



## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY October 6, 2011

NOAA'S Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) invites applicants to request shiptime aboard the Research Vessels *Fulmar* and *R4107* for calendar year 2012. These vessels serve the Monterey Bay, Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank national marine sanctuaries, and are homeported in Monterey Harbor. All persons or groups interested in shiptime must submit requested days at sea via an online system called "Vessel Project Manager" (VPM) which can be found at:

<http://sanctuarysimon.org/vpm/login.php>

Due to budget limitations, applicants will be asked to offset operational costs at a day rate of \$3,000 for the *Fulmar* and \$1,200 for *R4107*. This rate contributes to operational costs for the vessel including crew, fuel, and general maintenance. Flex days can be arranged in advance at a reduced rate of \$800 for *Fulmar* and \$400 for *R4107* for the purpose of mobilization/demobilization and to provide a cushion for weather. Note, the boats will not leave the dock on flex days, however crew will be available to assist science parties.

Attached are instructions for first time users. **All entries must be submitted into the VPM by Monday, February 1, 2012.** Timely submission will ensure full consideration of your request.

We anticipate being able to offer a minimum of 50 days for all external projects in calendar year 2012. We may assign priority to those projects that most closely match the three Sanctuary's Management Plan requirements. In particular, our research efforts will focus on the following areas:

- **Monterey Bay NMS:** Monitoring and characterization related to state MLPA areas and deepwater characterization R/V *Fulmar* Contact: [Karen.Grimmer@noaa.gov](mailto:Karen.Grimmer@noaa.gov)
- **Gulf of the Farallones NMS:** Please see management plan for research priorities R/V *Fulmar* Contact: [Tim.Reed@noaa.gov](mailto:Tim.Reed@noaa.gov)
- **Cordell Bank NMS:** Please see management plan for research priorities R/V *Fulmar* Contact: [Michael.Carver@noaa.gov](mailto:Michael.Carver@noaa.gov)
- **West Coast Regional Office:** R/V *R4107* Contact: [Lorraine.Anglin@noaa.gov](mailto:Lorraine.Anglin@noaa.gov)

The data collected during these cruises will help inform management decisions at all three sites and with state and federal partners. For more information on the plan priorities for each of the three sanctuaries, please visit the following website: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/mpr/welcome.html> and click on the name of the sanctuary of interest.

Allocation decisions will be made by February 22, and project coordinators will be informed that week. Operations will begin on March 1<sup>st</sup> and the full 2012 schedule will be posted on an online calendar.

All organizations receiving shiptime 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](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 process, please feel free to contact Karen Grimmer, Deputy Superintendent, MBNMS ([Karen.Grimmer@noaa.gov](mailto:Karen.Grimmer@noaa.gov)).

# MEMO

October 6, 2011

TO: R/V *Fulmar* and *R4107* Shiptime Request Applicants  
RE: Vessel Project Manager

The R/V *Fulmar* and *R4107* are assets of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) West Coast Region that serves the Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones, and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries. Vessel logistics and marine operations are coordinated by staff based in Monterey Bay.

To manage requests for days at sea aboard the research vessels, the “Vessel Project Manager” (VPM) was developed by the Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN). This centralized data management system is an operations tool that effectively and efficiently manages all ship time requests, provides transparency across sanctuary sites, and automates several management routines.

VPM allows Cruise Leaders (CL) to:

1. Submit project proposals

For accepted projects, CLs can:

2. Enter all cruise plan details
3. Enter all post-cruise summaries
4. Submit all other proposed deliverables upon completing the project

The Vessel Project Manager is a centralized information management tool. There are multiple benefits of a centralized system, including:

- Accessibility by multiple sites via the web
- Centralized control by a single administrator
- Elimination of “multiple copies or versions” of proposals, plans, etc.
- Record of decision-making process
- Automated features, such as an email notification system
- Summary statistics on vessel use and automated reporting

For questions or tech support regarding the VPM, please contact Lorraine Anglin, Vessel Operations Coordinator at (831) 647-1920