

ANGARI Foundation offers “Fuel Your Research” plan

A local not-for-profit wants to help fuel research missions — literally.

The ANGARI Foundation’s “Fuel Your Research” initiative is covering fuel costs to conduct marine fieldwork in Florida for researchers who have applied and are still waiting for Bahamas permits to be processed. Depending on the expedition, fuel can make up as much as 50% of the total cost.

ANGARI Foundation has supported marine research in Florida, The Bahamas and beyond since its inception, but recent issues related to the pandemic, permitting and fuel costs have made times tough for researchers.

Under the “Fuel Your Research” initiative, ANGARI will cover all fuel costs associated with a Florida charter aboard the R/V ANGARI, the foundation’s 65-foot research vessel that has been refitted into an exceptional scientific and educational platform.

“We are willing, able and ready to continue supporting scientific work in the Bahamas, but we understand and have also experienced the current roadblocks and challenges associated with conducting vital research in Bahamian waters,” Angela

Rosenberg, president of ANGARI Foundation and captain of R/V ANGARI, said in a statement. “We recognize the importance of regular sampling and continuous data sets, fulfilling funding obligations and seeing research projects through to completion.”

While ANGARI cannot advance or expedite the Bahamas permit process, the organization said it wants to keep driving ocean science forward and supporting marine scientists in the field.

“Since they started, the ANGARI team has always been incredibly supportive of research. This latest initiative may help to salvage projects that have been impacted by permitting issues in the Bahamas,” Krista Sherman, a senior scientist at Perry Institute for Marine Science, said in the statement.

To be eligible for the “Fuel Your Research” initiative, organizations must meet these criteria:



Diver entering water off RV ANGARI stern

COURTESY PHOTO

- Florida fieldwork must be conducted in one of the following areas: within 50 nautical miles of Florida’s East Coast south of Melbourne; within 50 nautical miles of Florida’s West Coast south of Tampa or in Tampa Bay; and within Florida Bay, the Florida Keys or the Dry Tortugas.

- Chief scientist must acquire the required permits from the appropriate authorities to conduct Florida research.

- R/V ANGARI charter agreement must be fully executed by both parties before Feb. 1, 2023, and the expedition must be completed before Dec. 15, 2023.

To start planning a Florida expedition aboard the R/V ANGARI, and for more information on chartering details, vessel specifications, and previous research expeditions, visit angari.org.

ANGARI Foundation is a 501(c)(3) private operating foundation established in 2016 and based in West Palm Beach that says it is dedicated to creating a global community that is interested, knowledgeable and invested in marine and environmental sciences by directly supporting research initiatives that foster a greater trust and dialogue between scientists and the public. ■

- Chief scientist must have conducted research in the Bahamas within the last five years.

- Chief scientist must have submitted a permit application to the Bahamian government authorities prior to Aug. 1, 2022, and is still awaiting approval.

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