



U.S. Coast Guard History Program

38-Foot Air Cushion Vehicle

Number: 38101 through 38103
Completed: 1969 (USN)
Oct 1970
Dec 1970
Feb 1971
Remarks: Tested for use in SAR, ATON, LE, & Marine Safety and Logistics; 2 were stationed at San Francisco and 1 in Alaska- later transferred to Great Lakes, CG-38101 and CG-38102 were transferred to the US Army Mobility Equipment research and Development Center on 25 April 1975; CG-38103 sank.

Cost: N/A

Hull

Displacement (lbs): 20,000 fl
Length: 38' 10"
Beam: 23' 9"
Obstacle Clearance: 3' 6" Solid wall; 5-6' vegetation

Machinery

Main Engines: 1 GE marine gas turbine
SHp: 1,150
Propellers: Single

Performance

Max Speed 70 knots (1971)
Max Sustained: 50 knots, 300-mile radius

Logistics

Fuel Oil (95%): 484 gallons
Complement: 3 (1971)

Electronics

Radar: navigation type

Design

Images



Air-cushion vehicle operates in conjunction with a patrol boat



Three Air-Cushion Vehicles on the Pacific Coast



Air-Cushion Vehicle underway



Air-Cushion Vehicle underway



ACV in Arctic

Sources

Boat Files, U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office.

Scheina, Robert L. *U.S. Coast Guard Cutters and Craft, 1946-1990*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1990.

