



FY 2005 Budget Highlights

MARINE AND AVIATION OPERATIONS

NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO), also known as "NOAA Marine and Aviation Operations", requests \$155.6 million (M) in FY'05, including a net increase of \$37.3M over the FY'04 President's Budget Request. This will support the following:

- Adjustments to Base (ATB's) to cover pay raises and cost increases for goods and services
- operation and maintenance of NOAA's ships and aircraft and some of NOAA's outsourcing to meet ship and aircraft support needs
- replacement, upgrade and repair of NOAA's ships and aircraft
- Commissioned officers assigned to operational, technical, and management billets throughout NOAA
- NOAA's operational diving program

Ships and aircraft support funded in the OMAO request in FY 2005 includes:

- 4,950 operating days collecting data to manage the nation's fishery stocks and protect marine mammals, update nautical charts for safe marine commerce, predict climate changes, and maintain healthy coasts
- 2,050 flight hours collecting data for hurricane and winter-storm predictions, climate predictions, and environmental monitoring

FY 2005 Program Changes

Marine Services: NOAA requests \$1.6M for approximately 80 to 100 operating days on Fisheries Survey Vessel #1, OSCAR DYSON, to collect data to manage the nation's fishery stocks and protect marine mammals. The vessel will be homeported in Kodiak, Alaska. Also requested is \$1.8M for approximately 80 to 100 operating days on the VINDICATOR (to be renamed HI'IALAKAI). To be homeported in Honolulu, Hawaii, the ship will support NOAA's Coral Reef Program in the Hawaiian Islands as well as support the National Marine Sanctuary Program.

Fleet Maintenance and Planning: NOAA requests \$0.4M each for maintenance of the OSCAR DYSON and VINDICATOR/HI-IALAKAI.

Aircraft services: No program changes.

Future Healthcare for NOAA Corps Officers: NOAA requests \$0.7M for accrual contributions to comply with Department of Defense legislation.

Fleet Replacement: NOAA requests \$1.8M for upgrades on McARTHUR and NANCY FOSTER. McARTHUR will have data collection capabilities and monitoring capabilities to better meet NOAA's West Coast living marine resource and coastal research requirements. NANCY FOSTER will be able to deploy remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) and submersibles and provide a mission small boat for fisheries and Marine Sanctuary projects.

An additional \$33.8M is requested to complete construction of the acoustically quiet Fisheries Survey Vessel (FSV-III). The vessel will collect data in the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean, and Atlantic to improve fishery stock assessments and avoid sub-optimal recommendations on quotas.

Aircraft Replacement: NOAA requests a decrease of \$7.7M which will provide \$1.4M to complete required regulatory upgrades to meet FAA and International Civil Aviation Organization requirements and to complete the replacement of essential navigation systems on NOAA's P-3 aircraft. The FAA deadline is March, 2005.

NOAA FY 2005 Budget	
Off. of Marine & Aviation Operation	FY 2005 Change (\$M)
<i>Marine Ops. & Maint.</i>	\$8.4
<i>Aircraft Operations</i>	\$0.3
<i>Future Healthcare-NOAA Corps</i>	\$0.7
<i>Fleet Replacement</i>	\$35.6
<i>Aircraft Replacement</i>	(\$7.7)
TOTAL	\$37.3

For More Information:

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