

Hamilton Jet Model HJ391
 Application Review

Waterjets Improve Lobster Catch in West Australia



▶ Brief Specifications

NAME:
Metonic Cycle

SERVICE:
Lobster Fishing Boat

LENGTH:
13.24 metres [LOA]

BEAM:
4.30 metres

DRAUGHT:
0.50 metres

CONSTRUCTION:
Aluminium

SPEED:
31 knots [max./half load]
25 knots [cruise/half load]

WATERJET:
Single Hamilton Model HJ391

ENGINE:
Single Caterpillar diesel
Model 3406E TA
588kW (788hp) @ 2300rpm

DESIGNER/BUILDER:
Batavia Boat Builders,
Geraldton, West Australia

Hamilton Jet DISTRIBUTOR:
WestJet Propulsion, North
Fremantle, West Australia

Waterjet propulsion is a common feature of vessels working the lobster grounds in West Australia. But several new vessels are pushing to new heights to further show the industry that jet boats are the best choice for skippers wanting high performance over a wider range of fishing grounds.

'Metonic Cycle' (pictured above) is one of a new breed of fast, load-carrying lobster boats with a wide beam and shallow draught, capable of working close to the shore while still providing a smooth ride in rough sea conditions, even when fully loaded.

Waterjets are the only option to achieve real shallow draft, and Metonic Cycle uses a single Hamilton Model HJ391 waterjet to provide high speed and load carrying ability in all situations.

One of the main advantages of the waterjet is the exceptional control and manoeuvrability available to the operator. The rapid steering response eliminates risk of broaching in following seas, and the zero speed control is vital when operating in breaking waves close to shore.

'Wild Thing' (below) is another of the new breed of lobster boats, custom built to the owner's particular specifications. Twin Hamilton Model HJ391 Waterjets were the best choice to achieve these performance and efficiency requirements.

Not only is Wild Thing the fastest lobster boat of its size on the West Coast of Australia, but it also has a shallow draft and well protected pumping units to ensure safety and reliability when working in shallow reef areas.

The Mark Millman designed hull has a deep V and well tapered bow, but no keel. This, along with a low centre of gravity, smooths out the ride at high speeds while maintaining shallow draught and safety.

▶ Brief Specifications

NAME:
Wild Thing

SERVICE:
Rock Lobster Boat

LENGTH:
18.80 metres [LOA]

BEAM:
5.00 metres

DRAUGHT:
0.80 metres

CONSTRUCTION:
Aluminium

SPEED:
38 knots [maximum]
31 knots [cruise]

WATERJET:
Twin Hamilton Model HJ391

ENGINES:
Twin MAN V-10 diesels, each
632kW (848hp) @ 2300rpm

DESIGNER/BUILDER:
Mark Millman Marine,
Geraldton, West Australia

Hamilton Jet DISTRIBUTOR:
WestJet Propulsion, North
Fremantle, West Australia

