

Florida Department of Environmental Protection Boater Safety Education



- **Required by DEP Directive 270**
- **Required by State Law if born After 1/1/1988**
- **Prevents Accidents**

Why is Boater Safety Important?



Directive 270

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION		
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES		
	Administrative Procedures for Watercraft Assignment and Utilization	Procedures for Policy ADM 270
		EFFECTIVE DATE: 7-22-2022
		AMENDED:

GENERAL INFORMATION

A watercraft is defined as a craft designed as a means of transportation on water with or without mechanical propulsion. All watercraft owned, leased, or rented by the State of Florida are considered "state-owned watercraft" and are not segregated in this procedure. All Department watercraft will be used for official business only and in the most efficient, effective, and economical manner. Watercraft operators shall be in compliance with this policy and Section 287.17, Florida Statute (F.S.), at all times and must meet the minimum standards for operation and safety as provided by this policy.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

The Department's Boating Safety Advisory Board will consist of the Department's Agency Safety Officer (ASO) and Boating Safety Officers (BSO) as appointed to represent their program area.

The Boating Safety Advisory Board will meet semi-annually or at the call of the ASO to address safety concerns presented by program area BSO's.

The Boating Safety Advisory Board will review, and update workplace safety rules based on incident review findings, inspection findings, employee reports of unsafe conditions or work practices, and address suggestions and concerns.

WATERCRAFT PROCEDURES

Assignment

The Division/District/Office Director, or designee, is responsible for the assignment and proper use of all watercraft within their Division/District/Office.

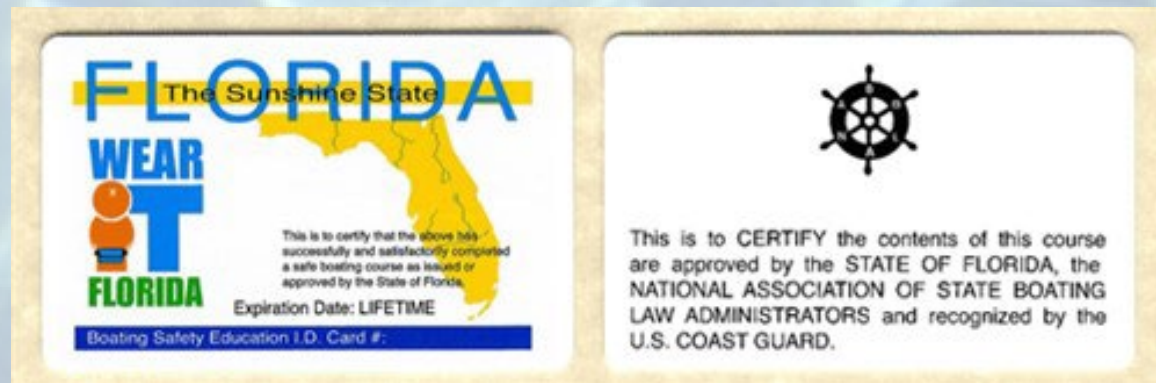
Each Division/District/Office will formulate and implement procedures governing the assignment and operation of watercraft within their program area to comply with this Directive, Section 287.17, F.S., and Chapter 60B-1, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

Directive 270

“To operate state-owned watercraft, other than in emergency situations, operators must possess a current and valid department-approved watercraft operator’s certification for the class of watercraft which they are operating and have it recorded in the applicable training tracking program.”

Boater Safety Education

**Required for anyone
born after January 1, 1988**



<https://myfwc.com/boating/safety-education/courses/>

Boating Basics

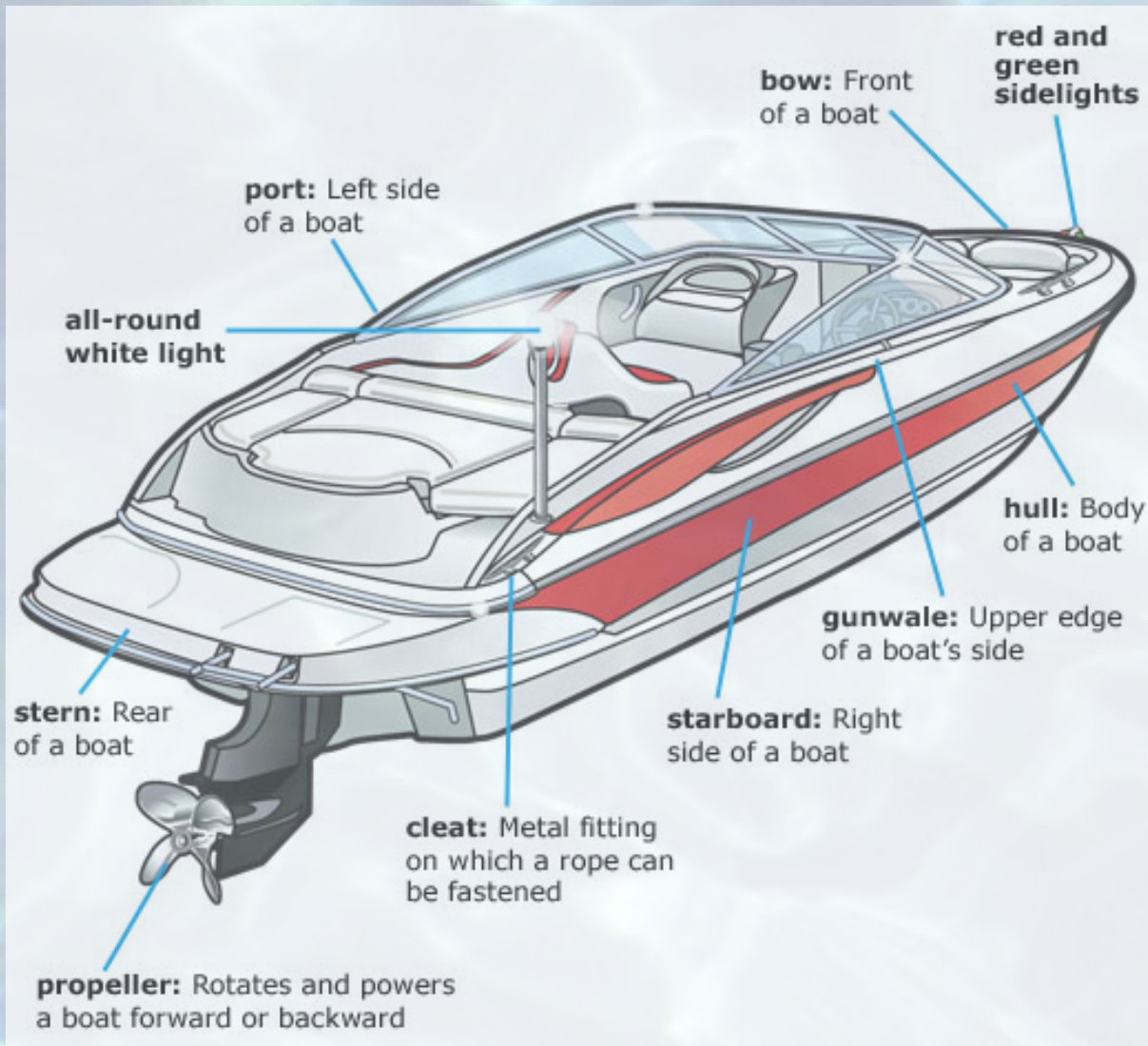
- 1) Know Your Boat***
- 2) Before Getting Underway***
- 3) Boating Operations***
- 4) Navigation Rules***
- 5) Legal Requirements of Boating***
- 6) Boat Emergencies***

Boating Basics

Chapter 1

Know Your Boat

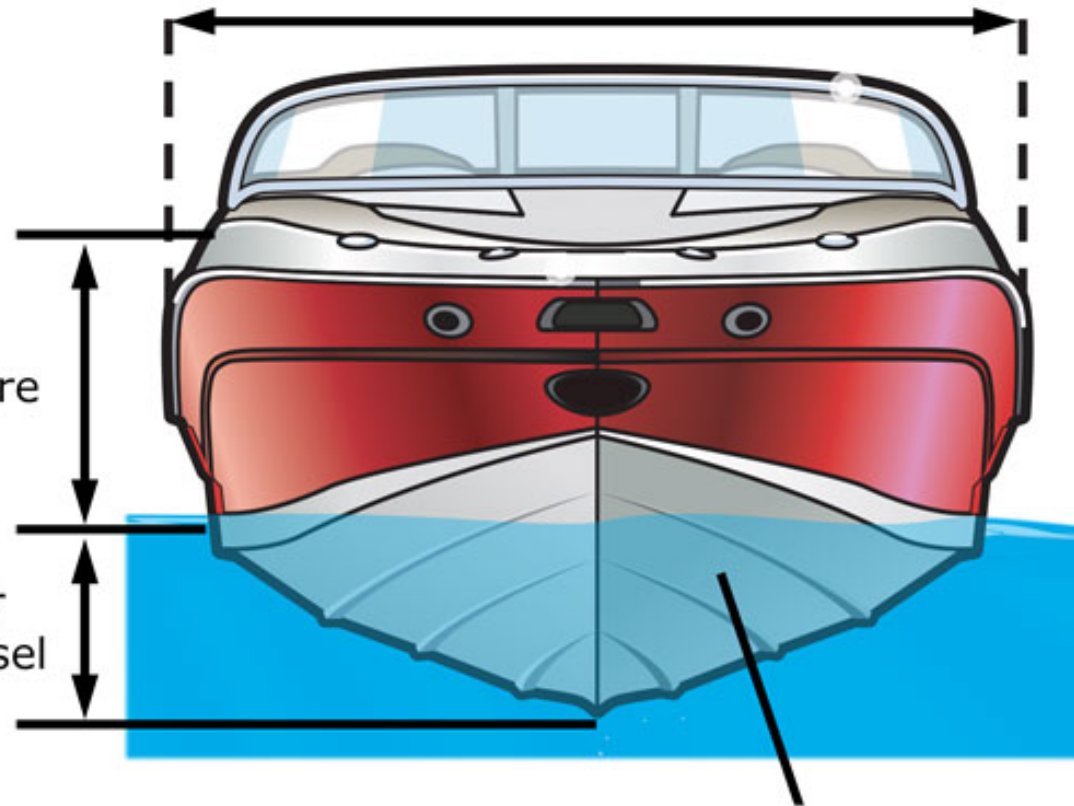
Boat Parts



beam: Maximum width of a vessel

freeboard: Distance from water to lowest point of the boat where water could come on board

draft: Depth of water needed to float a vessel

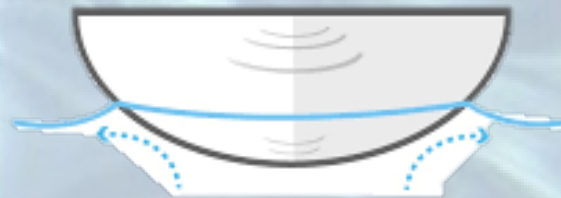


keel: Main centerline (backbone) of a vessel or the extension of hull that increases stability in the water

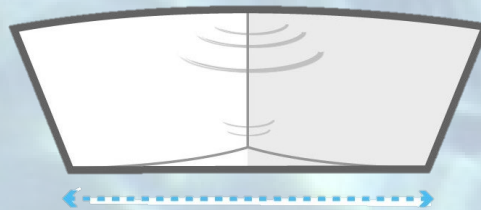
TYPE OF BOAT HULLS



**PLANNING
HULL**



**DISPLACEMENT
HULL**



**FLAT
BOTTOM**



Vessel Classes

Class A-1	Watercraft less than 12 feet, canoes, kayaks, SUPs, or any other manually propelled watercraft
Class A-2	Watercraft 12 feet to less than 16 feet and all powered canoes
Class 1	Watercraft 16 feet to less than 26 feet
Class 2	Watercraft 26 feet to less than 40 feet
Class 3	Watercraft 40 feet to less than 65 feet
Special Class	Airboats

Capacity Rating

MAXIMUM CAPACITIES

3 PERSONS OR 700 LBS.

750 LBS. PERSONS, MOTOR, GEAR
2.5 H.P. MOTOR ONLY

MODEL

17 FOOT
CANOE

MANUFACTURER

ABC BOATS
ANYWHERE, USA 99999

Boating Basics

Chapter 2

Before Getting Underway

Float Plans

- **Required by DEP 270**
 - Where going
 - When planned return
 - Passengers



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Float Plan

This Float Plan is being filed with: _____ Phone Number: _____
(supervisor or alternate)

Operator Information:

Name: _____ Phone No.: _____ Date: _____

Additional Person(s) on board (include contact information & emergency contact if not a DEP employee)

	Person on board	Phone Number	Emergency Contact	Emergency Contact's Number
1				
2				

Departing Time: _____

Return Time: _____

Vessel Information:

DEP Property No.	FL Registration No.	Description

☐ **Safety Equipment Onboard** (Check this box verifying all required safety equipment is on vessel)

Trip Plan: Include all stops, the direction of travel to get to each stop and the times anticipated for each stop. A drawing may be more effective in describing your activities.

By submitting this form, you acknowledge your responsibility per DEP Policy ADM 270 during all operations of the vessel including the requirement for all persons on the boat to wear a USCG approved life jacket at all times unless specifically exempt.

Primary Operator Signature: _____ Date: _____

CHECKLIST



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Boating Inspection Checklist

Inspector's Name: _____ Date: _____

Division/District: Select One

Name of Park/NERR: _____

Vessel Name or ID: _____

		Yes	No	N/A
PRE-UNDERWAY	Are batteries being charged while on the craft? <i>Due to the possibility of stray current and the effects on the aluminum boat hulls NO charging of batteries onboard any of vessels should be permitted utilizing an external battery charger powered by 120 volts.</i>	☐	☐	☐
	Are batteries being charged in a confined area? <i>Charging them in what may be a confined space could lead to an explosion due to poor ventilation.</i>	☐	☐	☐
TRAILERING	Lights (Turn, Brakes, Running Lights)	☐	☐	☐
	Boat Securely on Trailer	☐	☐	☐
	Tie Down Straps	☐	☐	☐
	Bow Chain	☐	☐	☐
	Winch	☐	☐	☐
	Trailer Chains Crossed	☐	☐	☐
	Tires (Including Space)	☐	☐	☐
	Proper Inflation	☐	☐	☐
	Bearings Greased	☐	☐	☐
	Equipment Properly Stowed	☐	☐	☐
	Outboard Raised and Stowed	☐	☐	☐
	Proper Lug Wrench for Tires on Trailer	☐	☐	☐
	Hitch Secure with a Pin	☐	☐	☐
Jack Stand	☐	☐	☐	

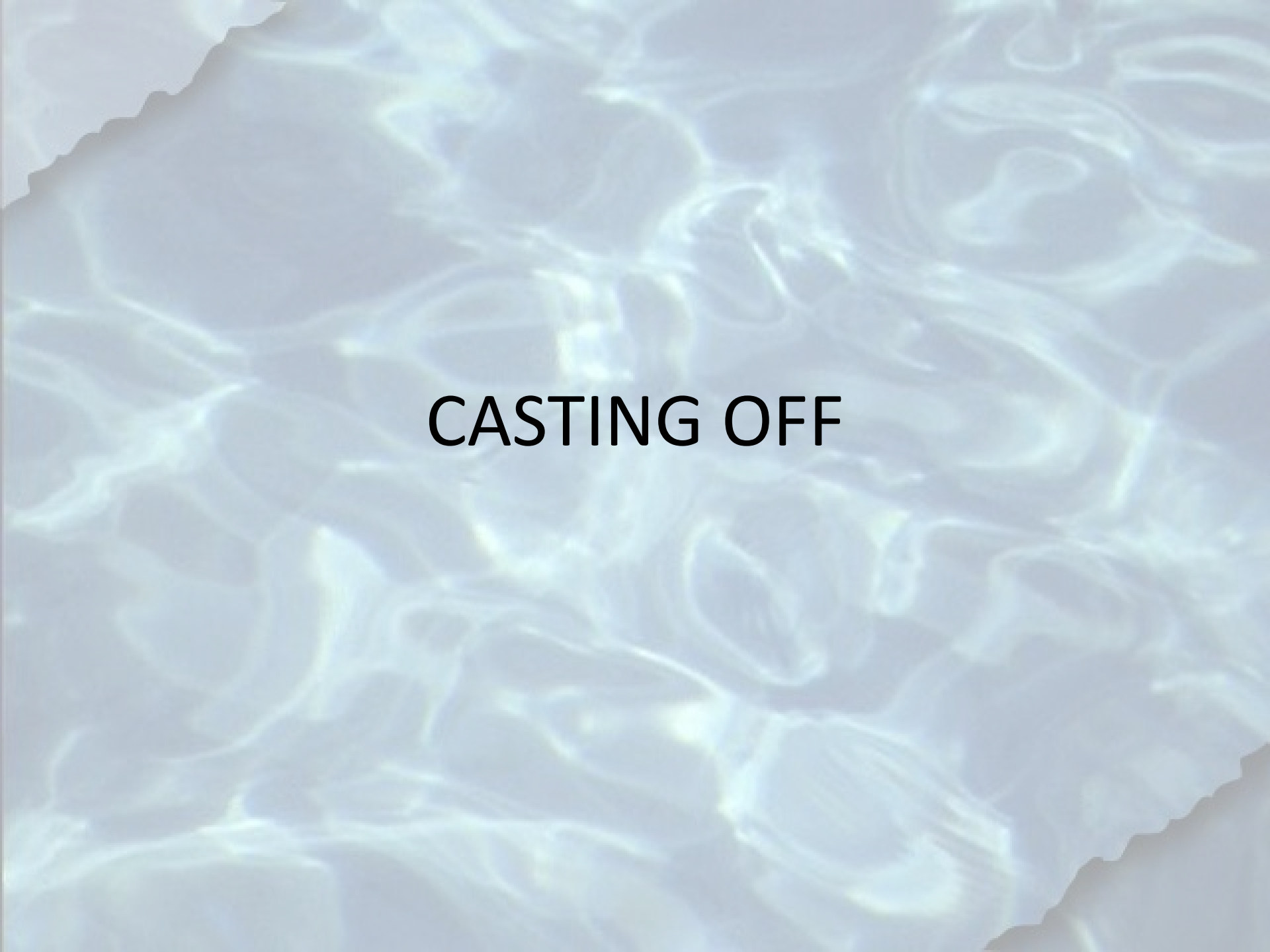
Fueling Vessels



Boating Basics

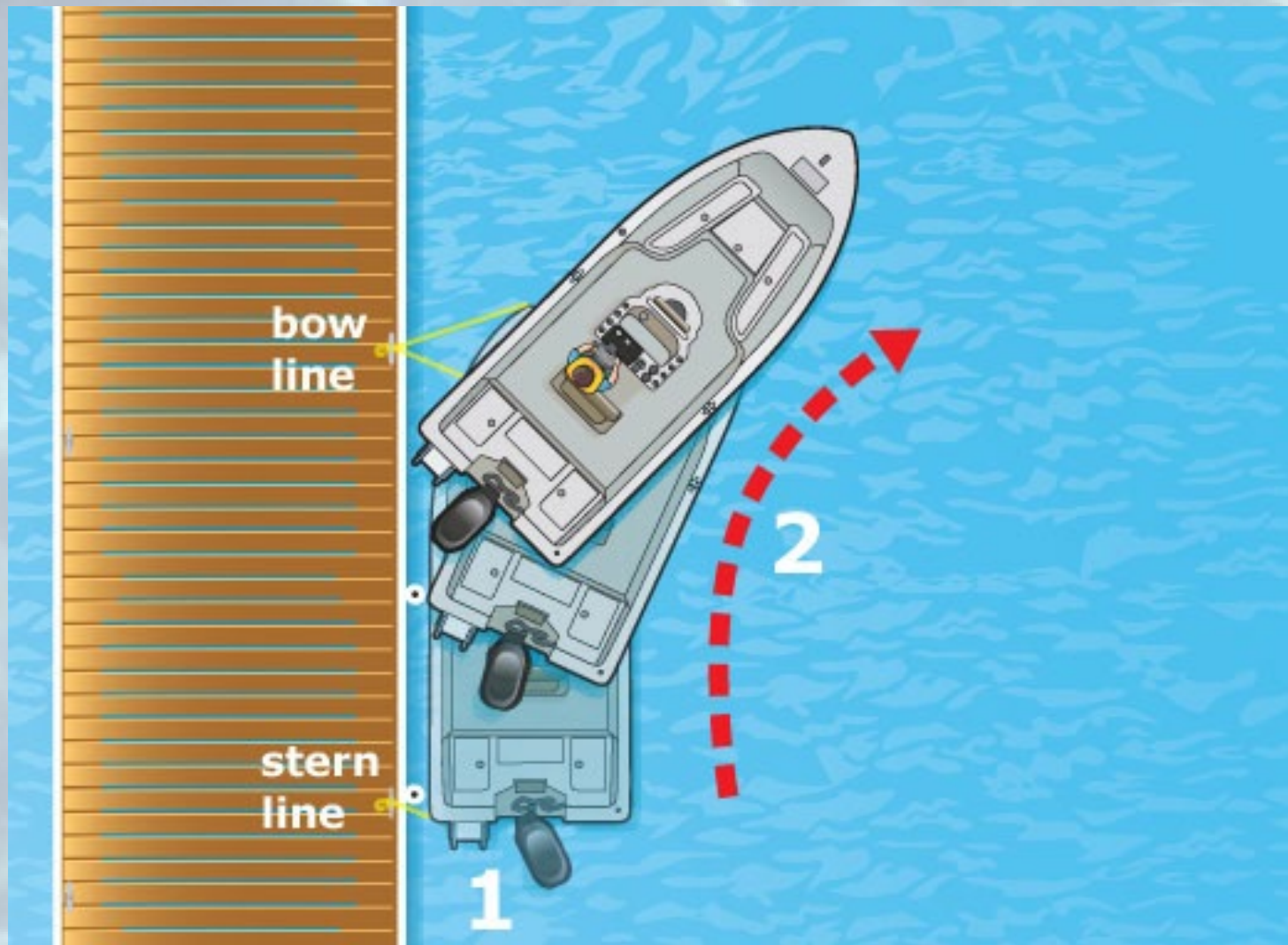
Chapter 3

Boating Operation

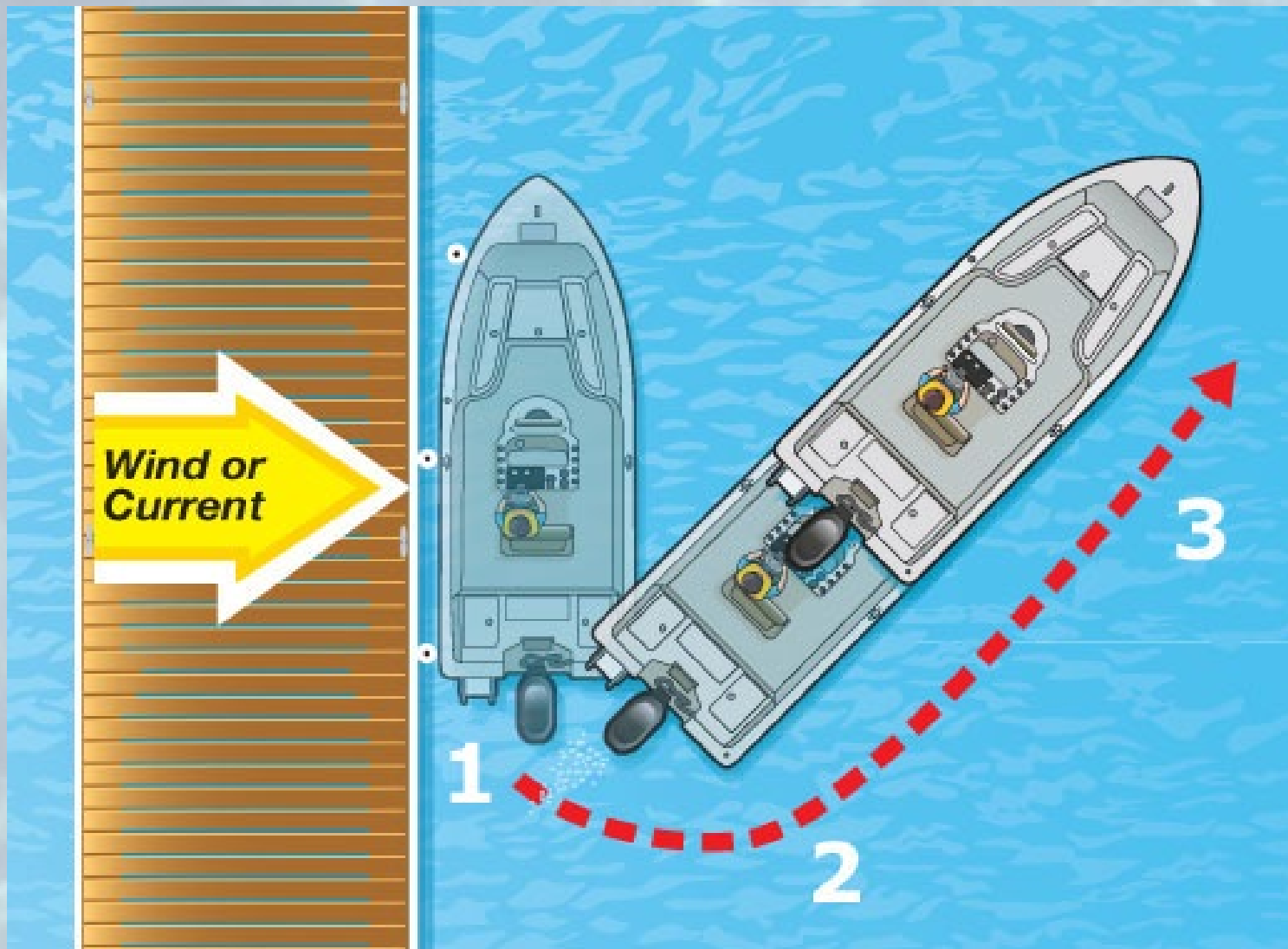
The background of the slide is a close-up, high-resolution image of water ripples. The ripples create a complex, organic pattern of light and dark blue-grey tones, with bright highlights where the water's surface reflects light. The overall effect is a sense of movement and fluidity.

CASTING OFF

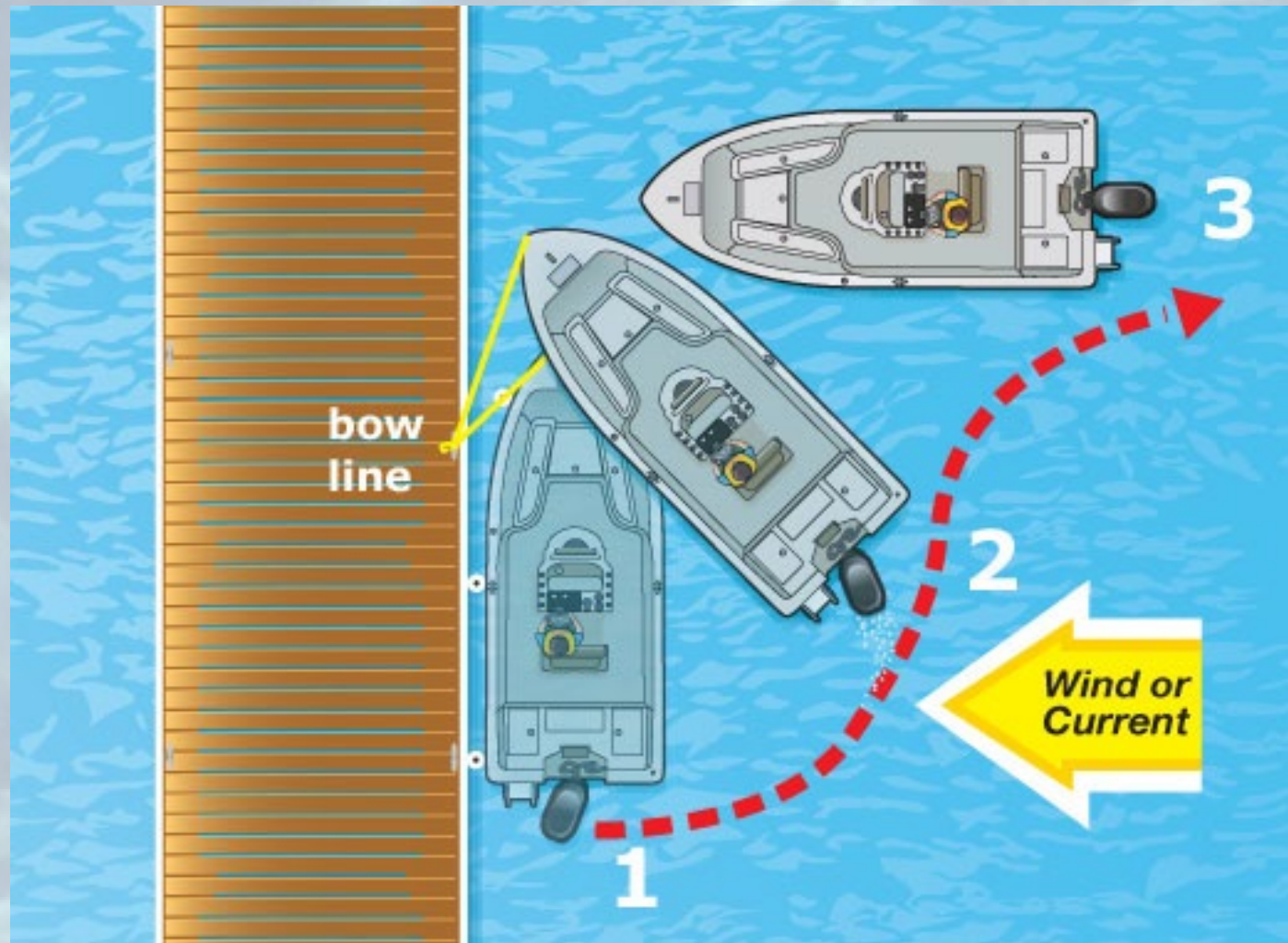
No Wind or Current



Wind or Current Away from Dock



Wind or Current Toward Dock





10 Tips for “Driving” a boat

1. Surrounding awareness
2. Slow is pro!
3. Never under the influence
4. Tight spaces
5. Trim motor
6. Large waves/wakes.
7. Steering on Plane
8. Throttle on plane
9. ‘Rules of the road’
10. Weather and environment

Collision Avoidance



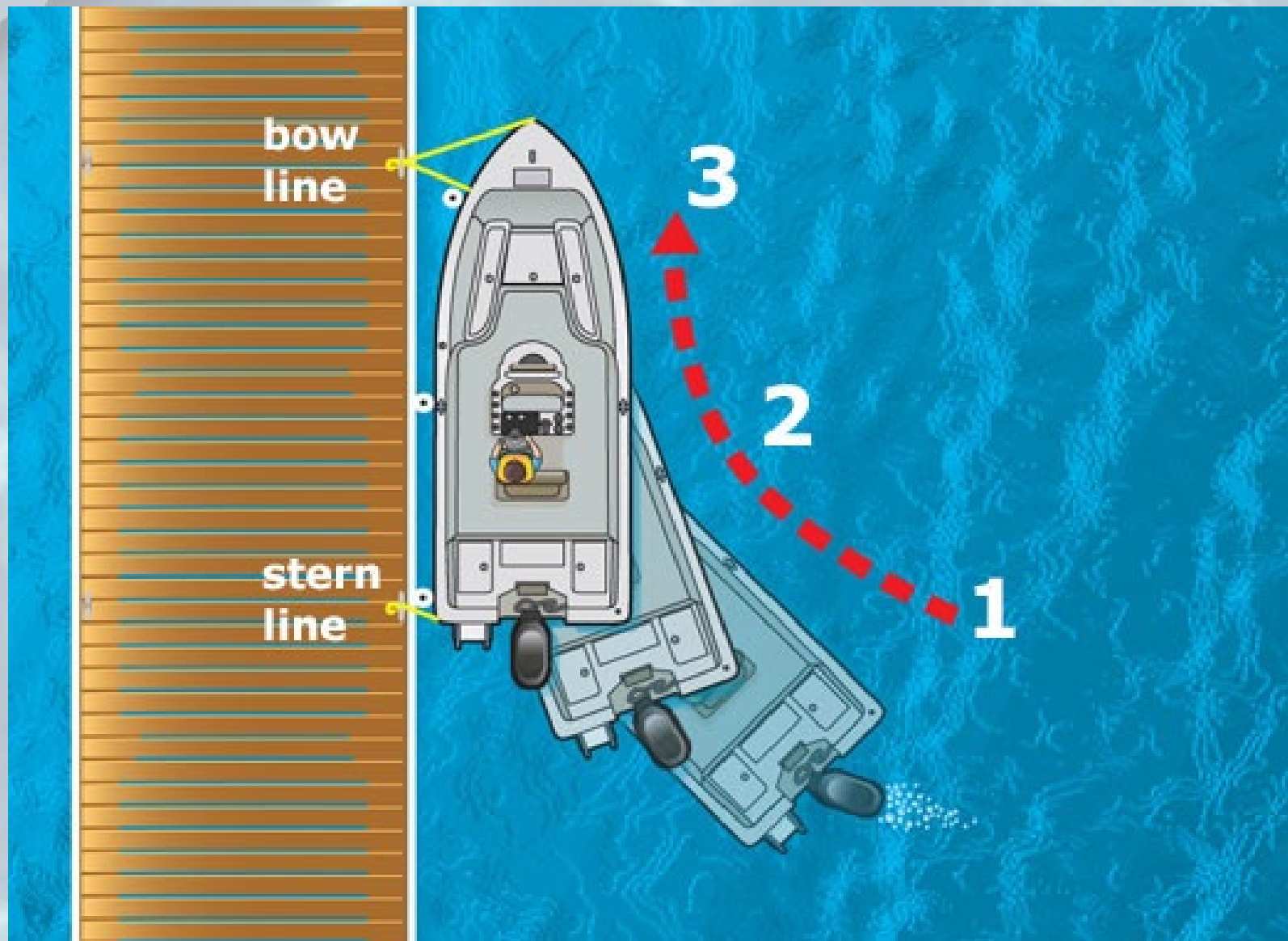
The background of the slide is a close-up, high-resolution image of water ripples. The light reflects off the crests of the waves, creating a shimmering, textured effect with various shades of blue and white. The ripples are irregular and organic, filling the entire frame.

DOCKING

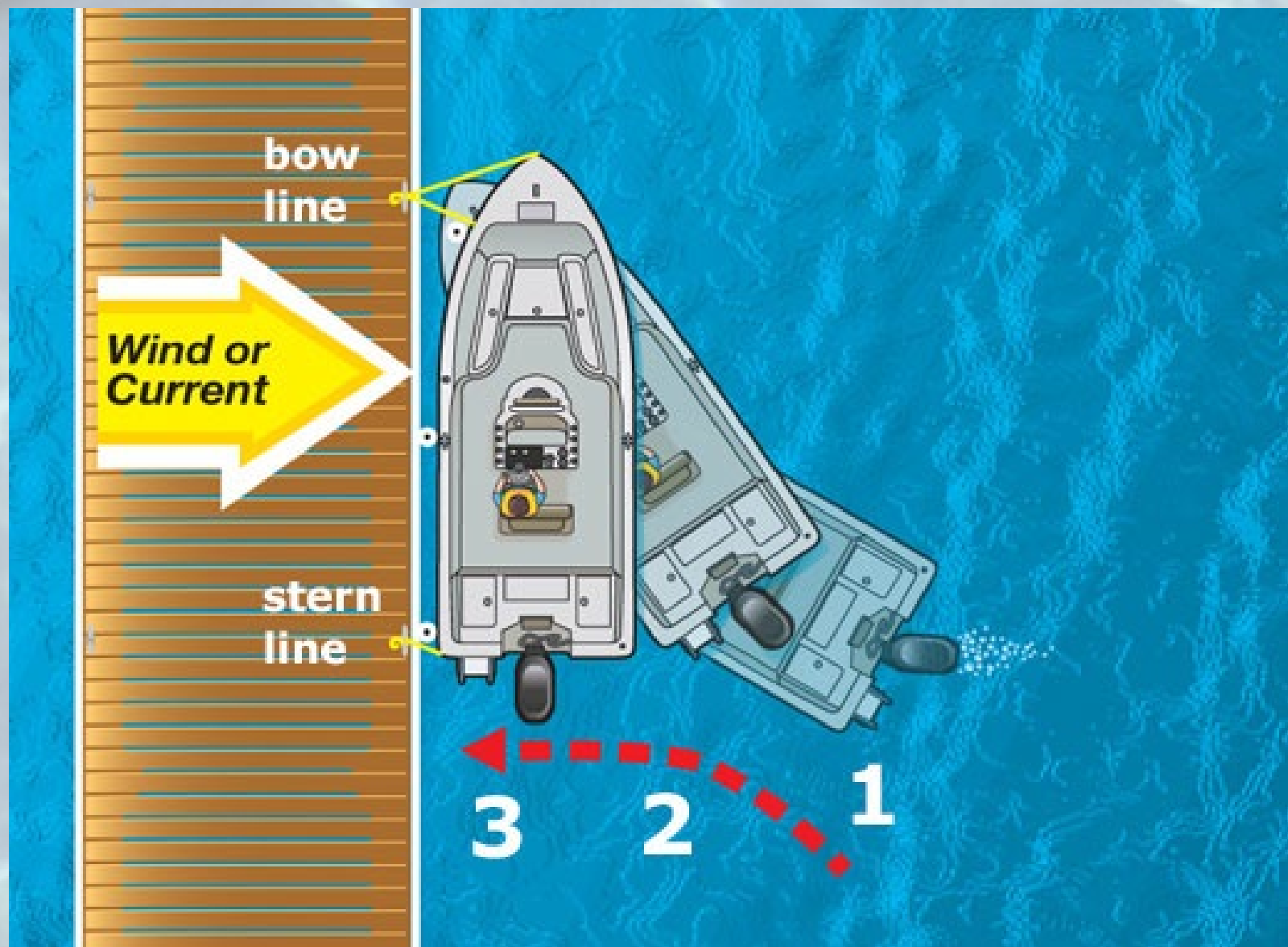
Before Docking



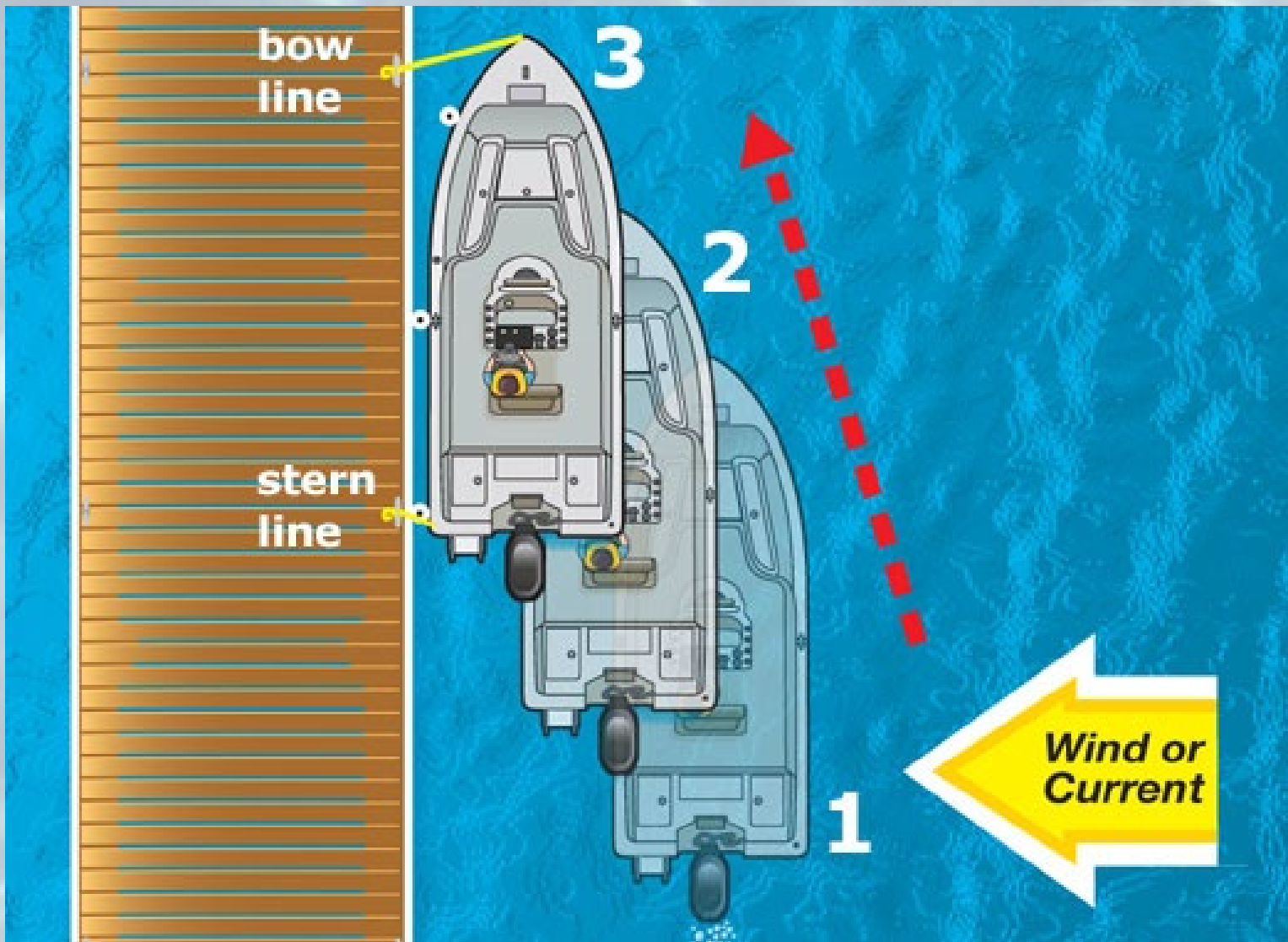
No Wind or Current



Wind or Current Away from Dock



Wind or Current Toward Dock



Boating Basics

Chapter 4

Navigation Rules

Important Definitions

Vessel Types

Power Driven Vessel

Sailing Vessel

Vessels Engaged in Fishing

Seaplanes -Vessels Constrained by Draft

Vessels Restricted in Their Ability to Maneuver

Vessels not under Command

Restricted Visibility



Important Definitions

Give-Way Vessel

Stand-On Vessel



Navigation Rules

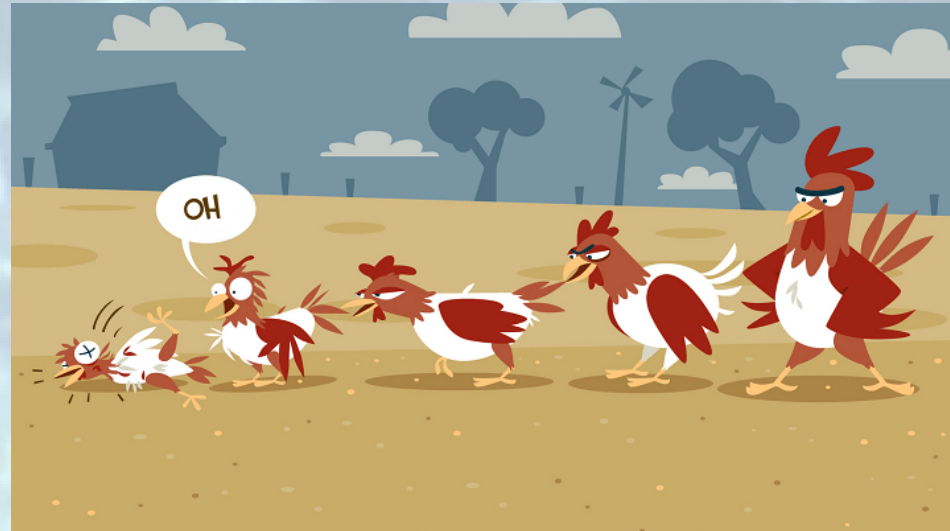
Give-way

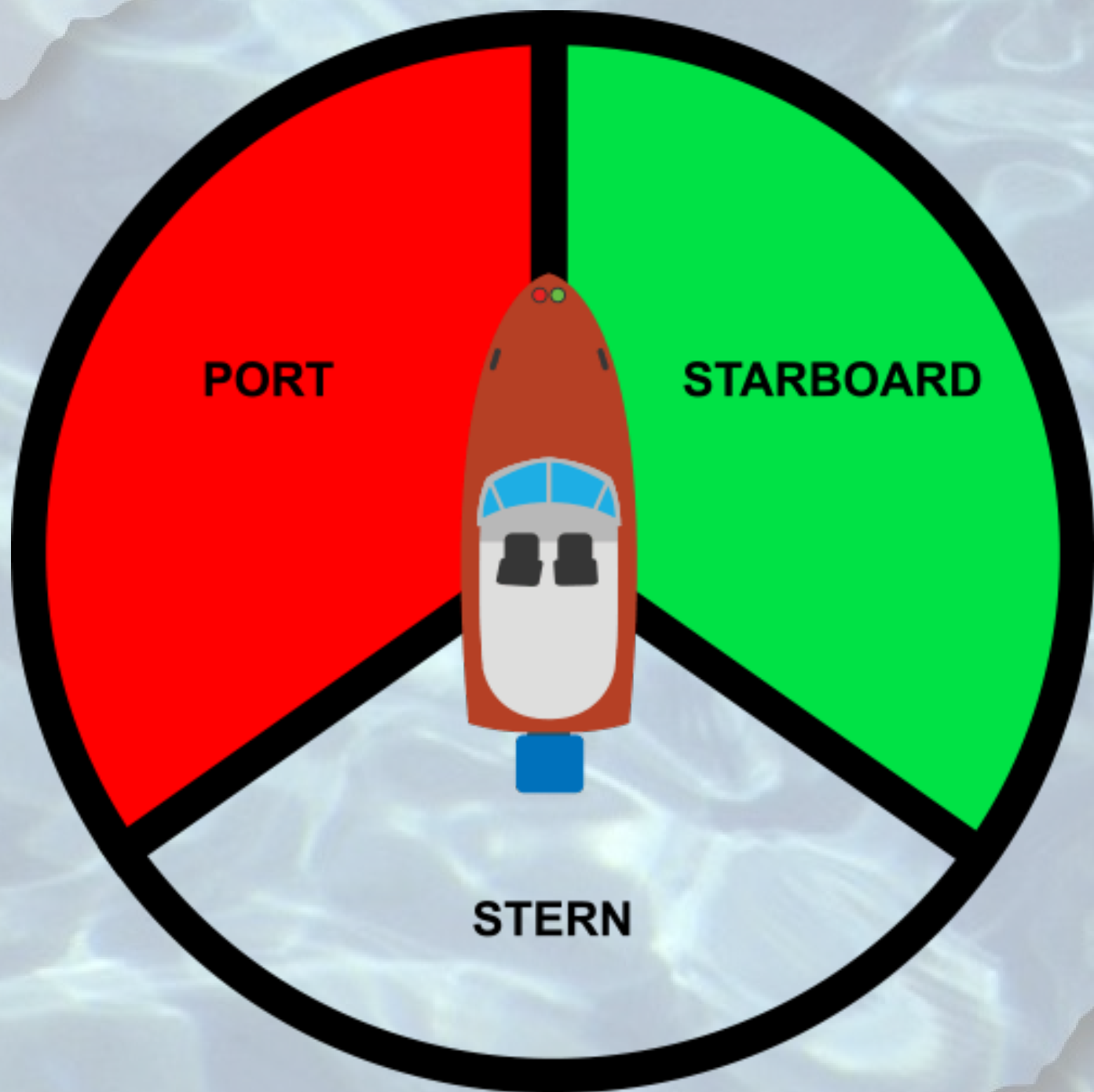


- US Ship: Recommend you divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision.
- Canadians: Negative. You will have to divert your course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision.
- US Ship: This is the Captain of a US Navy ship. I say again, divert YOUR course.
- Canadians: No, I say again, you divert YOUR course.
- US Ship: THIS IS THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS LINCOLN, THE SECOND LARGEST SHIP IN THE UNITED STATES' ATLANTIC FLEET. WE ARE ACCOMPANIED BY THREE DESTROYERS, THREE CRUISERS AND NUMEROUS SUPPORT VESSELS. I DEMAND THAT YOU CHANGE YOUR COURSE 15 DEGREES NORTH--I SAY AGAIN, THAT'S ONE FIVE DEGREES NORTH--OR COUNTER-MEASURES WILL BE UNDERTAKEN TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THIS SHIP.
- **Canadians: This is a Lighthouse. Your call.**

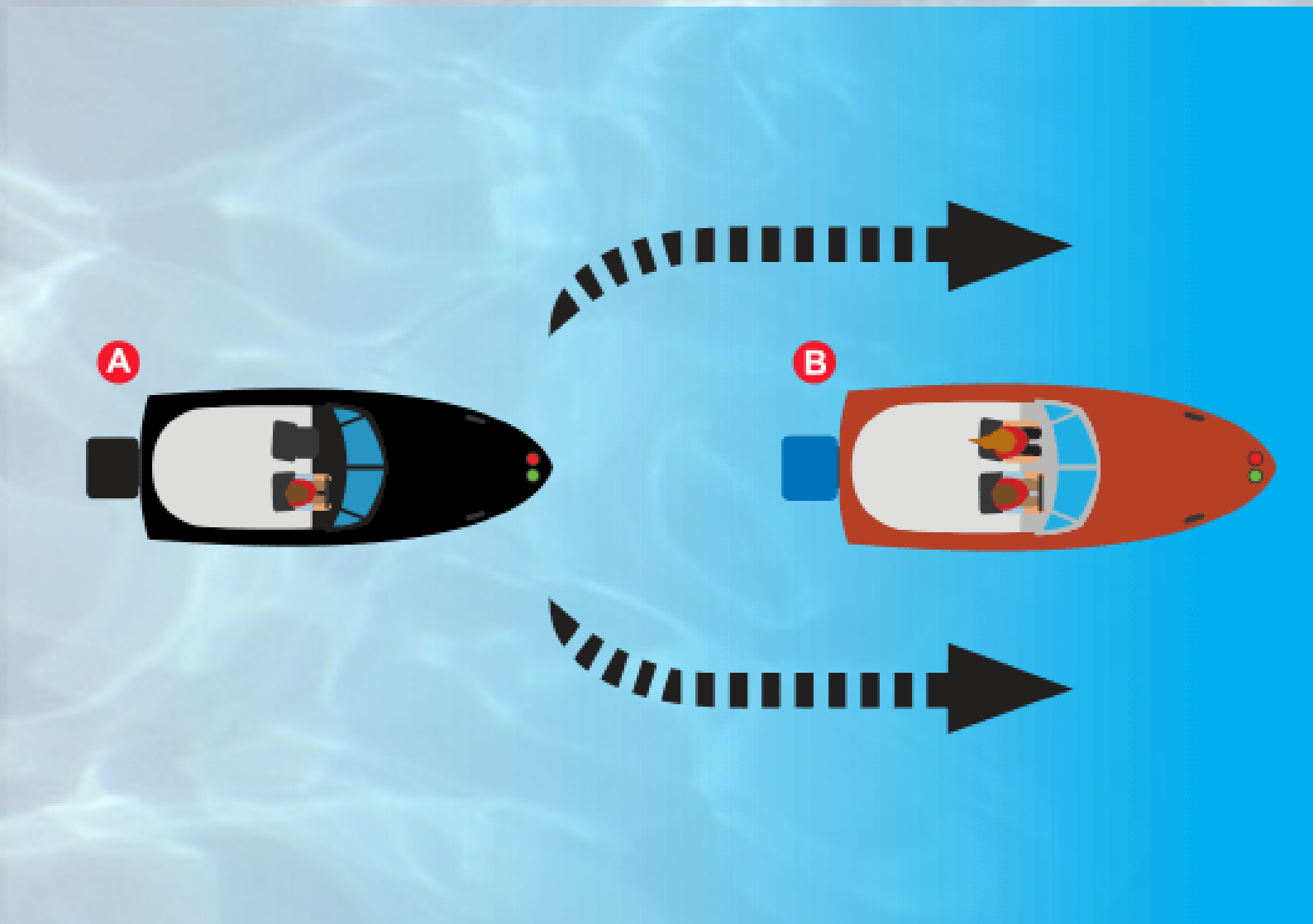
Pecking Order

1. Overtaken
2. Not under command
3. Restricted maneuverability
4. Constrained by draft
5. Fishing vessels
6. Sailing vessels
7. Power driven vessels

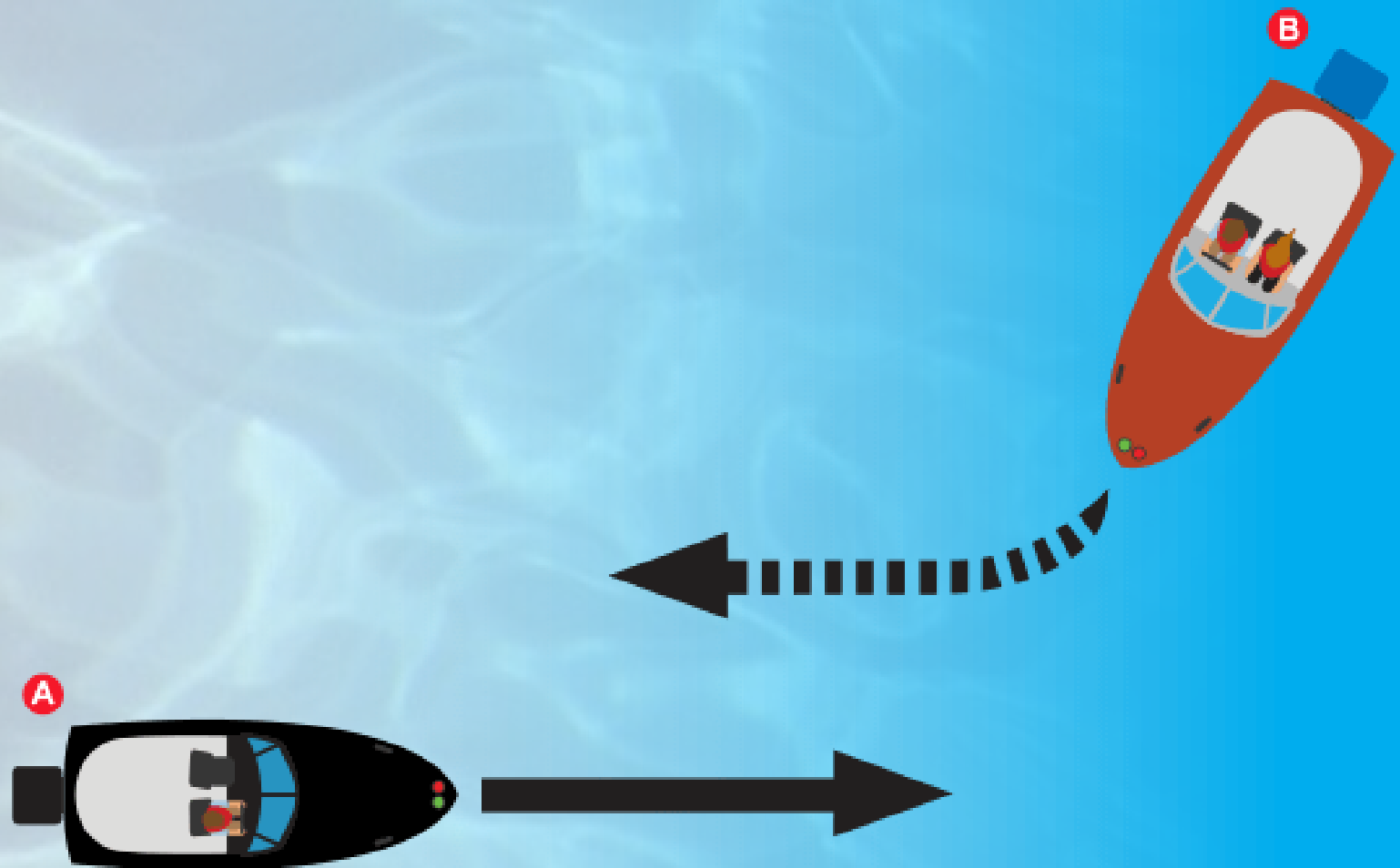




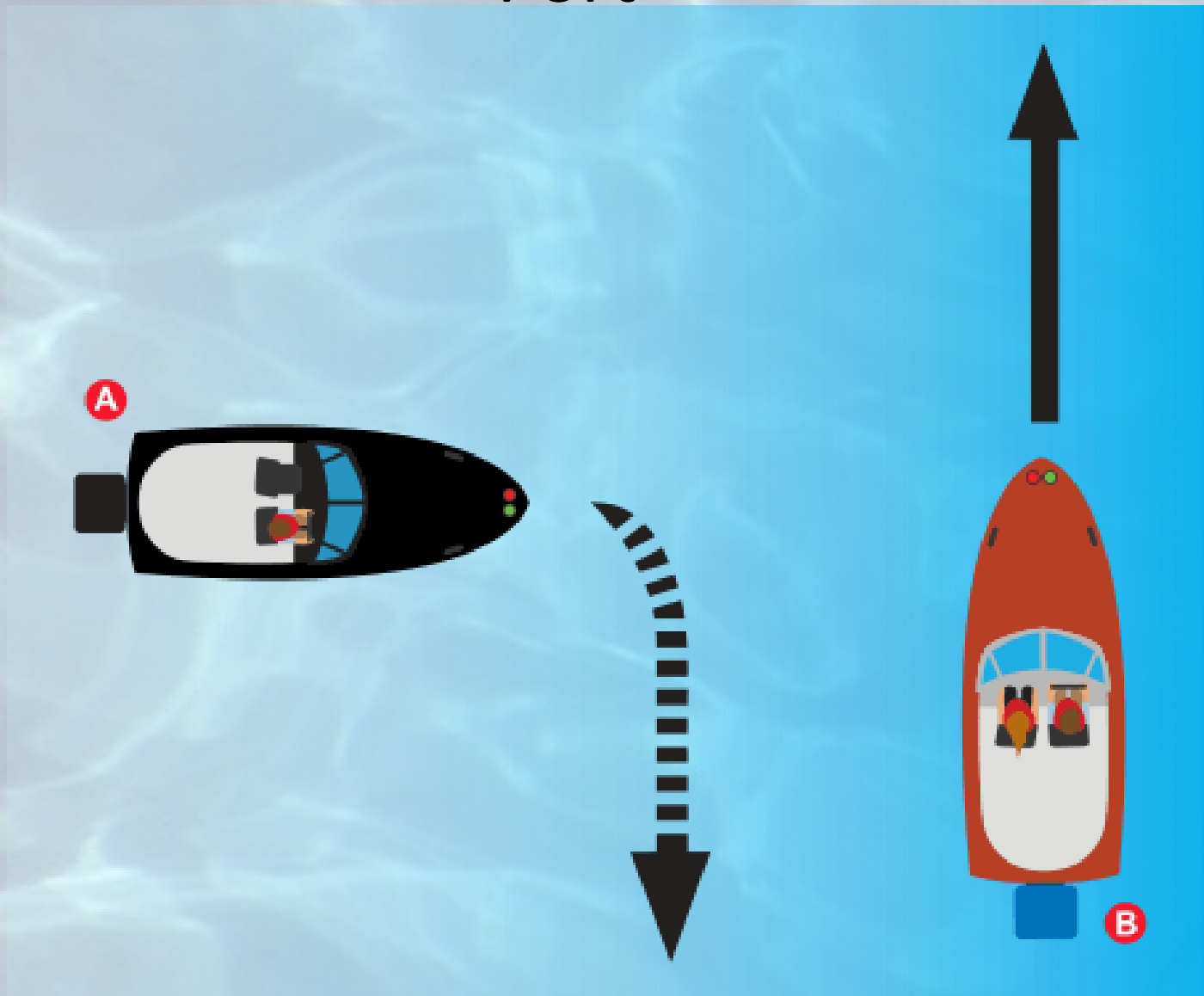
Stern



Starboard



Port



Meeting Head-On Situation

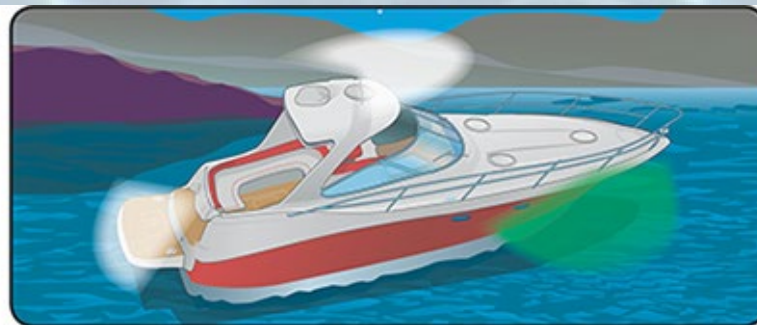


Precautions at Night

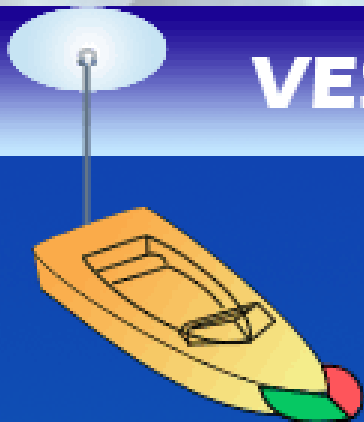
1. Slow down
2. Lookout duties
3. Preparations list
4. Night vision
5. No spotlights
6. Look
7. Listen!!!!
8. Trust
9. Towel
10. Dock



Navigation Lights

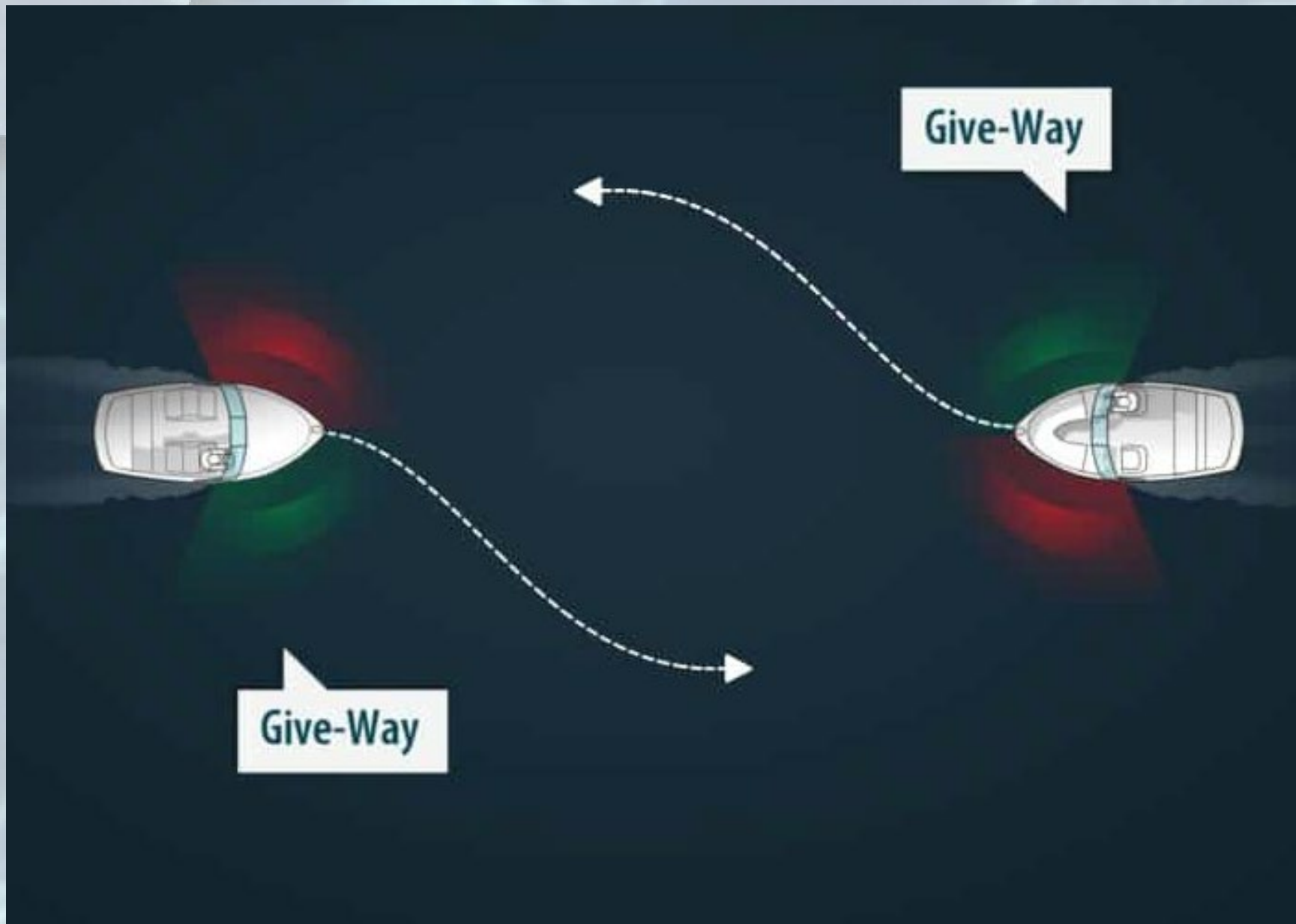


VESSELS LESS THAN 65.6 FEET

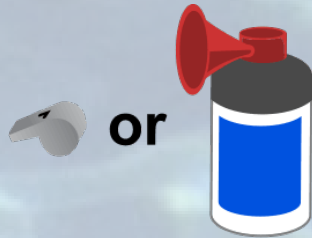


VISIBLE RANGE IN MILES

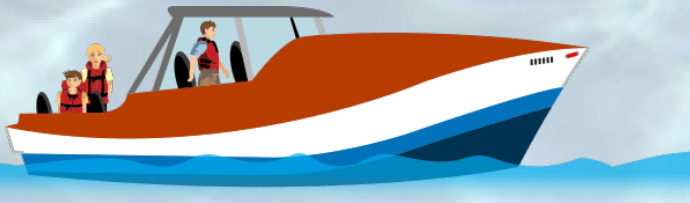
	LIGHT	less than 39.4 feet	39.4 feet or more	ARC IN DEGREES
	Masthead Light	2	3	225
	All-round Light	2	2	360
	Sidelights	1	2	112.5
	Sternlight	2	2	135



Sound Signals Requirements



Less than 39.4 ft.



39.4 – 65 feet



•
• •
• • •
- - •
- - • •
- • - •
• • • • •
-

I am changing course to starboard

I am changing course to port

My engines are operating astern

I would like to overtake you to starboard

I would like to overtake you to port

I agree

I don't understand your intention

Motor vessel approaching a bend

Aids to Navigation (ATON)



BOATS KEEP OUT!

Nature of danger may be placed outside of diamond: waterfalls, swim areas, etc.



DANGER!

Nature of danger may be placed inside of diamond: rocks, dams, snags, etc.



CAUTION!

Controlled area as indicated in circle: speed limit, no fishing, no anchoring, etc.



INFORMATION!

Tells direction, distance, places, food, repairs, fuel, and other non-regulatory messages.

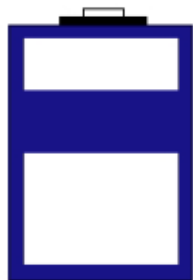


MID CHANNEL OR RAILWAY BUOY



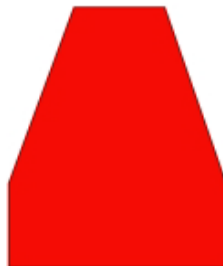
CHANNEL MARKER

Lateral system. Keep buoy on left facing upstream.



MOORING BUOY

White with reflective blue band. May have white light or



CHANNEL MARKER

Lateral system. Keep buoy on right when heading upstream.



DIVER DOWN!

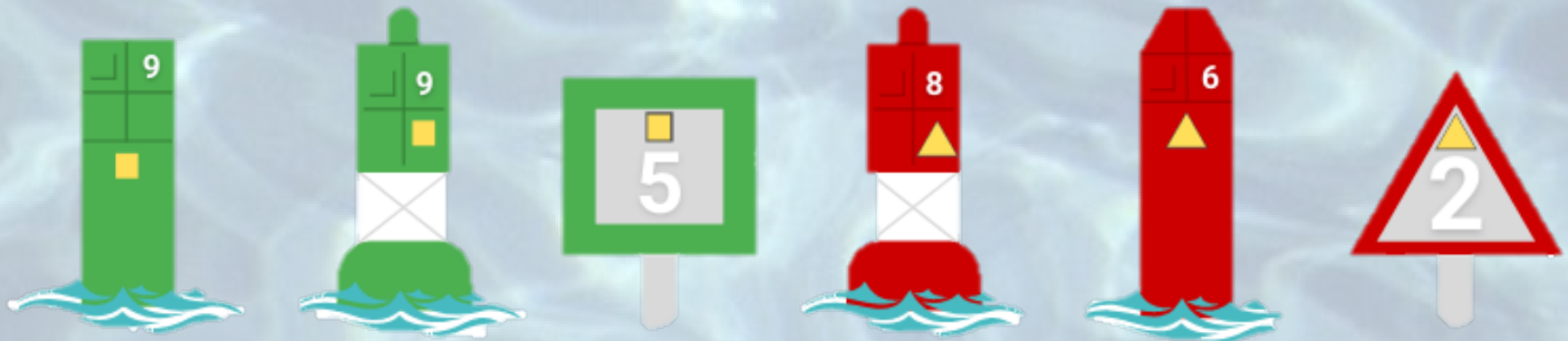
Boaters should exercise caution.



DIVER DOWN!

Alpha flag required by federal regulation. Displayed by vessel

Nun & Can Buoys



“Red Right Returning”



Regulatory Marks and Other Aids

INFORMATION MARKER



INFORMATION MARKS ARE USED FOR DISPLAYING DIRECTIONS, DISTANCES, LOCATIONS, ETC.

REGULATORY MARKER



BOAT EXCLUSION AREAS MAY BE PLACED OUTSIDE OF DIAMOND. WILL REFERENCE DAMS, RAPIDS, ETC.

REGULATORY MARKER

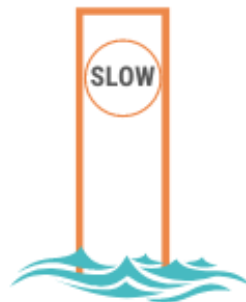


DANGER MARKS USUALLY INDICATE DANGER INSIDE OF DIAMOND. WILL NOTE WRECKS, DAMS, ROCKS, SHOALS, ETC.

REGULATORY MARKER



CONTROLLED AREA MARKS DISPLAY CONTROL IN CIRCLE. MAY SHOW SPEED, NO-WAKE, ETC.



BUOYS ARE USED TO DISPLAY REGULATORY MARKERS MAY SHOW A WHITE LIGHT AND MAY BE LETTERED.

WHEN LIGHTED, MARKS MAY DISPLAY ANY LIGHT PATTERNS EXCEPT QUICK FLASHING AND FLASHING(2)

Mooring Buoy



ANCHORING



Anchor Types



Mushroom Anchor



Danforth or Fluke Anchor



Plow Anchor



Claw Anchor



Grapnel Anchor

Setting Anchor

D - Maximum depth (includes tidal variation - **T**) x 3 = **S** - Scope

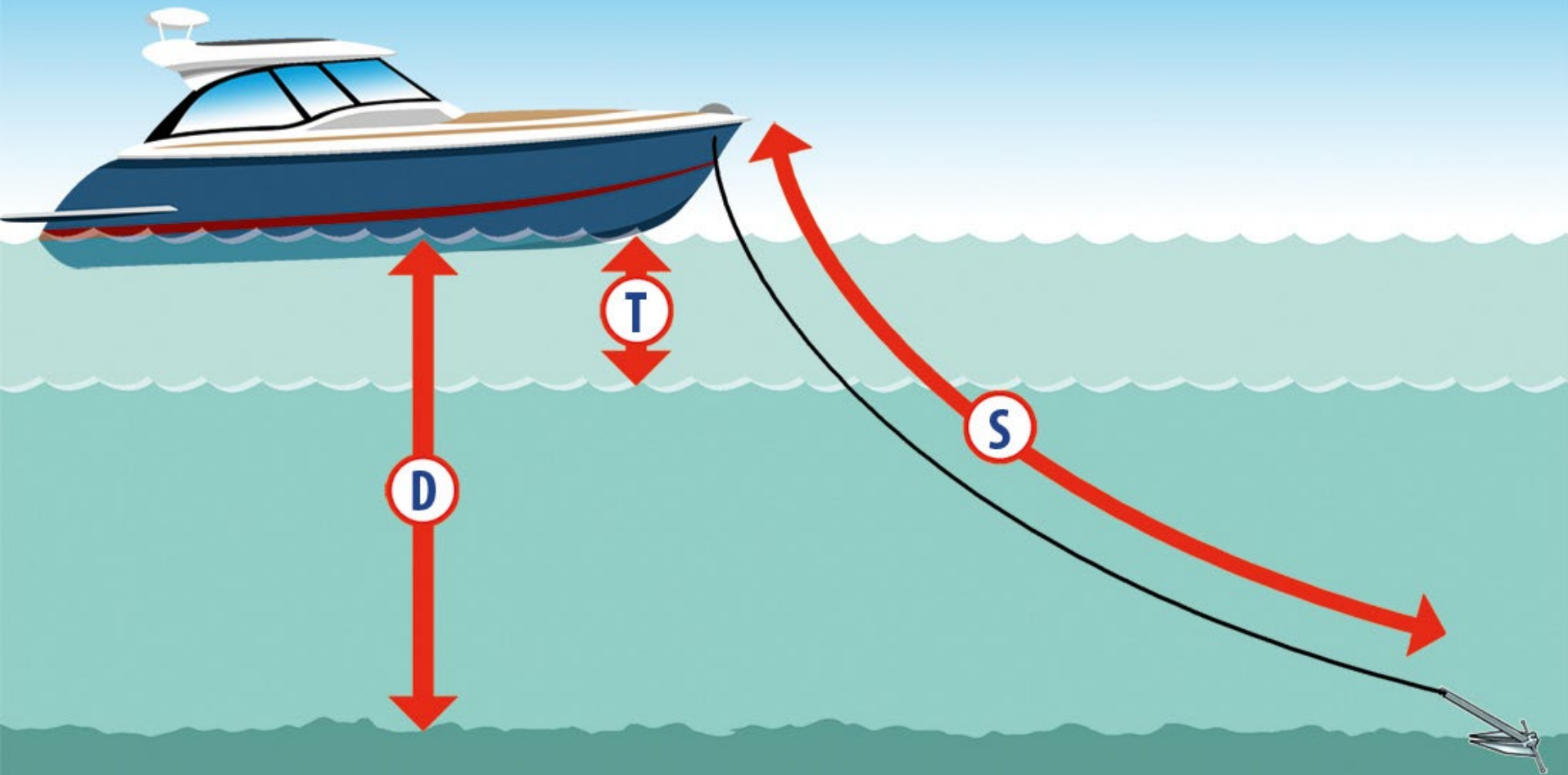
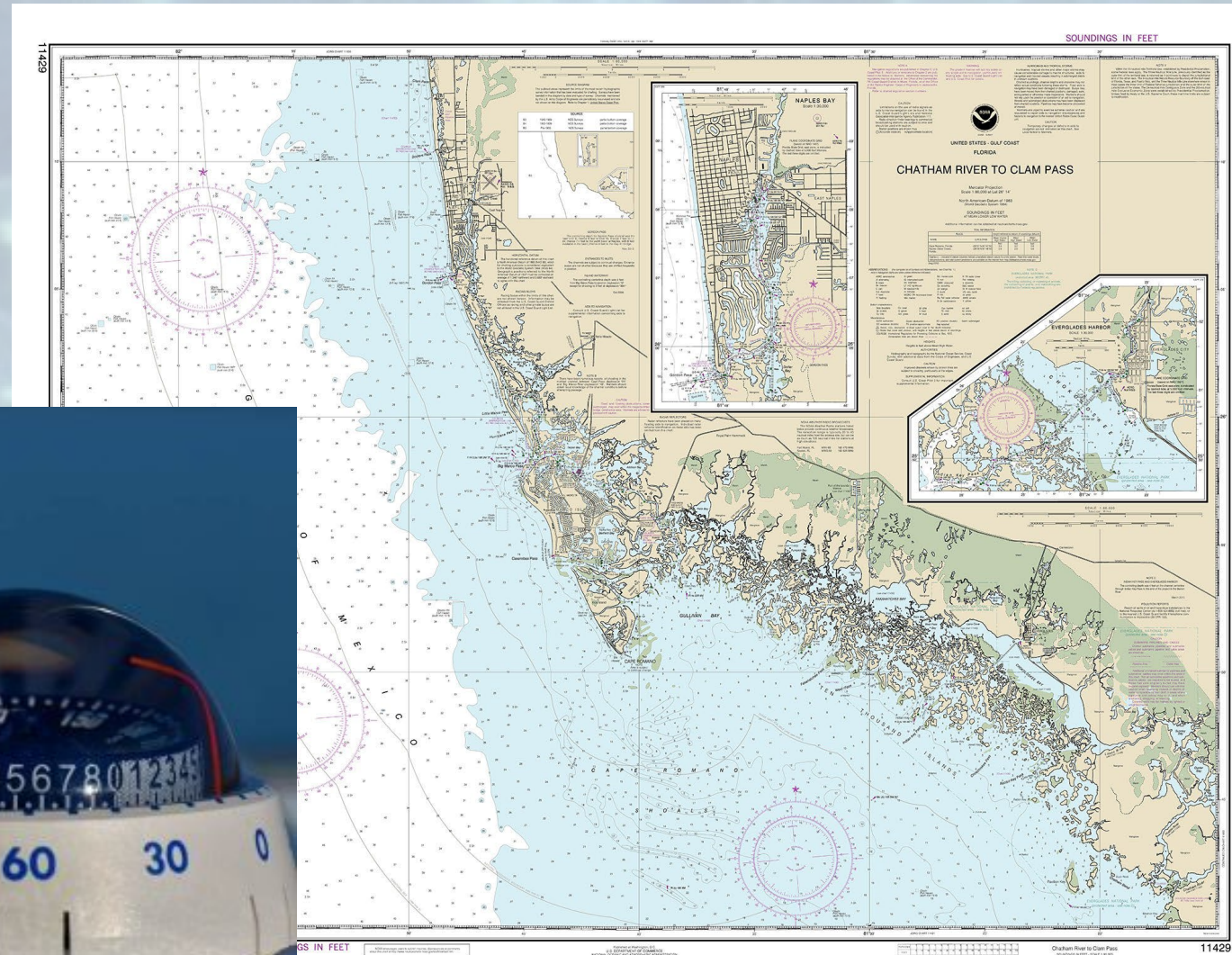
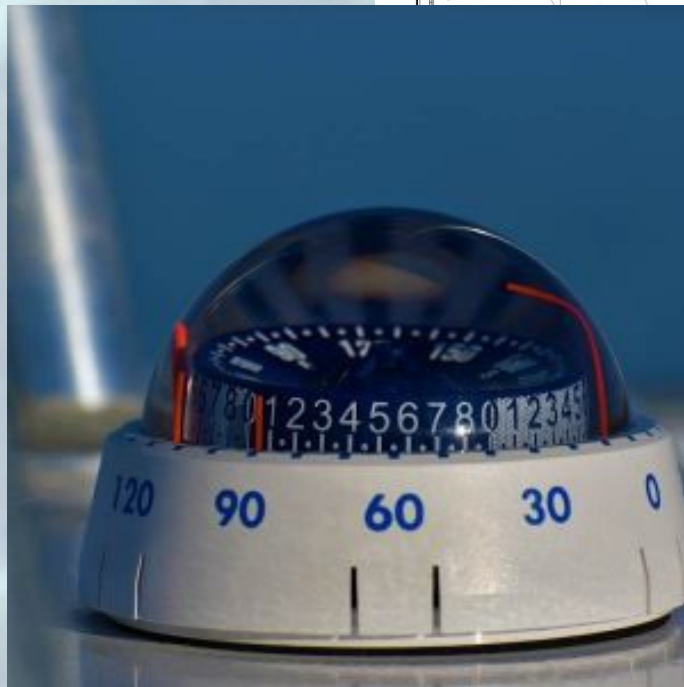


Chart and Compass



Boating Basics

Chapter 5

Legal Requirement

Vessel Registration

REG. TAX	INIT REG.	COUNTY FEE	MAIL FEE	SALES TAX	TITLE FEE
\$53.00	\$	\$2.75	\$0.60	\$0.00	\$
PLATE ISSUED	DATE ISSUED	INTERNET KIOSK FEE	VOLUNTARY CONT. TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL	
	03/30/18	\$0.00	\$	\$56.35	

FLORIDA VESSEL REGISTRATION

VESSEL#: FL 3717 ZW DECAL#: 00000502 EXP: 02/28/19

HIN: SER1001G686 TC: YR/MK: 1986 SER

DL#: S455735757320

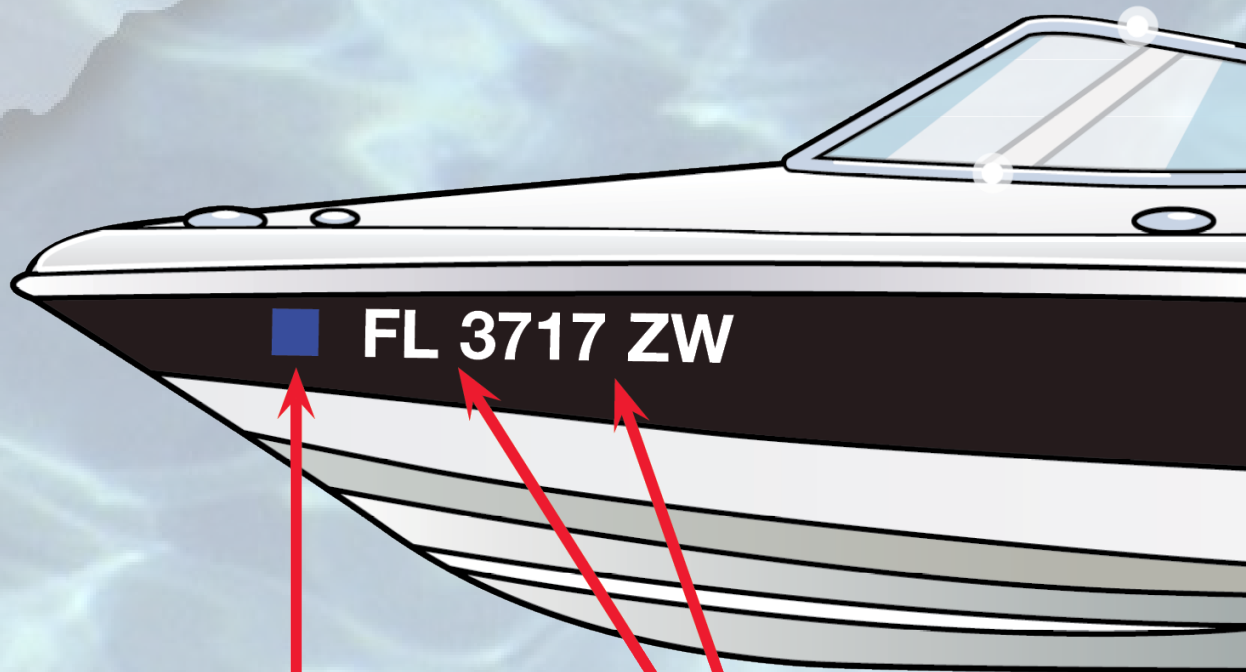
HULL: FBGLSS PROPUL: OUTBRD FUEL: GAS

USE: PLSRE TYPE: CABIN LENGTH: 28'6" ISSUED: 03/30/18

JOHN D DOE

123 SOMEWHERE ST

CITY, FL 32955



**Validation
Decal**

Spaces or
hyphens should
appear here.

Hull Identification Numbers (HIN)

Example: ACBF0930A617

ACB

Manufacturer's
ID Code

F0930

Production or
Serial Number

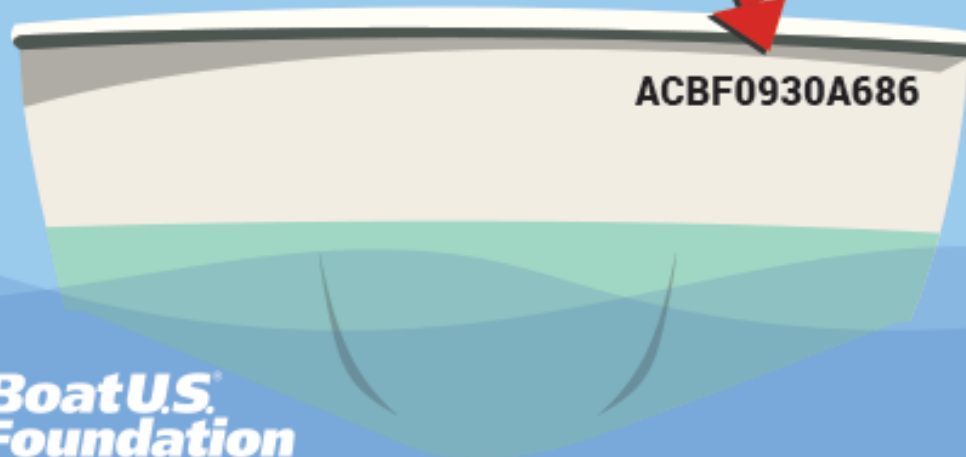
A6

Month, Year
of Production

17

Model
Year

ACBF0930A617



Key to Month of Production

A = January
B = February
C = March
D = April
E = May
F = June
G = July
H = August
I = September
J = October
K = November
L = December

Who may Operate a Vessel in FL

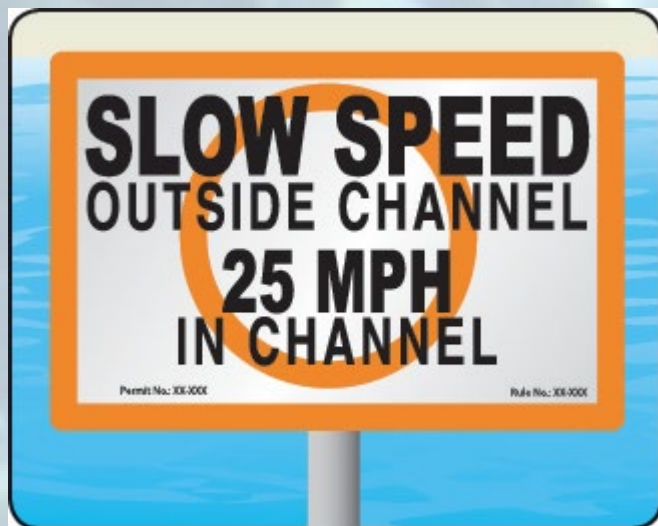


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Unlawful Operations



Regulatory Zones



Obstructing Navigation



Types of PFDs



Type I



Type II



Type III



Type IV



Type V



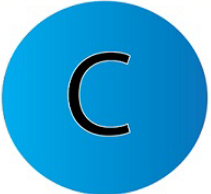
PFD Requirements



**The Captain is Responsible!
No One Else.**



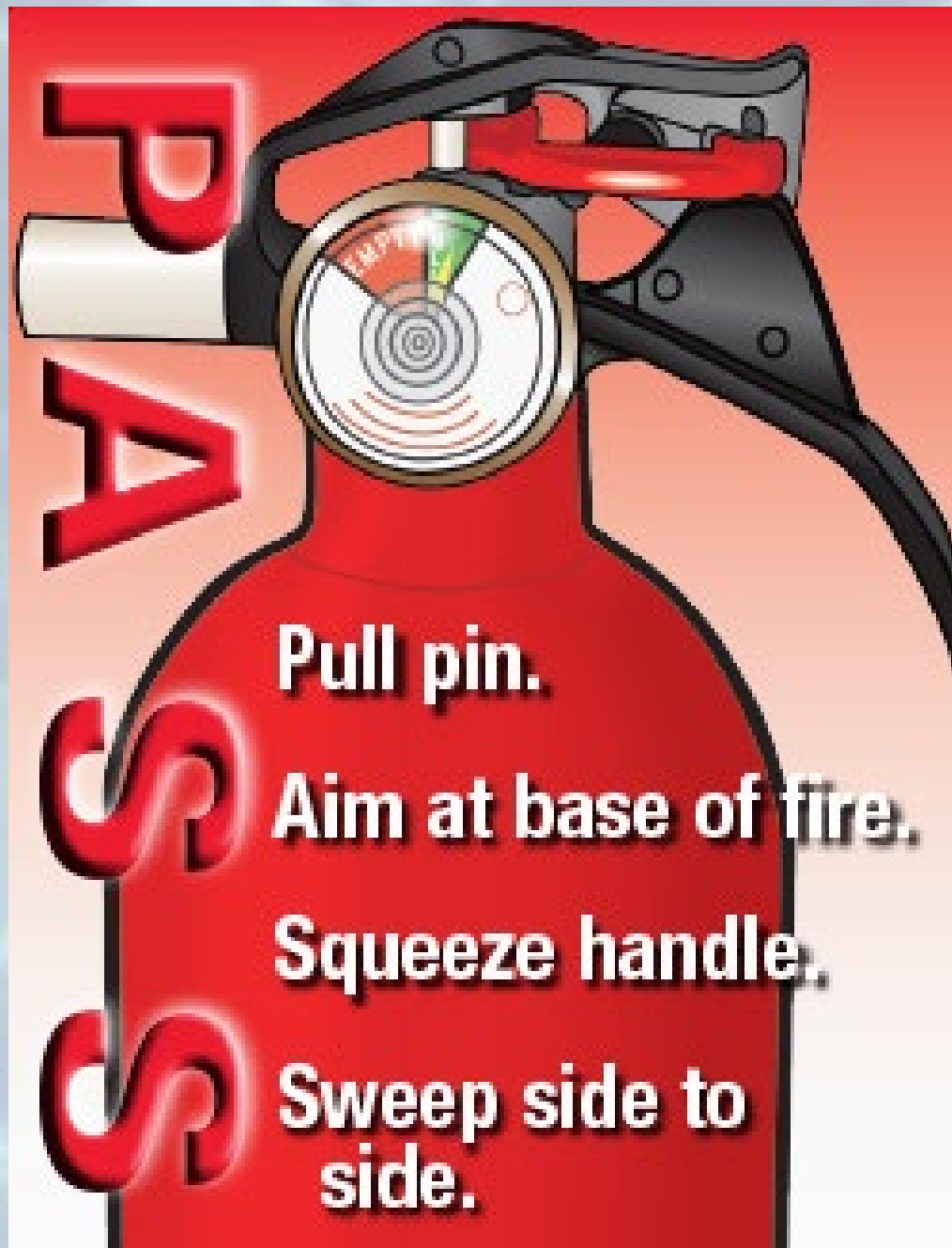
Fire Extinguisher Types

		Ordinary Combustibles	Wood, Paper, Cloth, Etc.
		Flammable Liquids	Grease, Oil, Paint, Solvents
		Live Electrical Equipment	Electrical Panel, Motor, Wiring, Etc.
		Combustible Metal	Magnesium, Aluminum, Etc.
		Commercial Cooking Equipment	Cooking Oils, Animal Fats, Vegetable Oils



Vessel Fire Extinguishers

Vessel Length	No Fixed System	With approved Fixed Systems
Less than 26'	One 5-B or One 10-B	0
26' to less than 40'	Two 5-B or Two 10-B or One 20-B	One 5-B or One-10-B
40' to 65'	Three 5-B or Three 10-B or One 20-B and One 5-B or One 10-B	Two 5-B or Two 10-B or One 20-B



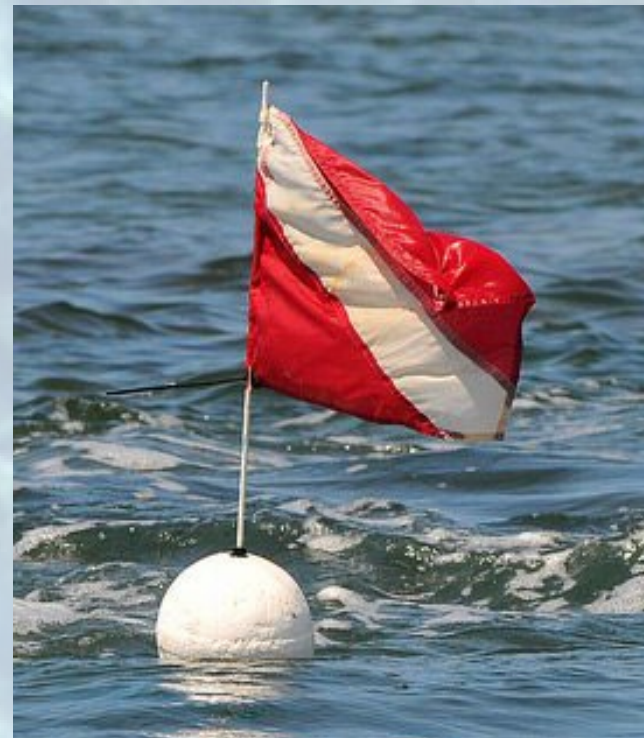
Visual Distress Signals



Sound Producing Devices

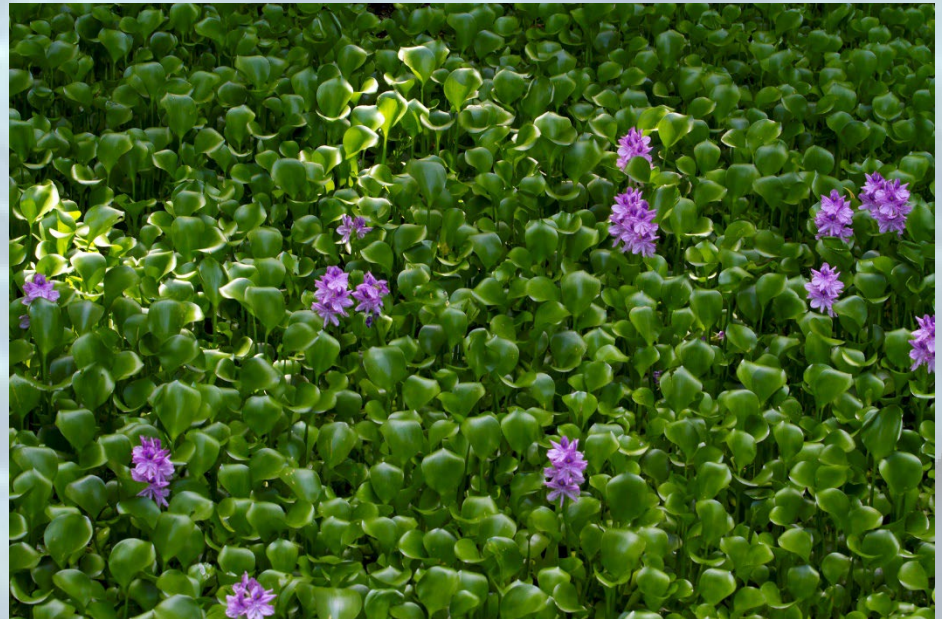


Divers Down



Environmental Concerns

- Seagrass
- Manatees
- Invasive Aquatic Plants



Seagrass





Manatees



Don't Spread Invasive Aquatic Plants

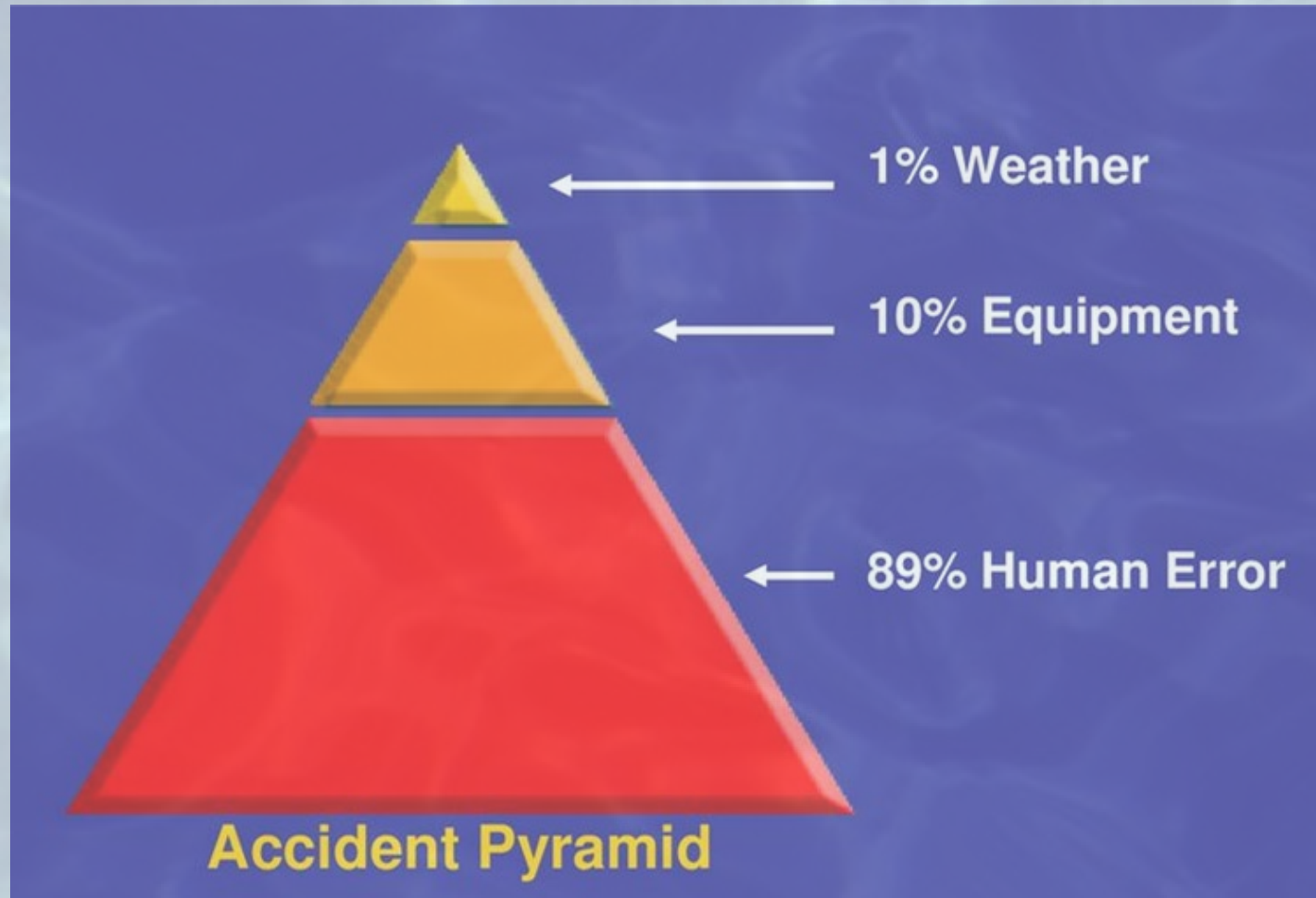


Boating Basics

Chapter 6

Boating Emergencies

Boating Emergencies



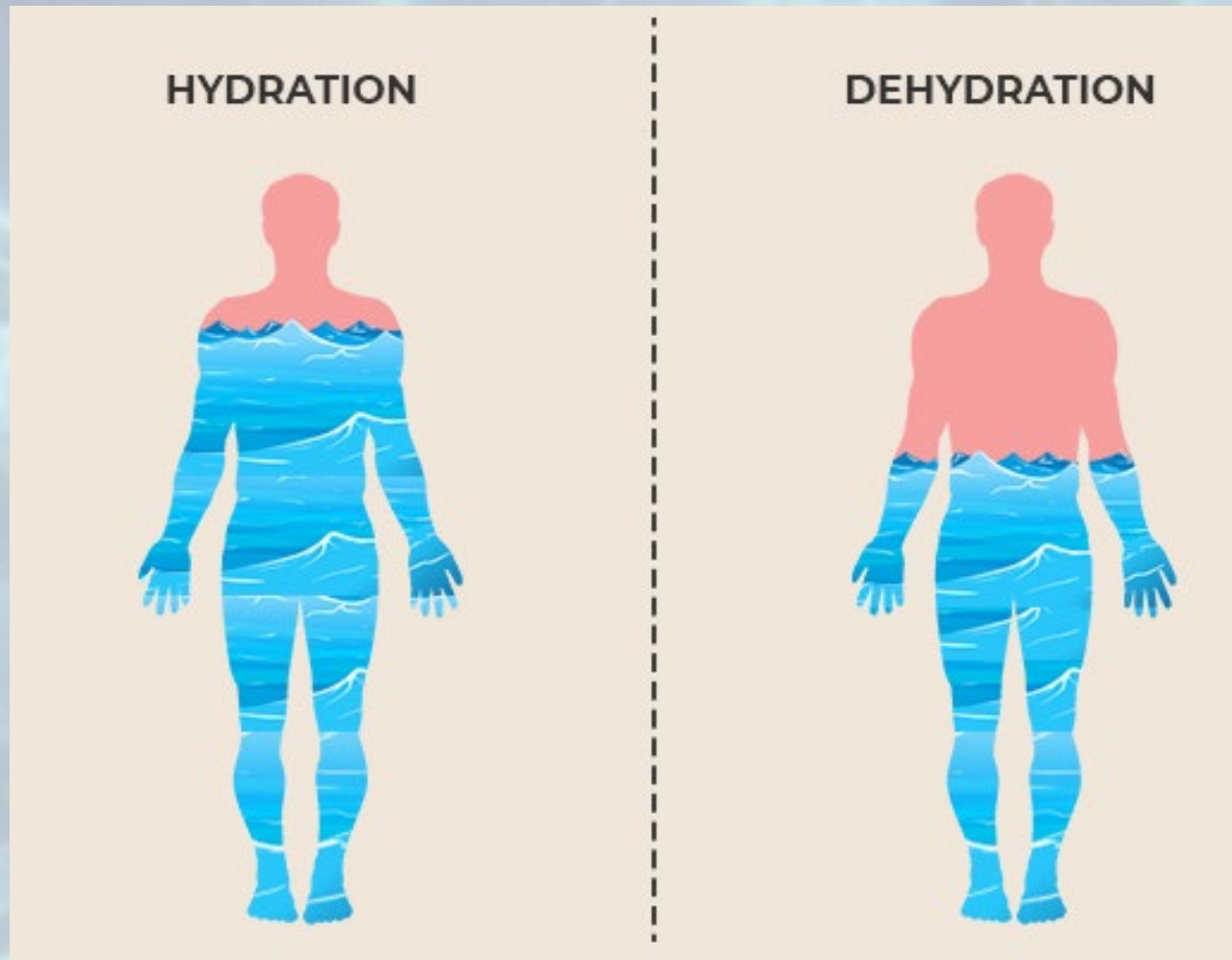
Accident Avoidance



Boating Stressors



Dehydration



Capsizing



Passenger Overboard

6 Steps

1. Slow down & Stop
2. Throw
3. Keep in sight
4. Position
5. Throw line
6. Pull aboard

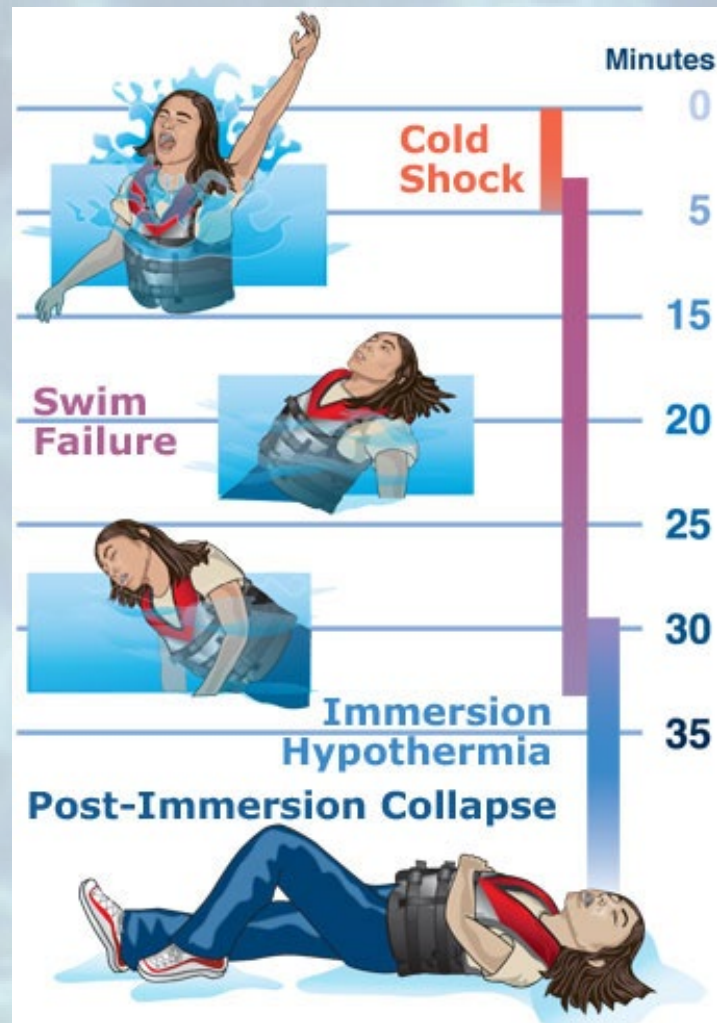


Boating Emergencies

Running Aground



Hypothermia



Hypothermia

H.E.L.P.



Huddle



Boating Emergencies

First Aid Kit

*Always have
one handy!*



Summoning Help



VHF Marine Radio Use



Boater Safety Education

Questions?