- Working Group developing an initial draft by 30 April
- Technical Writer/Editor/Designer by 15 April
- Draft for NORLC Approval – 31 July 2005
- Report Release – 30 September 2005

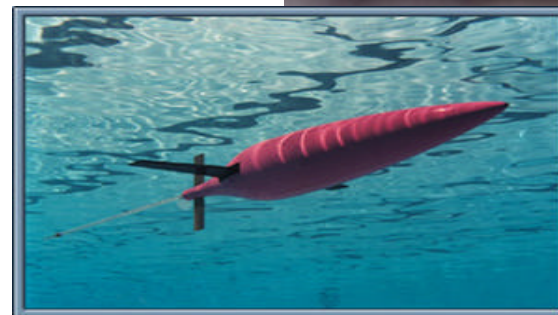


The Federal Oceanographic Fleet Renewal Plan: “A Coordinated National Plan” *Initial Assumptions*

- Ocean research and operations will continue to be a national priority
 - Support of Agency Missions
 - Special Projects/Programs ie Tsunami Warning System, OOI
- Vessels will be available for a minimum 30 year service life.
- Plan only considers vessels greater than 40 meters.
- Requirements for heavy lift capability will be contracted to industry.
- FY05 science funding levels resulted in overcapacity, partial layups.
- FY06 and outyear science funding levels will be less than FY05.
- Fleet will have fewer but more efficient ships with greater capability.
- Compliance with complex regulations will increase operational costs.
- Institutions will not fund replacement Ocean or Global class vessels.
- National Icebreaker Renewal issues will be resolved by 2006.

The Federal Oceanographic Fleet Renewal Plan: “A Coordinated National Plan” *Report Outline*

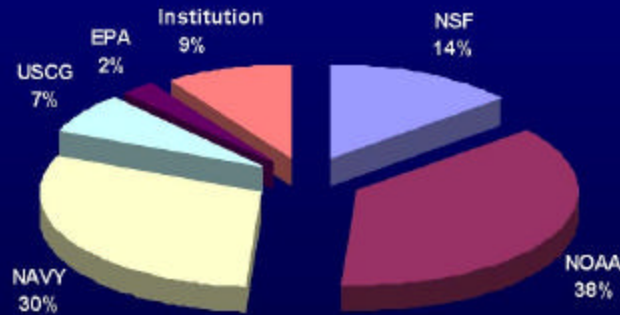
- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Requirements and Gaps
- The Renewal Plan
- Concept Designs and
Technology Infusion
- Implementation
- Appendices



The Federal Oceanographic Fleet Renewal Plan: “A Coordinated National Plan”

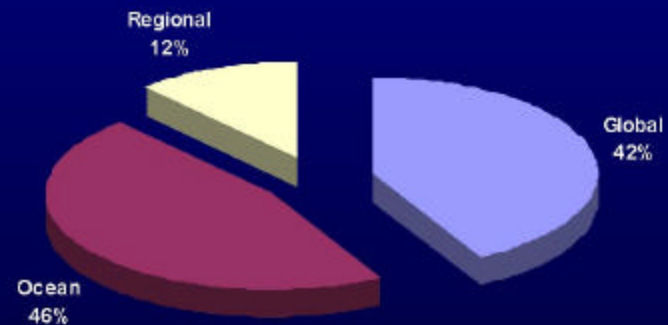
Total Fleet

*Total Fleet by Agency
(43 Ships total)*



Status in 2005

*Total Fleet by Class
(43 Ships total)*

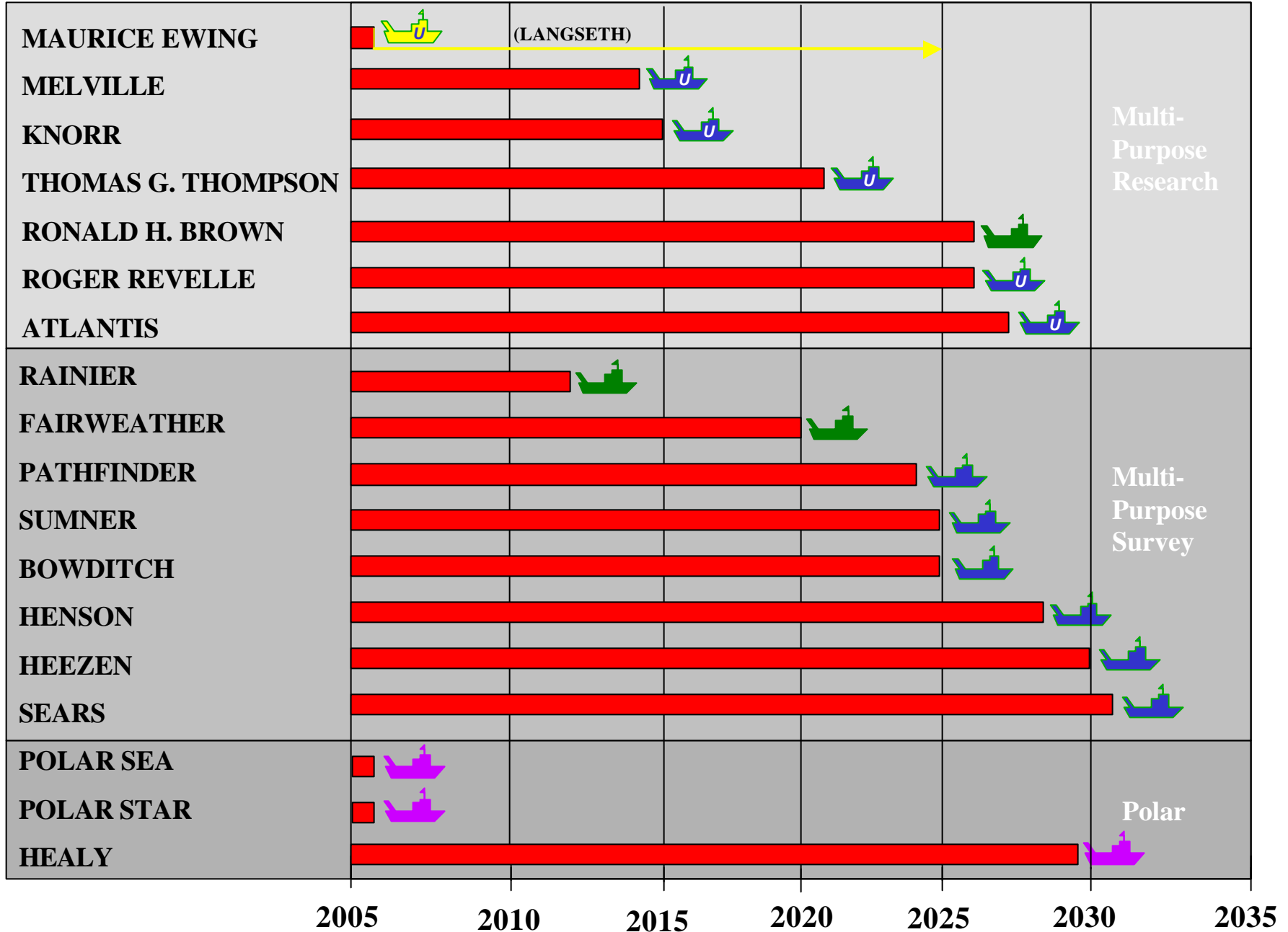


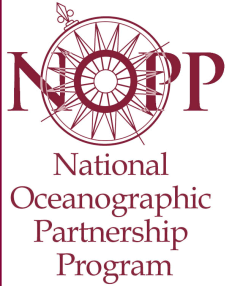
Status in 2005

[F] = Funded (color line)
 [PG] = Programmed (checked line)
 (Underline italics) = Additional vessel

Global Class Ship

Projected Retirement Dates

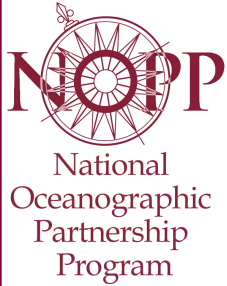




The Federal Oceanographic Fleet Renewal Plan: “A Coordinated National Plan” *Global Class Status*

- **Global Class**

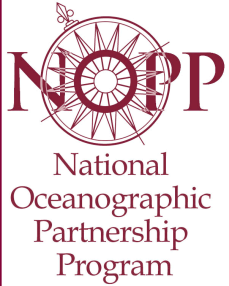
- 2 UNOLS ships at/beyond retirement age by 2014. (*Knorr, Melville*) No replacements planned/funded.
- 2 USCG heavy polar icebreakers are currently beyond economic service life and will be unsustainable by 2006 without extensive repairs. (*Polar Sea, Polar Star*) 1 projected to last until 2029. (*Healy*)
- UNOLS seismic research ship replacement in 2006 by NSF. (*Langseth*)



The Federal Oceanographic Fleet Renewal Plan: “A Coordinated National Plan” *Ocean/Intermediate Class Status*

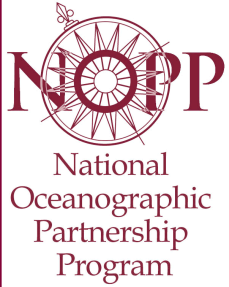
- **Ocean Class**

- 6 NOAA fisheries survey vessels authorized (includes 3 regional class replacements):
 - 1 built and operational in 2005(*Oscar Dyson*)
 - 2 under construction(*Henry Bigelow, FSV3*)
 - 1 planned for funding in 2006(*FSV4*)
 - 2 planned beyond 2008(*FSV5, FSV6*)
 - 1 additional vessel proposed
- 5 UNOLS ships at/beyond retirement age by 2010. (*Gyre, Seward Johnson II, Endeavor, Oceanus, Wecoma*) 2 more by 2016. (*Seward Johnson, New Horizon*).
- 1 UNOLS ship planned and 3 additional ships proposed by Navy, funding approach under discussion.
- 1 Alaska Region Research Vessel planned in 2007.



The Federal Oceanographic Fleet Renewal Plan: “A Coordinated National Plan” *Regional Class Status*

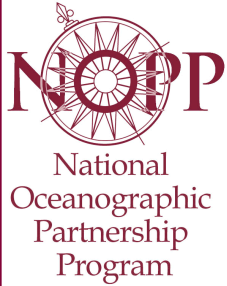
- **Regional Class**
 - 3 UNOLS ships at/beyond retirement age by 2011. (*Alpha Helix, Point Sur, Cape Hatteras*)
 - 3 UNOLS ships planned by NSF.



National Oceanographic Partnership Program

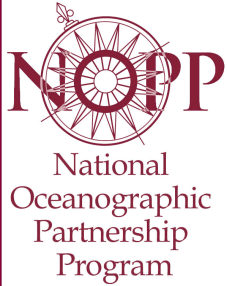
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FOFC Objectives

- Provide a forum for the exchange of information on long-range plans regarding oceanographic vessels
- Review federal oceanographic facilities and recommend common standards and approaches
- Address interagency programmatic and operation questions of facilities management
- Improve planning, coordination, and communication among federal oceanographic facility managers
- Monitor international oceanographic facility activities and issues



The Federal Oceanographic Fleet Renewal Plan: “A Coordinated National Plan”

Current Status

- **Global Class**

- 2 UNOLS ships at/beyond retirement age by 2014. No replacements planned/funded.
- 2 USCG heavy polar icebreakers are currently beyond economic service life and will be unsustainable by 2006 without extensive repairs. HEALY is projected to last until 2029.
- UNOLS seismic research ship replacement in 2006 by NSF.

- **Ocean Class**

- 6 NOAA fisheries survey vessels authorized (includes 3 regional class replacements): 1 built and operational in 2005, 2 under construction; 1 proposed for funding in 2006, 2 planned beyond 2008. 1 additional vessel proposed.
- 5 UNOLS ships at/beyond retirement age by 2010. 2 more by 2015.
- 4 UNOLS ships proposed by Navy, funding approach under discussion.
- 1 Alaska Region Research Vessel planned in 2007.

- **Regional Class**

- 3 UNOLS ships at/beyond retirement age by 2011.
- 3 UNOLS ships planned by NSF.