



Top: Both sides of the outboard offer a duckboard for easy water egress. Above: Raised casting decks always mean plenty of space underneath to store your bulkier gear.



Yamaha's F130 was the power plant for this boat, although the rig is rated to 150hp.



Top: A wide console gives more protection from the elements and check out all of that space to mount your MFDs. Above: Here's the entry to the water ballast system. Close the flap and you've trapped hundreds of litres of water in the keel and the ride will benefit from the extra mass.

Surtees Pro Fisher 610 with Yamaha F130 4-stroke



Thirty years ago, my sole existence was based on how many longtail tuna I could catch in my home waters of Moreton Bay. Even though I used to chase them out of a 12ft Stessl punt with a 20hp tiller steer outboard, my dream boat was a centre console with double that horsepower.

Sometimes I was invited to go and chase tuna on Rick Grimmer's renovated Haines Hunter rocketship with a 150hp Merc tower of power on the back. It was all fun.

Fast forward to 2023 and the centre console has evolved a long way, from the remarkably efficient motors through to the insane electronics. And, the level of comfort and appointment in the modern centre console needs to be seen to be believed.



Main: This genre was the Moreton Bay dream boat 30 years ago and the Surtees Pro Fisher 610 is a modern iteration of that fishing machine...but done so much better!

Above: Of course, like all Northside Marine boat tests we do, the bay glassed off. Still, we were able to get some good performance statistics.

On the aluminium side, New Zealand's Surtees makes a hull as good as any and that are obviously

designed, used and built by anglers. The water ballast system in the hull takes in water to a keel mounted tank

and can be optionally retained to give the boat more mass and a better ride in rough conditions.

You can appreciate the design of the test boat and that Northside Marine have ticked all of the options to make this rig a fantastic platform to fish local waters.

The imported 610 Pro Fisher came on a twin axle Redco (locally built) trailer and was fitted with a Yamaha F130 4-stroke outboard. Maximum horsepower for this rig is 150hp, and that motor should be sincerely considered by those serious about putting together their ultimate centre console rig.

As is, it's a relatively economical craft, achieving as good as 2.4km/L at optimal cruising speed of 36km/h at 3,900rpm. You get a whole kilometre less per litre at WOT, but that's typical of pushing an outboard to the limits.

With the 200L underfloor fuel



Above: There's plenty of space up on the raised front casting deck to jump up and cast a lure at pelagic species. Inset: There's no problem adding an electric motor bracket - usually positioned on the port side.



Rubber decking was a luxury that we didn't have several decades ago. It was hot checkerplate or stinky carpet.



The soft T-Top is 100% essential in Australia, unless you love getting sunburned and skin cancers.



Top Left: Several shelves under the console offer reasonably dry storage for your important stuff. Bottom Left: This is cool - the esky under the main seating is under a couple of very functional tackle trays. Right: If you're nimble enough to go running around the gunwales, then you've got a smooth journey underfoot as well.



Left: The rear boarding step is super simple, super sturdy, and super functional. Top Right: There's plenty of places to grab on to the T-Top. Bottom Right: Check out the seat back that can flip-flop forwards or backwards. Not a new idea but practical and functional in the 610.



SPECIFICATIONS

Length6.10m
 Beam2.26m
 Sides4mm
 Hull5mm
 Max HP150hp
 Fuel200L
 Water ballast340L
 Transom deadrise19°C
 Capacity6 persons
 Tow weight1,360kg

◀ tank, expect a maximum range of over 400km if you're trying to drive it economically.

On the trailer, you board via a sturdy transom step that folds up neatly and unobtrusively. Every step is rubber custom decking – and that includes if you walk around the gunwales!

It's the top level of interior appointment, which is very different from the centre consoles on the 90s. You're confronted by a neat seat/icebox/tackle draw station that has a



Top: Best economy was at 3,900rpm, where the Yamaha delivered 2.4km/L at 36km/h.
Above: Open up the throttle and the economy drops to 1.4km/L, but you race along at 64km/h.

the new Garmin Krakens up the front to help with virtual anchoring and boat control. Get the shaft length right and this would be out of the way while chasing stuff that needs propulsion faster than the electric could deliver.

And the colour? Definitely a head-turner at the ramp. Hopefully the NEW gloss pages in this issue of Fishing Monthly will do the boat and Matt Drinkall's superlative stills justice. Otherwise, you can catch the video boat test of the rig by scanning the QR code hereby.

As tested, this boat came in at \$120,573 from Northside Marine, although you'd probably be spending the best part of another \$10K on a quality electric motor and battery combination to truly make it the ultimate fishing machine.

Reach out to Jason Comino for more details or a test drive or visit www.northsidemarine.com.au.

PERFORMANCE

RPM	Speed (km/h)	Economy (km/L)
1000	4	3
2000	7	2.6
3000	16	1.1
3500	31	2.1
3900	36	2.4
4000	40	2.2
5000	53	1.6
5900	64	1.4

reversible backrest. In front of that is a wide console with a big, canvas T-Top with plenty of rails to grab onto while travelling. The dash is massive and will hold any or all of the electronics that would be sensible to fit.

The helm is comfortable and practical, even though I'm spoiled now and prefer the fly-by-wire engines, it's smooth enough to drive.

Walk around the console and there's an elevated front casting deck with some substantial storage underneath. Storage is often the bugbear of centre consoles, yet the Surtees doesn't waste an inch. Even under the bait station where a typical NZ tinny would have

a battery hatch, there's a large tackle storage area.

the console.

Most owners of a fishing boat like

The batteries are situated under this would drop a Minn Kota or one of



Left: You can feel the Surtees fall to one side or the other depending on weight distribution, nut trim tabs sort this out and are fitted onto the boat. It's about a \$2,000 option that I'd recommend.



Right: There's no doubting that the 610 is a good-looking centre console that will turn heads all over Australia.