

Update on the new research vessel ... R/V Walleye ... by Eric Weimer

She is a 55' twin diesel aluminum vessel built by Andersen Boat Works in Douglass, MI.

She will be equipped for trawling as her primary use, but will have a gill net puller, arm for hydroacoustic surveys, and a crane for on/off loading equipment.

Full electronics package, of course, including FLIR for safer night work. It will be painted a nice shade of Division Green on the lower half, white on the upper.

All in all, we expect a more stable platform than the current R/V Explorer with more speed and flexibility to conduct assessment work when the weather kicks up.

If construction proceeds at the current pace, it should undergo an initial sea trialing in late fall 2025, with delivery in spring of 2026.

We are very pleased with the progress and the builder.