



Southern California Boater's Guide now available as an iPad App and Interactive E-Book

(Los Angeles, CA – March 20, 2014) California's Clean Vessel Education Program, a partnership of The Bay Foundation (TBF) and California State Park's Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW), has released the latest version of its popular Southern California Boater's Guide (Guide) as an interactive eBook. This interactive eBook allows the user to swipe and read pages in multiple ways, view embedded video, enjoy images in an expanded fashion, and link directly to resources. The Guide is available for free through iTunes' App Store: "Boater's Guide" App. It will initially launch as an app for iPad 2 and above. The Guide is a must-have for boaters cruising along the Southern California coast.

"We are so excited to bring the Boater's Guide eBook to fruition as boaters go increasingly digital. The Guide continues to be the most complete resource featuring all Southern California harbors in one consistent format and in one handy place," states Michelle Staffield, TBF Water Quality Program Manager. "One special feature is the integration of environmental facilities featured in each harbor. This is beneficial not only to the marine organisms that make the coastal waters their home, but to the residents and visitors who recreate here."

The Guide provides comprehensive information about each harbor in Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego Counties, including each harbor's unique features, how to get a guest slip, locations of waste disposal and fueling facilities, what to see and do in and around the harbor and much more. It also contains an aerial photograph and an interactive detailed map of each harbor. Further, the Guide has a selection of website addresses with additional information about each harbor.

Speaking to TBF's mission of improving water quality and protecting the Santa Monica Bay's benefits and values, this Guide also provides useful information for an environmentally-friendly boating experience, such as sewage management, tips on how to prevent accidental discharge overboard, and alternatives to chemical additives such as enzyme-based treatments that break down solids and reduce odors.

The Bay Foundation and Division of Boating & Waterways have previously released four printed editions of the Southern California Boater's Guide, with the 4th Edition now available as well. The education program hopes to increase the frequency of the printed edition, however the digital edition will allow for the most up-to-date information valuable to the boating community.

"The Division of Boating & Waterways is constantly looking to offer boaters the information they want in convenient formats. With the rise of smartphone and tablet use, the eBook is the ideal way for boaters to have essential information at all times. We are excited with this release of our first eBook and eagerly anticipate future releases," states Kevin Atkinson, CVA Program Manager.

The Southern California Boater's Guide was created by The Bay Foundation for the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterway's Clean Vessel Education Program. The Program promotes the installation of pumpout facilities and educational programs to inform recreational boaters of the importance of proper waste disposal.

About The Bay Foundation (TBF)

The TBF is a 501(c) 3 non-profit environmental group founded in 1990 to restore and enhance the Santa Monica Bay (from the LA-Ventura county line to the Palos Verdes Peninsula) and local coastal waters. The Foundation is the non-profit partner of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, raising and expending funds for research, education, planning, cleanup efforts and other priorities identified in the Commission's *Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan*. As advocates for the Bay, TBF works collaboratively with a broad group of stakeholders, including government agencies, industry, environmental groups, and scientists, to implement innovative policies and projects that clean up the waterways, create green spaces and natural habitats in the Los Angeles region. The TBF conducts research and mentors student intern and volunteers through its Center for Santa Monica Bay Studies at Loyola Marymount University.

(www.santamonicabay.org)

About DBW

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

(www.dbw.parks.ca.gov)

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