

257218

4.7

VESSEL

The Magnificent Creek has returned to Australian waters in much the same state as she left in April of 1990. While the vessel appears to have been maintained reasonably well, she is without doubt starting to show signs of age. Also her size and power are both limiting the overall vessel capabilities. Although more than adequate for the work involved in this 2D survey, the latest demands for multiple sources and multiple streamers will not be satisfied fully by this vessel.

Accommodation on board the vessel, although clean and well maintained is a little cramped. There is insufficient space in the clients cabin to install a basic computer/printer set up, and this author spent much of the survey working in the instrument room. This is not always the best arrangement especially with regard to privacy and confidentiality.

Another major area of complaint is the noise levels within the instrument room itself, on board this vessel. The contractor makes no effort to mask the noise generated by the vacuum systems on the tape transports, from the rest of the instrument room. This results in an unacceptably high level of noise, especially when personnel are working in the environment for 12 hour shifts, and was further aggravated by a faulty transport, which only served to increase ambient noise levels.

In conclusion however, the survey was well within the vessel capabilities, and despite the problems already discussed, the boat remains a very acceptable platform for seismic data acquisition. It is still an intrinsically quiet vessel, with the minimum of propulsion noise under most working conditions.