NOAA Agency Report

- Ship and Aircraft Fleets
- Uncrewed Systems
- VSAT and Starlink
- Facilities
- Cybersecurity
Aircraft

• New King Air delivered
• Altius-600 Drone launched from P3 - Hurricane Ian
• New G550 delivered – final outfitting begun
Ships

• New Construction
  • Class “A” – NOAA AGOR Variant (NAV)
    • OCEANOGRAPHER – keel laid in June, 60% steel cut, 3 modules under construction, delivery mid-2024 (July/Aug)
    • DISCOVERER - keel laid in October, 5% steel cut, 1 module under construction, delivery early-2025 (Jan/Feb)
  • Class “B” – NOAA Hydrographic Ship Replacements
    • Proposals received and under review – expect award early-2023, expect delivery in mid-2027

• Fleet Recapitalization
  • RONALD H BROWN - Mid-Life to begin July 2023, complete Oct 2024
  • FSV (DYSON-class) – Mid-Life to begin in 2025, complete in 2031
Uncrewed Systems

- UxS Operations Center Leadership Changes: CAPT Phil Hall Retiring, CAPT Bill Mowitt Assumes command in November, beginning to stall new center in Gulfport, MS

- OMAO transition to operations approach for UxS with targeted initiatives:
  - Autonomous Surface Vehicles (ASV) for acoustic survey operations
    - DriX USV purchased, delivered to UNH in July for acceptance testing and preparations for operations
  - Hydro survey operations (MBR range) from TJ
  - Fisheries survey operations (OTH) from DY
VSAT and Starlink

- **VSAT:**
  - Fleet-wide service levels increased to 7Mbps (2Mbps Uplink / 5Mbps Downlink)
  - *RONALD H BROWN* service levels increased to 3Mbps Uplink / 10Mbps Downlink

- **Starlink:**
  - Fleet-wide pilot (12 Maritime Systems)
    - 3 ships dual-antenna, 6 ships single-antenna
  - 3 more single-antenna systems purchased this CR period
  - 3 remaining single-antenna systems will be purchased next CR period
Facilities

• Charleston, SC
  • Contract awarded to replace pier for RB and NF

• Gulfport, MS
  • New UxS Operations Center moving to Senator Wicker Building in early-2024

• Ketchikan, AK
  • Contract awarded for new Port Operations building and Warehouse and new pier for FA, expect completion late-2023
Cybersecurity

• SCADA
  • Working with ABS to perform vessel assessments to meet new ABS Cyber Certification requirements and to develop mitigation strategies

• Shipboard Networks and IT Infrastructure
  • Working with OMAO Cyber group to develop upgraded shipboard network designs to replace outdated network infrastructure