

# JEFF-A HOVERCRAFT

The Jeff-A is a rare 100-foot prototype U.S. Navy hovercraft, originally built in 1979 as part of experimental Landing Craft Air Cushion technology. Designed to skim across land and sea on a cushion of air, the vessel played a role in testing high-speed amphibious transport concepts for ship-to-shore operations, making it one of the most unconventional military craft ever turned into an artificial reef.

After its testing days ended, the hovercraft was cleaned and intentionally sunk in 1995 as part of Bay County's artificial reef program. Today, it rests on a sandy bottom in about 75 feet of water, with the top of the structure rising to roughly 65 feet. Unlike traditional shipwrecks, the hovercraft's wide, open framework creates easy swim-throughs and excellent fish habitat. Its one-of-a-kind shape, combined with growing reef life and schooling fish, makes the hovercraft a fun, accessible, and truly unique dive experience found nowhere else in the Gulf.