

Contact: Erika Clemons  
Phone: (703) 361-4294  
Email: [campaign@safeboatingcouncil.org](mailto:campaign@safeboatingcouncil.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**National Safe Boating Council Announces Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks as Western Boating Education Advancement Award Winner**

Manassas, VA (April 2, 2007) –National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) Past Chairman Ed Carter and Coors Brewing Company Representative Deanna Rice presented the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and parks with the Western Boating Education Advancement Award (BEAA) at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual International Boating and Water Safety Summit in San Antonio, Texas. Sponsored by Coors Brewing Company, the BEAA awards are given out annually to recognize the outstanding efforts of individuals and organizations that have developed and implemented new and innovative boating education programs that reach out to boaters and address some of the major safety concerns of today's vessel operator.

Boating Under the Influence, It's Your Choice presents a realistic visual account of how the use of alcohol can impair judgment and cause an accident while on the water. The Montana Dept of Fish, Wildlife and Parks has developed this program using a video and hands on class demonstrations to demonstrate the effect alcohol can have on even the simplest of tasks. Designed for boating and water safety groups, this program allows boaters to experience the effects alcohol can have on your judgment and the impact that can have while on the water.

Boating Education Advancement Award Winners are selected from the three regional (Northern, Southern, Western) and Canadian award recipients. Regional winners receive an award and \$1000. The North American Award Winner is selected from the four regional winners and presented with an award an additional \$1500 at the annual International Boating and Water Safety Summit. The BEAA Awards were established by the NSBC, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is the foremost coalition for the advancement and promotion of safer boating through education. The NSBC is comprised of over 333 national, regional, and local boating and water safety agencies, organizations and corporations that are all committed to boating safety.