



# Brush Strokes



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## PAINTING WATER

One of the hardest effects to create is moving water and how the direction it moves across a body of water, particularly if there are objects in the water. Here are two examples of how Sandy White handled this.

The name of the picture to the right is *Peggy's Cove* and the one below on the left is *I'd Rather Be Sailing*. The *Peggy's Cove* painting was just finished and was painted on a full sheet of Arches 140 lb watercolor paper. It was soaked and stretched of course in order to get the colors and textures she wanted to portray.



The painting below was finished in 2011 and shows another way to paint water. Both are expertly painted and detailed paintings. When you decide to paint some event that is happening at the lake or maybe a painting from the lakeshore you should be aware of a few elements. The first is placement of the objects; think about what kind of day it is and is the sky showing. Another is figuring out what the reflections below the object are doing, and even more important, what are you featuring. If it is a lone boat like the one here you must be aware of how reflections in the water are seen and they are the reverse of what shadows portray. Below is a painting by Greer Fox



which she did while on a vacation in CO. The name of this painting is *Along Snow Mass Creek*. Note how she handled the almost still water, just showing a change in color up front.

Challenge yourself and go to the nearest water to paint. If this isn't convenient look at the photographs you have taken of vacations on the water in whatever place you happened to be. You'll be surprised at how well you can paint the water when you observe its movement from where you are at the time.

