



FY 2007 NOAA BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



OFFICE OF MARINE AND AVIATION OPERATIONS

The Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO) requests \$171.9 million in FY 2007, reflecting a net decrease of \$7.9 million below the FY 2007 base level, and also a decrease of \$56.7 million below the FY06 Enacted level. This budget request supports the operation, maintenance, modernization, and replacement of NOAA's ships and aircraft; provides for contracting for some of NOAA's need for outsourced ships and aircraft to supplement NOAA's fleet; and affords NOAA Corps commissioned officers with sea-shore rotation by assigning them to temporary operational, technical, and management positions throughout NOAA. It also supports NOAA's Diving, Teacher at Sea, Small Boat Safety, and Aviation Safety programs.

OMAO's request will provide 4,650 ship operating days for collecting data to manage the Nation's fishery stocks, protect marine mammals, update nautical charts for safe marine commerce, predict climate changes, and maintain healthy coasts. Additionally, OMAO and other NOAA programs will purchase about 3,380 chartered operating days, including 220 operating days for time charter. NOAA's aircraft will provide approximately 3,475 flight hours, comprised of 1,975 hours funded by OMAO and approximately 1,500 hours funded by other NOAA programs. The estimated program-funded hours could vary depending on weather conditions, annual snowfall amounts, or other weather-related phenomena.

FY 2007 Program Change Highlights

Operations for New NOAA Vessels +\$7.5M: This request will address the additional operational needs of vessels added to NOAA's fleet over the last two years. The additional funding will support operations on NOAA ships HI'IALAKAI, OSCAR DYSON, McARTHUR II, THOMAS JEFFERSON, and HENRY B. BIGELOW and will support Fisheries Survey Vessel 3 (FSV3). Funds will be used for fuel, supplies, crew, maintenance and repairs, and spare parts.

Maritime Crew Safety and Rotation +\$0.8M: Funds will be used to comply with international safety and training requirements to ensure that NOAA vessels can enter foreign ports and to improve ship staffing and rotation.

G-IV Instrumentation Support +\$0.7M: Funds will be used to provide ongoing staff support to the one-time Gulfstream-IV aircraft instrumentation upgrade. NOAA must receive, control the quality of, format, and submit hurricane data from the aircraft for assimilation into the new Hurricane Weather Forecast computer model.

For more information, contact the NOAA Budget Office: (202) 482-4600 – or – AskNOAABudget@noaa.gov



Temporary Berthing for HENRY B. BIGELOW (FSV 2) +\$1.0M: Funding will address berthing issues associated with delivery of NOAA's second new FSV, which will be home-ported in the northeastern United States.

Calibration for HENRY B. BIGELOW +\$3.5M: Funds operational and maintenance costs to calibrate BIGELOW with the ship it eventually will replace, ALBATROSS IV, which is 45 years old. BIGELOW is scheduled to be delivered to NOAA in the third quarter of FY 2006.

Hydro Survey Launch Construction +\$2.4M: Funds construction of two hydrographic survey launches equipped with multibeam sonar equipment. These boats can enter shallow waters and will replace launches that have exceeded their useful lives on RANIER.

Fisheries Survey Vessels (FSVs 3 & 4) -\$18.6M: Net decreases are requested as these vessels near completion. FSV 4 will support the management of Pacific whiting, the largest West Coast fishery, which generates about \$30M a year in commercial sales. It will be homeported on the West Coast. FSV 3 will collect fish stock data and data necessary to protect marine mammals in the Gulf of Mexico, and will be home-ported in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

OMAO FY 2007 Budget Request (\$ in Millions)				
	FY06 Enacted	FY07 Base	Program Change	FY07 Request
ORF	\$ 133.3	\$ 122.9	\$ 7.0	\$ 129.9
PAC	\$ 75.1	\$ 35.5	-\$ 14.9	\$ 20.7
Other	\$ 20.1	\$ 21.3	\$ 0.0	\$ 21.3
TOTAL	\$ 228.6	\$ 179.7	-\$ 7.9	\$ 171.9