

DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS

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Dear Boating Enthusiast:

California ranks second nationally in the number of recreational vessels. As crowded waterways lead to an increased chance of accidents, it is not surprising that, in 2007, California ranked first in the number of boating accidents and second in the number of boating fatalities. Because of this, it is important to supply the boating public with the best information possible to enhance safety on the water.

A primary focus of this publication is the analysis of boating accidents that occurred in 2007. This information is compiled to help us direct our efforts to reduce the number of boating accidents, injuries and fatalities on California's waterways.

Of particular concern this year are accidents involving **fishing, alcohol, towing sports, overloading of vessels and personal watercraft**. Details about these accidents are found in the Executive Summary and in Section 2 of this report.

The report also includes information about the department's efforts to promote boating safety through law enforcement and safety education programs which involve essential, direct interaction with the boating community.

This report is available on the department's Web site, www.dbw.ca.gov. For more information about this or other accident statistics, please contact Gloria Sandoval (916) 263-0788 or gsandoval@dbw.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Raynor Tsuneyoshi".

Raynor Tsuneyoshi
Director