Oceanographic Ship Design

Oceanographic ship designs are typically done with little thought about how the ship actually does science, how it collects good quality data, or how it could minimize fuel consumption, noise, and chemical pollution from the ship. This is more than just being "green" its about collecting better data too.

If scientists were allowed to design the ship, what would we do?

We want a vessel that is acoustically quiet, stable, fast, has minimal chemical footprint, reduced fuel consumption, in short a large floating Prius. And oh yeah, it would be great if operating cost was low, budgets are tight!

Many technologies are available or on the horizon that could be used, including wave power, fuel cells, diesel electric hybrid, wind, solar etc.

So let's think a little about what might be possible..... For starters, what about wind?

- Conventional soft sails
- Wing sails
- Rotors (Magnus effect)
- Dyna-Rig



Wind power? You must be kidding, that's old technology!

We tend to think of new, (and never tried) technologies first, but wind power is available, it's free, and it works, though not everywhere, and not all the time. To achieve the design targets of a clean, renewable, and sustainable vessel, wind power will almost certainly be a part of the equation.

The advantages are:

- 1. Its free
- 2. Technology to use it very refined, its been in use for hundreds of years.
- 3. Available most of the time in most of the world
- 4. Relatively low-tech and simple to maintain
- 5. Efficient: ship speeds of 10-15 knots sustained in 15-18 knots of wind
- 6. No consumables needed, no exotic fuels, parts, or maintenance.

Advantages continued:

- 7. Very little requirement for disposal of toxic materials
- 8. Improved sea keeping and stability
- 9. Increased transit speed (more science!), reduced cost and emissions
- 10. Quality of science is improved through low mechanical and acoustic noise, low emissions, greater stability and more sea time. Funds go toward science, not diesel.

Disadvantages:

- 1. Can't be used everywhere all the time
- 2. Can't sail straight into the wind.
- 3. Monohull vessels have a heel angle, making science some operations more difficult underway. Some operations not possible under sail.
- 4. Mast height may restrict some port entries
- 5. May require some modification of courses and some crew training for best advantage.

Types:

- Conventional soft sails
- Wing sails
- Rotors (Magnus effect)
- Dyna-Rig



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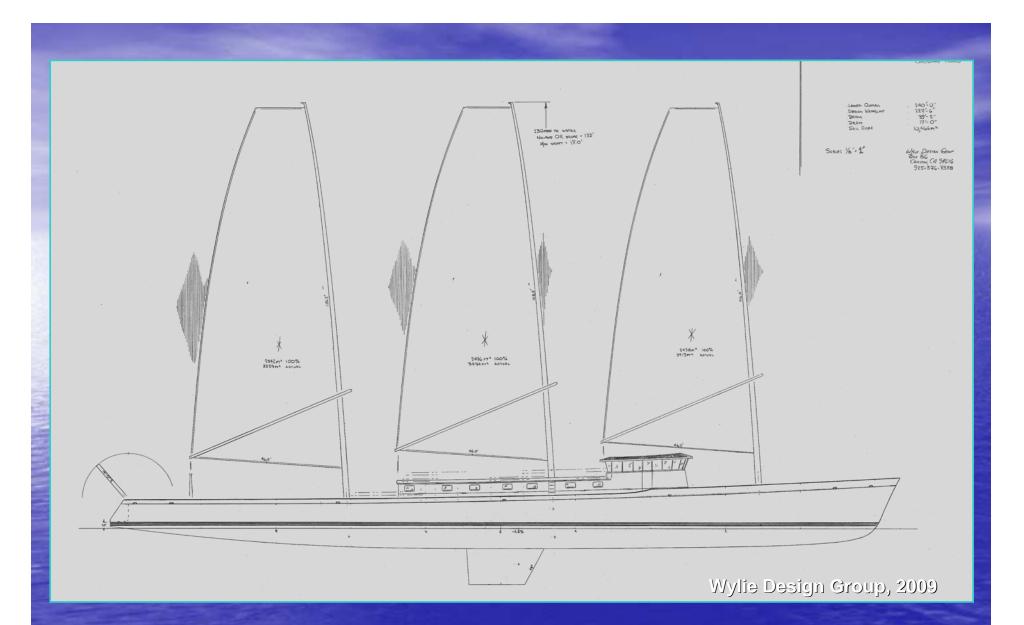


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This sketch is a starting point, not an end point. The next step is the design study to consider the development and integration of these and more innovations

Hybrid Ship: parallel evolution



Even more than ships, aircraft have always advanced with new technology...

The Boeing 787 is the first carbon fiber fuselage airliner, and it's light weight will reduce it's fuel consumption improve climb performance. Less is more!

The technology to build this airplane actually came from ocean racing sailboats, much like our design concept

| Hybrid Ship: Very Preliminary Design Specifications | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Hybrid Ship | Wecoma |
| Length overall: 240' | 185′ |
| Beam: 38′ | 33′ |
| Draft: 17' (likely to increase) | 18.5′ |
| Displacement: 400 tons | 1150 tons |
| Range: unlimited (sail) 4000 nm (power) | 5500 nm (10 days on station) |
| Fuel consumption: 600 gal/day @ 14 knots (power only) | 1700 gal/day @ 12 knots |
| Fuel consumption (sail) @ 14 knots: house loads only* | |
| Fuel consumption (motorsail) @ 16- 18 knots: 300 gal/day | |
| Maximum speed (sail): 25 knots | |
| Maximum speed (power) 20 knots | 14 knots |
| Science Party: 30 | 18 |
| Crew: 10 | 13 |
| Guests: 5 | |



The Derek M. Baylis is one of the first modern hybrid concept research vessels, and along with the rotor ship Alcyone (Cousteau) serves as one end-member of a range of prototypes for our vessel design. The vessel LOA is 65'

Speed under power: 10 knots

Speed under sail: 18+ knots

Fuel consumption (power) at 9 knots = 1.6 gph.

We used this vessel in 2010 for a 21 day cruise, mapping the northern San Andreas Fault.

Total fuel consumption 489 gallons in 21 days!

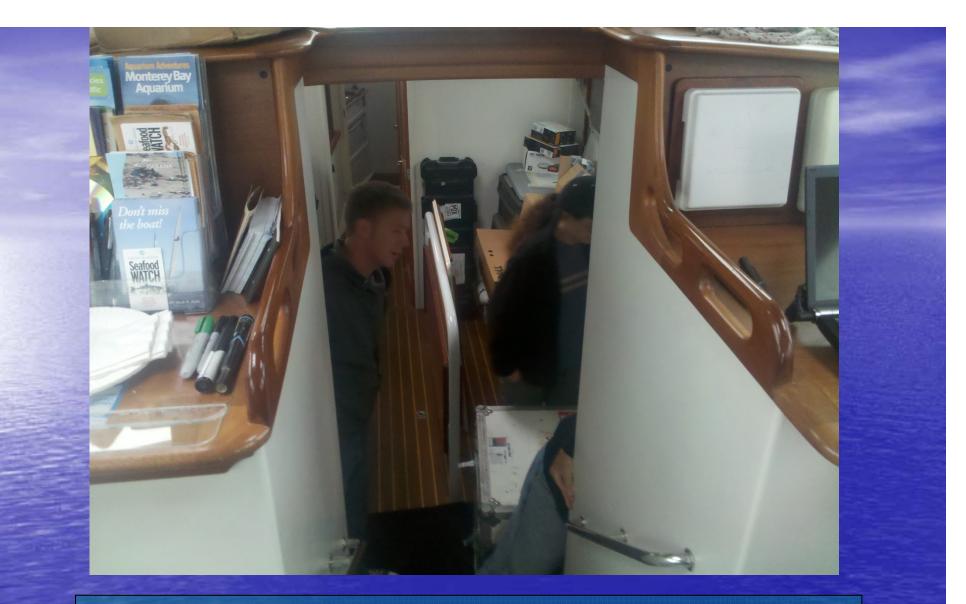




The cruise involved 21 days of survey, 50% multibeam survey, 50% seismic reflection survey.

The multibeam was a pole mounted Reson 8101ER, the seismic system was a USGS provided minisparker system.

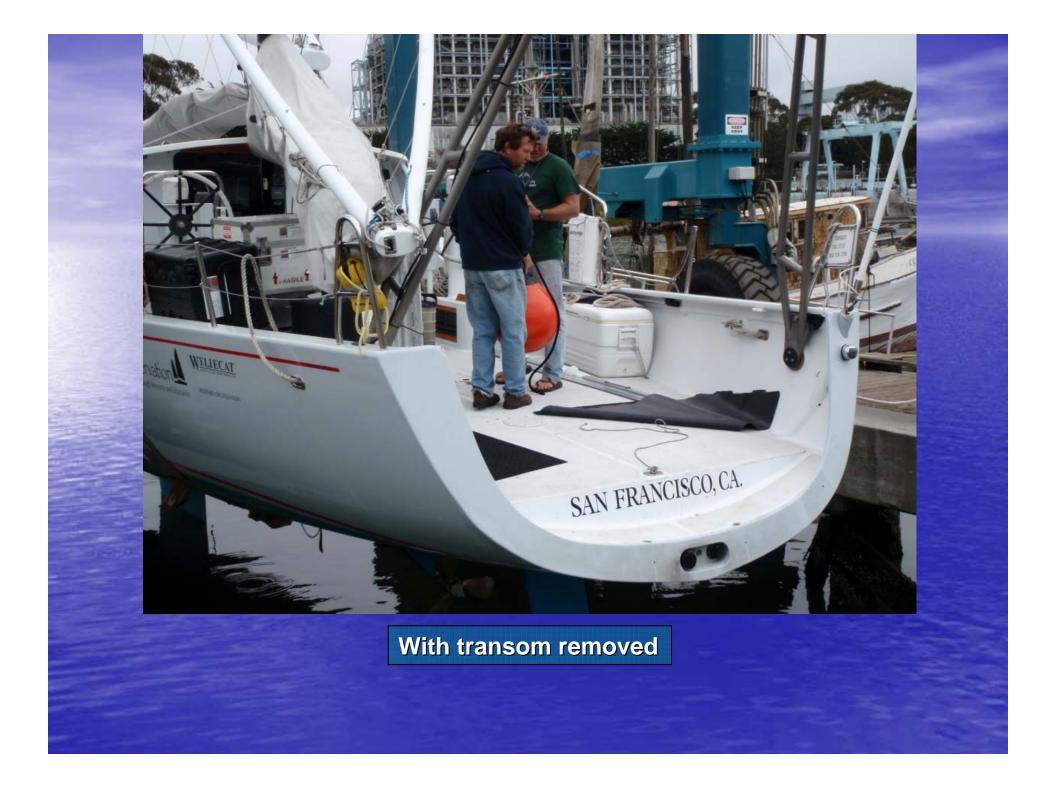
Here is the lab space in the pilothouse, enough for 4-6 science party to work 24/7 indefinitely. A 6kw generator is available for science and house loads.



The lower level has berthing for 8, and a folding table for overflow science applications. We operated 24/7, and so mostly the lower level was used for off-watch sleepers.



Cockpit deck space slopes aft to the waterline, and is ~ 21' x 10' with embedded threaded inserts for equipment. The transom is removable, for easy launch and recovery of ROV's AUV's gliders etc.









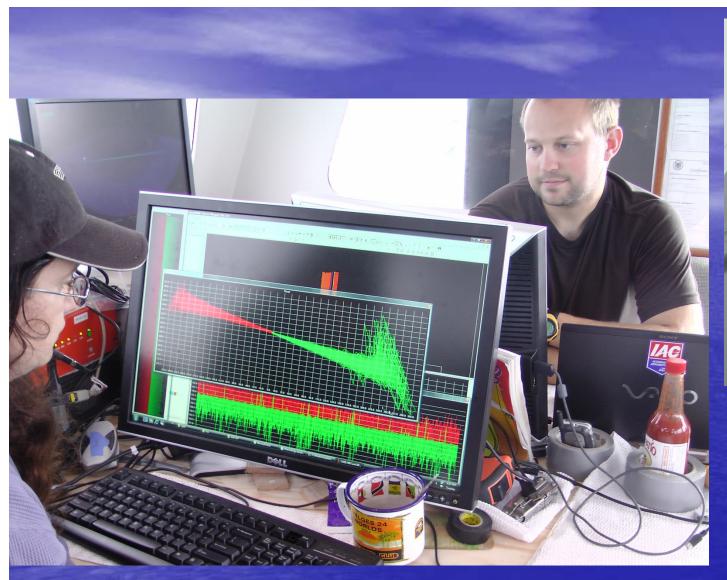
The other Team:

We used two vessels, the other was an 85' converted fishing trawler.

Pacific Storm is also an excellent science platform, with some advantages in heavy gear handling capability, with it's aframe and knuckle boom crane.

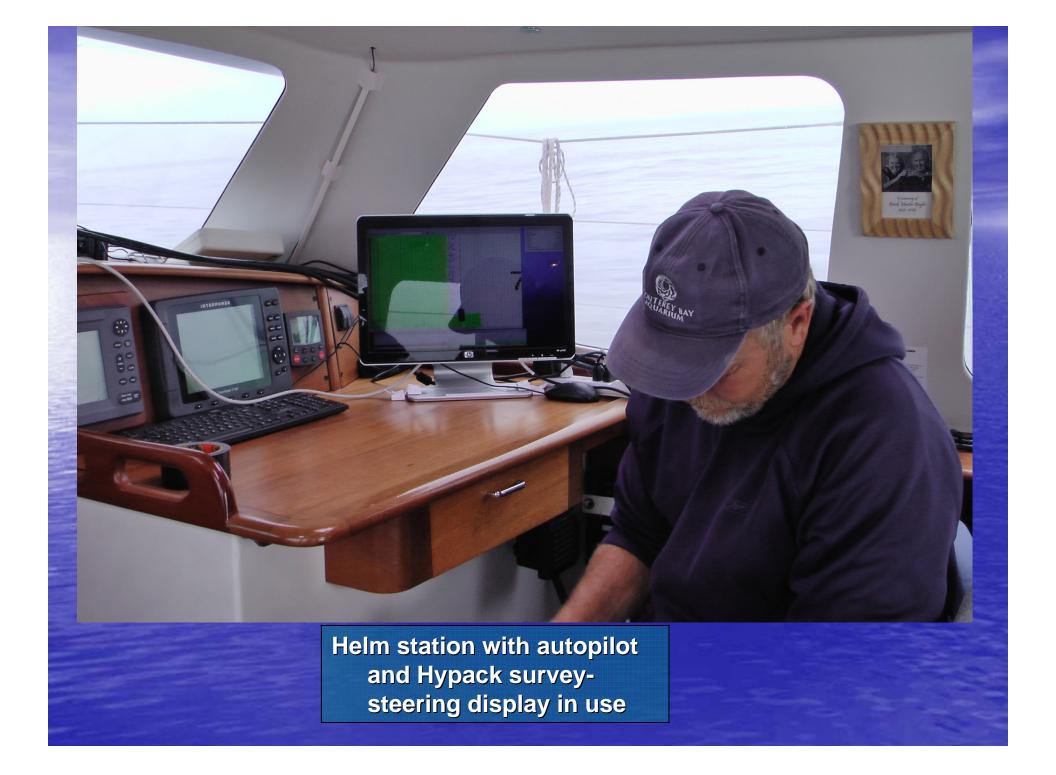
cience party of 8 is the same as the Baylis. Crew of 5 vs. 2 for the Baylis. Fuel consumption at cruise = 14 gph, an order of magnitude greater than Baylis.







Underway on multibeam survey, data editing and QC

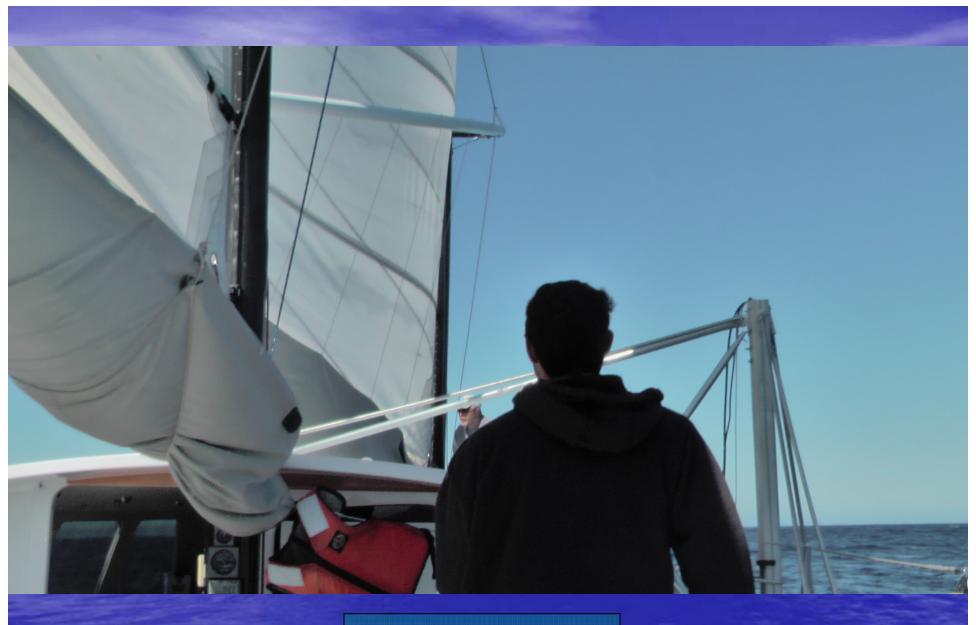




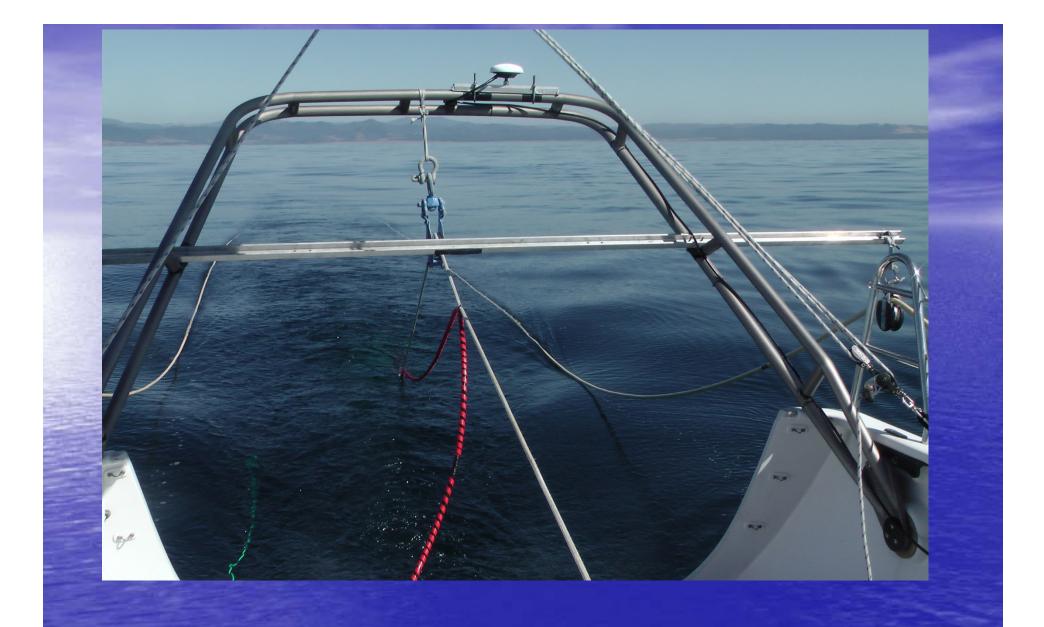
Just for fun, one person driving the vessel, doing email and collecting and monitoring the incoming data. All with a nice view out the pilothouse windows!



The NSAF onshore....



On survey under sail.

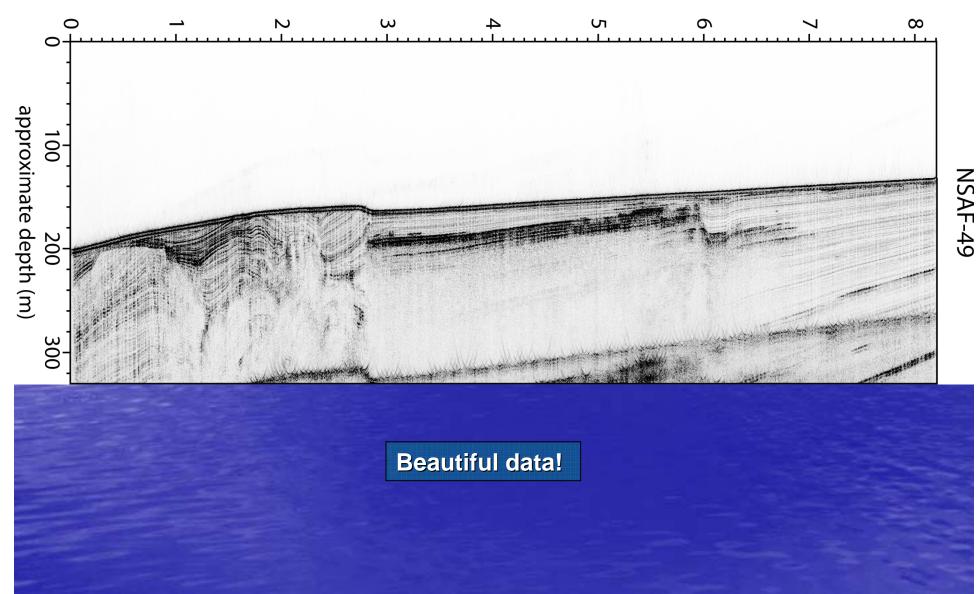


Seismic survey, streamer and sparker source



Seismic data acquisition

<<West distance (km) East>>

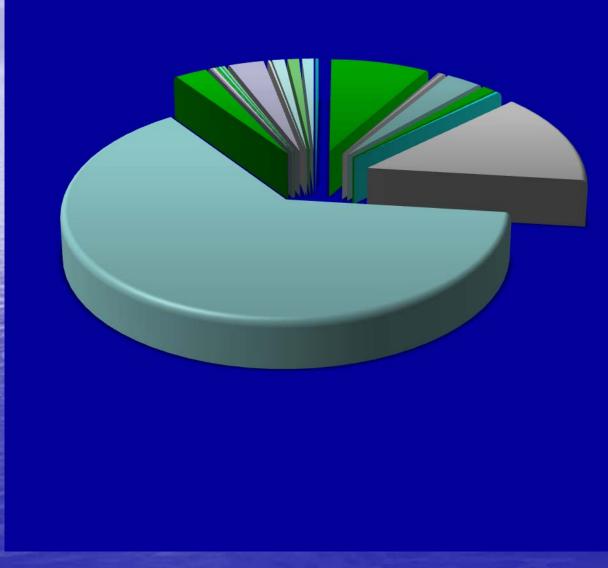




Multibeam date, NSAF just south of Noyo Canyon



Fuel Usage, Total 4877 gallons



🛾 Airport van

- PDX-SJC Flight
- Rental car Prius
- Rental car
- OSU van
- Rental car
- Rental car
- Derek M. Baylis
- Pacific Storm
- USGS van
- Rental Car
- Santa Rosa-PDX Flight
- Airport shuttle van
- Seattle-Newport Flight
- Rental Car
- Rental Car
- Oak-PDX flight
- rental car
- Honolulu Flight
- Boston Flight
- Dulles Flight

Advantages:

Faster (more science time)
Quieter, both for the crew and radiated noise in the water
Almost unlimited range
24/7 ops, not common on a 65' vessel
Science party of 7, also not common for a 65' vessel
Crew of 2
Improved stability (over a typical 65' platform) even with no wind
Cheaper (by a factor of ~ 3) Day rate ~ \$1800/day
Very low carbon footprint even under power alone 1.6 GPH
Easier boathandling with outside helm and science deck adjacent
Much better platform for small AUV ROV operations
Crew fatigue low, and it was well, fun!

Disadvantages:

•Can't weld things to the deck, have to design composite structures for things like the sonar pole.

•???????

Thank You!





Maltese Falcon by Peter Lyons/Lyons Imaging for YachtPals.com