Preventing Derelict Vessels in Florida

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Division of Law Enforcement
Boating and Waterways Section
“Derelict” or “At-Risk”?
Officer hangs this notice on the vessel after entering the information into the database.
Concept Five

Prohibition of vessels deemed “at risk” of becoming derelict

In order to reduce the incidence of vessels deteriorating to a derelict condition, this concept proposes a prohibition against having a vessel on the waters of the state when there are obvious, specified signs of neglect and/or lack of maintenance. The conditions which would trigger action by law enforcement include:

- Taking on water without an effective means to dewater
- Spaces designed to be enclosed are incapable of being sealed off or remain open to the elements for extended periods of time
- Leaking petroleum products or other harmful contaminants
- Has broken loose or is in danger of breaking loose from its anchor or mooring
- Violating marine sanitation laws
- Listing due to water intrusion, is sunk, partially sunken or left aground and unattended
Concept Five

Prohibition of vessels deemed “at risk” of becoming derelict

Level of Support Among All Respondents

Number of Responses

Level of Support

Mean = 4.5
STD = 1.0
N = 189

Do Not Support  Neutral  Support
5  16  30  131

0  1  2  3  4  5

150
100
50
0
Most Important Concepts to be Addressed

The concepts are listed below in order of their popularity among respondents.

129 votes - Prohibition of vessels deemed “at risk” of becoming derelict

111 votes - Limitation on who may renew a vessel registration

107 votes - Ability to place a “hold” on derelict vessel title

99 votes - Penalties for expired vessel registration beyond 6 months