**Personal Floatation Devices (PDFs)**

□ Is there at least one Coast Guard approved

device per passenger and a minimum of

two on board?

□ An additional throwable device is required

if the vessel is more than 16 feet long.

□ Explain the location and use of all PFDs to

passengers and crew that may be new to

the vessel.

**Sound Producing Devices (Whistle)**

□ Is there a horn capable of producing a

four-second blast audible for at least ½

mile?

□ If it is a portable air horn, is there a spare

can of air or an alternate device?

**Lights and Space**

□ All navigation lights required?

□ Instrumental lights working?

□ If you intend to engage in an activity that

requires a day shape, have the required

shapes.

□ Flashlights?

**Distress Signals**

□ Accessible flares, day signals, etc., stored

in a dry location?

□ Signals (even if not required by the Coast

Guard)?

□ Inform the passengers and crew of their

location and use.

**Tools and Spares**

□ Basic toolbox?

□ Box of spares? e.g., fuel filter, light bulbs,

head parts, through hull plugs, etc.

**Ventilation**

□ On any powered vessel, are all interior

spaces are well ventilated?

□ If fuel smells are detected, check after

running the blowers for several minutes.

□ If odor persists, stop and look for the

source of the leak.

**Fire Extinguishers**

□ Accessible fire extinguisher. Do you have

at least those required by the U.S.C.G.?

□ Are the mounts are secure?

□ Are the units are functional?

□ Point out locations to passenger and crew.

**Fuel and Oil**

□ Are your tanks topped off?

□ If not, have enough to provide a reasonable

margin of safety for your return.

□ Check the engine oil and coolant level.

**Bilges**

□ Bilges are reasonably dry and that pumps

are not running excessively?

□ Clean up any spilled oil or waste in bilges

to prevent overboard discharge.

**Battery Care**

□ If you have a dual charging system, is the

selector switch in the proper position?

□ Is the power on to the entire vessel?

□ Spare batteries for accessories such as a

handheld radio, flashlight, portable

navigational aid, etc.?

□ If they are rechargeable, are they charged?

**Weather Forecast**

□ Did you check the weather forecast?

□ Radio on board to receive weather

updates?

**Docking and Setting Anchor**

□ At least one anchor set up and bent-on to

your anchor line?

□ Two or three extra dock lines in case of

unusual conditions dockside.

□ Visually inspect the lines you use for chafe

or wear. Are they excessively worn?

□ At least two fenders on-board for docking

or towing if required?

**Documentation**

□ Ship’s papers, radio license, fishing

permit, etc.?

□ Charts for the area you intend to cruise in?

□ Copy of the filed “Float Plan” on board

and left with on shore personnel?