



# NOAA

## RVTEC 2022

# NOAA Agency Report

Donald E Jones, OMAO



*U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations*





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## NOAA Agency Report

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



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## Aircraft

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



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## 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

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## 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

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## 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



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## 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

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## 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



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## QUESTIONS ???



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