



Meeting Agenda

9:30am	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks for our host, Malcolm Russell • Introductions • Request for note taker
9:35 am	<p>Aquatic Invasive Species Legislation - Carl Klein, Bill Tweit, Allen Pleus, DFW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big problem, expensive solutions! • Proposed new legislation & funding options. • What are the impacts for boaters? What is the outreach to other stakeholders?
10:20am	<p>Petition Process for No Discharge Zone – Amy Jankowiack, DOE & Bob Ranzenbach, RBAW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOE will send a draft petition to EPA asking for all of Puget Sound to become a NDZ. www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/nonpoint/CleanBoating/nodischargezone • Final comment period to open soon.
10:40am	<p>Update on Derelict Vessel Funding - Melissa Ferris, DNR A bright spot on our agenda? We welcome Melissa to update us on funding for this successful program, and how her group is bringing commercial vessel owners into the conversation.</p>
11:10am	Break--
11:15	<p>Recap/Lessons from 2013 & Planning for the 2014 Legislative Session , Doug Levy, RBAW Lobbyist & Peter Schrappen, NMTA</p>
11:25	<p>Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency: DNR, DFW, RCO, Parks, DOE, PSP • NMTA & Clean Boating Foundation, • Boating: (RBAW, NYBA, USCG, US Power Squadrons, USCG Aux) <p>Other: Fish Northwest, Shoreline Master Plan</p>
12:15pm	<p>WBA Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of September minutes (pages 2-4) • Reference WBA Policy Agenda, page 5. • Annual Meeting Planning committee: Heather Gibbs, Steve Sherlock, Peter Schrappen & U? • Boater Safety Checks & Boarding Discussion Group 1st Meeting: Proposed: Thursday 21 November 9:30 – 11:30 Location: tbc
12:30pm	<p>Next meeting 14 November 9:30am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location to be confirmed • Thank you to today's hosts, Tacoma Youth Foundation

WBA Mission Statement

The mission of the Washington Boating Alliance, an all-inclusive alliance of boating-related organizations, is to develop, advance, and implement consensus positions and proposals to enhance the recreational boating experience in Washington.



Meeting Minutes
Washington Boating Alliance
September 12, 2013

Call to Order: The Washington Boating Alliance convened in conference room of the Northwest Marine Trade Association in Seattle beginning at 9:05 on June 13th 2013. Many thanks to President George Harris, Board Chairman Bruce Hedrick and Government Affairs Director Peter Schrappen for the excellent hospitality provided.

In attendance: Libby Draper (Salmon Bay Marina), Darrell Jennings (RCO), Wade Alonzo (Parks), Sarah Gage (RCO), Viggo Bertelsen (Seattle Yacht Club), JD Weiner (Bremerton Yacht Club), Peter Schrappen (NMTA), Martha Comfort, Chair, Heather Gibbs (DNR), Bob Ranzenbach (RBAW), Bruce Hedrick (NMTA) Steve Graves (RBAW) Dan Shipman (USCG & USCG Auxiliary) Members introduced themselves and did a brief check in.

The minutes of the June meeting were corrected and approved as corrected. We did a roundtable check-in and boating stories from the summer. At 9:40, we started with updates from the agencies.

Wade (Parks) reported on many statistics regarding Boater accidents. He will present this data at the November meeting, along with an update of the model Ordinance for Mandatory PFD wear, which is coming out the work of the Boating Safety Council. Once approved the model ordinance can be easily adopted by Municipalities.

Wade is organizing the Annual Marine Law enforcement conference coming up in Port Townsend. Parks budget for Marine Law Enforcement is now \$600,000 which is down from a high of \$2.2m, due to decrease in boat registration. There are approximately 235,000 registered boaters down from 270,000 in 2011. Reasons could include the lack of a reminder card for renewals, the price of gas, too many boater safety checks, and competition for scarce recreational time.

Sector Scanners on enforcement boats may increase the capacity to handle safety stops by 15%. Sale of Boater Education Cards has jumped to 160,000 year to date. DOL does not capture the demographics of these sales. There was discussion of online vs classroom students; data indicates that information recall is essentially equivalent (72% vs 73%)

Wade reported that Al Wolshegal has developed grant funding to offer free pump outs for Lake Washington and Lake Union boaters. The company Terry & Sons is receiving Parks grant money to handle the pump outs. Other contractors will be considered also. Club members were reported to be delighted with this new service. Commercial operators appear intrigued and positive about the program.

Larry checked in about the recent Wooden boat Festival. 30,000 people attended and it was a safe and convivial time. Commercial fishing industry continues to be doing well as noted by a high # boat yard days.

Peter reported 2 boatyards had received intent to sue letters from Waste Water Action Group. This group is not formally connected to PSKeepers, however there may be some personnel overlap. Some noted that the many boat yards have spent \$\$ to comply with the stormwater regulations.

Steve G reported that the \$3.3m 'back fill' for the RRA has still not been achieved and this is appearing less likely. The next effort is to include the back fill in the Governor's supplemental budget. There is also an effort to lift the cap in a Transportation Package.

Bob reported from his work on the DOE No Discharge Zone panel of contractors and consultants. The DOE is now preparing to petition to the Federal EPA. It is not clear if they will pinpoint shellfish beds or the whole Puget Sound. Tug boats maybe given an exception. This will have the effect of making type 1 and type 2 marine sanitation devices illegal.

Steve reported that Seattle has passed a noise ordinance targeting boats. Also the SMP may be targeting house barges for grey water control. Steve reported on the meeting with state officials regarding AIS which was attended by Martha, Steve S, Wade, Chief Bruce Bjork, Allen Pleus and Bill Tweit and others. Whatcom County now requires a \$50 certification that your boat is clear of AIS before launching at the public launch ramps. Since 90% of WA boats are on trailers, this sets a precedent that could lead to numerous different fees and processes.

The group was made aware of anecdotal evidence of excessive boardings. The Ohio Boater Freedom act, which applies to state but not Federal inspections, will protect boaters from multiple boardings. For a long time, inspection was how we have made boating safer. With the full implementation of the BEC, is it possible that education is an avenue for making boaters safer?

Dan reported that less than 1% of boats get voluntary safety check. Viggo asked if funding for law enforcement officers depends on # inspections? Others spoke about how agencies do not always recognize another agencies' decal. Wade reports that Parks does inspections only with probable cause, not random boardings. Enforcement of the possible NDZ was discussed.

ACTION: WBA voted to approve the formation of a Working Group: BOATER SAFTEY CHECKS AND BOARDINGS and report back at the November WBA meeting. DFW, Parks, USCG & USCG Aux., DOE, RBAW, human-propelled vessels and others are invited to participate. Martha to convene the discussion.

Heather reported that Melissa Ferris would attend in October and that the Habitat Conservation Plan is waiting for the EIS to be concluded.

Darrell reported that RCO has \$6.8m in the RRA and is ready to fund 18 of the successful grant projects. Darrell is asked to provide the list of the successful projects for dissemination to the WBA. No changes to the RCO programs or policy. RCO is recruiting for the Programs Advisory Committee.

JD reported a trend among boaters to have RVs.

Peter reported about great press around the Marine Tourism Bill. He met with several legislators who are fired up about the issues. Peter and George Harris from NMTA will attend the State Organizations for Boating Access (SOBA) conference in Portland. Peter will run the NMTA Boatyard and Marina conference in early November. NMTA will again have a large presence at the Port Lauderdale boat show to attract boaters to come to cruise in our waters.

Dan Shipman reported that bar cameras are now uplinked to a public site. Dan has been a leader in the process of developing communication about bar conditions and restrictions to the public. He will receive a national leadership award for his work, which has spanned many years. The new “know before you go” ads and website, which show the bar conditions in real time have added a great planning and safety tool for mariners. Bruce Hedrick was inspired to do feature story about Dan for his fine publication!

Dan reported on arrival of Admiral Gromlich, who is an aviator. Dan will attend the Boating Law Conference in Boise. As of 1 October the new fiscal year any non-operational travel is cut.

Darrell gave an update on the Boating App, which is owned by RCO. Those present ‘test drove’ the product on their mobile devices. RCO is still open to names for the App, which is called WashingtonCruiser. The app will go to the board in November for approval and rollout. Wade and Darrell to connect for the January boat show promotion on the new App.

Bruce Bjork has retired and will be missed by all at the WBA. Terry Cole is the new lobbyist for NYBA.

The Meeting adjourned at 12:35pm. Everyone was invited to attend the Seattle Boats Afloat show, running at South Lake Union all week and put on by NBYA.

Respectfully submitted by Martha Comfort



Washington Boating Alliance
2013 Policy Agenda

1. On-going Activities

1.1	Develop consensus positions of boating organizations on boating issues.
1.2	Advocate for endorsed boating issue positions.
1.3	Be a watchdog for boating issues.
1.4	Educate, inform, and lobby for boating issues.
1.5	Develop champions for boating issue positions and funding.
1.6	Be a clearing-house for information related to boating proposals.
1.7	Coordinate consensus-building and lobbying efforts of the Alliance’s organizations.
1.8	Monitor agencies’ performance on boating programs.

2. Specific Functions

2.1	Represent Alliance positions to the Puget Sound Partnership.
2.2	Develop consensus on various positions for input to agency boating-related advisory committees and councils.

2.3	Develop background information on what is currently being spent on boating programs.
2.4	Develop background information on what taxes and fees boaters currently pay.

3. WBA 2013 Legislative Proposals / Positions

3.1	<p>Recreation Resource Account: A key priority for WBA is to leave this account to its dedicated purpose of developing and maintaining boating infrastructure. WBA strongly opposes any effort to divert these funds from their intended purpose. If necessary, WBA supports using general obligation bonds on a temporary basis to keep the RRA whole.</p>
3.2	<p>No-Discharge Zone: WBA shares the underlying goal of a cleaner Puget Sound and supports the continued study of the Puget Sound No-Discharge Zone.</p>
3.3	<p>Marine Tourism Bill: WBA supports change to the cruising permit policy that would allow entity-owned vessels visiting Washington State waterways to have the same rights as individual-owned vessels.</p>
3.4	<p>Derelict Vessels: WBA believes commercial vessels also need to pay for removal of derelict vessels.</p>

4. Ideas for the Future

4.1	<p>Develop website or other public outreach Engage an Intern to do outreach on behalf of WBA and/or develop website</p>
4.2	Build WBA as part of the 'Big Tent'
4.3	Develop consensus positions
4.4	How can we improve the current discussion forum?

(Bold items added / changed since last meeting)



**Washington Boating Alliance
Participating and Advising Organizations
September 2013**

Organization Partners

Recreational Boating Association of Washington (RBAW)
Northwest Marine Trade Association (NMTA)
Northwest Yacht Brokers Association (NYBA)
US Power Squadron
USCG Auxiliary
Seattle Yacht Club (SYC)
Queen City Yacht Club (QCYC)
Rivers Safety Council (RSC)
Washington Water Trails Association
Puget Sound Anglers
Kitsap Poggie Club
Pacific Northwest Charter Association

Corporate Partners

International Marine Management Institute, Martha Comfort
Windworks Sailing Center, Greg Norwine

Agency Partners

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Department of Ecology
Recreation and Conservation Office
Department of Natural Resources
Puget Sound Partnership
US Coast Guard District 13
Washington Public Ports Association
Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC)

Advising Lobbyists

RBAW, Doug Levy
NMTA, Cliff Webster
NYBA, Terry Cole
WASPC, Don Pierce

WBA Contact Information

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