



Great Lakes
Research Center

Marine Research Assets Shared Facility (MRAF)



Professional Staff

Travis M. White

Research Engineer, Relief Captain

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Professional Preparation and Education:

- Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering, Michigan Technological University
- US Coast Guard Captains License, Master 50 Tons
- National Science Foundation Innovation Corps (I-Corps) Certified



Responsible for administration of the Marine Autonomy Research Site and Smart Ships Coalition and coordination with the Marine Research Assets Shared Use Facility (MRAF) in support of client needs.

Provide scientific and engineering support to faculty, staff, partners, and sponsors with expertise in design, manufacturing, and integration of marine systems. Support budget and proposal development, project management, and strategic planning.

Over 10 years' experience as a licensed captain on the Great Lakes with expertise in navigation systems, marine electronics, mechanical systems, and maintenance, repair, and operations.

Activities:

Co-investigator for a DARPA funded autonomous surface vehicle program to increase survivability of unmanned vessels in high sea states using intelligent trajectory planning and real-time environmental sensing. Planned and coordinated testing efforts with the United States Coast Guard using a 1/3 scale model, designed and built as part of this program, of an US Navy 11m autonomous rigid-hulled inflatable boat (RHIB).

Completed National Science Foundation Innovation Corps Training as team lead on a technology commercialization project for an "Autonomous Next Generation Vehicle".

Co-founded Superior Marine Products LLC (DBA ProNav Marine) and developed, tested, and produced marine GPS autopilot equipment, marine vessel controls, autonomous surface vessel platforms, and mobile navigation software. Coordinated intellectual property, strategic plan, commercialization strategy, and project management.

Example Publications:

Anderson, N. D., Benda, N. E., and White, T. M. "Networked Architecture for a Control System for a Steerable Thrusting Device" (Pending)