

EcoFOCI Spring Mooring Cruise

P. Stabeno, NOAA

phyllis.stabeno@noaa.gov, heather.tabisola@noaa.gov

Chief Scientist, Shaun Bell

NOAA



EcoFOCI Spring Mooring Cruise Research Expedition Details

Dates: 5/4 - 5/22, 2026 (Kodiak to Dutch Harbor)

Research Area Location: NGOA, SE Bering Sea

Vessel: *NOAA Ship Oscar Dyson*

Communication and outreach plans: Yes.

Please contact: Primary:

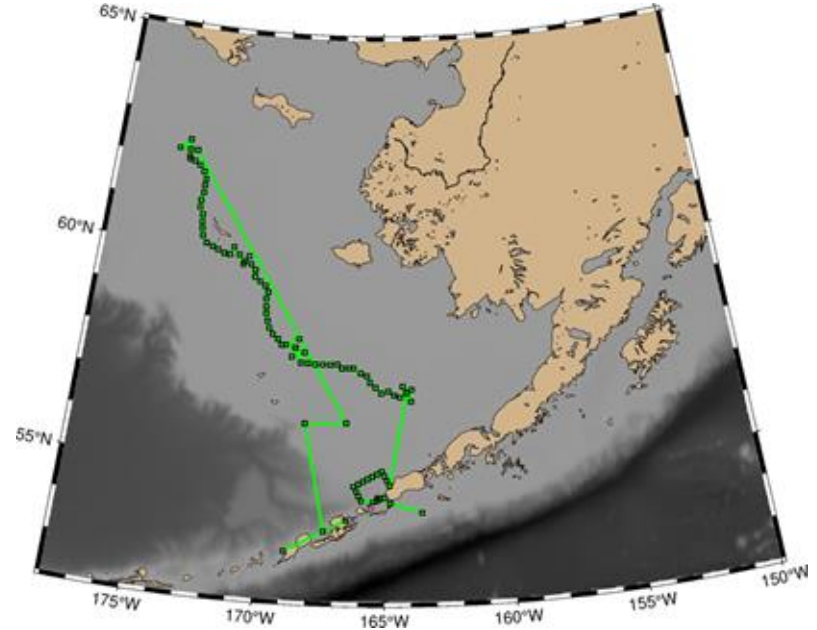
heather.tabisola@noaa.gov; w/ CC:

theo.stein@noaa.gov (PMEL), and

jennifer.ferdinand@noaa.gov (AFSC)

Social Media: @NOAAResearch,
@NOAAFisheriesAK (IG, X) & @uaf-oarc-
alaska.bsky.social

Contact Information: phyllis.stabeno@noaa.gov, heather.tabisola@noaa.gov



Map showing the overall working area for cruise DY25-04. Green line is a hypothetical track line that is not optimized and does not show the transit from Kodiak.





Eco ing Cruise

P. Stabeno, NOAA

phyllis.stabeno@noaa.gov, heather.tabisola@noaa.gov

Chief Scientist, Ryan McCabe

NOAA



EcoFOCI Fall Mooring Cruise Research Expedition Details

Dates: 8/4 - 9/1, 2026

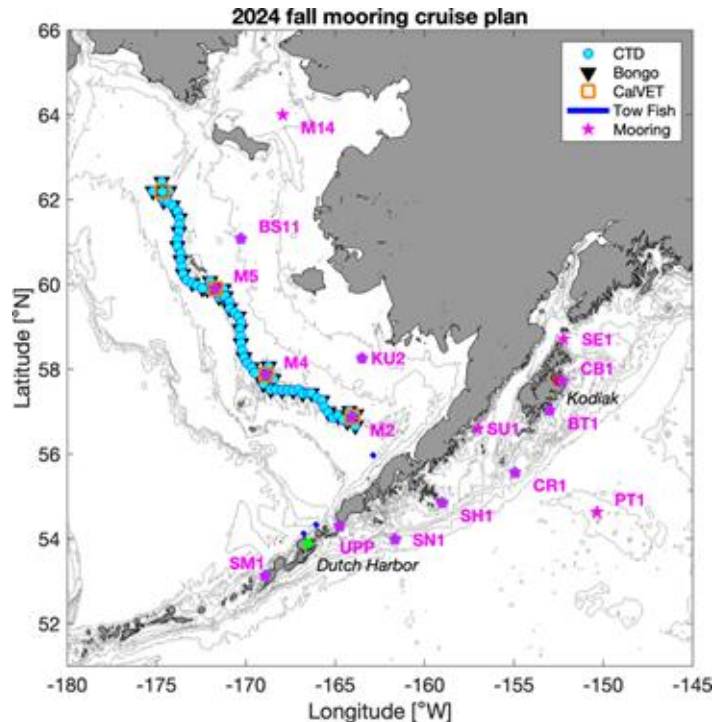
Research Area Location: SE Bering Sea/ US Arctic

Vessel: NOAA Ship Shimada

Communication and outreach plans: Yes. Please contact: Primary: heather.tabisola@noaa.gov; w/ CC: theo.stein@noaa.gov (PMEL), and jennifer.ferdinand@noaa.gov (AFSC)

Social Media: @NOAAResearch,
@NOAAFisheriesAK (IG, X) & @uaf-oarc-
alaska.bsky.social

Contact Information: phyllis.stabeno@noaa.gov, heather.tabisola@noaa.gov





Key Scientific Questions & Motivations

Mission: Annual survey to provide baseline fisheries and oceanographic data to support sustainable management of living resources in the Bering Sea and the rapidly changing US Arctic ecosystem.

Goals: Goals of the spring mooring cruise include a turn around of various NOAA biophysical (PMEL) and passive acoustic (AFSC) moorings located in the Bering Sea, perform CTD (PMEL), Bongo and CalVET (AFSC) surveys at long-term EcoFOCI sampling sites.

Brief summary of activities: (Spring) This project is intended to recover five (5) PMEL subsurface moorings and to deploy five (5) PMEL subsurface moorings and two (2) PMEL surface moorings at the Bering Sea sites of M2, M4, and KU2. In addition, four (4) marine mammal moorings (AFSC) are to be recovered and four (4) marine mammal moorings will be deployed. A hydrographic/biological survey consisting of Conductivity/Temperature/Depth (CTD) casts, 20/60 cm bongo tows and California Vertical Egg Tows (CalVETs) in the Unimak Pass area, along the 70-meter isobath in the Bering Sea as far north as the sea ice permits, and in boxes around the 4 mooring sites at M2, M4, M5, & M8. Additionally, we will deploy one (1) satellite tracked drifter. No gliders, sonobuoys, or pop-ups will be deployed this cruise. Additional projects include HABs, Flow Cytometry, eDNA and an IFCB. **Fall** is similar and in current planning process.

Contact Information: phyllis.stabeno@noaa.gov, heather.tabisola@noaa.gov





EcoFOCI FY26 Planned Research Cruises/Survey

Start Date	End Date	Port - Depart	Port - Arrive	DAS	Cruise Location	Name: Activities	Ship & Cruise No.
5/4/2026	5/21/2026	Kodiak, AK	Dutch Harbor, AK	17	Bering Sea, US Arctic	EcoFOCI - Spring Mooring/ PMEL LEAD (NOAAS Oscar Dyson): Description: annual spring mooring cruise to support biological & physical oceanographic ecosystem data in the eastern Bering Sea/ US Arctic	NOAAS Oscar Dyson
TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Gulf of Alaska	EcoFOCI - Spring Larval Cruise/ AFSC LEAD	NOAAS Oscar Dyson
TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	US Arctic	NOAA Arctic & Ecosystem Research Cruise/ ARCTIC PROGRAM LEAD: Description: comprehensive US Arctic-focused survey in support of NOAA arctic observing systems, programs such as the DBO, and collaborative efforts across NOAA-arctic research	TBD
8/4/2026	9/1/2026	Kodiak, AK	Kodiak, AK	29	Bering Sea, US Arctic	EcoFOCI - Fall Mooring/ PMEL LEAD: Description: annual fall mooring cruise to support biological & physical oceanographic ecosystem data in the eastern Bering Sea/ US Arctic (& Chiniak)	NOAAS Shimada



Potential Areas of Collaboration

For requests, please contact Phyllis and CC Heather.

Expedition participants include scientists from: NOAA, NOAA Cooperative Institutes, the US Fish and Wildlife Service among others.

How much available berth space is there (if any)? Annually changes & request dependant.

Is there space for other equipment and/or to collect data for other teams? Request and space dependant, but likely. This includes incorporating instruments on long-term moorings (M2 etc)

Can you make your data available for others to collaborate on? EcoFOCI follows NOAA FAIR Data practices. For data requests, reach out to Phyllis with cc to Shaun Bell and/or Peggy Sullivan (general cruise & physical oceanography), Kimberly Bahl (plankton).

What opportunities are there to work with Indigenous & other local communities? We are working to establish a pathway to include NOAA supported Indigenous community members on the cruise. Student Internship programs, data analysis projects, communications, etc...

What are your collaboration needs (locating moorings, etc.)? Potential for mooring and/or glider recoveries in Federal FY25 and FY26. Deployment of pop-up buoys.

Contact Information: phyllis.stabeno@noaa.gov, heather.tabisola@noaa.gov

