



NOAA ships and planes trading cards for printing at home

Instructions

Download and print this PDF onto 8.5 x 11 inch paper using double-sided printing. Carefully cut along the dashed lines to separate each card. Then use these trading cards to get to know NOAA's ships and planes!

This document is formatted for printing only. To access the content, go to noaa.gov/ships-planes-cards.

NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations



Beechcraft King Air 350CER



Tail numbers: N67RF, N68RF



NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations



De Havilland DHC-6-300 Twin Otter



Tail numbers: N46RF, N48RF, N56RF, N57RF



NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations



Gulfstream Turbo Commander AC-695A



Tail number: N45RF



NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations



Gulfstream IV-SP



Nickname: Gonzo



NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations



Lockheed WP-3D Orion



Nicknames: Kermit and Miss Piggy



NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations



Bell M. Shimada



Fisheries survey vessel



NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations



Fairweather



Hydrographic survey vessel



NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations



Ferdinand R. Hassler



Hydrographic survey vessel



De Havilland DHC-6-300 Twin Otter

These planes support marine mammal, coastal mapping, and snow surveys.

Length	51 ft, 9 in
Max airspeed	172 mph
Wingspan	65 ft
Empty weight	8,100 lbs

Fun fact!

These planes can cover over 600 nautical miles of survey in a single fuel load.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.oma.noaa.gov/learn/aircraft-operations/aircraft

Beechcraft King Air 350CER

These planes support coastal mapping, snow surveys, and emergency response.

Length	46 ft, 8 in
Max airspeed	282 mph
Wingspan	57 ft, 11 in
Empty weight	10,567 lbs

Fun fact!

These planes can remain airborne for 7-8 hours.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.oma.noaa.gov/learn/aircraft-operations/aircraft

Lockheed WP-3D Orion

These planes are “Hurricane Hunters” that collect data for hurricane and tropical storm research and forecasting.

Length	116 ft, 10 in
Max airspeed	287 mph
Wingspan	99 ft, 8 in
Empty weight	73,000 lbs

Fun fact!

These planes are among the largest within the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations fleet.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.oma.noaa.gov/learn/aircraft-operations/aircraft

Gulfstream IV-SP

This plane collects data for hurricane research and forecasts, atmospheric studies, and more to support National Hurricane Center forecasts.

Length	87 ft, 7 in
Max airspeed	529 mph
Wingspan	77 ft, 10 in
Empty weight	43,700 lbs

Fun fact!

This plane has a range of nearly 4,000 nautical miles and a cruising altitude of 45,000 feet.

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www.oma.noaa.gov/learn/aircraft-operations/aircraft

Gulfstream Turbo Commander AC-695A

This plane collected data for flooding forecasts and water resource management as well as emergency response tasks.

Length	87 ft, 6 in
Max airspeed	287 mph
Wingspan	43 ft
Empty weight	7,300 lbs

Fun fact!

This plane would fly low over snow covered regions to measure the water content of the snowpack below.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.oma.noaa.gov/learn/aircraft-operations/aircraft

Ferdinand R. Hassler

This ship scans the sea floor for hazards, measures water depth, and maps features like underwater mountains and canyons.

Home port	New Castle, NH
Commission date	June 8, 2012
Length	122.87 ft
Areas of operation	Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico

Fun fact!

This ship was used following Hurricane Matthew in 2016 to detect underwater hazards from the storm.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.oma.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Fairweather

This ship maps the ocean to support safe navigation and commerce. It also collects data for ocean research projects.

Home port	Ketchikan, AK
Commission date	April 10, 1968
Length	231 ft
Areas of operation	Pacific Ocean

Fun fact!

This ship celebrated 50 years of service with NOAA in 2018 and is named after Mt. Fairweather in Alaska.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.oma.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Bell M. Shimada

This ship is used to study marine life, sea birds, and ocean conditions along the U.S. West Coast.

Home port	Newport, OR
Commission date	August 25, 2010
Length	208.6 ft
Areas of operation	Pacific Ocean

Fun fact!

This ship was designed to run quietly as to not disturb fish and marine mammals during research studies.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.oma.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Gordon Gunter



Oceanographic
research vessel



NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Henry B. Bigelow



Fisheries
survey vessel



NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Nancy Foster



Oceanographic
research vessel



NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Okeanos Explorer



Oceanographic
research vessel



NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Oregon II



Fisheries
survey vessel



NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Oscar Dyson



Fisheries
survey vessel



NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Oscar Elton Sette



Oceanographic
research vessel



NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Pisces



Fisheries
survey vessel



NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Rainier



Hydrographic
survey vessel



Nancy Foster

This ship supports fish habitat and population studies as well as seafloor mapping surveys.

Home port	Charleston, SC
Commission date	May 10, 2004
Length	187 ft
Areas of operation	Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico

Fun fact!

The ship was named for Dr. Nancy Foster, who led several NOAA programs to explore, map, protect, and sustainably develop coastal and fishery resources.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Henry B. Bigelow

This ship is used to study and monitor fish stocks, conduct habitat assessments, and survey marine mammal and seabird populations.

Home port	Newport, RI
Commission date	July 16, 2007
Length	208.6 ft
Areas of operation	North Atlantic

Fun fact!

This ship traveled over 23,500 miles in 2019.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Gordon Gunter

The ship collects fisheries data by stern trawling, longlining, and the deployment of plankton nets and other types of gear.

Home port	Pascagoula, MS
Commission date	August 28, 1998
Length	224 ft
Areas of operation	Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico

Fun fact!

The ship is named after Dr. Gordon Gunter, whose career as a marine biologist and leader in marine research and education spanned over 60 years.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Oscar Dyson

This ship collects data on fish populations, conducts marine and seabird surveys, and studies marine ecosystems.

Home port	Kodiak, AK
Commission date	May 28, 2005
Length	208.6 ft
Areas of operation	Pacific Ocean

Fun fact!

This ship is an ultra-quiet fisheries survey vessel that operates in the most delicate marine environments without disturbing the ecosystem.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Oregon II

This ship conducts a variety of fisheries, plankton, and marine mammal surveys.

Home port	Pascagoula, MS
Commission date	March 12, 1975
Length	170 ft
Areas of operation	Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico

Fun fact!

This ship has conducted an annual longline red snapper and shark survey since 1995.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Okeanos Explorer

This ship explores the sea for shipwrecks, new marine species, and other features of our largely unexplored ocean.

Home port	Newport, RI
Commission date	August 13, 2008
Length	224 ft
Areas of operation	Global, International

Fun fact!

This ship has a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) and video system that allows viewers on shore to follow expeditions live.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Rainier

This ship maps the ocean to improve maritime commerce and coastal resilience as well as maintain NOAA's nautical charts.

Home port	Newport, OR
Commission date	October, 1968
Length	231 ft
Areas of operation	Pacific Ocean

Fun fact!

The ship's side-scan sonar collects imagery of the sea floor, which can identify obstructions or wrecks that could be navigational hazards.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Pisces

This ship assists in a wide range of living marine resource surveys and ecosystem research projects.

Home port	Pascagoula, MS
Commission date	2009
Length	208 ft
Areas of operation	Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico

Fun fact!

This ship was selected as the NOAA Marine Operations Ship of the Year in 2018.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Oscar Elton Sette

This ship conducts fisheries assessments, physical and chemical oceanography research, and marine debris and mammal surveys.

Home port	Honolulu, HI
Commission date	1992
Length	224 ft
Areas of operation	Pacific Ocean

Fun fact!

This ship is equipped with computer laboratories onboard.

www.noaa.gov/education
www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Reuben Lasker



Fisheries
survey vessel



NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Ronald H. Brown



Oceanographic
research vessel



NOAA Office of Marine
and Aviation Operations



Thomas Jefferson



Hydrographic
survey vessel



Thomas Jefferson

This ship has sonar technology that collects images of the seafloor to identify underwater obstructions or shipwrecks.

Home port

Norfolk, VA

Commission date

July 8, 2003

Length

208 ft

Areas of operation

Atlantic, Caribbean,
Gulf of Mexico

Fun fact!

This ship traveled to Puerto Rico to identify submerged hazards after Hurricane Maria.

www.noaa.gov/education

www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Ronald H. Brown

The ship's sampling capability allows scientists to observe dynamics that affect climate and global weather patterns.

Home port

Charleston, SC

Commission date

July 19, 1997

Length

274 ft

Areas of operation

Global, International

Fun fact!

This global-class vessel is the largest in the NOAA fleet.

www.noaa.gov/education

www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships

Reuben Lasker

This ship supports fish, marine mammal, seabird, and turtle surveys in the tropical Pacific Ocean and Alaska.

Home port

San Diego, CA

Commission date

May 2, 2014

Length

208.7 ft

Areas of operation

Pacific Ocean

Fun fact!

The ship has a dynamic positioning system to steer along a predetermined trackline and accurately hold the ship in a fixed position.

www.noaa.gov/education

www.omao.noaa.gov/learn/marine-operations/ships