

Coyote Point Marina

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Time to renew your DMV Registration!

The bi-yearly expiration date for watercraft registered in California is fast approaching, and we encourage you to renew your registration early so that it does not lapse. All California registered vessels must renew prior to 12/31/2021, and it takes DMV a few weeks to process renewals.

Starting in January we will strictly enforce the requirement that all vessels moored at Coyote Point have current Coast Guard or CA DMV registration. CA registered vessels not displaying proper CF numbers and registration decals will be cited. Continued lack of current registration will be cause for ejection from the Marina.

When you receive your 2023 registration please send or email us a copy, or bring it by the office and we will copy it for your file. Thank you very much for your compliance!

- Mark Bettis, Harbormaster

Current Affairs at Pier 1.5 in SF

Thanks to Marina tenant Bill Demeter for submitting the following article. See the diagram on page two.

When sailing the SF bay, I've often found it convenient to pick up and drop off people at Pier 1.5, just North of the Ferry building in San Francisco. One morning, I was single handing from Coyote. As I motored towards pier 1.5 it was about 9AM, 70°, Dead calm. Probably the most benign conditions I've ever experienced on the bay! There is no breakwater there. As you might imagine, surge can be substantial. However, on THIS day, it was a Mill pond!

When approaching a guest dock in a relatively tight situation, I always go to neutral, and let the boat settle, to see what effects wind and tide will have on the approach. There were none.

I called my guests who were standing on the dock, and confirmed that there was a spot open on the West end (marked with an a X). I was prepared to dock single-handed, so I told them: "Unless I ask for assistance, don't to do anything, and stay out of my way until I have the boat secured". My plan was to approach with the Hornblower charter boats close on Starboard (dots mark

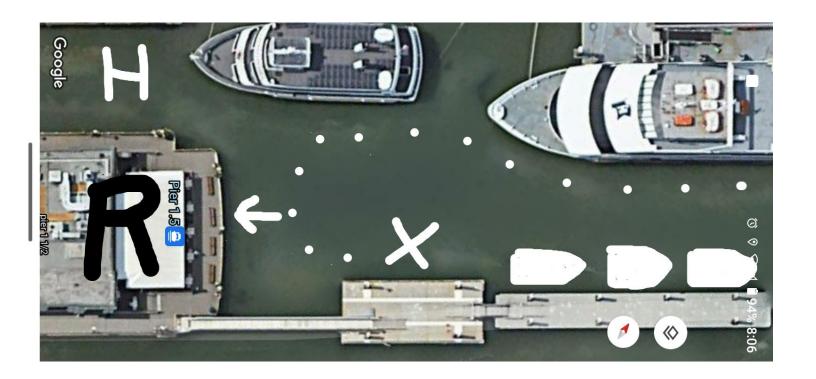
the course), make a U-turn to Port, approximately a boat length from the elevated concrete dock with a restaurant sitting on it (marked R), and dock to Starboard. I had done this several times before. In the middle of my Uturn, I suddenly realized, my 4.5 ton, 30 ft sloop was gliding quickly to Starboard (see arrow), towards shore and the concrete dock (marked R)! The boat was moving so quickly to Starboard, that I didn't believe my eyes for a few precious seconds. When collision was imminent, I snapped out of my stunned haze, and jumped up on deck to feebly try to fend off the dock at eye level! The boat started to get sucked under the dock, and I remember thinking; "I can't believe I'm going to lose this boat HERE!". As I struggled, I looked over and saw my guests standing on the dock, watching. I yelled, "Can you give me a hand?!". One of them ran up to the restaurant dock and jumped down onto my deck. He was able to fend off, while I returned to the cockpit, and managed to motor away, docking where I had originally intended.

About 10 minutes later, when my pulse returned to normal, I asked him why he didn't come to help me. He replied, "You told us not to do anything unless you asked for help"! I had to admit, he had a point, but.....!

Surprisingly, the damage to the boat was relatively minor, the brand-new Starboard shroud took a pretty good hit, as did the toe rail. The wind picked up to a steady 15 to 20, and it was about 75° all day, so we enjoyed a nice day on the bay.

Two days later, I drove to the pier, to see if I could figure out how THAT much current could be going toward shore, especially without any current being evident during the approach. I thought perhaps one of the large charter boats might have been operating at the dock, creating some kind of vacuum. I happened to meet a water taxi skipper. When I told him the story, he replied: "Oh yeah, I've had my boat sucked into that hole (marked H) more than once", though he couldn't provide an explanation. I'd be interested to know if anyone else has had similar experiences here or can provide a plausible explanation. Pier 1.5 is a handy rendezvous site, especially given its proximity to the Ferry building and embarcadero BART. However, BEWARE: THERE BE MONSTERS THERE!

-Bill D.



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	First Quarter	11-N				Tide and Current Tables													-Nov
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