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To: Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Coast Guard

**Reference: Docket No. USCG-2010-0164
National Boating Safety Advisory Council**

Subject: Large outboard motors flipping into boats

Please distribute this document to the Council members.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

As per my previous comment letters, large outboard motors, especially those on bass boats, are striking floating and submerged objects, breaking off, and flipping into the boat with the propeller still under power.

NBSAC itself noted this scenario on page 8 of the NBSAC95 minutes as quoted below. Captain Boross was speaking:

*"The Coast Guard did a five-year study. Of the 21,000 BARD entries from 2010 through 2014, there were 888 accidents involving propeller injuries of all forms and all causal factors. Some of these incidents occurred when a propeller of an underway vessel struck a submerged object and the propeller recoiled and the engine launched and came up out of the water and came inside the boat which amazed him and members of his staff, as **there were hundreds of those events.**"*

We note, most if not all of these events occurred when the skeg, nose cone, or leading edge of the outboard motor struck a submerged object, not the propeller.

We recently posted an updated version of our Design Chart for Preventing Outboard Motors From Entering Boats.

A pdf of the post is attached.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Gary Polson

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