

**Annual Safety Audit 2011**  
Report by Head of Safety Management

**Summary:** This report gives details of the incidents reported during 2011, including an analysis of deaths and personal injury since 1993. Of the seven fatalities on the Broads there were four boat related deaths and 17 people have reported as requiring hospital treatment. Given the significant number of visitors and users of the Broads it shows that statistically the Broads continues to be a safe environment for boating.

**1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The reporting period is from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012, hereafter referred to as year 2011. The report is limited to the Broads Authority's area of marine responsibility. Notable incidents are listed below.

**2 Summary of Incidents Reported**

2011	Incident Details	Hazard Log Category
19 May	Air ambulance called to collapsed crew member. Treated by paramedics for dehydration.	Medical emergency
08 April	Female jumped and fell in while mooring Cantley. Rescued by passing boat.	Embarkation /Disembarkation
16 April	Male fell in while attempting to moor at Yarmouth High Quay. Sent to hospital for water ingestion.	Embarkation /Disembarkation
19 April	Woman fell from boat while mooring. Thought to have caught foot in propeller. Removed by ambulance to hospital.	Embarkation /Disembarkation
21 April	Male fell from boat and was not missed for about an hour and a half, when his wife raised the alarm. He was dead on recovery. Cause of death heart attack	Medical emergency
24 April	Male removed to hospital having injured thumb in sliding canopy.	Medical emergency
24 April	Woman removed to hospital having trapped her finger in a door.	Medical emergency
25 April	Elderly woman returning to boat at night attempted to board alone fell in and drowned.	Embarkation /Disembarkation

7 June	Male suffers gashed head by sliding canopy.	Medical emergency
10 June	Works team assist a male fallen in early morning at Burgh Castle mooring.	Embarkation /Disembarkation
21 June	Woman fell waist deep into a large void at Hardley Cross mooring.	Embarkation /Disembarkation
25 June	Hirer broke collarbone falling while mooring at Yarmouth	Embarkation /Disembarkation
20 July	Elderly male, having refused issue of life jacket, was dragged in and drowned while attempting to moor at Acle.	Embarkation /Disembarkation
22 July	Assist in recovery of female body in Rockland basin. Not boat related	Fatality
14 August	Private cruiser burns and sinks near Wroxham Broad. Crew taken off by passing boat. Cause of fire unknown	Fire
01 September	Paddle boarder hit and knocked off by trip boat.	Passenger Vessels
13 September	Male broke ankle jumping onto boat.	Embarkation /Disembarkation
27 September	Elderly lady suffered back injury having fallen off the boat while coming in to moor.	Embarkation /Disembarkation
27 September	Woman taken to hospital with broken ankle from falling into front well while mooring.	Embarkation /Disembarkation
30 September	Electric dayboat suffers electrical fault and suffers fire. Extinguished by the hirers.	Fire
16 October	Boat fire at Beccles, petrol engine boat fire, total loss, female crew member has burns to arm	Fire
22 October	Assist police in search for missing male in Beccles area. Body found some days later. Not boat related	Fatality
03 February	Potter Heigham bridge pilot found drowned at quay near his moored boat/home.	Embarkation /Disembarkation

### 3 Conclusion

- 3.1 The Broads Authority has sought to continue to highlight the message of personal responsibility for safety in its publications and has encouraged boaters to take a more proactive role by becoming better-informed and wearing lifejackets. Reports from officers have indicated that again this year has seen a noticeable increase in the number of boaters seen wearing lifejackets particularly on hire boats.

- 3.2 Boat fires continue to remain at a low level demonstrated in previous years. All boats involved in fires held current Boat Safety Scheme certificates, however the Boat Safety Scheme Certification does not replace the need for regular maintenance especially regarding petrol engine boats as the first two fires involved petrol.
- 3.3 The majority of incidents where hospital treatment was required continue to be attributed to embarkation and disembarkation; however there was again a continued decrease in incidents in the 2011 season in comparison with the previous year.
- 3.4 Incident reports can be submitted on-line via an electronic form which can be found on the Broads Authority website.
- 3.5 The fire boating related statistics suggest that when viewed over several years, the statistics continue to demonstrate a fairly static position.
- 3.6 When consideration is given to the large number of visitors who come to the Broads, the statistics demonstrate that the Broads continues to be a safe place for boating and boating related activities.

#### **4 Next Steps**

- 4.1 The greater occurrence of drowning this year three in total reinforces the requirement for all agencies and organisations to raise awareness of this hazard. In an effort to encourage more people to wear lifejackets or buoyancy aids the Authority and its partners, Broads Hire Boat Federation, Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association and the booking agents Blakes and Hoseasons, are to launch a campaign of posters, logoed torches and keyrings to support the "Wear It" safety message.
- 4.2 Lockers are being trialled at Yarmouth Yacht station for the forthcoming season which will enable users to store a lifejacket on land whilst they visit the town. On return the users will be able to retrieve their lifejacket and board their vessel safely. The outcome of the trial will be evaluated in the Autumn.

Background papers: Previous annual reports

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Broads Plan Objectives: NA4.2

Appendices: TABLE 1 – Analysis of Death/Injuries Since 1993  
TABLE 2 – Analysis of Fire and Explosions Since 1993

TABLE 1

## Analysis of Death/Injuries Since 1993

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Death</b>																			
No of deaths on or from boats	2	2	3	1	1	3	2	1	3	2	6	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	4
Reported deaths not related to boating	1	3	4	-	2	1	4	4	2	3	1	0	7	2	1	1	3	3	3
<b>Cause of death</b>																			
Severe injury	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heart Attack	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	1
Drowning	0	1	2	1	0	4	5	1	3	3	5	0	4	3	0	0	0	1	3
Asphyxiation/CO poisoning	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Terminal Illness																			1
Not Known	0	2	4	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	0	1	0	1	2	2
Reports of people inadvertently entering in the water See footnote.	0	0	3	2	4	8	2	5	1	4	15	16	12	23	29	17	34	20	17
<b>No of persons reported as requiring hospital treatment</b>	0	0	0	9	8	7	9	8	7	7	18	2	4	13	12	11	22	30	17
<b>Nature of injuries</b>																			
Head	0	0	2	0	4	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	5	3	3	1
Arm/hand	0	0	2	1	6	0	0	1	3	1	1	1	0	1	6	4	1	4	4
Leg/foot	0	0	3	5	4	2	4	1	2	2	2	2	1	3	7	5	7	8	3
Torso, ribs, chest, back	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	4	1	1	2	0	1	4	3	0	2	4	2
Not described	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	2	1	4	0	0	8	10	2
Asphyxiated/CO poisoning	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Burns/Scalds	0	0	0	1	1	4	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	1
Heart attack																			3

Footnote: Reports where someone inadvertently found themselves in the water. It does not include capsizes of sailing dinghies etc, or from any other contact water sports where entry into the water is predictable.

**TABLE 2****Analysis of Fire and Explosions Since 1993**

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of incidents	2	4	7	2	5	4	6	3	4	2	2	0	2	22	8	4	4	3	3
Vessels involved (Private)	2	3	5	1	3	4	3	2	2	2	1	0	1	18	10	4	2	2	2
Vessels involved (Hire)	0	0	3	1	2	0	3	1	2	0	1	0	1	4	1	0	2	1	1
Prime cause LPG	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Prime cause Petrol	0	2	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	2
Prime cause Electrical	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	1	1
Prime cause Other	1	1	3	2	2	1	5	1	2	0	0	0	1	21	4	2	2	1	0
No of vessels total loss	0	1	3	1	2	0	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	20	6	2	1	0	2
No of injuries from fires requiring hospital treatment	0	1	2	0	1	3	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1
No of fatalities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0