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All American Marine, Inc., launches NOAA Research Vessel for Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary located in Santa Barbara California.

Bellingham, WA — December, 2002 —All American Marine, Inc., announced the launch of the *Shearwater*, the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) first custom designed scientific research vessel. The *Shearwater* set out today from Bellingham's Cruise Terminal for NOAA's facility in Seattle, WA where it will await transport to the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary located in Santa Barbara, California.

The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary's new 62' high-speed Teknicraft catamaran will be used, primarily, as a research platform, conducting biotic and abiotic oceanographic research in the waters of the Santa Barbara Channel in Southern California. In addition to this role, the vessel will serve as a host for educational field trips and emergency response in and around the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.

The vessels A-frame and Markey Com7 scientific winch configuration will be used for a variety of projects including trawls, CTD casts, sediment sampling, and towing equipment such as side scan sonar and ROVs. The wet and dry labs will allow on-board processing of samples and data.

Extensive dive operations will be supported by onboard facilities and equipment. Recent efforts within the Sanctuary have emphasized sea bird research, archeological/cultural research (primarily shipwrecks) and collecting baseline data for emerging management issues. On board berthing, stowage, galley and safety equipment will allow multiple-day excursions with crews of up to ten scientists.

Its advanced navigational equipment coupled with a 28 port on board computer network with remote access to the mainland via a cellular interface will afford a tremendous platform for scientific research and collaboration.

During sea trials the boat reached 24.7 knots [over 28 mph] at 100% power. The vessel will have a cruise speed of 20- kts at 80% power. With its 1,200-gallon fuel capacity, cruising range at average load is over 600 nm.

A unique hull shape and foil-assisted design cushions the ride even through the Santa Barbara Channel's waves that sometimes swell to 6-8 feet. Two 600-horsepower Detroit Series 60 14-lt diesel engines and Osborne 5 blade propellers power the boat. The hull's bottom paint SN1 is a nontoxic no-foul paint and adds to its eco-friendliness. A Kohler 20 kW diesel generator serves the vessel's 110-volt electrical requirements. The boat is also equipped with a Bauer MII DVE dive compressor to support extended trip dive operations.

All American Marine, Inc., has an exclusive agreement with Teknicraft Design, Ltd., of Auckland, New Zealand, to build its designs in North America. "These vessels are truly the next generation in catamaran design, optimizing speed, comfort, safety, and economy," says All American Marine's CEO, Matt Mullett.

All American Marine, Inc. was founded in 1987 by Pat Pitsch and developed a strong reputation for building commercial fishing boats for California, Washington, and Alaska fisheries at very competitive rates. Since then, All American Marine, Inc., has been designing and constructing innovative, custom-made passenger and sport fishing catamarans, commercial fishing boats, 6-pack charter boats, and workboats.

After a recent visit to Bellingham to witness the sea trials, Nic de Waal of Teknicraft Design stated, "All American Marine once again has built an outstanding boat in the *Shearwater*! As I've stated before, I have not yet seen another yard that can equal their work quality, dedication, attention to details, and excellent management."

For more information on All American Marine, Inc., and Teknicraft Design, call USA 360-647-7602, or visit their Web sites at <http://www.allamericanmarine.com> and <http://www.teknicraft.com>.

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