

Maiden Voyage

April 1968 - The S/V Steelhead, which was the first fisheries survey vessel of the Michigan Department of Conservation (currently the Michigan Department of Natural Resources). The vessel first sailed from the port of Escanaba where it was constructed by T.D. Vinette Co. to its permanent port at Charlevoix, Michigan. It was designed to facilitate fisheries surveys which include the systematic collection and analysis of information on the abundance and biological characteristics of fish stocks and their habitat.



VESSEL VITAL STATISTICS	
Length	63 Ft. Overall
Beam	16 Ft. 4 In. Overall
Draft	6 Ft.
Gross Tons	70.55
Propulsion Engines	Twin 380 HP, Turbo-Charged Diesels
Auxiliary Engine	12 KW Diesel Generator
Fuel Capacity	1500 Gallons
Fresh Water	850 Gallons
Cruising Speed	15 MPH
Range	1000 Miles
Construction	Steel Hull - Aluminum Deck House
Crew	3
Survey Gear	Trawl & Gill Nets
Cost	\$105,000

The Steelhead's Pilot-house contains the latest modern electronic equipment, including a 40 Fathom Navigating Depth Recorder, Electronic Fish Finder, Radar, Marine Ship to Shore Radio, FM State Band Radio, Intercom-Hailer System and Automatic Pilot. This equipment enables the vessel to be used in all types of weather for both day and night operations.

There are mess facilities aboard for feeding five persons, featuring an all electric galley, complete with chest type food freezer, refrigerator and 30 in. range. Sleeping accommodations are for five persons also.

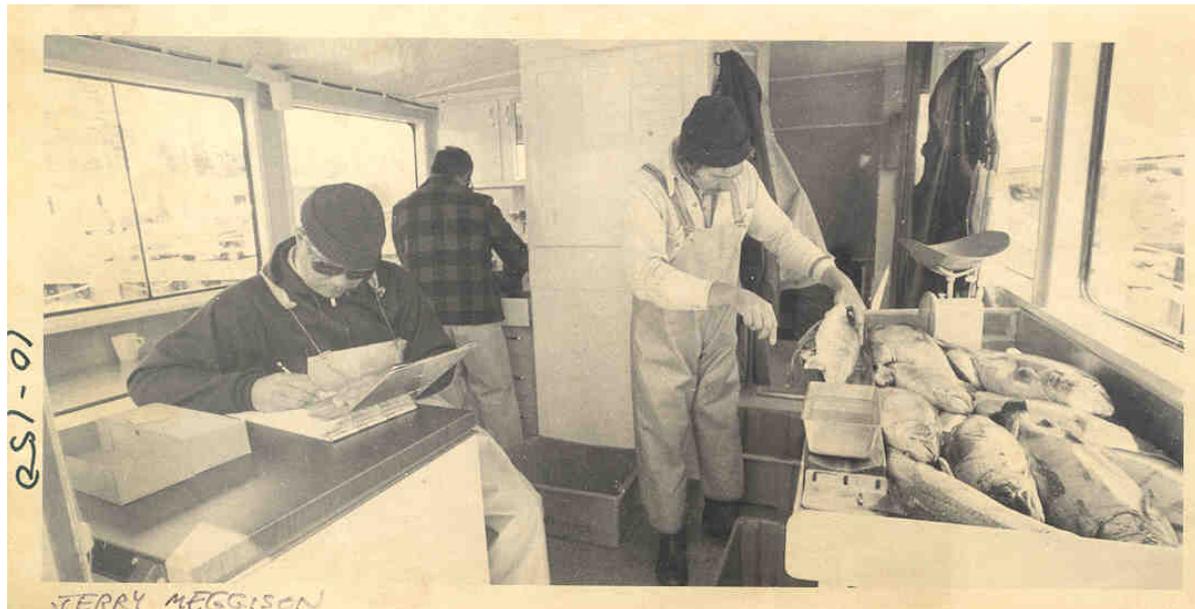
All the trawl, gill net and deck machinery is hydraulically operated from a central control station on the after-deck.

Chemical and Biological Laboratory facilities are located in the deck-house to provide sheltered workspace for analysis of specimens during inclement weather.

The Steelhead was built in Escanaba, Michigan by the T. D. Vinette Co. Construction was completed in April, 1968.



Early Surveys:



10-158

JERRY MEGGISON