

The Landon's took a boat tour to Chatterbox Falls. This is the information they gleaned from the trip.

VHF Sécurité Call and Malibu Rapids

After thanking Rice for a great tour, we asked if he had any suggestions that we might share with others taking their own boat to Chatterbox Falls. He first acknowledged the numerous recreational boaters that frequent Princess Louise Inlet each season. Second, he noted that the traffic path through Malibu Rapids is S-shaped and that some boaters in an attempt to view the channel before entering, inadvertently position themselves on the wrong side of a port-to-port passage traffic pattern. He noted this happens in both directions and given the amount of boat traffic transiting Malibu Rapids in both directions, it would be helpful if boats maintain a port-to-port passing traffic pattern.

So what does all this have to do with VHF Sécurité?

Now for the VHF *Sécurité* topic: As recommended in the Waggoner Guide, many boaters give a safety *Sécurité* call on channel 16 before entering Malibu Rapids and other narrow passages with blind corners. The *Sécurité* call is a safety notice to other mariners, but it is not a right-of-way or Stand-On / Give-Way notice. The established Stand-On and Give-Way rules should be maintained; and in the case of rapids, the Stand-on and Give-Way rules are determined by the direction of the current. Vessels traveling with the current flow are the Stand-On, and those traveling against the current are the Give-Way.

~ Leonard and Lorena Landon, Managing Editors of the *Waggoner Cruising Guide*