Lab 2:

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Recreational boating is a highly valued and popular activity in Canada and the USA. Many freshwater ecosystems are thus used extensively for recreational boating. In Canada, there are approximately 2.5 million recreational boats while there are over 12 million registered powerboats in the USA. Powerboats, which include outboards, inboards, and personal watercraft, are the most common type. In Canada and the USA, power boating is increasing at compound average annual rates of 2.6% and 8%, respectively. This growing use of motorized watercraft is likely to compromise the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of aquatic ecosystems (*1*). Indirect impacts of power boating on aquatic wildlifeinclude disturbance during reproductive activities (*2*), interference with intraspecific sound communication (*3*), physiological disturbances such as increased cardiac output (*4*), and altered auditory sensitivity.

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