SUMMARY

BOATING ACCIDENT REVIEW

- Florida continues to lead the nation with a total number of 896,632 registered vessels in 2013.
- There were a total of 736 reportable boating accidents in 2013.

2013 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

- Miami-Dade County reported the highest number of accidents and injuries (104 total accidents with 4 fatalities and 50 injuries).
- Towed watersport activities were involved in 26 accidents. These accidents resulted in two fatalities and 26 injured persons. PWC were used in seven (27%) of the accidents.
- May was the month with the highest number of accidents.

2013 REPORTABLE BOATING FATALITIES

- 42% of the fatal accidents were falls overboard (22 accidents). Boaters falling overboard remains the main cause of boating fatalities.
- The leading cause of death in fatal boating accidents was drowning (74%).
- The deadliest month in 2013 was December with 12 fatalities.
- Alcohol or drug-use played a role in 15% of boating fatalities.
- 84% of the victims of fatal boating accidents were males (52).
- The total fatality count for 2013 is reported at 62.
- 72% (41) of the 57 operators involved in fatal accidents were over the age of 35.
- 49% (29) of all fatal accidents in 2013 involved vessels 16 feet or less in length.

2013 REPORTABLE BOATING INJURIES

- There were 736 accidents resulting in 420 injuries. The rate of injury was 47 injuries per 100,000 vessels.

2013 REPORTABLE PERSONAL WATERCRAFT ACCIDENTS

- Personal watercraft (PWC) accounted for 11% of all registered vessels in Florida.
- PWC were involved in 19% (137) of reportable boating accidents.
- 40% of PWC accidents involved a collision with another vessel.
- 48% of PWC accidents occurred in Monroe, Pinellas and Miami-Dade counties.
- Eight fatalities resulted from the 137 PWC accidents.

2013 BOATING EDUCATION STATISTICS

- FWC issued 36,251 Boating Safety Education ID Cards in 2013.
- 43% of the cards were issued to persons 21 years of age or younger.
- Of the 36,251 cards issued, 26,714 were issued to males, 8,613 were issued to females, and 924 cards did not specify the person’s gender.
- 63% of the operators involved in fatal accidents had no formal boater education.

Boating accident statistics for 2013 were compiled on 3/21/2104. Reports received after that date are not included in the following data. In 2013 there were eight missing persons reported. There has not been any updated information as to their status. The eight missing persons have been included in the fatality data.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## I. Glossary of Definitions for Boating Accident Report Forms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Accidents · 2012 Top Ten States</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Recreational Registered Vessels, Top Ten States</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Reportable Accidents (2009-2013)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Florida Registered Vessels (2009-2013)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## II. Boating Accident Review

- Number of Accidents · 2012 Top Ten States
- Number of Recreational Registered Vessels, Top Ten States
- Florida Reportable Accidents (2009-2013)
- Total Florida Registered Vessels (2009-2013)

## III. 2013 Reportable Boating Accidents

- 2013 Vessel Registration and Accident Statistics by County
- Top Twelve Counties
- Investigating Agency
- Accidents by Month
- Time of Day
- Accident Site Location
- Restricted Area Accidents
- Primary Type of Accident
- Secondary Type of Accident
- Operation at Time of Accident
- Activity at Time of Accident
- Vessel Count in Reportable Accidents
- Vessel Type, Length & Propulsion
- Vessel Fuel & Hull Type
- Vessel and Property Damage Cost (2005-2013)
- Vessel Ownership
- Primary Cause Assessed by Reviewing Authority
- Boat Operator Age, Experience and Gender
- Operator/Occupant Swimming Ability and PFD Use
- Operator Education
- Operator by Age with No Boater Education (2011-2013)
- Victim Statistics
- State Waters vs. Offshore Waters Accidents
IV. 2013 Boating Fatalities

Top States 2012 ........................................................................................................ 14
Florida Total Fatalities Recorded (2010-2013) .......................................................... 14
Investigating Agency .................................................................................................. 14
Fatal Accidents by Month .......................................................................................... 15
Time of Day .................................................................................................................. 15
Accident Types ............................................................................................................. 15
Operation at Time of Accident .................................................................................. 16
Accident Site Location ............................................................................................... 16
Restricted Area Fatal Accidents ................................................................................ 16
Vessel Ownership ....................................................................................................... 17
Vessel Fuel & Hull Type .............................................................................................. 17
Vessel Propulsion, Length & Type .............................................................................. 17
Primary Cause of Death .............................................................................................. 18
Operator Gender ......................................................................................................... 18
Operator Age and Experience .................................................................................... 18
Operator Education .................................................................................................... 19
Operators by Age without Formal Boater Education ............................................... 19
Victim Statistics (Ejected, Wearing PFD, Swimming Ability) .................................... 19
Victim Residency ....................................................................................................... 20
Victim Gender and Age ............................................................................................. 20
Alcohol/Drug Related Accidents and Victims .......................................................... 20
Primary Cause Assessed by Reviewing Authority .................................................... 21
State Waters vs. Offshore Waters Fatalities ............................................................. 21

V. 2013 Boating Injuries

Total Injuries Recorded (2010-2013) ........................................................................ 22
Types of Injury ............................................................................................................. 22
Victim Statistics (Injured) .......................................................................................... 23
Victim Swimming Ability and PFD Use ...................................................................... 23

VI. 2013 Personal Watercraft (PWC) Accidents

PWC Registration and Accidents by County .............................................................. 24-25
PWC Registration ....................................................................................................... 26
PWC Accidents (2009-2013) ...................................................................................... 26
Top Eleven Counties for PWC Accidents .................................................................. 26
Accident Site Location ............................................................................................... 27
VII. 2013 Personal Watercraft (PWC) Accidents (Continued)

Restricted Area Accidents.................................................................27
Operation at Time of Accident......................................................27
Primary Type of Accidents...............................................................28
PWC Operator Age, Ownership and Experience............................28
PWC Operator Education...............................................................29
PWC Operators by Age without Boater Education (2010-2013)........29
PWC Fatalities (2010-2013)..............................................................29
PWC Injuries (2010-2013)...............................................................29
Primary Injury Types.....................................................................30
PWC Fatalities/Injuries vs. Total Fatalities/Injuries..........................30
Primary Cause Assessed by Reviewing Authority.........................31
Investigating Agency.....................................................................31

VIII. 2013 Boating Education Statistics

Top Ten Counties ........................................................................32
Card Distribution by Age .............................................................32
Operators Involved in Accidents..................................................33
Operators Involved in Fatal Accidents..........................................33

IX. 2013 Boating Violation Statistics

2013 Uniform Boating Citation Summary......................................34

X. Details for Top Twelve Counties

Top Twelve County Summary.......................................................35
Miami-Dade County....................................................................36-37
Monroe County............................................................................38-39
Palm Beach County......................................................................40-41
Broward County..........................................................................42-43
Pinellas County..........................................................................44-45
Lee County...................................................................................46-47
Brevard County..........................................................................48-49
Okaloosa County.........................................................................50-51
Collier County.............................................................................52-53
Duval County..............................................................................54-55
Hillsborough County.................................................................56-57
Martin County.............................................................................58-59
XI.  Trend Analysis

Reportable Accidents 2004-2013 .......................................................... 60
Recreational Vessel Registration 2004-2013 ........................................... 60
Fatalities 2004-2013 ..................................................................... 60
Injuries 2004-2013 ...................................................................... 60
Boating Safety Education ID Cards Issued 2004-2013 ..................... 61
Fatalities by Quarter 2004-2013 ....................................................... 61
Fatalities- Quarters 1 and 2 ............................................................... 62
Fatalities- Quarters 3 and 4 ............................................................... 63