

MBIE RV Tangaroa Ship Days - Frequently Asked Questions

Who can apply?

Only New Zealand-based research organisations can access this vessel time. Applicants must prove the national scientific value of the voyage, that they have the expertise and track record of managing deep sea marine research projects, and can demonstrate how this will be of use and made accessible to New Zealand (see eligibility criteria in Expression of Interest form). It is expected that voyages will be aligned to New Zealand's marine strategy.

Support will be given to Crown agencies and research programmes funded by Crown funds, including the Performance Based Research Fund, Marsden Fund, SSIF and Endeavour Fund. Applicants to these funds requiring access to *Tangaroa* vessel time should contact Earth Sciences NZ to ensure vessel time is available and that the vessel can deliver the services required.

How do I apply?

In the first instance it is recommended that you contact and/or meet with Earth Sciences NZ to discuss your proposal.

Earth Sciences NZ will require preliminary information such as the proposed voyage leader, how long and when you expect to mobilise and demobilise your voyage, the approximate voyage length, a tentative voyage plan, equipment likely to be used and the number of scientists expected. This is to ensure your proposed research is aligned with the ship's schedule, capability and operating procedures.

Conditions of application?

Successful applicants will be required to comply with the following conditions:

- You will be required to provide an experienced voyage leader. Their experience should be outlined in the Expression of Interest application form.
- Applicants will be required to sign Earth Sciences NZ's standard contract outlining the terms and conditions for access to *Tangaroa*. This includes a requirement for applicant(s) to cover the liabilities and insurance for all their equipment and personnel on the vessel. Assessment of your application will proceed on the understanding that you have accepted all terms and conditions of this contract. A copy of this contract is available on request.
- All participants on a voyage will be expected to have a current medical, First Aid and Sea Survival Certification.
- You will be expected to comply with all the terms and conditions contained within the Expression of Interest.

What is included in funded vessel days?

The vessel, its crew, fuel and victualling for all on board for the allocated voyage duration will be provided by Earth Science New Zealand including all standard operational and Health Safety and Environment (HSE) procedures to allow the voyage to progress efficiently and safely.

What is not funded?

All science equipment attached to RV *Tangaroa*, or scientific equipment that may be required by the applicant that Earth Science New Zealand owns, is not funded by MBIE. Earth Science New Zealand can provide a quote for use of additional equipment and science services if requested. Earth Science New Zealand is under no obligation to provide any equipment or supporting science services.

The costs of fitting any equipment is not funded.

Note that if the applicant research requires significant use of the vessel's dynamic positioning system (DP), the extra fuel used will be charged at cost, including the cost of a certified DP operator if required. The use of DP should be discussed at the preliminary meeting prior to your Expression of Interest application.

Any out-of-the-ordinary voyage procedures that may require the development of standard operating procedures (SOP's), JSEA's and detailed risk project specific assessments will be charged at cost. Further detail of what is and is not funded can be found by contacting Earth Science New Zealand.

When do I apply?

Applications can be submitted at any time. Please note closing deadlines provided for specific EOI rounds.

Who assesses them?

The **Tangaroa Reference Group** (TRG) has been formed by MBIE to help determine and prioritise applications. The group will comprise at least nine stakeholders, including a NIWA Chair, and members from DOC, NZP&M, MBIE, GNS, MFE, MFAT, Earth Sciences NZ and MPI.

The group is an advisory committee tasked with assessing and prioritising exploration and research proposals that require the government-funded use of *Tangaroa* whilst enabling Earth Sciences NZ to ensure the maximum utilisation of the vessel in any financial year.

When are applications assessed?

The aim is to consider applications within two months of the closure of the EOI.

Voyage reports and data

After the voyage, voyage data and a [detailed voyage report](#) are required to be forwarded to Earth Sciences NZ.