

Fatigue and Science Party Rest

- Identify the Problem – Open Discussion
- The RVSS points to Crew rest legal requirements as guidance for Science personnel:
 - Generally, 10 hours of rest per 24-hour period, split into no more than two periods, one at least 6 hours long.
- The Master of the Vessel has authority to suspend operations if fatigue becomes a safety issue.
 - Operators are in a tough position as a service provider (similar to suspending operations due to weather).
- Does the RVSS need changes?
- Should this be mentioned in MFP or Pre-Cruise Briefings?
- Anyone have a Near Miss Story related to this?

5.4.2 SCIENCE PARTY SIZE AND REST

The maximum number of scientific personnel is regulated for inspected vessels.

For uninspected vessels, the operator shall determine the maximum number allowable. This must be consistent with the safety and lifesaving equipment available on board the vessel and consistent with crew and science accommodations provided on the vessel. For smaller vessels, which have a labeled boat or raft capacity provided by the manufacturer, these ratings shall not be exceeded. This limit must be made known to prospective chief scientists well in advance, so their staffing can be adequately planned. Recommended guidelines in this regard are to be found in manufacturers' specifications, ABYC publications, the Federal Safe Boating Act, and similar sources. (46 CFR 188.05-33; ABYC H-5)

Chief Scientists must ensure that they have adequate numbers of trained personnel to safely carry out their planned science operations. The requirements for crew rest outlined in 46 CFR 15.1111 (described in Section 5.3 above) provide a guide for marine technicians and scientific personnel engaged in science operations, especially those on deck or in the laboratories when the use of equipment or chemicals might present hazards to personnel. If safety is compromised due to a lack of rest, the Master retains the authority and obligation to suspend operations.

5.3.3 CREW REST

Operators must be guided by 46 CFR 15.1111 which addresses work hours and required rest periods when identifying final crew complement. In general, watch standers must receive a minimum of 10 hours of rest in any 24-hour period and 77 rest hours in any 7-day period. Daily hours of rest may be divided into not more than two periods, one of which must be at least 6 hours in length.