

SUPPORT VESSELS

APPLICATION: A large array of vessels are maintained and leased by NURC/UNCW to support wet-diving, ROV, surface deployed research, and manned submersible operations. Scientific and equipment requirements are closely matched to the support vessel to maximize mission success and minimize cost. Vessel time is acquired from commercial vendors, educational institutions, and state and federal sources.

DESCRIPTION: Vessels maintained by NURC/UNCW are generally small (35 feet or less), fast, multi-purpose vessels used to support day trip operations (leave and return within 12 hours) in the Florida Keys region. All are USCG-designated research vessels inspected by NOAA and the USCG. These and other small leased vessels are utilized for coastal and near shore research. Larger vessels are leased for extended at-sea missions and sized according to equipment and scientific requirements. NOAA requires that all leased vessels comply with SOLAS safety inspections.