

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
Between
THE STATE OF NEVADA – DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
And
THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

1. PARTIES

The parties to this agreement are State of Nevada Department of Wildlife (Hereinafter referred to as "State") and the United States Coast Guard's Eleventh Coast Guard District (hereinafter referred to as "Coast Guard").

2. AUTHORITY

This Agreement is authorized under the provisions of 14 U.S.C. § 141, 46 U.S.C. § 13109, and 33 CFR § 100.10 authorizing the Coast Guard to enter into cooperative agreements and other arrangements with the States for the enforcement of boating laws and for coordinated joint efforts in such matters as search and rescue, issuing permits for regattas and marine parades, boating safety education, and training.

3. PURPOSE

To define the relationship between the State and the Coast Guard in the conduct of the Recreational Boating Safety Programs including enforcement of laws relating to boating safety on waters within the concurrent jurisdiction of the State and the United States.

4. BASIC GUIDELINES

- a. For the purpose of this agreement, the term "navigable waters of the United States" (hereinafter referred to as "navigable waters") includes those inland waters of the United States which are subject to the concurrent jurisdiction of the State, that have been either congressionally, judicially, or administratively determined to be navigable waters of the United States using the criteria set forth in 33 CFR §2.36.
- b. This agreement covers all navigable waters located within the State of Nevada, specifically Lake Tahoe and the Colorado River below Davis Dam to the Nevada-California State line.
- c. This agreement does not abrogate or limit the jurisdiction of the State or the United States.
- d. To the extent allowed by Federal law and Coast Guard Directives, the Coast Guard Eleventh District Commander agrees to provide to the State a copy of statistical and other data pertinent to the matters agreed herein.

5. TERMS OF UNDERSTANDING

a. Law Enforcement

- (1) The State has responsibility for the enforcement of State statutes and regulations related to boating safety on Nevada's navigable waters. The Coast Guard has responsibility for the enforcement of Federal statutes and regulations related to boating safety on Nevada's navigable waters.**
- (2) In order to provide the most effective law enforcement possible with the vessels and personnel available and to avoid duplication of efforts in a given area at a given time, the State Boating Law Administrator (BLA) of the State and the Chief, Response Division of the Eleventh Coast Guard District may coordinate law enforcement patrols on navigable waters. The State and the Coast Guard shall share information on law enforcement incidents of mutual concern.**
- (3) State law enforcement officers will report violations observed during vessel inspections or any other potential violations of Federal law by non-recreational vessels to the Coast Guard for disposition. If the violation is on Lake Tahoe, the State will notify Sector San Francisco at (415) 399-3547. If the incident is on the Colorado River, the State will notify Sector San Diego at (619) 278-7033.**
- (4) When a complaint is made to the Coast Guard alleging an offense that is a violation of State recreational boating laws or regulations, the Coast Guard will normally notify the Nevada Department of Wildlife at 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada, 89512, phone number (775) 688-1331 or to local authorities. When a complaint is made to the State of a violation of Federal boating laws or regulations the State will notify the local Coast Guard unit within whose area of responsibility the violation is located.**
- (5) A State marine law enforcement officer or a Coast Guard boarding officer will not normally board a vessel for a routine safety inspection if the operator produces evidence of a recent satisfactory State or Coast Guard examination safety check as indicated by the display of a current Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Safety Check decal. Notwithstanding a recent satisfactory examination, a boarding will be undertaken when there are indications of a violation of Federal or State statutes or regulations, or as part of a special law enforcement operation.**
- (6) A Coast Guard member who has observed a violation of a State boating law or regulation, or a State marine law enforcement officer who has observed a violation of a Federal boating law or regulation, will generally be made available to testify as to factual matters in the State or Federal prosecution. Every effort will be made to make available testimonial and other evidence, in accordance with State and Federal agency directives, in proceedings other than criminal prosecutions.**

- (7) In accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes 179A.090, and a signed Communications Users Agreement, the Coast Guard may request registration and law enforcement information for law enforcement purposes from the State dispatch at phone number (775) 688-1331.

b. Boating Under the Influence

- (1) A common goal of the Coast Guard and the State is to eliminate intoxicated boat operators from the waterways. To this end, the State and the Coast Guard agree to coordinate their Boating Under the Influence (BUI) enforcement efforts so that the most effective enforcement option is prosecuted in each case.
- (2) In the course of normal operations, the Coast Guard may detect an allegedly intoxicated boat operator where concurrent jurisdiction exists. When this occurs, the Coast Guard will, in the course of normal operations, administer field sobriety tests to the operator.
- (3) If probable cause is established that the operator is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the Coast Guard will:
 - (a) Terminate the voyage, attempt to notify the State, and bring the vessel to the nearest safe mooring.
 - (b) Document the case completely for criminal prosecution in the State of Nevada.
 - (c) Follow enforcement options available for the particular jurisdiction within the State.
 - (d) Provide documentation and appropriate witnesses to pursue criminal prosecution with the State in accordance with 6 CFR Part 5.

Note: The Coast Guard may pursue civil penalty proceedings in addition to State criminal proceedings. [TW1]

- (4) The Coast Guard will, as operations permit, respond to calls for assistance from State enforcement agencies with respect to BUI enforcement.
- (5) The State will, as operations permit:
 - (a) Respond to calls for assistance from the Coast Guard with respect to BUI enforcement.
 - (b) Determine the extent of assistance the State can offer and advise the Coast Guard.

- (c) Provide appropriate assistance within the agency's operational, logistical, and legal constraints.
- (d) Provide local Coast Guard commands with a point of contact to facilitate and enhance mutual BUI enforcement efforts and concerns.
- (e) If aware of any Coast Guard licensed operators that are BUI, will provide operator information to the appropriate Sector.
- (f) Coordinate closely with Coast Guard law enforcement units to ensure that Coast Guard boarding teams are fully aware of all critical elements of a successful state criminal boating under the influence prosecution. This training should include best practices for field sobriety test and breathalyzer administration, as well as detention and transfer procedures for suspect boaters.

c. Public Education and Training

- (1) The parties will cooperate in public education and safety information programs. The State will distribute "Federal Requirements for Recreational Boats" and other Federal Boating publications through its offices. The Coast Guard will distribute any State vessel casualty report forms, and such State boating pamphlets that are made available for such purposes. The Coast Guard will furnish to the State information concerning the time and place of public education courses within the State which are sponsored by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. The State will furnish to the Coast Guard information concerning time and place of public education courses offered by the State to the boating public. The parties will, whenever possible, cooperate in developing a public boating safety education program to be used within the State. The State will provide, when available, State meeting rooms for U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary boating safety public education classes.
- (2) The Coast Guard will provide boating safety training for State and local law enforcement personnel through the Marine Patrol Officer Course located at the Maritime Law Enforcement Academy, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Charleston, SC, on an "as available" basis. Similarly, the State will provide on an "as available" basis to the Coast Guard, instructors and facilities for the training of Coast Guard personnel. In addition, safe boating or boat handling programs may be arranged with Coast Guard Auxiliary resources. In order to provide a coordinated effort and standardized training, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is authorized to conduct boating classes for the training of State officers.
- (3) The State may provide to the Coast Guard computer generated mailing lists or labels to be utilized to forward boating safety educational information to registered boat owners.

- (4) The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) has developed under a Coast Guard grant "National Boating Education Standards". The State agrees that courses it approves under a recreational boating safety program as required in 46 USC 13102(c) (4), will meet those standards. The Coast Guard shall recognize NASBLA approved courses as acceptable to the National Recreational Boating Safety Program.

d. Boating Casualty Reports and Investigative Reports

- (1) The State agrees to investigate all recreational boating fatalities and multiple vessel or serious injury accidents. The Coast Guard may, in cooperation with the State, investigate accidents involving fatalities on vessels used on waters of concurrent jurisdiction if the case warrants further investigation.
- (2) The Coast Guard will forward Boating Accident Reports received or taken by Coast Guard personnel to the Boating Law Administrator of the Nevada Department of Wildlife. The Coast Guard will provide to the State information on incidents that meet the definition of a state boating accident defined in section (D)(9), below. The State will determine whether an accident is reportable and will be responsible for ensuring completion of the reports meeting State requirements. The Coast Guard and the State will concurrently be responsible for boating accident reports meeting Federal requirements.
- (3) The State and the Coast Guard agree to share all information available concerning any boat accident on the Colorado River below Davis Dam to the Nevada-California state line and on Lake Tahoe. All information shall be provided in a timely manner so as not to impede or interfere with the fact gathering responsibilities of each party.
- (4) When the Coast Guard does not have an available unit to respond to a non-recreational accident under Coast Guard jurisdiction, the State may assist as a first responder to secure the accident scene, preserve perishable evidence, and provide for public safety and the safety of property.
- (5) The Coast Guard will be responsible for completing any investigation on non-recreational boating accidents as appropriate.
- (6) The State and the Coast Guard will be mutually responsible for completion of boating accident reports on incidents involving recreational vessels AND non-recreational vessels.
- (7) The designated office for recreational boating accident reports on the Colorado River is Sector San Diego (619) 278-7652 and for Lake Tahoe is Sector San Francisco (415) 399-3547.

- (8) The State shall review for accuracy and completeness all accident/casualty reports and shall determine the cause and circumstances surrounding each reportable accident, including whether or not alcohol or drugs were a factor.
- (9) For the purposes of this agreement, a boating casualty or accident is an incident involving a vessel or its equipment where a person dies, a person disappears from the vessel indicating death or injury, a person is injured requiring medical treatment beyond first aid, a complete loss of any vessel, or damage to a vessel or other personal property totaling \$2000.00 or more as defined in 33CFR Part 173.55. An accident meeting State requirements is defined as above except that the property damage threshold is \$500.00.
- (10) The State shall abstract accident data from each boating accident report form and enter such data into the Boating Accident Report Database (BARD), which was developed in cooperation with the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA). The State agrees to ensure the quality of data entry is accurate and complete providing for a successful data transfer into the national BARD located at Coast Guard Headquarters.
- (11) An electronic copy of each accident and investigative report data, including any alcohol/drug test results, shall be forwarded to the Office of Command and Control Architecture (G-OCC-2) at Coast Guard Headquarters within 30 days of receipt of the initial casualty or accident report. The Coast Guard will review the reports and investigations received.
- (12) The State will provide annual training to all Coast Guard watch standers and boarding officers at Station Lake Tahoe concerning State boating accident reporting requirements and procedures.
- (13) The Coast Guard will ensure that all levels of the chain of command are informed of the boating accident reporting requirements involving recreational and non-recreational vessels.

e. Search and Rescue

- (1) On State waters that are not within the jurisdiction of the United States, the State has exclusive responsibility for providing search and rescue service. On waters over which the Coast Guard has jurisdiction, the State and the Coast Guard will have joint responsibility. The Coast Guard's primary activity will be on Lake Tahoe. On the remaining inland waters over which both parties have jurisdiction, search and rescue facilities provided by the State and its political subdivisions shall have primary search and rescue responsibility.
- (2) The State and the Coast Guard agree to coordinate their search and rescue operations so that the most effective assistance will be rendered to those in distress on waters within the State. To this end, each will encourage the

establishment of mutual assistance and cooperative arrangements between Coast Guard, State and local governmental facilities which are established in the same area. The competent authority for providing Federal search and rescue assistance is the Eleventh Coast Guard District Command Center in Alameda CA, telephone number 510-437-3701. The competent authority for exercising coordination of State search and rescue activities on the waters within the State lies with the State or local governmental agency having jurisdiction. The State shall provide, and keep current, a list of State and local search and rescue facilities, including phone numbers, to the District Command Center.

- (3) The State and the Coast Guard agree to endeavor to support and participate in local search and rescue workshops, water safety councils, and other such organizations to foster closer cooperation and coordination among State and local agencies, Federal agencies and others who have an interest in or authority to conduct search and rescue activities.
- (4) The Coast Guard, the State and appropriate local agencies may, when appropriate, utilize the Incident Command System.
- (5) Upon receiving a request from the State reporting authority for information from a USCG maritime casualty investigation of search and rescue operation, the USCG will provide information and data to the State authority from the Marine Information for Safety and Law Enforcement (MISLE) System, as well as investigation materials and documentation available at the time of the request. Pages containing material that is not releasable to the public will be marked "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY." Pages from activities that are open or incomplete will be marked "DRAFT." The State reporting authority will not release to the public, or to any other agency, any information or data provided by the USCG that is marked "DRAFT" or "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY" without prior approval of the USCG.
- (6) The Coast Guard, the State and appropriate local agencies to the extent permitted by law, will endeavor to perform at least one annual joint training session including practice search and rescue responses and implementation of the Incident Command System.

f. Regattas and Marine Parades

- (1) For the purposes of this Agreement, the terms "regatta" and "marine parade" both mean an organized water event of limited duration that is conducted according to a prearranged schedule.
- (2) Title 33, United States Code, Sections 1233, contains the Coast Guard's authority to regulate marine events. Regattas and marine parades shall be administered in accordance with 33 CFR Part 100 and applicable Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC).

- (3) The Coast Guard will provide to the State a copy of any notice of event or permit application that it receives for all events occurring on waters of concurrent jurisdiction. In turn, the State will provide to the Coast Guard a copy of any notice of event or permit application that it receives for all events occurring on waters subject to concurrent jurisdiction. Notice received by the Coast Guard of marine events that will take place solely on State waters will be forwarded to the State for appropriate action. Notice of events for which a Coast Guard permit has been issued under 33 CFR Part 100.30 may be published in the Local Notice to Mariners.
- (4) The authorization and regulation of regattas and marine parades upon navigable waters of the United States that are subject to the concurrent jurisdiction of the State shall be within the province of the State when, in the opinion of the District Commander, the State is able to regulate, under State law, in such a manner as to ensure safety of life. However, the regulations issued by the State may not significantly impede the operation of other vessels, commercial or recreational, operating on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. As per 33 CFR § 100.10, the Commander, Eleventh Coast Guard District, reserves the right to assume primary responsibility for any regatta or marine parade on navigable waters of the United States when he deems such action to be in the public interest. The Coast Guard will notify the State of this determination in all such instances. Events of this type may include, but are not limited to:
- (a) Those cases where a regatta or marine parade is of such size as to require patrols that the District Commander knows to be in excess of the resources available to the Department or other States involved; or,
 - (b) Those events on waterways where commercial or other traffic will be significantly impeded.
- (5) The authorization and regulation of regattas and marine parades on waters that are under concurrent jurisdiction, pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), shall be managed as follows:
- (a) The Coast Guard will expeditiously provide copies of approved and disapproved permits for regattas and marine parades to the State. The State will expeditiously provide copies of approved or disapproved State permits for regattas and marine parades to the Coast Guard.
 - (b) If the territory of more than one State is involved, the State in which the majority of the event takes place will be responsible for coordinating participation by all affected States and will be called the "Coordinating State". The Coast Guard will determine in which State the majority of the event will take place from the information contained in the application and will notify the responsible Coordinating State.

- (c) The State will further review and process each application received using its own criteria prior to Division approval or disapproval of the application.
- (d) The State, before approving a regatta or marine parade, will review all applications using the criteria found in 33 CFR Part 100. A copy of the approved permit and all pertinent information including the number of State vessels assigned to the event, will be sent to Sector San Diego for those events held on the Colorado River and to Sector San Francisco for events at Lake Tahoe. Any requests for Coast Guard or Coast Guard Auxiliary assistance should be included.
 - 1. For Sector San Diego, call: (619) 278-7264 to determine the best method of sending copies of marine events. For Sector San Francisco, call (510) 437-2770.

g. Use of U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

- (1) The State may delegate, to any political subdivision of the State or any local agency in Nevada having appropriate jurisdiction, the authority and responsibility for providing management and boating safety programs on sole State Waters, which are public recreational boating waterways under the sole jurisdiction of the State. Any such delegation shall be subject to the terms and provisions of this Agreement.
- (2) The State or its delegated authority understands and acknowledges that the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary ("Auxiliary") is a component of the Coast Guard and that the Auxiliary is comprised of civilian volunteers organized and trained to promote public boating safety. The Auxiliary's activities include safety patrols, vessel safety checks (VSC's), and public boating safety education and classes.
- (3) The State hereby requests that the Coast Guard provide the assistance of the Auxiliary, to the extent that Coast Guard and Auxiliary resources and funding are available and lawfully authorized, to assist the State in the promotion of boating safety on sole State waters, including VSC's and routine Auxiliary safety patrols, particularly on weekends and holidays. The Coast Guard hereby authorizes such Auxiliary assistance in compliance with Federal Regulations and applicable policy and subject to the availability of properly appropriated government funds. The parties agree that the terms of the Auxiliary assistance on sole State waters will be as follows.
- (4) Terms of Understanding:
 - (a) When performing Auxiliary activities, Auxiliary members will be operating under and subject to Coast Guard authority, direction and orders, and all Auxiliary patrol boats operating under Coast Guard orders shall be deemed

to be Public Vessels of the United States.

- (b) As volunteers, Auxiliary members may not be available at the times of highest priority. Auxiliary members may, at any time, decline to perform any assignment or activity at their discretion.
- (c) The Auxiliary has no authority to conduct law enforcement, but Auxiliarists may be involved in providing people or vessels to facilitate training and assisting with any other law enforcement activities, as long as those activities do not involve the exercise of direct law enforcement authority and are within the capability of a trained civilian volunteer. The Coast Guard District Eleven Legal Office will be notified prior to any Auxiliary participation in Law Enforcement operations. The Duty Operational Law Attorney may be reached through the D11 Command Center at (510) 437-3701.

(5) State Support of Auxiliary.

(a) The State shall:

1. Whenever possible provide sufficient space at launch ramps for launching Auxiliary patrol boats and, to the extent available, space at the launch ramps or other designated areas for Auxiliary members to perform VSC's and distribute material relating to the Auxiliary's public education boating safety classes.
2. Whenever possible waive any and all appropriate fees on Auxiliary members engaged in official Auxiliary activities, including entry, launch ramp, vehicle and trailer parking, day and overnight camping, and boat fees.
3. Whenever possible provide the Auxiliary with an assigned radio frequency and, if necessary, when available, a radio compatible with that used for official communications. A marine band radio meets this requirement.
4. Work with the Auxiliary Coordinator as the Coast Guard or Auxiliary may designate in writing as the Liaison between the State and the Coast Guard/Auxiliary for purposes of scheduling Auxiliary activities on sole State waters, subject always to Coast Guard authority, direction, and orders.

6. OTHER PROVISIONS

- a. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to conflict with current federal law or regulation or the directives of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or the laws of the State of Nevada. If a term of this agreement is inconsistent with such authority, then that term shall be invalid, but the remaining terms and conditions of

this agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

- b. This Agreement does not create a duty for the State or the Coast Guard to rescue or to assist any third party. No right of action shall accrue on this Agreement to or for the benefit of any third party.
- c. This Agreement is not an agreement by the United States or the Coast Guard to indemnify any party nor is it an agreement by the United States or the Coast Guard to assume financial, legal, or any other liabilities. This agreement is not an agreement by the United States or the Coast Guard to obligate or expend any funds.

7. LIAISON

Liaison shall be as follows:

FOR THE STATE OF NEVADA

Boating Law Administrator
Fred F. Messmann
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Deputy Chief Game Warden
1100 Valley Road
Reno, NV 89512
(775) 688-1542

FOR THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Gerald Swanson, Captain
Chief, Prevention Division
Eleventh Coast Guard District
Coast Guard Island
Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 437-3124

8. Modification/Duration of Agreement

This agreement remains in effect until canceled by either party. The canceling party will provide the other party with at least 30 days prior notice. A representative of each party will review the agreement biennially for the purpose of ascertaining whether a revised agreement is necessary. A copy of the review will be appended to each party's copy of the agreement and a copy will be provided to Commandant (G-OPB-2).

9. Termination

This agreement will become effective upon the date subscribed by the last signatory and will remain in effect through 31 December 2009. Either party upon 90 (ninety) days written notice to the other party may terminate this agreement. This agreement may be extended by written agreement of both parties.

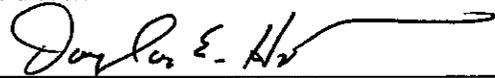
10. SIGNATURES

STATE OF NEVADA

APPROVED AS TO FORM

BY:  11/20/06
Deputy Attorney General for the state of Nevada

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

By: 
Doug Hunt
Deputy Director
Nevada Department of Wildlife

Date: _____

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

By: 
J. A. Breckenridge, Rear Admiral
Commander, Eleventh Coast Guard District

Date: 20 Dec 06