



Single-Year Vessel Charter for Management Activities in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

PMNM Management 2025

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

This statement of work is for a management cruise to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) that supports requirements for the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM), The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, and the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. The Contractor supports three major tasks for this project including transit to study locations, providing meal and berthing accommodations, and operations during on-water activities. NOAA will provide operations coordination and will have the overall responsibility and decision-making for how the activities are safely accomplished during the vessel charter in coordination with the Captain of the vessel.

SPECIFICATIONS

Specification 1: Transport to and from Operations Locations

The contractor must provide a vessel, personnel, equipment, services and operational support for multi-day operations in the NWHI which may include small boat transport to islands within Papahānaumokuākea. Charter operations must begin and end in Honolulu, Hawai'i. A total of 24 underway days is required, with two individual cruises at 14 and 10 days each. The preferred period of operation is between June 1-30, 2025.

The contractor must provide at least 5 days for mobilization and demobilization. A charter day consists of 24 hours of transit with a maximum of 11 operational hours on station. Operational hours may extend beyond the 11 hours depending upon the research that needs to be accomplished. The decision will be based on the type of activity, weather, sea state, and overall work progress. The operations coordinator or designated alternate has final authority for the work schedule except for work stoppage



resulting from uncontrollable situations such as unsafe weather and sea state conditions and other safety-of-life-at-sea considerations as determined by the Captain.

The contractor will assist with ONMS Staff obtaining NOAA vessel chartering clearance. This includes submitting documentation of the vessel's valid Certificate of Inspection (COI) or U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Letter of Designation, Merchant Mariner Credentials for the Master, Pearl Harbor access and other documentation.

Specification 2: Berthing and Accommodations

Provide acceptable, clean, safe, pest-free, segregated gender berthing and lavatory facilities for 12 NOAA and affiliated personnel. Berthing requirements, including number and gender, will be provided by the operations coordinator. The operations coordinator and Captain will work together on a detailed berthing plan to accommodate the gender mix of the personnel, taking into consideration the current complement of the ship.

The vessel shall provide clean linens including mattresses, clean fitted sheets, pillows, and towels for NOAA and affiliated personnel.

A minimum of 3 meals consisting of meat and vegetarian entrée options must be provided at all meals. Water and other beverages for the personnel on board for each day at-sea must be provided. Snacks throughout the day are required. Portable (on the go) lunch and drinks in the small boats are required on small boat operational days. The vessel shall have a potable fresh water supply for vessel and personal use (including showers and laundry) for all personnel aboard for the duration of the charter.

An indoor, dedicated, dry space with a table, storage, and electrical outlets is needed for the field team to do their work. The vessel shall have an indoor dry counter work area suitable for placing government provided computers, printers, and other electronic/office equipment for performing office-type duties. The workspace shall be at least 20 sq ft with adjacent electrical outlets (120VAC, 60 Hz).

Network connections in dry lab and/or staterooms capable of connecting NOAA laptop computers to the internet. Internet access of sufficient bandwidth (at least 10 Mbps) for email, including attachments such as photographs, video files, and data is required. Successful provision of at least one hour per day of internet access of sufficient bandwidth for email with attachments. Local Area Network for scientists to share data via a data server and/or NAS unit is also required. Support PMNM's Starlink.

Space to stage, store, and dry scuba gear and scientific dive equipment.



The vessel shall have a dry storage area of at least 300 sq ft in the interior of the vessel for holding scientific equipment, electronics, and other items. The dry storage area may be continuous or separated into sections throughout the vessel.

All vessel workspaces, berthing, compressor intakes, and galley spaces shall be adequately ventilated and free from tobacco smoke, excessive engine noise, and hydrocarbon fumes.

Specification 3: Field Operations

The vessel and its crew must support the following field operations:

Education and Communication:

NOAA personnel will be conducting snorkeling, open circuit diving, and small boat operations. Potential work may also include unmanned aerial system (drone) surveys and deployment and the use of photography equipment. NOAA and affiliated personnel will work with the contractor to load dive gear. The contractor is responsible for launching and recovering small boats to get to dedicated operational sites, including landings as directed. The vessel must stay within VHF radio range to support small boats and monitor their operations for logistics and safety. The vessel is to support small boat fueling, preparation, and minor maintenance and repair if needed.

Vessel must support education and communication projects by having sufficient internet bandwidth to include video and photo programs.

Cultural and Maritime Heritage:

The vessel must support cultural and maritime heritage work being done and be sensitive to protect locations of important cultural and maritime heritage sites.

NEED

The contractor must provide equipment and support for operations to include:

- A. A vessel with the size and range to safely transport 12 personnel, two small boats, and dive gear to and from the NWHI, for an estimated 24 days at-sea for management and education projects to be performed by NOAA and affiliate personnel, preferably between June 1-30, 2025.
- B. Two small boats and coxswains. At a minimum these small boats will hold 6 personnel and 10 SCUBA tanks with associated dive and scientific equipment. Coxswains will work with operations coordinator and Captain to provide for safe and productive operations.
- C. Proof of crane testing and compliance w/ OSHA and USCG regulations.



- D. Deck crane, davit, or A-Frame suitable for the safe launch and recovery of small boats (approximately 6,600 lbs when loaded with gear and personnel). Safe launching that will include at a minimum 4 points of contact, 5 staff to handle lines, and a minimum of 4 cleats for launching.
- E. The contractor shall load and off-load equipment and gear via ship's crane, as necessary.
- F. The contractor shall furnish the necessary personnel/crew, equipment, and services to support dive operations provided in project/mission instructions.
- G. The contractor shall accommodate minor modifications to the deck space or removal and/or relocation of equipment to accommodate the project as needed.
- H. The vessel must provide deck storage for up to: one (1) recompression chamber in a 20' conex box and associated equipment, two (2) 10' conex boxes, scuba fill station system two (2) 5'x4'x6' & one (1) 4'x4'x8', three (3) 2'x4' scuba tank tubs, eight (8) 4'x4' pallet tubs, one (1) 4'x4' rinse tank, and misc scientific gear.
- I. Saltwater and freshwater available on deck.
- J. The vessel will provide a shaded laydown area for prepping and working on field gear.
- K. Electrical power sources of 110V and 3 phase 240 and/or 480 will be provided. The vessel crew will run electrical power to required areas.
- L. Vessel shall have a location to secure a Hazmat cabinet 24" x 18" x 36".
- M. Adequate fresh water spigots and a sink for gear wash-down, space to facilitate washing/drying of equipment on deck, and internal storage capacity for the disposal of rinse tank gray water while working within PMNM.
- N. A satellite phone or other means to contact project leadership in the event of an emergency and/or for routine consultations and updates.
- O. The vessel Captain must have experience navigating open ocean, inshore, and coastal areas similar to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.
- P. No diving (freediving, snorkel, or SCUBA) or small boat operations outside of mission operations will be conducted by the vessel crew or NOAA personnel unless it's an emergency.
- Q. No Fishing in restricted areas or if it affects mission operations. Any fishing must be approved by the operations coordinator.
- R. The contractor shall provide for all operating expenses of the vessel and contractor supplied equipment including contract vessel's small boat fuel.
- S. NOAA personnel will not be involved in responsibilities typical of the vessel's crew, such as in standing watch, handling of lines, launching/recovering small boats, cooking meals, cleaning, or operating mechanical or non-Government equipment.
- T. Must comply with all PMNM Permit and preaccess requirements.
- U. The contractor shall provide for all operating expenses of the vessel and contractor supplied equipment including contract vessel's small boat fuel.



- V. NOAA personnel will not be involved in responsibilities typical of the vessel's crew, such as in standing watch, handling of lines, launching/recovering small boats, cooking meals, cleaning, or operating mechanical or non-Government equipment.
- W. Must comply with all PMNM Permit and preaccess requirements.

HOW TO APPLY

Application packages should be submitted by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time on Wednesday, December 18, 2024. Please submit your application package to the Foundation through C-STAAR – the Foundation's Collaborative System for Tracking Activities, Awards, and Reporting - using the following link: <https://marinesanctuary.smartsimple.com/>.

Please direct all questions regarding this RFP to support@marinesanctuary.org with the email subject line: RFP Single-Year Vessel Charter for Management Activities in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Question: [Name of Organization].

Application packages should include:

- Completed Proposal

Determinations will be made by December 30, 2024.

ABOUT US

The [National Marine Sanctuary Foundation](#) was founded in 2000 by America's most influential ocean conservation leaders and works with communities and NOAA to conserve and expand these special places for a healthy ocean, coasts, and Great Lakes. Sanctuaries and monuments are our essential network of protected waters, owned by every American and championed by us. Connected by currents, they sustain miraculous species, coastal communities, and our shared heritage. The Foundation is a leading voice for U.S.-protected waters, and our work extends from the ocean floor to the classroom to Capitol Hill. The Foundation supports a growing portfolio of Community Stewardship, Outreach, and Education programs aimed at providing students, educators, and lifelong learners with opportunities to explore and discover connections to the natural world, no matter where they live.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

This is a Request for Proposals (RFP) only. Issuance of this RFP does not in any way obligate the Foundation to make an award or pay for costs incurred by potential offerors in the preparation and submission of an offer. In addition:

- (a) The Foundation may cancel RFP and not award;
- (b) The Foundation may reject any or all responses received;
- (c) Issuance of RFP does not constitute award commitment by The Foundation;
- (d) The Foundation reserves the right to disqualify any offer based on offeror failure to follow RFP instructions;
- (e) The Foundation will not compensate offerors for a response to RFP;



- (f) The Foundation reserves the right to issue an award based on an initial evaluation of offers without further discussion;
- (g) The Foundation may negotiate with short-listed offerors for their best and final offer;
- (h) The Foundation reserves the right to order additional quantities or units with the selected offer or;
- (i) The Foundation may reissue the solicitation or issue formal amendments revising the original RFP specifications and evaluation criteria before or after receipt of proposals;
- (j) The Foundation may modify the specifications without issuing a formal notice to all offerors when the revisions are immaterial to the scope of the RFP;
- (k) The Foundation may choose to award only part of the activities in the RFP or issue multiple awards based on multiple RFP activities; and
- (l) The Foundation reserves the right to waive minor proposal deficiencies that can be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition.