

Summary of Agency Recommendations for 2011 Fleet Operations

Discussion on Council response



Agency Recommendation for 2011 Fleet Operations

- Letter prepared by NSF/ONR/UNOLS
- Submitted to Council 15 September 2010

Recommendations

- Depending on the success of the Montoya cruise in September 2010 which was scheduled on the *Cape Hatteras* and the *Oceanus*, NSF will decide if the 2011 Montoya cruise will also be a two-ship operation or be scheduled on a Global.
- Maintenance periods in the vessel home-port are strongly encouraged both as a cost saving measure as well as an opportunity to conduct preventative maintenance.



Recommendations, continued

- If no additional work is identified when the final schedules are completed, it may be necessary for NSF to consider providing some funds to support extended maintenance or partial layup periods for the NSF-owned ships, *Wecoma and Point Sur*.
- Encourage operators of all ships to find ways to reduce costs and seek appropriate opportunities to support research and education programs supported by other funding sources.
- Emphasize to operators of institution-owned ships that they must decide if their planned schedule can support the cost to operate.
- An analysis of the possible causes for the recent decline in shiptime request demand is recommended.