

# **National Recreation and Park Association**

**2006**

## **Fishing and Boating Final Summary Report**

**A Partnership with the  
Recreational Boating and Fishing  
Foundation**



**National Recreation  
and Park Association**

## Executive Summary

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) entered into an agreement with the Recreation Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) to conduct a pilot instructional program in ten communities during 2006. The goal of the pilot project was to determine the capacity of park and recreation agencies provide a viable platform to teach youth and adults to fishing and boating skills. This report summarizes the quantitative evaluation used for the pilot project and provides a qualitative overview of each community based project.

The ten pilot agencies were selected from a pool of 110 applications solicited through the NRPA network. The selection process was based on the agency's current programming and interest to expand fishing and boating programming. The selected agencies were:

- Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, MD
- Carrollton Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department, GA
- City of Hope Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, AR
- City of Oldsmar, FL
- City of Mercer Island Parks and Recreation, WA
- Columbus Recreation and Parks Department, OH
- Fort Campbell Youth Services, KY.
- LaCrosse Park and Recreation, WI
- Metro Parks of Tacoma, WA
- Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department, FL

Pilot sites participated in a training event where staff received instruction on fly fishing, spin casting, rod and reel maintenance, small water craft handling, fly tying and fish identification. Following the training, agencies developed a local program plan based upon the "Best Practices Workbook for Boating, Fishing and Aquatic Resources Stewardship Education" published by RBFF. Pilot project plans included boater safety classes and outreach; personal floatation device loaner programs for children; fishing equipment loaner programs; youth and family fishing and boating programs; fishing and boating programs for persons with disabilities; and urban fishing for youth and families.

These ten pilot sites implemented their programs in the spring, summer and fall of 2006. The sites focused on youth and family programming in after school settings, summer camps for youth and evening/weekend parent/child programs.

- Average number of participants per fishing programs was 34.
- Total number of fishing programs was 43.
- Total number of participants for fishing was 7,210
- In the boating events, the average number of programs was 51.
- Average number of participants per boating program was 26.
- The total participation for boating experiences was 6,025.
- Total participation for both fishing and boating experiences is 13,235

Total Participation of fishing and boating combined per pilot site:

- Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, MD -1,500
- Carrollton Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department, GA - 120
- City of Hope Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, AR - 151
- City of Oldsmar, FL - 230
- City of Mercer Island Parks and Recreation, WA - 392
- Columbus Recreation and Parks Department, OH – 6,030
- Fort Campbell Youth Services, KY - 444
- LaCrosse Park and Recreation, WI - 953
- Metro Parks of Tacoma, WA – 2,577
- Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department, FL - 350

The pilot park and recreation agencies serve a wide range of citizens. These agencies provide leisure programming for all ages and the community as a whole. Based on census data, the smallest community size that participated in this pilot was Hope, Arkansas with a population of 10,616 and the largest being Miami-Dade County with a population of 2,376,014. The total population of the 10 pilot communities is 4,037,613.

Each of the pilot agencies had some type of existing program in place and expanded the program offering to include increased access and opportunity for fishing and boating and the grant supported new equipment. New programs were offered as a result of the resources and training offered through the grant and included youth summer camps focused on fishing and boating skills. The average length of fishing programs offered by the pilot sites was just under 4 hours. The average length of the boating programs was 2 and three-quarter hours. All ten of the pilot sites' included fishing programs and nine of the sites included boating programs.

Programming was facilitated by park and recreation agency staff and/or volunteers working within the park and recreation facilities or jurisdiction. Pilot site facilities varied from urban fishing venues to Puget Sound kayaking. None of the agencies had the same outdoor venues, training facilities or staffing and each overcame challenges and leveraged their strengths to meet the pilot objectives. The pilot agencies contributed an average of \$4,809 per agency with in-kind contributions to the match the RBFF grant.

### **Benefits Resulting from Grant Program**

The benefits of the grant program were categorized into six areas:

1. Enhanced and expanded programming
2. Staff training;
3. Credibility with the public;
4. Equipment purchase;
5. Community outreach; and
6. Sustainability.

Of the six categories, equipment purchase and program expansion were ranked the highest for program benefits.

### **Terms of Reference/Definitions**

**Boating** - A small open vessel, or water craft, usually moved by paddles.

**Fishing** - The sport of catching or attempting to catch fish with a hook, line.

**Parks** - An area of land set aside for public use, with few or no buildings within maintained for recreational and open space use.

**Participants** - Individuals who engaged in fishing or boating activity.

**Partnering** -

**Public Areas** - Public lands owned by local, state, or federal governments.

**Recreation** – Passive or active engagement for relaxation and amusement

**Rural** - Respondent lived in a rural non-farm, or rural farm area, as determined by Census.

**Type of fishing** - Two types of fishing are reported: (1) spin casting, (2) fly fishing

**Urban** - Respondent lived in an urban area, as determined by the U.S. Census Bureau.

### **Program Description:**

#### **Baltimore, Maryland**

Baltimore is an urban environment that expanding the existing recreational fishing program by creating more opportunities for families to go fishing. Baltimore had boating facilities but failed to meet their goal of developing water-based boating experiences. Moving forward, the agency will be working to develop partnerships that can facilitate actual boating experiences. The staff worked with the City marina division to cross promote and educate communities on the recreational programs and facilities that are available to them in their community. The grant funds were used to purchase fishing equipment for programming.

The program goal for Baltimore included expanding the existing recreational fishing program by creating more opportunities for families to go fishing. To achieve this goal, they wanted participants to have a greater knowledge of fishing and to be more aware of the environment used for fishing. Some of the teaching tools used included the Backyard Bass game at the Annual Community Easter egg hunt. Staff ran the game for a full 3 hours because the demand was so high. Every kid caught one of the three species of fish which included orange roughy, yellow perch or red snapper.

The Baltimore pilot project was unique because of the location about a mile from the inner harbor. The urban park setting offered many activities and, as a result of the pilot, now offers family fishing programs. The expansion for the fishing program went from one derby to 20 structured program sessions with 50 participants and several volunteers.

#### **Carrollton, Georgia**

Carrollton partnered with their local Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to provide educational instruction and materials. Through this partnership the Georgia Boater Safety Course was offered free of charge and taught by the DNR to boaters this course is mandatory for youth ages 12 -15 years old.

Carrollton also developed a free Personal Floatation Device Loaner Program. Loaner PFD's are provided to individuals in an effort to reduce accidents and provide appropriate safety equipment. The target population was children and youth and was selected because staff observed inappropriate fitting personal floatation devices among this population.

Also partnering with DNR, Carrollton held a Fishing Rodeo through their summer day camp where youth learned to fish and practice skills. Approximately 40 youth participated in a camp experience which highlighted the following elements; hunting safety, boating safety, fishing and boating experiences. This was a new initiative and was an intensive hands-on program. Carrollton used their grant funding for fishing equipment and personal floatation devices for the loaner program.

During the pilot, the pilot coordinator left the agency which challenged the department to fully achieve the goals and objectives. The agency was able to leverage their DNR relationship to successfully expand their programming opportunities.

### **Metro Parks Tacoma, WA**

The program focused on youth and families in the northwest Washington region. Activity offerings ranged from workshops and one day events to a multi-day camp. Activities included fly fishing, fly tying, spin casting, canoeing, sailing, and kayaking workshops/classes and trips for families and youth

Metro Parks Tacoma leveraged their initiative via the after-school program and provided a progression experience with canoes and kayaks that started with land base instruction including pools and capstones ending with an open water experience in the Sound. Metro Parks also expanded their Day Camp/Teen Camps to include canoe and kayak experiences with participants. Experience included learning the basics and had a large emphasis on safety.

Metro Parks also completed a Kayak Symposium event which focused on safety and skills. Over 450 participants registered and 1000 were in attendance. 53 on the water classes were offered and 42 land classes were offered. They partnered with the US Coast Guard locally to teach the Boater Safety Education. In 2007, Washington State will enforce Boater Education law. Metro Parks is getting ahead and educating their community and providing information on where and when training is offered. Grant funds allowed for the purchasing of fishing equipment and kayak trailer.

Metro Parks worked with a variety of agencies, non-profits and inter-departmental staff to develop and/or implement this grant program. Local non-profits included the Puget Sound Fly Fishing Association and Ducks Unlimited. Puget Sound Fly Fishing taught two introductory workshops/classes on fly fishing and fly tying. Staff also worked with Ducks Unlimited and Metro Parks Events Division to develop and host a youth and adult fishing derby. The derby included an adult fishing tournament on Puget Sound, a kids fishing derby utilizing a on-land trout pond, a boating safety education component hosted

by another partner (Tacoma Power Squadron), and vendor booths featuring a variety of other local outdoor recreation related businesses.

Staff is currently working with the Washington State Fish and Wildlife Department to bring a new fishing program to Tacoma later this fall called “Got an Itch to Fish!”. This new program is geared to people of all ages (youth and adult) and provides them with an introduction to fishing techniques, equipment needs and a guide to local fishing holes.

Metro Parks program can be broken down into the following and one can see the expanded number of participants reached with the multi session of programs.

- Fly Fishing Class, 7 people participated:
  - Instruction included how to use the rod and reel, including a hands-on practice session on a local lake.
- Fly Tying Class, 4 people participated:
  - Instruction included training on proper flies to use in various fishing conditions and basic fly tying techniques. Participants made at least one to two flies that they took home.
- Spin Casting Class, occurring this fall:
  - This class is designed to introduce the beginning fisher person to the varieties of different fishing gear and choices that abound. Fishing fundamentals including understanding fish habitat, food sources and what types of fish are present in the waters around the Sound will be taught.
- Fishing Trips through Outdoor camp, 36 teens participated:
  - Program included 3 trips; 2 to freshwater lake and one on the Puget Sound.
  - Trip provided participants the opportunity to apply the knowledge and techniques they learned in the fly fishing and spin-casting classes.
- Fishing Derby, 148 adults and 23 kids in adult derby and 200 youth participated in the fishing pond:
  - Program included a fishing derby for youth in conjunction with an adult fishing derby.
  - Staff worked with Ducks Unlimited and Metro Parks Events Division to develop and host a youth and adult fishing derby. The derby included an adult fishing tournament on Puget Sound, a kids fishing derby utilizing a on-land trout pond, a boating safety education component hosted by another partner (Tacoma Power Squadron), and vendor booths featuring a variety of other local outdoor recreation related businesses.
- Canoeing, 103 participants:
  - Program included 8 trips for families and youth.
  - Trip included instruction on canoeing basics, paddle strokes, and boating safety.
- Kayaking, 282 participants:
  - Program included 25 kayaking trips during the summer and 10 trips this fall for families and youth.
  - Trips include instruction on kayak basics, paddle strokes and boating safety.
- Sailing, 8 youth participated:

- A two week sailing camp was offered through a new partnership with the Tacoma Yacht Club. Because of the high level of interest, two additional sailing classes are being offered through them this fall.
- Sea Kayak Symposium:
  - This 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Sea Kayak Symposium was very successful this year with over 450 registered participants and 1000 event attendees. Education components included 53 on-water classes teaching people how to kayak and 42 land classes teach the important safety aspects of kayaking.
- SPARX Workshops, offering this fall:
  - Fishing and boating activities are incorporated into an existing Middle School after-school program offered through Metro Parks. Instruction will include kayaking, fly fishing, and spin casting from September through May based on the current sessions curriculum.

### **Mercer Island, Washington**

Mercer Island designed and built a kiosk to play a larger role to inform boaters of upcoming classes, events and safety concerns. They placed the kiosk strategically next to the boat launch ticket machine. Every boater using the boat launch is required to purchase a ticket from the machine so the kiosk placement was optimum. The kiosk was filled with flyers and brochures as well as comment cards and a closed box to collect the cards.

The Parks and Recreation Department manned the boat launch during a couple of high use weekends throughout the summer. During these times the staff networked with boaters to make them aware of the kiosk and inform them of the type of information they would be able to find at the kiosk as well as promote boater safety and use of personal floatation devices. Staff informed boaters of new laws that go into effect in 2007 and informed them of where to obtain the boating safety classes and certification offered through the Park and Recreation Department. Washington States boating laws were just changed and starting in 2007/2008 all individuals operating watercraft will need to go through a special boating safety class/certification. The kiosk will play a major roll in informing boaters as to the new laws and provide information on classes.

Mercer Island under estimated the interest of youth and adults in fishing. They had to add classes to accommodate the needs of the community. Simply said, just because you're a water community doesn't mean the people are anglers. They had over 60 youth and 11 adults participate in classes. Parents accompanied their youth to the classes as well to provide assistance and supervision.

Mercer Island only weakness was under-estimating the community interest and need. The wanted to focus on boating for the most part because of the legislation, but their outreach stimulated interest in fishing. Mercer Island did very well with leveraging media attention for their efforts.

### **Columbus, Ohio**

Columbus required their staff to have basic training to use the spin casting and fly fishing rods. Staff members were trained on fly fishing and tying techniques this year to assist in the programs being offered. Staff also received ACA canoeing and kayaking training by their in-house instructor. Columbus expected to have approximately 1600 participants in programs this year as a result of the boating and fishing grant and they exceeded this by almost 1,000 and had over 2400 participants. The program expansion resulted in reaching 160 youth through the day program per week.

Columbus combined the fishing and boating with their current outdoor education programming to support the community knowledge for their local habitats and how they can recreate in a positive way while developing a sense of environmental stewardship. Columbus expanded their environmental after school programs for local children in the community by offering fishing programs for underprivileged children throughout Columbus and introductory boating programs for adults.

June 10<sup>th</sup> marked the first ever “Take Me Fishing Festival” in Columbus. The Columbus Recreation and Parks Outdoor Education Section offered fishing instruction, a derby, and several fishing and boating clinics. Every child received a free spin cast rod compliments of Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Passport for Fishing Program. Afternoon clinics, taught by experienced anglers and boaters from local fishing clubs and retail stores, included fly fishing for adults, fly fishing for kids, canoeing, and spin casting. Columbus’ own famous fly fisherman, Mickey McGuire, taught a fly tying clinic. It was so successful that plans for next year’s event are already underway!

Some of the challenges that the staff indicated included their facility. The river bank at Indian Village (the main fishing site) was covered in brush and trees and there was not a clear access point. The dock that they fish from is getting old, and slick and is not the safest place to have kids fishing from anymore. They have been applying for grants to gain funding to create a large fishing platform that would allow them to fish from, launch canoes and kayaks, as well as dock the pontoon boat. So far they have not secured any funding, however, the agency has agreed to match whatever grant funding is received. Finding these resources has been a challenge to overcome but one that impacts future programs if not resolved. They also expressed frustration at not having storage to maintain the equipment in good working order for future use. Without additional funding for a proper storage facility, the staff feel they are limited to expand.

### **Hope, Arkansas**

Hope, AR partnered with the local DNR to provide boater education classes for youth and adults. Arkansas Game & Fish Boating Safety Instructors led demonstrations on safety. Hope was successful with presenting a 20 minute program on our local television station and also presented a 15 minute radio program on boating and fishing. Leveraging the media created more awareness of the program and resources available to the community.

Hope’s strengths were the new 9 acre lake facility that was recently built. This facility is brand new and the pilot allowed for fishing and boating to be implemented. Hope Parks

and Recreation staff hooked up with partners to pull off the annual youth fishing derby at Lake in the Hope Fair Park. Held during a local historical society annual weekend festival, Parks and Recreation staff worked with the Arkansas Game and Fish biologists to pull it all together. The lake was stocked with lube channel catfish for youngsters to catch. Prizes were given for the largest fish, youngest person to catch a fish and a grand prize for the largest limit at the end of the derby. Hope also offered a boating education and safety program exclusively for women. This targeted approach was new for the agency and the interest was limited with 10 participants but with the facility new and continued marketing, participation should grow. After the success and the media outreach of this first year the next year's participation should grow from 37 per program to larger with more sessions.

### **La Crosse, Wisconsin**

La Crosse selected special populations as their target for outreach as well as low income and Hmong populations through family night fishing experiences, school programs, canoeing instruction. This was successful and was organized with a station rotation approach to skills development and allowed the agency to develop a new partnership with the Hmong Mutual Center. Wisconsin will be enforcing the Boater Safety law in 2007 so the agency was proactive having staff receive training to become instructors for Boater Safety Education courses. Between the school groups, the derby, day camp and the "take me fishing" programs La Crosse provided instruction to 812 youth and 141 adults.

La Cross purchased 50 personal floatation devices for their loaner program. Staff members were trained to assist boaters with proper PFD fitting. La Cross leveraged their grant funding to purchase equipment for fishing and boating.

One of the outcomes of the La Crosse project was the "Fishing Information on LaCrosse Area Water" This guide book is a guide for the community on location and techniques from check list to the how of fishing. It also included a calendar of activities for fishing and boating in the area. This guidebook is disseminated free to the community.

### **Oldsmar, Florida**

The City of Oldsmar had several strengths including director support, facility and access and a community interest. Oldsmar hosted a Kid's Fishing Derby and an Adult Fishing Tournament during National Fishing and Boating Week in June 2006. The Kid's Derby attracted youth ages 5 to 16 and had 80 participants. Prizes were awarded for casting and catching the largest fish. Adults also brought their catches in to be measured for awards. Oldsmar also expanded their programming to include summer camp programs so that youth were exposed to boating and fishing experiences. During the camp programs, Oldsmar also offered boater safety education to children and youth using floor models to demonstrate the locations of a boat and proper techniques to enter. This was followed up with a on the water experience.

One obstacle for Oldsmar was a large problem with alligator attacks and, as a result, had to change location of some of the activity plans for risk management reasons. Land

based fishing was relocated to docks and pier locations to avoid potential problems with alligators. Grant funds were used to purchase fishing and boating equipment.

### **Fort Campbell, Kentucky**

Is a military installation and focused their program through the Family Readiness, Housing Post, and Child, Youth Services. Fort Campbell staff identified that they had equipment needs such different kinds of fishing poles, rods, reels, fly fishing equipment, fly tying equipment, bait, lures, practice plugs, practice targets. They used the funding to purchase these items or rented items that exceeded the grant funds. As a result of purchasing the equipment, Fort Campbell was able to set up an equipment loaner program for family members to use. This program was developed to build carry over from the summer and after school programs. Many families have a parent on deployment and the staff developed a parent lesson for parent who had no skills to take their child fishing after the structured program hours. Fort Campbell offered over 20 fishing sessions and 12 boating experiences.

New partnerships were a welcome and unexpected outcome for Fort Campbell was the collaboration across service agencies to bring kids closer to nature through a Fishing Derby. One hundred kids spent an afternoon playing with worms, casting their reels, and catching fish at Lake Kyle. Employees joined parents and kids to learn to bait and cast. The youth had a blast and the adults reminisced. The event built a stronger relationship between agencies which translated into benefits for the community.

### **Miami-Dade, Florida**

Miami Dade targeted persons with physical disabilities to participate in the expanded program offering with an on the water experience. This provided an opportunity to learn adaptive and proper techniques of fishing and boating as well as provide a boating on water experience which was not offered in the past. This required the staff to review accessibility of boats as well as develop a risk management plan. Additional training of staff and volunteers was undertaken for this program expansion.

One weakness of the Miami-Dade pilot project was that the target focus was almost too limited to result in the agency meeting their objectives. When compared to the other pilots that were able to reach a multiple target there approach, the offering of programs seemed limited given the scale of facilities and the year round climate of southern Florida. They missed the opportunity build lifetime leisure skills and offered no loaner program or companion training program.

The RBFF quantitative evaluation survey was conducted to ascertain feedback about their programs. The results follow:

## RESULTS

### Section 1 - Programming Offered - Fishing

1. Did your program include any fishing-related activities? 1 = Yes, 2 = No

**Total of 10 Agencies providing fishing related programming.**

2. We would like to know a little about the programs that included fishing.

A. Number of different programs participating in fishing-related activities?

**Total Number of different programs 47**

Agency	Q2a Responses	
Baltimore, MD	4	B. On
Columbus, OH	4	
La Cross, WI	10	
Hope, AR	3	
Carrollton, GA	2	
Oldsmar, FL	4	
Metro Parks, WA	5	
Miami Dade Co, FL	3	
Mercer Island, WA	4	
Fort Campbell, KY	4	
<b>Total Number of Programs</b>	<b>43</b>	

average, how many participants were in each program?

Agency	Q2b Responses
Baltimore, MD	50
Columbus, OH	15
La Cross, WI	65
Hope, AR	37
Carrollton, GA	30
Oldsmar, FL	40
Metro Parks, WA	20
Miami Dade Co, FL	50
Mercer Island, WA	17
Fort Campbell, KY	15

Total number of participants from (multiple sessions)

Agency	Participation
Baltimore, MD	1500
Columbus, OH	3240
La Cross, WI	878
Hope, AR	111
Carrollton, GA	60
Oldsmar, FL	160
Metro Parks, WA	847
Miami Dade Co, FL	150
Mercer Island, WA	120
Fort Campbell, KY	144
<b>Total</b>	<b>7210</b>

C. Length in minutes of each program?

**Average length of program 211 minutes or 3 hours and 51 minutes**

**Total Number of Program hours offered 35 Hours & 13 minutes**

Agency	Q2c Responses
Baltimore, MD	150
Columbus, OH	120
La Cross, WI	150
Hope, AR	180
Carrollton, GA	480
Oldsmar, FL	180
Metro Parks, WA	368
Miami Dade Co, FL	240
Mercer Island, WA	120
Fort Campbell, KY	120

D.

Number of fishing-related activities offered at your facilities by outside organizations?

**Average Number of Outside Related Programs 1.6**

**Total Number of outside activities 16**

Agency	Q2d Responses
Baltimore, MD	1
Columbus, OH	1
La Cross, WI	1
Hope, AR	0
Carrollton, GA	0
Oldsmar, FL	2
Metro Parks, WA	7
Miami Dade Co, FL	2
Mercer Island, WA	0
Fort Campbell, KY	2
<b>Total Number of related activities outside of your structured program</b>	<b>7</b>

3. We would like to know how your fishing activities were staffed.

A. Number of staff from your agency involved in direct instruction?

**Average Number of Staff Involved Per Program 5.2**

**Total Number of Staff Involved 52**

Agency	Q3a Responses
Baltimore, MD	2
Columbus, OH	18
La Cross, WI	5
Hope, AR	4
Carrollton, GA	1
Oldsmar, FL	4
Metro Parks, WA	5
Miami Dade Co, FL	10
Mercer Island, WA	0
Fort Campbell, KY	3
<b>Total Number of Staff Involved</b>	<b>52</b>

B. Number of volunteers (parents, experts, etc.) involved in direct instruction?

**Average Number of Volunteers Involved Per Program 6.6**

**Total Number of Volunteers Involved 66**

Agency	Q3b Responses
Baltimore, MD	20
Columbus, OH	6
La Cross, WI	10
Hope, AR	2
Carrollton, GA	12
Oldsmar, FL	4
Metro Parks, WA	0
Miami Dade Co, FL	3
Mercer Island, WA	2
Fort Campbell, KY	7
<b>Total Number of Volunteers Involved</b>	<b>66</b>

C. Number of staff from your agency involved in supervision and support?

**Average Number of Staff Involved Per Program 4.9**

**Total Number of Staff Involved 49**

Agency	Q3c Responses
Baltimore, MD	3
Columbus, OH	2
La Cross, WI	5
Hope, AR	6
Carrollton, GA	1
Oldsmar, FL	6
Metro Parks, WA	2
Miami Dade Co, FL	20
Mercer Island, WA	2
Fort Campbell, KY	2
<b>Total Number of Staff Involved</b>	<b>49</b>

D. Number of volunteers involved in supervision and support?

**Average Number of Volunteers Involved in Supervision & Support Per Programs 4.1**

**Total Number of Volunteers Involved in Supervision & Support 41**

Agency	Q3d Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	0
La Cross, WI	10
Hope, AR	0
Carrollton, GA	2
Oldsmar, FL	4
Metro Parks, WA	0
Miami Dade Co, FL	3
Mercer Island, WA	20
Fort Campbell, KY	2
<b>Total Number of Volunteers Involved in Supervision</b>	<b>41</b>

E. Number of others (not listed above) involved in the program?

**Average Number of Others Involved 3.6**

**Total Number of Others Involved 36**

Agency	Q3e Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	0
La Cross, WI	20
Hope, AR	3
Carrollton, GA	5
Oldsmar, FL	0
Metro Parks, WA	2
Miami Dade Co, FL	4
Mercer Island, WA	0
Fort Campbell, KY	2
<b>Total Number of Others Involved</b>	<b>36</b>

4. We would like to know how much time was devoted to each of the following instructional areas over the course of your program. Please estimate the total number of programs (full or partial) and the time participants spent on each activity. Please feel free to add “Other” activities not included on the list below. Round to the nearest half-hour (e.g., 4.5 hours). If your unit did not include one or more of the activities listed below, please place a zero “0” in the box. Boating activities will be covered in the next section.

Class Activity	Total Number of Programs/classes	Total Hours
a. Equipment basics: rods, reels, lines, hooks – types, use & care	<b>218</b>	<b>116.5</b>
b. Connections: knot tying	<b>181</b>	<b>34</b>
c. Casting techniques: instruction and practice	<b>214</b>	<b>88</b>
d. What fish eat: natural and artificial baits	<b>212</b>	<b>17</b>
e. The catch: setting the hook, handling and de-hooking fish	<b>216</b>	<b>19</b>
f. After the catch: proper care and preservation of fish after the catch	<b>211</b>	<b>13.5</b>
g. Safety: equipment use, attire, and water	<b>214</b>	<b>39.5</b>
h. Active Fishing: on-water fishing experiences – <b>during school time</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>97.5</b>
i. Active Fishing: on-water fishing experiences – <b>outside of school time</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>141.5</b>
j. Aquatic ecology: habitat, water quality, predators, human impacts	<b>207</b>	<b>16.5</b>
k. Stewardship: what you can do to protect fish, habitats, water quality	<b>207</b>	<b>17</b>
l. Field trips to fish hatcheries or other fishing-related sites or programs	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>List Other Activities Below</b>		
m. Fish Identification	<b>3</b>	<b>.5</b>

n. Fish Body Structure	<b>3</b>	<b>.5</b>
o. Fish Shocking	<b>2</b>	<b>.5</b>
p. Fishing Derby Summer, Fall, Winter	<b>3</b>	<b>2.5</b>

**Section II – Program Offerings – Boating**

**In this section, we would like to know about any boating-related activities you had in your program. Boating is defined as the use of canoes, kayaks, or power boats. These activities may have been minor as some programs which focused on fishing activities. However, it is important for us to know the extent of any boating-related activity in your program.**

5. Did your program include any boating-related activities?

1 = Yes, 2 = No

**9 agencies offered boating programs.**

6.

Agency	Q5 Responses
Baltimore, MD	2
Columbus, OH	1
La Cross, WI	1
Hope, AR	1
Carrollton, GA	1
Oldsmar, FL	1
Metro Parks, WA	1
Miami Dade Co, FL	1
Mercer Island, WA	1
Fort Campbell, KY	1

We

would like to know a little about the program that included boating.

A. Number of different programs participating in boating-related activities?

**Total Number of Boating Programs 26**

Agency	Q6a Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	4
La Cross, WI	3
Hope, AR	2
Carrollton, GA	2
Oldsmar, FL	2
Metro Parks, WA	5
Miami Dade Co, FL	2
Mercer Island, WA	6
Fort Campbell, KY	4
<b>Total Number of Boating Programs</b>	<b>26</b>

B. On average, how many participants were in each program?

Agency	Q6b Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	12
La Cross, WI	20
Hope, AR	20
Carrollton, GA	30
Oldsmar, FL	35
Metro Parks, WA	12
Miami Dade Co, FL	100
Mercer Island, WA	20
Fort Campbell, KY	12

Total number of participants boating (multiple sessions)

Agency/Questions	Total for Boating Participation
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	2940
La Crosse, WI	300
Hope, AR	40
Carrollton, GA	60
Oldsmar, FL	70
Metro Parks, WA	1843
Miami Dade Co, FL	200
Mercer Island, WA	272
Fort Campbell, KY	300
<b>Total</b>	<b>6025</b>

C. Length in minutes of each program?

**Average Length of program 166 minutes or 2 hours and 46 minutes,  
Total Number of Programming Hours 27 hours and 40 minutes**

Agency	Q6c Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	180
La Cross, WI	90
Hope, AR	180
Carrollton, GA	480
Oldsmar, FL	60
Metro Parks, WA	300
Miami Dade Co, FL	240
Mercer Island, WA	10
Fort Campbell, KY	120

D. Number of boating-related activities outside offered outside of structured programs?

**Average number of related activities .7**

**Total Number of related activities 7**

Agency	Q6d Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	0
La Cross, WI	0
Hope, AR	0
Carrollton, GA	0
Oldsmar, FL	1
Metro Parks, WA	3
Miami Dade Co, FL	1
Mercer Island, WA	0
Fort Campbell, KY	2
<b>Total Number of related activities outside structured program</b>	<b>7</b>

7. We would like to know how your boating activities were staffed.

A. Number of staff from your agency involved in direct instruction?

**Average number of agency staff involved per program 4.7**

**Total Number of agency staff involved 47**

Agency	Q7a Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	18
La Cross, WI	4
Hope, AR	2
Carrollton, GA	1
Oldsmar, FL	2
Metro Parks, WA	6
Miami Dade Co, FL	10
Mercer Island, WA	2
Fort Campbell, KY	2
<b>Total Number of Agency Staff Involved in Direct Instruction</b>	<b>47</b>

B. Number of volunteers (parents, experts, etc.) involved in direct instruction?

**Average number of volunteers involved per program 8**

**Total number of volunteers involved in 80**

Agency	Q7b Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	2
La Cross, WI	10
Hope, AR	2
Carrollton, GA	12
Oldsmar, FL	1
Metro Parks, WA	50
Miami Dade Co, FL	3
Mercer Island, WA	0
Fort Campbell, KY	0
<b>Number of Volunteers Involved/Instruction</b>	<b>80</b>

C. Number of staff from your agency involved in supervision and support?

**Average number of staff involved per program 4.1**

**Total Number of Staff Involved 41**

Agency	Q7c Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	2
La Cross, WI	5
Hope, AR	4
Carrollton, GA	1
Oldsmar, FL	4
Metro Parks, WA	1
Miami Dade Co, FL	20
Mercer Island, WA	2
Fort Campbell, KY	2
<b>Total Number of Staff Involved in Supervision &amp; Support</b>	<b>41</b>

D. Number of volunteers involved in supervision and support?

**Total Number of Volunteers 20**

Agency	Q7d Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	0
La Cross, WI	10
Hope, AR	2
Carrollton, GA	2
Oldsmar, FL	1
Metro Parks, WA	0
Miami Dade Co, FL	3

Mercer Island, WA	0
Fort Campbell, KY	2
<b>Total Number of Volunteers Involved in Supervision &amp; Support</b>	<b>20</b>

E. Number of others (not listed above) involved in the program?

**Total number of others involved 10**

Agency	Q7e Responses
Baltimore, MD	0
Columbus, OH	0
La Cross, WI	0
Hope, AR	0
Carrollton, GA	5
Oldsmar, FL	0
Metro Parks, WA	1
Miami Dade Co, FL	4
Mercer Island, WA	0
Fort Campbell, KY	0
<b>Number of Others Involved</b>	<b>10</b>

8. We would like to know how much time was devoted to each of the following instructional areas over the course of your unit. Please estimate the total number of programs (full or partial) and the time participants spent on each activity. Please feel free to add “Other” activities not included on the list below. Round to the nearest half-hour (e.g., 4.5 hours). If your unit did not include one or more of the activities listed below, please place a zero “0” in the box. Fishing activities were covered in the previous section.

Class Activity	Total Number of Programs/Classes	Total Hours
a. Equipment basics: boats, paddles, equipment – types, use & care	<b>219</b>	<b>71</b>
b. Boating techniques: paddling instruction and practice	<b>216</b>	<b>273</b>
c. Entering the water: launching and entering the boat	<b>215</b>	<b>42</b>
d. Safety: equipment use, attire, and water	<b>219</b>	<b>50</b>
e. Active Boating: on-water boating experiences – during school time	<b>166</b>	<b>189.5</b>
f. Active Boating: on-water boating experiences – outside of school time	<b>54</b>	<b>225.5</b>
g. Aquatic ecology: aquatic systems, water quality, human impacts	<b>85</b>	<b>44</b>
h. Stewardship: what you can do to protect water quality, aquatic habitats	<b>219</b>	<b>57</b>
i. Field trips to related boating facilities, sites or programs	<b>31</b>	<b>184</b>
List Other Activities Below		
j. Boat Trip to Island	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

**Section III – Program Implementation**

We would like to know how you felt about your program implementation and the limitations that may have kept it from being as successful as you may have liked. This information will help the Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation, Future Fisherman Foundation, and NRPA better provide for your program needs and make them more enjoyable for you and your community.

9. On a scale ranging from 1 to 10, with 10 being the best, how would you rate your fishing/boating for your participants learning and fun? (Circle only one number)

Very Little A Lot  
**1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10**

- a. Rate how much your participants learned about fishing and/or boating overall.  
**Average response on participants learning and fun 8.9**

Agency	Q9a Responses
Baltimore, MD	9
Columbus, OH	10
La Cross, WI	9
Hope, AR	10
Carrollton, GA	1
Oldsmar, FL	7
Metro Parks, WA	8
Miami Dade Co, FL	10
Mercer Island, WA	9
Fort Campbell, KY	8

- b. Rate how much fun your participants had in the fishing and/or boating program overall.  
**Average on participants overall rating of fun 9.3**

Agency	Q9b Responses
Baltimore, MD	9
Columbus, OH	9
La Cross, WI	10
Hope, AR	10
Carrollton, GA	1
Oldsmar, FL	8
Metro Parks, WA	9
Miami Dade Co, FL	10
Mercer Island, WA	9

10. Many things can impact the success and quality of a program. To what degree did the following factors influence your boating/fishing program? Please put a check [  ] in the appropriate box. If the program component does not apply to your program, please check the “Does Not Apply” box.

Program Component	Not a Problem	Slight Problem	Moderate Problem	Severe Problem	Does Not Apply
a. Adequate quantity of fishing equipment	<b>90% or 9 Agencies</b>	<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>			
b. Adequate quantity of boating equipment	<b>30% or 3 Agencies</b>	<b>20% or 2 Agencies</b>	<b>30% or 3 Agencies</b>		<b>20% or 2 Agencies</b>
c. Adequate number of fishing skills instructors	<b>30% or 3 Agencies</b>	<b>40% or 4 Agencies</b>	<b>30% or 3 Agencies</b>		
d. Adequate number of boating skills instructors	<b>60% or 6 Agencies</b>	<b>20% or 2 Agencies</b>	<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>		<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>
e. Adequate coverage of water safety instruction	<b>80% or 8 Agencies</b>	<b>20% or 2 Agencies</b>			
f. Adequate number of volunteers to assist with the program	<b>60% or 6 Agencies</b>	<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>	<b>20% or 2 Agencies</b>		<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>
g. Suitable site/waters for fishing	<b>80% or 8 Agencies</b>		<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>	<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>	
h. Suitable site/waters for boating	<b>80% or 8 Agencies</b>			<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>	<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>
i. Suitable person to talk about aquatic ecology and stewardship	<b>70% or 7 Agencies</b>	<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>	<b>20% or 2 Agencies</b>		
j. Adequate capability to transport all students	<b>50% or 5 Agencies</b>	<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>			<b>40% or 4 Agencies</b>
Other Program Components (list)					
k. Media Coverage			<b>10% or 1 Agency</b>		<b>90% or 9 Agencies</b>

Agency	Q10a	Q10b	Q10c	Q10d	Q10e	Q10f	Q10g	Q10h	Q10i	Q10j	Q10k
Baltimore, MD	1	9	2	9	9	1	1	9	1	1	9
Columbus, OH	1	2	3	2	1	3	4	4	3	9	9
La Cross, WI	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	9	9
Hope, AR	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	9
Carrollton, GA	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Oldsmar, FL	1	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	9
Metro Parks, WA	1	2	3	1	1	9	3	1	1	2	9
Miami Dade Co, FL	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Mercer Island, WA	1	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	9	9
Fort Campbell, KY	1	3	2	1	2	3	1	1	1	1	9

**Section IV – Partnerships**

11. Please list and community partners you engaged in your grant initiative. (Organizations can be defined as, Department of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife, Corp of Engineers, Community Groups, Civic Organization, etc).

- Tackle Shops 50% or 5 Agencies**
- Community Organizations 50% or 5 Agencies**
- Dept Natural Resources 40% or 4 Agencies**
- Fish & Wildlife Service 30% or 3 Agencies**
- Bass 30% or 3 Agencies**
- Inter-Agency 30% or 3 Agencies**
- Corporate 30% or 3 Agencies**
- Friends of the Park 20% or 2 Agencies**
- Outfitter 20% or 2 Agencies**
- Trout unlimited 10% or 1 Agency**
- Bass Pro Shop 10% or 1 Agency**
- Saltwater Fishermen’s Assoc. 10% or 1 Agency**
- Audubon Society 10% or 1 Agency**
- Foundations 10% or 1 Agency**

12. Please indicate the level of involvement of these partners. (Check all that apply)

- Equipment **80% or 8 Agencies**
- Training/Education Materials **70% or 7 Agencies**
- Training/Education Instruction **70% or 7 Agencies**
- Promotional **60% or 6 Agencies**
- In-Kind Contribution **60% or 6 Agencies**
- Funding **40% or 4 Agencies**
- Expert Consultation **40% or 4 Agencies**
- Other **40% or 4 Agencies**
- Facility Access **30% or 3 Agencies**

**Section V - Sustainability**

13. Please rank the community impact that your partnership had. (1 being the lowest with no impact, 5 being the highest with great impact, 999 Blank)

**Average Impact Ranking on community = 4**

Agency/	Q13 Response	
Baltimore, MD		5
Columbus, OH		4
La Cross, WI		5

Hope, AR	4
Carrollton, GA	4
Oldsmar, FL	4
Metro Parks, WA	4
Miami Dade Co, FL	3
Mercer Island, WA	4
Fort Campbell, KY	4

14. Please rank how you perceive likelihood of sustainability of your partnership moving forward.

Definitely (1) **70% or 7 Agencies**

Very Probably (2) **30% or 3 Agencies**

Agency	Q14 Responses
Baltimore, MD	1
Columbus, OH	1
La Cross, WI	1
Hope, AR	2
Carrollton, GA	1
Oldsmar, FL	1
Metro Parks, WA	1
Miami Dade Co, FL	2
Mercer Island, WA	2
Fort Campbell, KY	1

15. Do you or other staff at your agency plan to have fishing or boating program during in 2007?

**Total of 10 Agencies plan to have fishing and boating program in 2007**

15a. Do you plan to expand the current program?

**Total of 10 Agencies plan to expand the current programs in 2007**

16. What was the most successful aspect of your boating or fishing program?

The ability to introduce youth and families from diverse backgrounds and ethnic make-up to fishing and boating and environmental stewardship for lifetime leisure pursuits. Community partnerships that were developed allowed for additional programming and increased of hands on experiences for participants. Programs indicated that they were able to offer more program session with because staff were trained and equipment was available.

17. What one thing could be done to make your program more successful?

More training opportunities for staff on a continuous bases in spin casting and fly fishing to better serve the community. More planning to incorporate combining activities for the water experiences. Agency administration support for programming storage and facility improvements to provide increased access to venues. Partner development at the beginning is critical and development of these partnerships enhances sustainability. Basic fishing with families was a positive family leisure experiences and agencies are looking to expand more

family activities.

18. Describe how the RBFF funding impacted your community.

Allow the agency to purchase additional equipment to reach a populations of youth, families in the community about fishing that would normally not have this opportunity. Agencies were also able to expand or create equipment loaner programs for self guided experiences that increased participation beyond the structured programming. These expansions of program increased participation by having hands on experiences with various types equipment that could be tried out and actually used. Community impact for the funding was more programs were offered on a wider scale as a result of agencies being able to train staff and leverage community anglers as volunteers which all provide opportunity for long term sustainability of fishing and boating program.

19. To better enable NRPA and RBFF what additional resources should be made available beyond funding?

More training opportunities in boating and fishing for grantees. Additional funding to leverage resources that are cut from budgets such as staffing. Allow grant funding to support additional staff training. Additional grant opportunities for environmental stewardship, waterways facility management. More resources to prepare staff and volunteers for the interest in the environment. Assistance is needed with connecting the resources in the local community to the agency. More national media exposure spurred by NRPA and RBFF.

20. What was your agencies **estimated** financial contribution to this grant project?

**Total financial contribution \$48,089.00.**

**Average financial contribution per agency \$4,809**

Agency	Q20 Responses
Baltimore, MD	\$ 5,000
Columbus, OH	\$ 6,500
La Cross, WI	\$ 4,500
Hope, AR	\$ 3,500
Carrollton, GA	\$ 4,000
Oldsmar, FL	\$ 3,000
Metro Parks, WA	\$ 7,235
Miami Dade Co, FL	\$ 2,500
Mercer Island, WA	\$ 4,854
Fort Campbell, KY	\$ 7,000
<b>Total Contribution</b>	<b>\$ 48,089</b>

21. Considering your program overall, how would you rate your fishing/boating program in accomplishing the goals you had set for the grant? (Circle only one number)

Achieved No Objectives

Achieved All Objectives

**1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10**

**Average rating for accomplishing the goals and objectives = 8.3**

Agency	Q21 Responses
Baltimore, MD	8
Columbus, OH	9
La Cross, WI	9
Hope, AR	7
Carrollton, GA	8
Oldsmar, FL	8
Metro Parks, WA	8
Miami Dade Co, FL	8
Mercer Island, WA	9
Fort Campbell, KY	9

22. How did you promote/market your program offering?

**(1) Community Newspaper = 70% or 7 Agencies**

**(2) Newsletters/Flyers = 60% or 6 Agencies**

**(3) Email Blast = 20% or 2 Agencies**

**(4) Mailings = 10% or 1 Agency**

**(5) Banners = 10% or 1 Agency**

**(6) Press Releases = 50% or 5 Agencies**

**(7) Radio/TV Ad = 50% or 5 Agencies**

**(8) Take Me Fishing CD = 20% or 2 Agencies**

Agency/	Q22 Responses
Baltimore, MD	1, 2, 3,
Columbus, OH	2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8,
La Cross, WI	2, 1, 7,
Hope, AR	6, 7
Carrollton, GA	1, 6, 7,
Oldsmar, FL	1, 2, 6, 7,
Metro Parks, WA	1, 6
Miami Dade Co, FL	3
Mercer Island, WA	2, 1
Fort Campbell, KY	2, 1

23. How did you leverage the National Recreation Boating and Fishing Week, held June 11- 16, 2006?

**(1) Festival = 50% or 5 Agencies**

**(2) Boating Safety Classes/Awareness = 50% or 5 Agencies**

**(3) Press/Media Coverage = 20% or 2 Agencies**

Agency	Q23 Responses
Baltimore, MD	1
Columbus, OH	1

La Cross, WI	2
Hope, AR	3, 2
Carrollton, GA	2
Oldsmar, FL	1
Metro Parks, WA	3
Miami Dade Co, FL	1
Mercer Island, WA	2
Fort Campbell, KY	1, 2

**Conclusion**

**Overwhelming support for the value of the NRPA/RBFF partnership was reported by the pilot site coordinators throughout the pilot project.**

**The evaluation indicates that parks and recreation can provide community based access to learning fishing and boating skills that can increase participation in recreational fishing and boating.**

**Provided with the proper training and resource support, parks and recreation can partner with public, non-profit and private organizations to implement a “try, learn, play, compete” participation development strategies for fishing and boating.**

**Parks and recreation provide additional resources and support services to implement instructional programs for boating and fishing.**

**Recommendations**

The efforts of the pilot projects resulted in new or expanded programming that will continue to develop over time. The following areas were deemed essential to the success of the pilot projects and should be considered for future activities.

**Training**

To successfully expand the national program, training resources will be necessary to provide park and recreation leaders with the background and skills needed to launch a program independent of outside support. An alternative would be the creation of a “buddy program” that pairs fishing/boating experts with local park and recreation agencies to develop successful programming.

**Equipment**

Equipment is a required resource for local agencies to launch a new program or expand an existing one. Other NRPA national initiatives have successfully increased participation as a result of equipment grants. To overcome the knowledge gap at the leader level, one strategy may be to provide equipment grants to existing programs eager to expand their programming opportunities by increasing participation among target audiences.

### Visibility

Promoting boating and fishing at park and recreation venues can contribute to increased visibility and interest in learning a new recreational skill. Promoting boating and fishing week among all park and recreation agencies can have a positive impact to generate interest in instructional programming. NRPA has had success in designating communities as leaders and gaining additional programming support as a result.

The pilot project showed competencies in program administration where effective training, material support and visibility tools were provided. NRPA submitted a formal proposal for a large scale initiative to expand the pilot project during 2007, but it was deemed too aggressive as a next step to develop the partnership. NRPA is eager to work with RBFF to scale a national strategy that enlists the enthusiastic efforts of park and recreation agencies to increase participation in boating and fishing at a level that suits RBFF. It is the NRPA recommendation and request that the scope of the 2007 program be confirmed by December 6<sup>th</sup> to ensure that necessary program promotion and planning cycles for 2007 spring and summer schedules are presented in a timely fashion to achieve program goals for response.