

## WHY GROINS ARE JUST GOOD FOR LAWYERS

- They beget lawsuits.
- Property owners will sue the town or state for damage to their properties from groins.
- Boaters will sue when the groins are involved in accidents.
- Swimmers and fishermen will sue if caught in rip currents caused by groins.

## WHEREVER GROINS ARE ALLOWED LAWSUITS SOON FOLLOW

Property owners sue each other, the local town or the state or federal governments either because they want a structure to protect their property or want to be paid for the damage done to their property by a structure. Towns and counties open themselves to liability lawsuits if boats hit the groin or swimmers drown near them.

## A COURTROOM SAMPLING

Here's just a few of the types of lawsuits we can expect if you allow groins on our beaches:

- 18 homeowners in Montauk, N.Y., recently filed a \$25 million lawsuit against local and state governments, claiming that jetties blocked the flow of sand and exacerbated the erosion in front of their homes.
- Officials in St. Petersburg, Fla., decided to remove a groin after a teenager died in a boating accident at the structure and his family sued the city.
- A father sued Pinellas County, Fla., after he and his children nearly drowned while swimming near a groin.



Liability becomes a serious legal issue if local governments are given the authority to build hazardous structures in navigable waters.

**Dangerous rip currents can result when a current traveling along the shoreline encounters a structure such as a groin or jetty and is forced offshore.**