



Regional Class Research Vessel (RCRV)

RVOC – April 2013

Project Off Ramps (From the Solicitation):

- **NSF determination not to make an initial Awardee selection**
- Failure of the Awardee to satisfy CDR requirements and/or NSF disapproval of funding increment for PDR
- Funding increment for PDR not explicitly included in a budget request and therefore not appropriated by Congress
- Failure of the Awardee to satisfy PDR requirements and/or NSF disapproval for inclusion in future MREFC budget request
- Failure of the Awardee to satisfy FDR requirements, including selection of an acceptable shipyard for construction
- Insufficient Year 1 MREFC appropriations and/or NSF disapproval of the Awardee to obligate funds as part of FDR
- Insufficient out year appropriations to meet project objectives



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From the Solicitation:

- Number of hulls built based on:
 - Projected science utilization (as determined by NSF with UNOLS input) > linkages to Fleet “Right Sizing”
 - Availability of Funding
- OSU will operate the first RCRV if constructed:
 - Will operate in region based on science utilization/need
 - Chance of remote operation increases with fewer vessels



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- Operator selection to take place once number of vessels is known - **Solicitation in early CY 2017**
- Open design refresh process through RCRV Science Oversight Committee (SOC) and OSU reports to UNOLS
- Regional representation on the SOC during design refresh





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Critical NSF Milestones:

- CDR in **December 2013**
- PDR in **July/August 2014**
- MREFC Budget Request for FY17 MREFC \$ in **March 2015**
(~2 year process)
- Begin construction of lead vessel in **2017**
- First vessel operational in **~2020**

One month delay means a minimum of 1 year delay in construction/delivery.