


SUBJECT: Scientific	BOAT DRIVING DOCUMENTATION	
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DEPARTMENT: ALL		EFFECTIVE: 05/14/2009
APPROVED BY: Lab Safety Committee (May 14 2009)		REVISED: 0730/2015

Policy:

Cary Institute owns and operates two powerboats, which are used mainly on the Hudson River and occasionally in other places.


One is a 13-foot Boston whaler, Sturgeon Moon, and the other is a 19-foot Boston whaler, the Ned Ames. Each boat is maintained by our mechanic and is supplied with the applicable safety equipment as per all Coast Guard regulations for the size of boat. There are two classes of boat users: 1) Cary Institute certified boat operators; and 2) passengers. There is a very limited number of people who are certified by Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies to operate the boats (explained below), but numerous people who may be passengers on the boats.

Training for Boat Passenger:

Before becoming a passenger on the boat, a person must be walked through all safety equipment and procedures by the operator. Both the passenger and boat operator should feel comfortable with the safety equipment and orientation, and agree that safety equipment is adequate to comfort and conditions (e.g. the passenger or operator should say something if the life vest does not fit properly). Boat passengers are documented through the New Employee/Visitor Safety Orientation on file with Human Resources and the Safety Officer.

Training for Boat Operators:

There are two different types of boat operators. The first is for both the large and small boat and the second is for only the small boat. All applicable New York State Boating and Coast Guard rules and regulations must be understood by all operators. Training is completed by taking a Coast Guard approved class or by reading and understanding Coast Guard and/or NYS boating regulations, and extensive on-the-job training with a certified boat operator. The person must be able to understand and demonstrate how to trailer a boat. Supervised training is provided by the existing boat operators (currently David Fischer or Heather Malcom) on the grounds of Cary Institute. There is no set minimum number of hours of training due to different levels of prior experience with trailers; however, a person must be able to back up the trailer proficiently, understand how to connect and disconnect the trailer from the truck and be able to maneuver in villages with traffic. A boat operator must demonstrate driving the boat on the River under the supervision of one of the current boat operator. The boat operator needs to be able to demonstrate understanding of Coast Guard regulations of a navigable waterway, be able to both launch and re-trailer the boat at different launch sites, be able to dock the boat, and understand the tidal and weather conditions along the river. Operator privileges are determined by the current boat operators (David or Heather). Lists of current authorized operators are posted next to the truck keys and on file with Safety Officer.

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Large Boat (Ned Ames) OPERATORS (current)

Stuart Findlay
 David Fischer
 Heather Malcom

NED AMES OPERATORS (past)

Sarah Hazzard/Fernald
 Colby Hause
 Greg Lampman
 Mark Leopold
 Erica Morgan
 Alex Nixon
 Benjamin Peierls
 Rich Pendelton
 Peter Raymond
 Lane Smith
 Nick Vesleboer

Small Boat (STURGEON MOON OPERATORS) (current)

Stuart Findlay
 David Fischer
 Heather Malcom
 Dave Strayer

STURGEON MOON OPERATORS (past)

Nina Caraco
 Nils Carlsson
 Jon Cole
 Sue Dye
 Kara Goodwin
 Sarah Hazzard/Fernald
 Karin Howe
 Greg Lampman
 Mark Leopold
 Colleen Lutz
 Erica Morgan
 Alex Nixon
 Mike Pace
 Benjamin Peierls
 Rich Pendelton
 Peter Raymond
 Lane Smith

END