



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 31 March
- Technical Writer/Editor/Designer by 1 March
- 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 could 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 ultimately consist of fewer more efficient and more capable ships.
- 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”

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.



National Oceanographic Partnership Program

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