

FindAScienceBerth



Connecting underrepresented groups in marine science with available berths on scientific research vessels

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Project background



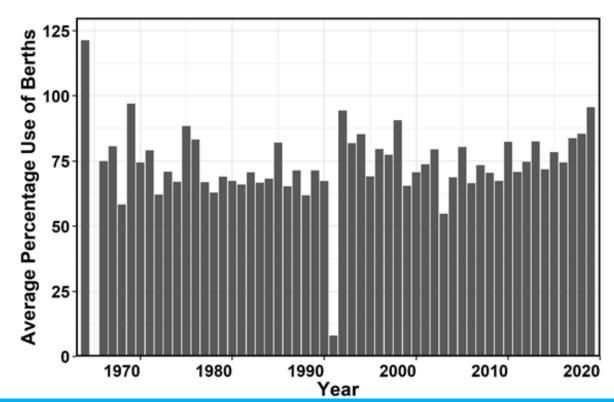
- In marine science, offshore fieldwork represents a **unique skillset** which can only be gained through experience.
- This experience can be advantageous for some career pathways.
- The ability to gain ship experience is **not equal for all.**
- Disadvantages those without prior contacts, e.g. first generation, low socioeconomic status, lack of scientific funding.
- FindAScienceBerth aims to improve equality of opportunity by utilising existing spare capacity on scientific cruises.
- Funded by NERC's EDI Digital Sprint



Project scope



- Based on similar schemes such as CASS and CLASS, applicants bring their own project to the cruise.
- FASB is not designed for unpaid volunteering on existing projects.
- **Open to all** who have an academic affiliation.
- A flipped application scoring system, promotes those who would not otherwise have opportunities.
- FASB does not currently financially support applicants.



Marine Facilities Planning

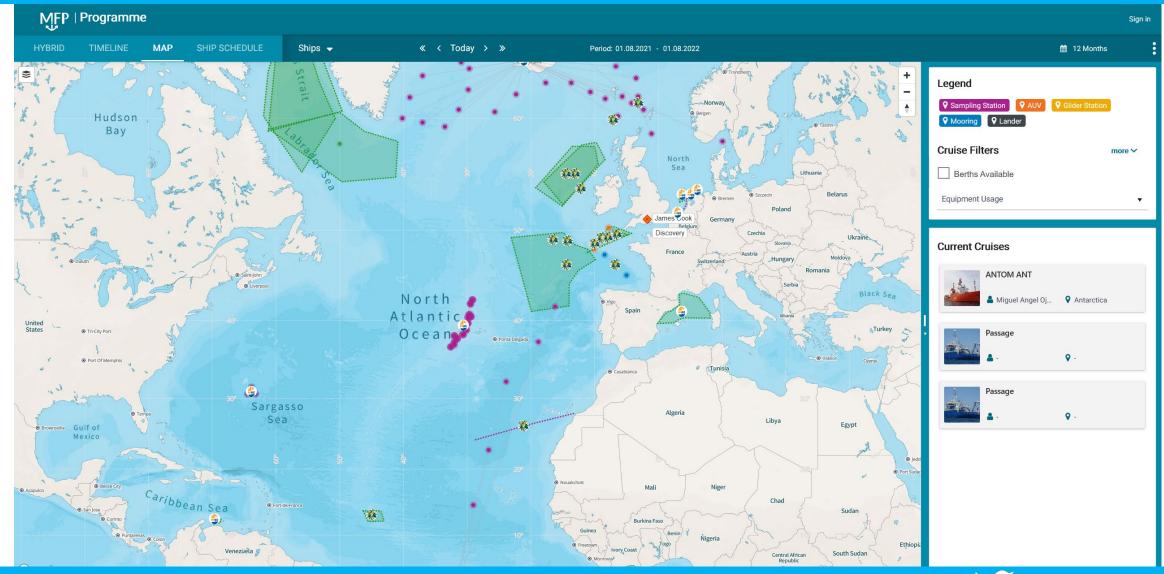


The MFP is a pre-existing global platform for facilitating scheduling of scientific cruises



Marine Facilities Planning





Application Process



Applicant registers for an account

Approved by NERC

Applicant completes
500 word statement
on
interests/background

September

Panel reviews
applications and
assigns a weighting
score annually

October

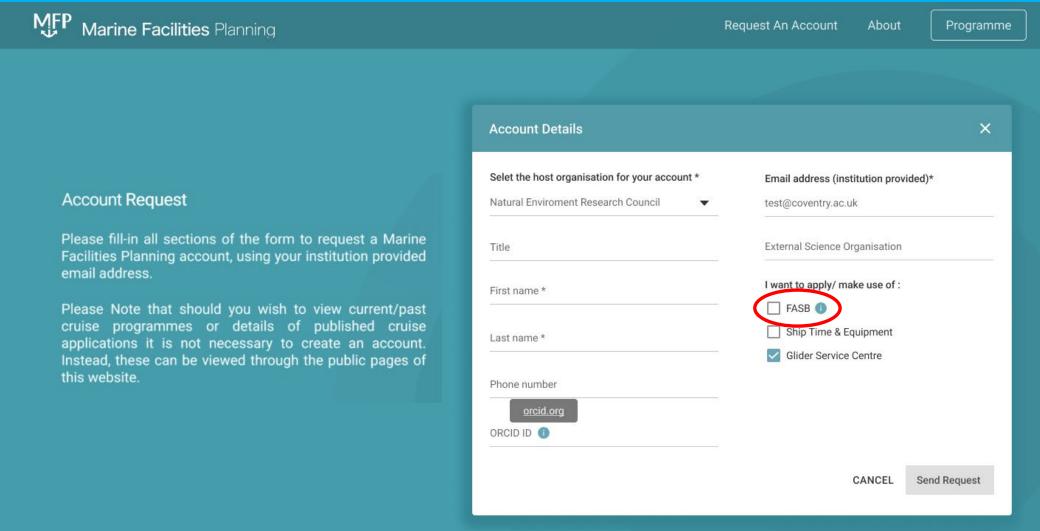
Berths allocated starting with the highest ranking suitable candidate

Chief scientists receive weighting scores and science plans

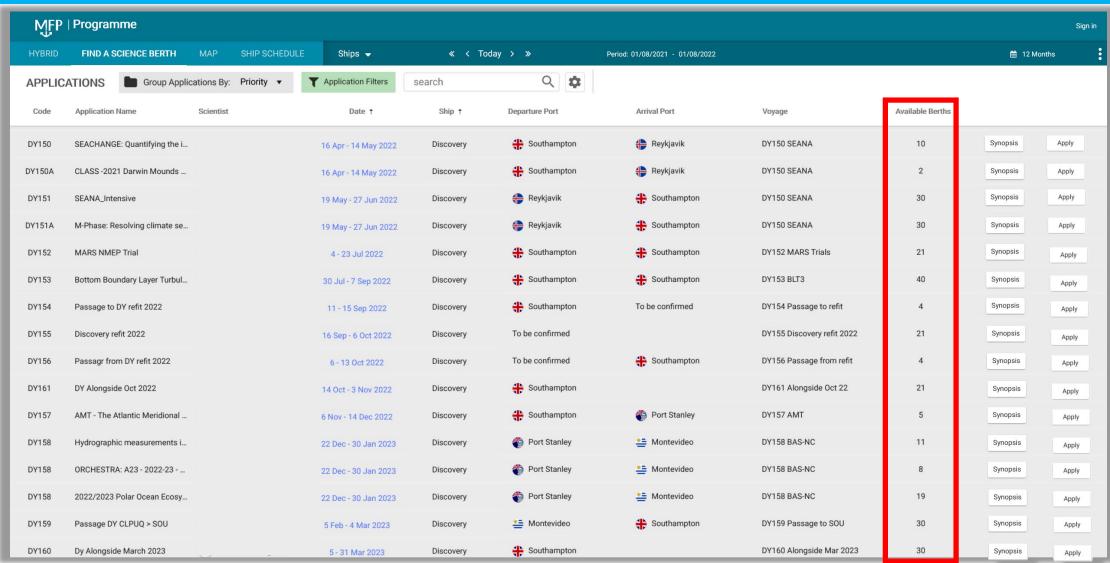
x months prior to cruise

Applicants select cruises they are interested in, providing a science plan

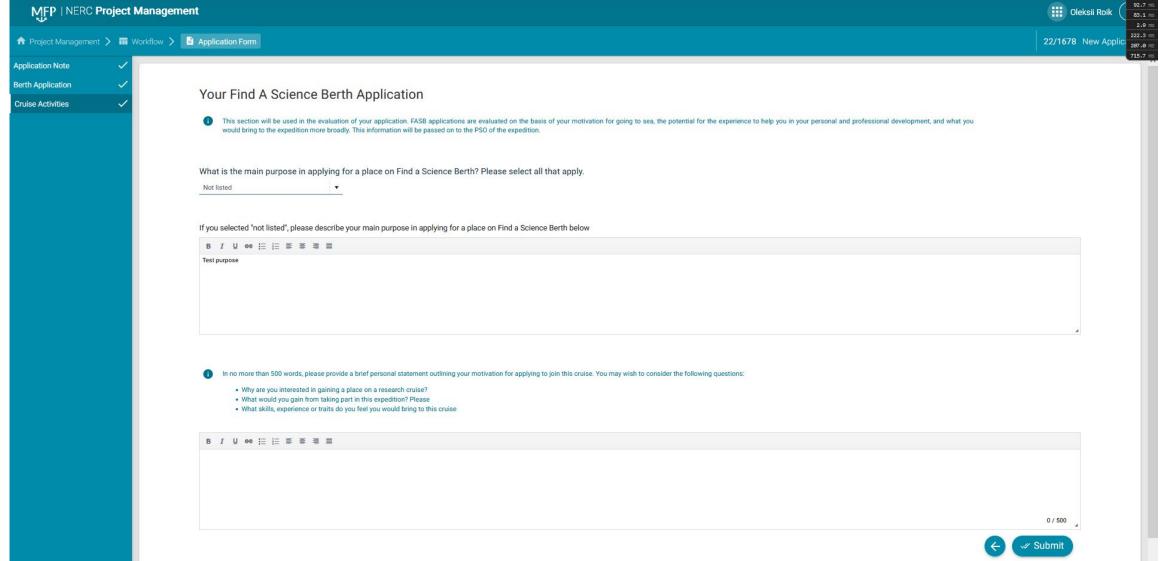
















- In no more than 500 words, please provide a brief personal statement outlining your motivation for applying to join this cruise. You may wish to consider the following questions:
 - · Why are you interested in gaining a place on a research cruise?
 - · What would you gain from taking part in this expedition? Please
 - . What skills, experience or traits do you feel you would bring to this cruise









Voyage Selection

The following voyages are available to accommodate supplementary projects.

You may select more than one voyage.

Once selected, you will be asked to indicate your order of preference. Note: if your application is to participate on multiple voyages, number those voyages as preference 1.

| Project | Departure | Arrival | Available Berths | Preference | Available Hours | Description | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------|--|----------|
| | 9/08/2023 Hobart - Australia | 8/09/2023 Sydney - Australia | 4 | | 24h | Up to 4 berths; up to 24 hours | Synopsis |
| | 19/09/2023 Sydney - Australia | 13/10/2023 Sydney - Australia | 6 | 1st ▼ | 24h | SUPP: Up to 6 berths; up to 24 hours | Synopsis |
| | 20/10/2023 Sydney - Australia | 19/11/2023 Brisbane - Australia | 6 | | - | | Synopsis |
| | 5/11/2023 Hobart - Australia | 10/12/2023 Hobart - Australia | 6 | | 0h | Up to 6 berths; 0 hours | Synopsis |
| | 31/03/2024 Hobart - Australia | 14/04/2024 Hobart - Australia | 12 | 2nd ▼ | 10h | 10+ berths; Some time available overnight (TBD). | Synopsis |
| | 25/04/2024 Hobart - Australia | 25/05/2024 Sydney - Australia | 4 | | 24h | Up to 4 berths; ; up to 24 hours | Synopsis |
| | 3/06/2024 Sydney - Australia | 1/07/2024 Brisbane - Australia | 4 | 3rd ▼ | 24h | Up to 4 berths; ; up to 24 hours | Synopsis |

EDI Monitoring



Characteristics surveyed

- Age
- Career stage
- Income
- Gender identity
- Sexual orientation
- Country of residence
- Ethnicity
- Religion
- Disability
- Parent/carer status

- Kept separate from the wider application process.
- All questions are optional
- Comparison between applicants and those awarded, bias check on selection process.

Challenger Society Survey:

92% identified as being from a white background compared to 86% of the population, while 38% identified as female compared to 51% in the population (Baker et al., unpublished)

Future work



- Aim for UK based roll out
- Integrate EDI data in to NERC's ongoing diversity monitoring
- Possibility for funding travel/training
- Global integration
- Bug fixing, future versions

Chief Scientist Survey

Get involved in our project!

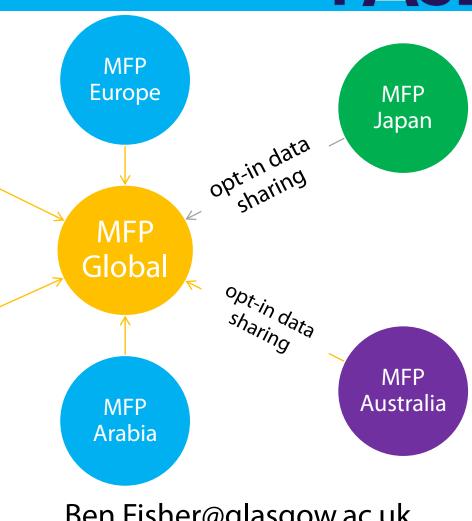


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