



Australian filmmaker, David Ireland, puts his Mac 570 Fisherman through its paces.

## Big raps for Mac 570

David Ireland, the 'Wildlife Man' of Australia, took delivery of a Mac 570 Fisherman boat from New Zealand in February 2010.

The craft was used in numerous productions of his Wildlife Man TV series, which is set to be shown around the world on over 20 television networks, as well as for the 'Wild Australia' movie.

David says the Mac boat has proven its worth in numerous ways.

"Because the Mac boats are plastic, plastic is five times stronger than glass boats. This is a major factor for us, because we take boats to some very dangerous situations and often have to travel over extremely shallow water," the filmmaker says

He says aluminium boats easily gain dents and even split welds or riveted seams when exposed to hard hits from rocks, while glass boats sustain damage even more easily after coming into contact with rocks and reefs.

"Mac boats, however, seem to take the bumps and contact with rocks and reefs with almost no visible damage whatsoever.

"Another reason for choosing the Mac boat is the design – the pontoon-style boat is basically unsinkable. This is very important to me and my film crew, especially when we consider we have to visit offshore islands many miles from a safe port to film the marine animals we need to encounter."

Over the last few months David and his crews have had the opportunity to really put the Mac boat through its paces, appreciating the work space in particular.

"Film crews, dive and film gear all add up to weight. With the massive buoyancy offered by the Mac boat design, weight has not proved to be

the slightest problem for this boat. The pontoon-style design offers incredible buoyancy, but also gives us the ability to move around the boat without worrying about tilt."

The Mac boat's ride is far softer than most boats, according to David, who says the plastic boats seem to absorb the shocks – and the camera gear is not damaged, even with long runs to offshore reefs against short choppy seas.

A dry ride and ease of launching, especially in out-of-the-way places where access is limited or difficult, are two more endearing features.

"With my long career as a wildlife film-maker, we have used many different styles of boats over the last 35 years. I can safely state that for safety, durability, function and ride, the Mac Fisherman is the best boat I have ever had the pleasure to take to sea. I know I will be using my Mac boat for many years to come." 