



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 6, 2021

- [DNR investigates boat crash into Mile Long Bridge at Saylorville](#)
- [Beach goers encouraged to follow safe swim practices](#)

DNR investigates boat crash into Mile Long Bridge at Saylorville

POLK CITY, Iowa – The Iowa Department of Natural Resources and other agencies responded to a boat that crashed into the Mile Long Bridge at Saylorville Lake on Monday, July 5, 2021 around 6:15pm.

Five people aboard the boat, operated and owned by Steven Starrett of Pleasant Hill, were injured and taken to local hospitals. The DNR does not currently have conditions available of those injured.

The DNR Law Enforcement Bureau continues to investigate the boat crash and will release further information via a press release once it becomes available.

The DNR asks anyone that witnessed the crash or the boat's operation immediately prior to the crash, that has not already spoken with law enforcement, to please contact Iowa DNR Law Enforcement Sgt. Craig Cutts at (515) 238-4847.

Media Contact: Alex Murphy, DNR Communications Director & Communications, Outreach and Marketing Bureau Chief, (515) 729-7533, Alex.Murphy@dnr.iowa.gov.

Beach goers encouraged to follow safe swim practices

As summer hits full swing and Iowans head to the beaches, the Iowa DNR is encouraging everyone to follow safe swim practices.

- Stay within the buoys – buoys are placed in locations where the water isn't too deep or too shallow. Buoys identify the swimming area, keeping boaters out and swimmers in.
- Stay within your swimming capability. Weak swimmers should plan to wear a life jacket while swimming.
- Don't swim alone – use the buddy system.
- Make sure to tell someone where you're going and what you're doing.

- This is not a swimming pool, but a natural environment.