NOV 27 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR: RADM Michael J. Silah, NOAA
                    Director, NOAA Corps

FROM: RDML Nancy L. Hann, NOAA
                    Deputy Director, NOAA Corps

SUBJECT: NOAA Ships Recommended for Designation as Unusually
                    Arduous Sea Duty in Calendar Year 2019

The schedules of NOAA ships for calendar year 2019 were reviewed based on the latest approved FY2019 Fleet Allocation Plan (dated August 20th, 2018), FY2019 detailed sailing schedules (dated October 1st, 2018), and NOAA fleet operational assumptions for the first three months of FY2020. NOAA vessels designated as unusually arduous sea duty must meet the following three criteria:

(1) The projected absences of the ship from its home port will exceed 183 calendar days in the calendar year;

(2) It is anticipated that the deployments from home port will be periods greater than 90 days at a time; and,

(3) Members will not be allowed to return to homeport frequently.

After a review of the criteria by OMAO and MO staff, I recommend the following NOAA vessels that are commissioned and currently operational be designated as unusually arduous for calendar year 2019: *Fairweather, Ferdinand R, Hassler, Hi'alakai, Okeanos Explorer, Oscar Dyson, Rainier,* and *Reuben Lasker.* If changes to ship schedules warrant additional designations of unusually arduous status later in the year, a memo will be generated requesting those additions.

Once approved, the Director, NC provides the Director, CPC with an approved list of those ships that qualify as ships involving unusually arduous sea duty. The Director, CPC will maintain the approved designated list and sufficient lists from prior years to substantiate entitlements of members who report to ships that qualify under the regulation but are subsequently removed from the list. The Director, CPC will publish the list of qualifying ships and announce any changes to this list.