



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
SUPERIOR



Sadie Ann

A New Education and Research Vessel for UW-Superior

Presentation by Alan Brew

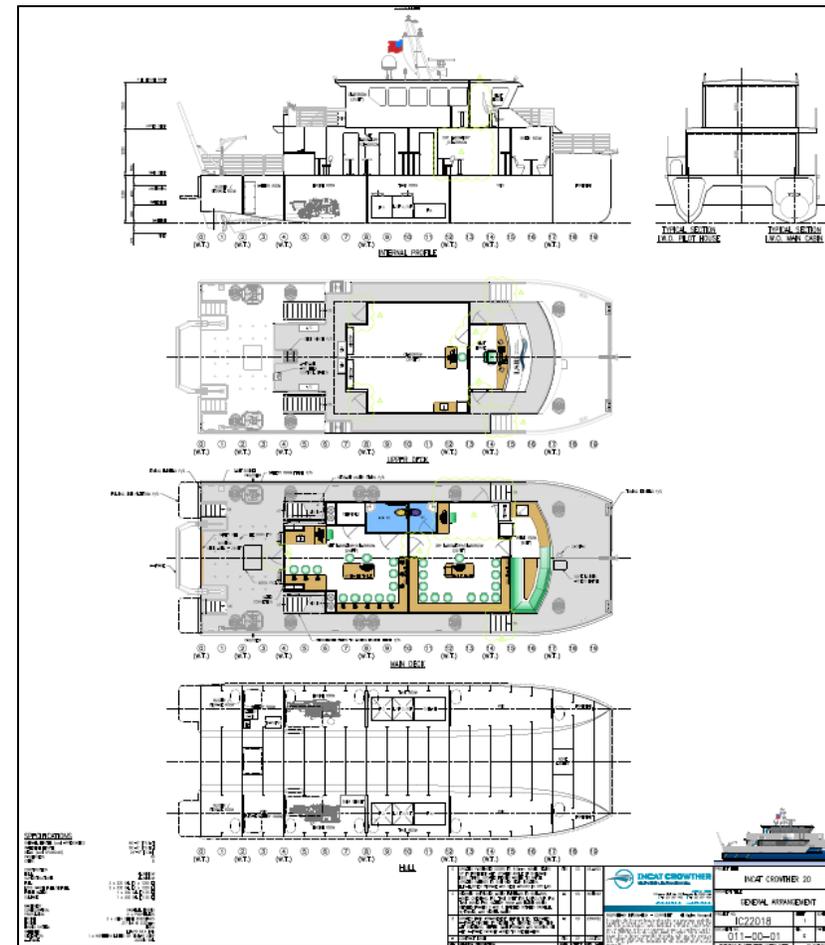
***Sadie Ann* Program Manager**

December 3, 2025

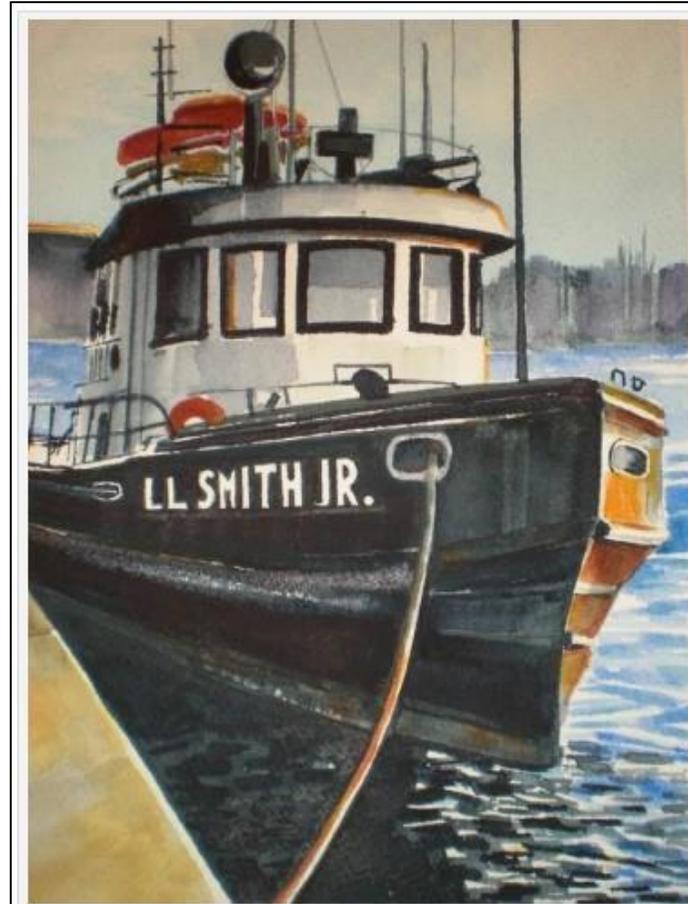




Why a new vessel for UW-Superior?



L. L. Smith, Jr **vessel program**



"LL Smith Jr" watercolor by Karlyn Eckman

L. L. Smith, Jr.

- 57-ft. vessel built at Fraser Shipyard in 1950.
- Purchased by Bill Swenson for fisheries research in 1978.
- Approved for 25 passengers in 1981.
- LSRI Educational Programs until 2010.
- Sold by UW-S in 2015.





Anchor of the North

. . . uniquely positioned by our location, UW-Superior plays a leading role in advancing the North. We serve not only as the region's primary institution of higher learning but also as . . . a guardian of Lake Superior and northern waterways. . . .

–Renée M. Wachter, Chancellor



Planning for a New Vessel

- 2015 regional needs assessment



Planning for a New Vessel

- 2015 regional needs assessment
- 2019 anonymous gift to UW-S Alumni and Friends Foundation to start a new vessel program



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- LSRI selected to lead and manage new vessel program



Planning for a New Vessel

- 2015 regional needs assessment
- 2019 anonymous gift to UW-S Alumni and Friends Foundation to start a new vessel program
- LSRI selected to lead and manage new vessel program
- 2021 DeJong & Lebet proof of concept portfolio

Design Narrative

69'x24'x9'
Aluminum Catamaran Research Vessel

For

Lake Superior Research
Institute
*University of Wisconsin -
Superior*

Exposed Waters
USCG Subchapter T

D&L, Inc. Contract #21-1452
Revision 0
April 22, 2021

Prepared By:

DeJONG & LEBET, Inc.
Naval Architects & Marine Engineers
1734 Emerson Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

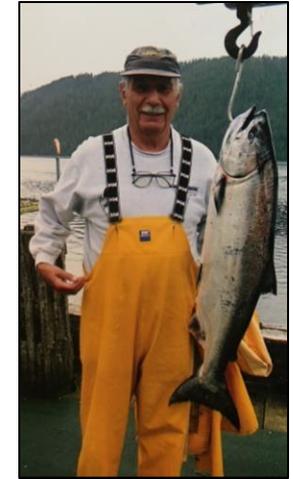
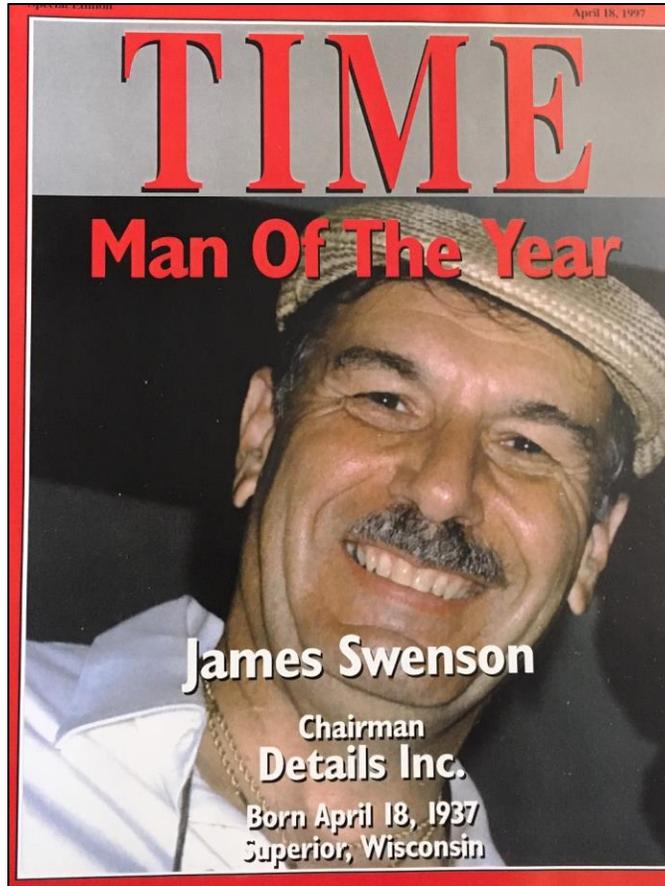
Phone: (904) 399-3673 / Fax: (904) 399-1522
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DEJONG & LEBET, INC.
Naval Architects & Marine Engineers

Serving the Marine Industry with Naval Architecture since 1983

Funding Construction of *Sadie Ann*— The Swenson Family Foundation





Why *Sadie Ann*?

Sadie Ann Bashara Swenson
1932 UW-Superior Alumna



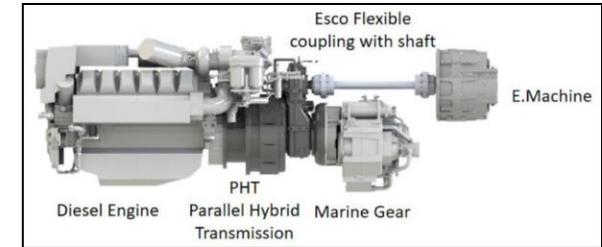
Sadie Ann's Namesake

Honoring a Legacy of Resilience, Education, and Family Ties to UW-Superior and Environmental Research

The vessel's name, *Sadie Ann*, honors Sadie Ann Bashara Swenson, who attended UW-Superior in the early 1930s. Courageous in the face of life's challenges and deeply committed to education and family, she was the mother of eight children.

Her son Jim Swenson founded the Swenson Family Foundation with his wife Sue. Another son, Bill Swenson, is a UW-Superior emeritus professor of biology and an associate of the Lake Superior Research Institute.

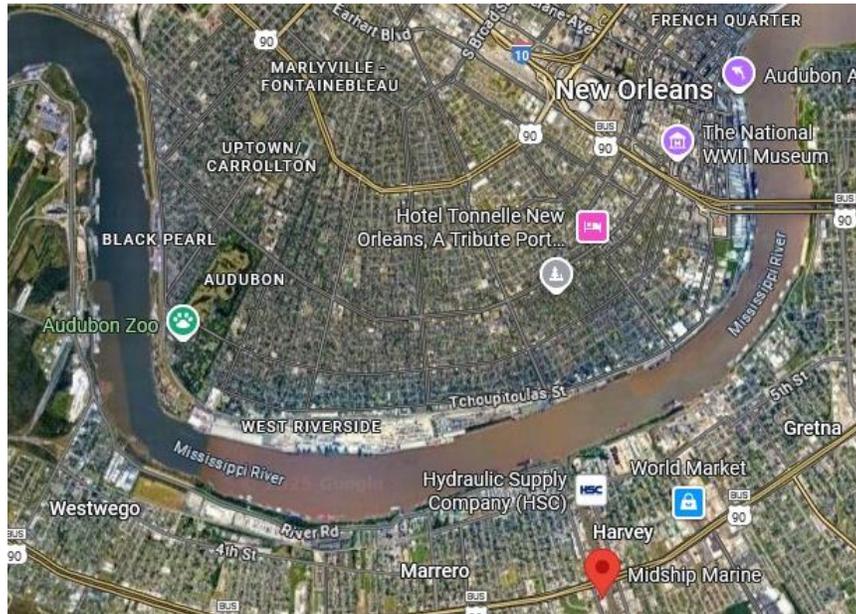
Final Design & Hybrid Drive System



Sadie Ann's Builder

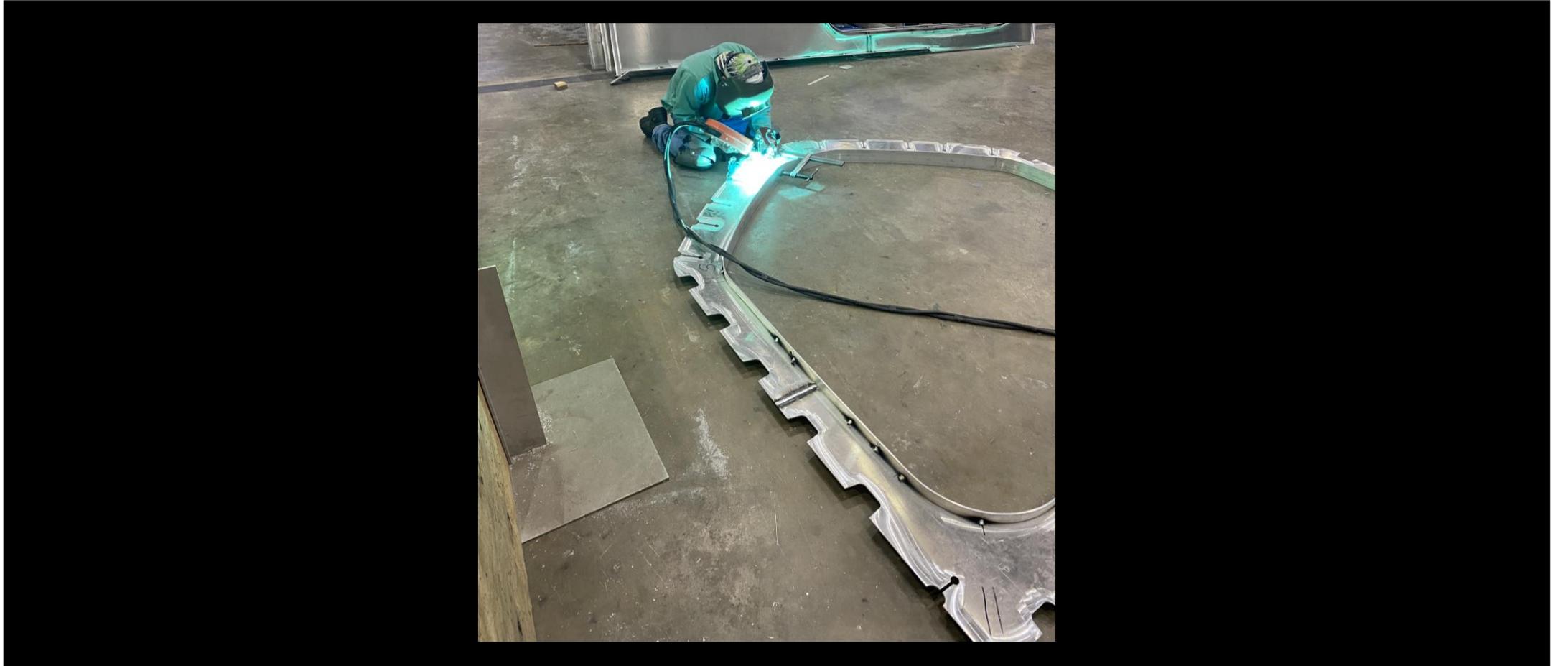


Harvey, Louisiana



Construction Begins 2023



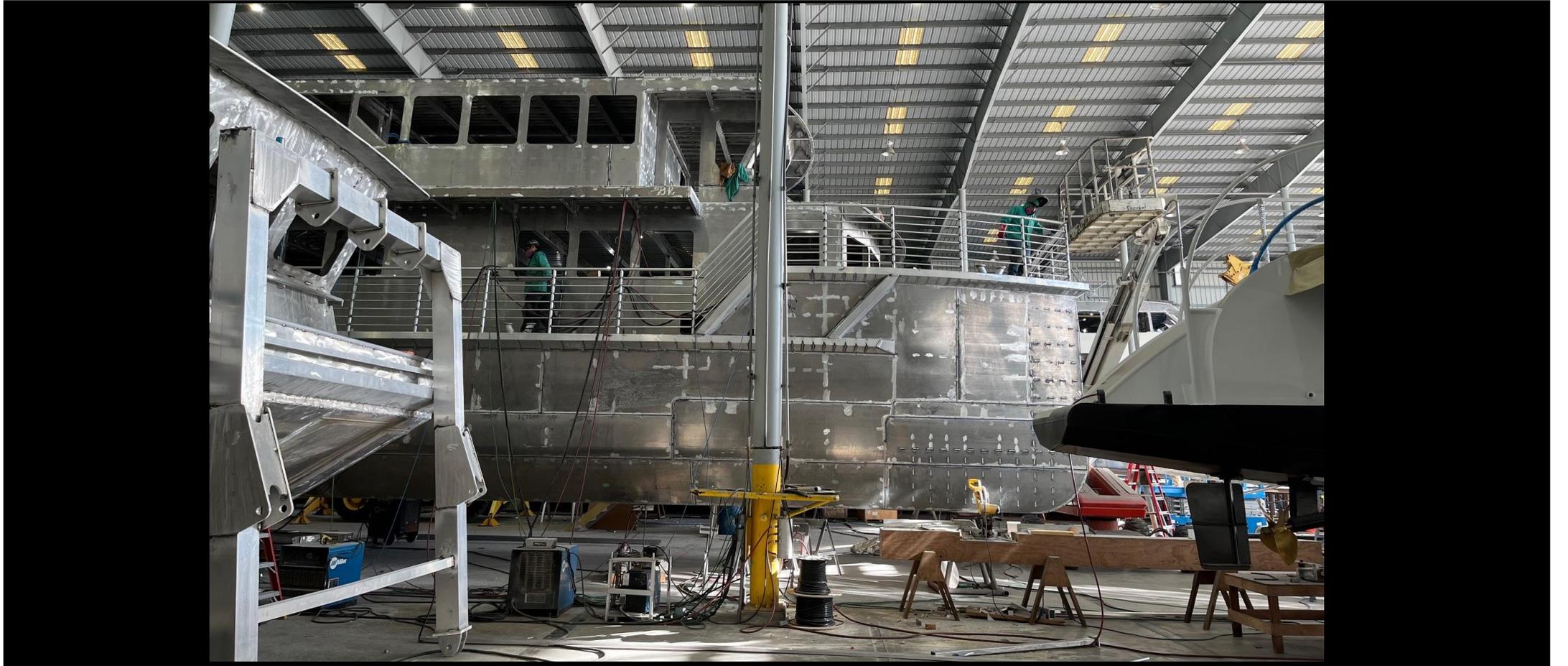


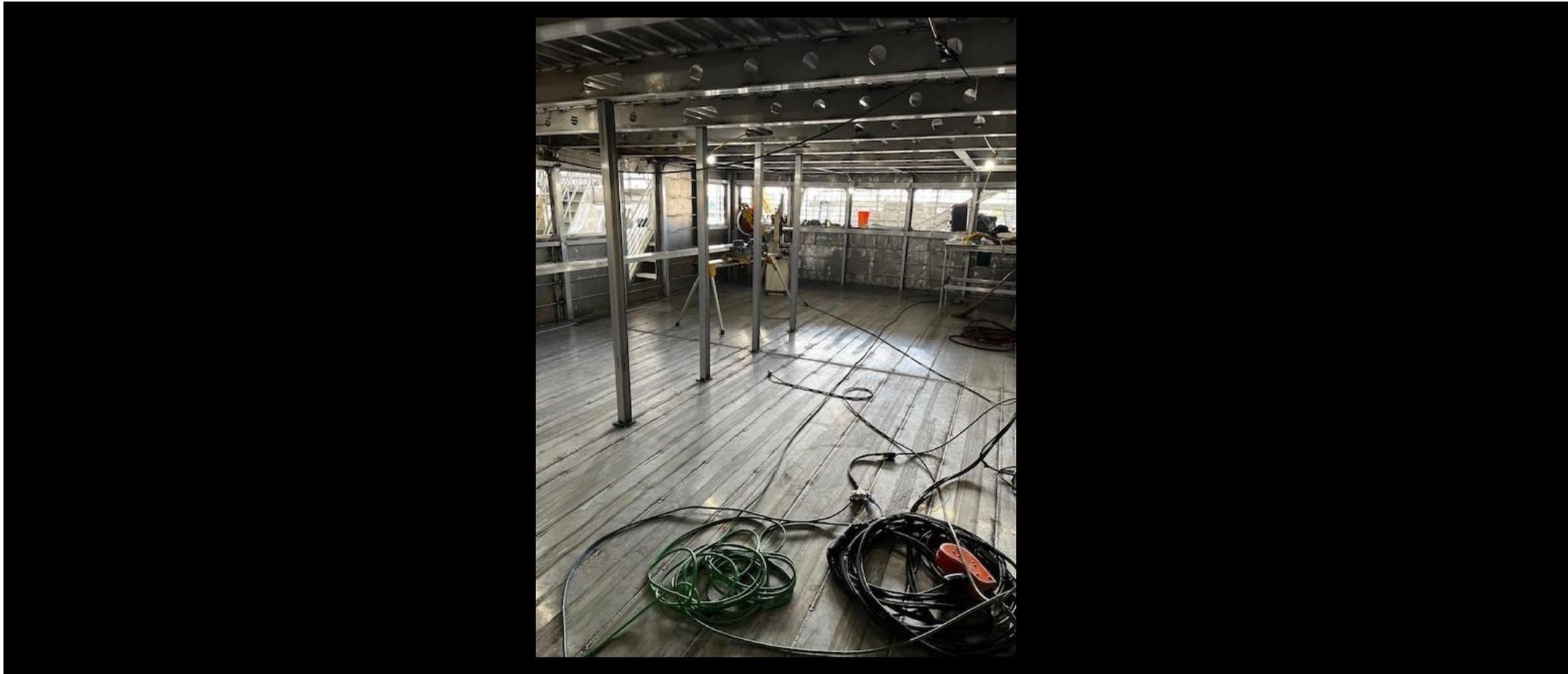






















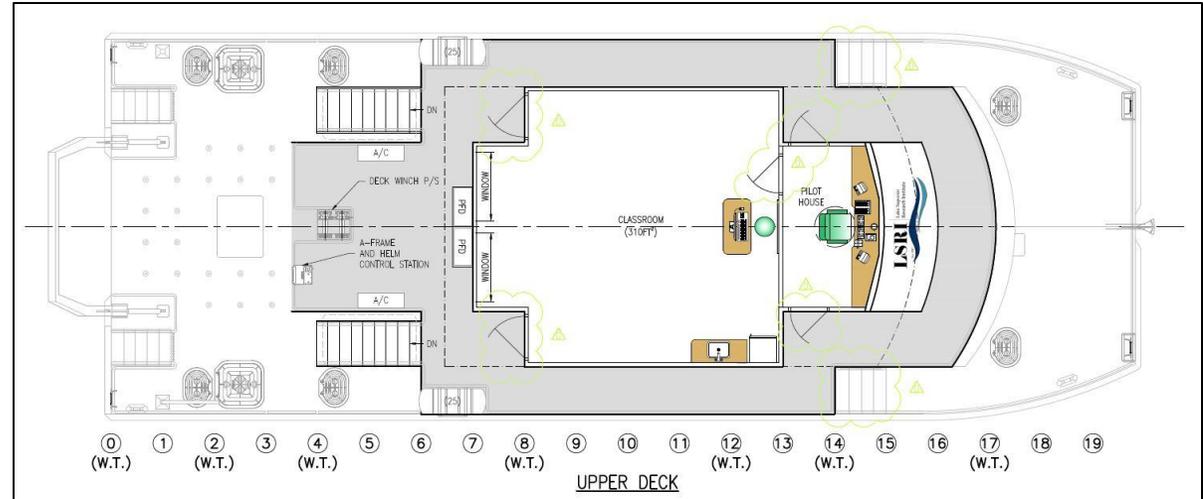
Sadie Ann—Specs

- Length: 65 feet
- Beam: 24 feet
- Draft: 4.5 feet
- Maximum Speed: 18 knots
- Range: 600 miles at 12 knots
- USCG approved for 49 passengers



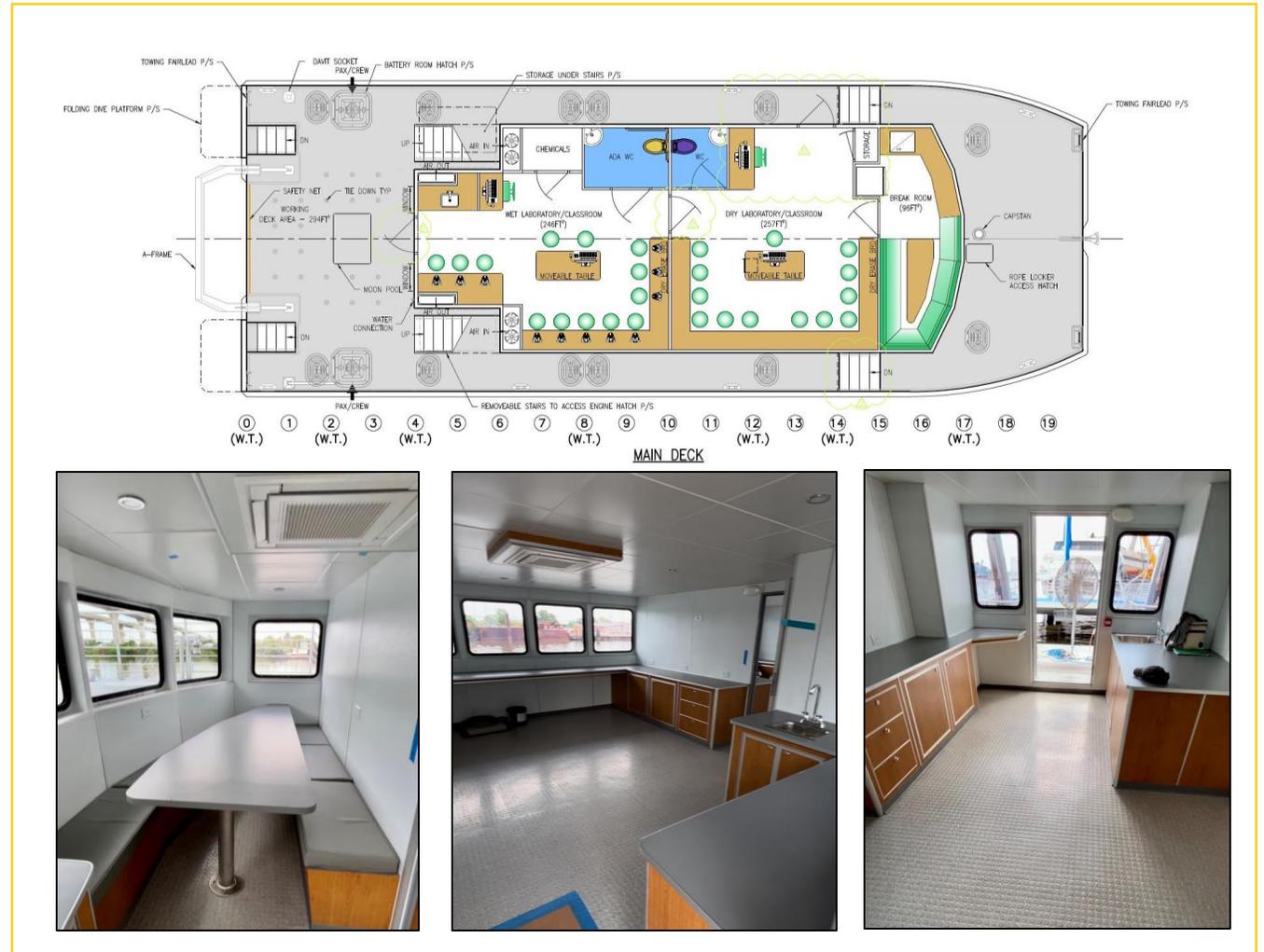
Upper Deck

- Pilothouse
- Multi-purpose cabin with climate control (310 square feet)
- Rear-facing control station



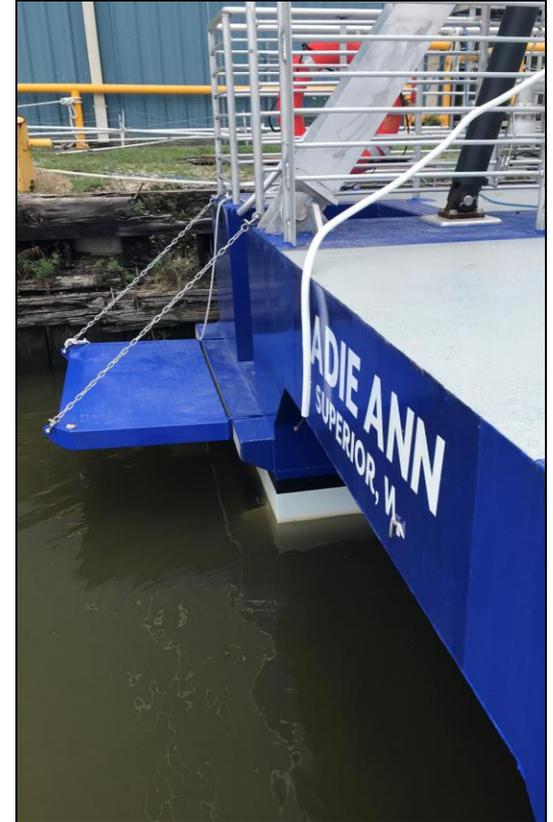
Lower Deck

- Break room
- Dry & wet labs



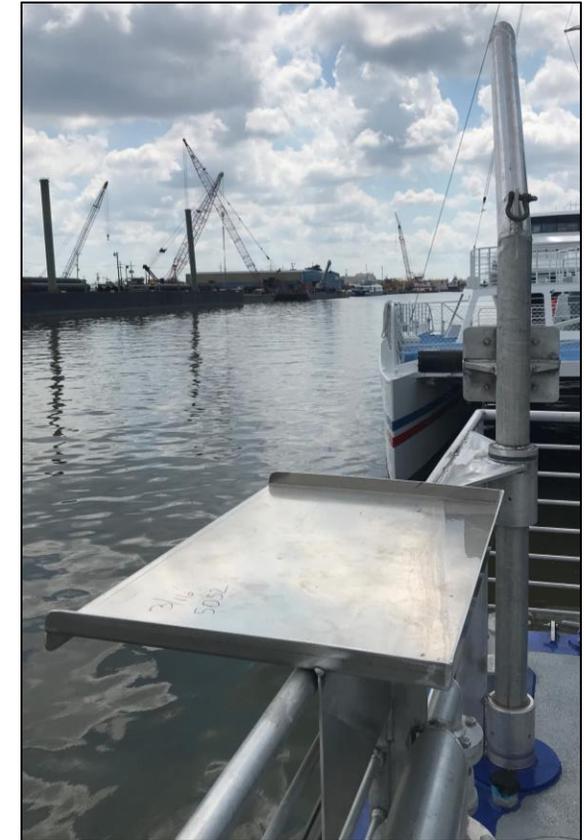
Lower Deck

- Break room
- Dry & wet labs
- Moonpool
- Water-access platforms

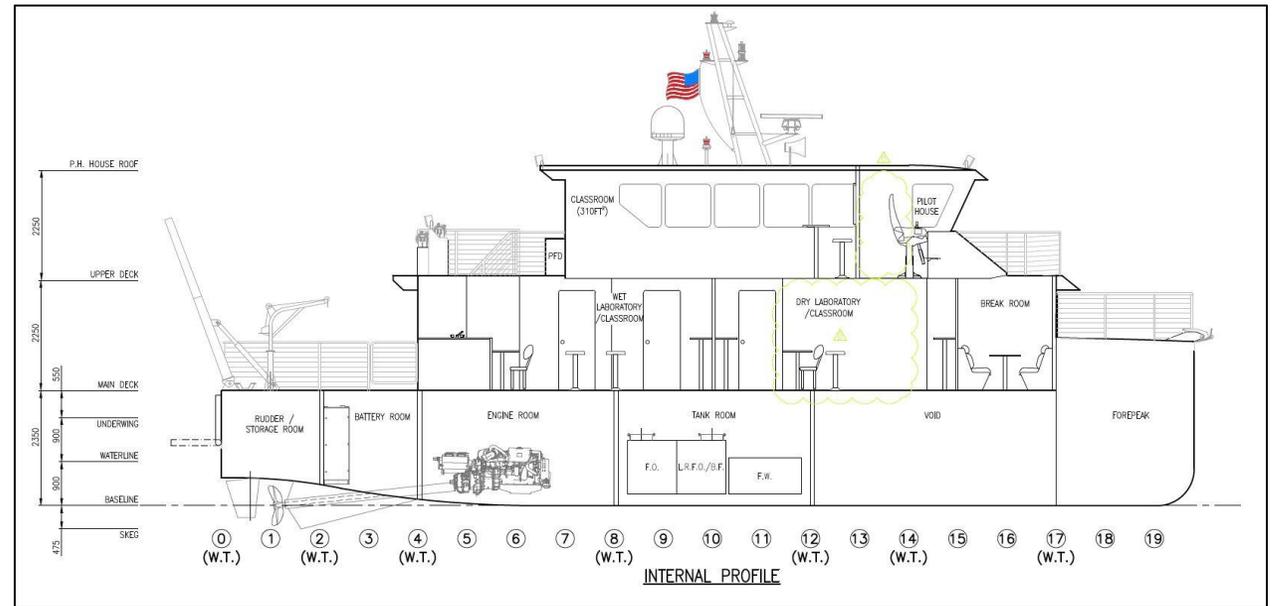


Lower Deck

- Break room
- Dry & wet labs
- Moonpool
- Water-access platforms
- A-Frame & davit

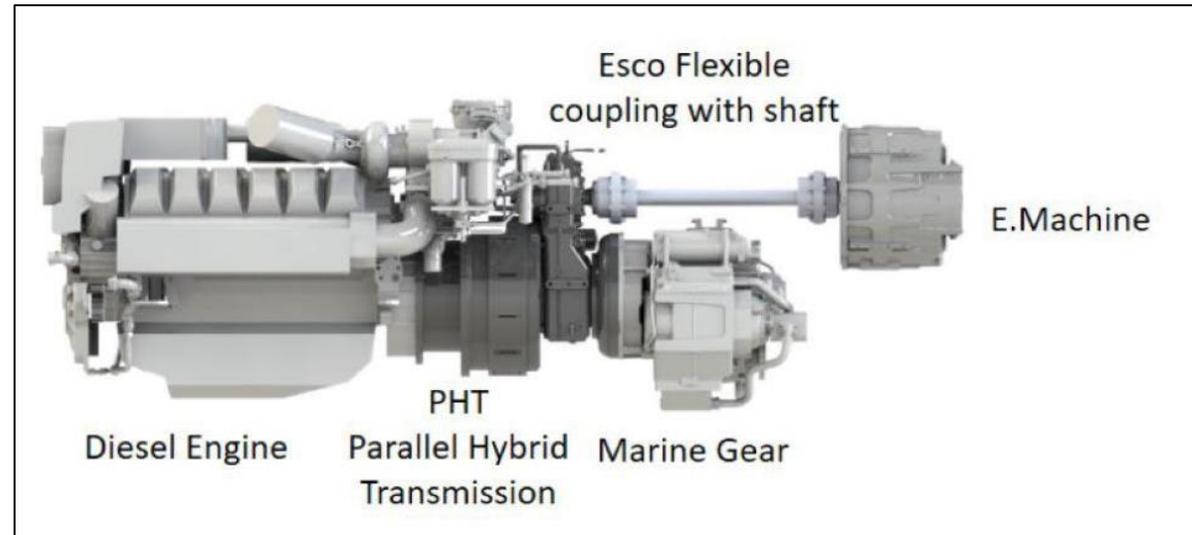


Propulsion System



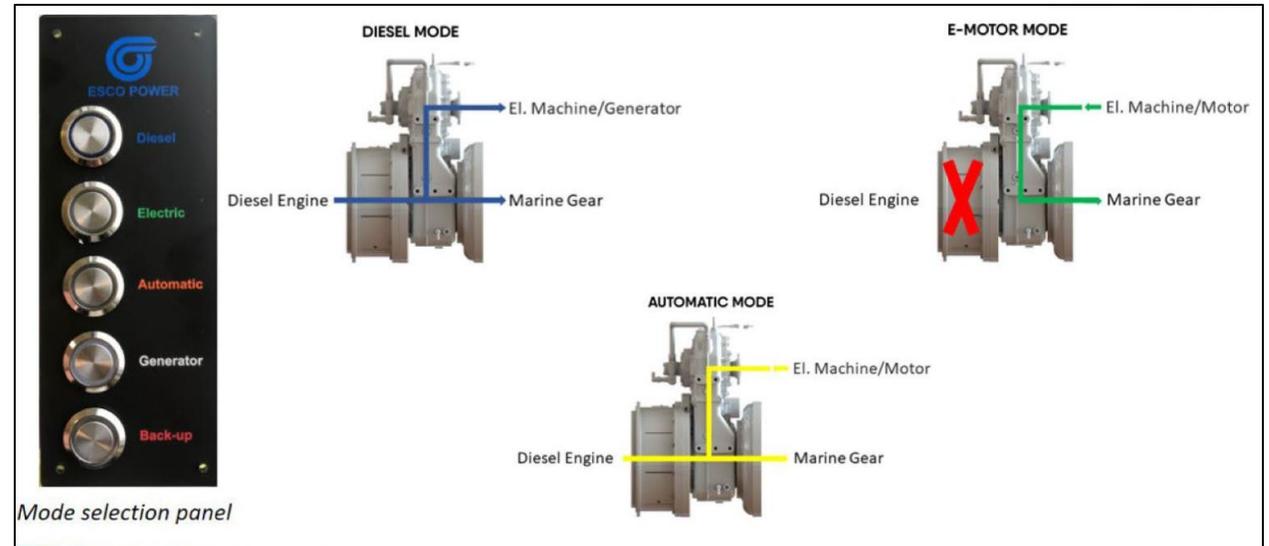
Propulsion System

- Parallel hybrid driveline



Propulsion System

- Parallel hybrid driveline
- Multiple drive modes



Propulsion System

- Parallel hybrid driveline
- Multiple drive modes
- Batteries (70kWh)



.75 to 1.3 kWh



70 kWh



70 to 100 kWh

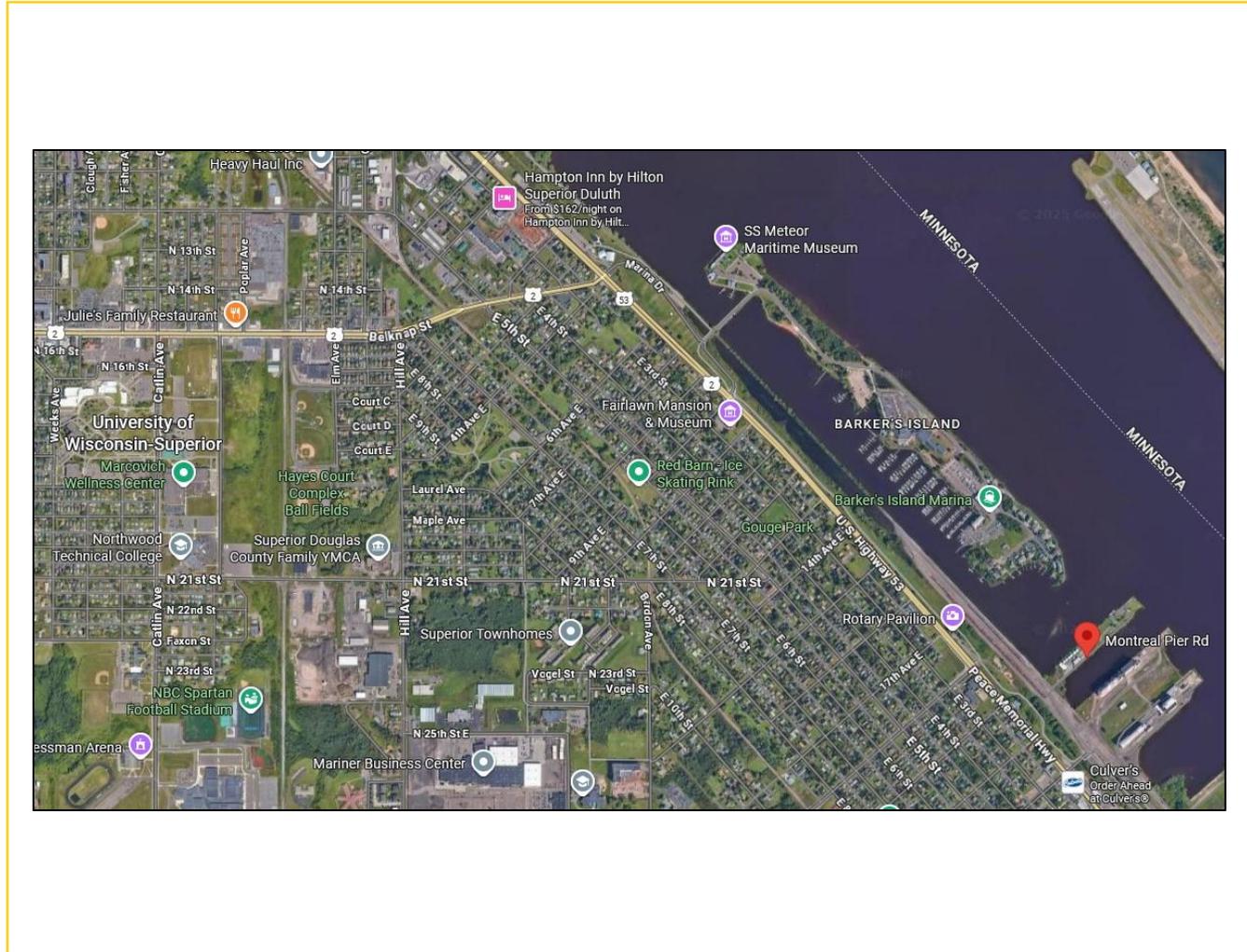
***Sadie Ann's* (Anticipated) Journey Home**

- Shipped via hopper barge from New Orleans to Chicago
- Transit under her own power from Chicago to Superior



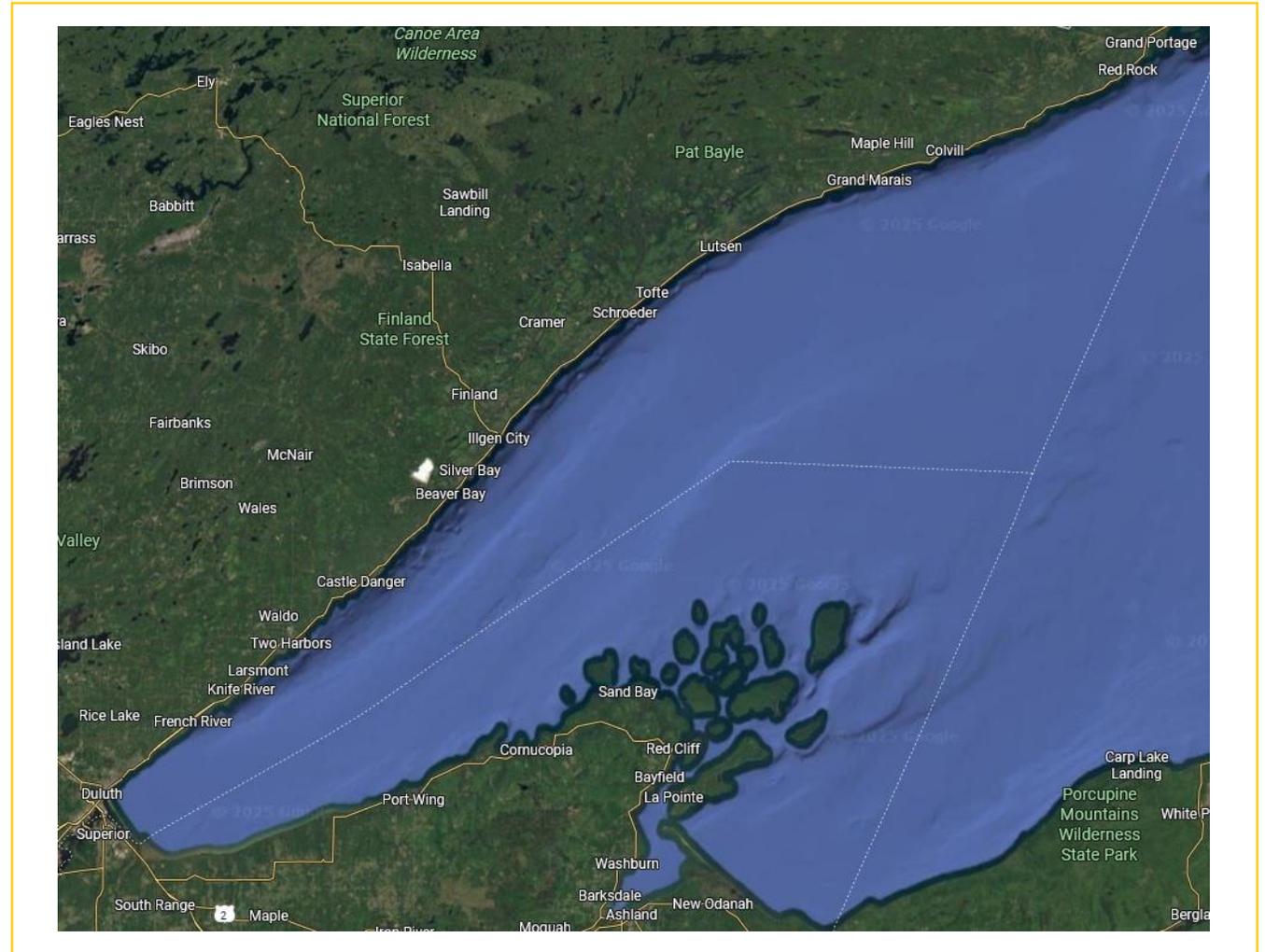
Home Waters

- Docked at Montreal Pier, near Barker's Island



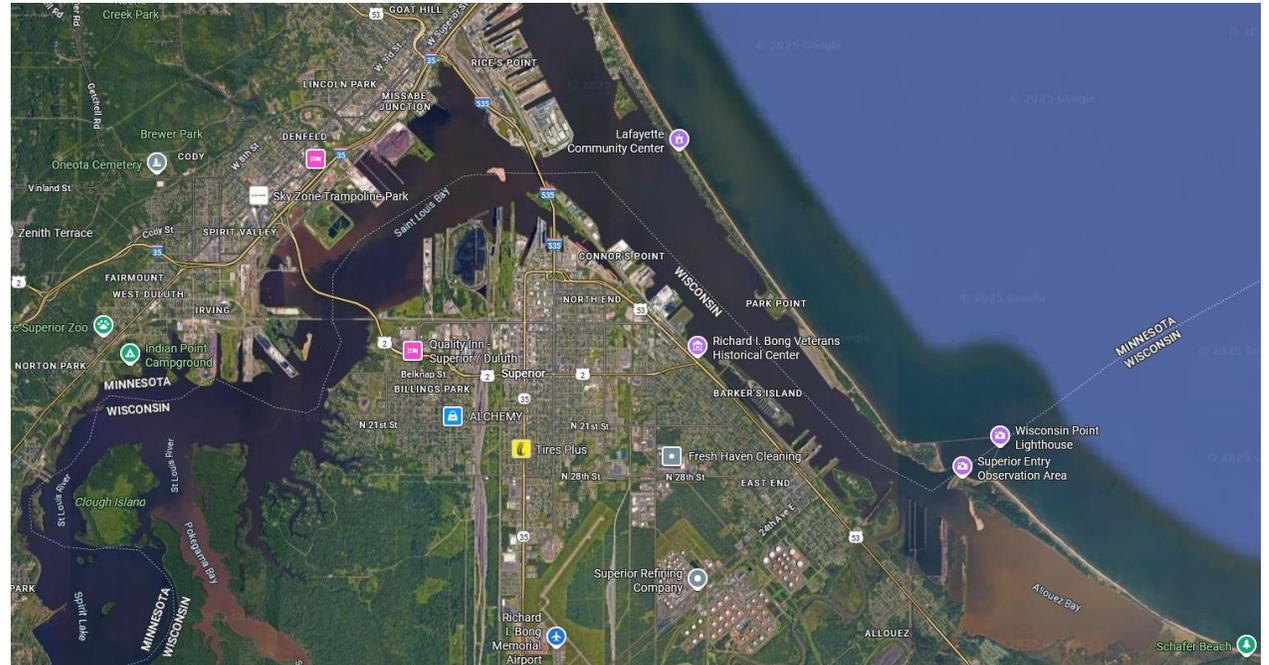
Home Waters

- Docked at Montreal Pier, near Barker's Island
- Western Lake Superior



Home Waters

- Docked at Montreal Pier, near Barker's Island
- Western Lake Superior
- St. Louis River estuary



Programs

Fishermen, research scientists, kayakers, and sailors must know the great lake best. The rest of us are mostly stuck on shore and only know the water glancingly—gazing out a bedroom window, say, or looking out while on a hike, or sneaking peeks while driving.

Bart Sutter,
“Writing Lake Superior”
(*Intangible*, Spring 2024)



UW-Superior Classes & Students

- Class fieldtrips
- Applied learning & field experiences
- Capstone & research projects
- Employment



K-12 School Programs

- Focus on western Lake Superior communities
- Sequenced programs at three grade levels
- Cruises & curriculum support for teachers
- Field trips in May-early June & September-October



Public Programs

- Expanding access to experiences *on* Lake Superior
- Inspiring interest & investment in the Lake
- Deepening understanding & appreciation
- Focus on science, culture, economics, & the arts
- Partnerships with community events



Research

- Nimble research vessel
- Estuary, nearshore & open-water
- Quiet, electric motor control on station
- Available for hourly & daily rentals (no overnight accommodations)



Charters & Custom Programs

- Certified passenger vessel for up to 49 passengers
- Climate controlled cabins
- Events, trainings, team building, promotional activities
- Custom programs facilitated by LSRI



Questions?



Alan Brew

Sadie Ann Program Manager

sadieann@uwsuper.edu



<https://www.uwsuper.edu/sadieann/>