

5 Priorities for the construction of Camper 2 (Permanently mounted habitat on F350)

1. Improve the off-road mobility of the truck and camper.
 - Improve the departure angle to 30 degrees
 - Eliminating the long, low, rear overhang of the 'slide-in' camper.
 - Move the spare tire from behind the rear axle/below the cargo box to the back wall of the habitat.
 - Move the main access door to the driver side in front of the rear wheel.
 - Convert the fixed rear bumper and tow receiver to a higher, adjustable one.
 - Permanently mount the habitat to the truck frame on a 3 point, flexible mount that allows the truck frame to twist freely without stressing the habitat.
 - Lower the overall weight and center of gravity of the camper.
 - Shift equipment/services (waste tanks, refrigerator, battery, etc.) to floor level or below and forward of the rear axle.
 - Replace the roof AC with a split system AC that is lower and forward.
 - Eliminate the AC generator.
 - Eliminate the propane storage system in favor of onboard diesel.
 - Reduce overall height and roof projections that can catch on 'things'.
2. Improve accessibility/space utilization by eliminating the truck's cargo body.
 - Regain load capacity lost due to the weight of the truck's cargo body.
 - Increase floor space from ~4'x11.3' to 7.5' x 12'.
 - Expand external storage space with 4, below floor-level compartments.
 - Increase seating space with a 2 seat dinette/couch ~2x truck camper space.
 - Separate the bathroom and shower and place them forward.
 - Create a lockable pass-through from the habitat to the cab.
3. Simple/redundant/efficient/powerful utility systems.
 - Large electrical capacity + diesel for heating (no propane).
 - Increase PV from 760w to 950w and protect panels inside recessed roof well.
 - Three space heating sources; Electrical heat pump (mini-split AC system), hydronic heat system from diesel coolant heater or vehicle engine.
 - Three charging sources; solar, dedicated engine alternator, shore power.
 - Two hydronic heating sources; diesel coolant heater, vehicle engine.
 - Four through-ceiling vent fans.
 - DC electric, super insulated refrigerator (8x more efficient than RV 3-way).
 - No built-in range/oven. Portable induction plate, 'insta-pot' and convection microwave.
4. Reduce/eliminate 'liabilities' of traditional RV construction/design.
 - Drastically reduce envelope leak potential
 - Virtually no seams requiring sealant.
 - Eliminate all external storage access compartment doors into the living envelope.
 - Exterior and interior of the envelope are continuous fiberglass.
 - Seven large, fixed, double pane polycarbonate windows.

- Roof penetrations are built with 'coaming' around the mount hole.
- True '4-season' capability
 - 2" poly-isocyanurate rigid foam throughout.
 - Wet-bay and tanks are heated by hydronic system using antifreeze.
 - Entry/shower functions as airlock entry.
 - Tanks are heavily insulated in addition to being heated.
- Exterior corners and 'rub points' reinforced by aluminum 'armor' facings.
- Eliminate side wall or roof projections that can catch on trees.
- Electrical and plumbing are fully accessible;
 - Electrical distribution wiring all runs the length and width of the main cabin in a false ceiling and down into cabinets.
 - Plumbing is all routed inside the living envelope, beneath false floor 'duck boards'.
 - Electrical control panel incorporates vertical penetrations in the floor to the battery/inverter compartment and through the roof for the PV connections.