

# Polar Icebreaker Information Session and Public Scoping Meetings

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security  
United States  
Coast Guard



May 2018 in Anchorage, Utqiagvik (Barrow), Nome, and Kotzebue

*Exact dates and times will be announced in local newspapers, on social media, and on the radio*

**Project Website:** <http://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Acquisitions-CG-9/Programs/Surface-Programs/Polar-Icebreaker/>

## SCOPING COMMENTS

*Your comments submitted on the Draft EIS will become part of the public record, and will be addressed in the Final EIS.*

Public input is essential to ensure the most informed decision is made.

- Review and comment on the Draft EIS
- Sign up for the mailing list
- Check the project website for updates on the EIS and Record of Decision

### How to submit comments:

- In written or oral form at the public meeting
- Via the docket

**Comment must be postmarked or received online by  
June 29, 2018**

## PROJECT INFORMATION



*The USCG needs 6 new polar icebreakers to meet its statutory obligations in the Polar regions*

- The USCG current icebreaker fleet has exceeded or is nearing the end of its designed 30 year service life.
- The new polar icebreakers would provide a variety of support to USCG operations and responsibilities in the Arctic and Antarctic Proposed Action areas (shore/sea/air operations, training exercises, tribal/local engagement).
- The first new icebreaker is expected to be delivered in 2023.

### USCG Missions in the Area

Ice Operations  
Defense Readiness  
Aids to Navigation  
Living Marine Resources  
Marine Safety  
Research Support  
Marine Environmental Protection  
Other Law Enforcement  
Ports, Waterways, and Coastal  
Security  
Search and Rescue

Photo: G. DeVuyst, USCG

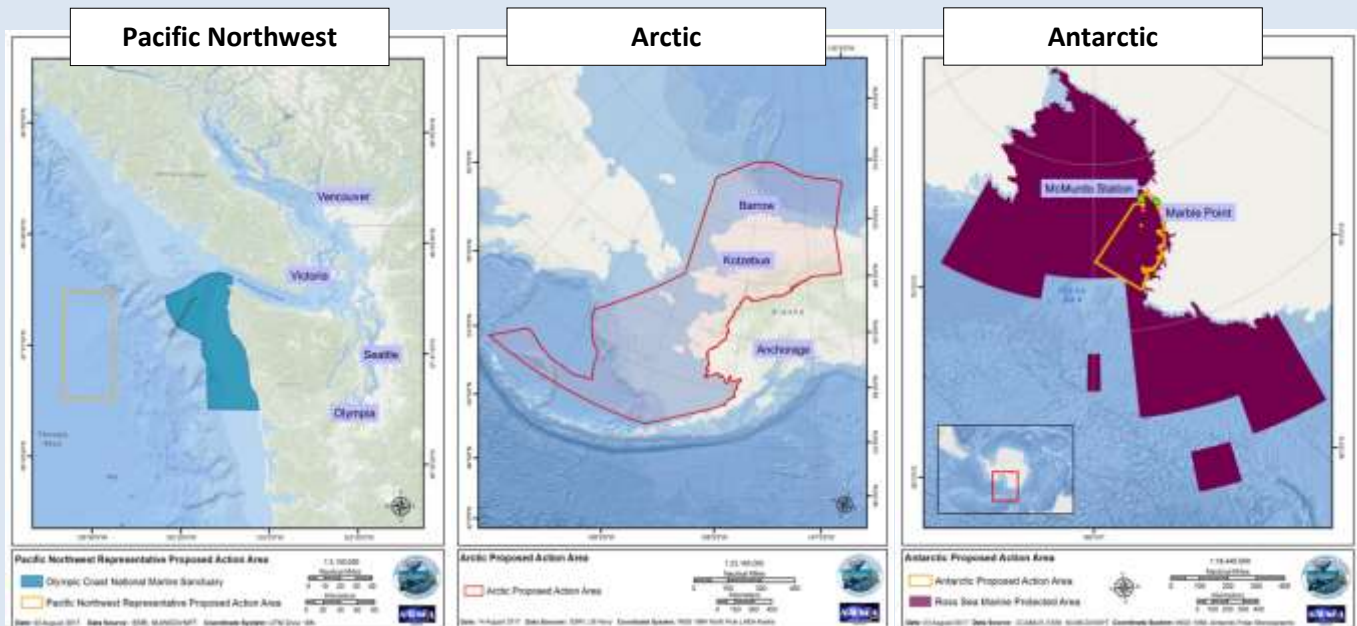


Photo: C. Yaw, USCG



## Proposed Action Areas

Proposed action areas would include the Arctic, Antarctic, and the Pacific Northwest. The fleet would also transit between the proposed action areas and resupply at U.S. and international ports.



Ship operational testing post-drydock (Propulsion, navigational sonar, maneuverability, and gunnery training near anticipated homeport of Seattle, WA)

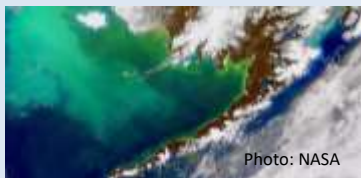
Icebreaking, navigational sonar, support vessels, and aircraft

Icebreaking for vessel access to research facility at McMurdo Station, navigational sonar, support vessels, and aircraft

## Potential Environmental Impacts

Based on preliminary analyses using the best available science, the Coast Guard evaluated the following resources for potential impacts: marine vegetation, invertebrates, fish, seabirds and shorebirds, sea turtles, and marine mammals.

**No significant impact to biological resources is expected**



### Suggestions?

What can the Coast Guard do to ensure that the proposed polar icebreakers would not interfere with Tribal community activities?

*Please let us know!*