

September 11, 2007

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)
West Building Ground Floor
Room W12-140
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Docket Number USCG-2007-28578

As a member of the Collaboratory of Partners (COP), one of two committees that help design and refine the National Recreational Boating Survey, and as the President of the Michigan Boating Industries Association, I strongly support approval of this extremely important national boating survey. It was my observation that a very diverse, experienced and knowledgeable group of individuals worked diligently to insure that the survey will provide reliable and much needed data which will help the Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety achieve the goals of "encouraging greater State participation and uniformity in boating safety efforts, and particularly to permit the States to assume a greater share of boating safety education, assistance, and enforcement activities."

In order to achieve these goals there must be detailed and reliable data to insure sound decision making. I am confident that the survey instruments produced will provide the information needed to enhance boating safety.

In way of explanation, the Michigan Boating Industries Association is a statewide non-profit trade association representing approximately 400 recreational boating businesses. Our primary mission includes the education, promotion and protection of the recreational boating industry.

I appreciate this opportunity to express our thoughts on the National Recreational Boating Survey.

Sincerely,

Van W. Snider, Jr., CAE
President

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