BOATING

tacer 459 Barra Pro: Room at the Top

Tournament-style fishing tinnies really don't get any better than Stacer's 459 Barra Pro, it's perfectly laid out for every species from barra and jacks in northern waters to bream, flathead, kingfish and mulloway in more

southerly climes - and everything in between.

Designed and built with serious Aussie anglers in mind, this medium-sized package is ready to get the keenest of anglers in the zone and focused important things like the snag up ahead



The Telwater group is an Australian marine powerhouse with decades of experience and an understanding of what Australian anglers want from their boats, and what the boats themselves are put through over a lifetime of ownership.

or the tournament-winning

fish marking on the sounder.

The thoughtfulness design and the quality construction are immediately apparent.

The 459 Barra Pro is decked out with sturdy hatches and hinges over well-planned compartments under the



Left: There's storage galore and it's all down below those clean, uncluttered decks. Right: The Stacer 459 Barra Pro can easily be launched and retrieved solo or you can drive it on the trailer.



Hunter Coast

Matiland Power & Marine

23 Melbourne St East Maitland NSW 2323 ph: 02 4933 3284 email: sales@mpm.net.au

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Merimbula Outboard Services 382 Sapphire Coast Drive Merimbula NSW 2548 ph: 02 6495 9634

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forward and rear casting decks, providing loads of space for safety gear, rainwear, tackle boxes, bags and pouches.

At the bow a lined anchor well will house all the rope needed for all but the deepest of estuaries, but who really needs and anchor when there's a Minn Kota with iPilot to keep you silently in position.

Marine carpet creates safe, non-slip surface throughout, welds are robust and neat and the finish is clean and looks great. The



There's plenty of room for two or three to stand and cast in comfort aboard Stacer's 459 Barra Pro.

The two pedestal seats

two-tone glossy black paint you can be comfortable no gives the whole rig a slick, matter where you like to professional appearance. position yourself.

The side console is positioned perfectly and the gauges, electronics and

Specifications

	4 50
Length:	4.59m
Beam:	1.96m
Depth:	0.82m
Hull weight:	
Total BMT:	
Max power:	. 70hp
Min power:	40hp
Capacity:	4 adults
Bottom:	3mm alloy
Sides:	2.5mm alloy
Transom:	3mm alloy
Height on trailer:	1.74m
Fuel:	65L alloy underfloor
Hull warranty:	3 years

Options as tested: Enclosed waters safety gear; Two-tone paint, Humminbird 597CXIHDDI down imaging GPS/sonar combo; Minn Kota Minn Kota RT55ST Terrova iPilot and deep-cycle battery; marine battery and box; all registrations. Stainless steel Vengeance propeller.

Price as tested: \$34,106. Prices from \$28,500 with 60hp Bigfoot four- stroke Mercury.

Test boat courtesy of Penrith Marine, 4/133 Coreen Ave, Penrith NSW 2750, ph: 02 4731 6250, web: www.penrithmarine.com.au.

There's an anchor well forward and bolted to the bow is the latest 'electric' anchor - the Minn Kota RT55ST Terrova iPilot.

small open glovebox are all in the right spots.

I liked the sports steering wheel, adds a touch of flair and there is another shelf under the dash.

A lined fish well under the forward casting platform will accommodate all but the longest fish and can be turned into an extra large livewell if desired, but the weight forward could influence the boat's handling.

The livewell to port in the rear casting deck is plumbed ready for action.

Battery storage, water separating fuel filter and wiring can be easily accessed via starboard aft hatch.

PERFORMANCE

The Mercury 60hp fourstroke will get this outfit up and going pretty quickly to where you want to fish, pushing out a top speed of 29.6 knots (55kmh). For

BOATING

Purchased complete with

single-axle

boat and trailer registrations

and delivered on a Stacer

trailer with skids, this

package can be towed easily

behind a medium-sized car.

At just over 5m total length,

finding a location to store

your pride and joy will be

easy, too. It's easy enough to

launch and retrieve single-

handedly, so there really is

no excuse not to go fishing if

you're lucky enough to own

TO48VBHW

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more speed you can always opt for the maximum rated 70hp engine.

Hole shot is quick, at around 4.5 seconds from standstill to planing in calm conditions

Stacer's EVO Series II Hull design delivers a ride which tracks true, is surefooted through turns and powers out of them with a feeling of security. The

ability to make hard turns at pace isn't great, but then these boats aren't designed for towing skiers or horsing about, they are at home cruising up fish-filled creeks and zipping across estuaries, harbours and impoundments before most people have stirred from their slumber.

Stability at rest is awesome. The wide beam is carried forward and two or even three anglers could

move about confidently and safely to get into the action and not pause to think about weight distribution.

FISHABILITY

The Stacer 459 Barra Pro is a fishing fanatic's dream, from the bow-mounted Minn Kota RT55ST Terrova iPilot electric motor, through to the many storage compartments the and tournamentready livewell.

The upright rod rack





Left: There's plenty of room for the house battery, filters and more in this locker. Right: The dash displays all the instruments and electronics in plain sight and all controls fall to hand. And there is storage for all sorts of knicknacks.



The Mercury BigFoot 60hp EFI four-stroke gets the Stacer 459 Barra Pro up and running smartly and runs on the smell of an oily rag.

built into the front of the console will safely house four outfits, while a further four gunwale mounted rod holders are positioned to provide options for trolling or bait fishing.

The test boat was fitted with the Humminbird 597 CX HD DI sounder/plotter combo, an upgrade well worth the extra dollars.

The near-silent operation of the Merc 60hp BigFoot four-stroke is well suited for trolling lures without too much concern about putting fish off the bite.

All in all, you will find it hard to beat the shelteredwater fishing capability and the quality of design and build delivered by the team at Stacer, especially for the amazing drive-away price of \$34,106



Open up those hatches and there's room for any amount of tackle, clothing, tucker and fish.

Disclaimer

Quoted performance figures have been supplied by the writer in good faith. Performance of individual boat/ motor/trailer packages may differ due to variations in engine installations, propellers, hull configurations, options, hull loading and trailer specifications.

