On April 8th, an accident occurred on the St. John’s River at approximately 7:30 pm. A 33-foot center console vessel with 13 people on board travelling toward Ed Stone State Park. The vessel operator fell asleep at the helm while the vessel was traveling at approximately 30 to 40 mph. The operator reported being shaken awake by an occupant but did not have enough time to correct the vessel direction or speed. The vessel left the river impacting trees and stopped roughly 70 feet from the river bank. Three of the vessel occupants received minor injuries consisting of lacerations and contusions.
2018 Boating Accident Review

Number of Accidents - Top Ten States 2017
(RECREATIONAL)

- Florida: 723
- California: 350
- North Carolina: 117
- Ohio: 117
- Arizona: 123
- Missouri: 124
- Maryland: 147
- South Carolina: 151
- New York: 167
- Texas: 170

*Based on $2,000 damage threshold
Source: U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division

Registered Vessels - Top Ten States 2017
(RECREATIONAL)

- Florida: 918,255
- California: 798,544
- Michigan: 825,658
- Minnesota: 745,641
- Wisconsin: 624,753
- Texas: 565,422
- Ohio: 541,898
- South Carolina: 534,726
- New York: 444,710
- North Carolina: 358,171

*Totals represent number of recreationally registered vessels in 2017
Source: U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division
2018 Boating Accident Review

2014 - 2018 Florida Reportable Accidents

2014-2018 Florida Total Registered Vessels

*Totals represent all currently registered vessels for that year
Source: Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV)