



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
 District 11 Northern Region
 Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah

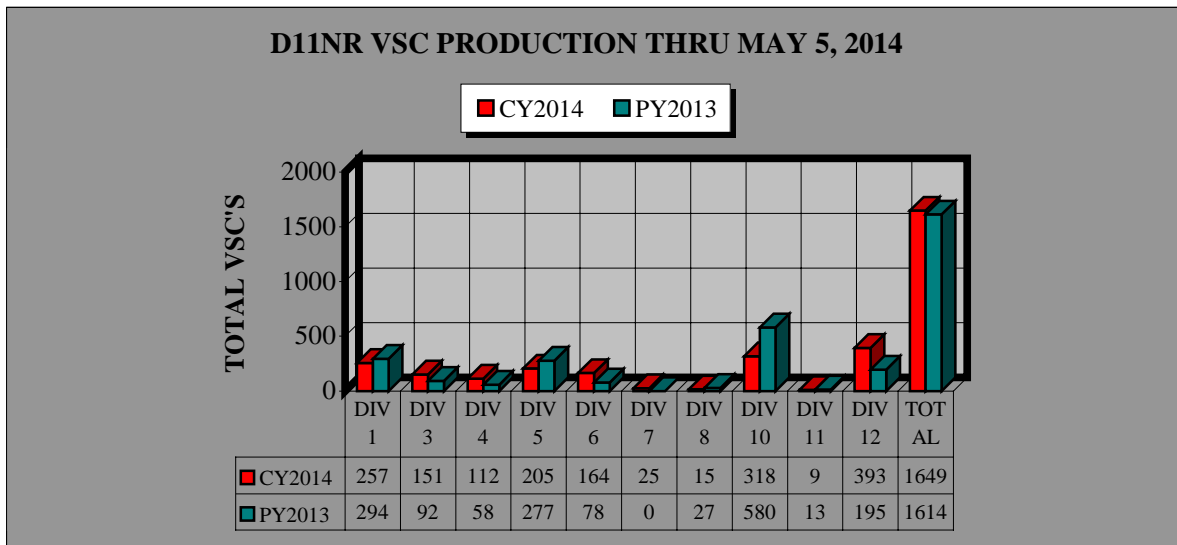


Vessel Safety Check Report May 2014

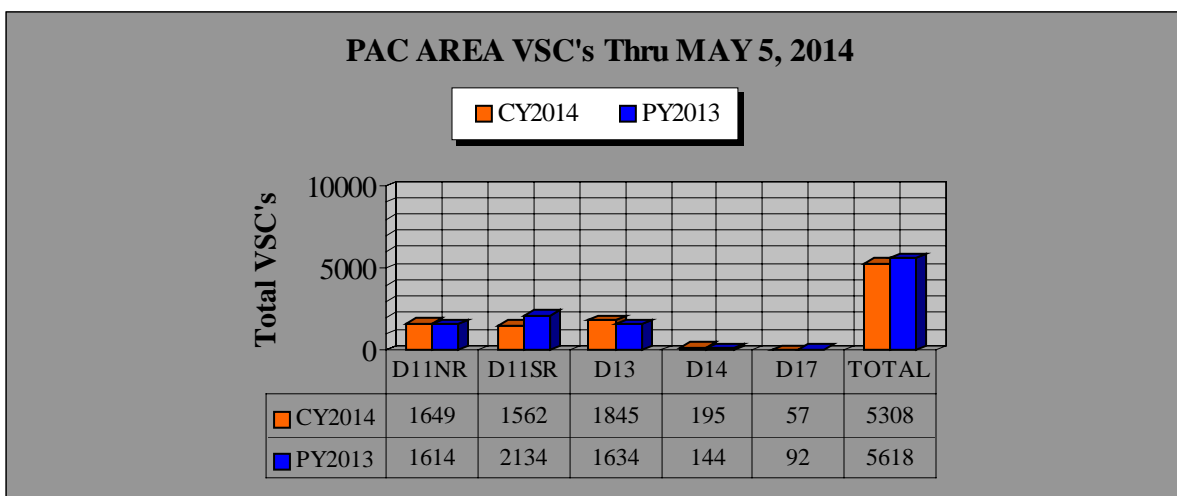


Mike Lauro DSO-VE
Jan Jewell ADSO-VE/CS

D11NR 2014 Statistics*



PAC AREA 2014 Statistics*



The goal for D11NR is **12,500 VSC's**. We are **13%** of our goal for the year and **100.5%** of 2013 production at this time! The data source is AUXINFO*. Additional stats from AUXINFO* indicates that **83%**, or **1,327** have passed the VSC, **658** or **41%** of our VSC's are First Time VSC's, and **424** or **27%** are High Risk VSC's. In addition, **531** Paddlecraft VSC's have been performed, which is approximately **33%** of our total VSC production.

*Statistics as shown in AUXINFO thru May 5, 2014

Welcome Aboard and Welcome Back!

With the addition of these new examiners for 2014, our examiner base is now approaching 300 active examiners! This represents about 18% of our total District membership. This information is supplied by the Director's office, as examiners are qualified.

Sean T. Harvey	01-02	Russell C. Kaiser	03-05
William H. Tsai	04-03	Joseph A. Caputo	05-02
Dennis T. Wilson	05-02	Robert B. Johnson	05-07

VSC Calendar

National Safe Boating Week May 14th-24th
Operation Dry Water June 27th-29th
PCA Training Fair August 16th-17th

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following member(s) who have recently achieved the coveted **Recreational Boating Safety Device (RBS)**. These members are part of elite group-73 members or approximately **5%** of our D11NR membership who have dedicated 2-years to achieve this recognition! Check to see if your name is listed on the member recognition page: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/recognition.html>

Duane Blackwell 12-01

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following examiners who have recently achieved the 20 or more VSC plateau during 2014:

Jerel Berkov	01-04	Frederick G. Saunders	04-03
Robert G. Kay	06-04	Anthony D. Leonardi	10-03

This brings our total to 18 examiners reaching this plateau!! This is approximately 21% the total District vessel examiner base. 2013 had examiners 16 or 20% at this time. Please check the D11NR Vessel Examiner recognition site:

<http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/recognition.html> for your name! It is also accessible from the D11NR Vessel Examiner site: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/ve.html>.

 VSC Questions- These are actual questions from VE Exam Version "F" dated 2007. Answers can be found in another location in the report.

1. You are performing a VSC in a state that requires all vessels to carry an anchor and anchor line. The 13' jon boat you're checking doesn't have one on board. Can you issue a VSC decal since anchors are on the "right" side of the Form 7012?

- a. No, regardless of which side of the Form 7012 the item is on, item 14 on the left side of the form requires compliance with state and/or local laws.
 - b. No, if you signed off on a boat without an anchor when the state requires one, the fine is transferred to you instead of the offending boat owner.
 - c. Yes, anchors and anchor lines are just good ideas and recommended by the VSC program. However, the VE is not law enforcement so you should issue the decal.
 - d. Yes, some states have initiated laws that are impractical. Since a small 13' jon boat couldn't carry enough anchor line to reach to the bottom of a deep lake anyway, issue the decal.
2. **When checking a 25' cabin cruiser, the owner proudly shows you a cell phone that s/he has preprogrammed with the telephone number of the local Coast Guard Station in preparation of any trouble. What should your position, if any, be on a cell phone aboard the vessel?**
- a. Having a cell phone onboard as the primary means of communications for distress is an excellent idea. The new digital phones have much longer ranges and the foresight the owner showed in preprogramming the number is the sign of a well-prepared boater.
 - b. Cell phones are dangerous in a wet environment. If the cell phone gets wet, contact with the user's ear can cause a fatal shock. Cell phones and boats don't mix.
 - c. Cell phones are good to have on board to back up a VHF-FM radio when operating within range of a cell tower. However, beyond about 10 miles from shore, cell phones become unreliable.
 - d. Cell phones should not be aboard vessels since most owners will talk on them while driving the boat and their inattention often results in collisions.

National and District News

National News

-A **National website** has been set up to capture VSC failure information from VSC activity. Please take a minute to go to: <http://www.usbi.org/vsc.php> and fill in the survey of your 2013 and 2014 VSC failures. This is a very simple process and takes about 15-seconds per 7012/7012a. Please make certain that you pay attention to the date and the state where the VSC was performed.

District News

-**At the morning session** of the Vessel Examiner (VE) workshop at D/Train in Sacramento, there was a question about whether a battery cable hold down with a wing nut was acceptable to pass a VSC and if there was a change in the CFR's. After extensive research, it was determined that this was an informal recommendation from the ABYC, not a change in the CFR's and does not effect the VSC.

-VSC's ON RENTALS-At the request of Commodore Collins, to maintain uniformity in the VSC program, moving forward, **ALL** VSC's for rental agencies that rent pwc's, fishing boats, houseboats, paddlecraft, etc. will now require a D11NR Rental Agreement with the dealer. This program is relatively simple, straightforward, and is self-explanatory. You can find a copy of the instructions (ML-1), a sample introduction letter (ML-2), and a copy of the agreement (ML-3) on the D11NR Vessel Examiner (VE) website: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/ve.html> under "**VE FORMS**". These are done in Microsoft "Word" and you can tailor them for your individual needs. Please note that to participate in this program, a Program Visitor (PV) is required. However, if you are a Vessel Examiner (VE) and a current Program Visitor (PV), you can fulfill that requirement. Please print (2) copies-one for you to keep after signed by the vendor, and one for the vendor to keep after you and the Program Visitor (PV) have signed it. You should maintain your copies for the calendar year.

-A special request from the Director's office; PLEASE have the qualifying members 7038 with the 5 VSC's entered into AUXDATA by the FSO/SO-IS **PRIOR** to submission of the MT-2 to the Director's office.



Dockwalker News

Upcoming Trainings

May 8, 2014 - San Francisco

6:30 pm to 8:45 pm

South Beach Harbor (Community Room)

40 Pier San Francisco, CA 94107-2119

May 9, 2014 - Vacaville

10:00 a.m. to 12:45 a.m.

Solano County Water Agency (Engineering Room)

810 Vaca Valley Pkwy #203, Vacaville, CA 95688

We hope you can join us at a training and become a volunteer Dockwalker!

Please help us spread the word about the upcoming trainings. Forward this email to your colleagues and people who might be interested in our program. You can also include this information in your newsletters, calendars and bulletin boards. If you want some copies of our flyers, please let me know.

To register for a training or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact

Vivian Matuk at **(415) 904-6905** or vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov.

VE Test Question Answers

1. "A" page 29 VSC Manual
2. "C" page 31 VSC Manual

Let's work together for our safety and the safety of others by setting an example and wear our lifejacket while performing VSC's especially when working around docks and when climbing aboard large vessels!

