



Preview of possible Whistler pages. (subject to change)

JUNE 2023

COMMANDER'S COLUMN



Meetings & Events

Construction interrupted by illness.

Hot Temperatures, Cold Water, Life Jackets

News Release from the Oregon State Marine Board

With the mercury on the rise toward the weekend, the Oregon State Marine Board wants to remind people to play it safe on and around the water by wearing a life jacket.

“Every year when the first warm temperatures arrive, many people decide to cool off by hitting the water,” says Brian Paulsen, Boating Safety Program Manager for the Marine Board. “With the great snowpack, you can guarantee as it’s melting it’s going to be frigid. It’s incredibly important everyone wear a life jacket and dress for the water temperature, not the air temperature.” Cold water shock is a leading cause of drowning and hypothermia from cold water immersion.

In 2022, there were 16 recreational boating fatalities, and 10 victims were not wearing life jackets. Of the fatalities, seven of the victims were in paddlecraft, and three were in motorboats.

Because Oregon is considered a cold water state, water temperatures remain cold (under 70 degrees) most of the year. Lake and river water temperatures are in the low 50 degrees, and so is the Pacific Ocean.

A life jacket also needs to fit correctly. An inherently buoyant lifejacket (one with foam flotation) should be buckled snugly and should not rise above a person’s ear lobes. Try the touch-down test, especially when fitting children and youths. Have them lift their arms next to their head and pull the jacket from the shoulders. If it rises to the ear lobes or higher, then the life jacket is too big.

“It’s also important to boat with others. One of the stand-out points from 2022 is that nine of the victims were solo operators boating alone,” Paulsen says. The Marine Board recommends always having a co-captain when operating a motorboat and boating with other people when paddling. “Awareness, preparation, and good decision making, along with wearing a life jacket, will help boaters have a safe experience on Oregon’s waterways,” Paulsen adds.

Learn where life jacket loaner stations are in Oregon and the different styles for water recreation. For more information about safe boating, visit Boat.Oregon.gov.

Life Jacket Loaner Stations

Did you know the Marine Board has helped fund over 100 life jacket loaner stations statewide? Many are along rivers and lakes near access points. Check out the agency's interactive Life Jacket Loaner Station Map to find a location near you. These life jackets are meant to be borrowed for the day and returned. Many are in children's sizes. Whenever you're in and around the water, Wear It!

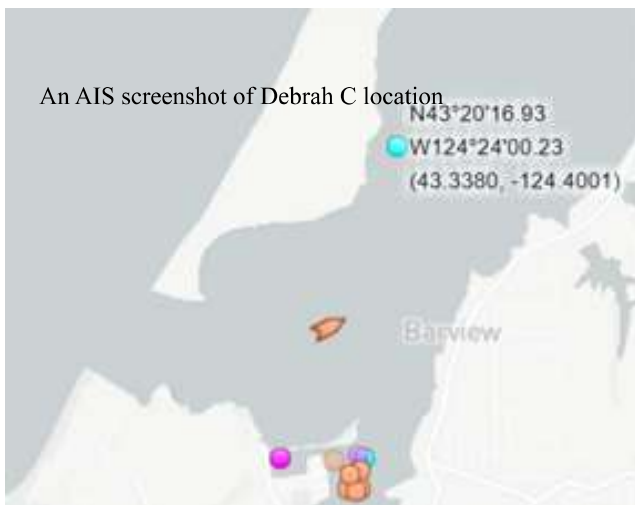


OREGON – COOS BAY – North Jetty repair project

Trade West Construction (TWC) will be performing work for the Coos Bay North Jetty Repair Contract. TWC will construct a Material Offloading Facility (MOF) at the Coos Bay North Spit to deliver jetty stone that will be used in the jetty repair. The MOF construction will be accomplished between 06 – 16 May 2023. Barge delivery and unloading will be taking place on the east side of the Coos Bay North Spit, just north of Log Spiral Bay, in approximate position 43-21-45.484 N, 124-19-11.176 W. This location is approximately 200 yards north of Coos Bay Range A Front Light (LLNR 8815). Work will be conducted from the tug Deborah C, which will monitor VHF-FM channels 16 and 07. The facility will utilize a breasting barge and an engineered ramp, both designed to accommodate heavy construction equipment and allow the material arriving by barge to be transferred down the ramp onto the breasting barge and then from the breasting barge onto the land at the Coos Bay North Spit. The buoy anchors, the ropes to tie off the barges, the barges, and the associated traffic will be adjacent to the north spit and out of the federal navigation channel. This facility will require vessels to stay clear while in operation. For more information, contact Andy Leavitt at (435) 669-2268 or email AandKLeavitt@gmail.com.

Chart 18587

LNM: 19/23



An AIS screenshot of Debrah C location



PLB Innovation For

Take some of the stress out of a boater distress call with the newly approved next-generation ResQLink PLBs with Return Link Service.

As many boaters prepare for the season, another boating safety tool is available now that ACR Electronics' next-generation ResQLink Personal Locator Beacons (PLB) with Return Link Service (RLS) are approved in the U.S. The buoyant PLB requires no subscription, and with the inclusion of the new Return Link Service (RLS) feature, boaters can have peace of mind knowing their distress message has been received and their location detected. The Galileo Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Return Link alerting technology is available with the ACR Electronics ResQLink View RLS (\$449.95), and the ResQLink 410 RLS (\$409.95).



Take a look at how it works:

ResQLink View RLS Personal Locator Beacon with Return Link Service

The confirmation light is easy to spot.

According to ACR, ResQLink View RLS is the world's first PLB with the capability to provide the user with a clear confirmation message via a digital display screen verifying that the international satellite system Cospas-Sarsat has received their distress message and location. "Now we can offer the latest innovation in life-saving technology to our beacon owners with a confirmation light, or even via a message on our ResQLink View RLS display screen, as reassurance that help is on the way — a significant boost for morale in a life-threatening emergency," explains Mikele D'Arcangelo, vice president of global marketing and product management for ACR Electronics. Incorporating a multi-constellation receiver that uses both the Galileo GNSS as well as the GPS Satellite network for faster location and improved accuracy, ACR PLBs operate on the three Cospas-Sarsat satellite systems including the new MEOSAR. This ensures they will offer the near-instantaneous signal detection and transmission enabled by the global MEOSAR satellites and upgraded ground-station components. Using the next-gen network, anyone activating a ResQLink PLB can expect their beacon to be located within 100 meters (328 feet), 95% of the time, within five minutes of the distress signal, according to ACR.

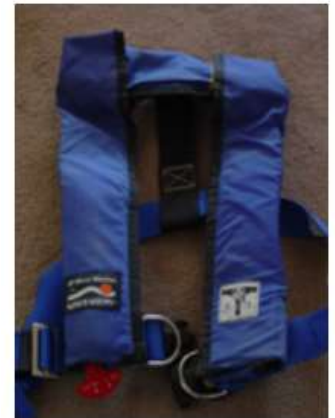
**U.S. Coast Guard Heartland Safe Boating • Jim McGraw • •
 The Achilles' Heel of inflatable PFDs**

Inflatable PFDs are great! They are comfortable to wear and they provide very effective flotation. They are popular with professionals on the water such as law enforcement and harbor pilots. However, they require maintenance. I consider the need for regular maintenance to be the critical weakness (Achilles' Heel) of inflatable PFDs. Winter is an excellent opportunity to maintain of your inflatable PFD. Since inflatable PFDs vary in the details of their design, it is critical that you follow the manufacturer's maintenance instructions. If you have misplaced the owner's manual, check the PFD itself for written maintenance instructions. Electronic copies of owner's manuals can often be found at the manufacturer's web site under the "support" topic.

Who should do the maintenance? The best person to do the maintenance is the person who will be wearing the PFD. Performing this maintenance increases the likelihood that the wearer know how to use the inflatable PFD effectively. In general, the maintenance process is:

- Inspect the device for damage. Beware of damage to the belts, buckles, or fabric. Unfold the PFD to inspect the bladder.
- Verify the inflation mechanism is charged and within its expiration date (if any).
- Perform a bladder leak test by inflating the vest orally. Typically, the process is to leave the bladder inflated overnight and then check to see if it has lost air.
- While the vest is unpacked inspect the survival/signaling equipment packed in the PFD. If there is none... consider adding a flat whistle, and a light designed for installation on an inflatable PFD.
- Re-pack the PFD. Verify that the manual activation handle is accessible!
- Note the maintenance on the record attached to the PFD.

Now that you have dealt with the inflatable PFD's Achilles' Heel, exploit its advantages and wear it whenever you are underway!



Inflatable PFDs like this SOSpenders version need regular maintenance.



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MEETINGS
 NO Squadron meetings JUNE-AUGUST.
 Executive Board Meetings
 THIRD SUNDAY each month.
 Board Meetings may be called by Cdr or Board.
 Meetings are at 1400 (2:00 PM) at FISHERMAN'S GROTTTO, Charleston.

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