

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

December 4, 2023

NOAA'S Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) invites applicants to request ship time aboard the Research Vessel *Fulmar* for calendar year 2024. The vessel serves 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://sanctuariesimon.org/vpm/login.php>

Due to budget limitations, applicants will be asked to help offset operational costs. The current cost-sharing rate is \$4,200 for the *Fulmar*, which includes offsetting the costs of crew, fuel and general maintenance for up to 10 hours of at-sea operations. Flex days can be arranged in advance at a reduced rate of \$1,000 for the purpose of mobilization/demobilization and to provide a cushion for weather. Additional cost-share will be required for overnight anchoring, 24hr underway operations and operations requiring more than two crewmembers. Cancellations require at least 15 days' notice or are otherwise 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 March 1st, 2024, 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 vessel time will be requested to post summary information and products on the SIMoN website (<http://www.sanctuariesimon.org>), if applicable. Vessel specs are also available on this site at <https://sanctuariesimon.org/regional-nms/rv-fulmar/>. 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.