



News Advisory

For Immediate Release
May 13, 2014

Contact:
[Gloria Sandoval](#), PIO
916.651.5692

[Media Kit](#)

DBW Holds Life Jacket Trade-In Program Statewide this Saturday

- What:** Life Jacket Trade-In Program provides recreational boaters the opportunity for life jackets to be inspected by professionals. If a life jacket is found to be outgrown or unserviceable, a new, properly fitted Coast Guard-approved life jacket will be given in exchange (one life jacket per family, while supplies last).
- Who:** California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways
- When:** Saturday, May 17 from Noon to 2 p.m.
- Where:** 46 statewide locations

DBW encourages recreational boaters to take part in this life saving program. Life jackets that are too small will not be able to keep your body afloat. Life jackets that are too big will cause the device to push up around the face, which could be dangerous.

[California's 2013 boating accident statistics](#) show that fatalities can be decreased significantly when wearing a life jacket. Of the 38 boating fatalities in 2013, 68 percent of victims drowned. Of that group, 81 percent were not wearing a life jacket. Properly fitted life jackets save lives. There is no excuse not to wear one. Modern life jackets are much more comfortable, lightweight and stylish than the bulky orange style most boaters are familiar with.

The life jacket trade-in is being conducted in coordination with [National Safe Boating Week](#) (May 17-23), which aims to spread the message about life jacket wear and other life-saving boating practices.



Visit www.WearItCalifornia.com to view the list of trade-in locations, tips and laws on life jackets, and to view information on life jacket loaner stations.

NOTE TO MEDIA: Story opportunities on boating and water safety can be scheduled with California State Parks.

Subscribe to California State Parks News via e-mail at info@parks.ca.gov or via [RSS feed](#).

About Parks

To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.

About DBW

DBW is a division within California State Parks. The division provides safe and convenient public access to California's waterways and leadership in promoting safe, enjoyable and environmentally sound recreational boating.

###

