

# **SAMPLE PREVENTIVE BOAT MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE**

*\*This list is geared mainly to boats who may need to winterize each year. A list specific to Lake Mead and sailing in the desert is being compiled and will be available soon.*

## **A. ENGINE CARE.**

### **Semi Monthly**

1. As required (especially for sailboats), spray engine, electrical components, and exterior engine control panel with WD 40 to prevent rust and preserve engine paint.
2. Check rate of raw water lubrication of propeller shaft(s). Adjust if necessary. (applies only to adjustable shaft logs.)

### **Monthly**

3. Clean raw water strainer(s) (during season).
4. Start engine(s) and run up to operating temperature to prevent corrosion of cylinder walls.

### **Every 100 hours**

5. Change oil and filter.

### **Annually**

6. Replace fuel filters on engine(s) and in Racor filter
7. Bleed fuel system and assure no air locks.
8. Replace transmission fluid if per manufacturer.
9. Place diesel fuel conditioner in tank after filling each fall after last use. (Assure tank is full over winter.)
10. Check engine belts for wear and tension (1/2 inch deflection). Adjust or replace if necessary.
11. Check antifreeze in engine(s) each Fall. Replace as necessary. Check level and concentration in engine and hot water cabin heat system and add, if necessary by October 15.
12. Replace raw water impellers.

## **B. STEERING SYSTEM.**

### **Annually**

1. Oil steering quadrant sheave bearings with #30 oil; check tension and wear of steering cable.
2. Grease rudder shaft (if zerk fitting available), check adjustment of rudder packing gland (if applicable).

## **C. HAULOUT MAINTENANCE**

### **Annually**

1. Replace zincs (may vary with boat; some boats may require change each 6 mos).
2. Schedule boat for haulout with yard and deliver to yard.
3. Scrub bottom immediately after lift-out to remove all organic growth (or power wash).
4. If power washed, sand or rough up existing paint surface to prepare for fresh coat of bottom paint.
5. Obtain and mix paint, tape waterline with special painters' tape, paint bottom.
6. Sand propeller shaft and propeller with #400 sandpaper, spray with WD 40 to help inhibit marine growth.
7. Check hull, keel, and rudder for damage. Arrange for any necessary repairs.

8. Clean, restore with rubbing compound, and polish hull and deck smooth surfaces; or treat with Poli-Glo as per label directions.
9. Disassemble, clean, emery cloth any scratches, grease and reassemble all through-hull fittings that do not close easily.
10. Rub out hull gelcoat scratches with rubbing compound or arrange for repair of gelcoat chips.
11. Check condition of cutless bearing for excessive or uneven wear.
12. Re-tighten all engine and engine mount bolts.
13. Inspect for any blisters.
14. Refloat boat, re-attach standing rigging if necessary, deliver boat to slip and secure.
15. Check shaft alignment in water, re-align engine if necessary.

## **D. PLUMBING**

### **Fall**

1. Close all seacocks for winter months to minimize danger of pipe and hose freezing.  
*Note: check to assure seacock is open before starting engine(s).*
2. Install all canvas covers and engine vent covers.

## **E. STORM CHECK AND OFF-SEASON TREATMENT**

Every two weeks during September through May and during and after storms.

1. Check bow, stern and spring lines for wear, alter if necessary.
2. Check fenders for placement and wear. Reposition or replace.
3. Check battery charge. Be sure charger is operating.
4. Check heater is operational and room temperature appropriate. Correct setting, check wiring or replace heater if necessary.
5. Conduct security check for entry, missing major equipment, damages.
6. Rotate rudder post to lubricate shaft and reduce exacerbated passive electrolysis.
7. Assure cushions are lifted for ventilation and mildew prevention.
8. Check fuel tank is filled to prevent condensation, water accumulation, and bacterial growth.
9. Empty water from dinghy when necessary. Assure dinghy is secured properly.

### **Fall**

10. Position Dorade vents for proper ventilation.
11. Deflate non-davit inflatable dinghies and store for winter. Remove floorboards. Wash sand out.

### **Fall & Spring**

12. Check ports for leaks. Reseal where necessary. Clean and coat opening port gaskets with Vaseline or other suitable lubricant/sealer as needed.
13. Check operation of Diesel heater. Check coolant level in water systems. Test coolant freezing level in fall.

### **Spring**

14. Check lifeline tension, adjust when necessary.
15. Check engine nuts, bolts, and hose clamps for tightness and wear.
16. Service Diesel furnace including cleaning carbon from dashpot and igniters.

## **F. ELECTRICAL**

### **Spring**

1. Turn on all interior and running lights to check operation. Replace bulbs if necessary.
2. Test batteries to confirm still have capacity, replace if necessary.

### **Spring & Fall**

3. Check water level of battery.

### **Fall**

4. Clean all exterior bulb contact points, spray with anti-corrosion spray.

## **G. COSMETIC AND MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

### **Spring & Fall**

1. Inspect all exterior teak. Renew varnish/oil as necessary.
- 2.

### **Spring**

3. Machine wash all lines, dry, return in orderly fashion to rope locker/storage.
4. "Deep Clean" entire vessel including carpet, upholstery, lockers, galley cabinets, refrigerator, stove, all dishware and cookware, bilges, flush domestic water system, sanitize head system, clean concealed hatch gutters, empty, vacuum, and re-organize per all storage lockers outside and in.
5. Replace any lost or damaged cooking ware.
6. Renew interior varnish and/or painted finishes as necessary.
7. Re-organize chart storage, make sure charts and navigation implements are complete.
8. Review vessel manual, edit as necessary for accuracy. Make sure blank pages are adequate in "Customs Log" and "Vessel Log" sections.
9. Review inventory for completeness.
10. Clean and polish barbecue. Make sure it operates properly.
11. Review contents/placement/cleanliness of safety equipment: Life jackets, life ring, lifesling, first aid kit, flares (check date, verify current for entire season), bell, boat hook(s).
12. Have fire extinguishers inspected and tagged.
13. Remove rust, spot paint engine(s).
14. Service outboard as necessary including lower-end grease. Inspect outboard prop, skeg, zinc, fuel lines, tanks for integrity/serviceability. Replace/renew as necessary.
15. Lubricate and otherwise service as called for anchor and davit winches.
16. Thoroughly clean dinghy, verify leak-free. Clean and lubricate dinghy-davit rigging, make sure it is strong and safe.
17. Tension cables between stanchions as required for tightness and safety. Check stanchion fastener security.
18. Clean all canvas, replace tension bungees and snaps as necessary. Apply vaseline to all canvas snaps.