

908. HEAVY WEATHER CHECK LIST

THE HEAVY WEATHER CHECK LIST WILL BE CONSULTED ON RECEIPT OF INFORMATION THAT HEAVY WEATHER WILL BE ENCOUNTERED WITHIN THE NEXT 24 HOURS, OR ALTERNATIVELY, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE OINC/COACH. RESPONSIBILITIES ARE BROKEN DOWN BY BILLET.

A. MIDSHIPMAN SKIPPER:

- _____ ADJUST THE WATCH BILL AS NEEDED TO MAINTAIN REQUISITE EXPERTISE ON DECK
- _____ ENSURE CREW IS WELL RESTED PRIOR TO ONSET OF HEAVY WEATHER
- _____ MONITOR AVAILABLE WEATHER PRODUCTS CLOSELY; CONSULT WITH THE OINC/COACH TO DETERMINE BEST COURSE OF ACTION UNDER THE GIVEN CONDITIONS
- _____ BRIEF THE CREW ON STORM EVASION TACTICS AND PRECAUTIONS
- _____ ENSURE CREW USES HARNESES WHEN TOPSIDE
- _____ ISSUE SEASICKNESS MEDICATION WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE STORM

B. FIRST LIEUTENANT

- _____ INSPECT RUNNING AND STANDING RIGGING FOR CHAFE OR OTHER OBVIOUS PROBLEMS
- _____ SECURE ALL DECK HATCHES. INSPECT HATCH DOGS FOR SECURITY
- _____ REMOVE COCKPIT DRAIN GRATES (IF INSTALLED)
- _____ TURN DORADE VENTS AFT, OR REMOVE AND REPLACE WITH STORM PLATES. HAVE PLATES READILY AVAILABLE FOR THOSE DORADES NOT COVERED OVER
- _____ SET COMPANIONWAY WASHBOARDS IN PLACE, SECURING THEM WITH BARREL BOLTS
- _____ SET UP INNER FORESTAY AND RUNNING BACKSTAYS (AS NEEDED)
- _____ READY STORM SAILS. BEND STORM TRYSAIL TO MAST TRACK AND SECURE BAGGED SAIL ON DECK. PLACE STORM JIB WHERE READILY AVAILABLE.
- _____ STRIKE ALL UNUSED SAILS AND EQUIPMENT BELOW AND SECURE FOR SEA.

- _____ CHECK MAN OVERBOARD GEAR FOR SECURITY AND READINESS
- _____ CHECK LIFE RAFT(S) FOR SECURITY AND READINESS
- _____ INSPECT ANCHORS TO ENSURE THEY ARE FIRMLY SEATED IN THEIR RESTRAINING CHOCKS.
- _____ BREAK OUT GALERIDER AND BEND ON LARGEST ANCHOR RODE. STORE BELOW DECKS WHERE IT CAN QUICKLY BE ACCESSED IF NEEDED.

C. ENGINEER:

- _____ APPLY HYDROMETER TO BATTERY CELLS TO VERIFY BATTERIES ARE CHARGED TO CAPACITY. RECHARGE IF REQUIRED
- _____ TOP OFF FLUID LEVELS IN ENGINE AND BATTERIES
- _____ PUMP ALL BILGES. CHECK ALL BILGE POCKETS FOR CLEANLINESS. REMOVE ANY DEBRIS THAT MIGHT CLOG BILGE PUMP STRAINERS
- _____ VERIFY SECURE STOWAGE OF ALL SPARE PARTS
- _____ INSPECT STEERING GEAR FOR CORRECT CABLE TENSION. REMOVE OR SECURE ANY LOOSE GEAR IN THE VICINITY OF THE STEERING QUADRANT
- _____ SHUT ALL THRU-HULLS EXCEPT THOSE ACTUALLY IN USE.
- _____ ENSURE DC REPAIR KIT IS POSITIONED IN A SECURE BUT ACCESSIBLE LOCATION. READY TWO BUCKETS FOR EMERGENCY USE AS BAILERS

D. NAVIGATOR:

- _____ ASSIST THE OINC/COACH IN EVALUATING OPTIONS, INCLUDING HAZARD AVOIDANCE, STORM EVASION AND SAFE HAVEN SELECTION
- _____ CONTINUOUSLY MONITOR WEATHER BROADCAST UPDATES ON HF, VHF AND WEATHERFAX. NOTE ANY DEVELOPING TRENDS AND BRING THEM TO THE ATTENTION OF THE OINC/COACH.
- _____ CHECK FLASHLIGHT BATTERIES/REPLACE AS NECESSARY
- _____ ENSURE EMERGENCY GEAR (FLARES, EPIRB, HAND-HELD VHF) ARE STORED IN THEIR ASSIGNED LOCATIONS, READY AND AVAILABLE FOR USE

E. SUPPLY OFFICER:

_____ PREPARE A HOT, SUBSTANTIAL MEAL BEFORE THE ONSET OF THE STORM

NOTE

DON FOUL WEATHER TROUSERS WHEN COOKING IN HEAVY WEATHER TO AVOID BURNS.

_____ PREPARE ENOUGH INDIVIDUALLY-WRAPPED SANDWICHES TO LAST THE CREW FOR AT LEAST 12 HOURS

_____ PLACE HONEY, PEANUT BUTTER AND OTHER HIGH-ENERGY FOODS WHERE THEY ARE CONVENIENT BUT SECURE.

_____ SECURE ALL STORAGE COMPARTMENTS AND LOOSE GEAR. ELIMINATE ANY POTENTIAL MISSILE HAZARDS IN THE EVENT OF A KNOCKDOWN OR PITCH-POLE.

_____ INVENTORY WATER AND FOOD SUPPLIES TO BE TAKEN OFF IF FORCED TO ABANDON SHIP. SECURE THESE ITEMS IN A READILY ACCESSIBLE LOCATION.

_____ SECURE CABIN SOLE PLATES WITH SCREWS. TAPE SOLE HATCHES CLOSED.

NOTE

DEVELOP A “GRAB BAG” (A SACK FILLED WITH CRITICAL ITEMS, EASILY GRABBED IN AN EMERGENCY). SEE SECTION 816.3d FOR SUGGESTED CONTENTS.