NOAA/OMAO Operations



UNOLS Council Meeting Wednesday, March 12, 2014 Rear Admiral (Lower Half) Anita L. Lopez Deputy Director for Operations, OMAO



Days at Sea (DAS) – NOAA Ships



NOAA DAS on UNOLS Ships



FY2014 Fleet Allocation Plan – 2/7/14

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To Transit 3 - See Trial IS - Transit 4 See Trial U - Underway Training (e.g. DOTC); ED - Shakedown; ST - Staging; R - Ranging; G - Ges Trial; F - Pueling; HSR = Hid Season Repair; RO - Remearch to Operation (Esting USA; ROV, AUV atc)

COMMENTS 0

76

-- Line Office base funding for FY2014 charter: OAR = \$2.6M, NOS = \$613K and NWS = \$1.2M.

-- Other Agency DAS: EPA = 27 and NOS PFDs = 61 (Sandy Supplemental).

-- If time allows Fairweather will recover/deploy OAR/PMBL Chiniak mooring between NOS/OCS S. Kodiak Island survey legs in May.

-- A Word document is available which shows a breakdown of the various planning changes between the highlighted planned Q1 projects on this Fleet Allocation Pign (FAP) and the planned Q1 projects on the signed September 16th FAP.



OAR

NHC

NESDIS

OKAO

Current and Recent Successes

- Working closely with UNOLS
- *Ron Brown* transitioned to the Pacific, servicing DART and TAO buoys part of the solution to improve the TAO array data reliability
- *Reuben Lasker* commissioning ceremony scheduled for May in San Diego. Quietest Fisheries Survey Vessel tested to date



- *Miller Freeman* recently sold and removed
- NOAA Prioritization, Allocation and Scheduling System (PASS) becoming an effective maritime scheduling asset
- NOAA's Hiring Freeze rescinded
- OMAO budget to support NOAA requirements remains stable despite government-wide fiscal challenges



Current Challenges

- Wage Mariner Staffing: the furlough created unique challenges that increased attrition. Retaining qualified engineers remains problematic.
- Balancing maintenance and mission schedule requirements. Our ships are reasonably well maintained but slightly behind in planned maintenance. Trying to fund shipyard and docksides in the fiscal Q4 vice Q1 to break up the logjam.
- Aging of the Fleet especially T-AGOS vessels.
- FY15 Passback informs a great deal of our portfolio with regards to the Fleet Composition Plan. We are still waiting to understand our possible shipbuilding/replacement program.
- Culture Change: younger generation wants more time off



UNOLS Partnership

- NOAA and UNOLS are working much more closely together. There is more communication and we are sharing resources. Borrowing a spool from the UNOLS wire pool this Fall saved a *Ron Brown* cruise
- INMARTECH Conference in Oregon (November) Forum to improve equipment performance, deployment, and operational techniques
- 2nd year of survey tech training
- R2R expanding ADCP data management to entire fleet (UH)
- IWG-FI Federal Fleet Metrics working group making steady progress on Common Objectives and Measures. Reviewing draft report and next steps
- Working closely on RCRV design to share best design, engineering, and practices.
- NOAA strongly believes that with mutually declining resources, this partnership needs to grow even stronger.
- LCDR Tracy Miller is our NOAA/UNOLS POC 301-713-7661.
- PMEL: Tom Peltzer has taken over for Dan Simon



Vision

- Fleet Composition Plan 2012 to 2027- still under OMB review
 - 4 Ocean Survey Vessels (OSV) IAA with Navy in negotiations. Funding secured for next 18 mo. of work
- Progressive Maintenance ensuring reliable ships
- Full utilization of fleet
- Data quality and availability (R2R)
- UxS developing new technologies:
 - Force multipliers in the air, on and below the surface
 - Use for data collection that is monotonous, inaccessible or dangerous by traditional means.
- NOAA and UNOLS working seamlessly together

