

38½' FLORIDA BAY COASTER

Design Number 367 by the Benford Design Group

WHO? Jim Downs is the owner of this new 38.5' Coaster, just recently delivered. She was on display at the 2008 Sanctuary Cove Boat Show in Australia.

WHAT? *Investigator* is named after a famous vessel in Australian history. The 38.5' *Investigator* is one of the smaller Coasters, just a bit larger than the 35' *Water Lilly*. (Coasters are also available in larger sizes, if needed.)

WHERE? She is built in aluminum, from our computer cutting files, at Cairns Custom Craft (<http://www.cairnscustomcraft.com/floridabaycoaster.htm>) and is based in Australia. Outfit was done and overseen by Limecut (<http://www.limecut.com.au/>)

WHEN? We worked with the owner to get his final concept just right, having an enjoyable exchange of ideas and sketches. His dream is now realized, as he starts cruising in 2008.

WHY? *Why not* have two complete staterooms, each with a double bed and ensuite heads? If this is your dream, to give your guests as comfortable accommodations as the master suite, this is the right sort of vessel. And, if you want the ability to liveaboard in outstanding comfort, Florida Bay Coasters owners do this in a way that no others do.

HOW? Built of aluminum, she has very large integral tankage for fuel and water, giving her a long range and ability to be self-sufficient for long-term living aboard. She could just as readily be built in steel, like all the other Coasters.

DISTINCTIVES:

- She will carry a dinghy on the boatdeck, behind the pilothouse. The mast and boom will lift it on and off.
- With the 17'-4" beam she has tremendous form stability.
- The stairs to the boatdeck are notched into the pilothouse after port corner, for easy access up and down.
- There are entry doors, port and starboard into the galley, for quick entry and good traffic flow.
- The master stateroom is in the room behind the pilothouse, complete with an ensuite head with shower stall.
- There is a small workshop within the engine room.
- The saloon has the dining table and chairs, plus sofas and chairs for relaxing. Being full width of the hull, it feels like being aboard a much larger vessel.
- The foc'sle has another double berth, plus the ensuite head with shower stall.

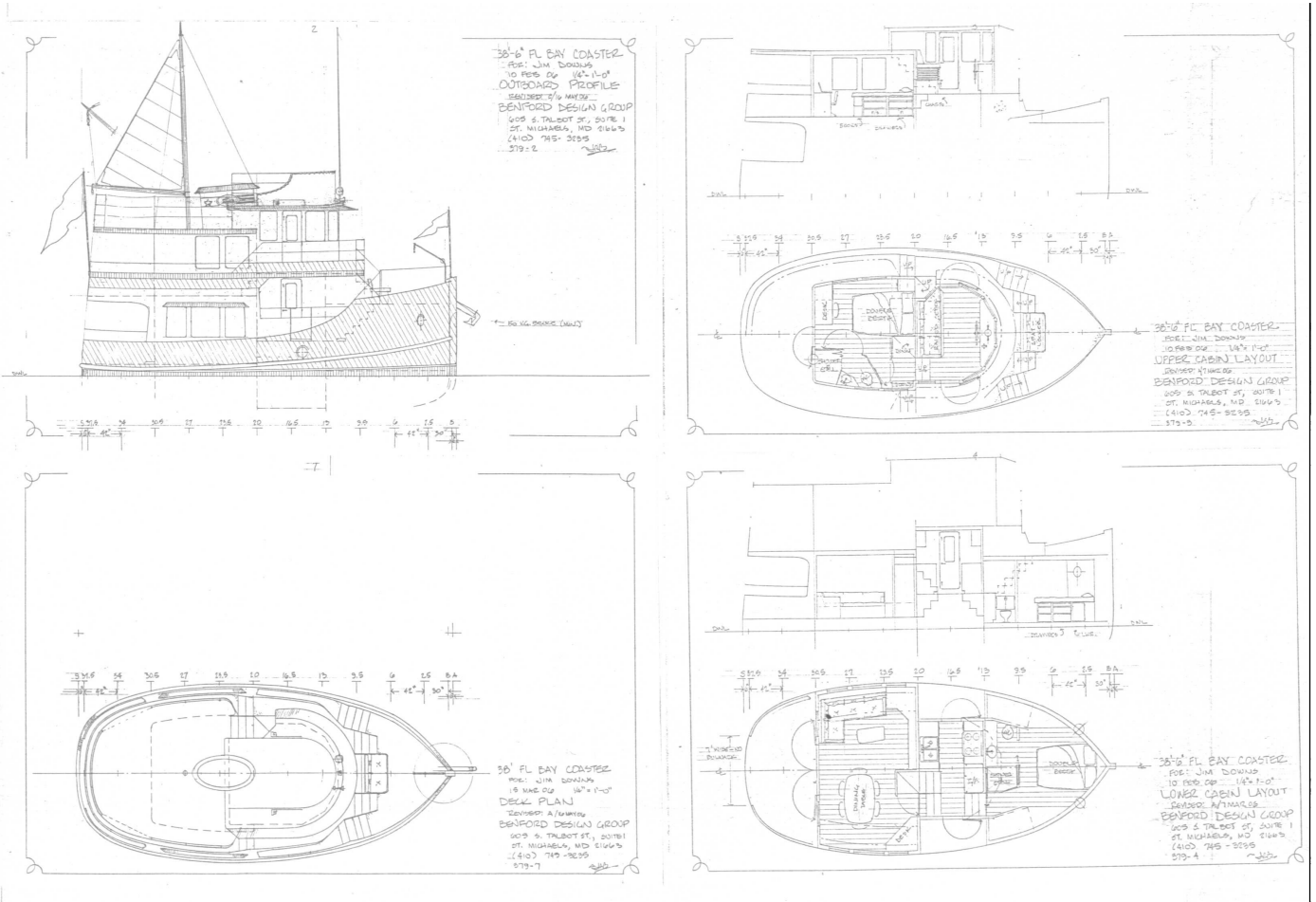
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38½' FLORIDA BAY COASTER

Particulars:	Imperial	Metric
Length over guards	38'-10"	11.84 m
Length overall, structure	38'-6"	11.73 m
Length designed waterline	38'-4½"	11.70 m
Beam, over guards	18'-0"	5.49 m
Beam, structural	17'-4"	5.28 m
Draft	3'-6"	1.07 m
Freeboard: Foredeck	7'-3"	2.21 m
Waist deck	3'-3"	0.99 m
Aft deck	1'-3"	0.38 m
Displacement, cruising trim*	74,735 lbs.	33,899 kg.
Displacement-length ratio	615	
Water tankage	1,020 Gals.	3,861 liters
Fuel tankage	950 Gals.	3,596 liters
Headroom	6'-4"	1.93 m
Power – twin Cummins diesels	78 hp each	
Cruising speed	7.5 knots	13.7 km/h
Top speed	8.2 knots	16.1 km/h
Range at cruising speed	1,500 nautical miles	
MSRP (built to order – price on application)		

***CAUTION:** The displacement quoted here is for the boat in cruising trim. That is, with the fuel and water tanks filled, the crew on board, as well as the crews' gear and stores in the lockers. This should not be confused with the "shipping weight" often quoted as "displacement" by some manufacturers. This should be taken into account when comparing figures and ratios between this and other designs.



Conceptual design plans

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Underway, port side – note stairs to boatdeck.



Underway, starboard side



Roomy cockpit for dining al fresco



Great visibility from the helm



Fireplace in corner of saloon



Master stateroom with double berth, desk/dresser aft, head enclosure to left in photo



Comfortable room for 4 at table