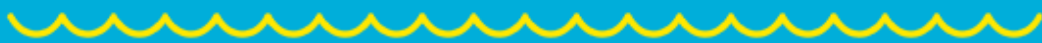


# BLACK BART



Originally launched in 1977 as a 180-foot platform supply vessel, the ship that would become Black Bart spent years working offshore before being converted into a commercial fishing vessel. Her final chapter began when Bay County acquired her and sank her as an artificial reef in July 1993, renaming her in honor of Captain Charles “Bart”

Bartholomew, an esteemed U.S. Navy ocean engineer who led major salvage missions. Resting upright on the sandy seafloor with her main deck at 70 feet and her bow rising to 61 feet, Black Bart stands as both a memorial and one of the region’s most accessible, well-loved wrecks.

Black Bart offers divers a blend of history, structure, and thriving marine life that makes the site unforgettable. Her open holds, passageways, and multi-level compartments remain safe and easy to explore for qualified divers. The wreck teems with life, attracting reef fish and pelagic species like triggerfish, grunts, barracuda, and jacks. With abundant habitat, an easy layout, and a great backstory, Black Bart remains a favorite dive for both new and experienced explorers.



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