‘It's a Catastrophe~': Dock at BethelIsland~ Marina Topples During High Winds

By

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The entire G~ dock, the largest dock at the NewLifeMarina~ in BethelIsland~, toppled. Parts of it were thrown all the way down a hill, atleast75yards~.

Some of the boats were still tangled in the twisted steel Thursday. More than a dozen 50foot~ slips were destroyed.

"It’s a catastrophe," NewLifeMarina~ co-owner CurtisG~ee~ said. "You’re talking a quarter-million to half-a-million dollars to rebuild."

The marina benefits the NewLifeDreamCenter~, a substance abuse nonprofit.

Some of the tenants at the marina rode out the storm.

"It was just very, very scary," tenant G~ailTaylor~ said. "It was real windy. The docks were shaking and the boats were shaking."

Taylor~'s boat was berthed in the B dock. All of the major damage was at the G~ dock.

"It felt like a war zone," Taylor~ said.

SteveBernhards~ 42foot~ boat, a 1955~ Matthews Sedan, was right in the middle of the destruction.

"Actually, I was asleep," he said. "The wind had been blowing for hours, and I heard deck chairs flying."

He said he knew his boat would survive, so he settled back in even as the dock was being ripped away.

"And there wasn’t a great deal to do, so I went back to bed," he said.

G~ee, meanwhile, was busy with ContraCostaCounty~ sheriff's deputies trying to make sure everyone got to safety.

"Every time the gusts hit, you had to either grab something or walk against it because it was crazy," he said.

G~ee lost another dock with about a dozen slips in a storm a year ago.