

International Ocean Discovery Program
JOIDES Resolution Science Operator

FY25 Q2 Operations and Management Report

1 January–31 March 2025
Cooperative Agreement OCE-1326927

Submitted by the JRSO to
The National Science Foundation

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1. Introduction

This technical report reflects the activities for the second quarter (Q2) of the no-cost extension year of the National Science Foundation (NSF) award to manage and operate the *JOIDES Resolution* for the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP). Post-IODP obligations related to expeditions conducted during IODP are funded by a separate award to the Texas A&M University Research Foundation (TAMRF). Consequently, the activity in the no-cost extension year relates to financial processing of commitments made during IODP and related tasks that are not explicitly covered by the post-IODP obligation award.

2. Financial Closeout

Payment of invoices for expenses related to final JRSO activities that were incurred before 30 September 2024 continued at a reduced level in Q2. Remaining invoices from subcontractors ODL and Schlumberger were paid or were in the final review process. The IODP General Manager's time continued to be charged at the reduced level of 25% to oversee the closeout process. A final insurance premium for the reconciled workers' compensation and liability was also paid.

As required in their contract, ODL has signed a "release of claims" (ROC). The ROC certifies that all invoices have been submitted, there are no outstanding expenses owed or claims against IODP/TAMRF, and IODP/TAMRF is released from any liability related to ODL's work with the program.

Financial commitments have been made for IODP³-NSF Expedition 501 as discussed in the following section. In addition, technical and administrative staff began the procurement process for equipment to be used in the GCR, and charged to the JRSO funds, as approved by NSF.

3. Other Activity

The National Science Foundation (NSF) tasked the *JOIDES Resolution* Science Operator (JRSO) to facilitate an Environmental Assessment for the IODP³-NSF Expedition 501 located offshore New England. A purchase order (PO) was issued this quarter, and a draft report was completed and submitted to NSF to initiate the public comment period. Based on an NSF request, additional environmental review steps were added for the vendor to handle, and the PO was augmented to accommodate the additional cost. The IODP³ science operator requested assistance from TAMU to provide a cesium source for the expedition multisensor track, which requires supervision by TAMU staff to meet radioactive licensing requirements. After consultation with NSF, the additional costs to provide these services were added to the Expedition 501 support tasks.

Publications authored by staff

Articles authored by JRSO staff

Articles published during this quarter authored by JRSO staff include the following. Bold type indicates JRSO staff (<http://iodp.tamu.edu/staffdir/indiv.html>).

- Sanfilippo, A., Pandey, A., Akizawa, N., Poulaki, E., Cunningham, E., Bickert, M., Lei, C., Vannucchi, P., **Estes, E.R.**, Malinverno, A., Abe, N., Di Stefano, A., Filina, I.Y., Fu, Q., Gontharet, S.B.L., Kearns, L.E., Koorapati, R.K., Loreto, M.F., Magri, L., Menapace, W., Pavlovics, V.L., Pezard, P.A., Rodriguez-Pilco, M.A., Shuck, B.D., Zhao, X., Garrido, C., Brunelli, D., Morishita, T., and Zitellini, N., 2025. Heterogeneous Earth's mantle drilled at an embryonic ocean. *Nature Communications*, 16(1):2016. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-57121-0>