

PURSUIT C280 CENTER CONSOLE

By Capt. John N. Raguso



As a dedicated bluewater angler, one of the first attributes of the C280 CC that caught my eye was her excellent ergonomic one-level "fish-through" design. Translated, if you are working an active gamefish around the 360 fishing perimeter of this craft, you will not have to climb any elevated platforms or trip over any impediments to do so, which is a major feature that many competitive craft seem to overlook on their "fishing" boats. The raised forward seating modules are essentially "split" down the middle and allow complete access to the front of the bow in a single level cockpit sole design, which will enable angler and crew to work the largest of gamefish to boatside, where the vessel is actually a critical tool in this process rather than a liability. A full 360-degree cushioned coaming bolster set into the liner's inwale offers welcome support during these endeavors and the split forward benches offer either dry stowage, lockable rod stowage, or insulated fishboxes down under, with a convenient overboard gravity drain. A low profile stainless steel bowrail, a six-pack of 8-inch pull-up cleats and a nifty through-hull anchor and windlass set up keep operational snags to a minimum on this purebred sportfisher. A built-in fiberglass bench seat forward of the console offers additional crew seating plus a large 140-quart insulated cooler to chill out your beverages and lunch.

Working back towards the command station and the aft fishing cockpit, there's a generous 30 inches of cockpit depth amidships and 27 inches aft, which is just about perfect and will offer max thigh support to the crew when wrestling the big ones to boatside. The medium-sized console offers a companionway on the starboard side with access to the private head area down below, which features 65 inches of standing headroom and a china bowl toilet with manual pumpout and a 20-gallon holding tank. Moving back topsides, the leaning post/rocket launcher set up is sure to be a big hit with bluewater buffs and offers up/down seat and back bolsters for maximum comfort and

support in any type of sea conditions, a 5-rod vertical rocket launcher, plus a 52-gallon recirculating livewell for your live baitfishing needs. A pair of 29-gallon flush-deck fishboxes are situated under the sole flanking either side of the leaning post, with macerator pumpouts via an overboard drain. The fishing cockpit aft of the helm measures over 32 square feet and features a doublewide drop-down bench seat in the transom bulkhead, an insulated 45-gallon fishbox tucked neatly in the transom cap with overboard drain, four flush-mount rodholders in the gunwales, plus a freshwater sink/bait rigging station in the starboard corner. When it's time to bring the big ones aboard, the port corner transom gate will make this challenge a breeze.

S P E C S

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| LENGTH | 28 feet |
| BEAM | 9 feet, 6 inches |
| WEIGHT | 7,300 pounds (with twin F250s) |
| DEADRISE AFT | 24 degrees |
| DRAFT | 19 inches (drives up); 34 inches (drives down) |
| FUEL CAPACITY | 220 gallons |
| MAX POWER | 500 HP (twin outboards) |



BORN TO RUN

Outfitted with a pair of Yamaha F250 V-6 four-stroke outboards, the C280 will hit a top speed of over 55 mph at wide open throttle, with optimum cruising speed at 3500 rpm, burning 14.4 gph at 30.5 mph, for a net of 2.13 mpg. These are totally excellent numbers for a big and beefy 28-footer with a 24-degree aft deadrise deep-vee running bottom. Backing it down to trolling speeds, she'll get just a tad less mileage at 1500 revs,

where she'll hit 7.5 mph at 1.92 mpg, which is still impressive. Gotta get to a hot bite fast? No problem, bumping the twin electric fly-by-wire throttles to 4000 rpm will hit 36.5 mph on the GPS and still provide a respectable 1.79 mpg in the process. The Pursuit C280's twin 110-gallon fuel tanks will offer true canyon range, especially if the driver exhibits a judicious hand on the throttles.

Notable standard features on the C280 include fresh and raw water washdown systems, hydraulic steering with adjustable tilt helm, Lenco electric trim tabs with indicator panel and auto retract feature, a trio of fire extinguishers and a Ritchie marine compass. The base price of this sportfisher is \$154K with the aforementioned Yamaha outboard power and she's backed by a 5-year structural warranty on the hull and deck. For more information, call 772-465-6006, or visit www.pursuitboats.com.