

INLAND PILOTING

Learning Objectives:

As a result of this session the participant should:

- Be familiar with River Piloting and its attributes
- Be familiar with Canal Boating and its attributes and concerns
- Be familiar with Lake Boating and its attributes

Resources:

Boating Skills & Seamanship, Eleventh Edition, U.S. Coast guard Auxiliary, Chapter 12
Chapman Piloting Seamanship & Small Boat Handling, 62nd Edition, Hearst Marine
Books, Chapter 21

Material and Equipment:

Equipment Items

Overhead Projector, as required by instructor

Material Items

Provide one copy for each participant:

Waterways Information Handout

Instructor Qualification:

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Trainer presence required for USCGAUX Certificate
Program

U.S. Power Squadron Instructor, Council Venturing Trainer or equivalent

Time Allocation: 1.5 Hours

Session Plan:

Classroom Session

1. Module Introduction.

- a. Introduce yourself and each member of the module staff.
- b. Explain the objectives of this module.
- c. Introduce the use of a “Lead Line” as an alternative navigational aid to depth sounding equipment in River Piloting, Canal Boating and Lake Boating.

Note: This also can be done separately in each Waterway Type.

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d. Distribute the handout “Waterways Information”.

2. River Piloting.

a. Discuss briefly the following river navigation characteristics:

1. Water Level Changes
2. Inland Navigation Rule Applicability
3. Aids to Navigation (ATONs)
 - (a). U.S. ATON System
 - (b). Western River System and Piloting Directives
 - 1) River Bank Names
 - 2) Passing Daymarks
 - 3) Crossing Daymarks
 - 4) River Buoys
 - 5) Mile Markers
4. River Charts and Chart Variations
 - (a). Sailing Line
 - (b). Lights
5. Piloting Tool (binoculars), “Eye Ball” Piloting, and Local Knowledge

b. Discuss briefly the following river current characteristics:

1. River Channels
2. Current Behavior
3. River Bends and Channel Adjustments
4. River Debris
5. Shoals and Dredging
7. Levees and Dikes (Wing Dams)
8. Anchoring (In River and to a Bank)

c. Discuss briefly the difference between Ocean-Going and River Tows.

d. Discuss briefly the need to communicate with Commercial Traffic.

3. Canal Boating.

a. Discuss briefly the following canal navigation characteristics.

1. The term “Poolstage” and its relationship to water levers
2. Effects of speed in narrow waterways
3. Traffic Signal Lights
4. Drawbridges (Opening and Signals)

b. Discuss briefly the following Lock Operation functions:

1. Locking Signals
2. Locking Techniques
3. Entering and Leaving a Lock
4. Tending Lines
5. Avoiding Spillways

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6. Boating through Artificial Canal

7 Canal Regulations

c. Discuss briefly the “dangers” related to the following Dam Types:

1. Lowhead Dams

2. Conventional (High) Dams

3. Fishing Below Dams

4. **Lake Boating.**

a. Discuss briefly the following attributes of Lake Boating:

1. Water Level Changes

2. Lake Charts and Topographic Maps

3. Rules and Regulations

4. Pollution Controls

5. Underwater Hazards

6. Lake Hazards

(a). Spring-fed water temperatures

(b). Shoreline effects (Trees, Cliffs, Hills)

(c). Anchoring Risks

7. Service and Facility Availability

*Note: Pollution Controls (**Lake Boating**) will be covered in depth in the Good Mate Program Session.*

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WATERWAYS INFORMATION HANDOUT

United States Waterways

- Hudson River north to Troy, New York; Great Lakes and connecting rivers; Lake Champlain; New York State canals; and Minnesota-Ontario Border Lakes.

National Ocean Service
Distribution Division (N/CG33)
Riverdale, Maryland 20737-1199

- Overall source of United States waterway information (Mississippi River, Ohio River, Missouri River and their tributaries): Lakeside Recreation map series; District Corp map series/publications.

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
Publications Depot
2803 52nd Avenue
Hyattsville, Maryland 20781-1102

- Maps of major rivers along with historical, hydrographic and geological information. The USGS is the distributor for public sale of topographic maps, publications and digital products of the National Imagery and Mapping Agency

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
Information Services
Box 25286
Denver, Colorado 80225
Website: www.usgs.gov

- Tennessee River and tributaries; Tennessee Valley Authority reservoirs.

Tennessee Valley Authority
Map Store
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

- Publishes material on the United States rivers and lakes, particularly the “Wild and Scenic River System”.

For on-line material:
U.S. National Park Service
Website: www.nps.gov

For documentation purchases:
Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office, Stop SSOP
Washington DC 20402-0001

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Canadian Waterways

- Great Lakes and Canadian waters.

Canadian Hydrographic Service
Chart Distribution Office
P.O. Box 8080
1675 Russell Road, Ottawa Ontario K1G 3H6