USAP Marine Research Vessel Replacement Program

R/V Hero
1968 - 1984

R/V Polar Duke
1983 - 1997

RVIB Nathaniel B. Palmer & ARSV Laurence M. Gould
1992 – 2022
1997 – 2020
Current Operations

RVIB Nathaniel B Palmer – Built 1992
- Ice Breaking Research Vessel (3’ of ice/ 3 knots speed)
- Hull draft prevents docking at Palmer Station
- Length: 308’
- Charter End Date: March 2022
- FY 17 Budget (Day Rate/Fuel & Consumables): $15M / $3M

ARSV Laurence M Gould – Built 1997
- Antarctic Research and Supply Vessel (Ice Strengthened)
- Supplies Palmer Station
- Length: 230’
- Charter End Date: July 2020
- FY 17 Budget (Day Rate/Fuel & Consumables): $10M / $2M
Replacement Program

Schedule:

- Refine Requirements with NSF – Q1FY18
- Industry Day - Q3FY18
- Solicitation Issue – Q1FY19
- Contract Award – Q4FY19
Replacement Program

Updates:

• Conducted Industry Interviews with various vessel operators, vessel designers and shipyards
• Hired Glosten Associates as technical consultant
• Developing cost estimates and procurement strategy for upcoming solicitation