

# NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

UNOLS Fleet Improvement  
Committee & Council Meetings  
March 10-12, 2009



Rear Admiral Jonathan W. Bailey, Director, NOAA Corps and Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

# Agenda

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- FY 2009 NOAA Ship & Aircraft Operations
- NOAA Ships & Aircraft Recapitalization
- *Okeanos Explorer Update*
- NOAA Survey Vessel (NSV) Study Update



# FY 2009 NOAA Ship & Aircraft Operations

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- Fleet of 19 NOAA vessels plan to complete ~3,300 days-at-sea (DAS) and ~3,800 operating days (ODs).
- NOAA plans to charter ~3,100 ODs.
- Fleet of 12 NOAA aircraft plan to complete ~4900 flight hours.



# NOAA Ship & Aircraft Recapitalization

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- Recapitalization status of NOAA ships:
  - *Pisces* (FSV 3) projected delivery in May 2009 (Builder – VT Halter Marine)
  - *Bell M. Shimada* (FSV 4) projected delivery in June 2009 (Builder – VTHM)
  - FSV 5 preliminary design moving forward
  - FSV 6 requirements being finalized in anticipation of funding
  - *Ferdinand R. Hassler* projected delivery in December 2009 (Builder – VTHM)
  
- Recapitalization status of NOAA aircraft
  - KingAir Damage Assessment aircraft departed Beechcraft and going through modifications at AvCon
  
- Modifications to current NOAA aircraft
  - Completed Cone housing modifications for the Tail Doppler Radar on the Gulfstream IV – Tail Doppler Radar operational Summer 2009



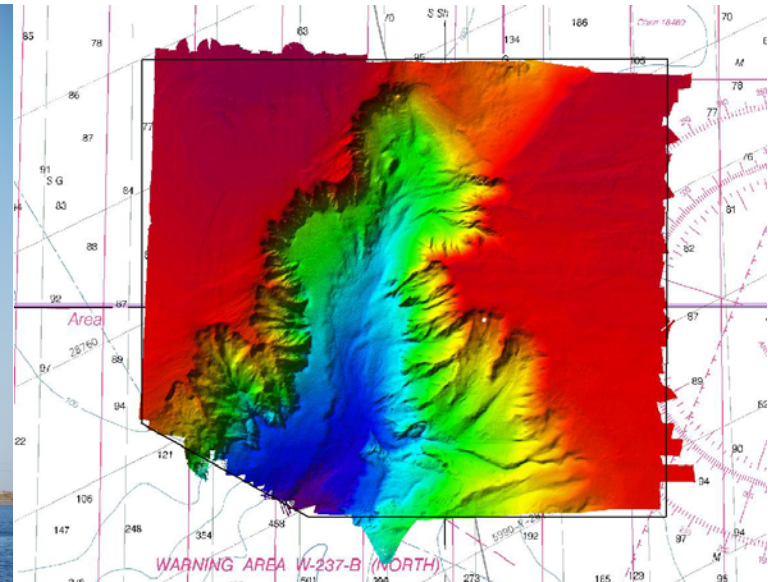
# Okeanos Explorer Update

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- Apr-May 2009 – Conduct ROV Testing / Shakedown
- Jun-Nov 2009 – Field trials in the Pacific Ocean  
(West Coast & Hawaiian Islands)



Anchored in Port Angeles, WA, during Shakedown



First Exploration Survey, Juan De Fuca Canyon



# NOAA Survey Vessel (NSV) Study

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- P.L. 110-161 - "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008" required NOAA to evaluate "the design and operations of future research vessels in the form of a NOAA Survey Vessel for multi-mission operations, to maximize on-site activities and modularize for versatile platform availability".
  - The NOAA Ship Recapitalization Plan envisioned a single NSV hull form configured to support multiple missions
    - Multi-mission ship is defined broadly as a ship with the ability to routinely conduct a wide range of cross-Goal mission activities
  - Draft NSV Study Report currently under NOAA review
    - Report due to Congress June 29, 2009
  - NSV Report recommends the following:
    - Focus solely on the Shallow-Draft Variant, which appears capable of satisfying the majority of mission activity requirements
    - "Green Ship" initiatives will be incorporated into the NSV acquisition process

