Planning for a new California Coastal Research Vessel (CCRV)

Presentation to UNOLS Research Vessel Operators Committee
19 – 21 April 2017

Zoltan Kelety, Marine Superintendent
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
California-based Intermediate Class & Smaller Ships

Research vessels carrying out California’s local research and education needs have decreased from 3 to 1. The last remaining ship is approaching the end of its service life. **A new vessel is needed.**

**INTERMEDIATE**
R/V New Horizon
- 170 feet / 40-day endurance
- 12 crew / 19 scientists

**REGIONAL**
R/V Pt Sur
- 135 feet / 21-day endurance
- 8 crew / 12 scientists

**LOCAL / COASTAL**
R/V Robert Gordon Sproul
- 125 feet / 14-day endurance
- 5 crew / 12 scientists

Needed
California needs a dedicated research vessel

- California society and economy depend on the ocean for resources, commerce, defense, infrastructure, and quality of life.

- Growing need for undergraduate and graduate education involving instruction, research and practical training at sea.

- California’s economy, 6th largest in world, is strongly tied to the ocean and drives a growing demand for maritime research & development.
  - Roger Revelle and Sally Ride have worldwide research portfolios, and will not predictably be available in California waters.

- Universities throughout California require an accessible, affordable, capable research vessel for classes and student research projects, operating on time frames tailored to academic calendars.

- California needs the ability to mount rapid response missions to ephemeral events, with quick access to a capable, well-outfitted, professionally-staffed vessel.
Collaborating on a shared research vessel

**Vision:** establish a new kind of partnership within California, involving public and private universities, research institutions, state agencies and non-governmental organizations to support a new California Coastal Research Vessel (CCRV) for seagoing education and research.

**Efforts to date:**

- **Moss Landing Marine Laboratories** (California State University) and the **Scripps Institution of Oceanography** (University of California) have agreed to collaborate jointly on this effort.

- Directors of SIO & MLML, Chancellor of UC San Diego and President of San Jose State University all strongly endorsed this collaboration and approach (March 2017).

- Committed significant seed funding from each institution

- Assembled Scripps **Small Ship Task Force** to define institutional needs.

- Sent *Dear Colleague* letter to 100+ ship users statewide to solicit input.

- Scripps began a DOT-sponsored feasibility study (with Sandia National Labs) of a zero-emission research vessel (ZERo/V), including conceptual design.
CCRV: Goals for 2017

Science mission requirements: Consult with likely ship users and sponsors to develop SMRs, building on existing UNOLS products.

Develop management plan: How will a single vessel be managed and operated such that it is able to support multiple institutions? This should be resolved in 2017.

State and local government: Engage, educate, and build support.

Conceptual vessel design: Based on the foregoing, develop CCRV concept.

Correspondence to:
Bruce Appelgate <tba@ucsd.edu>
Mike Prince <prince@mlml.calstate.edu>

END