



Homeland Security

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11 Northern Region**
Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah

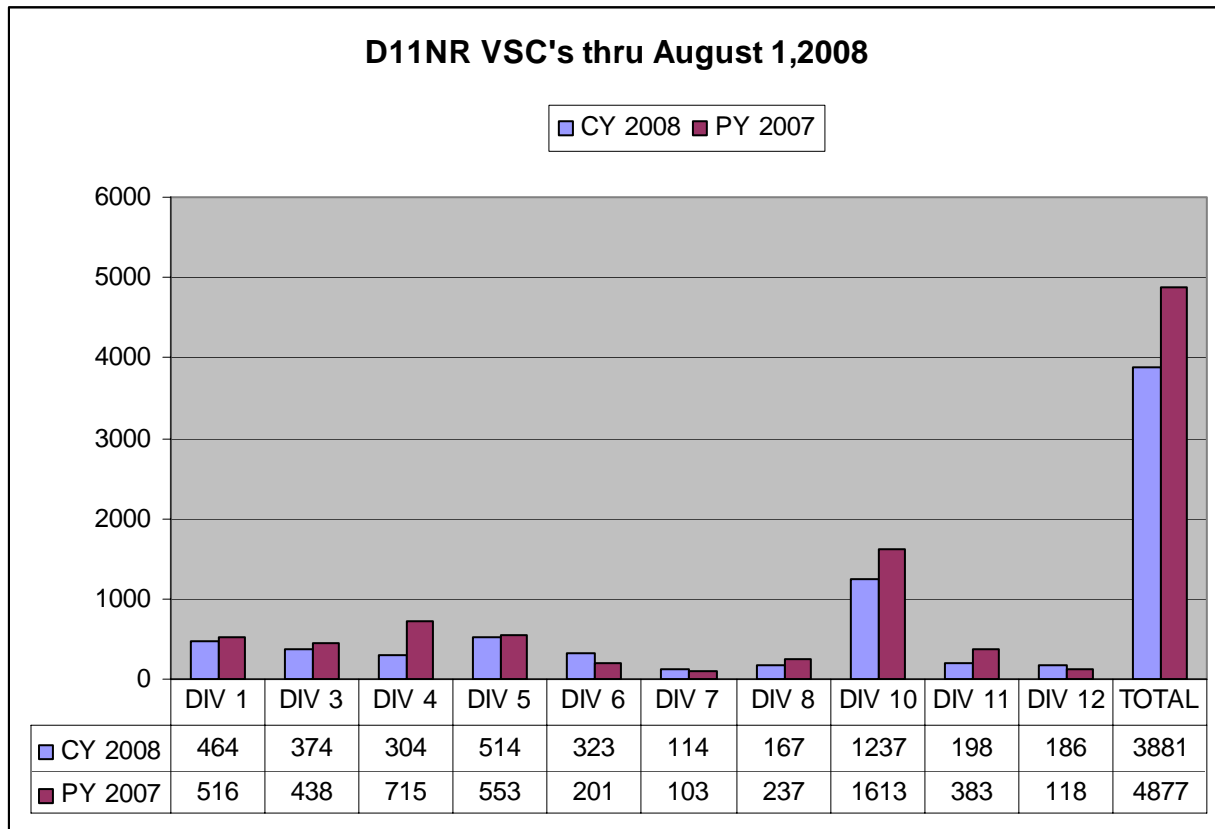


**Vessel Examinations Department
Report for: August 2008**

To: VCO Michael L. Williams D11NR
From: Michael J. Lauro – DSO-VE 11NR
Cc: DCO Victor J. Connell, IPDCO Eric Jacobson, DIRAUX, All RCO's,
All DCPs, All DSO's, ADSO-VE, and All SO-VE's
Subject: DSO-VE Report



Division Statistics*



*As shown in AUXINFO thru July 31, 2008.

District Statistics*

YTD DISTRICT VSC COUNT: 3881* PYTD DISTRICT VSC COUNT: 4877*

We are 42% of the District goal of 7,500 VSC's and 80% of 2007 production. Stats from AUXINFO* indicate that 2360 or 61% of our VSC's are First Time VSC's. In addition 2019 or 52% are High Risk VSC's.

*As shown in AUXINFO thru July 31, 2008.

VSC Calendar

- National Marina Day-August 9th
- Vessel examiner Class at the PCA Fair August 16th and 17th-Coast Guard Island

National/District News

There appears to be some confusion regarding the inflatable life jackets issued over the past two months.

1-The intent of the distribution was to provide Auxiliary vessel examiners, public education instructors and public affairs personnel with a means of educating the recreational boating public by example. They should be worn to illustrate the comfort and ease of operation.

2- These are manually activated inflatable life jackets. The CO 2 cylinders are already installed for activation.

3-The life jackets are the property of the Coast Guard and are only on loan, similar to the personal protection equipment we received. There are NO maintenance funds. If a cylinder is discharged it will need to be replaced by the individual, their unit or the CG.

4-THIS IS A ONE-TIME ALLOCATION.

Source: Pete Urgola DC-V

-Please pass the word that registration ends August 10th for the Vessel Examiner class at the PCA Fair a over the weekend of August 16th and 17th and the fee is now \$10.00. This is still a great bargain and is an excellent opportunity for new members to get started in the Auxiliary. The 2-day class includes the final exam and a VSC demo on a vessel. A power-point presentation and many handouts will be provided. The member is required to bring a copy of the VSC Manual which is available for download on the D11NR Vessel Examiner website:

<http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve.html>

In addition the member needs to review the material prior to class. Additional arrangements can be made at the class to perform the 5 VSC's to complete the qualification. If there are any questions, please have the member contact me at: sumfun@juno.com.

-Phil Grove DSO-PV has announced that he will have a ½ day Program Visitor class at the August PCA Fair. For more information about the class and scheduling, you can contact Phil at: groventer@aol.com.

-NO NEW PERMIT FOR BOATS REQUIRED

ALEXANDRIA, VA, July 22, 2008 – In a remarkable display of bipartisan support for recreational boating, both the House and Senate today passed S. 2766, "The Clean Boating Act of 2008" which will permanently restore a long-standing exemption for recreational boats from permitting requirements under the Clean Water Act. The legislation now goes to the White House for the President's signature. Congressional action was spawned by a U.S. District Court decision in September 2006 under which an estimated 17 million recreational boats would have fallen under Clean Water Act permit requirements effective September 30, 2008. The permit would have dictated maintenance and operation procedures and potentially subjected boaters to citizen lawsuits as well as a penalty system designed for industrial polluters.

Source: BOAT/US-July 2008

-Boat Fatalities drop to Near-Record Low. Boating fatalities in 2007 dropped to their lowest number in three years and third lowest ever, according to figures published by the Coast Guard's Office of Boating Safety. There were 688 boating deaths last year, down from 710 in 2006. In 2004, boating fatalities hit an all-time low of 676-the least number ever recorded since records were 1st kept in the early 70's. By comparison, in 1973 some 1,754 boaters died in accidents. Overall, the trend has been downward for more than 30 years. More information is available in the July 2008 of BOAT/US Magazine.

Source: BOAT/US-July 2008

-In the continuing evolution to provide information to assist both the new and experienced vessel examiners, there have several NEW additions and updates on YOUR Vessel Examiner website:
<http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve.html>.

-Please share this report with your FSO-VE's and local examiners. In addition to other important information, you can always find a copy on the District website:
<http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve.html>.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Lauro DSO-VE



Let's work together for our safety and the safety of others by setting an example and wear our lifejackets while performing VSC's especially when working around docks and when climbing aboard large vessels!

