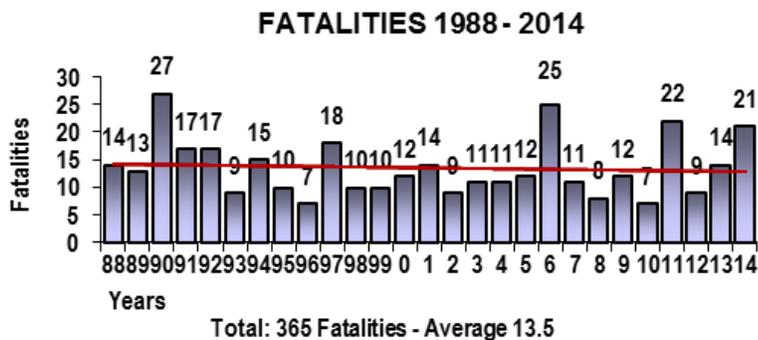
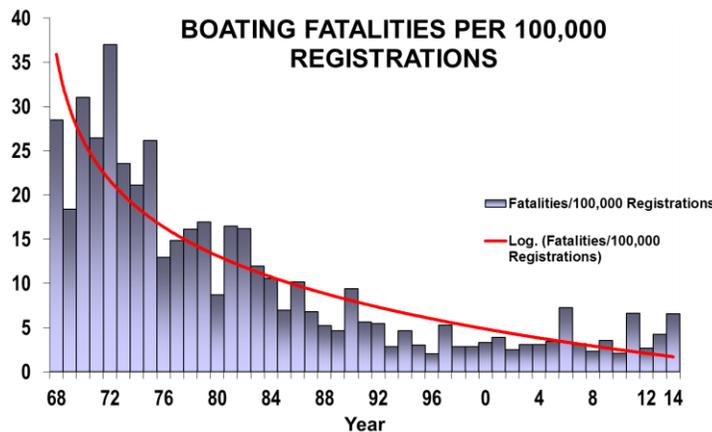


**RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY (RBS) PROGRAM
 PERFORMANCE REPORT
 PART 1 C: ACCOMPLISHMENTS
 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
 FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2013 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2014**

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 2014. The average number of fatalities from 1988 through 2014 is 13.5; from 2004 through 2014 is 13.8.



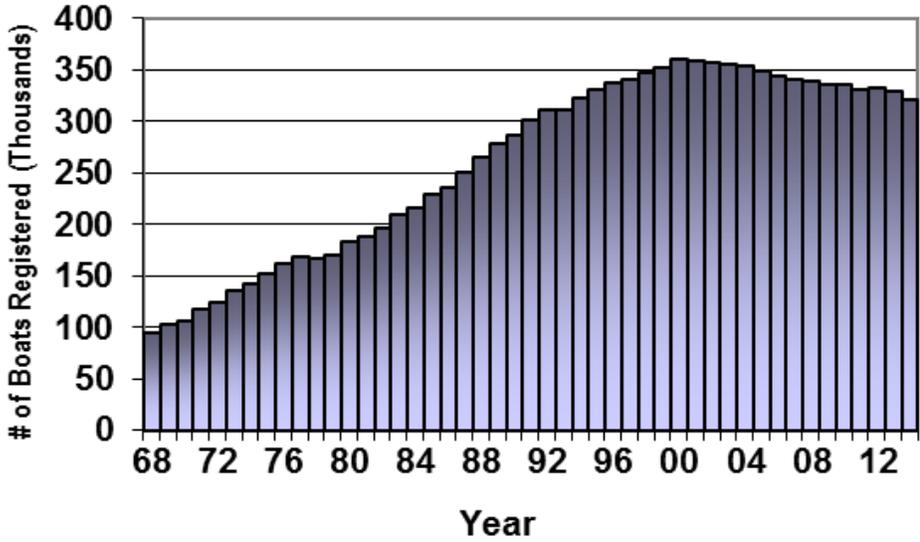
The success of the Commission’s boating safety program is illustrated by comparing the number of fatalities to the number of registered boats. These records are available for the last 47 years. The following graph shows the number of recreational boating fatalities per 100,000 registered boats. From 10/1/2013 through 9/30/2014, Pennsylvania had 320,503 registered watercraft and reported 21 fatalities which equates to six fatalities per 100,000 registered boats. The number of boats registered in the Commonwealth over the last 47 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.



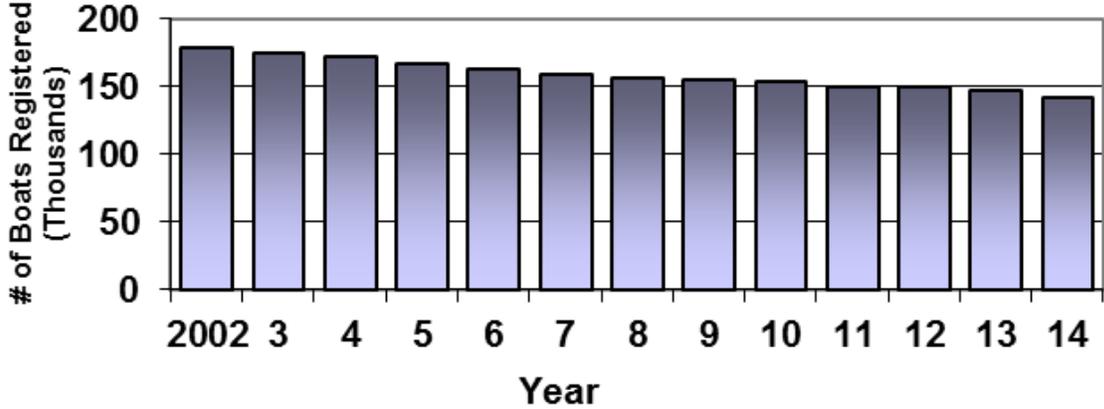
Pennsylvania experienced a decrease in boat registrations in 2014. This represents a decrease of 7,303 boats from the previous year. This decrease is significant because boat registrations until

the previous year have continued to decrease over the past twelve years. During the period of 2000-2011, boat registrations have declined but in 2012 the trend was broken with a slight increase. 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).

BOAT REGISTRATIONS 1968 - 2014



MOTORBOATS <16 FT. REGISTRATIONS



	2014 BOAT REG STATS	2013 BOAT REG STATS	2012 BOAT REG STATS	2011 BOAT REG STATS	2010 BOAT REG STATS	2009 BOAT REG STATS	2008 BOAT REG STATS
Total Active Registrations:	322,454	329,598	332,699	331,590	335,408	336,347	338,192
Total Unpowered Vessels:	38,874	39,360	39,450	38,924	39,130	39,006	39,165
Total Active PWCs:	27,547	27,904	28,178	28,041	27,864	27,309	27,058
Less than 16 Ft.	142,042	147,031	149,541	150,414	153,688	155,285	156,784
16 Ft. to 25 Ft.	133,933	135,796	136,067	135,057	135,570	134,913	135,204
26 Ft. to 39 Ft.	6,689	6,714	6,715	6,560	6,415	6,258	6,180
40 Ft. to 65 Ft.	619	626	610	589	564	575	575
Boats > 65 Ft.	38	51	48	46	41	38	34
Rowboats	1,599	1,631	1,666	1,589	1,724	1,755	1,881
Sailboats	1,065	1,137	1,158	1,151	1,253	1,307	1,386
Canoes	16,486	17,385	17,998	18,426	19,338	19,908	20,735
Kayaks/ Other Boats	19,724	19,207	18,628	17,758	16,815	16,016	15,163

The Commission set the following goals and objectives for the 2014 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 Army 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 March 6, 2014. During their meeting, the Board recommended the following items to the Commission:

A. Amendment to Section 95.3 (Lights for Boats).

§ 95.3. Lights for boats.

(a) *General rule.* [A boat from sunset to sunrise and during periods of restricted visibility shall carry and exhibit the lights prescribed by the Inland Navigation Rules Act of 1980 (33 U.S.C.A. § § 2001—2073). A boat owner may elect to carry and exhibit the lights prescribed by the International Rules in lieu of the Inland Rules but, in that event, the boat owner shall comply in all respects with those standards. See Appendix A.

(b) *Boats less than 12 meters (39 feet 4.4 inches) in length while underway.*

(1) Motorboats and sailboats using power may use the lighting arrangement in Appendix A, Figure 1, 2 or 3.

(2) Sailboats using sail alone may use the lighting arrangement in Appendix A, Figure 4, 5 or 6.

(3) A motorboat or sailboat using power underway on the Great Lakes may use the lighting arrangement in Appendix A, Figure 7D instead of the arrangements in Appendix A, Figure 1 and 2.

4) A sailboat using sail alone, less than 7 meters (22 feet 11.6 inches) in length if impractical to display lights in Appendix A, Figure 4, 5 or 6, may display a single white light in time to prevent a collision. See Appendix A, Figure 7C.

(c) *Boats 12 meters (39 feet 4.4 inches) but less than 20 meters (65 feet 7.4 inches) in length while underway.*

(1) Motorboats and sailboats using power may use the lighting arrangements in Appendix A, Figure 1 or 2.

(2) Sailboats using sail alone may use the lighting arrangement in Appendix A, Figure 4, 5 or 6.

(d) *Rowing or paddle boats while underway.* One hand held or permanent all-around white light shall be ready to display in time to prevent a collision. Appendix A, Figure 7, A or B.

(e) *Boat at anchor.*

(1) A boat must display anchor lights when it is anchored where other vessels normally navigate. See Appendix A, Figure 7E.

(2) Exception: Anchor lights are not required on boats anchored in special anchorage areas.

(f) *Locations of lights.* Lights shall be located and have the characteristics as shown in Appendix A.

(1) The masthead light (forward white light in Appendix A, Figures 1, 2 and 7D) shall be at least 1 meter (3 feet 3.4 inches) higher than the colored lights on a boat less than 12 meters (39 feet 4.4 inches) and at least 2.5 meters (8 feet 2.4 inches) above the gunwale on a boat 12 meters (39 feet 4.4 inches) in length but less than 20 meters (65 feet 7.4 inches) in length. The after masthead light (Appendix A, Figure 1 only), if used, shall be higher than the forward masthead light so as to be seen as a separate, distinct light at a distance of 1,000 meters (1,093 yards 1.8 feet) ahead of the boat.

(2) The all-around white lights shown in Appendix A, Figures 3 and 7D shall be 1 meter (3 feet 3.4 inches) higher than the colored lights.

(3) An anchor light shall be displayed where it can best be seen.

(g) The navigation lights requirements in this section shall be complied with in all weather and from sunset to sunrise on the waters of this Commonwealth. During such times no other lights shall be exhibited, except such lights as cannot be mistaken for the lights specified in this section or do not impair their visibility or distinctive character, or interfere with the keeping of a proper lookout. The lights prescribed by this section shall, if carried, also be exhibited from sunrise to sunset in restricted visibility and may be exhibited in all other circumstances when it is deemed necessary. The lights specified in this section shall comply with United States Coast Guard specifications.

(b) *Definitions.* -- The following words and terms when used in this section have the

following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

All-round light – A light showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 360 degrees.

Docking light -- A flood or spotlight type of light permanently installed or permanently mounted on a motorboat that is used to illuminate a boat's forward course of travel.

Flashing light -- A light flashing at regular intervals at a frequency of 120 flashes or more per minute.

Length -- The length overall of a boat.

Masthead light -- A white light placed over the fore and aft centerline of the boat showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 225 degrees and so fixed as to show the light from right ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on either side of the boat, except that on a boat of less than 39.4 feet (12 meters) in length, the masthead light shall be placed as nearly as practicable to the fore and aft centerline of the boat.

Restricted visibility -- Any condition in which visibility is restricted by fog, mist, falling snow, heavy rainstorms, sandstorms, or any other similar causes.

Sailboat -- Any boat under sail provided that propelling machinery, if fitted, is not being used.

Sidelights -- A green light on the starboard (right) side and a red light on the port (left) side, each showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 112.5 degrees and so fixed as to show the light from right ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on its respective side. On a boat of less than 65.6 feet (20 meters) in length, the side lights may be combined in one lantern carried on the fore and aft centerline of the boat, except that on a boat of less than 39.4 feet (12 meters) in length, the sidelights when combined in one lantern shall be placed as nearly as practicable to the fore and aft centerline of the boat.

Special flashing light -- A yellow light flashing at regular intervals at a frequency of 50 to 70 flashes per minute, placed as far forward and as nearly as practicable on the fore and aft centerline of the tow and showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of not less than 180 degrees nor more than 225 degrees and so fixed as to show the light from right ahead to abeam and no more than 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on either side of the boat.

Sternlight -- A white light placed as nearly as practicable at the stern showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 135 degrees and so fixed as to show the light 67.5 degrees from right aft on each side of the boat.

Underway -- A boat that is not at anchor, or made fast to the shore, or aground.

(c) Visibility of lights. -- The lights prescribed in this section shall have an intensity as specified by the United States Coast Guard, so as to be visible at the following minimum ranges:

(1) In a boat of 164 feet (50 meters) or more in length: a masthead light, 6 miles; a sidelight, 3 miles; a sternlight, 3 miles; a towing light, 3 miles; a white, red, green or yellow all-round light, 3 miles; and a special flashing light, 2 miles.

(2) In a boat of 39.4 feet (12 meters) or more in length but less than 164 feet (50 meters) in length: a masthead light, 5 miles; except that where the length of the boat is less than 65.6 feet (20 meters), 3 miles; a sidelight, 2 miles; a sternlight, 2 miles; a towing light, 2 miles; a white, red, green or yellow all-round light, 2 miles; and a special flashing light, 2 miles.

(3) In a boat of less than 39.4 feet (12 meters) in length: a masthead light, 2 miles; a sidelight, 1 mile; a sternlight, 2 miles; a towing light, 2 miles; a white, red, green or yellow all-round light, 2 miles; and a special flashing light, 2 miles.

(4) In an inconspicuous, partly submerged boat or object being towed: a white all-round light, 3 miles.

(d) Motorboats underway.

(1) A motorboat underway shall exhibit:

(i) A masthead light forward;

(ii) A second masthead light abaft of and higher than the forward one. A boat of less than 164 feet (50 meters) in length shall not be required to exhibit such light but may do so;

(iii) Sidelights; and

(iv) A sternlight.

(2) An air-cushion boat when operating in the nondisplacement mode shall, in addition to the lights prescribed in paragraph (1), exhibit an all-round flashing yellow light where it can best be seen.

(3) A motorboat of less than 39.4 feet (12 meters) in length may, in lieu of the lights prescribed in paragraph (1), exhibit an all-round white light and sidelights.

(e) Sailboats underway and unpowered boats.

(1) A sailboat underway shall exhibit:

(i) Sidelights; and

(ii) A sternlight.

(2) In a sailboat of less than 65.6 feet (20 meters) in length, the lights prescribed in paragraph (1) may be combined in one lantern carried at or near the top of the mast where it can best be seen.

(3) A sailboat underway may, in addition to the lights prescribed in paragraph (1), exhibit at or near the top of the mast, where they can best be seen, two all-round lights in a vertical line, the upper being red and the lower green, but these lights shall not be exhibited in conjunction with the combined lantern permitted by paragraph 2.

(4) A sailboat of less than 23 feet (7 meters) in length shall, if practicable, exhibit the lights prescribed in paragraph (1) or (2), but if not, shall have ready at hand an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light that shall be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent collision.

(5) A unpowered boat may exhibit the lights prescribed above for sailboats, but if not, shall have ready at hand an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light that shall be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent collision.

(f) Anchored boats and boats aground.

(1) A boat at anchor shall exhibit where it can best be seen:

(i) In the fore part, an all-round white light; and

(ii) At or near the stern and at a lower level than the light prescribed in subparagraph (i), an all-round white light.

(2) A boat of less than 164 feet (50 meters) in length may exhibit an all-round white light where it can best be seen instead of the lights prescribed in paragraph (1).

(3) A boat aground shall exhibit the lights prescribed in paragraph (1) where they can best be seen.

(4) A boat of less than 65.6 feet (20 meters) in length, when at anchor in a special anchorage area designated by the United States Coast Guard, shall not be required to exhibit the anchor lights and shapes required by this subsection.

(g) Boats being towed. Where from any sufficient cause it is impracticable for a boat or object being towed to exhibit the lights prescribed in this section, all possible measures shall be taken to light the boat or object towed or at least to indicate the presence of the unlighted boat or object.

(h) Docking lights. It is unlawful for a boat operator to use docking lights while underway except when docking and the boat is traveling at slow, no wake speed and is within 100 feet of approaching a dock, a mooring buoy or the shoreline. [For purposes of this subsection, a docking light is a flood or spotlight type of light permanently installed or permanently mounted on a motorboat that is used to illuminate a boat's forward course of travel.]

B. Amendment to Section 109.2 (Sailboards).

§ 109.2. Paddleboards and sailboards[Sailboards].

(a) [Definition] Definitions. The following terms when used in this section have the following meanings:

Paddleboard – A boat with no freeboard propelled by a paddle, oar, pole or other device.

Sailboard – A [sailboard is a] type of single or double hulled boat equipped with an articulating mast and designed to be operated by a person standing on the board and maneuvering through the trim of the hand-held sail and distribution of body weight on the board.

(b) Personal flotation devices. It is unlawful for a person to operate or attempt to operate a paddleboard on waters of this Commonwealth without having a United States Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device on board for each person, unless otherwise required to be worn in accordance with § 97.1 (relating to personal flotation devices). It is unlawful for a person to operate or attempt to operate a sailboard on waters of this Commonwealth unless the person is wearing a [Type I, II, III or V] United States Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device. Inflatable personal flotation devices may not be used to meet this requirement.

C. Amendment to Section 109.4 (Waterskiing, Aquaplaning, Kiteskiing and Similar Activities).

§ 109.4. Waterskiing, aquaplaning, kiteskiing and similar activities.

(l) Use of Airborne Devices Prohibited. No person, while being towed by or otherwise attached to a watercraft, shall use a device except for a parasail, for the purpose of becoming airborne over the waters of this Commonwealth. No person while operating a watercraft shall tow behind or have attached to the watercraft a person using a device except for a parasail for the purpose of becoming airborne over the waters of this Commonwealth. This

section does not apply to traditional aquaplaning activities where the aquaplaner momentarily leaves the water while jumping wakes or doing specialty tricks.

D. Amendment to Section 111.49 (Northumberland County).

Staff proposes to amend § 111.49 as follows:

§ 111.49. Northumberland County.

Susquehanna River. Boats are limited to slow, no wake speed from the vicinity of the Shikellamy State Park boat launch on the south side of [Packard's] Packer's Island upriver a distance of [1/3 mile] 200 feet.

The Commission held four Board meetings during the FFY 2014 (four annual meetings).

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

1. Amendments to Section 93.2 (Permanent and Temporary Registration) and Section 93.13 (Issuing Agents) to Eliminate Temporary Validation Decals.
2. Amendment to Section 53.8 (Boats) to allow for mooring of boats on Commission property beginning on March 1st to increase fishing and boating opportunities and encourage greater participation in these two regulatory fishing programs.
3. Amendment to Section 101.6 (Investigation Reports by Commission Officers) to allow officers to refer to the PFBC 260, as needed, to assist with the completion of the investigation, not to supplant any step in the investigation process or supplement any information gained in the investigative process.
4. Amendment to Section 101.8 (Duties of Operators Involved in Boating Accidents) to allow consistency with the Vehicle Code requirements and penalties for operators involved in motor vehicle accidents.
5. Amendments to Section 105.3 (Unacceptable Boating Practices) to simplify and clarify unacceptable boating practices, the Commission proposed to amend §105.3 to prohibit persons from riding outside the passenger carrying area of motorboats and to define this area for motorboats and pontoon boats.

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

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. The Commission provided law enforcement and education staff to assist with trip planning and logistics, and accompany the Governor of Pennsylvania on two kayaking trips. Staff also provided him with insights into the Commission's water rescue and boating safety programs.

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 Boating & Outreach and the Bureau of Law Enforcement worked closely to ensure 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. Boaters are provided with a 60-day temporary registration which allows them to use their boat on the water immediately.

EDUCATION

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

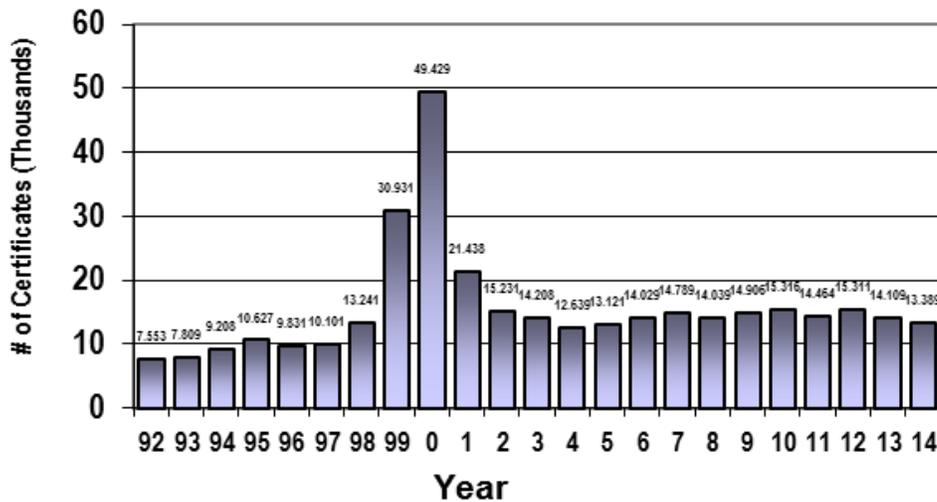
The Commission certified 13,389 students in National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA)-approved boating courses from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. This is a decrease of 720 certificates from FFY 2013 (see chart on following page). The number of boating safety education certificates being issued is generally stable with only minor fluctuations over the past 13 years.

The Commission issued boating safety education certificates to 1,220 students who successfully completed a PA Basic Boating classroom course, which is 47 more 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 97 PA Basic Boating classroom courses.

Instructors and staff taught 23 Boating & Water Safety Awareness (BWSA) courses in FFY 2014, with 682 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. Some 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

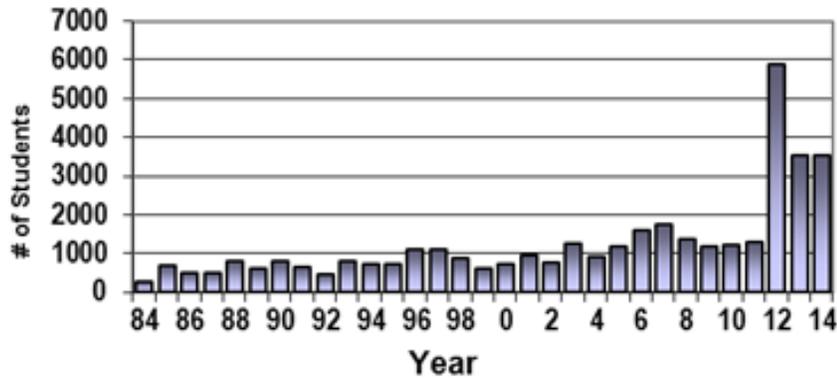


The Commission continues to be very successful with the distance learning courses and has received requests for our Commission-established course criteria from others states. In FFY 2014, 129 people completed the video correspondence course and 11,293 students successfully completed internet courses. The Commission issued 11,422 boating education certificates to students for successfully completing these long-distance learning courses, a decrease of 744 from FFY 2013.

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

In FFY 2014 the Commission certified 3,528 students through the Water Rescue Program which meets or exceeds various levels (Awareness, Operations, Technician) of NFPA 1670 Standards. This is a decrease of 17 students from FFY 2013 but still the third highest year on record for this program. In another second-best, 2,063 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 155 individuals who provided more than 11,500 hours of training this past year. The Commission’s Water Rescue program is the largest of its kind in the United States.

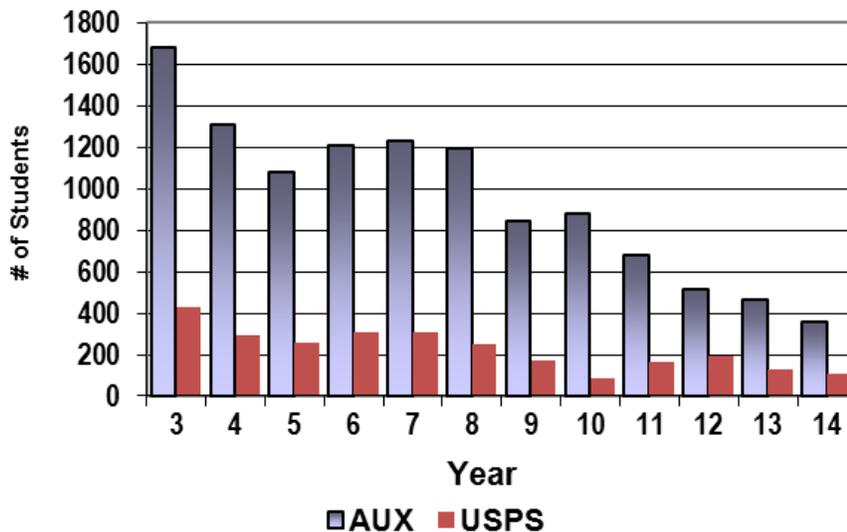
Water Rescue Students



- 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 Auxiliaries in the 5th Northern District in Pennsylvania. Successful students in Auxiliary courses submitted 360 applications to the Commission for certification in FFY 2014, a decrease of 107 certificates from FFY 2013. USPS course students submitted 107 applications to the Commission for certification in FFY 2014, 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 meeting in March 2014.

Commission Certified Students U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary U.S. Power Squadrons 2003 - 2014



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.

Work continued on testing and developing a non-certification paddlesports program. As part of pilot testing Commission staff conducted 7 Paddle PA programs during the period. Approximately 400 people participated in these programs. The programs provided an opportunity for further testing of program formats:

- Introductory program - 45 minutes or less
- 3-hour/half-day program
- 6-hour/full-day program

Instructor level training was not conducted for this program, however two skills-based training workshops were provided to education/recreation professionals. These sessions provided an opportunity to advance paddlesports skills of professionals engaged in delivering recreation programming. It is expected that in the future those completing these sessions will receive training as Paddle PA instructors.

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 Pennsylvania Fishing Summary (1 million copies produced), its Boating Handbook (100,000 copies produced), Boating Regulation Recap brochures (100,000 produced), 2014 Pocket Guide (75,000 produced) 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 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 and Regulation Recap. 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’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 to information on where to find a personal flotation device (PFD) is included (<http://fishandboat.com/boaters/pfd/mfgs.htm>). Links to the Commission’s boating safety partners enhance the site. In addition, the Commission has a “Wear It!” resource page at: <http://fishandboat.com/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.

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

The Bureau of Boating and Outreach processed only 12 requests for boating and water safety video loans. Use of the video library declines steadily each year, with the increased use of on-line/streaming video sources. The PFBC also issues active instructors a copy of the Boat

America DVD; and includes references to segments on the DVD within the PFBC course lesson plans.

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://www.fishandboat.com/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. In conjunction with NASBLA’s 2014 Operation Dry Water campaign, Commission Waterways Conservation Officers distributed Pennsylvania-customized posters which warned of the consequences of boating under the influence (BUI) and conducted enforcement activities.

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 2014 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 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 2014. PFBC’s website (www.fishandboat.com) promoted the “Wear It!” campaign with select and updated web pages (<http://www.fishandboat.com/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 14% 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
04-Jan-14	11-Jan-14	Pennsylvania Farm Show
23-Jan-14	26-Jan-14	Pittsburgh Boat Show
12-Feb-14	16-Feb-14	Allegheny Sports Travel and Outdoor Show

01-Mar-14	03-Mar-14	Erie Sport and Travel Expo
07-Mar-14	09-Mar-14	Greater Philadelphia Boat Show
14-Jun-14	14-Jun-14	Blue Marsh Get Outdoors Day (formerly Water Safety Festival)

Youth life jackets were given away on February 15 and 16, 2014 during the Allegheny Sports, Travel and Outdoor Show. Parents registered youth during the day of the giveaway and along with the youth were required to attend a life jacket presentation in order to receive a free youth sized life jacket. The presentation covered proper use, care, and fitting of life jackets. At the conclusion of the presentation, 100 youth were fitted a life jacket that they kept. Law Enforcement Officers from the PFBC, U.S. Coast Guard, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and county sheriff's office staff assisted during the fitting. Cabela's, Port of Pittsburgh Commission, and the PFBC sponsored the give-away.

PFBC staff participated in several grassroots safe boating efforts, the most notable being the Pittsburgh Safe Boating Council. This council meets at regular intervals and their primary purpose is to provide information to the boating public on boating safety and coordinate cooperation between agencies and other stakeholders. Other smaller scale organizations also sponsor boating and water safety events throughout the boating season at other specific waterways.

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 2014 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 719 floating structures on Commonwealth waters in FFY 2014, an increase of 168 from FFY 2013. These permits constitute a total of 3,253 structures, a decrease of 1,293 from FFY 2013 (see graph below for details). This decrease is due to a program designed to remove unnecessary or improper ATON from Commonwealth waters.

Float Permit ATON Quantities Report:

Type	Quantity	Type	Quantity
Channel	204	Boom	4
Controlled Area	1086	Mooring	413
Float	167	Race Course	10
Floating Dock	87	Restricted Area	739
Hazard	356	Ski Ramp	3
Information	20	Slalom Course	22
Jet Ski Course	0	Other	142
TOTAL 3,253			

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 86 Waterways Conservation Officers (WCOs), which include supervisory staff, and over 93 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 2014, Conservation officers issued and the courts adjudicated 2,056 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 13,463 warnings for boating violations issued by officers.

Officers also conducted 26,028 safety boardings 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. Eighty-three arrests were made in FFY 2014 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 74 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. The Commission conducted interviews for the 21st WCO Class. Training for the new class of Waterways Conservation Officers (WCO) will begin in 2015. WCOs are an integral part of education and enforcement efforts to enhance the recreational boating experience. The objective for the Commission is to hire 20 new Waterways Conservation Officers. Current WCOs continue to hone their BUI skills through NASBLA's Seated Battery SFSTs. The intent is to have all officers trained in this new battery within the next FFY. The Commission has trained one WCO to the instructor level with an objective of training additional WCOs to the instructor level in the coming year. The Swiftwater Emergency Response Team (SWERT) will conclude certification training in January 2015 and will be swiftwater response and law enforcement typed asset for deployment within the Commonwealth and through EMAC to other States. The SWERT asset is also utilized to provide support to the Pennsylvania Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team. The Bureau continued to replace aging patrol boats within the limits of available funding.

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 2014, 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 a scoring/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 2014, 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.

RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY (RBS) PROGRAM

Performance Report Part II - Statistical Data

(Used to report Activities funded with RBS Program Dollars)

STATE OF : Pennsylvania
 For the Period October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014

Note: Definitions are provided as Attachment A to the report form.
All fields are required unless otherwise noted.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Do you have an assigned Boating Law Administrator responsible for the administration and fiscal control of the RBS program? Y/N Y
2. State or Local - Commissioned or Sworn RBS Officers
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| a. RBS Full Time <u> 86 </u> | b. RBS Part Time/Seasonal <u> 93 </u> | c. RBS Other <u> 0 </u> |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
3. Number of Officers Who Successfully Completed Training In:
- | | |
|--|-----|
| a. Basic RBS Officer Training (anytime during their career) | 179 |
| b. Accident Investigation Training (State/NASBLA) (within the FY) | 0 |
| c. BUI/OUI/Drug Recognition Training (State/NASBLA) (within the FY) | 0 |
| d. Navigation Rules Training (within the FY) | 0 |
| e. Other in-service RBS training not specified above (within the FY) | 0 |
4. Total RBS Activity Hours (to include SAR, LE, education, court prep, investigations, etc)
- | | |
|---|--------|
| a. On-the-Water RBS Mission Hours (subset of above) | 32,989 |
| | 19,793 |
5. Equipment available for LE Patrol and SAR Response
- | | Total # | | % Employed for RBS |
|---|---------|--|--------------------|
| a. Number of boats radio equipped | 86 | | 90.0% |
| b. Number of boats non-radio equipped | 44 | | 90.0% |
| c. Number of aircraft | 0 | | |
| d. Number of other patrol vehicles (trucks, cars, SUV, ATV) | 113 | | 40.0% |

LAW ENFORCEMENT

6. Do you have a RBS Law Enforcement Coordinator? Y/N Y
- | | Citations/
Arrests | Warnings |
|--|-----------------------|----------|
| 7. Safety Equipment Carriage Requirements | | |
| Wearable PFDs | 668 | 1,078 |
| Type IV PFD | 61 | 1,016 |
| Fire Extinguisher | 35 | 658 |
| Visual Distress Signals | 2 | 20 |
| Sound Producing Device | 4 | 1,798 |
| 8. BUI/OUI | 83 | 0 |
| 9. Careless/Negligent/Reckless Operation | 42 | 74 |
| 10. Navigation Rules | 249 | 2,155 |
| 11. Mandatory PFD Wear | 45 | 1,547 |
| 12. Registration/Numbering Violations | 227 | 3,093 |
| NOTE: Totals do not have to equal the breakdown of items 7) through 12). | | |
| 1) Total Citations/Arrests | 2,056 | |
| 2) Total Warnings | | 13,463 |

RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY (RBS) PROGRAM

Performance Report Part II - Statistical Data (Pg. 2)

Used to report Activities funded with RBS Program Dollars

13. Total RBS Compliance Inspections/Checks	26,028
14. Number of Search and Rescue/Recovery (SAR) Cases (does not include disaster response)	21
15. Number of Persons Assisted (Enter if Available)	N/A
16. Number of Vessels Assisted (Enter if Available)	169

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

17. Do you have a boating safety education coordinator?	Y/N	<u>Y</u>	% time dedicated	<u>50.0%</u>
18. Persons attending a State/NASBLA-approved course	State	CGAux	USPS	
a. Classroom	1,612	360	108	
b. Home Study	129	N/A	N/A	
c. Internet	UNK	N/A	29	
19. Persons Successfully Completing a State/NASBLA-Approved Course and receives a NASBLA Certificate.	State	CGAux	USPS	
a. Classroom	1,612	360	108	
b. Home Study	129	N/A	N/A	
c. Internet	11,293	N/A	0	
20. Other education and outreach programs				
a. Dealer Cooperative Programs (to include boat dealers, marine suppliers, etc.)		Y/N		<u>Y</u>
b. School Based Programs (K-12)		Y/N		<u>Y</u>
c. Distribution of RBS Materials (to include booklets, pamphlets, flyers, trinkets, etc.)		# of pieces		<u>475,000</u>
21. Public Service Announcements produced, aired, or published				
a. PSA - TV (including social marketing components)		Y/N	<u>Y</u>	
b. PSA - Radio (including social marketing components)		Y/N	<u>Y</u>	
c. PSA - Newspaper/Magazine (including social marketing component)		Y/N	<u>Y</u>	
22. Number of State Employees whose duties include boater education				21
<i>(Developed Boater Education Materials, Scheduled Classes, Graded Tests, Issued Certificates, etc.)</i>				
<i>(NOTE: Includes general outreach/awareness materials. Does not include instructors.)</i>				
23. Number of State RBS Instructors for NASBLA Approved Courses (Employees or other paid instructors)				19
24. Number of Volunteer RBS Instructors for NASBLA Approved Courses				237
25. Number of Volunteer RBS hours to include instructors, materials development, etc.				UNK

NAVIGATION AIDS (NAVAIDS)

26. Total Number of Navigation Aids Placed/Maintained By the State	3,253
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RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY (RBS) PROGRAM

Performance Report Part II - Statistical Data (Pg. 3)

Used to report Activities funded with RBS Program Dollars

EXCEPTIONS/DISCREPANCIES

Explain any exceptions or discrepancies in the information reported: