



Homeland Security

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



Vessel Safety Check Report

November 2014

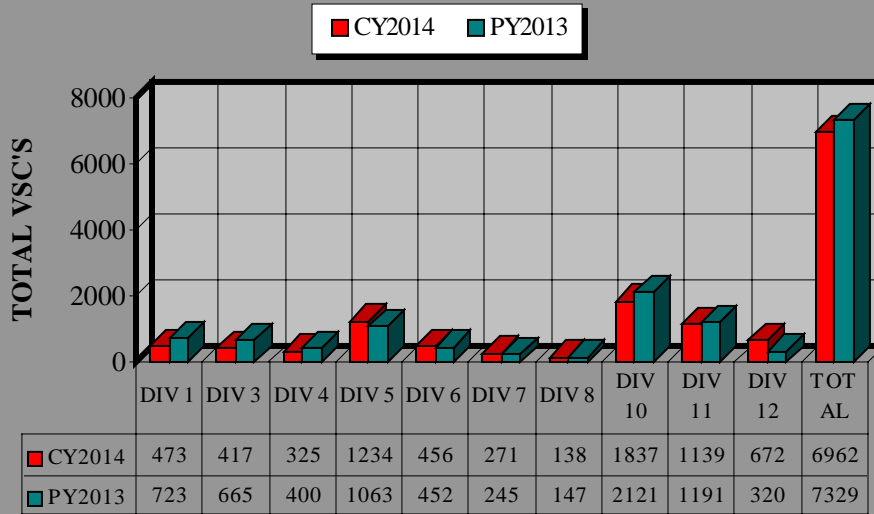
Mike Lauro DSO-VE

Jan Jewell ADSO-VE/CS



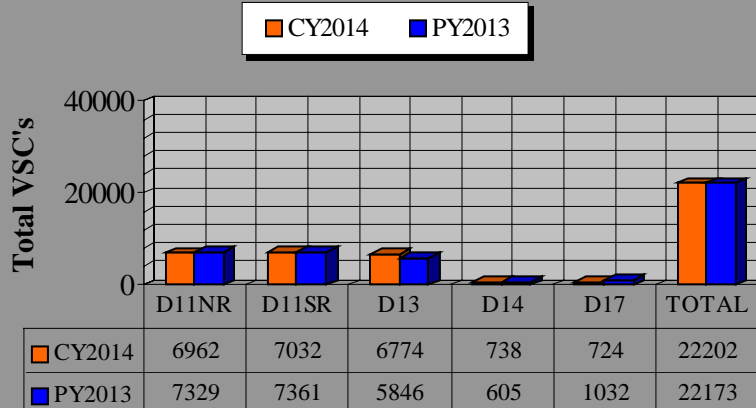
District Statistics*

D11NR VSC PRODUCTION THRU October 31, 2014



PAC Area Statistics*

PAC AREA VSC's THRU October 31, 2014



The goal for D11NR is 12,500 VSC's. We are 56% of our goal for the year and 95% of 2013 production at this time. The data source is AUXINFO*. Additional stats from AUXINFO* indicates that 5,546 or 80% have passed the VSC, 3,104 or 44% are First Time VSC's, 2,585 or 37% are High Risk VSC's. In addition, 2,009 Paddlecraft VSC's have been performed, which is approximately 29% of our total VSC production.

*Statistics as shown in AUXINFO thru October 31, 2014

Welcome Aboard and Welcome Back!

With the addition of these new examiners for 2014, our examiner base is now **225** active examiners. This represents about **14%** of our total District membership-down from **287** or **18%** of our membership. This information is supplied by the Director's office, as examiners are qualified.

*recertified

NO NEW MEMBERS TO REPORT

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following member(s) who have achieved the **60+ VSC** plateau for **2014**. These **28** members are an elite group-approximately **8%** of our D11NR Vessel Examiner membership who have performed over **51%** or over 3,500 VSC's of the D11NR VSC total! These names will be listed on the member recognition page:

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

Richard A. Saber*	01-02	Jerel Berkov*	01-04
Robert J. Aston*	01-04	Charles M. Duncan*	03-09
Michael K. Fiamingo*	04-01	Billy Ray*	05-02
Wilfred A. Sumner*	05-05	Ronald A. Kram*	05-05
Jim D. Blackburn*	05-07	David W. Raymond*	06-01
Robert G. Kay*	06-01	Paul P. Custance*	07-03
Michael J. Lauro*	10-02	Anthony D. Leonardi*	10-02
Phillip E. Grove*	10-05	Douglas T. Lazo*	10-05
Steven T. Pitts*	10-05	Neil P. Sliva*	10-05
Steven W. Dicken*	10-06	Kenneth L. McSheehy*	10-06
Thomas B. Henderson*	11-01	Steven B. Perez*	11-01
Dennis F. Hogan	11-04	James L. Snell*	11-04
James J. Duffley	12-01	Chester R. Bartalini	12-01
Duane L. Blackwell*	12-01	Ryan P. Renard	12-91

*Indicates repeat performer

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following member(s) who have recently achieved the coveted **Recreational Boating Safety Device (RBS)**. These members are part of elite group-**73** members or approximately **5%** of our D11NR membership who have dedicated 2-years to achieve this recognition! Check to see if your name is listed on the member recognition page: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/recognition.html>

NO NEW MEMBERS TO REPORT

Calendar

-National Safe Boating Week May 16th-22nd 2015


Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following examiners who have recently achieved the 20 or more VSC plateau during 2014:

Paul S. Verveniotis	04-03	Curtis S. Han	05-02
Robert M. Gallup	05-07	Paul P. Custance	07-03
Joseph R. Chavoen	10-03		

This brings our total to 65 examiners reaching this plateau!! This is approximately 28% the total District vessel examiner base. 2013 had examiners 77 or 24% at this time. Please check the D11NR Vessel Examiner recognition site:

<http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/recognition.html> for your name! It is also accessible from the D11NR Vessel Examiner site: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/ve.html>.

 **VSC Questions-** These are actual questions from VE Exam Version "F" dated 2007. Answers can be found in another location in the report.

1- You're checking a PWC. When you ask the owners where they operate the PWC on coastal waters, they say, "no". Then, when you ask them if they have flares or other Visual Distress Signals aboard, they reply, "no." If everything else is okay, can you issue a VSC decal to this PWC?

- a. No, the VSC program is designed for real powerboats and sailboats. We can look at PWCs, but no matter how well equipped, we cannot give these thrill craft a decal.
- b. No, all vessels must have flares that are not expired when operating in coastal waters and PWC operators are no exceptions.
- c. Yes, if the PWC is less than 16 feet and operating during the day, then no VDS are required. However, suggest to the owners that they carry a distress signal flag and explain how to properly use their arms in the universally understood distress signal. Some states may require VDS's.
- d. Yes, but make the owners promise to only operate on inland waters since inland waters have different and much less stringent VDS requirements.

2- You are checking a PWC with a maximum speed of 75 mph. When you ask the owner to show you the "kill switch" you are told that it doesn't work. Is this acceptable for a VSC decal?

- a. No, all vessels under 21' need to have operable kill switches.
- b. No, PWCs are thrill craft and the VE shouldn't even be checking these. They are not eligible for VSC decals.
- c. No, the device must be in working order. The VE needs to discuss the importance of hooking this up every time the PWC is used.
- d. Yes, because we don't need to check these items. As long as the PWC operator has on the proper PFD for a maximum speed of 75 mph, the intent of the VSC is satisfied.

 National and District News National News

NOTHING NEW TO REPORT

 District News

-Just a reminder that if you have NOT completed the REQUIRED National Vessel Examiner (VE) workshop as required by June 30, 2014, you are now in REWK status. Any VSC activity after this date will not be able to be entered into AUX DATA until the workshop has been completed. Failure to complete the required workshop by December 31, 2014, will place you in REYR status, which means you will have to complete the required workshop and in addition perform 2 VSC's with a qualified examiner and then submit the MT-2 to DIRAUX to be reinstated. Please go to the D11NR website: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/ve.html> where you can find an easy to follow link to AUXLMS for the 30-minute workshop, or a 1 1/2 hr power-point presentation shown at D/Train that can be downloaded and presented by a qualified instructor locally. If you attempt the AUXLMS version, PLEASE make certain you take the FULL 30-minutes!

-PLEASE do NOT wear boots when performing a VSC on a vessel that you need to climb aboard. Our program allows for deck shoes, white or black tennis/walking with soft soles. If this is not an option, please consider purchasing disposal shoe/boot covers available at Walmart, etc, a package of 10 for under \$10.

-VSC's ON RENTALS-At the request of Commodore Collins, to maintain uniformity in the VSC program, moving forward, ALL VSC's for rental agencies that rent pwc's, fishing boats, houseboats, paddlecraft, etc. will now require a D11NR Rental Agreement with the dealer. This program is relatively simple, straightforward, and is self-explanatory. You can find a copy of the instructions (ML-1), a sample introduction letter (ML-2), and a copy of the agreement (ML-3) on the D11NR Vessel Examiner (VE) website:

<http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/ve.html> under "VE FORMS". These are done in Microsoft "Word" and you can tailor them for your individual needs. Please note that to participate in this program, a Program Visitor (PV) is required. However, if you are a Vessel Examiner (VE) and a current Program Visitor (PV), you can fulfill that requirement. Please print (2) copies-one for you to keep after signed by the vendor, and one for the vendor to keep after you and the Program Visitor (PV) have signed it. You should maintain your copies for the calendar year.

-A special request from the Director's office; PLEASE have the qualifying members 7038 with the 5 VSC's entered into AUXDATA by the FSO/SO-IS PRIOR to submission of the MT-2 to the Director's office.

 Dockwalker News

Nothing new to report.

VE Test Question Answers

1. "C" page 11 VSC Manual
2. "C" page 27 VSC Manual

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!

