

BOAT TEST

Reef Runner

REGULATOR'S 29 FS SHINES ON A FORAY IN THE KEYS. **BY DAVE LEAR**

REGULATOR MARINE has been producing tough center consoles for fishing adventures since 1988 and its latest model, the 29 Forward Seating (FS) continues that tradition. The deep-V hull is built around Yamaha's four-strokes and is also available with an open bow.

PERFORMANCE

Snappy acceleration, responsive power-assisted steering and a ride that's as soft as an azalea petal are among the 29's attributes. Twin Yamaha F250s combine

TEST CONDITIONS ISLAMORADA, FLORIDA



SUNNY 80°

WINDS: 3-5 MPH

VARIABLE

SEAS: LIGHT CHOP

TARGET: SAILFISH

speed and economy without much engine noise. Top speed was 52.5 miles per hour at 5,800 rpm with a crew of four and 185 gallons of fuel. Throttling back to 4,500 rpm, the boat

clocked 39.2 miles per hour and burned 25.7 gallons per hour. At that rate, the 29 FS has a 341-nautical-mile range with a safety reserve.

HOW IT FISHED

With a well full of ballyhoo, we ran off Islamorada's Alligator Light, where jacks and bonito broke the ice. Circling frigate birds led to bigger quarry, and we found dolphin showering bait as we hunted sailfish. The deep-V held through rapid course changes as we chased birds, bait and fish up and down the reef.

**Regulator Marine; (252) 482-3837;
www.regulatormarine.com**



BACK BAIT: A 30-gallon live well on the transom centerline will keep several dozen live baits frisky. Boxes of frozen bait or chum stow in the 84-quart compartment to port.

SPECIFICATIONS REGULATOR 29 FS

LENGTH 29' BEAM 9' 6" DRAFT 2'

DEADRISE 24° FUEL 285 GALS.

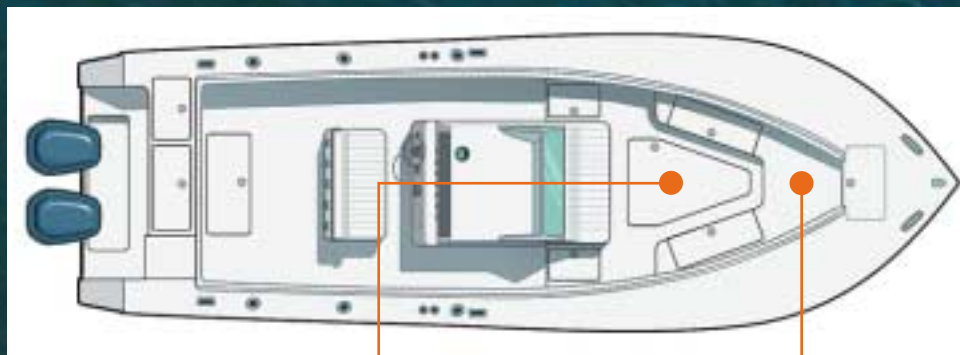
PRICE \$140,625

w/ twin four-stroke Yamaha F250 outboards



RIGHT HEIGHT: Freeboard lets anglers land fish safely and easily, while the cockpit has ample room for casting or setting the spread.

PLENTY OF POSTAGE: Besides a four-rod rocket launcher, the optional tackle-center leaning post holds all the gear—even a chart tube for those who wisely keep paper charts on hand.



LET IT STOW: A cavernous 520-quart box in the bow deck can lock up rods or ice down fish.

TAKE A BOW: The forward seating area accommodates guests while anglers appreciate two insulated 200-quart fishboxes.

SCREEN CAPTURE: Two ten-inch electronic displays will fit on the helm dash.

NERVE CENTER: Yamaha's Command Link provides all the data you need except where the fish are biting.

HEAD ROOM: With an integrated cooler seat forward, the console is a comfort center: six feet, four inches floor to ceiling inside with a marine head.