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Flanagan or McMillan - Interior 5634

INTERIOR PLANS NEW FISHERY RESEARCH VESSEL

The vessel will replace the 24-year-old Delaware which now is used as an exploratory fishing and gear research vessel by the Fish and Wildlife Service's Bureau. The new vessel, 125 to 150 feet long, will be designed as a more efficient exploratory craft and will be based at Gloucester, Mass.

The deck and gear arrangement will feature a mechanical and, as far as possible, automated method of handling otter trawl fishing gear. It will also be adaptable to methods of fishing other than trawling, such as long-lining, gill-netting, and purse-seining.

Design of the vessel is expected to require approximately eight months. Construction will begin shortly thereafter.

P.N. 3606-62