FAST RESPONSE CUTTER

CHARACTERISTICS

Number Planned: 58
Length: 154 feet
Beam: 25 feet
Draft: 9 feet 6 inches
Displacement: 353 long tons
Maximum Speed: 28+ knots
Range: 2,950 nautical miles
Endurance: five days

FEATURES

- Enhanced response time with a top speed of at least 28 knots
- Stabilized 25-mm machine gun mount and four crew-served .50-caliber machine guns
- Fully interoperable command and control systems with Coast Guard existing and future assets and with the departments of Homeland Security and Defense
- Standardized over the horizon-IV cutter boat with stern launch capabilities

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Sentinel-class fast response cutter is the new Coast Guard patrol boat designed for missions including drug and migrant interdiction; ports, waterways and coastal security; fishery patrols; search and rescue; and national defense.

The Coast Guard is acquiring FRCs to replace the 1980s-era Island-class 110-foot patrol boats. The FRCs feature new command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance equipment; over the horizon cutter boat deployment to reach vessels of interest; and improved habitability and seakeeping.

Six FRCs are stationed in Miami. Six FRCs will be stationed in Key West, Florida; five are in service, and the sixth is scheduled for commissioning in March 2015. Future FRC home ports include: San Juan, Puerto Rico; Cape May, New Jersey; Pascagoula, Mississippi; Ketchikan, Alaska; Honolulu; Portland, Maine; Atlantic Beach, North Carolina; and San Pedro, California.

For updates on the FRC, visit the program’s website at http://www.uscg.mil/acquisition/frc/