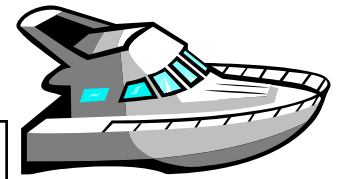




# BOAT ACCESS TODAY

Oregon State Marine Board Boating Facilities Program



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PO Box 14145, Salem, OR 97309-5065

## A Word From

Wayne Shuyler ,Boating Facilities Program Manager

The economy has captured the headlines and the attention of America for several months now, and undoubtedly, cities, counties, park districts, and ports are facing their own unique challenges during these turbulent times.

In boating, a slow decline in sales and registrations preceded the recent major financial crisis by several years. Boat registrations in Oregon continue to lag. In 1998, we registered 197,634 boats, which was an all-time high for the agency. Every year since, fewer boats have registered and overall numbers have remained flat.

Ten years later, there are only 184,147 boats registered statewide – a decline of nearly 7%. Over the same ten year period, cost of fuel, construction materials, wages, and benefits, have all increased, not at the same increments as the decline.

Declining registration affects our Federal Coast Guard funding and our revenues from fuel taxes. Less overall revenue impacts how much is available for boating facility grants.

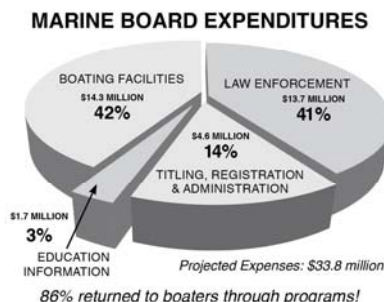
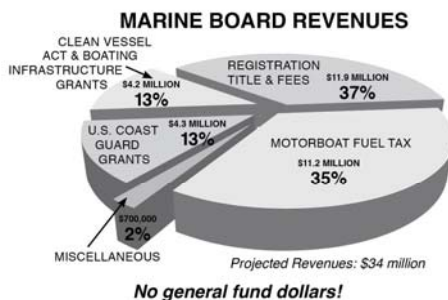
At their July 8 meeting in Wilsonville, the Board authorized submitting a budget to the Governor’s office identical to the current budget. Because it is a no-growth budget it could leave the agency with a greatly reduced ending balance – a cushion useful in lessening the trauma of lean economic times. Looking beyond the 2009-2011 biennium, there could be challenges looming for our agency if economic trends and boat registrations don’t hold steady or increase.

In adopting the budget for next biennium, the Board wanted all of our partners to be aware that funds for boating facility grants are not guaranteed to continue at present levels and hard choices may have to be made in the future.

As for Round Three grants, we still are not sure if there will be adequate funds available for this cycle. There have been a number of cost increases in existing grants and more are expected. If you are counting on applying for a Round Three grant, I encourage you to contact us so we can gauge the demand for grants against the funds we expect to have available.

Otherwise, stay tuned. Once we have a better feel for available funds for Round Three, we will let our partners know what to expect.

## Your Boating Dollars at Work



## Whats Inside

A Word from Wayne Shuyler .....	1
Grant Workshop .....	2
These Critters Eat Foam .....	3
MAP Update.....	3

## GRANT WORKSHOP A SUCCESS!

This years Grant Workshop held in Bend on September 17-18th was a great success. We started with a tour of Prineville Reservoir. Oregon Parks & Recreation staff, Bill Crawford, Letha Crawford and Steve Memminger pointed out highlights of the reservoir and shared future plans and recent successes, namely Powderhouse Cove. We then got out on the water with the help of Deputies from Crook County and Deschutes County. We had a chance to visit a floating restroom and see Prineville Reservoirs boating facilities from a different angle.



On Thursday September 18th our workshop was held at Aspen Hall in Bend. It was chalked full of useful information such as learning about other grant sources, hearing from permitting agencies, to filling out the grant application and working with contractors. Staff did a great job of putting this workshop together and we had a lot of new folks who said that it was very beneficial.



We presented awards during our lunch break. The well deserving recipients are:



Bud Shoemake, Port of Toledo, accepting for Brenda Brown who received the award for Outstanding Support Staff



Jim Chambers, Lincoln County accepting for Keith Andreson who received the award for Outstanding Parks Maintenance Staff



Brian Carroll, Linn County accepting for Outstanding Grant Project, Calkins Park a new facility on Foster Reservoir.



Chris Van Duzer, accepting for Clackamas County, Best Maintained Boating Facilities



Ron Adams, Retired Director, Oregon Youth Conservation Corps, Professional Service Award

# These Critters Eat Foam!

Randy Henry, Planning & Policy Analyst

If you operate facilities on the coast, you probably already know about the New Zealand burrowing isopod, pictured right. It's a relative new comer to Oregon from down-under, but it's best known as a burrower. It leaves pinky-sized holes in firm sediments of upper intertidal areas. It burrows extensively in dikes, levees and the walls of tidal channels. It also burrows in Styrofoam and soft wood. Foam floats for oyster platforms or docks resemble Swiss cheese, soft woods and drift woods are easily perforated, and dykes and shorelines erode and collapse. We're probably stuck them, so watch your floats and replace old foam billets with encapsulated foam or other devices.



Another unwelcomed critter is the small snail Assiminea parasitologica, found in Coos Bay in 2007. It likely came in with shipping from Japan or China, and represents a major invasion of a foreign species. Though impacts are unknown, it is now found densely colonizing (up to 10,000 per square meter) several Oregon estuaries. Unfortunately for recreational boaters, the snail is found in the rocky or muddy areas adjacent to boat ramps and is therefore easily transported from waterbody to waterbody in much the same way that New Zealand mud snails are transported.



Of even more concern is Myosotella myosotis, pictured at left, a small non-native snail found along the tidal zone of estuaries. This species is of particular concern because it can serve as one of two intermediate hosts for the human lung fluke *paragonimus westermani*, which has long been a health issue in Asia. Another necessary host is Chinese mitten crab, which is established in California. No lung fluke has been found in Oregon's population.

Scientists are evaluating these infestations and hope to find control or treatment methods. Until then, prevention is the name of the game. OSMB, Sea Grant, Portland State University and others are beginning a cooperative project to create modular sign panels that can specifically address local infestations. These signs will replace some of the existing panels that are in use and will focus on giving boaters specific information on the local infestation and how best to prevent spreading them around.

For people outside the coastal area, the watch for zebra and quagga mussels continue. OSMB coordinated a project with Port of Portland, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, the US Forest Service and Douglas and Deschutes counties to place several hot-water pressure washer trailers in the field. The equipment can be used to decontaminate infested boats, but they will also be used for outreach efforts. Also, if an infestation is discovered in Oregon, the units can be mobilized to help at the local level.

Remember, never launch a dirty boat. That goes for utility boats moved from waterbody to waterbody. Remove all weeds and mud. Prevention is the best way to protect your facility.

## Maintenance Assistance Program

This years Maintenance Assistance Program was a bit different then in years past. This year Janine asked all recipients to show how their funds were being spent. There was a wide range of results which we have listed below:

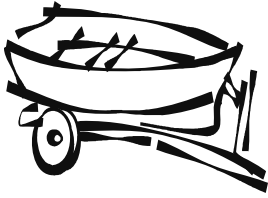
- Administration High: 8.45% Low: 0%
- Personnel/Labor High: 51.73% Low: 0%
- Outside Contracts High: 60% Low: 0%
- Materials/Supplies: High 54.8% Low: 0%
- Total High 60% Low: 9.10%



### EDITOR'S CORNER

If you have any suggestions, recommendations or insights regarding the newsletter, please contact me, via e-mail, fax or phone: Jennifer Peterson, Facilities Administrative Assistant, 503-378-2727, fax: 503-378-4597 or email: [jennifer.peterson@state.or.us](mailto:jennifer.peterson@state.or.us).

## FACILITIES PROGRAM STAFF



Phone: 503-378-8587

Fax: 503-378-4597

Website: [www.boatoregon.com](http://www.boatoregon.com)

Wayne Shuyler, Facilities Program Manager	378-2605	<a href="mailto:wayne.shuyler@state.or.us">wayne.shuyler@state.or.us</a>
Janine Belleque, Grants/Contracts Coordinator	378-2628	<a href="mailto:janine.belleque@state.or.us">janine.belleque@state.or.us</a>
Doug Baer, Environmental Coordinator	378-2603	<a href="mailto:douglas.baer@state.or.us">douglas.baer@state.or.us</a>
Ray Lanham, P.E., Senior Facilities Engineer	378-2629	<a href="mailto:raymond.lanham@state.or.us">raymond.lanham@state.or.us</a>
Jeff Smith, P.E., Senior Facilities Engineer	378-2607	<a href="mailto:jeff.smith@state.or.us">jeff.smith@state.or.us</a>
Scott Janssen, L.S.I.T., Facilities Design Engineer	378-2634	<a href="mailto:scott.janssen@state.or.us">scott.janssen@state.or.us</a>
Stuart Jantze, Facilities Design Engineer	378-2604	<a href="mailto:stuart.jantze@state.or.us">stuart.jantze@state.or.us</a>
Katie Phelan, Facilities Design Engineer	378-2638	<a href="mailto:kathleen.phelan@state.or.us">kathleen.phelan@state.or.us</a>
Scott Grew, Engineer Technician 1	378-2632	<a href="mailto:scott.grew@state.or.us">scott.grew@state.or.us</a>
Jennifer Peterson, Administrative Assistant	378-2727	<a href="mailto:jennifer.peterson@state.or.us">jennifer.peterson@state.or.us</a>



Oregon State Marine Board  
Facilities Program  
PO Box 14145  
Salem, OR 97309-5065