



Strengthening BUI Laws

(Boating Under the Influence of Alcohol and Other Drugs)

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Boating Under the Influence: 2011-2012 Strategies

- ✓ **Strengthen Washington State's boating under the influence (BUI) law**

Boating Under the Influence Law: The Current Situation in Washington

- Washington's current BUI law
- Comparison to Washington's current DUI law
- Columbia River experience
- Impact of alcohol use while on the water



What We Know About BUI Laws in Other State

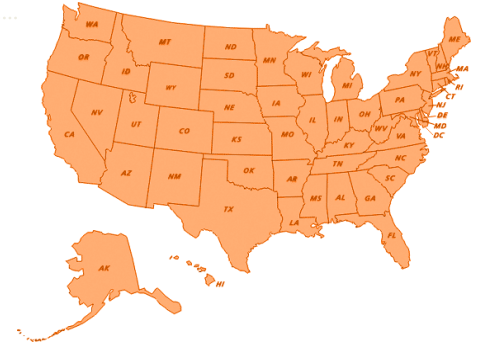
Oregon BUI Law – Key Features

Oregon Revised Statute 830.325 and 830.505 through 830.550

- Implied consent to field sobriety and breath tests – refusal results in higher penalties and is usable in court
- BUI conviction counts toward DUI penalties
- Penalty includes cancellation of boat registration, numbering, certificate of title for at least one year (can't operate for that period)
- Fines of up to \$6250 and up to one year in jail

What We Know About BUI Laws in Other State

2007 Survey of State Boating Law Administrators



- 13 states: BUI conviction impacts drivers license in some way
 - Impact varies: BUI = DUI, BUI conviction counts toward DUI penalty
 - AK, AR, CA, HI, IN, LA, MA, MN, NH, NJ, OR, TX, UT
- 42 states: Refusal to take a field sobriety test can be used in criminal prosecution (implied consent)
- 21 states: Lower BAC=impaired for those 21 and under

What We Know about BUI and Boating Accidents & Fatalities

- **Washington Boating Fatality Reports 2000-2009:**
 - 240 fatalities
 - 75 definitely involved alcohol or drugs (30%)
 - 118 unknown
 - Similar BUI statistics nationally for fatalities
 - Non-fatal accidents are significantly under-reported so hard to measure impact of BUI

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