

Earl Waesche, NBF Legislative Director
ewaesche@comcast.net
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President Trump Orders EPA to Rescind Controversial “Waters of the U.S.” Rule: As reported by NMMA, President Donald Trump issued an [executive order](#) directing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to start a formal review of the “Waters of the United States” (WOTUS) rule, which expands the number of waterways federally protected under the Clean Water Act. The executive action to fix the WOTUS rule came after a highly contentious fight which pitted agriculture, environmental, real estate developers and manufacturing interests. The WOTUS rule was drafted during the Obama administration and broadened the definition of such things as "tributary" and also toughened controls over "adjacent waters." Several states and industry groups challenged WOTUS and a federal court eventually issued a stay to halt its implementation. Agriculture groups have been critical of the rule, claiming farmers could lose ranch or farmland because of the regulations. Environmental and conservation groups supported the expansion as a way to tackle agricultural runoff that impacted water quality and safe drinking water

RFS Reform Act Reintroduced to Prevent E15 Damage: Last week, Congressman Goodlatte (R-VA), Jim Costa (D-Calif.), Steve Womack (R-Ark.), and Peter Welch (D-Vt.) [reintroduced Renewable Fuel Standard \(RFS\) Reform Act \(H.R. 1315\)](#). The RFS Reform Act eliminates corn-based ethanol requirements, caps the amount of ethanol that can be blended into conventional gasoline at 10 percent, requires the EPA to set cellulosic biofuels levels at production levels, and decreases the total volume of renewable fuel that must be contained in gasoline sold or introduced into commerce for years 2017-2022. NMMA and NBF applaud these efforts at ensuring a safe and reliable fuel supply remains in place for boaters and is optimistic that Congress will tackle RFS Reform to better protect consumer choice.

Efforts by the EPA to increase the amount of ethanol in the fuel supply, up to 15 percent ethanol by volume (E15) is dangerous for boaters. Boaters are prohibited from using amounts above E10, but the EPA has done nothing to ensure the required fuel source for millions of boats and off-road equipment remains available. In 2016, renewable volume obligations numbers set levels of ethanol that will decimate the availability of ethanol free gas, a fuel type heavily demanded by many consumers.

Coast Guard Rescues 2 Aboard Sinking Boat Near Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, Virginia: - The Coast Guard rescued two people aboard a boat near the third island at the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel.

Coast Guard Station Little Creek received notification at approximately 3:15 p.m. that a 23-foot boat had struck an underwater rock with two people aboard and was taking on water. Station Little Creek diverted a 45-foot Response Boat-Medium (RBM) crew already in the vicinity training and launched a second RBM crew. The first crew arrived on scene at approximately 3:20 p.m. with the second arriving shortly after. Both RBM crews transferred dewatering pumps to the vessel.

The two RBM crews escorted the boat to Lynnhaven Marine Boatel in Virginia Beach where it was moored up at 4:15 p.m.

“We were lucky to already be training in the area” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Geoffrey Wells, coxswain in the second responding RBM. “Station Little Creek is always ready to maintain a quick response to mariners in distress.”