

Auxiliary Life Jacket Wear Observer (AUXLWO) Program

February 1, 2019

*Handout
for
distribution*

*National Life Jacket Wear Rate Project
Grant Funded Since 1998*





Auxiliary Life Jacket Wear Observer (AUXLWO) Program



What is AUXLWO?

- A USCG funded grant project to measure the life jacket wear rate of recreational boaters in 30 states across the U.S.



The Sport Fish Restoration & Boating Trust Fund (SFRBTF) provides the USCG these grant funds as part of federal and state programs for recreational boating safety, fisheries management, habitat conservation, vessel pump-out stations, water and boating access infrastructure programs, and aquatic resource education programs.

- In each state, observers record boating behavior at 4 bodies of water (sites) for a maximum of 300 boats or at least 4 hours each.
- Data is collected at the same location on each body of water every year.
- Data is collected on summer weekends.
- Data collectors work in teams of 2 (an observer and a recorder).
- Wear rate data is combined with USCG accident data and reported to Congress.





Why is this program important?



- AUXLWO data supports the National Recreational Boating Safety Program priority to use data to make better informed policy decisions
- Frees up resources for other boating safety efforts

Feedback from 2018 Auxiliary Observers:

"It was an eye-opener because we see and pass boats every day. While we sub-consciously know if they are or should be wearing a life jacket, it makes a difference when you are viewing from a different angle and with no uniform on."

"We take this project very seriously and support its mission."

"I really received a feeling I was making a contribution to boating safety through my participation."

"I thought the training was well thought out and found it very helpful in identifying boats and PFD types under actual conditions. I was pleased to be able to participate!"





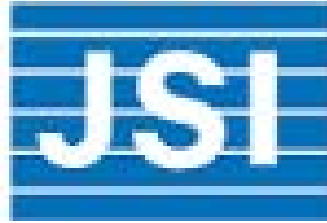
Who is leading this program?



- The AUXLWO Program is led by the USCG Office of Auxiliary & Boating Safety – Boating Safety Division (CG-BSX-2), as part of their National Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) Program.
- The Auxiliary names a national coordinator (**DVC-VS**) for this program (**Charles Hurley, see below**) who is responsible for the following tasks:
 - Directing & coordinating regular AUXLWO activities across participating states to support study schedules and objectives
 - Recruiting state coordinators and maintaining regular communications
 - Supporting recruitment of AUXLWO program observers
 - Ensuring all observers participate in the online training
 - Provide state and observation site maps to state coordinators
- Auxiliary participation allows the USCG to redirect its funds to other recreational boating safety projects/efforts.

Charles Hurley, DVC-VS at 540-907-6607 or charles.e.hurley@cgauxnet.us

- JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI) is a public health research firm based in Boston, MA.



- JSI is the designated national non-profit organization study coordinator.
- JSI has received a USCG grant to conduct this study annually since 1998.
- JSI designed and built the online training and clears all observers to collect data for this program.
- JSI mails all data collection forms and equipment to State Coordinators who distribute them to observers accordingly.
- JSI processes program data and reports accuracy scores.
- JSI analyzes all of the data and reports the findings.

Heather E. Lisinski, Program Manager at 617-385-3683 or hlisinski@jsi.com

Crucial Leadership Position to execute the SOP

- Successfully complete online training
- Recruit observers
- Create an observation schedule across teams and sites and share with JSI and DVC-VS
- Receive and distribute observation equipment
- Maintain regular communication with JSI and DVC-VS
- Review and answer questions on team data
- Receive and review team data quality reports and accuracy scores
- Review, endorse and forward successfully completed observer PQS to DVC-VS



Observer Requirements for Certification

PQS:

- Successful completion of boating safety course for BQ membership status
- Current in all AUXCT requirements
- Review most recent life jacket wear national report

Observation time:

- Approximately 2 hours to complete the online training
- 4 hours onsite observation/data collection
- Travel time to and from sites

Training and data quality:

- Receive training information
- Successful completion of training quiz for clearance to observe
- Maintain an observation schedule
- Receive observation equipment
- Answer questions on team data
- Receive data quality reports
- Receive 98% accuracy scores on TWO observations for full certification



2019 Program Schedule for data collection

2019 Observation Dates

20 AUX States: AZ, CA, FL, GA, KS, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NC, NY, OK, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, WI

There are **10** observation weekends in 2019 to observe at **4** sites in each of **20** states.

2019 OBSERVATION WEEKENDS

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUXLWO Program Contacts

AUX Contact

Charles Hurley, DVC-VS

540-907-6607

charles.e.hurley@cgauxnet.us

JSI Contact

Heather Lisinski, National Study Coordinator

617-385-3683

hlistinski@jsi.com

