

## Steven Carpenter

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**From:** Boating United <boatingunited@nmma.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 3, 2017 6:49 AM  
**To:** Dana Point Boaters Association  
**Subject:** Boating Advocacy Successes in 2016



In 2016, the VOICE OF RECREATIONAL WAS HEARD by top lawmakers and the White House. Through Boating United, you answered the call to ensure Members of Congress knew the top recreational boating priorities and took action to protect our industry and boaters.



### Top boating advocacy successes for 2016:

1. Signed into law the US Coast Guard Authorization, which included a **new model year fix** and **updated engine weight regulations**.
2. **Reauthorized Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)**, also known as the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN), funding **\$12 billion in critical waterways infrastructure** projects, such as dredging and navigation programs, which benefits recreational boating throughout the country and includes **\$1.95 billion of funds for Everglades' restoration**.
3. Signed the **Outdoor Recreation Jobs and Economic Impact Act (REC Act)** into law, enabling the federal government to officially measure the true economic strength and size of the outdoor economy as part of overall GDP.
4. United outdoor industry groups by forming the **Outdoor Recreation Industry Roundtable**, to set a policy vision for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress and new Administration to benefit outdoor recreation at-large.
5. Showcased the boating industry with on-the-water events at the **Republican and Democratic presidential party conventions**, attracting more than 500 combined attendees and more than a dozen federal, state and local elected officials.
6. Hosted six **Congressional Boating Caucus briefings** and added more than a dozen new members to the caucus.
7. **Raised over \$115,000 through BoatPAC** with more than 300 NMMA and MRRRA individual member contributions.
8. Introduced and passed legislation out of the House of Representatives and the Senate Commerce Committee, **reversing the 10,000 acre marine reserve at Biscayne National Park**.
9. **Protected boating access at Everglades National Park** by creating more

pole and troll zones, promoting online boater education, and opening Joe and Snag Bays to non-motorized boating.

10. Hosted **American Boating Congress** with a **record-breaking 275 attendees** and **175 meetings** on Capitol Hill during the three-day conference.
11. Spearheaded Congressional "Dear Colleague" letter with 45 members of Congress to **call on the EPA to better educate small engine consumers on the dangers of E15.**
12. Ensured continued **recreational fishing and boating access at two new national marine monument designations.**

We look forward to continuing our advocacy work in 2017! Stay tuned for Boating United updates on the top issues facing the recreational boating community. It is more important than ever that we as an industry are united, have the resources to support advocacy efforts, and are present at the TABLE to educate the 115th Congress and the New Administration with President-Elect Trump at the helm.

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*Boating United is the grassroots platform of the recreational boating industry. It is comprised of boating manufacturers, businesses and supporters who share the common goal of protecting and promoting the industry. Take action, learn about the issues and more at <http://boatingunited.com/>*

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