NOAA Small Boat Program – FY 2018 Metrics

The NOAA Small Boat Program continues to develop fleet wide metrics that support vessel manager needs and inform NOAA leadership of the value and challenges of small boat operations. The Program relies on these summary metrics, and associated data bases, to develop effective policy, focus resources to areas of elevated risk and customize products and services for the NOAA Small Boat community.



NOAA maintained 454 active small boats in FY18. Theses vessels range from kayaks and small skiffs to 80'Small Reaserch Vessels (SRV's). The capabilities and configurations of these platforms are a reflection of the diverse missions across NOAA.



Small boats logged 5,375 days underway in support of NOAA's FY18 missions. These platforms are critical infrastructure for research, resources management and event response programs. Small boats are deployed at all coastal states, U.S. territories and support ship based projects on the open oceans. These versatile platforms have proven to be cost effective tools in support of emerging technologies, event response and remote deployments.

The more than 19,000 person /days logged in FY18 is a measure of NOAA's presence on the water. This is one indicator of the magnitude of field work accomplished and potential risk to personnel. A better understanding of the small boat user community and their unique missions allows for refinement of Program policy, training and risk management tools. Exposure measures are valuable in qualifying incidents/accidents and sharing of lessons



A 2018 fleet wide summary of the cost to replace existing assets has been derived from individual boat replacement estimates. The \$98.6M valuation is an indicator of NOAA's investment and is a measure of current resources. This data set is based upon inkind replacement of boat design and capabilities and does not address future mission growth, technology advancements or current unmet requirements.

These boats were originally funded through Line Office base, Program, or individual project funding sources. The Fleet is comprised of boats acquired through commercial vendors, custom builders, inter-Agency transfers and Government surplus.

Trends

Measures	FY17	FY18	% Δ
Assets Active Boats	421	454	+7%
Utilization Days Underway	5018	5375	+6%
Exposure Persons Carried	15898	19422	+11%

Incident and Accident Reports Personal Injury and Property Damage							
FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18		
9	13	13	15	20	11		

As collection of Program metrics is a new initiative, this two year data set cannot show meaningful trends. However, noted differences between the inaugural year FY17 and FY18 can be attributed to improvements in reporting accuracy and better defined terms of reference. Program efforts to automate data collection and processing, from new Agency-wide Float Plan and Inventory data bases, will soon provide higher resolution and real time capabilities

The Small Boat Program has a much longer history of safety *Incident and Accident* information. That data can now be coupled with the new Utilization and Exposure metrics to best define safety performance and validate Program effectiveness.