

HB

93

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
Bill Version: CSHB 93(TRA)
(H) Publish Date: 4/2/03

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
Title An Act relating to boating safety: repealing BRU Parks & Recreation Management
secs. 3,5,7,9,11,14,18,23,26,27,30 Component Parks & Recreation Access
Sponsor Representative Weyhrauch
Requester (H) TRANS Component No. 2136

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personal Services | | | | | | |
| Travel | | | | | | |
| Contractual | | | | | | |
| Supplies | | | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate) | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time | | | | | | |
| Part-time | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact is associated with this bill.

The primary purpose of this bill is to repeal the sunset provision of the Alaska Boating Safety Program.

Prepared by: Jeff Johnson Phone 907/269-8705
Division Parks and Outdoor Recreation Date/Time 2/21/2003
Approved by: Tom Irwin, Commissioner Date 2/21/2003
Agency Natural Resources

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: CS HB 93 (TRA)
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Administration
 Title An act relating to boating safety and BRU Motor Vehicles
numbering..... Component Motor Vehicles
 Sponsor Representative Weyhrauch
 Requester (H) STA Component No. 2348

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Personal Services | (22.5) | (22.5) | (22.5) | (22.5) | (22.5) | (22.5) |
| Travel | | | | | | |
| Contractual | (1.5) | (2.0) | (2.0) | (2.0) | (2.0) | (2.0) |
| Supplies | | | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | (24.0) | (24.5) | (24.5) | (24.5) | (24.5) | (24.5) |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | (35.0) | (35.0) | (35.0) | (35.0) | (35.0) | (35.0) |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | (24.0) | (24.5) | (24.5) | (24.5) | (24.5) | (24.5) |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate) | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | (24.0) | (24.5) | (24.5) | (24.5) | (24.5) | (24.5) |

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Full-time | | | | | | |
| Part-time | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Temporary | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The committee substitute exempts non-powered boats from registration. In FY 2002 there were 3,500 transactions for non-powered boats which were registered for 3 years for a \$10 fee. The revenue loss is from the registration fees that are currently collected on non-powered boats. The operating budget decreases are for a part-time position and associated forms and mailing costs for the registration program.

Prepared by: Charles R. Hosack Phone 269-5559
 Division Motor Vehicles Date/Time 4/3/03
 Approved by: Mike Miller, Commissioner Date 4/4/2003
 Agency Department of Administration

HB 93 4/3/03

Good Morning, Mr.Chairman, Members of the Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen:

My name is Mike Folkerts...I am the Recreational Boating Safety Specialist for District 17 representing the United States Coast Guard.

The Coast Guard, through the Secretary of Transportation, is directed to carry out a national recreational boating safety program under Chapter 131 of Title 46, United States Code. The goal of the program is to encourage the States to assume the major role in carrying out the boating safety mission.

Federal financial assistance to the States is provided through the Boating Safety Account of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, also known as the Wallop-Breaux Trust Fund. Part of the eligibility requirement to receive the funding was achieved when Alaska passed House Bill 108, an Act Relating to Boating Safety in 2000.

HB108 was passed with a sunset clause that would allow the legislature to revisit the law, primarily to insure that consistent and adequate funding was in place. House Bill 93 repeals that sunset, allowing the law to become permanent and helping build a long term program that will continue to reduce recreational boating fatalities.

The United States Coast Guard supports House Bill 93 and will maintain the relationship with the State of Alaska as outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding between the State and the Coast Guard.

I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding this issue or boating safety in Alaska.

.....Thank you.

HB 93

4/3/03

Good Morning, Mr.Chairman, Members of the Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I'm Captain John Schott, Chief of Operations for the 17th Coast Guard District here in Juneau.

The Coast Guard enthusiastically supports the State of Alaska's Safe Boating program. This program provides vital boating safety education for Alaskans, reducing the number of accidents, saving lives, and reducing the need for costly search and rescue.

The accurate Vessel Registration information available to us from the State is also essential to our search and rescue efforts.

With the Homeland Security concerns we all share, it's more important than ever that we educate boaters so they operate safely. This helps the Coast Guard and other public safety agencies maintain an appropriate homeland security posture with our surface and air assets.

I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB 93
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
 Title An Act relating to boating safety: repealing BRU Parks & Recreation Management
secs. 3,5,7,9,11,14,18,23,26,27,30 Component Parks & Recreation Access
 Sponsor Representative Weyhrauch
 Requester (H) TRANS Component No. 2136

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personal Services | | | | | | |
| Travel | | | | | | |
| Contractual | | | | | | |
| Supplies | | | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate) | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time | | | | | | |
| Part-time | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact is associated with this bill.

The primary purpose of this bill is to repeal the sunset provision of the Alaska Boating Safety Program.

Prepared by: Jeff Johnson Phone 907/269-8705
 Division Parks and Outdoor Recreation Date/Time 2/21/2003
 Approved by: Tom Irwin, Commissioner Date 2/21/2003
 Agency Natural Resources

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch

HOUSE DISTRICT 4

ALASKA
STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA
99801-1182

(907) 465-3744
FAX (907) 465-2273

CS for HB 93 (TRA)

Sponsor Statement

Boating Safety Act Reauthorization

Between 1965 and 1987, every state and territory except Alaska successfully established a comprehensive boating safety program. During this same time period, Alaska consistently suffered from the worst recreational boating fatality rate in the nation – over 10 times the national average. Finally, in 2000, *HB 108*, the Alaska Boating Safety Act, sponsored by Representative Bill Hudson, was signed into law after 11 successive attempts at passage.

The Act did two things: it consolidated boating regulatory functions and it created a steady funding source for boater education program for the state of Alaska. Funding for the new registration function is derived from federal motor fuel taxes collected in Alaska as well as revenues from the boat registration program.

Proceeding cautiously, the 21st Legislature added repealing language for the program if the state did not receive the anticipated federal marine fuel funds. If the future funding stream did not come through, the 2005 sunset would take effect and the comprehensive boating safety education program would face termination.

Essentially, it was left to a future legislature to verify the funding stream was indeed in place. The Sponsor of HB 93 states that as expected, the federal funds for the boater education component are in place and the sunset provisions of the Alaska Boating Safety Act can be dropped. The House Transportation Committee eliminated the single-most controversial provision of the Boater Safety Act: the requirement for registration of non-powered boats. This revision can be accomplished without impacting any federal funding to the state's boater education programs.

Contact: Rep. Bruce Weyhrauch
465-3744

Last updated: March 31, 2003

U.S. Department
of Transportation

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Seventeenth Coast Guard District

P. O. Box 25517
Juneau, AK 99802-5517
Staff Symbol: osr-3
Phone: (907)463-2297
Toll Free: (800)478-6381 (Alaska)
Fax: (907)463-2256

16750
February 18, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch
State Capitol – Room 102
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Weyhrauch,

When the State of Alaska passed a comprehensive safe boating law in May, 2000, Alaskan waters became much safer, literally with the sweep of a pen. Alaska now enjoys an educational program, funded with Wallop-Breaux and State matching funds.

The State Office of Boating Safety coordinates with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Auxiliary and others in developing and delivering educational programs that will continue to have a positive effect on Alaska's recreational boating fatality rate.

A repeal of the sunset clause in Alaska's safe boating law would help the Coast Guard work with the State to achieve our mutual goal of making Alaskan waters safer for recreational boaters.

Thank you for your support of this important legislation. We look forward to working with you to make Alaska's waterways safer. Please feel free to contact myself or Michael Folkerts, Recreational Boating Safety Specialist at (907) 463-2297.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.W. Underwood", written over a horizontal line.

J.W. UNDERWOOD

Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary



From the Desk of Gary A. Taylor, District Commodore, District 17

11 Feb. 2003

To: Representative Bruce Weyhrauch
Re: Boating Safety Law

Representative Weyhrauch:

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is an all-volunteer group of nearly 400 Alaskans dedicated to making boating safer for Alaskans. We teach public education classes, perform complimentary vessel safety checks and run safety patrols, along with search and rescue, throughout the State. We are a part of the United States Coast Guard and augment their many missions in Alaska.

We enthusiastically support your pending legislation which will repeal the sunset clause in Alaska's boating safety law. Making the law permanent will not only insure that Alaska's waters remain safer, it will maintain a very effective State Boating Educational Program that we are proud partners with.

If I'm able to assist in any way, please don't hesitate to contact me at (907) 344-0206 or by e-mail at gtaylor@alaska.net. Thank you again for your interest in boating safety and in Alaska's future.

Sincerely,

G.A. Taylor

Gary A. Taylor
District Commodore
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 17 Alaska



Alaska's Federal Boating Safety Dollars At Work

- Boating safety is on the National Transportation Safety Board's "12 Most Wanted list" for needed transportation safety improvements. Alaska's boating fatality rate is among the highest in the nation. In Alaska, only highway related accidents account for more unintentional deaths than does drowning. Alaska was the last of the states and territories to establish a boating safety program.
- Boating safety programs work. Since the Alaska Boating Safety Program was established in 1998, Alaska's boating fatalities have decreased steadily from 38 that year, down to 16 in 2002. The four-year average of Alaska boating fatalities fell from 26 per year (between 1995 and 1998), to 21 per year (from 1999 -2002).
- At least 6 Alaskan children are alive today because of a *Kids Don't Float* loaner life jacket. To date, over 320 loaner life jacket display boards, with over 6,000 life jackets, have been placed in over 120 towns and villages around the state. Alaska's boating safety program is a primary source of life jackets for *Kids Don't Float*.
- The program provides for school programs that teach Alaskan students about cold water and the importance of life jackets. Over 5,000 children have been reached.
- Alaska's new and nationally approved state boating safety course, *Alaska Water Wise*, has been developed. Over 100 potential boating safety instructors from Fairbanks, Kenai, Bethel, Kotzebue, Galena, Anchorage, Glen Allen, Valdez and Sitka, have been trained.
- The program produces a web page (alaskaboatingsafety.org), a variety of public service messages for radio and television, and publications and articles including the popular *Alaska Boater's Handbook*, and an award - winning poster series.
- The program offers financial support for the efforts of our boating safety partners, including the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary's Vessel Safety Check and "*Coastie the Safety Boat*" programs.
- The Alaska Boating Safety Program is funded entirely by a U.S. Coast Guard grant.
- The Alaska Boating Safety Program has received the U.S Coast Guard's *Public Service Commendation*, and the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Partnering for Excellence Award*. The *Kids Don't Float Peer Educator Program* was the regional winner of the National Safe Boating Council's 2002 *Boating Education Advancement Award*.

Distributed by Rep. Washburn

KIDS DON'T FLOAT Program

334 active sites throughout Alaska - 135 communities- 14 new sites added for 2002 season

| | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Akhiok | Eagle City | Kenai | Northway | Susitna |
| Akutan | Eagle River | Kiana | Nunam Iqua | Takotna |
| Aleknagnik | Eagle Village | King Cove | Old Harbor | Talkeetna |
| Amber | Elim | King Salmon | Ouzinkie | Tanacross |
| Anchor Point | Ester | Kivalina | Palmer | Tatillik |
| Anchorage | Ewok | Klawock | Pelican | Tenakee Springs |
| Anderson | Fairbanks | Klukwan | Petersburg | Teller |
| Angoon | False Pass | Kobuk | Pilot Point | Tellin |
| Aniak | Fort Yukon | Kodiak | Point Hope | Thorne Bay |
| Barrow | Galena | Kokhanok | Point Lay | Togalak |
| Bethel | Game Creek | Kotzebue | Port Alsworth | Tok |
| Big Lake | Glennallen | L. Chatanika | Port Lions | Tok/BLM |
| Buckland | Golovin | Larson Bay | Port Protection | Toksook Bay |
| Chevak | Haines | Manley Hot Springs | Ruby | Trapper Creek |
| Chignik Lake | Halibut Cove | Manokotak | S. Soldotna | Unalakleet |
| Chuathbaluk | Healy | McGrath | Salcha | Unalaska |
| Chuglak | Homer | Mentasta | Sand Point | Valdez |
| Clear AS | Hoonah | Naknek | Selawik | Wasilla |
| Collman Cove | Huslia | Nanwalek | Seldovia | White Mountain |
| Council | Hydaburg | Nenana | Seward | White Water |
| Cooper Landing | Iliamna | Newhalen | Shungnak | Whittier |
| Cordova | Jackolof Bay | Nicholai | Sitka | Willow |
| Craig | Juneau | Nikiski | Skagway | Wrangell |
| Deering | Kake | Ninilchik | Soldotna | |
| Delta Junction | Kalskag | Noatak | Sourdough | |
| Dry Creek Community | Karluk | Nome | South Naknek | |
| Dutch Harbor | Kasaan | Noorvik | St. Paul | |
| Dillingham | Kasliof | North Pole | Sterling | 135 communities |

updated 1/24/03

[Home](#) | [History](#) | [References](#) | [News](#) | [Links](#) | [Contact](#)

Wallop-Breaux Aquatic Resources Trust Fund

Trust Fund Pays Off

By Kimberly Hermes
Editor, *Small Craft Advisory*

[Wallop-Breaux 101
PowerPoint Presentation](#)

[Boating Safety's Fair
Share?](#)

Recreational boating fatalities have dramatically decreased since the 1960s and '70s. This decline is even more significant considering that the number of recreational vessels has more than doubled since that time. According to the U.S. Coast Guard, the lives of an estimated 27,000 boaters have been saved through the nation's various boating safety measures over the past three decades. This success is due in large part to the implementation of a series of boating safety legislative acts, namely those that have established and improved the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, which generates money to support various safe boating outreach efforts through public education, awareness and enforcement. With the upcoming reauthorization of the trust fund, now is a good time to review the history of this funding.

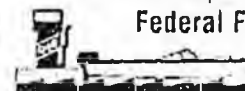
History

The federal government first became involved in recreational boating safety with the Motor Boat Regulations Act of 1910 (36 Stat 462). This statute set minimum safety standards for motorboats by requiring certain vessels to use navigation lights and carry life preservers and fire extinguishers. The biggest problem with early boating legislation in the United States was that each requirement was part of the law passed by Congress. This meant that it took an act of Congress to change, improve or add new requirements as the need arose. The Coast Guard's authority was greatly expanded by the Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971, the model for today's program. The FBSA created a more flexible regulatory authority concerning the use of boats and associated equipment to include all recreational vessels and expanded its jurisdiction to all United States navigable waters.

The 1971 act also included provisions for the Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) federal financial assistance program to "encourage greater state participation and uniformity in boating safety efforts, and particularly to permit the states to assume the greater share of boating safety education, assistance, and enforcement activities" (46 U.S.C. 13101). Administration of the program was delegated to the Coast Guard. With general revenue funds authorized by this act, the State Recreational Boating Safety Grant Program was established, but the first appropriation was for 1973.

AQUATIC RESOURCES TRUST FUND FLOW CHART

18.3¢ per Gallon
Federal Fuel Tax



1.03% of the total Highway Trust Fund is attributable to motorboat fuel. However, under present law, only 13 cents per gallon is used for purposes of calculating the amount to be transferred to the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund. This will rise to 13.5 cents on October 1, 2003.



The Aquatic Resources Trust Fund (Wallop-Breaux) consists of excise taxes attributable to motor boat fuels and fishing equipment along with import duties on fishing equipment, yachts and pleasure boats, interest earned on the funds and excise taxes attributable to gasoline used in small engines.



Money is divided into the following accounts:

Boat Safety Account

\$59 million in FY02

U.S. Coast Guard

\$5 million in FY02

Sport Fish Restoration Account

\$322.22 million in FY02

Authorization for the State RBS Grant Program expired in 1979 but was reestablished by the National Recreational Boating Safety and Facilities Improvement Act of 1980, also known as the Biaggi Act. In addition, the act provided that a portion of federal excise tax receipts attributable to motorboat fuel use would be transferred to a new RBS account to fund the program.

By returning a portion of the fuel taxes paid by boaters to boating safety, the Biaggi Act ensured that those benefiting from the program would also help pay the costs – “user pays, user benefits.” The Biaggi Act authorized a total of \$20 million per year – \$10 million for boating safety and \$10 for facilities. However, Congress never supported the facilities improvement part of the program and appropriated funds only for boating safety. The first appropriations under this new mechanism were not approved until 1982.

Congress built upon the Biaggi Act with the Wallop-Breaux Amendments to the Sport Fishing Restoration Act in 1984. Sponsored by Sen. Malcolm Wallop of Wyoming and then-Congressman John Breaux of Louisiana, this legislation created the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, also known as the Wallop-Breaux Trust Fund, with two separate accounts – one for boating safety funds and another for sport fish monies – and authorized the transfer of all but \$1 million of the motorboat fuel taxes to the new trust fund. It also expanded the excise taxes and import duties on fishing equipment and recreational boats deposited into that account.

An amendment in 1988 (102 Stat. 1836) increased the amount of motorboat fuel taxes authorized to be transferred into and appropriated from the Boat Safety Account from \$45 million to \$60 million for fiscal years 1989 and 1990, then to \$70 million for fiscal years 1991-1993.

In 1990, Sen. Breaux developed a new program for Coastal Wetlands Restoration to be funded from small engine fuel tax revenues but appropriated through the Sport Fish Restoration Account's permanent appropriation. Following the five-cent gas tax increase that same year, a proposal by Congress in 1991 to increase the Boat Safety Account authorization from \$70 million to \$90 million was opposed by the Coast Guard because the discretionary appropriation of Boat Safety Account funds were scored against the Coast Guard budget.

The Clean Vessel Act enacted by Congress in 1992 left the discretionary BSA authorization at \$70 million per year and provided additional state RBS funding via Sport Fish Restoration's mandatory appropriation – but only half the amount originally proposed. The original proposal would have increased the BSA authorization by \$10 million in fiscal year 1992, \$15 million in FY1993-94 and \$20 million in 1995. However, half the increase was taken out for another program and RBS did not get the full \$20 million until 1998.

Under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) in 1998, Congress expanded on the Clean Vessel Act transfer of mandatory appropriations from the Sport Fish Restoration Account. The Boat Safety Account remained subject to the annual appropriations process. However, the amendments guaranteed a minimum funding level of \$59 million, with a maximum of \$71.6 million for fiscal years 1999-2003, for boating safety if the \$70 million authorized from the BSA is appropriated. In addition, the Coast Guard receives \$5 million mandatory funding for coordination of the national RBS program. Yet funds from the Boat Safety Account have not been appropriated and the states are receiving only \$59 million per year in mandatory funding transferred from the Sport Fish Restoration Account under the formula in the Clean Vessel Act.

Gauging success

Annual boat registrations have more than doubled in the past three decades. In fact, just since 1988, annual boat registrations have steadily increased from 10 million to nearly 13 million boats – an increase of 23 percent. Approximately 78 million Americans enjoy recreational boating each year. Yet, due to the cooperative efforts of various organizations, recreational boating fatalities have continued to decline.

At the time the Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971 was approved, the fatality rate for recreational boaters stood at 29.2 deaths per 100,000 registered boats. And in 1973, the number of reported

recreational boating fatalities reached a high of 1,754. Last year, the fatality rate dropped to 5.4 deaths per 100,000 registered boats, with a record low of just over 700 deaths reported to the Coast Guard from the 50 states, five U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia. These encouraging figures confirm the effectiveness of the Recreational Boating Safety program supported by the Wallop-Breaux Trust Fund. The money generated through the fund is being well used toward spreading the word about safety among boaters through public education, awareness and enforcement.

[Home](#) | [History](#) | [References](#) | [News](#) | [Links](#) | [Contact](#)
© 2002 Copyright National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. All rights reserved.
Comments? Visit our [Contact](#) page.
If you would like to provide site feedback, contact the Wallop-Breaux [Webmaster](#) by e-mail.



home driver's manuals license plates parking permits vehicle registration

Boat Registration

Link to Division of Parks - [Boating Safety](#)

General Information:

On January 1st, 2001, the Division of Motor Vehicles assumed the boat registration program from the U.S. Coast Guard. House Bill 108, passed in the 2000 legislative session, authorized this registration program and a comprehensive boating safety program. Prior to January 1st, 2001, the Coast Guard registered powered boats that are used on navigable waterways of the state. These registrations are valid for three years and a Certificate of Number issued by the USCG will still be valid until the expiration date, unless the boat changes ownership. When the USCG issued registration expires or when the ownership changes, boat owners must renew the registration with DMV.

What Must Be Registered:

The USCG registered only powered boats used on navigable waterways, however, the state law requires the following to be registered:

- All powered boats (including non-powered boats with auxiliary power units) used on any water of the state. (This includes all rivers, streams, and lakes, regardless of size, and all salt water within 3 miles of land.)
- Non-powered boats 10 feet or greater in length when used on any water of the state.

NOTE: "Boat" means a watercraft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water, except for:

- A ship's lifeboat
- A seaplane
- An inspected passenger vessel
- A single air mattress, single inner tube or other water toy

NOTE: Tenders are boats that are used exclusively for transportation from a boat to shore. Under the previous USCG registration program, tenders did not have to be registered. This changes under the state program. Tenders must be registered unless they are non-powered and are under 10 feet in length.

What Cannot Be Registered in Alaska:

Boats that are not principally used in Alaska. (Alaska residents such as military members or college student that live outside of the state cannot register their boats in Alaska. They must register them in the state where they are currently living or using the boat. This is required

by federal law and there is no exemption for any group.)

Exempt from Registration in Alaska:

- A boat with a valid registration from another state or country that is not operated more than 90 consecutive days in Alaska.
- A boat owned by any government agency at the federal, state or local level.
- A boat not equipped with mechanical propulsion and that is:
 - Under 10 feet in length or
 - Owned by a non-resident and is operated not more than 30 days in a calendar year.
- A documented boat. The documentation may be either from the U.S. or a foreign country.

Fees:

- \$24.00 for powered boats
- \$10.00 for non-powered boats

A registration is valid for three years and will expire at the end of the month in which the boat is first registered. The Certificate of Number must be carried aboard the boat whenever it is in operation.

NOTE: If you register your boat as a powered boat and remove the source of power at a later time, you may wait until renewal to change to a non-powered boat class. If you register as a non-powered boat and then obtain auxiliary power, you must submit a change with DMV and pay the \$24.00 fee for a powered boat. The registration period will start over and there will not be any refund given for any unused portion of the registration.

Items Required to Register a Boat:

- Application
- Fees
- Ownership document. Must be one of the following:
 - Manufacture Statement of Origin (MSO)
 - Carpenter's Certificate
 - Bill of sale from previous owner or dealer
 - Title or registration from a previous state
 - Affidavit of ownership

The first time a boat is registered in Alaska, or when there is a transfer of ownership, the paperwork must be submitted in person. Renewals, duplicate stickers and duplicate certificate of number can be requested through the mail.

Lost Certificate of Number or Validation Sticker:

- Must apply for a duplicate within 15 days
- Complete an application if any information has changed
- Fees of \$5.00

Address Change:

- Must notify DMV within 15 days, in writing, by one of the following methods:
 - Mailed or delivered to any DMV office
 - E-mail to DMV webmaster
- Notice must contain the boat number or HIN, name of the owner, new address.

Transfer of Ownership:

- New owner must apply for a Certificate of Number within 30 days of purchase
- Registration starts over and full fees must be paid.

NOTE: If a registered owner is adding or deleting an owner's name from the registration record, this is not considered a transfer of ownership. Complete an application and pay fees of \$5.00 for the duplicate Certificate of Number. No other fees are required unless the registration is being renewed at the same time. In this case, the \$5.00 fee is not required as a new Certificate of Number will be issued when the boat registration is renewed.

Renewal of Registration:

Renewal notices will be mailed approximately 60 days prior to the expiration date. Renewal can be processed:

- Over the Internet Registration Renewal. Payment by Visa or MasterCard only
- Over the telephone (Must have a registration renewal number). Payment by Visa or MasterCard only
 - 1-888-DMV-KWIK - Only within the State of Alaska (Other than Anchorage)
 - 269-5590 - Anchorage
- By Mail (DMV; 1300 W Benson Boulevard STE 200; Anchorage AK 99503-3600)
- At any DMV office

Boat Number Information:

- Cannot be transferred to another boat
- Assigned by computer. No special request number will be issued
- Display of boat number is required for POWERED boats. (Optional for non-powered boats) Painted or permanently attached to each side of the forward half of the boat.

- in plain vertical block characters, 3 inches or more in height
- contrast with the color of the background and be distinctly visible and legible
- have spaces or hyphens that are equal to the width of a letter other than "I" or a number other than "1" between the letter and number groupings.
(Example: AK-1234-AA or AK 1234 AA)
- read from left to right

NOTE: It is illegal to operate a boat with a number other than the assigned boat number on the forward half of the boat. The boat number must be removed when the boat is documented by the USCG or when the boat is no longer principally used in Alaska.

Validation Sticker Information:

- Powered boats: Two stickers issued. Must be affixed within six inches of the Boat Number on boat sides of the forward half of the boat.
- Non-powered boats: Single sticker issued. Must be displayed in a location that is visible when the boat is in operation, on the top or side of the forward half of the boat.

Boats Purchased From a Boat Dealer:

State law requires a boat dealer to have the purchaser of a new or used boat sold at retail complete an application and pay the registration fee before the boat leaves the dealer's premises, other than exempt boats. The following are included in addition to regular boat or marine dealers:

- Dealers and consignment businesses who act as an agent for the owner
- Car dealers that take boats in trade
- Warehouse and department stores that sell boats
- Hobbyists who build or recondition boats and sell more than three boats in a year

Lienholder Information:

DMV does not record lienholders for boats. Contact the Recorder's Office for information on Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) filing procedures.

3300 B. Fairbanks Street, Anchorage AK 99503

[Title](#) - [Registration](#) - [Driver License](#) - [DMV HOME PAGE](#) - [Dept. of Administration](#) - [State](#)

THE
FOLLOWING
DOCUMENT(S)
ARE
POOR
ORIGINAL
COPIES

DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

3300B FAIRBANKS STREET

ANCHORAGE, AK 99503

CONTACT (907) 269-5559 www.state.ak.us/dmv FAX (907) 269-6084

TO:

FROM:

Linda Sylvester

Chuck Hosack

FAX NUMBER:

DATE:

465-2273

2-24-03

PHONE NUMBER:

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:

4

PLEASE COMMENT

URGENT

PLEASE REPLY

PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT

CONFIDENTIAL

Linda - Boat Registration Procedure page plus copies of two common forms. If owner has these 2 forms + money, DMV will register the boat. Nothing else is required. Forms are available at DMV offices or on DMV web site.



| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| State of Alaska Division of Motor Vehicles Standard Operating Procedures | SOP No. B-30 | Page No. 1 of 1 |
| | Effective May 18, 2001 | |
| Subject: ORIGINAL REGISTRATION | Supersedes B-30 | Dated 02/14/01 |
| | Approved <i>Way Markle</i> | |
| Statute: AS 05.25.055 | Regulation: 02 AAC 70.100 - 120 | Form No. 02-841 |

An original registration is a registration for a boat that is not currently on the Alaska License and Vehicle Information Network (ALVIN) system. This may be a new boat, a boat from another state or country that is being registered in Alaska, a boat in the state that was not required to be registered or has not been previously registered, or a boat that was previously registered in Alaska but the boat record is not in the ALVIN system (this situation may occur if the registration has been expired for more than a year).

Alaska does not issue titles for boats and the registration is not absolute proof of ownership. A variety of documents may be used to show that the owner is entitled to possession of the boat. If the owner has no documents from the seller, the owner may complete an affidavit of ownership which must contain the following information:

1. Date boat was acquired
2. The name of the previous owner or dealer who sold the boat
3. Hull Identification Number (HIN)
4. Printed name and signature of the owner. (Not required to be notarized)

REGISTRATION PERIOD:

The boat is assigned the registration month the boat is first registered in the state. The registration period is three years and the registration expires on the last day of the assigned month. Registration periods may not be prorated to allow shorter or longer periods of registration.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:

To register the boat, an owner must:

1. Complete the Boat Registration Application (Form 02-841)
2. Submit one of the following:
 - Manufacturer Statement of Origin (MSO) - Copy
 - Carpenter's Certificate - Copy (similar to the MSO. Usually used for larger boats.)
 - Bill of sale from previous owner or dealer - Original (Copy when customer requests to keep original)
 - Title or registration from previous state - Copy
 - Affidavit of ownership - Original required
3. Pay all required fees

NOTE: When an application is submitted by a Boat Dealer, only the application and fees are required.

FEES & CLASS CODES:

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|---------|
| Powered Boats | Class B1 | \$24.00 |
| Non-powered Boats | Class B2 | \$10.00 |

**STATE OF ALASKA
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES
BOAT REGISTRATION APPLICATION**

Notice: A copy of this application may be used as a temporary registration for up to 60 days. The temporary registration becomes invalid when a certificate of number is issued by DMV.

BASIC BOAT INFORMATION - MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL ON ALL APPLICATIONS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| PRESENT AK BOAT NUMBER AK | REASON FOR APPLICATION <input type="checkbox"/> NEW <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> DUPLICATE DECAL (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL <input type="checkbox"/> DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE (\$5) |
| BOAT NAME (IF APPLICABLE) | CLASS OF BOAT <input type="checkbox"/> POWER BOAT (B1) \$24 <input type="checkbox"/> NON-POWER BOAT (B2) \$10 |

COMPLETE FOR NEW BOATS, TRANSFERS, OR WHEN INFORMATION HAS CHANGED

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| HULL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (HIN) | ADF&G # (IF ANY) | LENGTH (FT) | YEAR | MAKE/BUILDER OF BOAT |
| BOAT TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> A. RUNABOUT/SKIFF <input type="checkbox"/> B. CABIN CRUISER <input type="checkbox"/> C. PWC (I.e. JET SKI) <input type="checkbox"/> D. HOUSEBOAT <input type="checkbox"/> E. SAILBOAT <input type="checkbox"/> F. OTHER _____ | PROPULSION <input type="checkbox"/> A. OUTBOARD <input type="checkbox"/> B. INBOARD <input type="checkbox"/> C. INBOARD/OUTDRIVE <input type="checkbox"/> D. SAIL ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> E. OARS/PADDLES | USE <input type="checkbox"/> A. PLEASURE <input type="checkbox"/> B. COMMERCIAL PASSENGER <input type="checkbox"/> C. COMMERCIAL FISHING <input type="checkbox"/> D. RENTAL <input type="checkbox"/> E. OTHER _____ | FUEL TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> A. GAS <input type="checkbox"/> B. DIESEL <input type="checkbox"/> C. OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> D. NONE | HULL MATERIAL <input type="checkbox"/> A. ALUMINUM/METAL <input type="checkbox"/> B. FIBERGLASS/PLASTIC <input type="checkbox"/> C. WOOD <input type="checkbox"/> D. INFLATABLE <input type="checkbox"/> E. OTHER _____ |
| HULL COLOR | TRIM COLOR | CABIN COLOR | CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER | |

OWNER NAME AND ADDRESS INFORMATION - MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL ON ALL APPLICATIONS

| | | | | |
|--------------------|---|------|-------------|------------------|
| MAILING ADDRESS: | STREET/PO BOX | CITY | STATE AK | ZIP CODE |
| RESIDENCE ADDRESS: | PHYSICAL LOCATION (NO PO BOX OR MAIL CACHE) | CITY | STATE AK | ZIP CODE |
| OWNER | FULL NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST, SUFFIX OR COMPANY NAME) | SSN | DOB | DRIVER LICENSE # |
| #1 | | | | |
| #2 | | | | |
| #3 | | | | |
| #4 | | | | |

I certify under penalty of law that I am the legal owner of the boat described in this application, that this boat is used primarily in Alaska and that all statements in this application are true and correct. I also acknowledge that I must notify DMV within 15 days of change of address or if the boat is destroyed, abandoned or becomes documented.

| | |
|---|------|
| PRINTED NAME AND SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT | DATE |
|---|------|

DMV USE ONLY

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-------|----------|---|--|------|
| PREV. STATE | STICKER NUMBER | BATCH | INITIALS | DOCS. ACCEPTED: AK REG MCO CARP. CERT. BOS OWNER AFF. TITLE | FEEES: \$5 \$10 \$24 PAYMENT TYPE: CA CC CK | DATE |
|-------------|----------------|-------|----------|---|--|------|

*The Social Security Number (SSN) will be used only for DMV purposes and will not be disclosed as part of a boat record. Disclosure of the SSN is not required by law.

AFFIDAVIT OF BOAT OWNERSHIP

Hull Identification Number (HIN): _____

Boat Description: _____
(model year or year completed, make, model)

I, _____, certify that I am the owner
(Print Your Name)
of the boat described above. I purchased the boat on: _____
(Date of Purchase)

I obtained the boat in the following manner:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dealership - New | <input type="checkbox"/> I built the boat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dealership - Used | <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper Advertisement | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

Purchased from: _____
(Name of person or business that the boat was obtained from, if applicable)

Signature of Owner: _____



Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Outdoor Rec.



Office of Boating Safety

Boat Registration

Boating Education:

Alaska Water Wise Courses

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

Boat/U.S. Foundation Course

Boating Basics Course

PWC Safety School Course

Alaska Marine Safety Education Association

Coastie The Safety Boat

Kids Don't Float Program

Publications and Reports:

Alaska Boater's Handbook

PWS Supplement to the Handbook

Laws and Regulations:

Alaska, the largest state, has over 33,000 miles of coastline, over 3,000 rivers, and more than 3 million lakes. While most our 621,000 residents live in the 10 largest cities, many others live miles from the road system in isolated towns and villages spread along Alaska's vast coastline and interior rivers. Alaskans certainly use their boats to enjoy our world-class boating and fishing, but also as an important means of transportation, and to support subsistence. Alaskans are truly "lifestyle" boaters.

Perhaps it is not surprising that drowning is second only to highway fatalities as the leading cause of unintentional death in Alaska. Alaska has one of the highest non-commercial boating fatality rates in the nation. Alaska's cold water and remote settings are risk factors that significantly reduce the odds of surviving a boating accident in Alaska. Most boating fatalities in Alaska are not due to a collision, but rather from capsizing or a fall overboard where the victim was not wearing a life jacket.

In response, the State Office of Boating Safety was established within the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. The Office is responsible for administering the Alaska Boating Safety Program, working to reduce Alaska's boating fatalities and enhance safe enjoyable boating statewide, primarily through boater education.

We hope you enjoy our web page. We offer a wide range of resources for boaters, and new items are being added, so check back occasionally.

BOAT SMART FROM THE START - WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET!

[Alaska Boating Laws](#)

[Federal Equipment Requirements](#)

[State Equipment Requirements](#)

[The Navigation Rules](#)

[Boat Accident Reporting](#)

Grant Programs:

[Boat US Foundation](#)

[National Water Safety Congress](#)

[National Safe Boating Council](#)

Weather and Tides:

[National Weather Service-Alaska Region](#)

[Tide Tables](#)

Other:

[Donate Life Jackets!](#)

[AK Boating Safety Advisory Council](#)

Boating Links:

[17th Coast Guard District Boating Safety Program](#)

[U.S. Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety](#)

[National Association of State Boating Law Administrators](#)

[National Safe Boating Council](#)

[National Vessel Documentation Center U.S. Coast Guard](#)

For more information contact:

POSTERS

The Alaska Boating Safety Program publishes a variety of educational materials, including a series of award-winning posters that highlight specific boating safety messages. If you would like to receive a poster, please contact Georgia Rand at (907) 269-8706





Take a Boating Safety Course and Certification Test online.

- Learn to be a better boater - no matter how much boating experience you have there's always more to learn.
- Receive a boating safety certificate upon successful completion of this NASBLA-approved boating course.
- Qualify for a discount on your boat or personal watercraft insurance.
- Progress on your own schedule and at your own pace.

This boating safety course is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard.

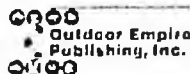
All of the safe boating information is free.
Why not get started right now?

[Start the Course](#)

[Our Privacy Policy](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Powered by [Outdoor Empire Publishing, Inc.](#) and [BoatSafe.com](#)



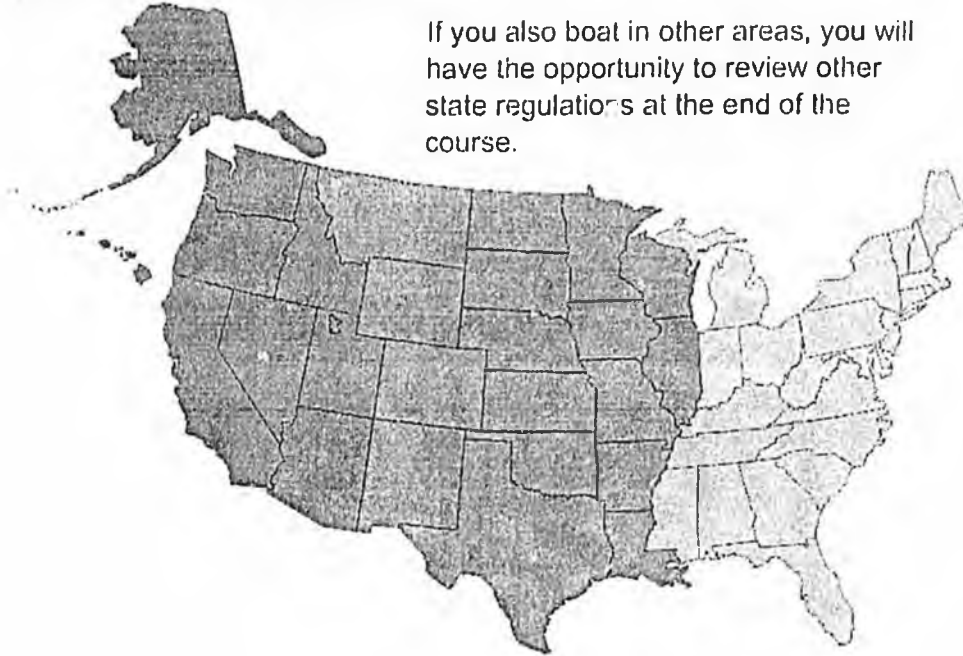
Copyright © 1996/2001 Nautical Know How, Inc.
All rights reserved. [Contact for reprint permission](#)

BoatingBasicsOnline.com Basic Boating Safety Course
Please choose a state

Welcome to the Boating Safety Course

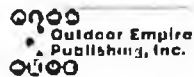
Please choose the state in which you reside (where your certificate and ID card will be mailed) so that we may include state-specific information as you progress through the course.

If you also boat in other areas, you will have the opportunity to review other state regulations at the end of the course.



If you have a slow connection or cannot see the map, [click here](#) for a text-based version of the boating safety course that meets Section 508 Accessibility requirements.

Powered by [Outdoor Empire Publishing](#) and [BoatSafe.com](#)



Copyright © 1996/2001 Nautical Know How, Inc.
All rights reserved. [Contact for reprint permission](#)

BoatingBasicsOnline.com Basic Boating Safety CourseAK Select or Change State

12 Introduction

introduction

3 The Boat

4 Requirements

5 Preparation

6 Operations

7 Underway

8 Accidents

9 Special Items

10 State Info

Final Exam

This Basic Boating Safety course is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) and recognized as acceptable to the United States Coast Guard Recreational Boating Program. Most insurance companies give marine insurance discounts to persons successfully completing a NASBLA approved course.

This course covers basic boating safety concepts that you need to know if you intend to participate in water sport activities. It has been designed by marine educators to provide information to people who might not otherwise have the opportunity to receive it. You can progress at your own pace and on your own time schedule.

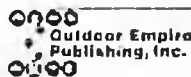
Welcome Aboard!

This Basic Boating Safety Course gives only the minimum requirements for safety equipment and general information. To obtain a greater knowledge of boating skills and seamanship we encourage you to attend more in-depth boating courses.

[Next Page](#) ↗

[Boating Basics](#)
[Glossary of Terms](#)

Powered by [Outdoor Empire Publishing](#) and [BoatSafe.com](#)



Copyright © 1996/2001 Nautical Know How, Inc.
All rights reserved. [Contact for reprint permission](#)



Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Outdoor Rec.



Alaska Water Wise

Check out other boating safety courses at:

[U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary](#)

[Boat/U.S. Foundation](#)

[Boating Basics Online](#)

[PWC Safety School](#)

For more information contact:

Joe McCullough
Boating Education Specialist
Division of Parks and Outdoor
Recreation
Office of Boating Safety
550 W. 7th Avenue #1370
Anchorage, AK 99501-3561
(907) 269-8690 phone
(907) 269-8907 fax

e-mail:

josephm@dnr.state.ak.us

Jeffrey S. Johnson
Boating Law Administrator
Division of Parks and Outdoor
Recreation
Office of Boating Safety
550 W. 7th Avenue #1370
Anchorage, AK 99501-3561

The Alaska Office of Boating Safety is proud to offer *Alaska Water Wise*, a basic course for Alaskan boaters. This eight-hour course is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) and recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard. The course satisfies most states boating safety education requirements and may even qualify boaters for boat insurance discounts.

Segments include pre-departure preparation, boating operations, boating emergencies, cold-water survival, navigation/rules of the road, and legal requirements. Students who attend all sessions, and pass the written exam and skills will be issued a course completion certificate.

The following classes are being offered once a week from 6:30-8:30 P.M. through Anchorage Community Schools. For more information contact Joe McCullough at (907) 269-8690.

Chester Valley (Thursdays) Feb. 6 through March 6.

Hanshew (Mondays) Feb. 10 through March 10.

Four Valleys in Girdwood (Wednesdays) Feb. 12 through March 12.

Ancorage, AK 99501-5501

(907) 269-8705 phone

(907) 269-8907 fax

e-mail: 

Jeff_Johnson@dnr.state.ak.us

Bear Valley (Thursdays) Apr. 24 through May 22.

Creekside (Tuesdays) April 22 through May 20.

Gruening in Eagle River (Wednesdays) April 23 through May 21.

[Boating Safety Home](#)

[Parks Site Index](#) | [Parks Home](#) | [DNR Home](#) | [State of Alaska Home](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Disclaimer](#)

Last update: Tuesday, February 18, 2003

Webmaster: www-parks@dnr.state.ak.us

Jeffrey S. Johnson
Boating Law Administrator
Division of Parks &
Outdoor Recreation
Office of Boating Safety
550 W. 7th Avenue #1370
Anchorage, AK
99501-3561
(907) 269-8705 phone
(907) 269-8907 fax
e-mail: [Jeff.Johnson](mailto:Jeff.Johnson@dnr.state.ak.us)

[Parks Site Index](#) | [Parks Home](#) | [DNR Home](#) | [State of Alaska Home](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Disclaimer](#)

Last update: Friday, February 7, 2003

Webmaster: www-parks@dnr.state.ak.us



To: Representative Bruce Weyhrauch

From: Dave Ausman

Re: Alaska Boating Safety Law

Dear Representative Weyhrauch,

The Personal Watercraft Club of Alaska is in complete support of your efforts in repealing the sunset clause of the Alaska Boating Safety Law.

To familiarize you with our club, the PWCA promotes the sport of watercraft riding for pleasure recreation and other non-profitable purposes. We also work for fair and equitable watercraft laws, promote development of launching and docking facilities, and provide education and promote safety in all water sports.

The Alaska Boating Safety Law; by providing education to Alaska boaters through Federal and State funding; has proven effective in reducing the number of boating fatalities. It is essential this law not be allowed to lapse through the sunset clause.

Sincerely,

Dave Ausman

President,

Personal Watercraft Club of Alaska

Website: www.pwcalaska.org email akpwcrdr@acsalaska.net or davealaska@aol.com

Club contact number 345-6723

Subject: boating safety and GDL

Date: Wed, 26 Mar 2003 21:35:40 -0900

From: Perkins <perkins@ak.net>

To: Representative_Bruce_Weyhrauch@legis.state.ak.us

Dear Representative Weyhrauch,

I'm impressed with your involvement with several safety issues. I'm an Eagle River constituent and an injury epidemiologist (I study injury patterns in various communities and populations). I have lived in Alaska for 25 years, 8 of which were in Dillingham. My injury prevention work with the U.S. Public Health Service took me to communities throughout Alaska before my retirement in 1998. I'm writing to encourage you in your support of HB93, to keep the Boating Safety Law active and in place. As you know, this Law brings in about \$600,000 of federal funds each year and the hardship on individuals is a miniscual \$10 registration fee every 3 years. It helps pay for flotation devices which are used on Kids Don't Float loaner boards throughout Anchorage and Alaska. It is a good law with huge positive impacts on the safety of all Alaskans and a very small impact on individuals. I introduced and encouraged the use of Float Coats throughout rural Alaska in the mid-seventies, and now they are used as the rule rather than the exception.

The other very positive legislation you are developing is the strengthening of the Graduated Driver's Licensing requirement for new drivers. Teens are 4 times more likely to die in a motor vehicle crash than their adult counterparts. Much of this increased risk is due to inexperience, lower seat belt useage, and alcohol. Teens rarely get into crashes when they are learning to drive with an adult present. Their risks increase tremendously shortly after they go solo, drive with other teens in the car, and drive after midnight. The good GDL laws that have been inacted in other states and countries have cut the teen crashes in half. They demand that teens have 6 months behind the wheel under an adult's supervision, no other non-family passengers, and no driving after midnight. Motor vehicles related injuries are the leading cause of death for our teens and we must see that they recieve the proper experience before turning them loose on the roads. School based driver's education has been shown to be ineffective, FYI.

I'm currently the Exec. Director of a non-profit injury prevention center and my special interest is to reduce the needless deaths and trauma from preventable injuries. If I can be of technical assitance to you on any injury prevention issues, please call 907-929-3941.

Ron Perkins, MPH