Float Plan

Before heading out on the water for any length of time, boaters should always check the marine weather forecast, ensure all their safety equipment is on board and meets state and Federal requirements, AND file a Float Plan.

Filing a Float Plan is nothing more than a trip itinerary a boater leaves with a reliable relative or friend who can contact the appropriate authorities in the event the boater does not return when expected. The Float Plan outlines a description of the vessel, the expected route, ports of call, safety equipment on board and an estimated date and time of return. If the operator or passengers have a medical condition or are taking medication, that information should be included as well.

One of the U.S. Coast Guard's primary missions is search and rescue. However, boaters can help limit search time if they leave behind a Float Plan. Too often in the past, valuable time was lost because there was very little information available when initiating the search. Another thing boaters seem to overlook is notifying those back home when schedules change or unexpected delays occur. There have been cases in the past where boaters were reported overdue and then later found safe and sound at some distant marina or at some shoreside establishment. Boaters should always notify those back home when they will be delayed or if they decide to change their itinerary.

Create a trip, enter the float plan data, print out or email to a reliable friend.
FLOAT PLAN

* Float Plans cannot be filed with the Coast Guard.

DESCRIPTION OF BOAT:
TYPE_________________LENGTH____________HULL COLOR_________________
TRIM COLOR________NAME__________MAKE_______________________
REGISTRATION NUMBER____________________ POWER/SAIL _______________
ENGINE TYPE____________________H.P.____________________

PERSONS ON BOARD (POB)
NAME                         AGE  ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:
________________________________________/_______________________/___________

SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT (CHECK AS APPROPRIATE):
PFDs____ SURVIVAL SUITS____ FLARES____ SMOKE SIGNALS____
MIRROR____FLASHLIGHT ______EPIRB_____ FOOD_____ WATER_____ ANCHOR____
RAFT OR DINGHY_____ PADDLES____ OTHER____
*FREQ’S BROADCAST: VHF-FM CHNL. 15/16 121.5 mHz____ 406 mHz____
RADIO YES/NO TYPE_________ FREQs GUARDED____________________
TRIP PLANS: LEAVE AT: (TIME)
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

EXPECT TO RETURN BY_________ AND IN ANY EVENT NO LATER THAN:___________

AUTOMOBILE:
LICENSE NR__________STATE____MAKE______COLOR_____
TRAILER LICENSE________________ WHERE PARKED____________________

IF NOT RETURNED BY (DATE/TIME):_______________
CALL THE COAST GUARD (808-541-2500), OR LOCAL AUTHORITY (911).