

To work on this, I removed the shelf over the galley. I had to first remove the face plate on the breaker panel to leave the wires in place. It was a bit of a squeeze to get out the shelf out. I removed the VHF and then had to maneuver around speakers, etc. I took off the wooden stands below the shelf to make it easier to get out. When I reinstalled the shelf, I reconnected the wooden supports with hinges so I could have them folded initially and then unfold them once the shelf was into place.

Here's the breaker panel after I removed the shelf. There's quite a bit in one space. I labeled the wires before disconnecting them from the panel (but after taking this photo).



Rather than run longer wires to the breaker panel, I decided to minimize the wires going to the panel and use some bus bars and terminal blocks instead. Some other parts of the update:

- Added fold down panel access. I used ¼" PVC board backed a ½" plywood backer with a slightly smaller perimeter. Along the edges of the PVC I used some window insulation foam so it's a snug fit and nothing rattles.
- Added an inline breaker so I could easily shut off power to this area while leaving power on in other parts of the boat
- Separated the 12V lighter plug from the breaker, and connected that the bus bar with a wire with an inline fuse, and to a unit that has a separate switch for USB outlets + 12V lighter outlet + voltmeter.
- The hot wire goes to the breaker, which then goes to the bus bar. From the bus bar:
  - There's a hot wire going to the combo unit I mentioned above
  - There's a hot wire going to the positive bus bar on the breaker panel. Coming out from the switches on the breaker panel, it goes to a terminal block which then routes to different circuits
  - There's hot wires to the VHF and AM/FM radio directly
  - On the aft section, there are two terminal blocks wired together for grounds

I used hinges and barrel bolts to secure both the panel opening with the breaker, as well as the side panel panel that goes forward to the rest of the shelf.

In the photos, you can see that I've got a bluetooth receiver / FM broadcaster plugged into the lighter outlet. I can tune the radio to the frequency that it broadcasts which makes the radio Bluetooth capable.









