

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Life Jacket Regulation Report

Life Jacket Regulation Report

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I couldn't find Tim's prior post, but I saw this in the On-line edition of the Post-Gazette this morning:

*Fishing Notebook: Life jackets move finds rough water
Sunday, November 12, 2006*

By Deborah Weisberg

Despite a year in which boating fatalities on Pennsylvania waters are, so far, double the 10-year average, a move to make life jackets mandatory for kayakers, canoeists and others in boats less than 16 feet long has hit rough waters.

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has received 376 comments opposing year-round mandatory wearing of life jackets and just 14 supporting it. According to commission data, boating fatalities usually involve un-powered watercraft and boaters who aren't wearing life jackets.

Statewide, 24 people have died in boating-related accidents this year. The public comment period ends Wednesday. For more, visit www.fish.state.pa.us.