

**Auxiliary Boat Crew Study Guide:**  
**BCM-01: Crew Efficiency Factors and Team Coordination**

BCM-01-01-AUX: Crew Fatigue

The following are examples of situations that may cause fatigue:

- Operating in extreme hot or cold weather conditions.
- Eye strain from hours of looking through sea-spray blurred windshields.
- The effort of holding on and maintaining balance.
- Stress.
- Exposure to noise.
- Exposure to the sun.
- Poor physical conditioning.
- Lack of sleep.
- Boredom.

Some other environmental conditions that also promote fatigue are:

- Motion sickness.
- Glare from the sun.
- Wind and rough sea conditions.
- Rain or snow.
- Vibration (boat engine).

The primary symptoms of fatigue are:

- Inability to focus or concentrate/narrowed attention span.
- Mental confusion or judgment error.
- Decreased coordination of motor skills and sensory ability (hearing, seeing).
- Increased irritability.
- Decreased performance.
- Decreased concern for safety.

Some preventive measures are:

- Adequate rest.
- Appropriate dress for weather conditions.
- Rotate crew duties.
- Provide food and refreshments suitable for conditions.
- Observe other crewmembers for signs of fatigue.

The crew's safety and welfare are the coxswain's primary responsibility. Coxswains must be constantly aware of stress signs evident in their crews, learn to recognize fatigue, and take corrective action. Crewmembers must watch each other's condition to prevent excessive fatigue from taking its toll. The ability of each member to respond to normal conversation and to complete routine tasks should be observed.

Boat Type	Maximum Underway Hours				Rest Hours Required
	Seas < 4'	Seas > 4'	Heavy Weather	Offshore	
AUX <30'	8	0	0	6	8
AUX >30'	8	6	0	6	8

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- Crew underway time begins when the crew member reports to the designated place to prepare for a specific mission. Computation of such time ends when the mission is complete. Crew underway time includes time spent accomplishing pre-mission and post-mission vessel checks.
- Time spent conducting trailering activities and at a sheltered anchorage counts as 50% underway time (e.g., one hour spent at a sheltered anchorage counts for ½ hour accumulated crew underway time).
- Operators may exceed crew fatigue guidelines only after receiving a waiver from the Commander exercising TACON and OPCON in accordance with the U.S. Coast Guard Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Manual, Volume I, COMDTINST M16114.32 (series).
- The operator is responsible for keeping track of crew mission time and advising the OIA when their crew mission time is approaching the limits.

Auxiliarists shall not consume alcoholic beverages on any mission. An Auxiliarist impaired due to alcohol consumption before a mission or who has consumed alcoholic beverages within the 8 hours before a mission shall not participate in that mission. They also may not activate contingency orders or otherwise act on behalf of the Coast Guard.

A zero alcohol level is essential for personnel to meet the demands of a mission. This prohibition includes prescribed medications that may diminish the ability of an Auxiliarist to function safely. Failure to abide by these rules may be grounds for disenrollment. Further, failure to abide by these rules could constitute gross negligence and may subject Auxiliarists to personal liability

Sources: *Boat Crew Seamanship Manual* Chapter 3, Section B; *Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual* Chapter 4, Section E

#### **BCM-01-02-AUX: Personal Physical Requirements and Policy**

There are no specific requirements for age, weight, strength, or endurance; however, trainees need to meet the following standards in completing each qualification task: (1) each task must be performed personally by the trainees, with no physical assistance; (2) each task must be performed without hesitation; and (3) each task must be performed with confidence.

Source: *Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual* Chapter 3, Section A; *Auxiliary Boat Crew Training Manual* Chapter 1, Section L

#### **BCM-01-03-AUX: Team Coordination Training**

The trainee must present proof of completion of an 8 or 4 hour TCT workshop in the last 5 years.

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BCM-01-04-AUX: Complete the Incident Command System (ICS) Courses

Complete ICS-100 and NIMS-700 at the FEMA online course site and provide copies of the certificates to their mentor as well as to their Flotilla Commander if completing for the first time.