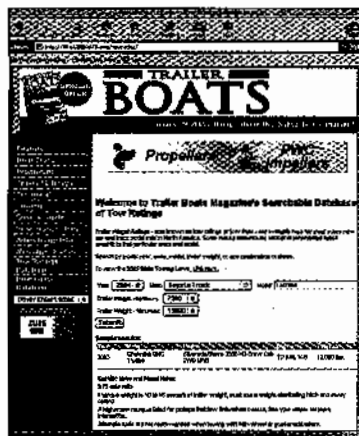


Prop Wash

Letters to the Editors



NEEDS HONEST ADVICE

I want to buy a pickup or 4WD and a powerboat in Miami, Florida, and ship them to Italy. The purchasing and shipping seem (so far) to be relatively straightforward. But finding accurate, honest advice to help me choose the correct size/model

truck to pull a (roughly) 5000-pound, 26-foot boat is becoming impossible. My preferred vehicle is either a Toyota Tacoma or a Jeep Grand Cherokee.

**Warren Haldane
Kent, England**

If you turn to page 55, you'll find this year's installment of our annual "Tow Ratings" guide. You can also log onto TrailerBoats.com and access our searchable tow ratings database for past model years. Please be sure to read the appropriate footnotes, however, as these describe all the equipment (such as tow packages or axle ratios) needed to achieve the listed tow rating.

Be sure to double-check the actual weight of your intended boat — including fuel, gear and trailer weight — so you get

an appropriately tow-rated vehicle. Nearly all 26-foot boats will weigh substantially more than 5000 pounds wet, and when you include a tandem or triaxle trailer, you're looking at a big load. You don't want to "underbuy" when choosing a tow vehicle. Good luck!

BRING ON THE CLONES

I received my first issue and was horrified at the pictures in articles and ads that show almost all boats as being obvious clones. The lack of original design is unbelievable.

**Bruce McKay
Cleveland, Ohio**

DEALER CERTIFICATION

At the risk of sounding cynical, I believe the [National Marine Manufacturers Association's] boat dealer certification program will have the same effect on service, quality, cost, reliability and customer satisfaction as similar programs have had in the auto industry — no improvement whatsoever. Just ask anyone who has been to a dealer lately or look at your own experience. These certification programs are used to increase revenue from sales and service, and result in no discernable improvement to the customer.

This is just the opinion from one man who has had a lot of experience with cars and boats. I've owned six boats and about 30 cars and SUVs, and now

own two boats and just recently sold a third one.

**Jerry Ciccone
Taylor, Michigan**

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

My wife and I can certainly understand Kim Schlueter and Dave Barkley (Prop Wash, August) getting hooked on C-Dory from just a single little photo (which, by the way, is a 22 Cruiser, not a 25). We first saw a C-Dory in the San Juans in 2002 and it was love at first sight. We bought the 22 in 2003 and a 25 Cruiser in 2005.

As for Thomas Mattison, who feels 45th parallel boaters are slighted by the seeming over-emphasis on "go-fast sleds," and who wants to know about boats you can live on for weeks at a time: log on to c-brats.com. We are sure there will be a C-Dory owner in his neck of the woods who would be more than happy to take him out for a cruise.

Let the bathing-suit crowd have its fun zooming around a few months out of the year. But for those of us who own a C-Dory, the boating season never ends.

**Pat & Patty Anderson
Fall City, Washington**

TRIP PLANNER

Your boating-destination stories are an excellent source for planning vacations, and I also like your tech and maintenance coverage.

**Lucas Skutt
Indianapolis, Indiana**

SPREAD THE WEALTH

I like your magazine, but you only publish articles about Western boating destinations. There is a Northeast and Florida. More Florida, please!

**Capt. Frank Danisi
Garden City, New York**

We run one travel story per issue, and over the last three years we've

written 14 articles on Western destinations, six on Eastern destinations, six on areas in the Central United States, and seven on Southern or Floridian destinations — and that includes this month's Florida travel guide (see page 32).



Editor's Note: Due to the volume of letters and e-mail received, we are unable to answer them all. We publish only those we feel are of interest to the majority of our readers. Address letters to: Editor, TrailerBoats, 20700 Herman Ave., Carleton Place, Ontario, Canada, L9Y 4R9. E-mail: editor@trailerboats.com.