



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

November 8, 2016

NOAA'S Office of National Marine Sanctuaries invites applicants to request ship time aboard the Research Vessels *Fulmar* and *R4107* for calendar year 2017. These vessels serve the Monterey Bay, Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank national marine sanctuaries, and are home ported in Monterey Harbor. All persons or groups interested in ship time must submit requested days at sea via an online system called "Vessel Project Manager" (VPM) which can be found here: <http://sanctuarysimon.org/vpm/login.php>

Due to budget limitations, applicants will be asked to help offset operational costs at a day rate of \$3,000 for the *Fulmar* and \$1,400 for *R4107*. This funding contributes to operational costs for the vessel including crew and fuel for up to 10 hours of operations. Flex days can be arranged in advance at a reduced rate of \$900 for the purpose of mobilization/demobilization and to provide a cushion for weather. Additional costs will be charged for overnight anchoring, 24hr underway operations and operations requiring more than two crewmembers. Cancellations require at least 15 days' notice or are subject to a fee not less than the flex day rate.

Ship time requests are considered on an ongoing basis throughout the year, **however, for projects conducted during the prime field season (June-October), VPM entries must be submitted by Friday February 17, 2017 for priority consideration.**

Priority will be assigned to those projects that most closely match Sanctuary's Management Plans or Sanctuary Science Needs requirements. For more information please visit the following websites:

<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/mpr/welcome.html>

<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/science/assessment/welcome.html>

All organizations receiving ship time will be requested to post summary information and products on the SIMoN website (<http://www.sanctuarysimon.org>), if applicable. Vessel specs are also available on this site at http://www.sanctuarysimon.org/regional_sections/fulmar/index.php. Compliance with trip requirements, including timely submission of cruise plans and summary cruise reports, observance of safe operations, and the appropriate use of vessel equipment, will be expected.

If you have any questions about this overall process or to schedule ship time during the non-prime season, contact Jean de Marignac, West Coast Field Operations Coordinator at (831) 647-6455 or jean.demarignac@noaa.gov.