

# 2011 Arizona Boating Safety Report



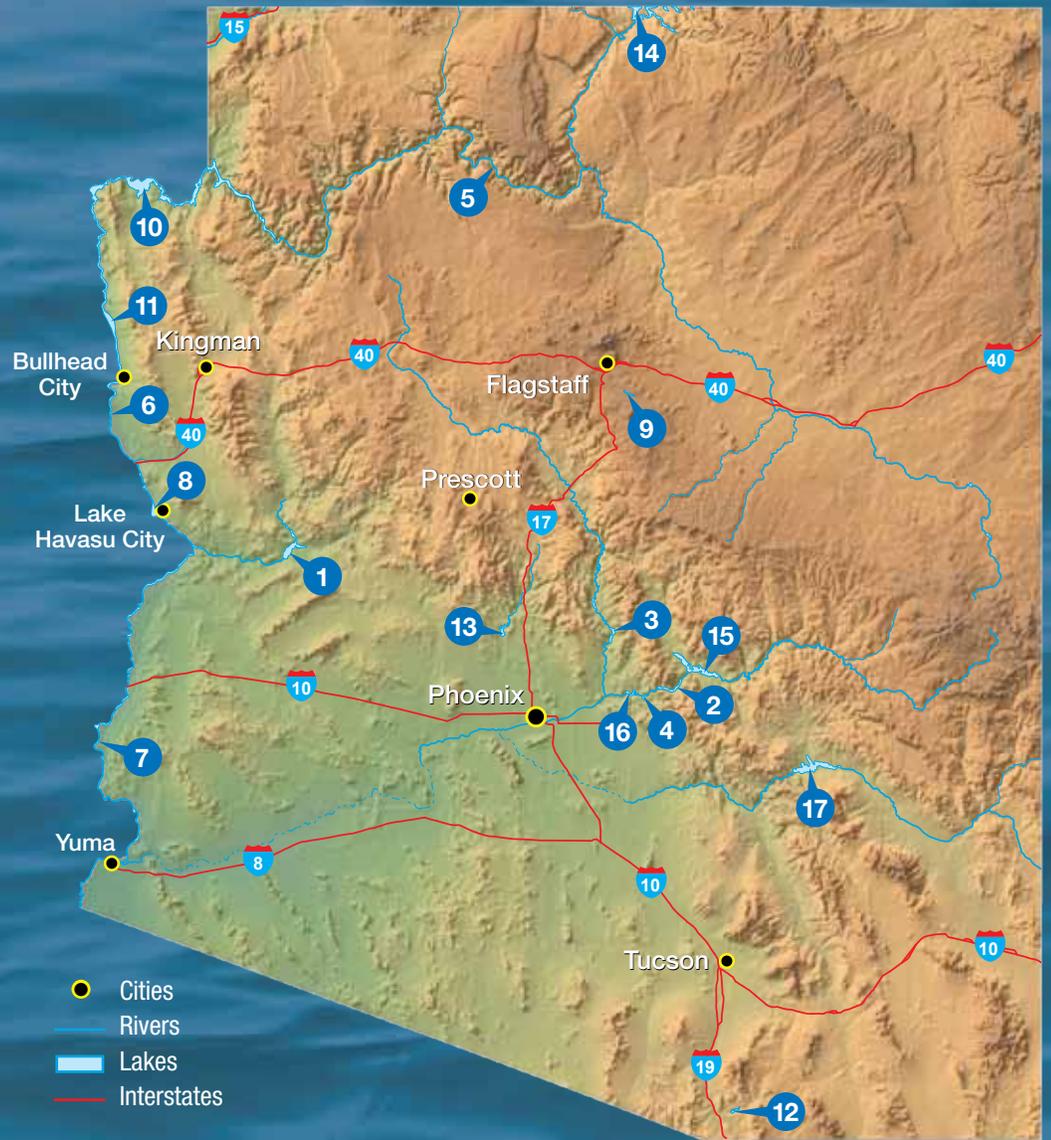
ARIZONA  
GAME AND FISH  
DEPARTMENT



**Special thanks to the following agencies for their cooperation in providing accident data, local background information, and watercraft law enforcement statistics for this report:**

- Arizona Game and Fish Department
- Bullhead City Police Department
- Coconino County Sheriff's Office
- Gila County Sheriff's Office
- La Paz County Sheriff's Office
- Lake Havasu City Police Department
- Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
- Mohave County Sheriff's Office
- National Park Service
- Nevada Department of Wildlife
- United States Coast Guard
- Yuma County Sheriff's Office

The 2011 Arizona Boating Safety Report is a technical report provided by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The data and statistics were researched, compiled and written by Cindy Wall, Tim Baumgarten, Cassandra Smith, Brittney Topel, Kim Jackson, Ron Christofferson, Madelynn Fenske and Kevin Bergersen.



- 
- |                          |                    |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Alamo Lake            | 8. Lake Havasu     | 14. Lake Powell          |
| 2. Apache Lake           | 9. Lake Mary       | 15. Roosevelt Lake       |
| 3. Bartlett Lake         | 10. Lake Mead      | 16. Saguaro Lake         |
| 4. Canyon Lake           | 11. Lake Mohave    | 17. San Carlos Reservoir |
| 5. Upper Colorado River  | 12. Patagonia Lake |                          |
| 6. Middle Colorado River | 13. Lake Pleasant  |                          |
| 7. Lower Colorado River  |                    |                          |
-

# 2011 Arizona Boating Safety Report

## FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR

### Dear Arizona Boating Enthusiast,

Arizona's waterways have always reflected some of the largest density of boat use in the country. Recent boater use data indicate that Arizona has over 2.8 million boat use and 13.4 million person use days annually. In fact, the busiest lake in Arizona, Lake Havasu, has well over 900,000 boat use and 4.3 million person use days annually. If you have ever boated the Colorado River system, you understand what these numbers mean.

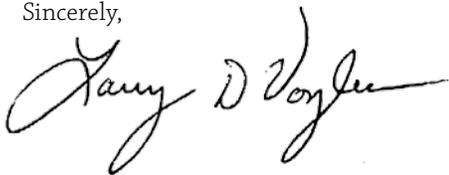
With these large numbers of users, the need for boating safety has never been greater than it is right now. A matter of concern to boating safety agencies across the state is that Arizona continued to see a gradual trend increase in the number of paddlecraft accidents, as well as an increase in the number of fatalities for the second straight year.

In an effort to promote safety and reduce these numbers, the Arizona Game and Fish Department continues to lead a collaborative effort with twenty-seven law enforcement and boating safety organizations. Our Department believes that by developing strong partnerships with various agency and non-government organizations, that the recreational boating safety users across Arizona can expect superior on the water law enforcement efforts and boating safety education programs.

Boat accident data contained in this report is utilized by local enforcement agencies, land management entities, Department volunteer boating safety education instructors, and boating safety organizations to create a culture of safety on the water. Working together to ensure safe boating requires constant collaborative efforts, and the department and our partners will continue to educate the public about making good decisions when out on the water.

This report is available on the department's website [www.azgfd.gov/boating](http://www.azgfd.gov/boating). For more information about this or other recreational boat accident statistics, please contact Kevin Bergersen at (623) 236-7383 or [kbergersen@azgfd.gov](mailto:kbergersen@azgfd.gov).

Sincerely,



Larry D. Voyles, Director



1

### Director

**Larry D. Voyles**  
Phone: (602) 942-3000

### Arizona Game and Fish Commission

**Robert R. Woodhouse**  
Chair, Roll

**Norman W. Freeman**  
Chino Valley

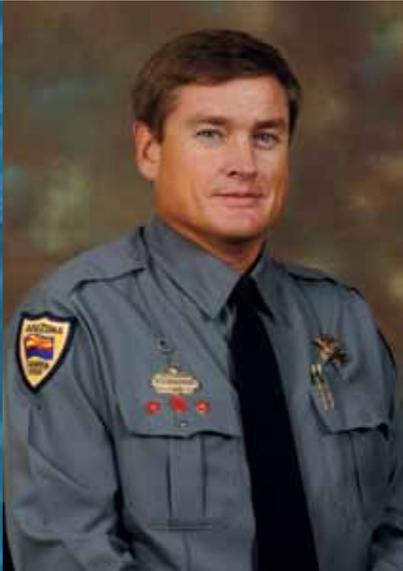
**Jack F. Husted**  
Springerville

**J.W. Harris**  
Tucson

**Robert E. Mansell**  
Winslow

# 2011 Arizona Boating Safety Report

## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT Boating Enforcement and Education



2

### Boating Law Administrator

#### **Kevin Bergersen**

*Law Enforcement*

*Programs Coordinator*

Phone: (623) 236-7383

Fax: (623) 236-7945

E-mail: [kbergersen@azgfd.gov](mailto:kbergersen@azgfd.gov)

### Public Information

#### **Tom Cadden**

*Public Information Officer*

Phone: (623) 236-7392

Fax: (623) 236-7903

E-mail: [tcadden@azgfd.gov](mailto:tcadden@azgfd.gov)

### Boating Safety Education

#### **Kim Jackson**

*Boating Safety Education Administrator*

Phone: (623) 236-7237

Fax: (623) 236-7903

E-mail: [kjackson@azgfd.gov](mailto:kjackson@azgfd.gov)

#### **Brittney Topel / John Bland**

Phone: (623) 236-7258 / (623) 236-7381

Fax: (623) 236-7903

E-mail: [btopel@azgfd.gov](mailto:btopel@azgfd.gov) / [jbland@azgfd.gov](mailto:jbland@azgfd.gov)

### Enforcement

#### **Gene Elms**

*Law Enforcement Branch Chief*

Phone: (623) 236-7307

Fax: (623) 236-7945

E-mail: [gelms@azgfd.gov](mailto:gelms@azgfd.gov)

### Facilities

#### **Ron Christofferson**

*Boating Facilities Program Manager*

Phone: (623) 236-7481

Fax: (623) 236-7327

E-mail: [rchristofferson@azgfd.gov](mailto:rchristofferson@azgfd.gov)

### Titling and Registration

#### **Madelynn Fenske**

*Watercraft Administrator*

Phone: (623) 236-7403

Fax: (623) 236-7719

E-mail: [mfenske@azgfd.gov](mailto:mfenske@azgfd.gov)

### Watercraft Law Enforcement Training

#### **Tim Baumgarten**

*Watercraft Law Enforcement*

*Program Manager*

Phone: (623) 236-7403

Fax: (623) 236-7945

E-mail: [tbaumgarten@azgfd.gov](mailto:tbaumgarten@azgfd.gov)

### Watercraft Accident Public Records

#### **Cindy Wall**

*Law Enforcement Branch*

*Administrative Assistant*

Phone: (623) 236-7380

Fax: (623) 236-7945

E-mail: [cwall@azgfd.gov](mailto:cwall@azgfd.gov)



**Boat Safe, Boat Smart, Boat Sober.**

Take a boating education class.



[www.azgfd.gov/boating](http://www.azgfd.gov/boating)

The Arizona Game and Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or disability in its programs and activities. If anyone believes that they have been discriminated against in any of the AGFD's programs or activities, including employment practices, they may file a complaint with the Director's Office, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, Arizona 85086, (602) 942-3000, or with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Ste. 130, Arlington, VA 22203. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation or this document in an alternative format by contacting the Deputy Director as previously mentioned.

## Administrative Authority

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission has been involved in boating safety and law enforcement since passage of the Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971. The Commission derives their authority from state law contained within Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) Title 5.

ARS § 5-311 outlines the powers and duties of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission to make the rules and regulations required to carry out, in the most effective manner, all the provisions of boating safety for the state of Arizona. By statute, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission's statewide boating safety program and

registration mandates are extremely broad. The Department is responsible for providing a safe watercraft recreation environment so that Arizona's lakes and rivers will be used, enjoyed and appreciated by present and future generations.

## Watercraft Law Enforcement

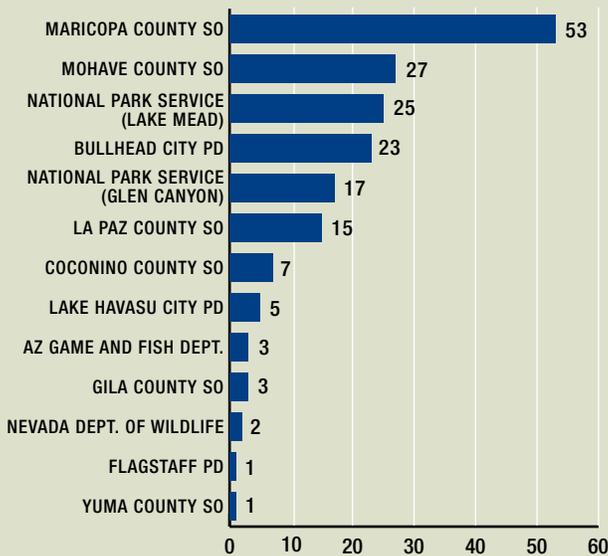
The Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) provides approximately 25 percent of all boating law enforcement effort statewide. The primary law enforcement authorities and emergency response capabilities resides with local agencies, which might be a state, county, municipality,

tribal, national park, or land management agency depending on the waterway's location.

The Department is the administrative agency responsible for watercraft accident reporting in the state of Arizona. If the accident involves an injury or fatality, a written report must be submitted by either the jurisdictional agency or the boat operator, within 48 hours. All other accidents must be reported within five days. These reports are then compiled, tabulated and forwarded, per a Memorandum of Agreement, to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) for use in national statistics.

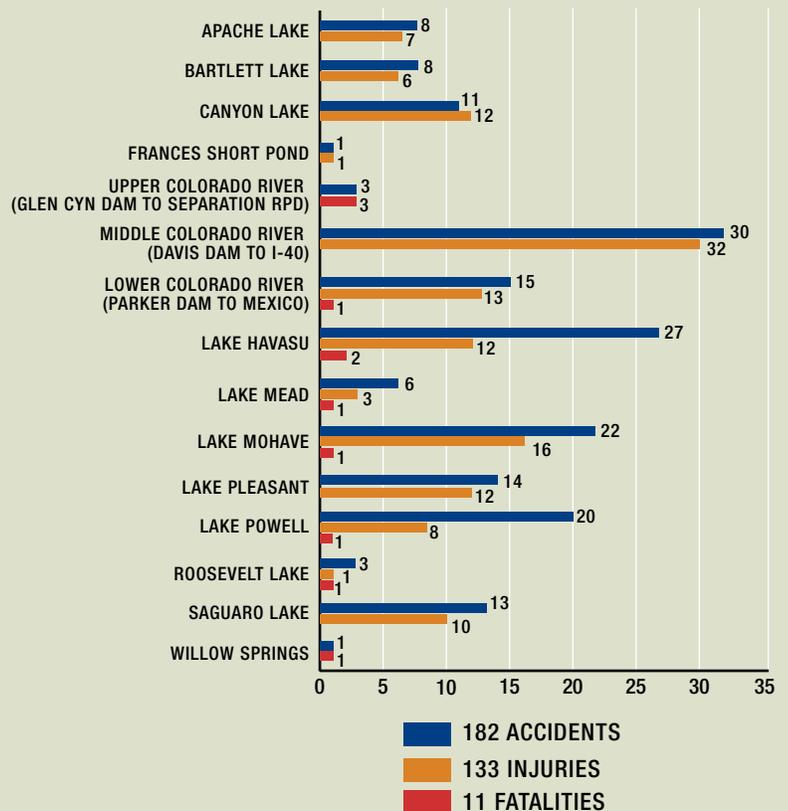
*(continued on page 5)*

**Agencies Reporting Accidents**  
182 Total Accidents



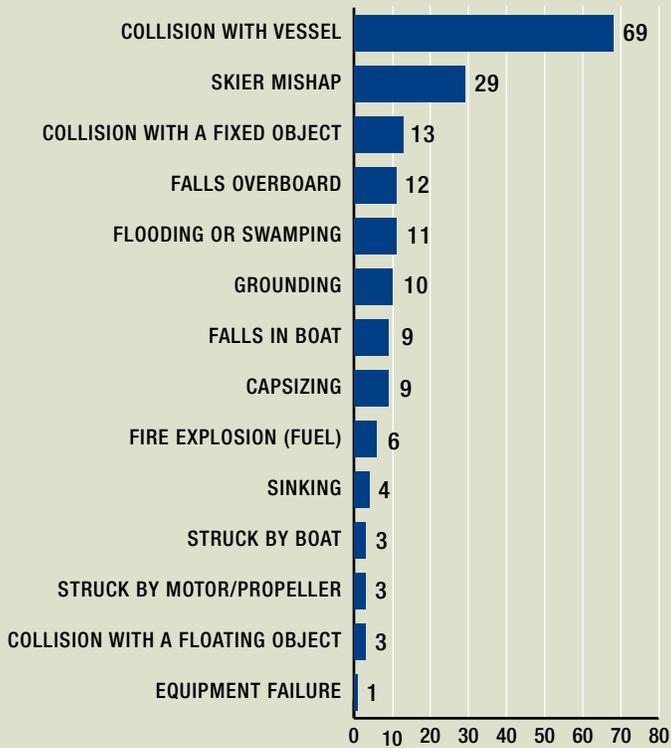
**Bodies of Water**

182 Total Accidents / 133 Injuries / 11 Fatalities



### Primary Accident Types

182 Total Accidents



### Primary Accident Cause

182 Total Accidents





In 2011, 13 law enforcement agencies, along with boat operators, reported 182 watercraft accidents totaling \$518,654 in damages. Information from these accident reports assist Arizona law enforcement agencies in identifying safety needs, developing new regulations, designing new enforcement techniques, identifying problems in manufacturing, and directing boating safety programs and law enforcement resources to particular areas of concern.

An area of priority to both recreational boat manufacturers and law enforcement agencies is the increasing use of personal watercraft (PWC) and associated accident rates on Arizona waterways. In 1990, only 8,168 PWCs

were registered in Arizona, compared to more than 24,970 in 2011. While PWCs comprise approximately 19 percent of all Arizona watercraft registrations, they represent thirty-six percent of all craft involved in accidents and thirty-two percent of all injury accidents. Many of these accidents can be attributed to inexperience of operators who are renting, borrowing or have recently purchased a PWC. A common factor is the unique steering control system of PWC's that is dependent on water-jet thrust. Although older models still rely greatly on operator experience, newer models are employing "off-throttle steering" that maintains a minimum of jet-thrust for steering even when there is no throttle

input. In addition, PWC's are very economical to operate and they average more time underway on the water than a traditional watercraft. Other factors regarding PWC's are their maneuverability—their ability to change directions rapidly and during a collision, there is very little or no protection for operator and passengers.

In addition, the Department provides an intensive, two week watercraft enforcement training course. The nationally recognized, Watercraft Enforcement and Patrol Officer's Course is approved by Arizona's Peace Officer's Standards and Training Board and includes classroom training regarding Arizona boating laws,

*(continued on page 6)*

officer survival, tactics, followed by an afternoon in a swimming pool with gear on and a week of scenario-based training involving boat operations on Lake Pleasant. In 2011, officers from six Arizona enforcement agencies, South Dakota and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service successfully completed the training.

## Operating Under the Influence

Since 1998, statistical analysis of boating accidents indicates that approximately forty-two percent of all Arizona fatal boat accidents (51 out of 122) involve alcohol. During 2011, nineteen or more than ten percent of reported boating accidents with injuries were determined to be alcohol related. This statistic is believed to be under-reported as there were an additional 11 operators that left the scene of the accident and were counted as unknowns.

In an effort to reduce alcohol related accident numbers, federal, state, county and local law enforcement agencies have developed partnerships to conduct cooperative operating under the influence (OUI) patrols, including participating in Operation Dry Water. Operation Dry Water is a one-weekend national effort from June 24-26th to emphasize boating under the influence on our nation's waterways. These multi-agency special projects include on-the-water sobriety checkpoints and targeted law enforcement saturation patrols from agencies in Arizona, Nevada, Utah and California, as well as federal officers from the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Statewide, watercraft law enforcement officers were very successful in detecting and arresting impaired boat operators. In 2011, law enforcement arrested 277 individuals for operating under the influence (Figure 1). Seven interagency saturation patrols and sobriety checkpoint operations were employed during the summer season in 2011, which resulted in twenty-nine of the 277 OUI statewide arrests. The seven interagency projects contacted 816 watercraft (with 3,423 persons on board), and law enforcement officers issued 224 citations for boating safety violations. The boating public has continued to be highly supportive of OUI interdiction efforts.

Many boat operators appear to be heeding the message of sober boating on the state's waterways. Watercraft law enforcement officers statewide have reported observing an increase of designated sober operators during routine contacts. To encourage the theme of designating operators, agencies along the Colorado River have partnered with local restaurants and the Lake Havasu Marine Association in the Lake Havasu City area to purchase "Designated Operator" wristbands and promote sober operation by offering

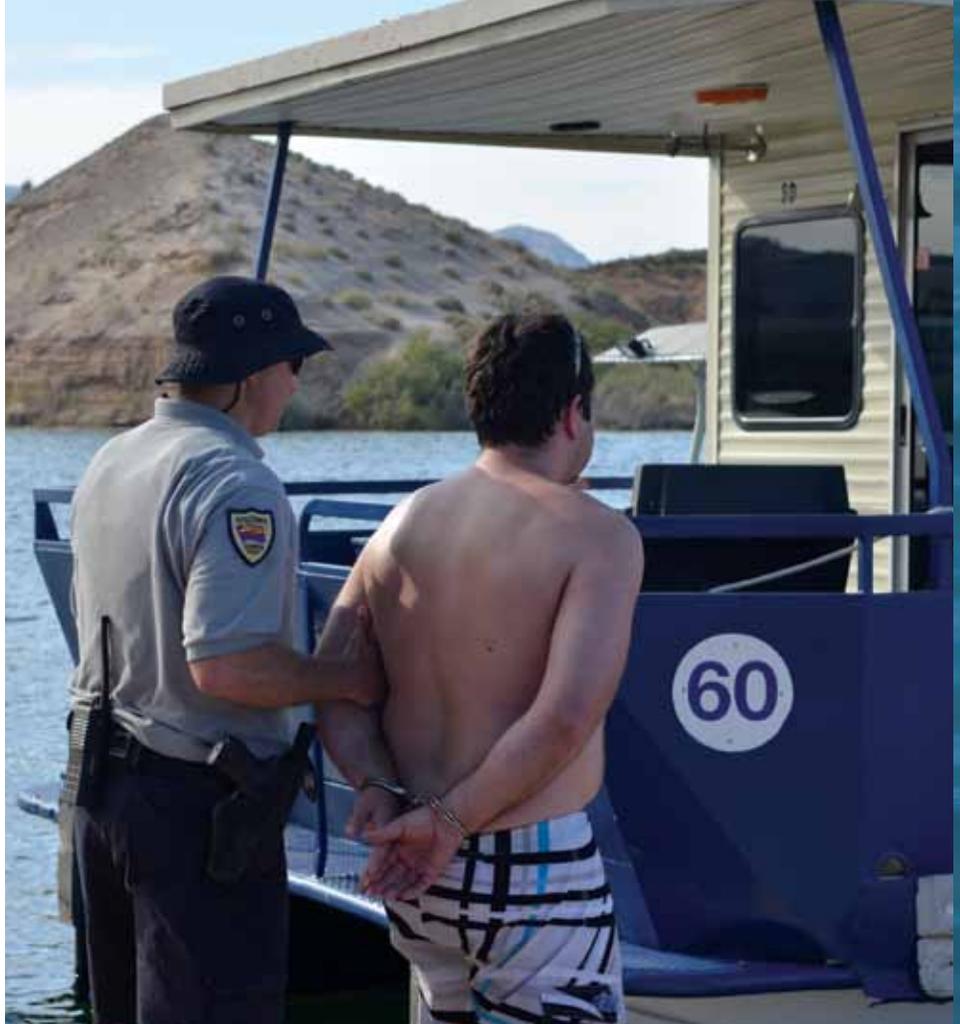
complimentary non-alcoholic drinks to those persons wearing designated operator wristbands at participating establishments. While encountering boat operators who practice safe and sober boating is highly encouraging, drinking while boating continues to be a critical problem and a high-priority objective for watercraft enforcement officers during patrols.

For over two decades watercraft enforcement officers have relied on seated field sobriety tests to determine an operator's impairment and develop probable cause for an OUI arrest. Although these tests continue to have value and have "withstood the test of time", they lacked scientific acceptance and their evidentiary weight often comes into question. Beginning in 2005, the Arizona Game and Fish Department became involved in a national effort by the National Association of State Boating Law



Administrators (NASBLA) and the United States Coast Guard to research and scientifically validate a seated battery of field sobriety tests. This effort came to a successful outcome in 2009 and since the research was completed, the Department's Law Enforcement Branch has continued to play a major leadership role in the development of the national curriculum and training of Arizona's watercraft enforcement officers. In 2011, Department instructors provided Arizona's first transition training course for the newly validated field sobriety tests. Twenty officers from six different agencies successfully completed the training and immediately started using the validated seated battery of field sobriety tests for operating under the

*(continued on page 8)*



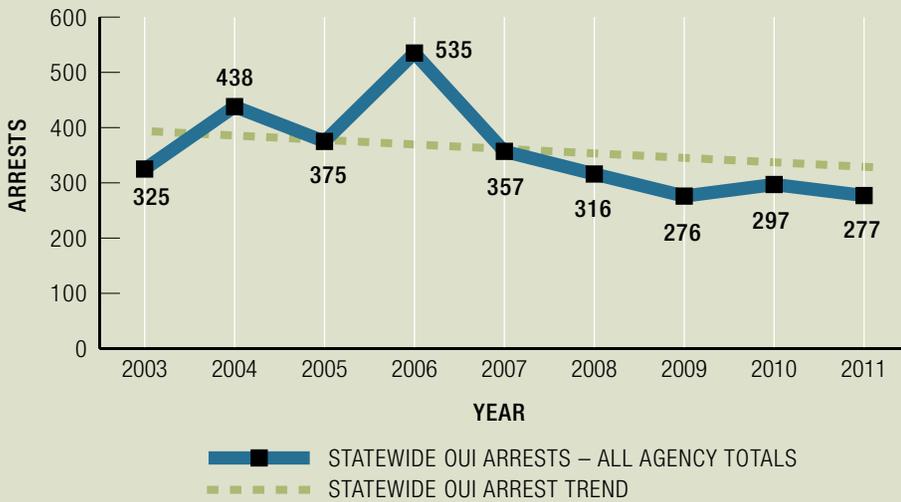
### 2011 Statewide OUI Arrest Totals by Agency

Agency	Arrests
Maricopa County Sheriff's Office	133
Arizona Game and Fish Department	47
Mohave County Sheriff's Office	30
Lake Havasu City Police Department	17
Bureau of Land Management	16
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	12
Bullhead City Police Department	8
Yuma County Sheriff's Office	8
National Park Service	3
La Paz County Sheriff's Office	2
Gila County Sheriff's Office	1

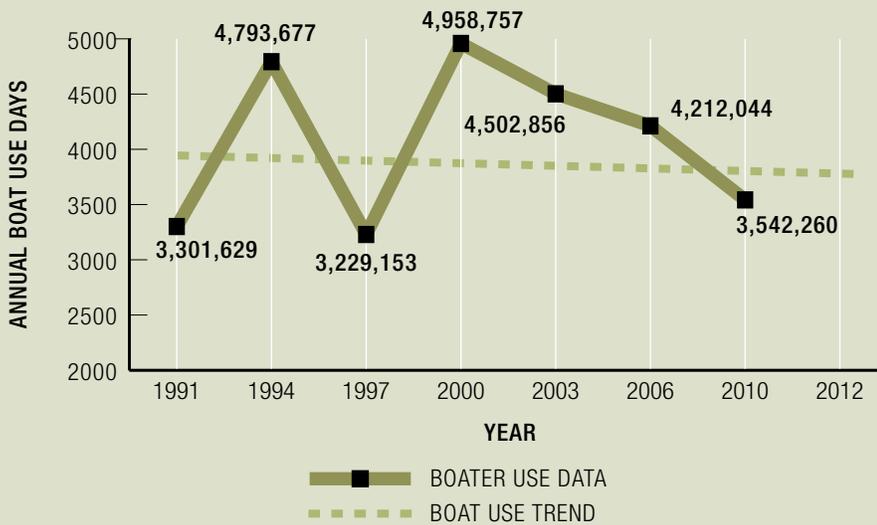
**277 Total**



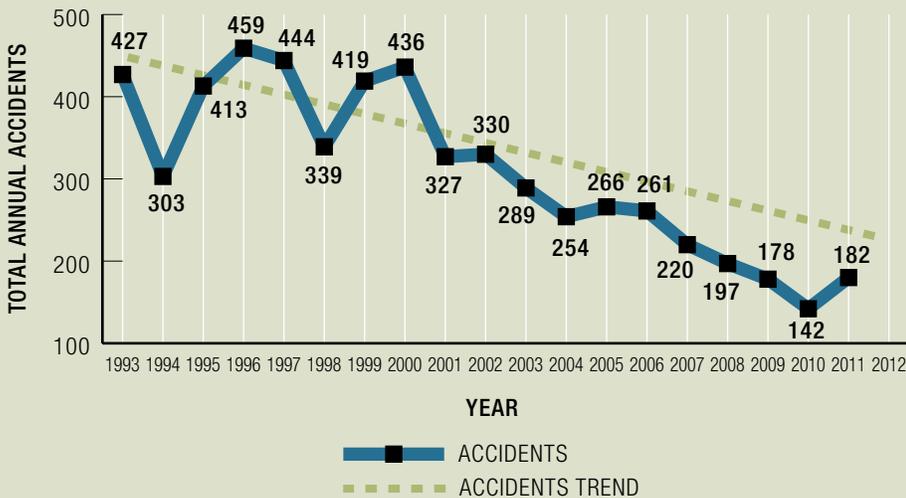
**Figure 1**  
All Agencies Statewide OUI Arrests Trend Data



**Figure 2**  
Annual Boat Use Days Trend



**Figure 3**  
Annual Accident Trend Data



influence investigations. Arizona and the Department have continued to demonstrate its national leadership in the field of recreational boating law enforcement, especially operating under the influence.

## Watercraft Accidents Statistics

While the boat use trend has gradually increased since 1991 (Figure 2), an analysis of boat accident data reveals a downward trend in total accidents, injuries and fatalities over that same time frame. Unfortunately the 2011 Arizona accident statistics deviated from that trend and returned to accident numbers experienced in 2009. In 2011, there were 182 boating accidents involving 264 vessels, with 133 individuals reporting injuries. An analysis of these numbers reveals there were 67 more vessels involved in accidents than in the prior year, while the total number of accidents increased by 40 (Figure 3). Following a record low of fatalities in 2009 then increasing to six in 2010, 2011 was disappointing due to more than doubling the number of fatalities for a total of eleven (Figure 5), with the number of injuries associated with accidents increasing by 44 (Figure 4).

In analyzing watercraft accident information, there are five main areas of interest: type and cause of the accident, operator information, boats and equipment involved,

*(continued on page 10)*





CATEGORY	2009	2010	2011	INCREASE/DECREASE
Total # of Accidents	179	142	182	Increase of 40 Accidents
Total # of Vessels	238	197	264	Increase of 67 Vessels
Total # of Injuries	119	89	133	Increase of 44 Injuries
Total # of Fatalities	2	6	11	Increase of 5 Fatalities
Total Estimated Property Damage	\$501,046	\$492,817	\$518,654	Increase of \$25,837



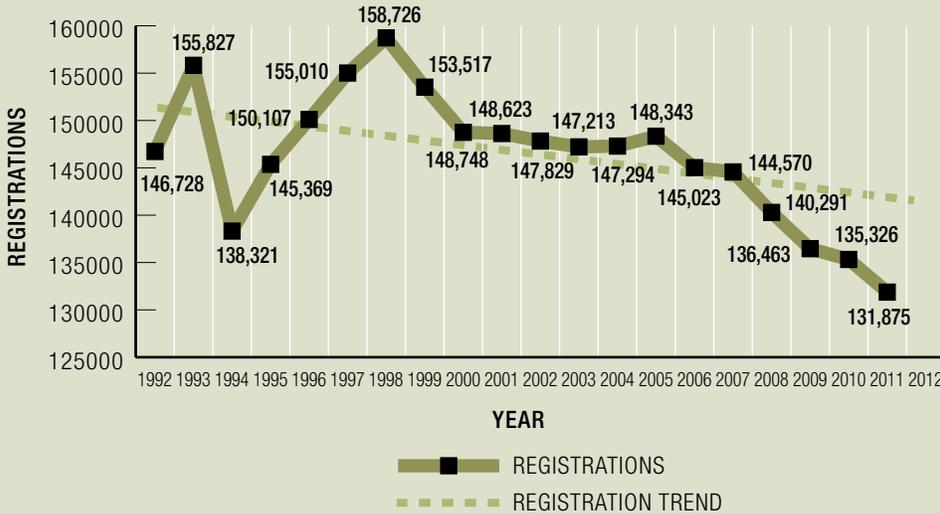
**Figure 4**  
Annual Injury Trend Data



**Figure 5**  
Fatality Trend



**Figure 6**  
Watercraft Registrations



environmental conditions at the time of the accident, and time and location of the accident. The three leading causes of accidents for the last 18 years has been operator inattention, operator inexperience and passenger/skier behavior. In 2011, this trend continued with operator inexperience determined to be the leading cause of boat accidents, while passenger/skier behavior and operator inattention were slightly lower. Arizona and California residents comprised seventy-two percent of all operators involved in boat accidents and were equally represented segments of that total. The types of watercraft most often involved in these accidents were open motorboats (48%) and personal watercraft (36%).

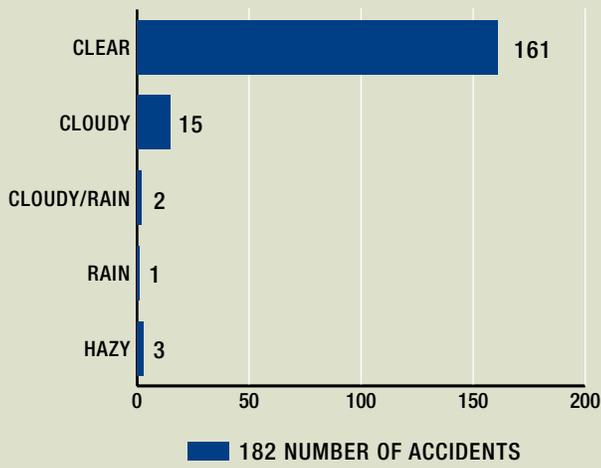
The average boat accident occurred during the day when weather conditions were usually clear, with good visibility and the waters calm or choppy. The most dangerous month for recreational boating in 2011 was July. June was second, with August third. The months of May, June, July, August and September traditionally have high numbers of boating accidents because they have peak boater day use along with the summer's busiest boating holidays: Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day. In 2011, forty-three percent of all accidents occurred between noon and 4 p.m. and weekends had the most accidents (34% on Saturday and 27% on Sunday).

## Boating Safety Education

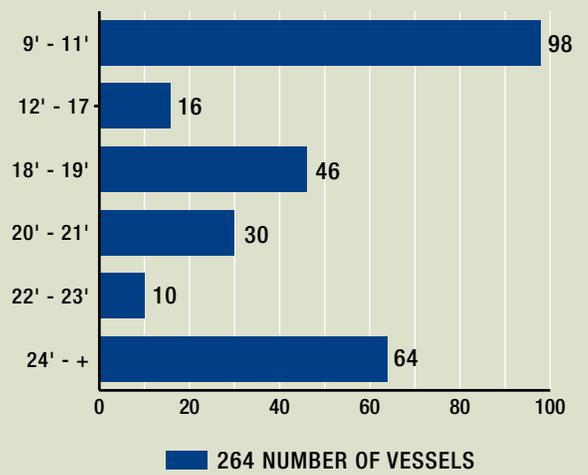
Education is considered to be one of the most effective ways to reduce the number of boating accidents. One of only eight non-mandatory boating safety education states / territories, the Department continues to provide its (approximately) eight-hour core

*(continued on page 13)*

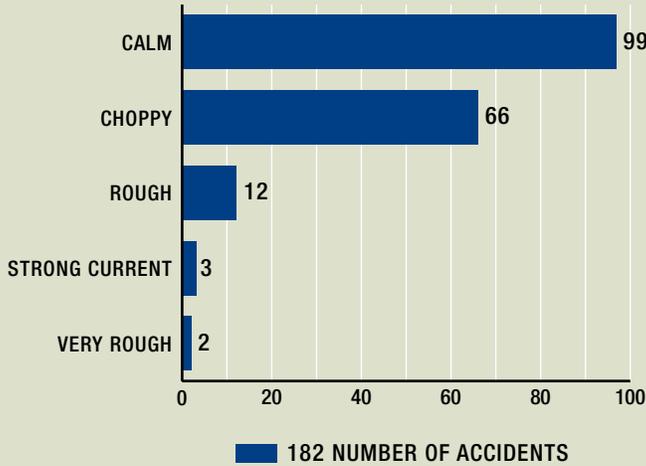
Weather Conditions



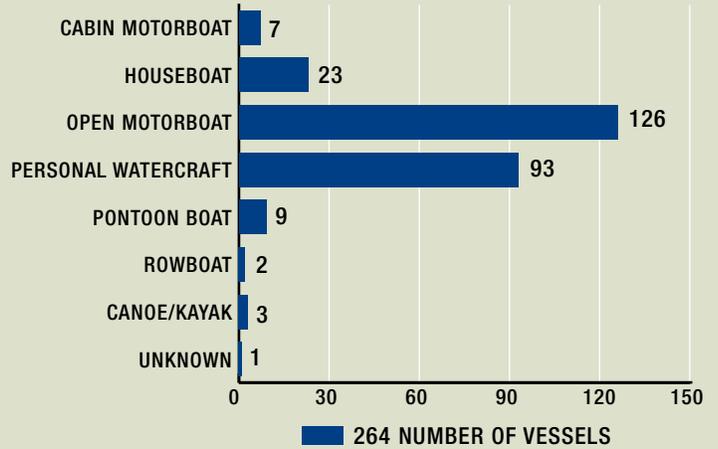
Length of Watercraft



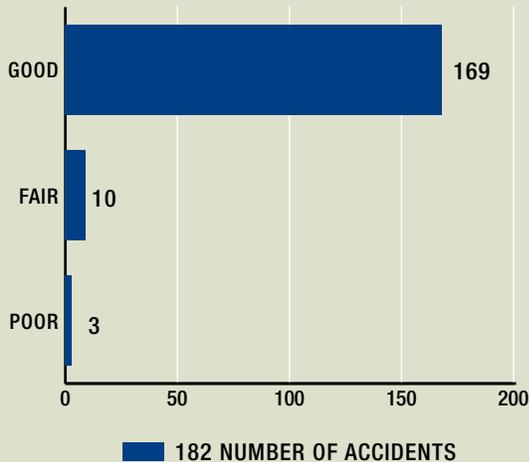
Water Conditions



Types of Watercraft in Accidents



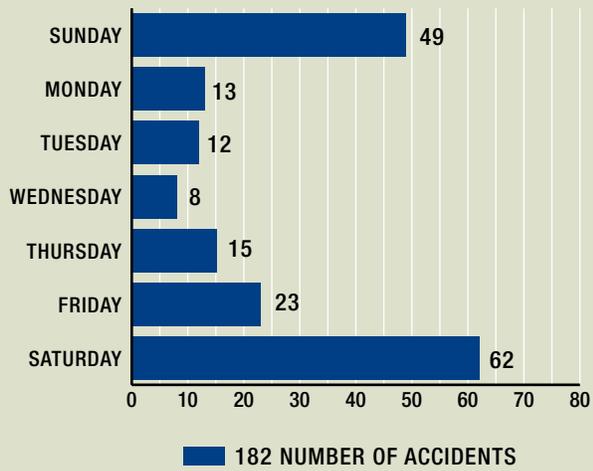
Visibility Conditions



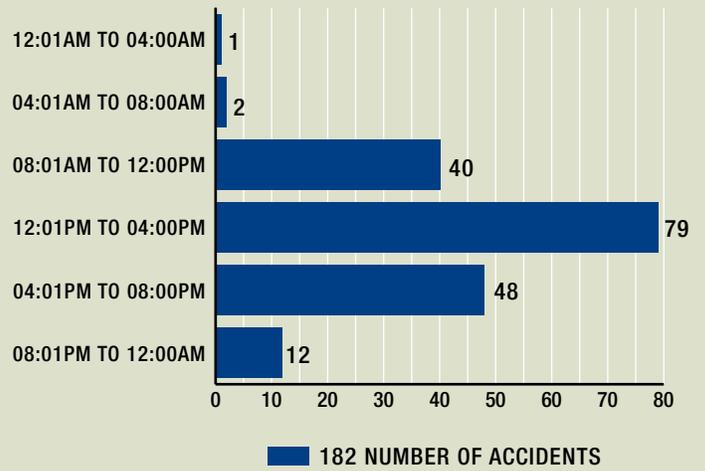
Accidents by Month



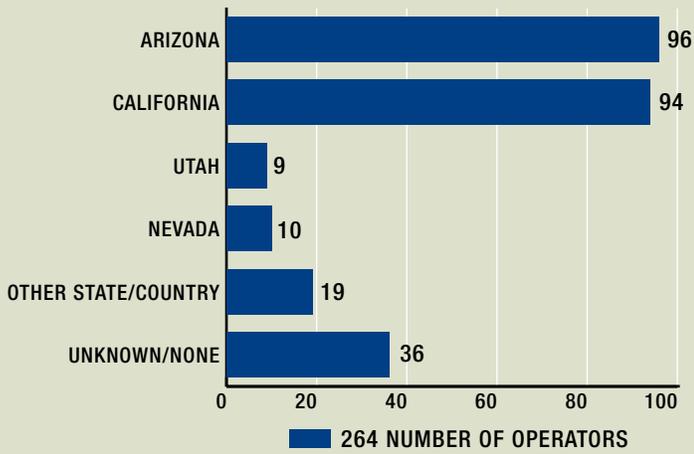
Accidents by Day of Week



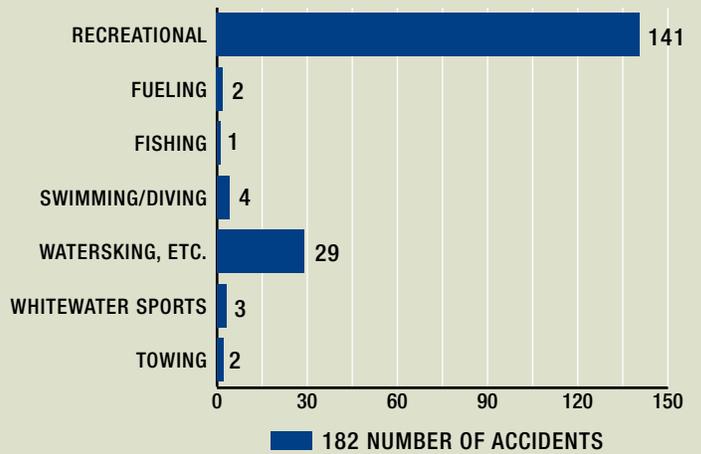
Accidents by Time of Day



Residency of Watercraft Operator



Activity at Time of Accident



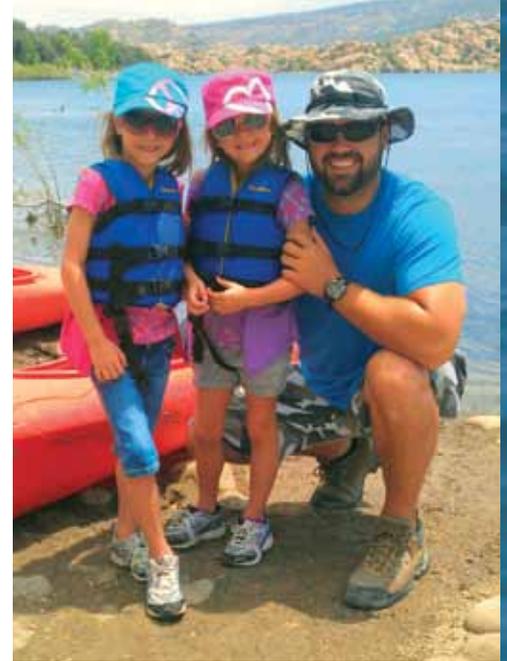


basic boating safety education course developed to provide new recreational power boaters the fundamental information they need to start boating safely. The course also serves as a good review for experienced boaters. In addition, in an effort to respond to emerging paddlesports injuries and deaths, the Department will be introducing Paddlesports Arizona, a classroom and hands-on boating education course specifically for kayak and canoe enthusiasts. Arizona was the first state in the country to offer this specialized curriculum for paddling in 2011.

Many insurance companies offer discounts to those individuals who successfully complete a boating safety course as a way to encourage boater education and reduce accidents. Currently, the Department's Education Branch annually reviews course content to meet nationally recognized education standards. Approximately 60 active volunteer boating education instructors from across the state provide classroom instruction. In 2011, the Department offered 39 classroom courses certifying 542 students. Approximately 609 students completed the Department's online, internet boating education course, a 3% decrease over the previous calendar year. We believe this slight decrease in the popularity of the online course was due to courts requiring a classroom course for

violators rather than an online course as part of a deferred sentence. Eighty-one students completed a boating safety education classroom course offered by the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Power Squadron and another 27 students were certified by Boat U.S. and BoaterExam.com after completing their approved internet course. The total number of students successfully completing a NASBLA approved boating safety education course in 2011 was a record 1259; 623 through a classroom course and 636 through an online option. This was accomplished by expanding the program into the public school system, and by partnering with Northern Arizona University's Outdoors Recreation Department.

Additionally, in the summer of 2012, the Department is working to upgrade the qualifications of its boating safety education instructors in an effort to increase and enhance their classroom presentation skills. Additionally, all Department paddlesports instructors will be qualified as active L1 (or higher) American Canoe Association Instructor.

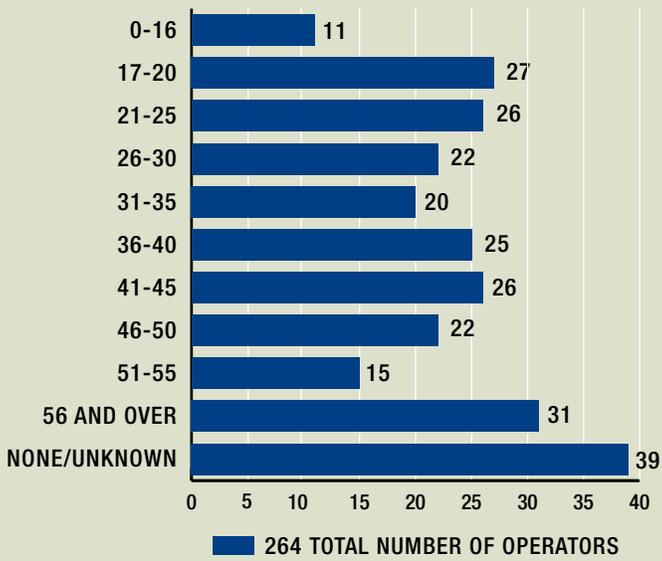


In 2010, the Department developed a "kid friendly" boating education platform by refurbishing a decommissioned patrol boat. With the engine, gas tanks and drive systems removed, the boat was given a brightly colored paint job, new decals and upholstery that matched the Arizona state flag. The Department's "Wear It! Boat" was born to promote the simple, yet critical message of lifejacket wear. Since its original deployment at the 2010 Arizona State Fair, the Wear It! Boat has been the subject of attention

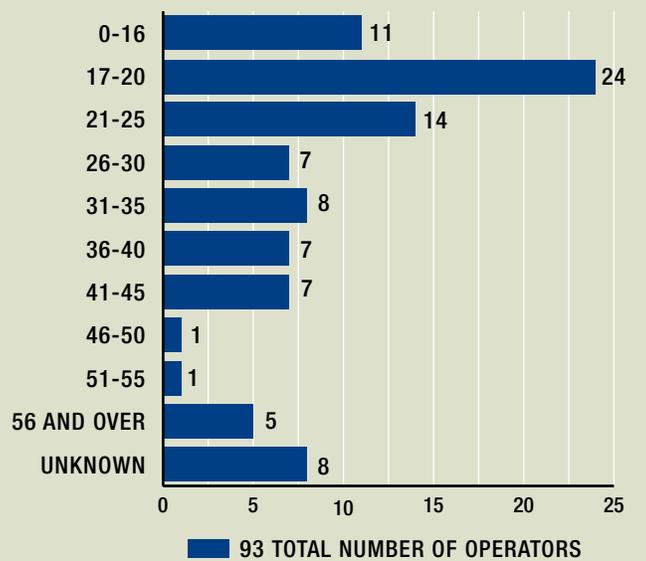
*(continued on page 15)*



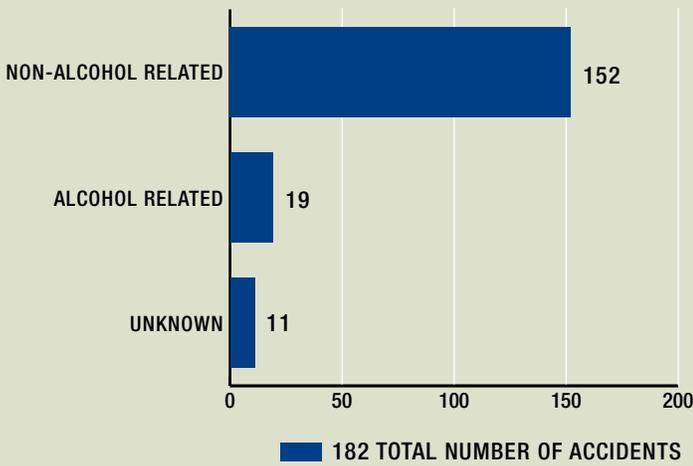
### Age of Watercraft Operators



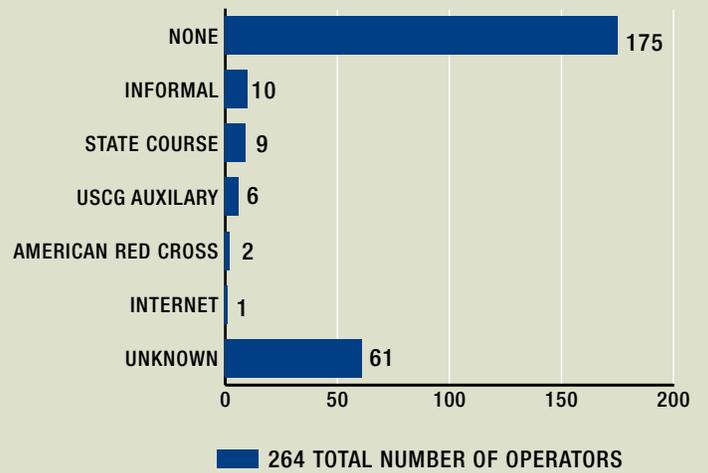
### Age of PWC Operators Involved in Accidents



### Total Number of Alcohol-Related Accidents



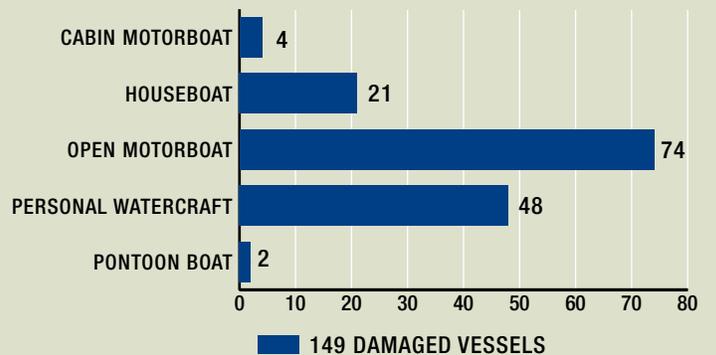
### Operator's Boating Education



14



### Property Damage Over \$500 Types of Watercraft





of over thirteen outreach events in 2011, providing the message to over 67,000 people and welcomed aboard over 1,200 kids and adults, all wearing the properly sized lifejacket.

The Department continues to work with the judicial system throughout the state to include its boating safety education program as part of alternative sentencing for violators of boating rules and regulations. Judges are encouraged to use the program in lieu of, or in addition to a monetary fine to help increase a boat operator's knowledge of boating safety and operation information and regulations. So far, judges and boating violators have indicated the program has proven beneficial to increasing awareness of boating safety issues and knowledge on the part of the operator.

## Recreational Boater Demographics

---

Boating continues to be an increasingly popular form of recreation in Arizona. The number of registered watercraft in Arizona has grown from 105,000 in 1986 to 135,326 in 2010 (Figure 6). This trend is supported by data from the Watercraft Gas Tax Survey conducted triennially. The Gas Tax Survey completed in late 2009 reported approximately 3,301,629 total boat use days for Arizona. This indicates a 31 percent decrease from the 4,793,677 boater use days calculated from the 2006 survey data (see Figure 2). Arizona boaters comprised 55 percent of those days, while California boaters made up 35 percent. Nevada

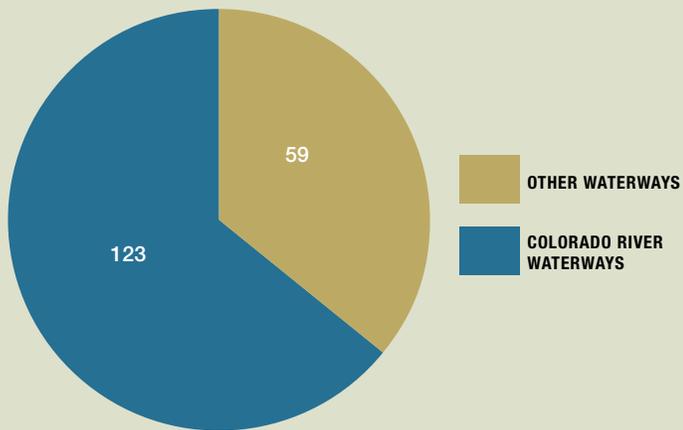
boaters represented most of the remaining percentage. Promoting the safety and education of all recreational boaters in Arizona, regardless of where they reside, is the main focus of the Arizona Game and Fish Department's watercraft safety program.

A significant number of boating accidents continue to occur on the Arizona border on the Colorado River. According to 2011 statistics, sixty-eight percent of all reported watercraft accidents in Arizona occurred on the Colorado River system, and notably, eighty-two percent of the fatalities. These statistics are compiled from the river reaches of the Colorado and include the reservoirs created by dams,

*(continued on page 16)*

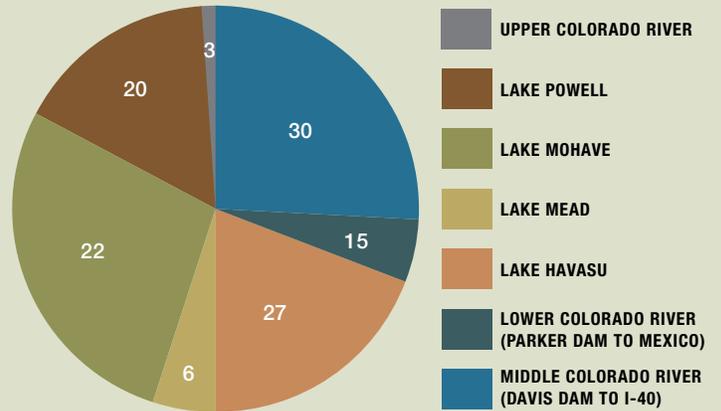
## Colorado System Compared to All Other Arizona Waters

182 Total Accidents



## Colorado River System

123 Accidents Reported in Arizona



which are Lake Powell, Lake Mead, Lake Mohave and Lake Havasu. The significant boater use densities along the Colorado River system from Lake Powell (north) to Yuma (south) is a significant area of concern to the Arizona Game and Fish Department and other law enforcement agencies.

An increase in law enforcement activity on both sides of the river, particularly OUI enforcement, and a focus on boating education have been

shown to help reduce the number of boating accidents along this high-use area.

This information was compiled from boating accident reports submitted to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by watercraft enforcement agencies and persons involved in watercraft accidents throughout Arizona and adjoining states.

Combined 2011 Colorado River statistics from Arizona, California and Nevada:

STATE	ACCIDENTS	INJURIES	FATALITIES
Arizona	122	84	9
California	25	24	4
Nevada	56	26	4
Totals	203	134	17



# National Association of State Boating Law Administrators

## ARIZONA'S 2012 BOATING OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement Ranger Michael Dodson is a 12 year veteran of the Lake Havasu Field Office. When Ranger Dodson transferred to Lake Havasu City, Arizona in 2000 he immediately embraced the boating program and became a subject matter expert on the culture, use and regulations on Lake Havasu. Mike works cooperatively with all agencies on the water and is held in high regard by his peers. He implemented a program utilizing US Coast Guard volunteers to assist him on the lake as certified boat operators.

Lake Havasu is the busiest lake in Arizona with over 900,000 boat use and 4.3 million person use days annually. Working the lake keeps Mike exceptionally busy. In 2011, he made hundreds of boating contacts with visitors to the Lake and as a result issued 53 watercraft related citations, and 112 warnings. Some of these contacts resulted in 16 operating Under the Influence arrests on Lake Havasu last year.

As a certified Emergency Medical Technician, Mike's duties include assisting the local authorities with search and rescue, emergency medical response to single and multi-casualty boating or drowning incidents. In 2011 Ranger Dodson responded to 35 EMS calls with 3 of those requiring serious intervention measures by him to include CPR, deployment of an AED, etc. Responding to many such incidents over the years has made Ranger Dodson even more relentless in his efforts to make Lake Havasu a safer place to recreate.

These numbers are consistent with his past year's efforts and although 2012 is Ranger Dodson's last year "on the water" he has not slowed down yet. He is already making plans for the upcoming season and Ranger Dodson will take the opportunity this year to mentor potential future Rangers on Lake Havasu who may follow in his wake.



Michael Dodson

### Arizona Boating Officers of the Year Previous Recipients:

- 2011 Andy Bahn**  
Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
- 2010 Sergeant Doug Schuster**  
Mohave County Sheriff's Office
- 2009 Curtis Herbert**  
Arizona Game and Fish Department
- 2008 Sergeant Doug Schuster**  
Mohave County Sheriff's Office
- 2007 Sergeant Wayne Lupinski**  
Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
- 2006 Jared Kayer**  
Mohave County Sheriff's Office
- 2005 Tim Baumgarten**  
Arizona Game and Fish Department
- 2004 Jerry Burns**  
La Paz County Sheriff's Office
- 2003 Deanna Pflieger**  
Arizona Game and Fish Department
- 2002** No officer named
- 2001 Gerald Duvall**  
Bullhead City Police Department
- 2000 Steve Andrews**  
Arizona Game and Fish Department



## RESOURCES

### Arizona Game and Fish Department

5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
(602) 942-3000  
[www.azgfd.gov/boating](http://www.azgfd.gov/boating)

### USCG

#### Boating Safety Division

[www.uscgboating.org](http://www.uscgboating.org)

#### National Safe Boating Council

[www.safeboatingcouncil.org](http://www.safeboatingcouncil.org)

#### National Association of State Boating Law Administrators

[www.nasbla.org](http://www.nasbla.org)

#### Arizona Boating Education Classes

(800) 824-2456

or

(623) 236-7219

[www.azgfd.gov/education](http://www.azgfd.gov/education)

#### American Canoe Association

[www.americancanoe.org](http://www.americancanoe.org)

#### Arizona Online Watercraft Registration

[www.azgfd.gov/boating](http://www.azgfd.gov/boating)

#### Tri-state Boating Safety

[www.boatcoloradoriver.com](http://www.boatcoloradoriver.com)

#### National Water Safety Congress

[www.watersafetycongress.org](http://www.watersafetycongress.org)



[www.safeboatingcampaign.com](http://www.safeboatingcampaign.com)

Boat Safe, Boat Smart, Boat Sober

