



The Storm Chaser C-1 vs Plastic Kayaks Converted to C-1's

What makes the Storm Chaser a better choice than paddling a converted plastic kayak?

Kayak hulls are designed to optimize the advantages of kayaking, not canoeing. Whether or not a plastic kayak will convert "adequately well" to a C-1 is purely by accident and of little concern to modern plastic kayak manufacturers. At River Elf, we understand there is a difference and design for the unique requirements of c-boating.

Kayak hulls facilitate greater downstream speed by taking advantage of a kayaker's lower center of gravity and utilizing narrower hulls. C-1's have a higher center of gravity and thus require a wider boat to create similar stability in whitewater. The Storm Chaser is offered in two generous and forgiving hull widths of 27 and 28 inches.

Furthermore, the point of rotation in a kayak is usually somewhere between the seat and the outstretched legs of the paddler and as such the widest point of most kayak hulls is located in the center of the boat along the long axis. This position is not ideal for a C-1.

Unlike a converted kayak hull, the widest point of the Storm Chaser is located just behind the cockpit. This position allows for a very stable platform when boofing and executing spins off the stern. You can confidently lean back to loosen the bow and the Storm Chaser will spin with incredible ease.

As a further advantage, locating the maximum width behind the cockpit creates a longer bow chine compared to what is possible in a converted kayak. This makes the Storm Chaser track and maintain glide better than a similar length kayak to C-1 conversion.

When it comes to acceleration, there's simply no contest. Plastic kayak to C-1 conversions are just down right sluggish! The Storm Chaser, on the other hand, gets up to speed from a dead stop quickly and with very little effort. Furthermore, when it looks like you are about to get in a jam, one stroke and the Storm Chaser quickly propels you out of harms way.

Finally, C-boaters will love the low profile bow deck when crossing to the offside and the smaller circular cockpit - yeah, you'll need a C-1 skirt for this boat but, hey, that's a plus - no more squeezing your knees up under the front of a narrow kayak cockpit.

The Storm Chaser is super easy to paddle, nimble and responds with amazing predictability. Come take a test drive and you'll see that the Storm Chaser paddles like a C-1 should - because it is a C-1.

You won't ever want to get in a converted plastic kayak again!