



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

District 11 Northern Region

Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



SUB Vessel Safety Check Review

D11NR VE's-We save lives!

Prepared by:

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and

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Sport Utility Boats (SUB)



The *fastest* growing area of
Recreational Boating!



What's an SUB?

Canoe, kayak, rowboat, pedal boat, but **NOT** a paddleboard or a vessel powered by an engine!



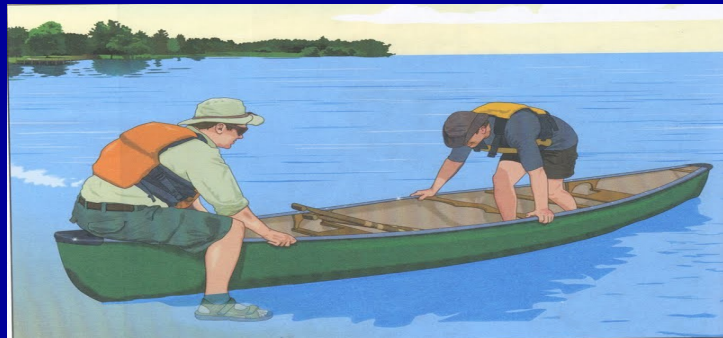
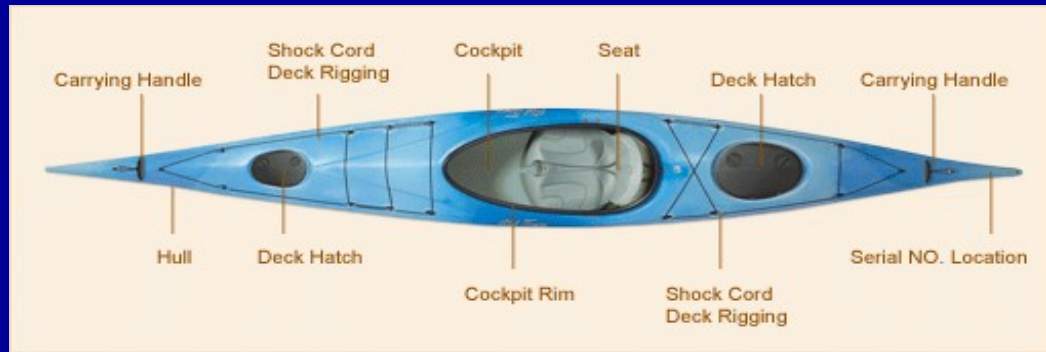
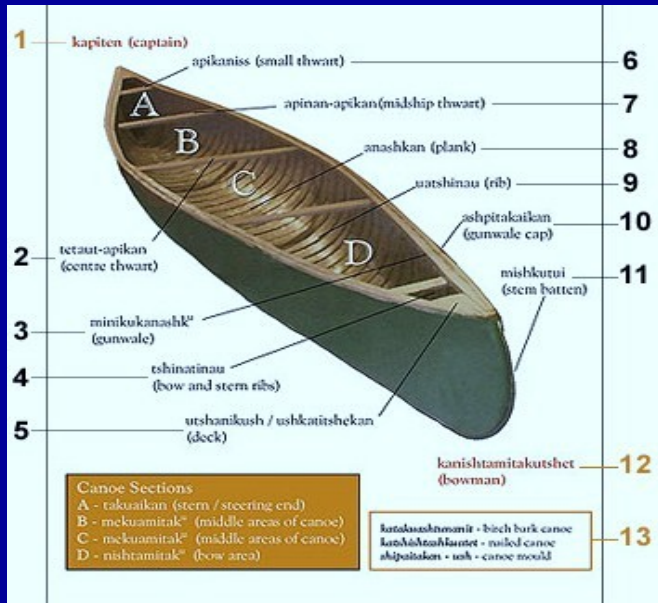
CANOE



KAYAK



Sport Utility Boats



ROWBOAT



PEDAL BOAT




Required items For SUB VSC

For more information, please see: “How to Perform a VSC on a SUB” available on the District Vessel Examiner website: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/ve.html>.



Paddle Craft 7012A VSC Form

	PADDLE CRAFT VESSEL SAFETY CHECK (VSC) <small>To be completed by a U.S. Coast Guard approved Vessel Examiner.</small>	Date of VSC: _____
Sections 1, 2 and 3 must be completed		
I. Owner / Operator Information		II. Water Craft Information
Name: _____		Registration No. _____ HIN: _____
Make & Model: _____		Make & Model: _____
Attended Safe Boating Class: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Kayak <input type="checkbox"/> Canoe <input type="checkbox"/> Row Boat <input type="checkbox"/> Paddleboard <input type="checkbox"/>
Attended Related Skills Class: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Scull <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Location of VSC- County: _____ State: _____		Color: Deck _____ Hull _____
Replaced decal was: Check a selection below		Length (in feet): <12 <input type="checkbox"/> 12-16 <input type="checkbox"/> >16 <input type="checkbox"/>
Last Year <input type="checkbox"/> Outdated <input type="checkbox"/> First Time <input type="checkbox"/>		Water craft used in: Protected <input type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/> Swift <input type="checkbox"/>
III. Safety Check Requirements	Y N N/A	V. Craft Recommendations (continued) Y N N/A
Sound signal (whistle, horn, etc)		*Lines in good condition and secure
Life jacket		*Hardware secure & in working order
Vessel in overall serviceable condition * see asterisk items on reverse side		*Bulkheads / air bags / emergency flotation in good working order
Navigation Lights; White light		*Paddle / Oars / serviceable
Visual Distress Signals (VDS)		*Contact information on craft. Non-Motorized Vessel Ownership Sticker Includes Name and Phone
Anchor Lights		
State and / or Local Requirements		
IV. Open Water Recommendations		VI. Other Recommendations
Pump or bailer		Dressed for immersion / helmet
Spray skirt		Personal ID on operator
Spare paddle / oars		Float plan with someone on shore
Compass / GPS / navigation charts		Appropriate food and water
Tow / boat recovery system		Access the risk / good awareness
Marine radio (VHF) / cell phone / weather radio / PLB		Appropriate emergency kit (might include first-aid, knife, repair kit, etc.)
V. Craft Recommendations		Sun protection
*Hull & deck good condition		High visibility clothing, gear, etc.
*Hatch covers / access plates in good condition and secure		Appropriate self rescue system / skills Never Paddle Alone
Comments: _____		
I certify that I have checked this craft and find it meets the above requirements at the time of this Vessel Safety Check. I am a qualified Vessel Examiner of the: CGAUX _____ USPS _____ State of _____		
VE(print name): _____		Examiner Number _____
Signature: _____		Telephone Number _____
Additional Comments: This is not an official boarding for law enforcement purposes. It is recommended that you correct any deficiencies noted. This checklist is furnished for your information. There is no assumption of liability of any kind for advice given or opinions expressed in connection to this examination. By accepting the Vessel Safety Check (VSC) decal you are pledging to maintain your craft and equipment to the standard of safety exhibited during this examination. I am consenting to this Vessel safety check of my watercraft with full knowledge that it is provided to me as a public service on a volunteer basis without cost and I understand and agree that my receipt of a Vessel Safety check shall not constitute or be construed as a warranty or guarantee as to either the qualification, knowledge, or skills of the operator; seaworthiness of the vessel; or the serviceability or adequacy of any equipment on board. Please remove the decal if the craft is sold or no longer meets these requirements		
Owner - Operator Signature: _____		Date: _____

ANSC 7012A (11/10) Previous editions are obsolete

Original-EXAMINER



MANDATORY

Safety Check Requirements

- Sound Signal (whistle, horn, etc.-
- Lifejacket
- Vessel in overall serviceable condition-items up to examiner discretion.



SOUND PRODUCING DEVICES

All vessels must have a means of signaling sound for at least a ½ mile. SUB can meet this requirement with a marine distress whistle.



LIFE-JACKET

- Each person must have an approved type I, II, III, or V PFD. Type IV is not required.
- The PFD with a whistle and safety mirror should be worn whenever under way.
- A PFD designed specifically for canoeing or kayaking is best.



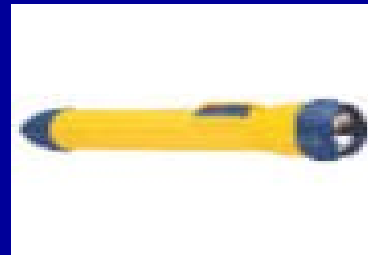
Overall Vessel Condition

- Hull & Deck Sound
- Hatch covers in good condition and secure
- Deck lines and bungee cords in good condition
- Hardware secure and in working order
- Bulkheads/air bags/emergency floatation in good order
- Paddle/oars serviceable
- Contact information affixed to craft



Additional Requirements: NAVIGATION LIGHTS

- Navigation Lights are required on all vessels operating at night and during periods of reduced visibility. A flashlight in good working order with spare batteries may be used on SUBs.



VISUAL DISTRESS SIGNALS



- SUB must comply with Federal and State VDS requirements. If operated in coastal waters unless with an organized group, they must have three **ORANGE** for day use, or **RED** flares for night use on board. If operated at night on inland waters, they should have at least a flashlight. In addition, a signaling mirror or an old CD should be attached to the operator pfd.



REGISTRATION

- This document is not required by California, Nevada, or Utah unless the vessel has a means of propulsion. There is a HIN (hull identification number) to record. However, the operator should be able to verify ownership.



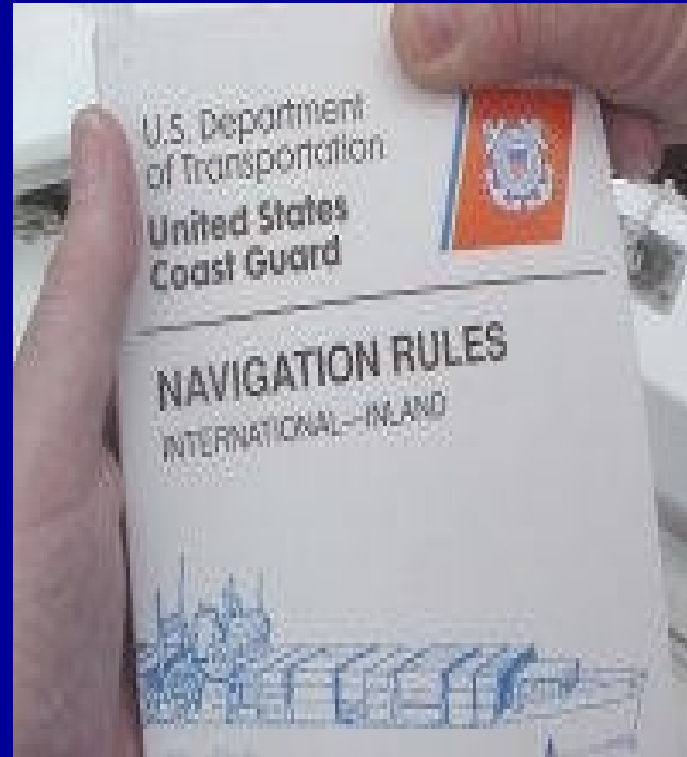
NUMBERING

- California, Nevada, and Utah do not require registration numbers on non-motorized boats.
- Other states may have different requirements.



NAVIGATION RULES

- Boats 39.4 feet and over must have on board a current copy of the Navigation Rules. NOT required for SUBS.



STATE AND LOCAL REQUIREMENTS

- The SUB must comply with all state and local requirements- insurance? Currently there no additional state requirements. However, local regulations may apply.



OVERALL VESSEL CONDITION

The boat must be well maintained and suitable for its area of use.



ADDITIONAL ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ALL SPORT UTILITY BOATS



FILE A FLOAT PLAN

which should include:

- Information about the operator, the vessel, and transport vehicle.
- The route of travel, date and time of arrival and departure.
- Posting a float plan with friends is a great life insurance policy.



USE A SPRAY SKIRT



- Learn how to properly attach the spray skirt and how to remove it in an emergency



HAT OR HELMET

- Wear a Hat for sun protection.
- Wear a Helmet for rapids, surfing, and rough seas.
- Use Sunscreen.



FIRST AID KIT

- Pack a waterproof First Aid kit.
- Suggest taking a basic first aid and CPR training.



WATER, SNACKS, AND CLOTHING

- Dress properly for existing and expected weather conditions.
- Bring drinking water, snacks and clothing.
- Cold water requires the use of wet or dry suits in addition to wearing a lifejacket.



WATER, SNACKS, AND CLOTHING-continued





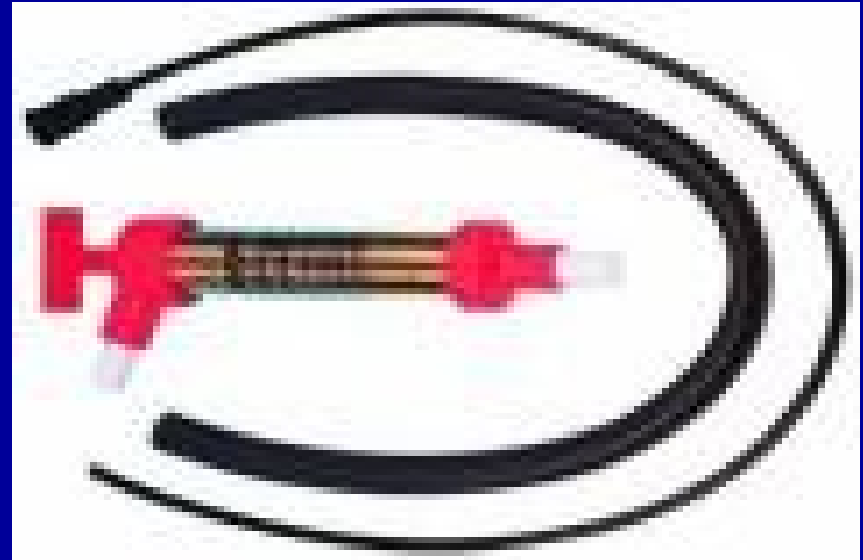
DRY-BAGS

- All loose items should be stored in waterproof bags tethered to the boat.



BILGE PUMP

- On sit-in units always carry a small PVC type bilge pump for dewatering your vessel.
- Note: most sit-on kayaks have self draining holes.
- Use a floatation collar.



RESCUE GEAR

- Bring throw bags, tow lines and other rescue gear.
- Discuss **AVOIDING** drugs and alcohol!



SPARE PADDLE/OAR



- Pack a spare paddle or oar and secure it to the boat.
- Use a paddle leash attached to a forward fitting or bungee cord



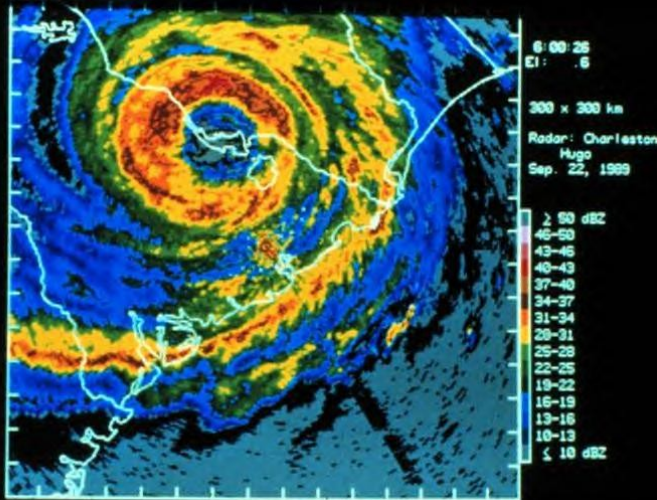
VHF RADIO, GPS, COMPASS



- Bring a VHF Radio, GPS, and Cell Phone.
- Bring a hand held compass as a back up.



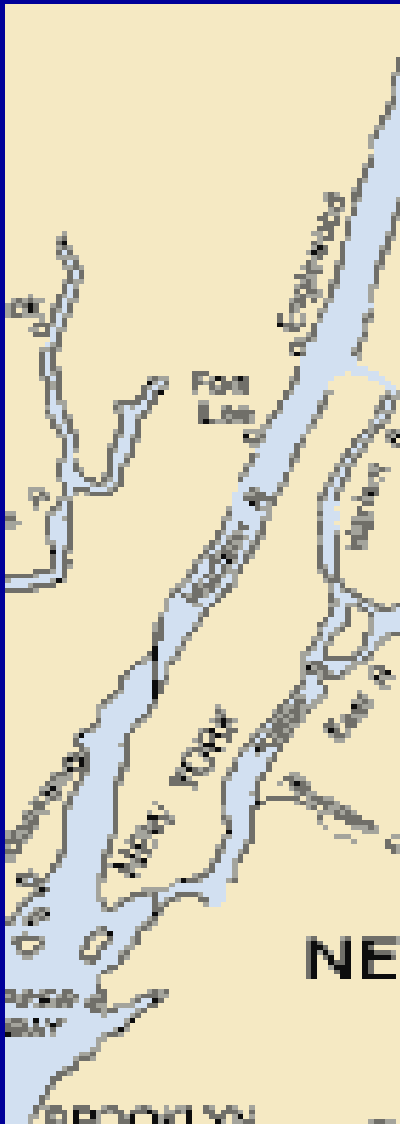
CHECK THE WEATHER



- Monitor weather conditions.
- Bring a weather radio or use a VHF radio with a weather channel.
- Check sky and sea conditions.
- Remind the paddler about exclusion zones around dams, docks and ships.



CHARTS- suggest:



- Carrying a chart.
- Local knowledge of your route is key.
- Learn basic coastal navigation.



PRACTICE, PRACTICE PRACTICE....

- Practice wet exits from a kayak or canoe in safe, calm, shallow water.



OTHER ITEMS



CLEAN UP

- Pack a trash bag.
- Take all refuse away with you.
- Leave every stop cleaner than when you found it.



BUDDY SYSTEM

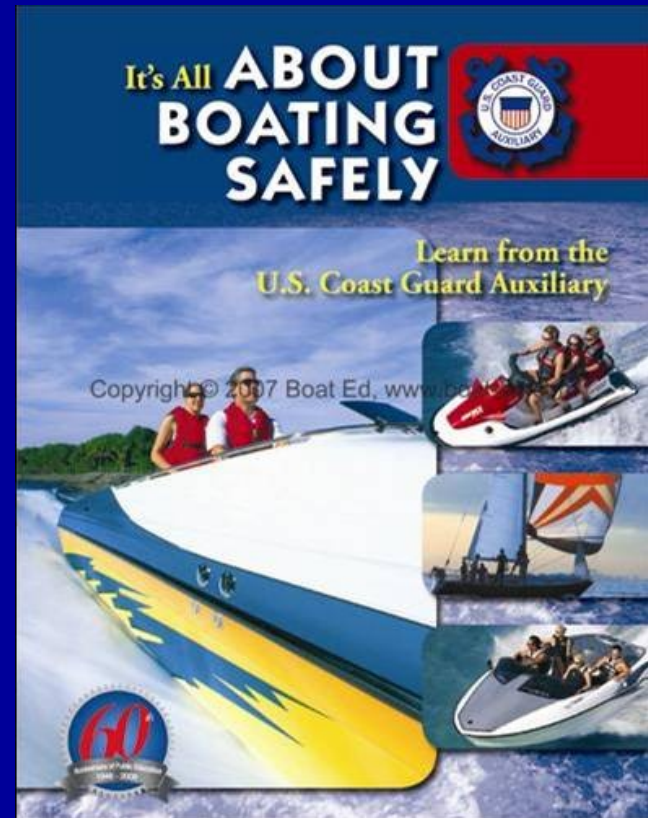
- NEVER PADDLE ALONE!
ALWAYS Bring a friend.
- It is always safer to paddle in a group.



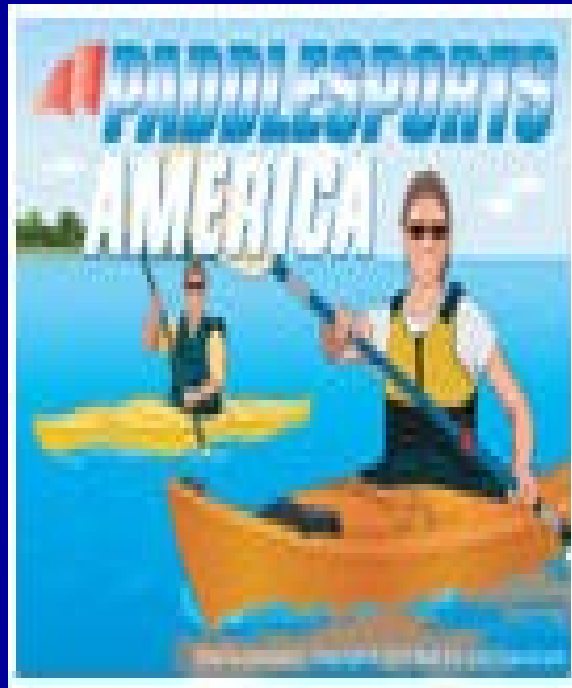
BOATING SAFETY COURSE

All boaters should be encouraged to take a Boating Safety Course such as the “About Boating Safely” Course.

For more D11NR class info, promote:
<http://public.d11nuscgaux.info/pe-course.html> on ALL handout material.



Recommend- PADDLESPORTS AMERICA or SMART START FOR PADDLERS-



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D11NR Vessel Examination Department

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