

UNOLS Council Meeting

NOAA Update, May 2023



LCDR Cherisa Friedlander, NOAA

NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

Marine Advisor



Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

Hello! I'm New Here!



- Just completed a 21 month tour in Washington D.C. serving as the flag aide to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator, Dr. Richard Spinrad.
- From 2019-2021, she was the Operations Officer aboard the NOAA Ship *Henry B. Bigelow*, a fisheries survey vessel out of Newport, RI.
- Served as station chief of the Atmospheric Research Observatory at the South Pole, Antarctica from Nov 2017-Nov 2018. The 13 month assignment on the ice involved 6 months of darkness and 9 months of station isolation!
- From 2014-2017 she served as the Operations Officer at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Fisheries Ecology Division in Santa Cruz, CA.
- Master's Degree in Applied Marine and Watershed Science from California State University Monterey Bay.



NOAA – UNOLS Partnership

- Moving forward with year 5 of our Cooperative Agreement
- Will be attending RVOC in person in Duluth this month
- MLP Planning, COVID-19, Staffing Lessons Learned
- Fisheries Survey Vessels (FSVs) will be shifting into MLP, likely increased interest in UNOLS ship time





FY23 – In Progress

People

- Initiatives to address staffing issues
- Covid-19 protocol updated again
 - Stop surveillance testing
 - Recommended vs. Required booster

Metal

- Class A – construction underway
 - *Oceanographer* has 86% steel cut overall with 67% structural assembly.
 - *Discoverer* has 40% steel cut overall and 19% structural assembly.
- Class B (charting+mapping vessels)- Anticipated Q3 Award
- *Ronald H. Brown* Mid-life repair June 2023
- 2 Successful Machinery Control System installations on *Pisces* and *Bell M. Shimada*
- New stern thruster installation on *Okeanos Explorer*
- 13 of 16 Ship Repair Packages Completed
- Starlink rollout to fleet

	OFFICE OF MARINE AND AVIATION OPERATIONS	POLICY	VERSION
		COVIDM01	5.0
	AUTHORIZED BY:	EFFECTIVE DATE	
	 RDML Chad Cary, NOAA Deputy Director, Office of Marine and Aviation Operations	March 3, 2023	
		REVIEW DATE	
		March 3, 2024	
		RESPONSIBLE POSITION	
		Director, Office of Health Services	

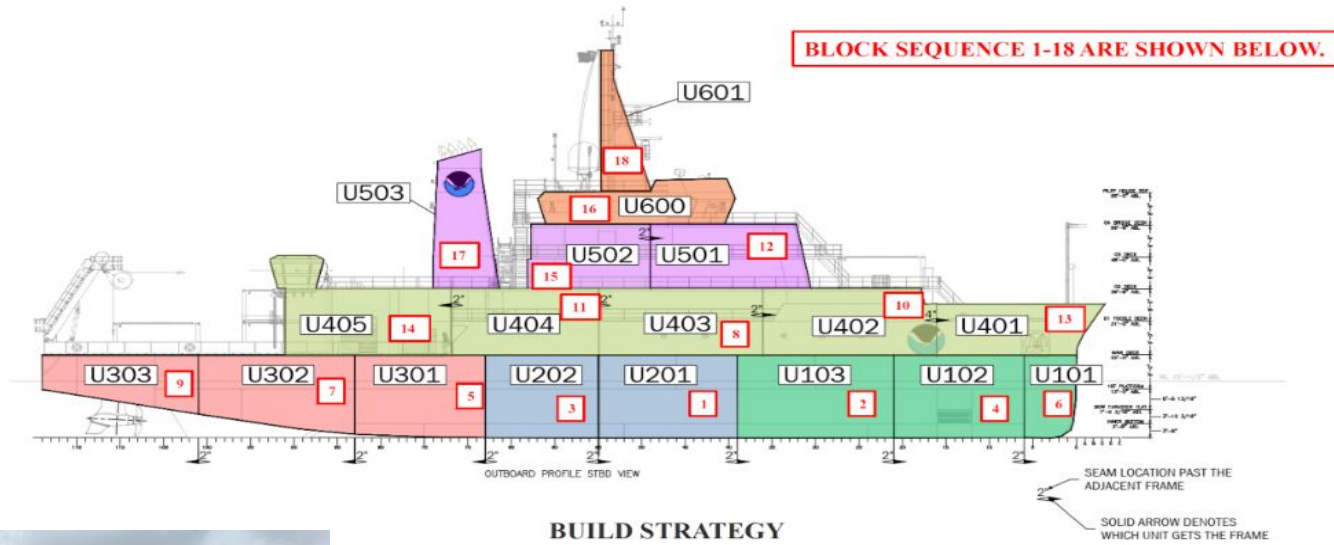
Marine Operations COVID-19 Protocols

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This document defines the COVID-19 pandemic protocols for ship personnel who are working alongside, underway, and assigned sleeping quarters during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 1.2 This version
 - (A) Removes the COVID-19 booster requirement for clearance to sail.
 - (B) Clarifies the ability to remain underway with a COVID positive case.
 - (C) Removes the option for ON/OFF toggles for surveillance testing and pre-live aboard testing.
 - (D) Adds the option for ON/OFF toggles for pre-sail testing requirements.
 - (E) Updates CDC guidance for coming out of isolation.



Ship Construction Updates: Oceanographer



6 of 18 modules erected
15 of 18 modules in process



OMAO Facility Projects

Northeast and Mid Atlantic/ NAVSTA Newport

- NOAA continues to support the NAVY project team in answering contractor questions.
- 100% Design completed. RFP for construction contract released January 2023. Contractor proposals are due on June 2023.

Southeast and Gulf Coast:

- North Charleston, SC - Currently involved in the source selection process that will occur over the next few weeks.
- Gulfport, MS - Short-term UMS facility established. Evaluating long-term facility lease proposal.

Northwest, Alaska, and Pacific:

- Ketchikan, AK – Bull rail and bollards around the main pier are complete and ready to support vessel loading. The pier utility work is expected to continue through April and into May. Project completion at 90%.
- Ford Island, Hawaii - Navy Piers used by NOAA require upgrades to support new vessels power, water, and sewer requirements. Piers are load restricted due to their condition. BCA study started in FY23 to determine best path forward.



FY23 Continued: Mission



- *Rainier* working in American Samoa
- *Oscar Dyson* DriX operations out of Kodiak
- *Gordon Gunter* working AMMAPS for the first time in 3 years
- *Ronald H. Brown* GO-SHIP project (high profile worldwide initiative since 2018)
- MOC-P support to UNOLS and Coast Guard vessels (CGC Elm support / CGC Halibut / R/V Sikuliaq). R/V Sally Ride / R/V Thomas G. Thompson on the schedule.



Mid Life Repair: Fisheries Survey Vessels



Office of Marine and Aviation Operations