

STATE OF OREGON
PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

- WHEREAS:** In Oregon, there is a strong generational connection to water recreation related to boating, angling, tourism, outfitter guides, and cultural values, with many people participating in open water swimming, towed watersports, windsports, angling, paddling, wildlife viewing and cruising; and
- WHEREAS:** Unfortunately, boating-related accidents cause an average of 632 American deaths each year and from 2019 to 2024, Oregon's boating fatality rate has doubled the national average; and
- WHEREAS:** National Safe Boating Week provides an opportunity to educate Oregonians about safe boating and water safety practices in the hopes of reducing the number of preventable deaths; and
- WHEREAS:** A significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn their life jackets; and
- WHEREAS:** By carrying lifesaving emergency distress and communications equipment, wearing correctly fitting life jackets, taking safety courses, participating in free boat inspection safety checks, boating sober, and recreating in areas that meet the operator's skill levels on Oregon's coastal, inland, and offshore waters -ensures everyone stays safe; and
- WHEREAS:** The Oregon State Marine Board works with the United States Coast Guard and federal, state, and local safe boating partners to encourage all boaters to explore and enjoy Oregon's waterways responsibly

**NOW,
THEREFORE:** I, Tina Kotek, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim May 16-22, 2026 to be

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day April 23, 2026.



Tina Kotek

Tina Kotek, Governor

Tobias Read

Tobias Read, Secretary of State