



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4046

December 3, 1997

D/C Thomas Rossini, N
District 10 - USPS
11140 Upton Ave. S
Bloomington, MN 55431

Dear Tom:

Regarding your question on a memorandum of understanding on boating safety education. It is a possibility that we could do a memorandum, if absolutely necessary for the USPS. I think, however, that it has been our position here to work closely with the USPS (and all other safety organizations) on education for nearly 24 years. As an example, in 1974 when we first were working on the Watercraft Operator's Permit Program for (then) 13-17 year olds, we came up with the *Comparable Course Form* to allow teenagers to take the USPS or USCGA boating course and still be able to get their Operator's Permit. This has essential remained the same over the years.

Here is our Department's position on relationship with the USPS courses:

- We will issue a Minnesota Watercraft Operator's Permit to persons who are 12-17 years of age and who present a properly completed *Comparable Course Form* to us from any one of the following courses taught by the USPS which include the 10 questions supplied by us on Minnesota boating laws and rules. The Department will also update and provide copies of these questions and answers to all Minnesota squadrons as necessary:
 - *The Public Boating Course*
 - *Boating Safely*
 - *Boat Smart*
- We will (if possible and with advance notice) provide a DNR representative to teach a section in a USPS boating class. In lieu of that, a copy of the *Minnesota Boater's Video* and *Take a Ride With Pride* (for personal watercraft) will be provided free of charge to all Minnesota squadrons (this has been done).
- We will furnish a free copy of Minnesota's *Boating Guide* to all participants in a USPS boating class

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as well as any additional Minnesota boating safety brochures that are available.
• We will compile a comprehensive list of boating classes given each Spring and Fall and make it available to the public, through our Boat Show booth and via the phone or World Wide Web (as available).

If you need any more information, please advise me.

Best wishes for the Holidays!

Sincerely,



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