

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation
INITIAL DETERMINATION



This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
USNS Fall River	T-EPF-4
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
Spearhead-class Expeditionary Fast Transport	JHSV-4, ex-Fortitude
Vessel Location	Current Status
former Mare Island Naval Shipyard, CA	Out of Service, In Reserve

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
10 March 2026	Ineligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places
N/A	Ineligible

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	N/A
Displacement	2460 tons
Length	338 ft
Beam	93 ft
Draft	13 ft
Speed	43 knots (49 mph; 80 km/h) and a service speed of 35 knots (40 mph; 65 km/h).
Propulsion	4 MTU 20V8000 M71L Diesel Engines, each with a power of 9.1 megawatts (12,200 hp), driving four Wärtsilä WLD 1400 SR waterjets through ZF 60000NR2H reduction gears
Armament	N/A: Planned for non-combat missions, such as transportation of troops or equipment.
Laid Down	20 May 2013
Launched	16 January 2014
Built By	Austal USA
Sponsor	First Lady of Massachusetts, Diane Bemus Patrick
Delivered	15 September 2014
Commissioned	N/A: Not commissioned like a typical Navy warship. Instead, as an expeditionary fast transport (EPF) operated by the Military Sealift Command, she was formally delivered to the U.S. Navy.
Inactivated	9 June 2025

Decommissioned	N/A: Never decommissioned, she was instead inactivated and stricken
Stricken	9 June 2025

Vessel History

Deployment Summary	<p>May 8, 2017 – Participated in Pacific Partnership 2017, arriving at Port of Da Nang, Vietnam.</p> <p>February 13, 2018 – Completed a 28-day voyage repair period in Port of Laem Chabang, Thailand.</p> <p>December 3, 2018 – Replaced by USNS <i>Brunswick</i> (T-EPF-6) for Pacific Partnership; <i>Fall River</i> withdrew for required maintenance.</p> <p>March 27, 2019 – Arrived at Port of Kuching, Malaysia, during Pacific Partnership 2019.</p> <p>April 22, 2019 – Arrived at Port of Dili, Timor-Leste, still as part of Pacific Partnership 2019.</p> <p>August 1, 2021 – Entered Reduced Operating Status (ROS-45), meaning inactive but re-activatable within 45 days.</p>
Noteworthy Events	<p>March 23, 2010 – Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus announced in Fall River, Massachusetts, that the fourth Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) would be named USNS <i>Fall River</i>.</p> <p>June 9, 2025 – Officially deactivated and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register.</p>
Awards	None
DANFS* Entry	N/A

**Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

Criteria Evaluation¹

i. Was the vessel awarded an individual Presidential Unit Citation? (A Presidential Unit Citation is awarded to military units that have performed an extremely meritorious or heroic act, usually in the face of an armed enemy.)	No
---	----

¹ Evaluation conducted using triggers established for naval vessels in *Program Comment for the Department of Navy for the Disposition of Historic Vessels*, issued by the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation on 15 March 2010.

ii. Did an individual act of heroism take place aboard the vessel such that an individual was subsequently awarded the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross? (The Medal of Honor is awarded for valor in action against an enemy force. The Navy Cross is awarded for extraordinary heroism in action not justifying an award of the Medal of Honor.)	No
iii. Was a President of the United States assigned to the vessel during his or her naval service?	No
iv. Was the vessel the first to incorporate engineering, weapons systems, or other upgrades that represent a revolutionary change in naval design or warfighting capabilities?	No
v. Did some other historic or socially significant event occur on board the vessel?	Yes – Pacific Partnership missions; quick-response design; ROS status (ROS-45)
Historic Evaluation Conclusion	Ineligible

Sources	https://www.cruisingearth.com/ship-tracker/united-states-navy-military-sealift-command/usns-fall-river/
	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USNS_Fall_River
	https://military-history.fandom.com/wiki/Spearhead-class_expeditionary_fast_transport
	https://www.navysite.de/epf/epf4.htm
	https://www.msc.usff.navy.mil/Ships/Ship-Inventory/Expeditionary-Fast-Transports/
	https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/Article/1799244/usns-fall-river-arrives-in-kuching-for-pacific-partnership/
	https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/Article/1820831/usns-fall-river-arrives-in-dili-for-pacific-partnership/
	https://www.navy.mil/Press-Office/Press-Releases/display-pressreleases/Article/2247307/usns-fall-river-completes-voyage-repair-in-thailand/
	https://www.c7f.navy.mil/media/news/display/article/1441167/usns-fall-river-completes-voyage-repair-in-thailand/
	https://www.naval-technology.com/news/us-navys-usns-fall-river-epf-completes-voyage-repair-availability/
https://www.dvidshub.net/news/269096/expeditionary-fast-transport-ship-replaced-2018-pacific-partnership-mission	
https://www.nvr.navy.mil	

Historic Preservation Stakeholder Comment

Historic preservation stakeholder comments received are considered when preparing final determinations. The initial determination for this vessel was made available for comment by historic preservation stakeholders for 60 days. During that time, the Navy received 0 written comments.

Comments Received	Comment Disposition
0	0