

# 1. ATONs and The Pecking Order

September 23, 2016 *Marc Hughston*

## Memory aids for **Aids To Navigation (ATON) and Rules of The Road – The Pecking Order**

Use the following to help remember the characteristics of lateral ATONs

COGS, TERN

Returning from seaward, ATONs on the right TERN (also, remember “Red, Right, Returning”); those on the left are COGS

<b>C</b>	can	<b>T</b>	triangle
<b>O</b>	odd number	<b>E</b>	even number
<b>G</b>	green	<b>R</b>	red
<b>S</b>	square	<b>N</b>	nun

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Use the following to help remember what type of vessel has right of way

**Our Navy Requires Canned Fish Served Promptly at Seven**

A vessel lower in the pecking order gives way to one higher in the pecking order

<b>Our</b>	<b>O</b>	Overtaken
<b>Navy</b>	<b>N</b>	Not under command
<b>Requires</b>	<b>R</b>	Restricted Maneuverability
<b>Canned</b>	<b>C</b>	Constrained by draft
<b>Fish</b>	<b>F</b>	Fishing (engaged in, as defined by rules)
<b>Served</b>	<b>S</b>	Sail
<b>Promptly</b>	<b>P</b>	Power
at		
<b>Seven</b>	<b>S</b>	Seaplanes