

Fish and Wildlife Vessels Renovated

Fish & Wildlife Protection Director Colonel Fred Woldstad today announced that the renovation of his division's two 65-foot patrol vessels was 90 per cent complete. The boats, dubbed the TROOPER and the ENFORCER, are being renovated in Seattle.

After shakedown cruises in mid-May and early June by Offshore Industries of Ballard, Washington, the vessels will be stationed in Kodiak and Homer.

According to Woldstad, "the renovation of these two boats will greatly aid the Department of Public Safety in its obligation to protect Alaskan waters and its natural resources."

The vessels have been refurnished throughout. Engines capable of developing 365 horsepower, and generators able to produce 30,000 watts have been installed. Radio equipment includes single sideband AM, VHF and a 23-station CB unit.

Each boat is equipped with two radars — one with a 60 mile range and the other a 24 mile backup and Loran 500 AC auto track. New fuel tanks give the boats a range in excess of 4,500 miles.

The vessels are equipped with a towing quadrant and have fire fighting as well as pumping capabilities. Safety equipment includes automatic carbon dioxide systems, a life raft and a sixteen-foot Boston Whaler with a 70 horsepower outboard. Survival suits and personal flotation devices will be issued to each crew member.

The vessels are electrically heated and include one single, one double and one six-man stateroom.

The TROOPER will be skippered by Boat Officer III Jim Baglien, Petersburg. Boat Engineer will be William H. Moore, Anchorage. Fish & Wildlife Officer Mike Devers and his assistant Wayne Selden will comprise the enforcement section.

The ENFORCER skipper has not been selected yet. Ralph Wilson, Anchorage, will be Boat Engineer. Officer Nathan Hall and his assistant, Robert Robertson will make up the vessel's enforcement section.