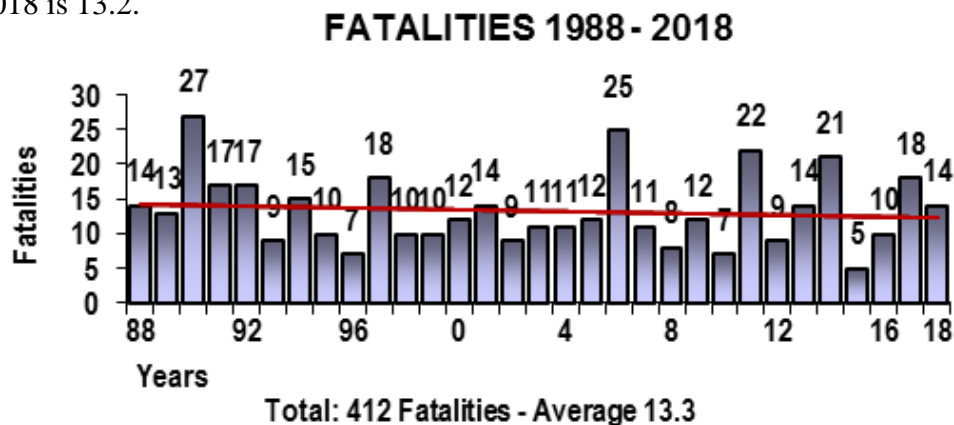
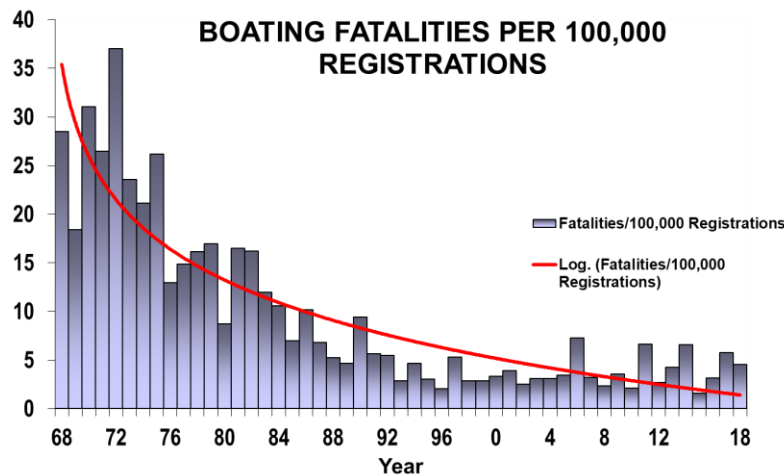


**RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY (RBS) PROGRAM
 PERFORMANCE REPORT
 PART 1 C: ACCOMPLISHMENTS
 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
 FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2017 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2018**

The Recreational Boating Program in Pennsylvania, which is administered by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission), is dependent on the infusion of funds from the Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) Program grant to be successful. One way to measure the success of Pennsylvania’s boating safety program is the number of recreational boaters injured or killed in boating accidents. Because of variables such as the weather and other factors impossible or difficult to control, the trend in boating accident fatalities is the most common statistic used for evaluating program success. The following graph shows boating fatalities in Pennsylvania from 1988 through 2018. The average number of fatalities from 1988 through 2018 is 13.3; from 2008 through 2018 is 13.2.

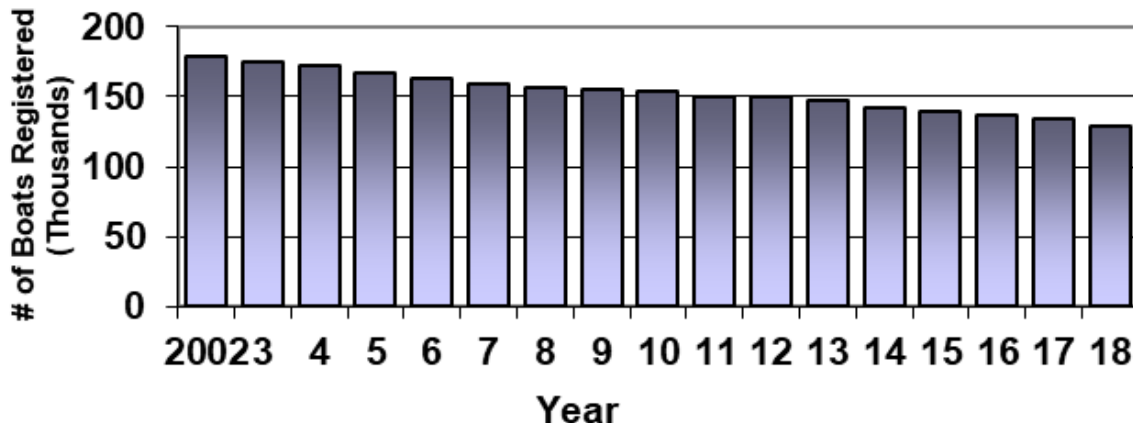


The success of the Commission’s boating safety program is illustrated by comparing the number of fatalities to the number of registered boats. These records are available for the last 51 years. The following graph shows the number of recreational boating fatalities per 100,000 registered boats. From 10/1/2017 through 9/30/2018, Pennsylvania had 306,781 registered watercraft and reported 14 fatalities which equates to five fatalities per 100,000 registered boats. The number of boats registered in the Commonwealth over the last 51 years has been matched by a commensurate increase in boating safety. This would not have been possible without the support of Coast Guard RBS funding.

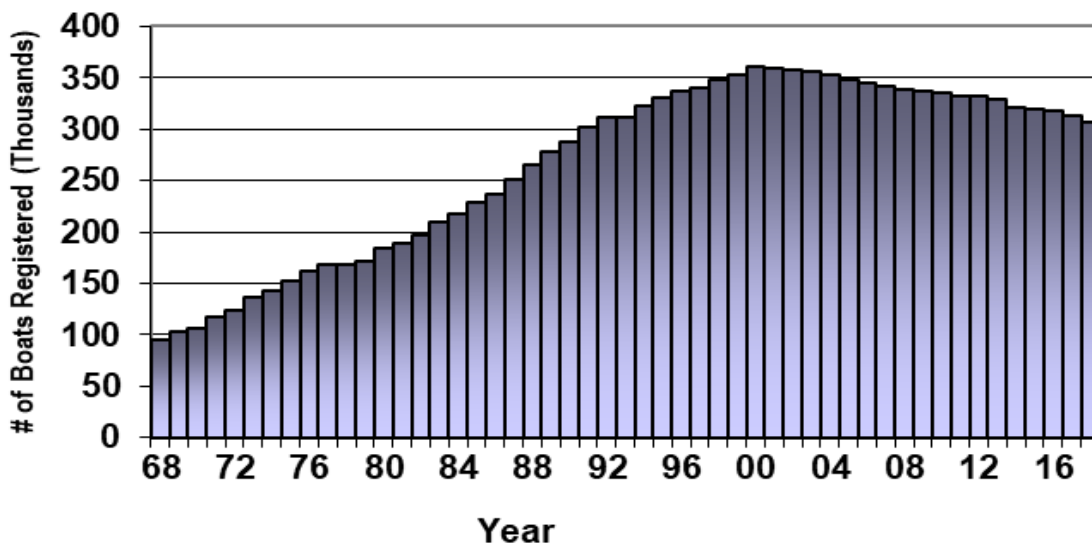


Pennsylvania experienced a decrease in boat registrations in 2018. This represents a decrease of 6,809 boats from the previous year. This decrease is significant because boat registrations until the previous year have continued to decrease over the past sixteen years. During the period of 2000-2018, boat registrations have declined in all but one year (2012). The highest number of registrations was in year 2000 with 360,361 registered boats. There is still a decline in one class of boats. The numbers of motorboats less than 16 feet in length that are registered in Pennsylvania have continued to decline steadily since 2000 (see chart below).

MOTORBOATS <16 FT. REGISTRATIONS



BOAT REGISTRATIONS 1968 - 2018



| | 2018 BOAT REG STATS | 2017 BOAT REG STATS | 2016 BOAT REG STATS | 2015 BOAT REG STATS | 2014 BOAT REG STATS | 2013 BOAT REG STATS | 2012 BOAT REG STATS |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Total Active Registrations: | 306,781 | 313,590 | 317,586 | 319,028 | 322,454 | 329,598 | 332,699 |
| Total Unpowered Vessels: | 37,911 | 37,425 | 39,454 | 51,351 | 38,874 | 39,360 | 39,450 |
| Total Active PWCs: | 27,310 | 27,392 | 27,404 | 27,250 | 27,547 | 27,904 | 28,178 |
| Less than 16 Ft. | 129,212 | 133,783 | 136,963 | 139,629 | 142,042 | 147,031 | 149,541 |
| 16 Ft. to 25 Ft. | 132,483 | 133,653 | 133,778 | 134,160 | 133,933 | 135,796 | 136,067 |
| 26 Ft. to 39 Ft. | 6,534 | 6,698 | 6,744 | 6,723 | 6,689 | 6,714 | 6,715 |
| 40 Ft. to 65 Ft. | 604 | 613 | 609 | 623 | 619 | 626 | 610 |
| Boats > 65 Ft. | 37 | 39 | 38 | 36 | 38 | 51 | 48 |
| Rowboats | 1,892 | 1,790 | 1,711 | 1,652 | 1,599 | 1,631 | 1,666 |
| Sailboats | 1,233 | 1,270 | 1,339 | 1,445 | 1,065 | 1,137 | 1,158 |
| Paddlecraft: Canoes | | | | | 16,486 | 17,385 | 17,998 |
| Kayaks/ Other Boats | 57,680 | 49,899 | 47,515 | 48,254 | 19,724 | 19,207 | 18,628 |

The Commission set the following goals and objectives for the 2018 recreational boating safety grant year:

GOALS

1. Provide effective education programs and informational material to the boating public.
2. Further reduce the number of boating accidents, fatalities and boater conflicts.
3. Provide adequate, effective and efficient enforcement of the boating laws and regulations.
4. Develop and maintain a liaison with other boating organizations and agencies.
5. Administer a boat registration system that is responsive to the needs of the Commission and the boating public, efficiently collects the revenues needed to run the boating program and identifies legal ownership of recreational boats.
6. Provide recreational boaters with the highest quality boating facilities on all navigable water bodies of the state.

OBJECTIVES

1. Provide technical guidance and support for the development and enhancement of public access to fishing and boating opportunities. This effort includes cooperation with Federal and state government agencies, non-profit groups, and private businesses and landowners.

2. Maintain an efficient and cost-effective method of registering and titling boats, assuring that Pennsylvania receives and deposits the fees expeditiously and that the boat owner receives title and registration certificates promptly and courteously.
3. Provide an adequate level of control over and distribution of aids to navigation and floating structures.
4. Provide training opportunities, educational materials and support to boating education partners so all recreational boaters will be knowledgeable of the boating regulations and the principals of boating safety.
5. Provide water rescue training upon request to police, fire and rescue personnel to prevent water-related fatalities due to an inadequate understanding of the forces of water and how to handle water emergencies.
6. Provide a law enforcement effort that assures an acceptable level of compliance with boating laws and regulations.
7. Provide necessary vehicles, boats and other related equipment that Waterways Conservation Officers need for the efficient and effective performance of their duties.
8. Maintain a liaison between the Commission, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the U.S. Power Squadrons and other boating safety organizations.
9. Provide grants to local governments and non-profits for the planning, acquisition, development, expansion and rehabilitation of public boating facilities located on the waters of Pennsylvania.

ADMINISTRATION

- 1. Maintain liaison with representatives of the boating industry, clubs and organizations, private citizens, and federal, state, and local officials to inform them of and engage them in portions of the Pennsylvania's Boating Program**

Staff met with the PA Boating Association, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Power Squadrons, Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Pennsylvania Water Trail Partnership, Pittsburgh Safe Boating Council, Erie Safe Boating Task Force, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, Pennsylvania State Fire Academy, Pennsylvania National Guard, and numerous individual sportsmen's clubs, water trail managers, and others.

- 2. Conduct a minimum of one Boating Advisory Board and four Commission meetings to formulate appropriate regulations and approaches to improve boating safety in Pennsylvania.**

The Boating Advisory Board (Board) met on December 7, 2017. During their meeting, the Board recommended the following items to the Commission:

Boating Advisory Board December 7, 2017 Meeting:

A. Addition of Chapter 99 (Capacity Plates)

Staff proposes that Chapter 99 be added as follows:

CHAPTER 99. CAPACITY PLATES

§ 99.1. Boats requiring capacity plates.

(a) A capacity plate shall be permanently affixed to a monohull boat less than 20 feet in length designed to carry two or more persons and to be propelled by machinery or oars as its principal source of power if one of the following applies:

(1) The boat is manufactured, transferred, sold or offered for sale in this Commonwealth.

(2) The boat is operated on waters of this Commonwealth.

(b) Pontoon boats, canoes, sailboats, kayaks, inflatable boats, hydroplanes, personal watercraft and boats considered by the Commission to be of unusual or unique design are exempt from this chapter.

(c) As used in this chapter, “manufacture” means to construct or assemble a boat or alter a boat in a manner that changes its weight carrying capacity.

§ 99.2. Information required.

The capacity plate shall contain the following information as described in 33 CFR § 183.25 (relating to display of markings):

(1) For boats designed for or represented by the manufacturer as being suitable for use with outboard motors:

(i) The total weight of persons, motor, gear, and other articles placed aboard which the boat is capable of carrying safely under normal conditions.

(ii) The recommended number of persons consistent with the weight capacity of the boat and the presumed weight in pounds of those persons. The presumed weight per person may not be less than 150 pounds.

(iii) The maximum horsepower of the motor that the boat is designed or intended to accommodate.

(2) For other boats to which the requirement applies:

(i) The total weight of persons, gear, and other articles placed aboard which the boat is capable of carrying safely under normal conditions.

(ii) The recommended number of persons consistent with the weight capacity of the boat and the presumed weight in pounds of those persons. The presumed weight per person may not be less than 150 pounds.

§ 99.3. Replacement plates.

If the manufacturer did not affix a plate, if a plate is damaged to the point of being not discernable, or if a plate is removed, the owner of the boat shall make application to the manufacturer or the United States Coast Guard for a replacement in accordance with 33 CFR Part 183, subpart B (relating to display of capacity information).

§ 99.4. Prohibited acts.

(a) A person may not tamper with or remove a capacity plate or any of the information shown.

(b) A person may not sell or otherwise transfer ownership of a boat subject to this chapter that does not comply with this chapter.

(c) A person may not operate a boat displaying an illegible capacity plate. Owners of these boats shall apply for a replacement plate as provided in § 99.3 (relating to replacement plates).

(d) A person may not operate a boat for which a capacity plate is required unless the boat displays the capacity plate.

(e) A manufacturer, dealer or other person may not offer a boat for sale for which a capacity plate is required unless a capacity plate is properly affixed.

B. Amendment to Section 111.3 (Armstrong County)

Staff therefore propose that §111.3 be amended as follows:

§ 111.3 Armstrong County.

* * *

(b) *Keystone Lake*. The use of motors in excess of [10] **20** horsepower is prohibited.

C. Amendment to Section 111.16 (Clarion County)

Staff propose that §111.16 be amended as follows:

§ 111.16. Clarion County.

(a) Clarion River. * * *

(b) Redbank Creek. Boats are limited to slow, no wake speed on the entire creek from its headwaters to its confluence with the Allegheny River.

The Commission held four Board meetings during the FFY 2018 (four annual meetings).

During its quarterly meetings, the Commission approved the following regulatory items as or for final rulemaking:

1. The amendments to § 105.3 (relating to unacceptable boating practices) is published under the statutory authority of section 5123 of the code (relating general boating regulations).

3. Advocate for the passage of laws that benefit boaters, particularly bills that address boating under the influence.

No new legislation was passed in FFY18. Previously in FFY14, Act 211 was passed by the Pennsylvania General Assembly and signed by Governor Corbett. This act updates the Fish

and Boat Code. In particular, section 5507 (relating to duties of operators involved in boating accidents) was added to be consistent with the Vehicle Code requirements and penalties for operators involved in motor vehicle accidents.

4. Inform U.S. Congressmen and State Legislators of projects and programs funded by Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund allocations to Pennsylvania.

The Commission has a legislative liaison to inform Legislators of programs funded by the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund.

5. Participate in training and development opportunities to improve staff's knowledge and skills in boating safety, water rescue, grants management, access development, national education standards and outreach campaigns.

The Commission approved out-service training for staff to attend and/or present at boating conferences, meetings, and trainings offered by various organizations such as the U.S. Coast Guard, National Safe Boating Council, National Water Safety Congress, International Association for Water Rescue Professionals, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Conference, National Association for Search & Rescue and the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators.

6. Improve internal computer-based boating accident reporting systems to ensure accuracy of information collected and enhanced submission, review and transmittal to the U.S. Coast Guard in a timely manner.

The Bureau of Law Enforcement ensured timely reporting of accidents and proper investigation. The Commission continues with ongoing updates to its computer-based boating accident reporting system for the officers in the field which aids in collecting the appropriate information to be reported to the Coast Guard. The Commission also reviewed and streamlined its internal review process and work flow for boating accident reports and investigation reports.

BOAT REGISTRATION

1. Provide an effective and cost-efficient method of registering and titling boats, assuring that Pennsylvania receives and deposits its revenues expeditiously and that the boat owner receives registration and titling certificates promptly and courteously.

The Commission utilizes a computer-based Registration and Titling System to process new boat registrations and maintain all boat registration data. The Pennsylvania Automated Licensing System allows boat owners to process boat registration renewals on-line. In addition, boaters can purchase duplicate registration cards and update their addresses via the website.

EDUCATION

1. Continue to offer courses necessary for boat operators to obtain a NASBLA-approved Boating Safety Education Certificate.

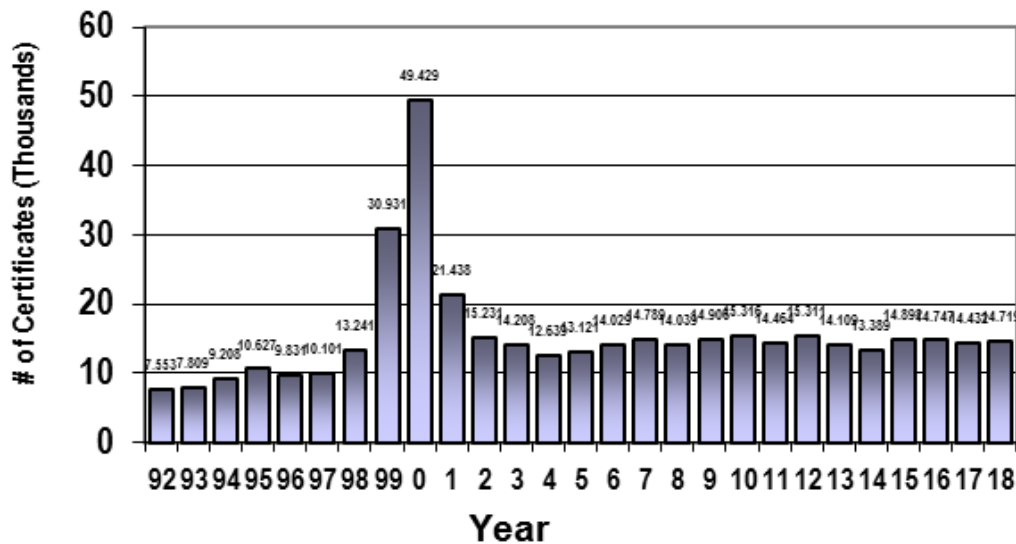
The Commission certified 14,719 students in National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA)-approved boating courses from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018. This is an increase of 287 certificates from FFY 2017. The number of

boating safety education certificates being issued is generally stable with only minor fluctuations over the past 18 years.

The Commission issued boating safety education certificates to 854 students who successfully completed a PA Basic Boating classroom course, which is an increase of 16 certificates than in the previous year. Not everyone who completed a boating course applied for a boating safety education certificate. The agency and its volunteers taught 104 PA Basic Boating classroom courses.

Instructors and staff taught 14 Boating & Water Safety Awareness (BWSA) courses in FFY 2018, with 1,177 of those students obtaining a boating safety education certificate. Approximately 50% of students successfully completing the course apply to the Commission for a boating safety education certificate. Students may complete the course but do not want or are not required by law to have the certification. Several instructors indicate they teach most, but not all, of the BWSA curriculum. That is, they teach components and/or specific skills but not the complete course which precludes students from applying for certification.

BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION CERTIFICATES

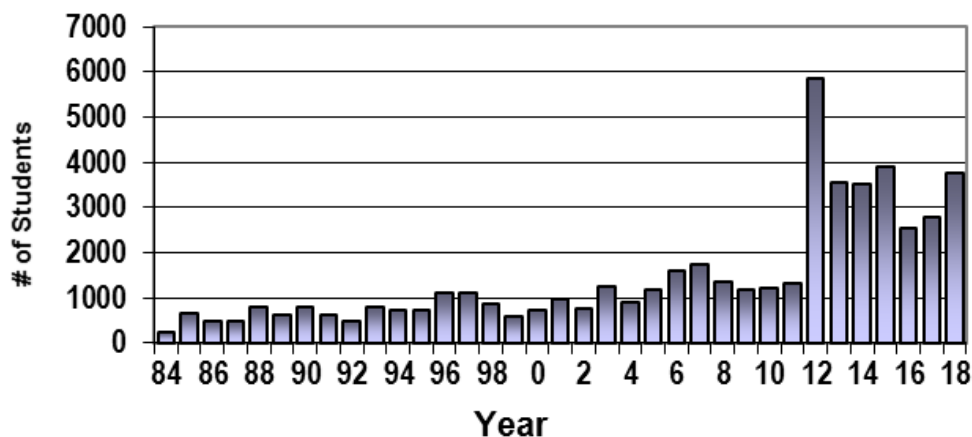


The Commission continues to be very successful with the distance learning courses and has received requests for our Commission-established course criteria from others states. In FFY 2018, 54 people completed the video correspondence course and 13,157 students successfully completed internet courses. The Commission issued 13,211 boating education certificates to students for successfully completing these long-distance learning courses, a increase of 653 from FFY 2017.

- 2. Continue to offer the Water Rescue Training Program to train water rescue volunteers and professionals in proper rescue techniques.**

In FFY 2018 the Commission certified 3,781 students through the Water Rescue Program which meets or exceeds various levels (Awareness, Operations, Technician) of NFPA 1670 Standards. This is an increase of 982 students from FFY 2017, which make this the third highest year on record for this program. In FFY 2018, 2,344 students were certified in the Commission's 2½-hour Water Rescue for the First Responder NFPA 1670 Awareness level program. The Commission has a trained in-state volunteer instructor corps of 171 individuals who provided more than 12,800 hours of training this past year. The Commission's Water Rescue program is the largest of its kind in the United States.

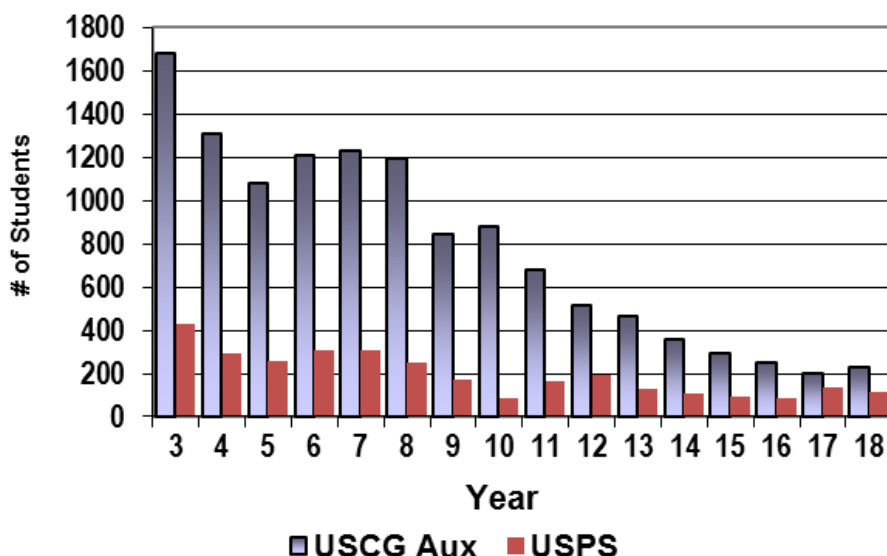
Water Rescue Students



3. **Continue to foster a close working relationship with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the U.S. Power Squadron's education programs for boater safety certification. Invite key representatives to Boating Advisory Board meetings and provide updated instructor information to all Auxiliary Flotillas and U.S. Power Squadrons in Pennsylvania.**

The Commission issued awards and certificates to outstanding Flotillas and Auxiliarists in the 5th Northern District in Pennsylvania. Successful students in Auxiliary courses submitted 233 applications to the Commission for certification in FFY 2018, an increase of 31 certificates from FFY 2017. USPS course students submitted 117 applications to the Commission for certification in FFY 2018, a decrease of 20 certificates. The chart on the following page clearly indicates a long term decrease in the number of students being certified by the Commission in U.S.C.G. Auxiliary and U.S. Power Squadron Courses. This is most likely due to the competition from online courses and a reduction in demand for classroom courses. All Commission, Auxiliary, Power Squadron and other approved courses are listed on the Commission's website. Course information is available from the Commission's toll-free telephone number. Commission representatives continue to attend USPS and USCG Auxiliary conferences, workshops, and (on request) teach the legal requirements section for their courses. Representatives from the USCG, USCG Auxiliary, and USPS were in attendance at the Commission's Boating Advisory Board meetings in 2018.

**Commission Certified Students
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
U.S. Power Squadrons
2003 - 2018**



4. Develop non-certification paddlesports safety education program, corresponding curriculum and instructor training. Produce and distribute boating safety literature; incorporate the “Wear It Pennsylvania” message into all boating safety materials distributed by the Commission.

Fifteen kayak/paddling safety programs were conducted during the period, reaching slightly more than 1,000 participants. Commission staff also conducted four Kayak Fishing Programs during the period. These programs reached fifty people and include extensive training in paddling skills and water safety.

Throughout the year, the PFBC used its suite of printed publications to further promote safe boating with full-page, full-color messaging in its annual Pennsylvania Fishing Summary (900,000 copies produced), *Boating Regulation Recap* brochures (75,000 produced), 2018 *Pocket Guide* (50,000 produced) and in its subscription-based agency magazine, *Pennsylvania Angler & Boater* (distributed six times a year). Specifically, with the May/June printed issue of the magazine (distribution of 12,160 copies) and in its digital version of the magazine (62,784 subscribers) a full-page advertisement was included which promoted National Safe Boating Week. In addition, students completing the PA Basic Boating Course or the Boating and Water Safety Awareness Course received a copy of the *Boating Handbook* (75,000 copies produced in 2018) and *Regulation Recap* brochure. The Commission distributed boating safety literature, paid or free publications, at all boat and sports shows where it had a presence, throughout its January through March season. The Commission processed 69 requests for boating safety education materials.

The Commission’s website is a major source of boating safety information. There is a wide array of boating and water safety materials at <http://www.fishandboat.com>. Everything from an enhanced version of the *PA Boating Handbook* to water trails maps to information on where to find a personal flotation device (PFD) is included (<http://fishandboat.com/Boat/Boating>). Links to the Commission’s boating safety partners

enhance the site. In addition, the Commission has a “Wear It!” resource page at: <https://pfbc.pa.gov/media-resources/wear-it-media/wear-it-media.htm> which includes a video with a “Wear It Pennsylvania!” message from the Commission’s Executive Director in addition to audio clips, press release, and web banners. Web visitation to these two web pages totaled more 16,901 than pageviews for the term of this report.

An important and growing part of the Commission’s media extension of the “Wear It! branding and other boating safety messaging is with its social media presence. Through its twitter feed (<http://twitter.com/fishandboat>), it’s Facebook page (<http://facebook.com/PaFishandBoat>) and its YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/PAfishandboat>), the PFBC has garnered an exceptional amount of viewer/visitor attention with its postings and videos which reinforce life jacket wear, boating education certificates, and particularly, the agency’s mandated cold-weather life jacket regulation, occurring from November 1 through April 30. The format receiving a majority of reception is public service announcements in the form of videos that the Commission produces.

5. Maintain a video library available to boating safety instructors, various organizations, clubs and individuals from across Pennsylvania.

Use of the library diminishes each year, as the availability of on-line resources continues to increase. As a result, the PFBC is phasing out the video library. In addition to the on-line resources available, each PFBC instructor is provided a copy of or has access to the Boat America DVD produced by Kalkomey Enterprises.

6. Participate in Operation Dry Water, “Wear It!” campaign, “Ready, Set, Wear It!” events, and National Safe Boating Week events to promote boating safety and life jacket wear.

The Commission enhanced its adoption of the “Wear It!” campaign through its website with select and updated web pages (<http://pfbc.pa.gov/media-resources/wear-it-media/wear-it-media.htm>), placement of web banners on its home page and other pages on the site with links to USCG and National Safe Boating Council resources throughout National Safe Boating Week and the rest of the year. To increase ease-of-access, the Commission also maintains a separate website domain (www.WearItPennsylvania.com) as a promotional URL to effectively redirect visitors to useful life jacket information in conjunction with the “Wear It Pennsylvania!” branding and campaign efforts.

To great success, use of postings and videos supporting these events occurred through the Commission’s social media portals (as per above detailed under Item #4).

7. Promote boating safety through special events, news releases, radio messages, public service announcements, radio and TV interviews and the Commission’s web page.

In FFY 2018 the Commission used several forms of media to promote its “Wear It Pennsylvania!” brand. This included a boat registration renewal mailing with safe boating messaging sent to 155,715 boat owners. And, as part of the mailed boat registration decals fulfilled during the term of this report, additional boating safety information (including reminders about life jacket wear) were part of the mailer package which were sent to more than 174,397 purchased boat registrations and duplicate boat registrations. Also, safe boating portable exhibits promoting life jacket wear were displayed at several outdoor and

boating show venues from January through March 2018. PFBC’s website (www.fishandboat.com) promoted the “Wear It!” campaign with select and updated web pages (<http://www.pfbc.pa.gov/media-resources/wear-it-media/wear-it-media.htm>), placement of web banners on the home page and other pages on the site with links to USCG and National Safe Boating Council resources. During May, PFBC’s website received a substantial increase in visitation. The Commission also issued several press releases on safe boating practices through the year.

The Commission used several special events to deliver the “Wear It!” safe boating message. Those events are listed in the table below. At several of these events, boating safety courses were offered to those attending the event. The PFBC’s “Wear It Pennsylvania!” exhibit graphic was used extensively, and several different boating and water safety publications were distributed.

| Start Date | End Date | Show/Event |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1/6/2018 | 1/13/2018 | Pennsylvania Farm Show |
| 1/12/2018 1/19/2018 | 1/14/2018 1/21/2018 | Pittsburgh Boat Show |
| 2/3/2018 | 2/11/2018 | Great American Outdoor Show |
| 2/16/2018 | 2/18/2018 | Allegheny Sports Travel and Outdoor Show |
| 3/2/2018 | 3/4/2018 | Erie Sport and Travel Show |
| 3/09/2018 | 3/11/2018 | Greater Philadelphia Boat Show |

AIDS-TO-NAVIGATION

- 1. Maintain a current computer-based inventory of all aids to navigation in Pennsylvania with emphasis on the body of water, location, jurisdiction, number of aids, type of aid, wording of aid, maintenance responsibility, and approximate set and removal date.**

The Commission maintains accurate, up-to-date computerized records of all aids-to-navigation on Pennsylvania waters. The inventory is managed by the waterway programs manager and is kept current through the ATON Program with the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, federal and state agencies, and the Commission’s WCOs.

- 2. Continue to maintain a numbering system for all aids with emphasis on determining the exact location of each aid and purpose.**

The Commission continues to operate an extensive Aids-to-Navigation Program. The aids/floating structures are currently permitted. Efforts over the years have resulted in the location and permitting of private aid/floating structures on state waters. Owners are required to attach an identifying number to each aid to help establish their identity and

location. Hand drawn maps with a few computer-generated maps are being used to graphically depict where buoys and structures are located for management purposes. The Commission continues to work with GPS and GIS technology to generate body of water maps showing the location of Commission-owned aids with plans to extend to privately owned aids.

3. Partner with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to provide for the timely reporting of problems within the ATON system.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary provides a very valuable service to the Commission in the Aids-to-Navigation Verification Program. While on patrols, they observe aids-to-navigation and verify positions on report provided by the Commission. Those aids that are missing, damaged or off-station are reported and corrective action is taken. This system has resulted in greater reliability of aids in Pennsylvania waters.

4. Include use and identification of aids through the distribution of the PA Boating Handbook.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary, USPS, Commission boating education instructors and others distribute the PA Boating Handbook as part of boating education classes. In addition, short articles on ATON appeared in the Pennsylvania Angler & Boater magazine and PFBC website.

5. Place information and warning signs (as necessary) at Commission access sites and hazardous areas.

Aluminum/fiberboard (4' x 4') warning signs are routinely placed at public launch sites to provide boaters with necessary regulatory and safety warnings as part of the Commission's overall Aids to Navigation Program.

6. Review ATON plans for bridge construction projects for state agencies and local governments.

The Commission reviews all ATON plans for rehabilitation or replacement of bridge projects on waterways. Technical guidance is provided to engineering firms and PA Department of Transportation for plans to place signage and buoys around bridge projects to avoid accidents and allow for continued safe navigation through construction areas.

7. Evaluate and, if necessary, procure the use of private organizations to place, maintain and remove aids to navigation through contract or agreement.

The Commission awarded contracts in FFY 2018 for the placement, maintenance and removal of aids-to-navigation. The contracts for these Commission-owned aids-to-navigation are part of our Boating Safety Program. These contracts allow conservation officers to focus on primary safety and enforcement duties.

8. Review and process all requests to install floating structures on State waters submitted by state, local governments, organizations and individuals.

The Commission reviewed, approved and assigned a permit number for the installation of 603 floating structures on Commonwealth waters in FFY 2018, a decrease of 67 from FFY 2017. These permits constitute a total of 6,910 structures, a decrease of 235 from FFY 2017 (see graph below for details). The majority of new ATON continues to be associated with increased bridge construction activity. The majority of decreases are associated with either

(a) earlier construction project that have been completed or (b) privately owned structures no longer in use.

Float Permit ATON Quantities Report:

| Type | Quantity | Type | Quantity |
|-----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| Channel | 453 | Boom | 2 |
| Controlled Area | 1426 | Mooring | 1273 |
| Float | 1220 | Race Course | 10 |
| Floating Dock | 1252 | Restricted Area | 530 |
| Hazard | 494 | Ski Ramp | 1 |
| Information | 29 | Slalom Course | 28 |
| Jet Ski Course | 0 | Other | 192 |
| TOTAL 6,910 | | | |

9. Conduct site visits to ensure compliance with Chapter 113 of Title 58, Pennsylvania Code (Aids to Navigation and Obstructions to Navigation).

The Commission’s corps of Waterways Conservation Officers routinely checks the placement of regulatory ATON. ATON is also checked to ensure placement and serviceability by the USCG Auxiliary.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

1. Conduct law enforcement patrols to ensure boaters’ compliance with existing laws and regulations regarding recreational boating.

Enforcement of Pennsylvania's boating laws and regulations is performed primarily by a current complement of 79 Waterways Conservation Officers (WCOs), which include supervisory staff, and over 74 part-time Deputy Waterways Conservation Officers (DWCOs). The Fish and Boat Code also provides enforcement authority to state and local police and other enforcement agencies specifically authorized by the Commission, although the amount of this activity is minimal. WCOs and their deputies perform other duties beyond boat law enforcement, such as fish law enforcement, public relations, water pollution investigation, fish stocking, equipment maintenance and, of course, the teaching of boating safety classes. In FFY 2018, Conservation officers issued and the courts adjudicated 1,425 summary citations for boating violations. Lack of personal flotation devices or improper personal flotation devices onboard boats continued to be the most common boating violations. There were 13,331 warnings for boating violations issued by officers.

Officers also conducted 27,320 safety boarding’s on recreational boats. Patrols are conducted by vehicle and on foot, but primarily with the Commission's more than 130 patrol craft. Investigating boating accidents and boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs cases consume a large portion of field officers' time. Fifty-two arrests were made in FFY 2018 for boating-under-the-influence (BUI). Specialized BUI enforcement details were conducted throughout the state on waterways with the highest recreational boating use, including Presque Isle Bay, Allegheny River, Ohio River, Monongahela River, Lake Wallenpaupack, Raystown Lake, Delaware River, Blue Marsh Lake, and several boating pools on the Susquehanna River. Officers investigated several high profile boating

accidents that involved serious injury or fatalities on Commonwealth waters. Officers investigated a total of 59 reportable boating accidents.

2. Provide necessary training, vehicles and boats for law enforcement personnel.

The Commission continues to train and employ high quality conservation officers. Training in various disciplines was conducted at the state, region, and district levels during the FFY2018. Training conducted was mandatory in-service law enforcement as well as water rescue based. The Swift Water Emergency Response Team (SWERT) and the Pennsylvania Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team (PAHART) continued to train and hone their skills during this past year. Through the EMAC process the PAHART was deployed to South Carolina in response to Hurricane Florence. Eight patrol vehicles were purchased and upgrades (outboard motors) were made to several patrol boats.

BOATING FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM

1. Facilitate funding to local governments and organizations for the acquisition, planning, engineering, development, expansion and major rehabilitation of public recreational boat access facilities.

In 2018, the Commission did not award any grants under the Boating Facility Grant Program. The Commission did not have operational funds available to support this program. The Commission is pursuing alternative sources of funding for the program.

2. Implement Fishing and Boating Access Strategy that identifies and prioritizes public fishing and boating facility needs throughout Pennsylvania. Encourage use of the plan as rating criteria for various partners' grant programs and implementation of recommended improvements.

Commission staff completed a statewide fishing and boating access plan in FFY 2009. The plan identifies current access areas, areas where additional access is needed, existing conditions of the facilities and makes recommendations for improving access throughout the state. The plan divides the state into 52 HUC-8 watersheds and prioritizes them according to the need for additional access. Based on the information in the access plan, the Commission pursues opportunities and coordinates with partners for the development of new fishing and boating access. During FFY 2018, the Commission continued to provide technical support and guidance within high priority watershed identified in the fishing and boating access plan.

3. Provide technical guidance for the development or enhancement of public fishing and boating access sites.

The Commission continues to provide technical assistance to local governments and non-profit organizations for the development and enhancement of public fishing and boating access sites. The Commission does this by providing technical guidance and site inspections for potential access improvements or developments.

4. Review bridge construction project plans to recommend boating access improvement opportunities.

The Commission coordinates with Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to recommend or require boating access maintenance or improvement opportunities for bridge

rehabilitation or replacement projects on waterways. The Commission provides technical guidance to engineering firms and the Department for boating access design upon request.