



THE CHANGING TIDE

Volume 6, Issue 1

A California Clean Boating Network
Publication Presented by the
Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation
in cooperation with the
Department of Boating and Waterways

**Wondering when
the promise of
technology would
finally deliver?**

**Your day has
come!**



The California Clean Boating Network invites you to join in a new way to connect with our clean boating community. Post announcements, browse meeting minutes, and get answers to your clean boating questions—all on the new CCBN Listserve!

**How do I join the California
Clean Boating Network
Listserve?**

Just go to the California Clean Boating Network communities home-page at:

<http://communities.msn.com/CaliforniaCleanBoatingNetwork/home.htm>

and follow the sign up procedure.

Survey Says... *The California Coastal Commission's Report on Oil-Related Services at Marinas*

In December 2001, the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green Campaign, with support and assistance from the California Integrated Waste Management Board and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, sent surveys to 174 marinas which provide either used oil collection and recycling, absorbent pad distribution and collection, or bilge pump-out services for their tenants. The survey asked marina operators about the performance of new technologies, such as bilge pump-out facilities, and attempted to determine how much oil from boating is being recycled and diverted from discharge to California waterways. The purpose of the investigation was to provide information that would be helpful to marinas and others interested in implementing similar programs.

Used oil collection and recycling...what we learned.

The results of the 2001 survey indicate that 53% of the respondents recycle used oil. Of the marinas that collect used oil:

- 12% collect less than 10 gal./month
- 39% collect 10-50 gal./ month
- 31% collect 50-100 gal./ month
- 11% collect more than 100 gal/month

Most of these marinas collect used oil and oil filters on-site and have the oil transported to off-site facilities for recycling.

Access to Oil Recycling Tanks

A major concern for marina operators is contamination of the oil collected. A single boater that dumps solvents or some other contaminant into an oil tank can cause the entire load to become contaminated, thereby rendering the contents non-recyclable hazardous waste. *Costs for disposal can elevate from \$90 per gallon to \$300 per gallon.*

The survey showed a direct correlation between the amount of direct access to the disposal area and the incidence of contamination

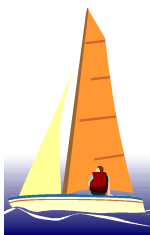
31% provide no direct access to their boaters. The percentage of these marinas that have not had any problems with contamination is 72%.

19% allow boaters access to the oil collection tanks only with supervision by marina staff. 64% of these marinas reported that they had not had any problems with contamination.

51% allow direct access to the tank. Of these marinas, 40% reported having no problems with contamination.

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The SMBRP/F, CIWMB, and CDBW, together with California's recreational boating community, are working to improve the health and quality of our state's waterways. We believe that together, we can all make a difference.



Program Spyglass

Many Programs Exist to Provide Cleaner, More Healthful Waterways; These are the Programs to Watch

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project's Bilge Pad Exchange Program

To address the problem of oily bilge water discharged from recreational watercraft, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project (SMBRP), through funding from the California Integrated Waste Management Program, has recently begun an initiative to introduce bilge pad exchange programs in Southern California lakes and harbors.

In 2000, similar bilge pad exchange programs in Northern California collected and reclaimed approximately 855 gallons of reclaimed oil - all of which was effectively prevented from entering local lakes and harbors through the use and proper disposal of bilge pads.

Bilge pads are simply oil-absorbent pads which, when placed in the bilge, will absorb between 12 oz. and 1 gallon of liquid petroleum product (fuel or oil), depending on the size and shape of the pad. Generally, pads are composed of polyethylene adsorptive fibers and are designed to absorb fuel and oil while "repelling" the absorption of water. Through this program, local boat owners will be provided with (1) a simple means of containing bilge oil with absorbent pads, (2) convenient locations to drop-off used pads and pick-up of new pads, and (3) the pick-up and full recycling of both the oily waste and the used absorbents. All services are currently being offered free of charge.



Oily film on the water next to a crab

To date, exchange programs have been established in Marina del Rey and Redondo Beach Harbors. A similar program is scheduled to kick off in Big Bear in May 2002. The SMBRP is continuing to work with harbor departments, harbor masters, and fuel dock operators to bring exchange programs to other local small craft harbor areas.

For more information, please contact Miwa Tamanaha at (213) 576-6615.

Survey Says...

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The results suggest that marinas that provide boaters direct access to their oil tanks are more likely to experience contamination than those that provide no direct access or access with assistance.

Marinas that provide open access and those that provide no access (boaters can deposit oil outside the tank) appear to be collecting approximately the same amount of oil per month - an average of a little more than 100 gallons. Where boaters must seek marina staff assistance, the volume collected is much lower - an average of 47 gallons of oil per month. This supports anecdotal evidence gathered from many boaters and marina operators - the more convenient the program, the greater the quantity of oil that will be collected.



Clearly labeled bilge pumpout facility

Recommendations

The Boating Clean and Green Campaign recommends that all marinas provide boaters with some method for preventing oily discharge from boats. The methods recommended by

the Campaign include providing an oil change service to reduce the number of do it yourself oil changes that frequently result in oil spills to the bilge that can be discharged by the automatic bilge pump. Bilge pump-out facilities and absorbent pad distribution programs are also recommended to prevent oily discharge. However, if a marina chooses to distribute absorbent pads, the Campaign also suggests that hazardous waste collection for spent pads be provided, since oil-saturated absorbents are considered hazardous waste in California and cannot be disposed of in the trash.



For a copy of the results of this survey, entitled "Marina Oil Facilities Performance," contact the California Coastal Commission at (415) 904-5214.

DESTINATION SERIES

Have Boat, Will Cruise. Big Bear Lake



Surrounded by the San Bernardino National Forest, Big Bear Lake is located 7000 feet above sea level in Southern California's beautiful San Bernardino mountain range. Just 100 miles northeast of the Los Angeles metro area, this year-round recreation resort offers its visitors all types of boating activity, swimming, fishing, para-gliding, mountain biking, hiking, winter snow sports and other vacation activities that make it a popular destination with outdoor enthusiasts.

Boating activities on Big Bear Lake include water skiing, wake boarding, sailing, fishing, personal watercraft, float tubes, kayaking, canoeing, and sailboarding. The maximum boat length is 26', and all vessels must have a District Lake use permit.

Big Bear Lake is a trophy rainbow trout fishery that boasts some of the best mountain lake fishing in Southern California. The Lake is stocked regularly throughout the year by the California Department of Fish & Game. The Fishing Association of Big Bear Lake also stocks trout in conjunction with its annual May Trout Classic. Big Bear Municipal Water District cooperates with the Association in sponsoring a fall plant of catfish and trout.

Privately owned boats can be launched from one of the District's two public launch ramps on the North shore of the lake, where there is no cost for launching, or a boat can be rented from one of the local marinas.

Big Bear Lake's twenty-three miles of shoreline abound with numerous campgrounds, picnic areas, fishing docks, boat ramps, and beaches. Hiking and biking trails follow the contours of the shore or take off into the tall pines of the surrounding mountains.

The Big Bear Valley is also home to a charming alpine village filled with quaint shops, five movie houses, and arcades and restaurants for every taste and every budget.

General Regulations:

ALL BOATS must have a current and valid Lake Use Permit. Any alteration to or trade of a permit will void the permit.

BOAT SIZE REQUIREMENTS: Maximum boat length is 26 feet. Manually propelled boats less than 12 feet in length may operate between the 5 MPH buoys and the shore.

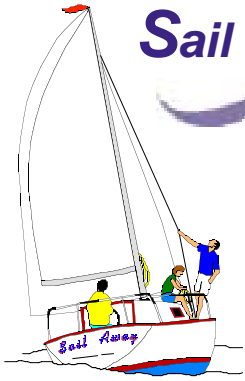
SANITATION: No refuse shall be thrown into or left on the shoreline of the lake; no oil from a bilge pump shall be allowed to discharge into the lake; no person shall deposit any type of fish, amphibian, or aquatic plant into the lake.

Boat Operation

LAUNCHING: Boats requiring trailers may be launched only from designated launch ramps. All other boats may be carried and launched at designated recreational or public access points after obtaining a Lake Use Permit.

MOORING to navigational markers is prohibited.

PUBLIC DOCKS located at the boat launch facilities are for loading and unloading only; do not leave a boat unattended.



Sail Away... *But Don't Forget to Mark These Dates on Your Calendar*

DOCKWALKER TRAINING

This free half-day workshop trains boaters and other volunteers to conduct boater visits and teach environmentally sound boating practices. Dockwalkers conduct fun face-to-face boater education out on the docks, at boat launch ramps, in marinas, and at boating events.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

- May 4.....Sausalito (9am -12:30pm; Dockwalking 1-3pm)
- May 11.....Sacramento (9am-12:30pm)
- June 1.....Marina del Rey (9:30am - 12:30pm; Dockwalking 1-3pm)
- TBA.....Ventura, Channel Islands Harbor
- TBA.....Long Beach
- TBA.....San Diego

For information, or to register, visit our website at <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/ccbndx.html> or contact Miriam Gordon at (415) 904-5214, or by email: mgordon@coastal.ca.gov.

Dockwalker Trainings presented by the Boating Clean and Green Campaign of the California Coastal Commission, in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the US Environmental Protection Agency, the California Integrated Waste Management Board, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and various Boating Clean and Green Campaign local program partners.

Heading out to El Dorado County this year?

El Dorado County is planning several marina public outreach events and clean boating kit giveaways this year.

They are as follows:

- May 27..... Jenkinson Lake Marina, Pollock Pines, CA
- June 1..... Folsom Lake Brown's Ravine Marina, Folsom CA
- June 28..... Jenkinson Lake Marina
- July 13..... Lake Tahoe Marina Blitz at Tahoe Keys, Timber Cove, Lakeside, Meeks Bay, City of South lake Tahoe, Camp Richardson and Fallen Leaf Marinas.
- August 3... Echo Lakes Marina near Echo Summit on Highway 50
- August 23. Jenkinson Lake Marina



Hey!

Have you signed up for the California Clean Boating Network Listserve?

<http://communities.msn.com/CaliforniaCleanBoatingNetwork/>



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An SMBRF Publication for the California Clean Boating Network (CCBN)

Printed on Recycled Paper.

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