

As USCG licensed master (boat captain), with 60 years of boating experience, and as a cruiser who, with my wife, lives aboard and extensively cruises our 44' sailboat, I say with confidence that GPS is the greatest maritime safety and convenience innovation of my lifetime. My son, who is a professional yacht captain, agrees. Although we have the skills to safely navigate without GPS, **MANY BOATERS AND EVEN EXPERIENCED CRUISERS DO NOT**. I know several cruisers who probably would have sunk their boats if they didn't have GPS. It is, of course, invaluable to hikers as well. It is nice for motorists, but it has become indispensable for mariners. Modern charts even include GPS waypoints to provide an extra margin of safety. **DO NOT MESS WITH GPS. DO NOT PRIVATIZE IT. DO NOT ALLOW ANY TECHNOLOGY THAT WILL INTERFERE WITH IT.** If you do, trust me, lives will be lost.

Regards,

Bill Raley aboard S/V ACT III