

Boat Census 2018 Report
Report by Waterways and Recreation Officer

Purpose: This report is to inform members of the results of the 2018 Boat Census.

The boat census highlights the number of vessels recorded over three days in high season and gives a snapshot of boating trends within the Broads National Park.

1. Background to the Boat Census

- 1.1. The boat census has taken place every 4 years since 1986 and is carried out by a mixture of Broads Authority staff and volunteers recording boat movements over 3 separate days in August.

2. 2018 Census and Analysis

- 2.1. Census takers were located at 14 key points throughout the Broads National Park Executive Area to capture vessel movements as shown in Appendix 1. 63 census takers were actively involved in collecting data for the 2018 census, supported throughout the three days by the Waterways and Recreation team.
- 2.2. The weather was generally good for the majority of census takers with sunshine and good temperatures throughout. However, even though the census took place in the midst of the British summer, there were exceptions including a very wet and dismal Tuesday in the Southern Broads.
- 2.3. Appendix 2 shows the comparison between hire and private vessel numbers between the three most recent censuses.
- 2.4. Appendix 3 shows a comparison table of vessel numbers using the northern and southern rivers.

3. Conclusions

- 3.1. Comparing the figures from 2010 to present, we find that while boat movements increased by 205 vessels between 2010 and 2014 (from 11,728 to 11,933), there has been a drop in boat movements this year of 218 resulting in a total number of 11,715 being recorded.
- 3.2. The total number of hire craft recorded this year has dropped from 7,885 eight years ago to 7,675 this year. Private craft numbers have also decreased in numbers from 2,953 in 2010 to 2,896 in 2018.

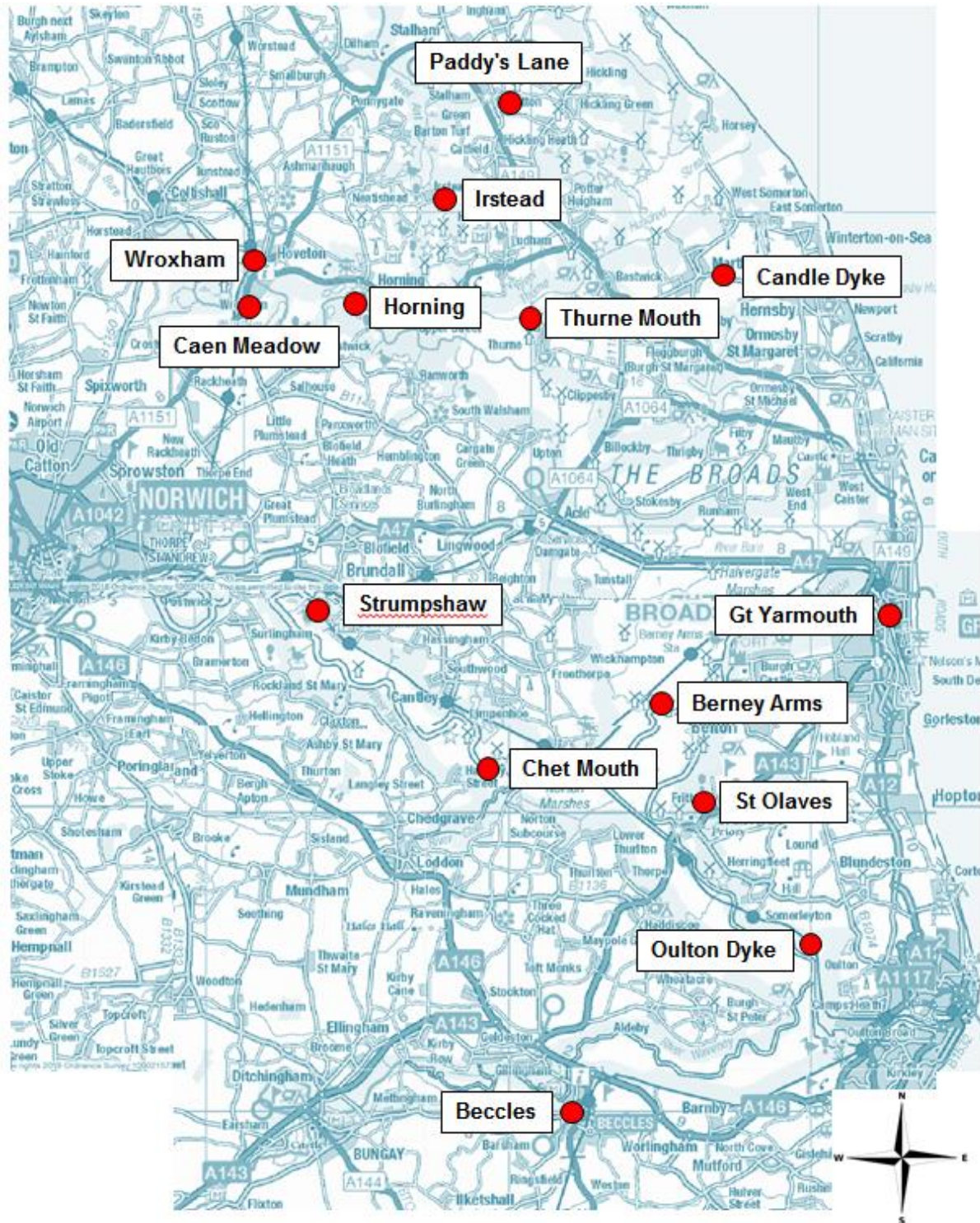
- 3.3. This year, for the first time in the census history, we actively noted down canoes, paddleboards and rowboats separately to highlight the increase in paddle sports across the Broads network. The use of non-powered craft collectively has increased by 11% in the last four years with 32 paddleboards and 404 canoes noted over the 3-day census period.
- 3.4. With regards to vessel movements, the figures reflect the usual high traffic areas in the Northern Broads with Wroxham, Horning and Thurne Mouth all showing over 1,500 vessel movements. In the Southern Broads, Oulton Dyke recorded over 750 vessels.
- 3.5. The northern rivers showed a much higher percentage of vessels on the river with 80% of traffic on the Northern Rivers.
- 3.6. The southern rivers again accounted for a smaller percentage of boat traffic. There was a reduction of 6% in boat numbers on the southern rivers between 2010 and 2014 from 2,656 to 2,499 and a further reduction of 7% from 2,499 to 2,321 was identified in last year's census.

Background papers: None
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Broads Plan Objectives: 6.1, 6.2

Appendices:

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| Appendix 1 | Location of census points |
| Appendix 2 | Comparison Table Between Hire and Private Vessels Between The 2010, 2014 & 2018 Censuses |
| Appendix 3 | Comparison Table of Vessel Movements Between Northern and Southern Rivers |

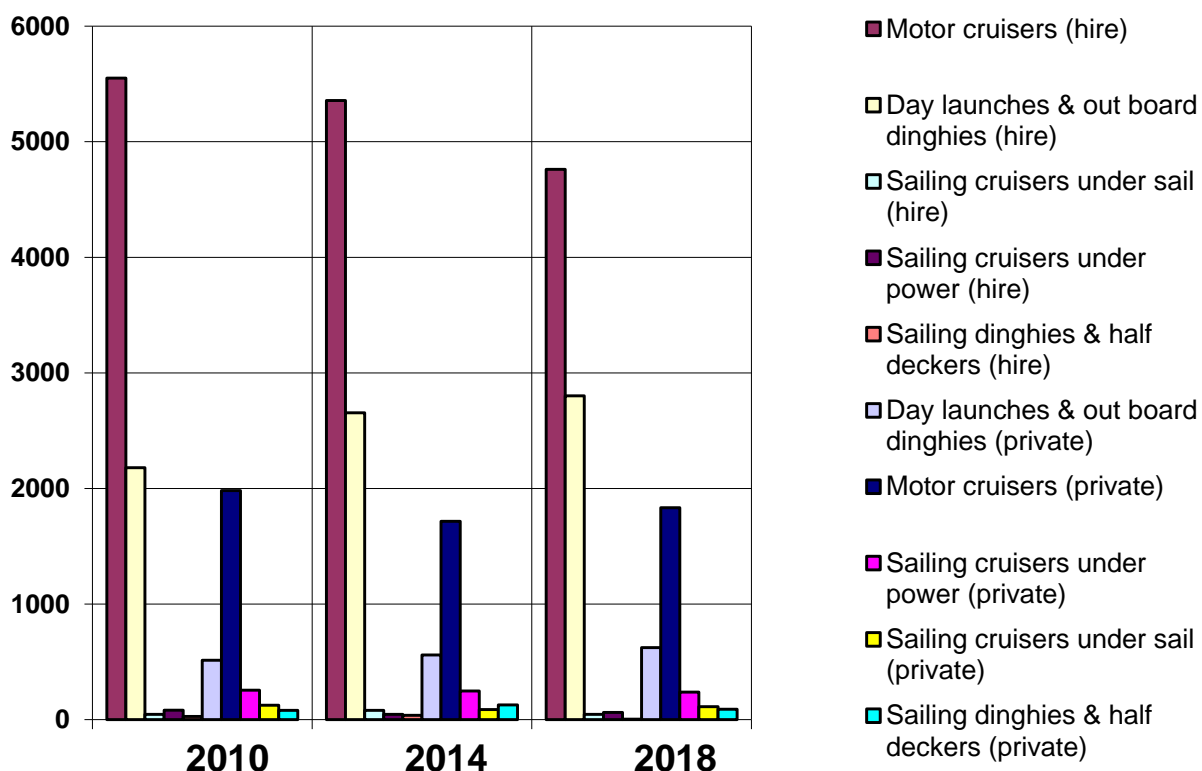
Location of Census Points



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Comparison Table Between Hire And Private Vessels Between The 2010, 2014 & 2018 Censuses

	2010	2014	2018
Motor cruisers (hire)	5551	5356	4761
Day launches & out board dinghies (hire)	2180	2655	2802
Sailing cruisers under sail (hire)	45	80	46
Sailing cruisers under power (hire)	82	45	62
Sailing dinghies & half deckers (hire)	27	37	4
Total Hire Vessels	7885	8173	7675
Day launches & out board dinghies (private)	514	559	623
Motor cruisers (private)	1981	1715	1833
Sailing cruisers under power (private)	254	248	238
Sailing cruisers under sail (private)	124	87	112
Sailing dinghies & half deckers (private)	80	127	90
Total Private Vessels	2953	2736	2896



Comparison Table Of Vessel Movements Between Northern And Southern Rivers

2018	Passenger Vessels	Motor Cruisers (Hire)	Motor Cruisers (Private)	Large Sea Going Cruisers	Day Launches & Outboard Dinghies	Day Launches & Outboard Dinghies	Sailing Cruisers under power (private)	Sailing Cruisers under power (hire)	Sailing Cruisers under sail (private)	Sailing Cruisers under sail (hire)	Sailing Dinghes and half deckers (hire)	Sailing Dinghes and half deckers (private)	Canoes	Paddleboards	Rowboats	Others	Totals
Wroxham	79	500	196	10	1344	105	3	17	0	2	0	1	52	2	10	9	2330
Horning	32	808	211	13	482	99	4	18	0	3	0	1	23	0	29	6	1729
Irstead	4	509	195	161	0	39	11	17	3	6	0	2	8	1	4	3	963
Thurne Mouth	0	942	230	27	208	90	11	43	27	55	4	25	13	4	0	18	1697
Candle Dyke	0	42	36	0	143	76	19	38	14	15	0	20	41	4	5	13	466
Gt Yarmouth	0	320	69	0	0	5	4	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	420
Berney Arms	0	0	278	64	12	6	3	2	10	0	4	0	4	0	0	9	392
Paddy's Lane	23	407	181	5	118	41	5	20	2	3	0	1	62	12	3	8	891
Caen Meadow	0	116	38	0	195	34	0	2	0	1	0	1	113	4	1	1	506
Northern Rivers Totals	138	3644	1434	280	2502	495	60	169	56	85	8	51	316	27	58	71	9394
St Olaves	0	0	211	146	28	63	21	1	20	0	2	0	1	0	0	4	497
Chet Mouth	0	237	124	36	6	2	2	9	0	7	0	4	8	0	3	0	438
Strumpshaw	0	90	108	46	7	16	0	4	0	4	0	28	0	0	0	2	305
Oulton Dyke	15	214	162	44	168	38	0	23	0	10	0	2	70	0	2	11	759
Beccles Quay	0	5	87	73	11	62	54	0	5	0	0	0	14	5	0	6	322
Southern Rivers Total	15	546	692	345	220	181	77	37	25	21	2	34	93	5	5	23	2321