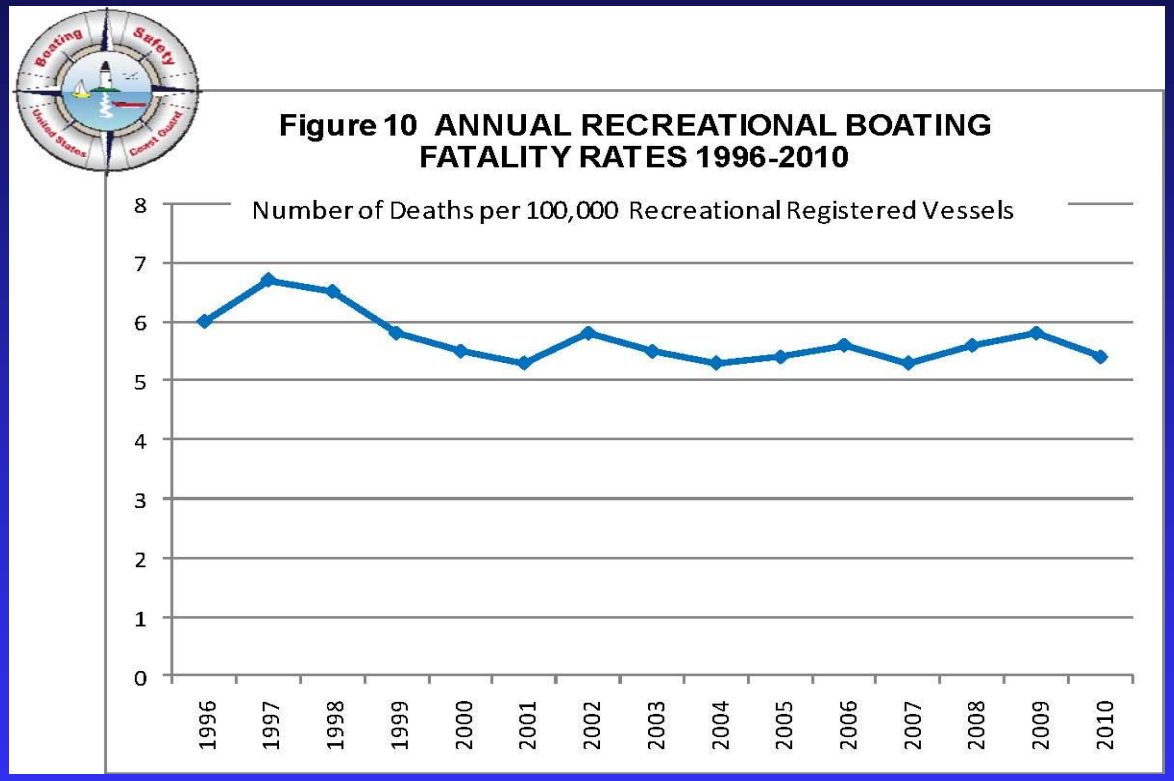
VSC Data Collection Project

Purpose

Make use of more data from the VSC Process

Why?

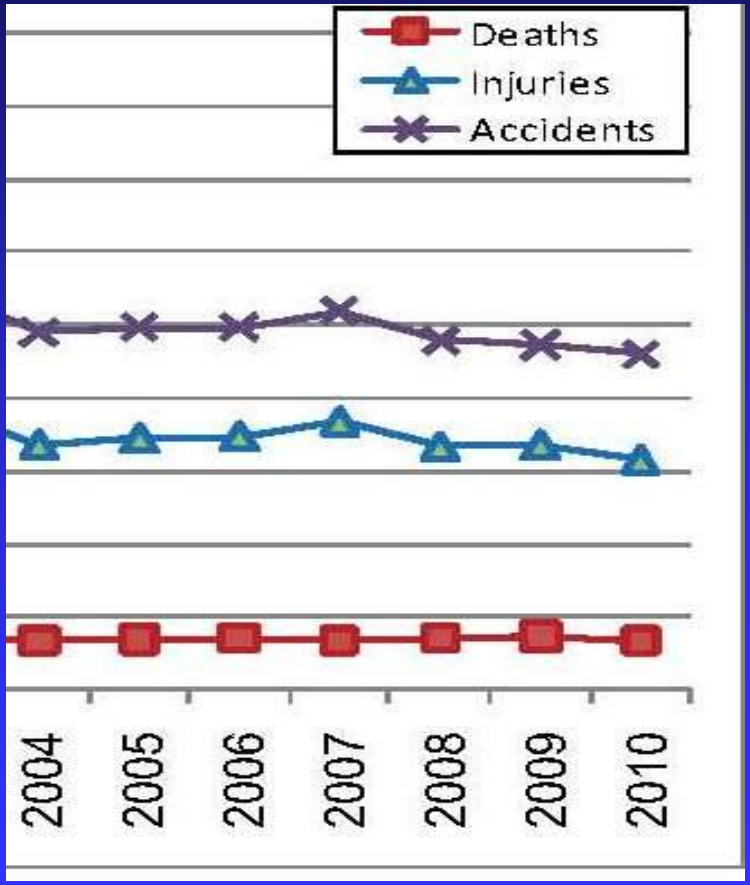
Boating Fatalities



- Statistically Flat for last 12 Years – 1999 – 2010

Boating Accidents and Injuries

- Essentially Flat for the last seven years



No Progress

- We’re no longer making progress
  - Need to find better ways
- VSC Data may be able to help

National RBS Strategic Plan

Asking for Data about Operator Compliance with Carriage Requirements

NASBLA – National Association of Boating Law Administrators

Believes VSCs are a great source this data

USBI – United Safe Boating Institute

Undertook project, funded by CG grant & Involving two parent organizations:

- USCG Auxiliary
- United States Power Squadrons

What do we want to do?

- Determine Why Vessels Fail VSCs
- Compare with Accident Data.
- Archive for Other Future Uses

How?

- Collect much more data *(Current Programs do not record failure reasons and other data)* from both

  USCG Auxiliary and USPS VSCs
- Pilot Program developed using new USBI Database.
- USPS will use new online reporting page.

Scope

- Well over 130,000 VSCs conducted annually of which *about 25% fail*
- New data will provide analysts a picture of where carriage requirements need emphasis, the problem, geographical differences and more

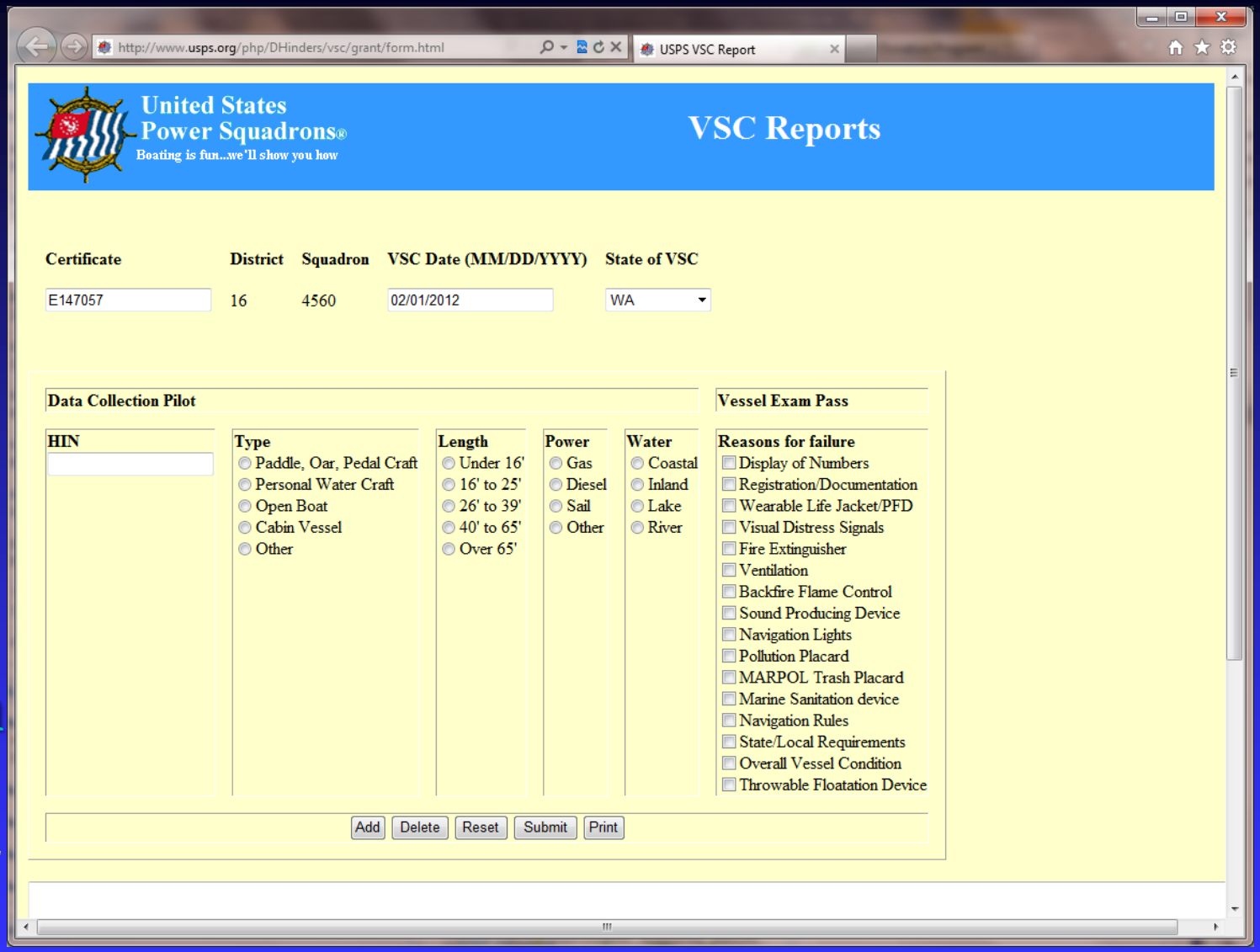
USPS VEs

- Will be asked to complete their VSCs with the some additional data.
- The Squadron VSC Chairs will enter the expanded VSC data on a newly designed USPS input page rather than the existing page.
- This data will be passed to the USBI database to be merged with the Auxiliary data.

New Form

for USPS VSC Online Data Collection

Input by each Squadron VSC Chair



What Online Data Recording is Different?

1. District and Squadron auto-fill from member cert #
2. Replaced Reg./Doc Number with HIN Number
3. HIN field is expanded to 17 digits to accommodate emerging new standards
4. Added "Paddle, Oar, Pedal Craft" to Type (Will require note on standard VSC form ANSC 7012 or the use of the Paddle Craft specific VSC form ANSC 7012a)
5. Changed water categories to "Coastal, Inland Lake, River" (Lake & River will require notes on existing VSC form)
6. Added "Throwable Flotation Device" to reasons for failure (Will also require note on existing VSC form)

Implementation

- USPS will implement Nationwide on 02/01/2012

Data Results

- Will be available to:
  - USCG Auxiliary
  - USPS
  - NASBLA
  - US Coast Guard
- Enabling data inquiry and analysis

Summary

- Both the United States Power Squadrons® and United States Coast Guard Auxiliary have agreed to participate.
- This Presentation may be used to acquaint leaders and examiners about the program
- We will use data to:
  - Drive education efforts
  - Pinpoint problem areas
  - Drive any needed VSC program changes