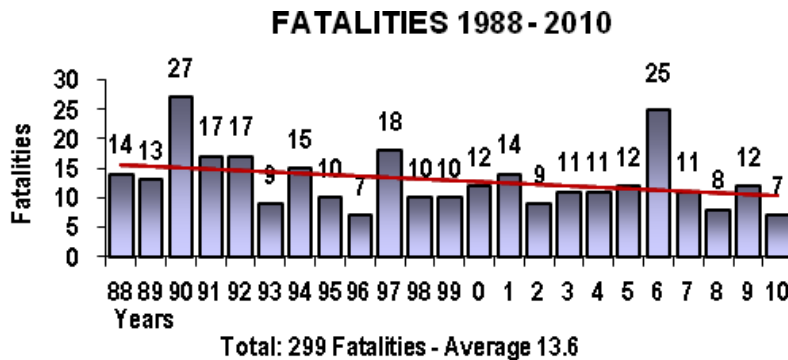


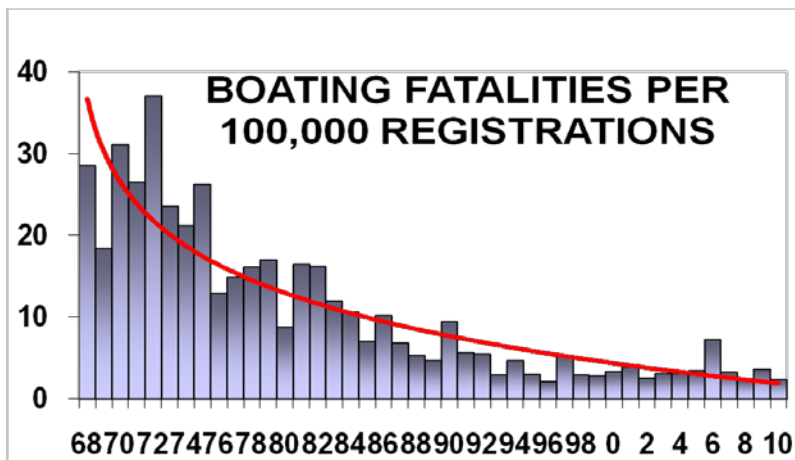
**RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY (RBS) PROGRAM  
 PERFORMANCE REPORT  
 PART 1 C: ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
 FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2009 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2010**

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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 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 the importance of weather and other factors impossible or difficult to control, the trend in boating accident fatalities is the statistic most valid for judging program success. The following graph shows boating fatalities in Pennsylvania from 1988 through September 30, 2010. Although there are spikes some years the decline in the number of fatalities (1990, 1997 and 2006), fatalities per year has stabilized although it is on a very gradual downward trend. The average number of fatalities per year from 1991 through 2000 was 12.5; this declined somewhat to an average of 12 per year for 2001 through 2010.

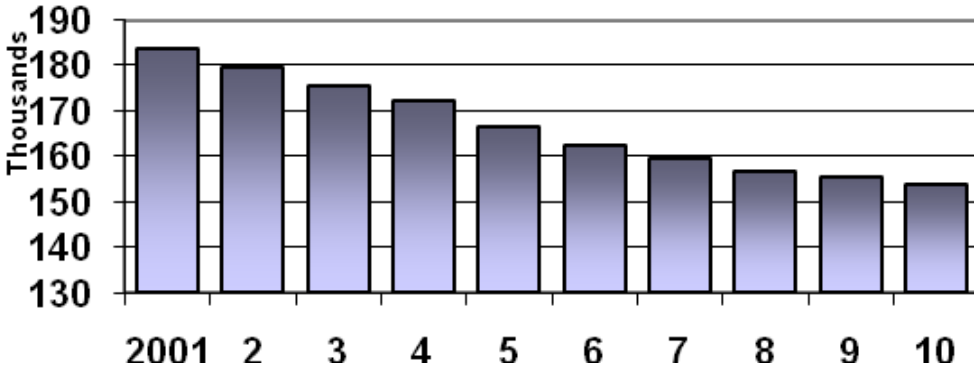


The success of the Commission’s boating safety program is illustrated by comparing the number of fatalities to the number of registered boats. These records are available for the last 43 years. The following graph shows the number of recreational boating fatalities per 100,000 registered boats. The huge increase in the number of boats registered in the Commonwealth over the last 43 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.

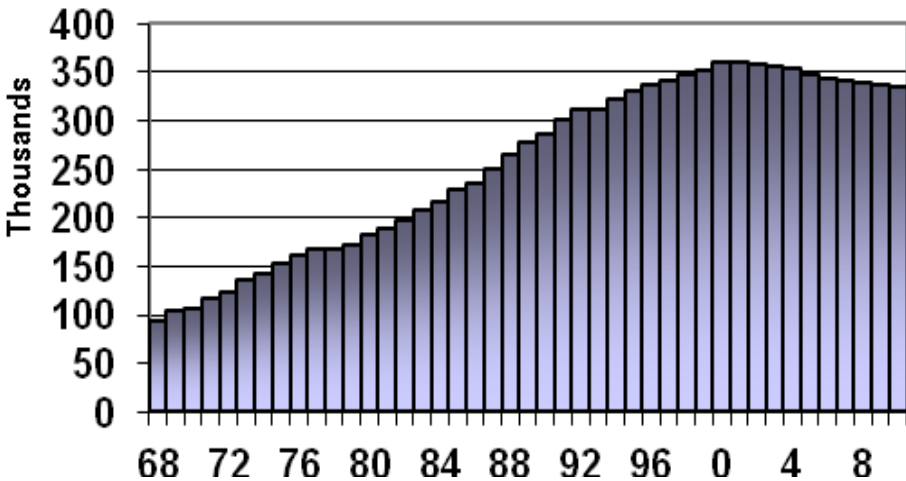


Pennsylvania experienced another slight decrease in boat registrations in 2010. The Commission registered 335,408 craft from 10/1/2009 through 9/30/2010. This represents a decrease of 939 boats from the previous year. This decrease is small but is significant as a trend. During the period of 1968-2010, boat registrations have gone up every year but ten and have declined in each of the last nine. The peak was in 2000 with 360,361 registered boats. This decline has been primarily in one class of boats. The numbers of motorboats less than 16 feet in length that are registered in Pennsylvania have declined steadily since 2000 (see chart below).

**MOTORBOATS <16 FT. REGISTRATIONS**



**BOAT REGISTRATIONS 1968 - 2010**



	<b>2010 BOAT REG STATS</b>	<b>2009 BOAT REG STATS</b>	<b>2008 BOAT REG STATS</b>	<b>2007 BOAT REG STATS</b>	<b>2006 BOAT REG STATS</b>	<b>2005 BOAT REG STATS</b>	<b>2004 BOAT REG STATS</b>
Total Active Registrations:	335,408	336,347	338,192	341,239	344,452	348,512	353,478
Total Unpowered Vessels:	93,130	39,006	39,165	39,193	39,435	40,134	40,281
Total Active PWCs:	27,864	27,309	27,058	23,167	26,511	26,367	26,095
Less than 16 Ft.	153,688	155,285	156,784	159,505	162,626	166,546	172,265
16 Ft. to 25 Ft.	135,570	134,913	135,204	135,864	135,593	135,238	135,276
26 Ft. to 39 Ft.	6,415	6,258	6,180	6,073	5,958	5,841	5,720
40 Ft. to 65 Ft.	564	575	575	571	553	530	514
Boats > 65 Ft.	41	38	34	33	33	31	28
Rowboats	1,724	1,755	1,881	1,941	1,991	2,010	2,054
Sailboats	1,253	1,307	1,386	1,469	1,563	1,637	1,691
Canoes	19,338	19,908	20,735	21,395	22,202	23,211	24,122
Kayaks/ Other Boats	16,815	16,016	15,163	14,388	13,679	13,276	12,414

The Commission has continued to train and employ high quality conservation officers. The training school for a new class of Waterways Conservation Officers (WCO) is underway. We only had eight officers qualify for the class. Boaters are generally a safe, law-abiding group. If there is a visible enforcement presence, problems seem minimal. Efforts to educate and control boat operators have worked.

The following goals and objectives were set for the Commission for the 2009 recreational boating safety grant year:

### **GOALS**

1. Assure that an educated and informed boating public understands and practices boating safety.
2. Improve boating safety, limit the number of boating accidents and reduce 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. Develop an active recreational boating planning program. This effort includes cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Federal government agencies, non-profit groups, private companies and entities who are prime providers of facilities in Pennsylvania.
2. Provide 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 his title and registration certificates promptly and courteously.
3. Provide an adequate level of control over and distribution of aids to navigation, 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. Make the necessary training available to police, fire and rescue personnel to prevent unnecessary and tragic water related fatalities due to an inadequate understanding of the forces of water and how to handle water emergencies.
6. Assure that Pennsylvania boaters have available information and education programs that give them required or requested information.
7. Provide a law enforcement effort that assures an acceptable level of compliance with the boating laws and regulations.
8. Provide necessary vehicles, boats and other related equipment that Waterways Conservation Officers need for the efficient and effective performance of their duties.
9. Maintain the 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.
10. Provide grants to local governments 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 responsible for parts of Pennsylvania's Boating Program to assure a greater cooperation and coordination of efforts.**

Staff met with the PA Boating Association Southeast, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Power Squadrons, the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, numerous individual sportsmen's clubs, Water Trail sponsors, Corps of Engineer Lake Resource managers, the Erie and Three Rivers Water Safety Committees, the Governor's Youth Council and others.

- 2. Conduct a minimum of one Boating Advisory Board and four Commission meetings to formulate appropriate regulations and approaches to Pennsylvania's Boating Program and present solutions and recommendations to the Commission for action.**

The Boating Advisory Board (Board) met once during the FFY 2009, June 15, 2010.

During the June 15, 2010 meeting the Board considered the following items for proposed rulemaking by the Commission:

1. Amendment to Section 53.16(d). The regulations restrict the number of watercraft that may be launched or retrieved by livery operators at a Commission access to eight watercraft or less in any one-hour period except with the advance written approval of the Commission's Executive Director. Administrative Policy 2006-00. provides guidance and a policy for livery operators for exemption of this regulation and the criteria under which the executive Director will grant approval. Livery operators typically introduce new boaters to recreational boating and routinely provide new and existing boaters with safety instruction. Commission staff does not anticipate user conflicts from adoption of this proposal. The Board proposed that some parts of the current Administrative Policy be added to a revised regulation that would lessen the requirements for livery operators.
  2. Amendment to §95.3 (Lights for Boats). Many boaters assume that docking lights may be used while a vessel is underway (when lights are required). Since docking lights can easily be mistaken for stern lights or all-round white lights, docking lights may not be displayed while a vessel is underway. However, it is clear that there is a need for boaters to use docking lights to safely approach a dock, a mooring buoy or even the shoreline. The board recommended that the existing regulation be modified to clarify when it is illegal to use docking lights, as follows: "It is unlawful for a boat operator to use docking lights while underway except when docking and the boat is travelling at slow, no wake speed and is within 150 feet of approaching a dock, a mooring buoy or the shoreline."
  3. Addition of §111.16 (Clarion County). The board proposed amending the regulations to create a slow, no-wake zone for just over two miles at the very uppermost limit to power boating and skiing activities created by the Piney Dam on the Clarion River. The Commission has received input from anglers that boats have been travelling at high speeds through the indicated section of the Clarion River causing problems with angling on this narrow section of the Clarion River. Parts of the river in this stretch are less than 200 feet across and, therefore, in essence are already slow, no-wake. The Commission's Northwest Region Manager reports that the proposed area is upstream of the very uppermost limit to where unlimited horse power boating is appropriate. The proposal would make it clear to the boating public that this section is slow, no-wake and would make enforcement of the restriction feasible by Commission law enforcement personnel.
  4. Amendment to §111.20 (Crawford County). The board proposed amending the existing regulations that prohibit the anchoring of boats in the area along the western shoreline of Conneaut Lake commonly referred to as the "sand bar" and further provides that the no anchor zone will extend along the shoreline to a line of buoys approximately 75 feet out from the end of the steel cribs at either end of the zone. Over the years there have been changes to the shoreline on Conneaut Lake. Waterways Conservation Officers are concerned about enforcing the existing regulation because the contours of the shoreline vary in the designated area and the end parameters (steel cribs) referred to in the regulation are no longer visible or present.
- 3. Work with Pennsylvania legislature for the passage of laws that benefit boaters, particularly bills that would improve regulations addressing boating under the influence.**

No legislation was passed into law that would benefit or hinder boaters from October 1,

2009 through September 30, 2010.

## **BOAT REGISTRATION**

- 1. Provide an effective and cost-efficient method of registering boats, assuring that Pennsylvania receives and deposits its fees expeditiously, and that the boat owner receives their registration certificate and/or boat title promptly and courteously.**

The Commission continues to offer boaters the ability to renew their registrations online. In addition, boaters can purchase duplicate registration cards and update their addresses via the web site. Boaters are provided with a 30-day temporary registration which allows them to put their boat on the water immediately.

## **EDUCATION**

- 1. Continue to offer courses needed for operators of personal watercraft and certain other motorboat operators to obtain the required Boating Safety Education Certificate. There will be 12,500 students certified. Students will be certified through the following methods:**
  - a. Continue to promote the Commission's classroom boating course, Pennsylvania Basic Boating. Certify 2,000 students.**
  - b. Boating and Water Safety Awareness Program targeted at schools and camps. More than 10,000 youth will complete this course, with 1000 of them obtaining certificates.**
  - c. Courses provided by approved providers; internet, classroom and video correspondence. Certify 9,000 students.**

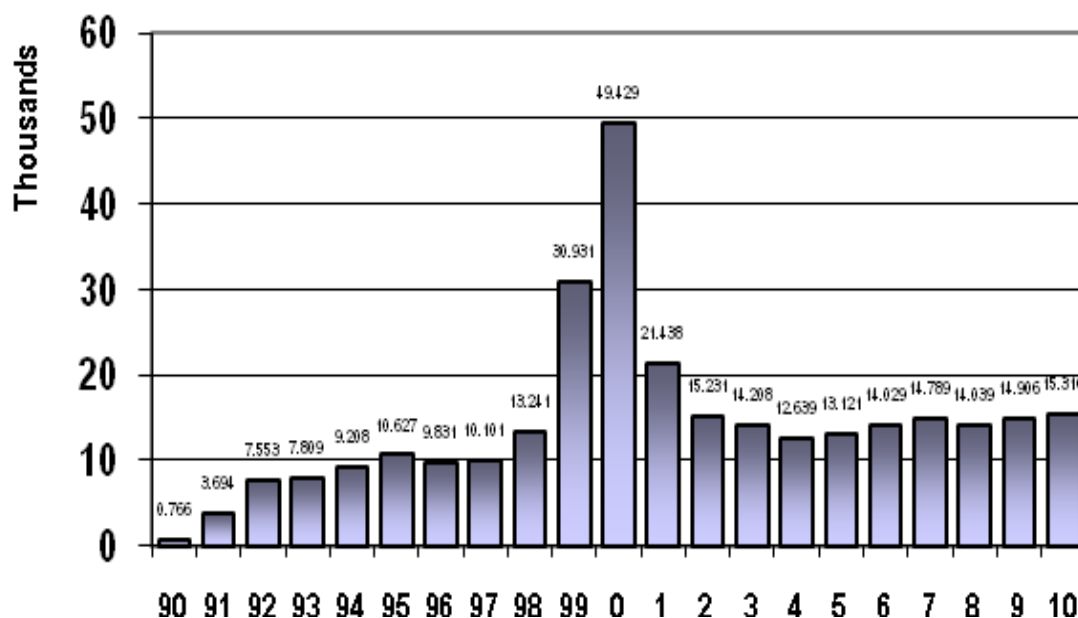
The Commission certified 15,316 students in National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved boating courses from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. This is 410 more than for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009 (see chart on following page). We have found that compliance with the mandatory education requirement is good to excellent and that most people required to obtain a Boating Safety Education Certificate to operate a personal watercraft or a motorboat powered by a motor greater than 25 horsepower have done so. The number of boating safety education certificates being issued is stable with only minor fluctuations over the last five years.

The agency issued boating safety education certificates to 1,859 students who successfully completed a PA Basic Boating course, which are 38 less than in the previous year. Not everyone who takes a boating course applies for boating safety education certificates. Many people take a boating course for fun or enrichment. The agency and its volunteers taught 103 PA Basic Boating Courses. Instructors reported that 1,915 students successfully completed this course in FFY 2009. Not all courses are reported.

Instructors and staff taught 45 BWSA courses, with 1,801 students successfully completing this course in FFY 2009. The Commission issued boating safety education certificates to 576 of those students. This means only 32% of those students applied to the Commission for a boating safety education certificate. Based on conversations with instructors, students are completing the course but do not want NASBLA certification. In addition, several

instructors indicate they teach most, but not all, of BWSA curriculum. That is, they are teaching the skills but not the complete course for certification.

## BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION CERTIFICATES



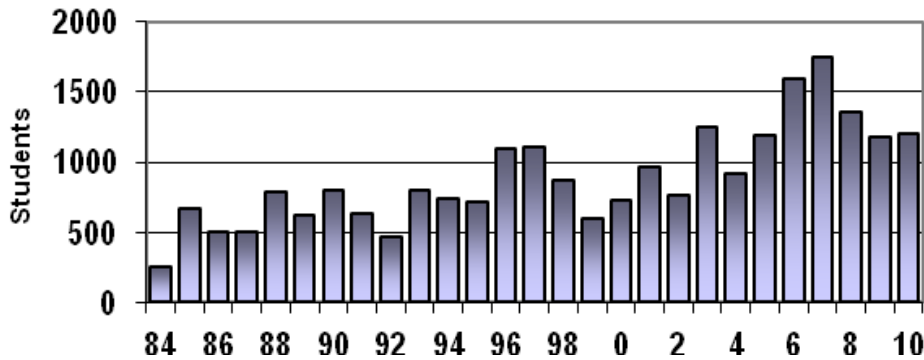
We continue to be very successful with the distance learning courses and have received requests for our Commission established course criteria from others states. 589 people completed the video correspondence course in FFY 2009. 11,324 students successfully completed internet courses. The Commission issued 11,913 boating education certificates to students for successfully completing these long-distance learning courses, a decrease of 107 from FFY 2008.

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

The Commission certified 1,203 students through 96 courses in the Water Rescue Program in FFY 2010, the fifth best year on record for this valuable program (see chart on next page).

The Commission has a trained volunteer instructor corps of 152 individuals who provided more than 6,200 hours of training this past year. Our 2½-hour Water Rescue for the First Responder (Awareness) Course had another very good year, as well. More than 76 courses were taught with a student enrollment greater than 2,058. We are proud of our efforts in this program and have the largest program of its kind in the United States.

## WATER RESCUE STUDENTS



3. **Maintain the Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP) to prevent instructor burnout and encourage volunteer instructors to continue to teach. This program provides small gifts such as personal PFDs, ball caps, instructor shirts and rescue gear as an incentive to continue to participate in the program**

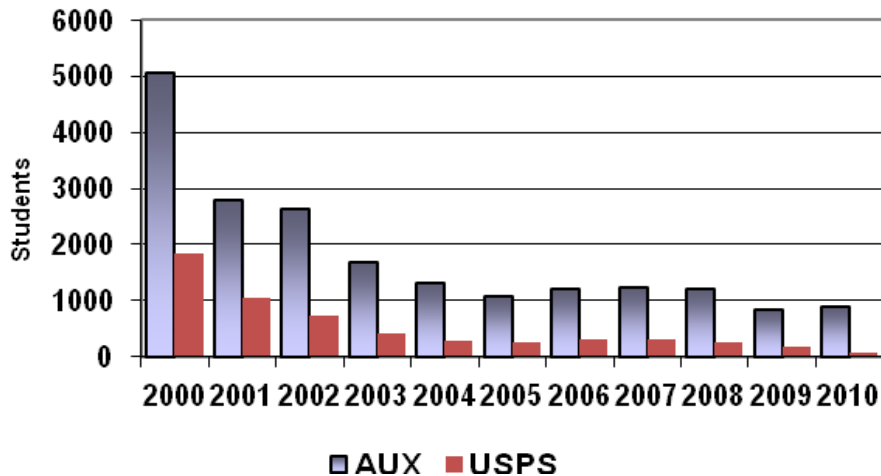
The Commission issued 89 awards to volunteer instructors in FFY2009 for a total value of \$4,590. Award items ranged from fishing line to dry suits.

4. **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. Make certain that all Auxiliary Flotillas and U.S. Power Squadrons in Pennsylvania receive an update with certification instructions.**

The Commission continued its recognition program to outstanding U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotillas and members in the 5NR. The Commission issued awards and certificates to outstanding Flotillas and Auxiliarists in the 5NR in Pennsylvania. Successful students in Auxiliary courses turned in applications to the Commission to certify 845 students in FFY 2009, an increase of 39 certificates from FFY 2009. USPS course students turned in applications for the Commission to certify 89 students in 2009, a decrease of 85 certificates. The chart on the following page clearly indicates a long term decrease in the number of successful 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 web site. 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.



**Commission Certified Students  
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
U.S. Power Squadrons  
2000 - 2010**



- Promote safe boating habits and increase the knowledge of boaters through the production and distribution of boating safety literature. The literature will be distributed through the mail, boat and sports shows and other outlets. Continue to update the safety brochures, information sheets and PA Boating Handbook to ensure that boaters have up-to-date information on current boating laws and safety information. Provide a copy of the PA Boating Handbook to all first time boat owners and to participants in Commission boating courses.**

Throughout the year, the PFBC utilized its suite of printed publications to further promote safe boating with full-page, full-color messaging in its annual Fishing Summary (1.1 million copies) starting in December 2009, its Boating Handbook (90,000 copies distributed), Boating Regulation brochures (100,000 distributed) and in its subscription-based agency magazine, Pennsylvania Angler & Boater (distributed six times a year). Specifically with the May/June issue of the magazine (distribution of 25,000 copies), a full-page advertisement was included which promoted May's Safe Boating Week. The Boating Regulation Recap was updated as well. In addition, anyone taking and completing the PA Basic Boating Course or the Boating and Water Safety Awareness Course received a copy of the Boating Handbook and Regulation Recap. The Boating Regulation Recap was distributed to all boat owners registering their boats during the 2010 calendar year. We distributed literature, either paid or free publications, at 40 boat and sports shows and approximately 250 requests for publications came via mail. The Commission's web site is a major source of boating safety information. There is a wide array of boating and water safety materials at [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us). Everything from an enhanced version of our Boating Handbook to water trails to information on where to find a personal flotation device (PFD) is included. Links to our boating safety partners enhance the site.

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

The Bureau of Boating and Education received and filled 63 requests for videos to be used in boating courses and public speaking appearances.

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

In FFY 2009, during May, the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC) launched its safe boating radio campaign during a two-week period which promoted life jacket wear and other safe boating practices. The radio outreach utilizing public service announcements was part of an expansive agency media presence during National Safe Boating Week (May 22-28, 2010). Other media included a boat registration renewal mailing with safe boating messaging sent to approximately 175,000 boat owners. Also, safe boating portable exhibits promoting life jacket wear were displayed at a number of outdoor and boating show venues from January through March 2010. PFBC’s website ([www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com)) promoted the Coast Guard’s “Wear It!” campaign with select and updated web pages, placement of web banners on our home page and other pages on the site with links to USCG and National Safe Boating Council resources through National Safe Boating Week and most of May 2010. During May, PFBC’s website attracted 217,960 unique visitors with 945,026 web pages accessed. The Commission also issued several press releases on safe boating practices through the year.

## **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. Further chart and map development will be accomplished when a computer-based mapping program is implemented.**

The Commission continues to operate an extensive Aids-to-Navigation Program. Most of our aids/floating structures are currently permitted. Efforts over the years have resulted in the location and permitting of all private aid/floating structures on state waters. Owners are attaching 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 is 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 their positions are verified on charts 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. Educate the public in the use and identification of aids through the distribution of the PA Boating Handbook.**

The Coast Guard Auxiliary, Commission Boating Education Instructors and the program manager distributed thousands of Uniform State Waterway Marker decals and PA Boating Handbooks while conducting boating education classes. In addition, short articles on ATON appeared in the Pennsylvania Angler & Boater magazine and PFBC website.

**5. Place information and danger signs at major access sites and hazardous areas.**

Aluminum/fiberboard signs (4' x 4') warning boaters of Slow No Wake zones, dams, rocks and shoals were installed throughout Pennsylvania. Additional aluminum/fiberboard waterway marker information signs (2' x 2') were placed at various access and key launch areas to inform the boaters of waterway symbols and their meanings.

**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 PennDOT for plans to place signage and buoys around bridge projects to avoid accidents and not impede navigation.

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

The Commission awarded contracts in 2009. The contracts for these Commission-owned aids-to-navigation are part of our Boating Safety Program. These contracts free conservation officers to focus on other 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.**

New applications were submitted, reviewed, approved and assigned a permit number. There are currently a total of 580 active permits approved for the installation of floating structures on Commonwealth waters. These permits constitute a total of 4,226 structures, an increase of 1,043 from 2009 (see graph on next page below for details).

## Float Permit ATON Quantities Report

Type	Quantity
Channel	306
Controlled Area	1,238
Float	220
Floating Dock	69
Hazard	397
Information	63
Jet Ski Course	0
Boom	1
Mooring	424
Race Course	11
Restricted Area	1231
Ski Ramp	3
Slalom Course	41
Other	222
Total	4,226

### 9. Conduct site visits to ensure compliance with Chapter 113 of the PA Fishing and Boating Regulations.

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

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

### 1. Provide law enforcement patrols and the support for them to ensure compliance with existing laws and regulations regarding recreational boating.

The Bureau of Law Enforcement directs the enforcement of Pennsylvania fishing and boating laws and regulations and certain water pollution laws. In FY 2009, the Bureau of Law Enforcement duties and responsibilities involved Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Code enforcement, public outreach efforts, specialized boating safety efforts, pollution and encroachment investigations, fish stocking, and emergency assistance during weather-related incidents.

In addition to executing duties and responsibilities listed above, Waterways Conservation Officers (WCOs) also provided conservation education programs, reviewed permits for mine drainage and stream encroachments, administered the Commission's special activities permits, and environmental enforcement actions. The bureau also operated the Commission's most active volunteer program, utilizing a force of more than 160 Deputy Waterways Conservation Officers.

The Bureau of Law Enforcement maintained operations throughout most of the year with a considerable number of vacant districts as a result of retirements and military activations. Neighboring WCOs, deputies and regional office staff performed additional work to provide coverage in areas without an assigned district officer. Waterways Conservation Officer Scott Christman was selected by the Northeast Conservation Law Enforcement Chief's Association as our agency's officer of the year. Waterways Conservation Officer John Sabaitis was selected by the National State's Boating Law Administrators Association as

## Pennsylvania's Boating Safety Officer of the Year.

Conservation officers issued and the courts adjudicated 3,895 summary citations for fishing violations and 2,654 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 and fishing without a license and littering continued to be the most common fishing violations. There were 12,000 warnings for boating violations issued by officers.

Sixty-five arrests were made in 2010 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, Three Rivers, 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 65 reportable boating accidents.

Other duties completed by the Bureau of Law Enforcement in 2010 include issuing 2,427 special activities permits for fishing tournaments and regattas and conducting safety evaluations onboard 29,617 recreational boats. Officers also staffed Commission displays at over 20 outdoor sports shows and expos held throughout the state. WCO's attended and/or presented informational programs at over 1,171 public relations events in 2009.

The Fish and Boat Commission's deputy force decreased slightly from the 2009 level. At the end of 2010, the Commission's deputy force contained 160 members. In November of 2009 fourteen active DWCOs completed a transitional firearms training course that allowed the officers to convert from a revolver to a semi-auto pistol as a duty firearm.

The Bureau continued to replace aging patrol boats within the limits of available funding. Several new law enforcement patrol boats were placed into service and others were re-powered. Surplus boats, motors and trailers were sold to the general public using a new online internet auction capability.

The Bureau improved and streamlined its incident reporting system through the development of a new software program. All officers began using the new system in January of 2010. The Bureau has implemented a pilot program that involved the issuance of Blackberry devices to law enforcement field officers. Two devices have been issued to each of the six law enforcement regions. The devices use Voyager software to access the Commonwealth Law Enforcement Assistance Network (CLEAN) through the wireless device. During the January in service training, all officers received training from the State Police and have been certified to access CLEAN. Officers are able to query the network while in the field for boat registration information, motor vehicle and operator's information and eventually fishing license information. If the pilot program is successful the Bureau will consider increasing the number of devices if funding is available.

## BOATING FACILITIES GRANT PROGRAM

**1. Provide up to \$2,000,000 annually to local governments and organizations for the acquisition, planning, engineering, development, expansion and major rehabilitation of public recreational boat access facilities.**

In September of 2009, the Commission opened the fifth round of the Boating Facility Grant Program and began accepting applications. The deadline for this round of grants was December 18, 2009. The Commission received a total of twenty seven applications and in July of 2010 the Commission announced that eight of the applicants were awarded funding. The applicants listed below were awarded funding in the fifth round of the boating Facility Grant Program.

Borough of Shickshinny	\$96,000
Dauphin County	\$85,000
Borough of Berwick	\$147,000
Northcentral PA Conservancy	\$9,637
Venango County	\$99,000
Lawrence Park Township	\$86,000
Borough of Edinboro	\$95,000
City of Sunbury	\$150,000

**2. Develop a Boating Access Plan that will identify and prioritize public boating facility needs throughout Pennsylvania and plan for funding and implementation of the 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 breaks the state down 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 will develop individual watershed plans to further address access needs for each of the 52 HUC-8 watersheds over the next five years. During FFY 2010, the Commission plans to develop individual watershed plans for the first five HUC-8 watersheds identified in the fishing and boating access plan.