



PROCLAMATION
of the Mayor of the Petersburg Borough, Alaska
National Safe Boating Week - May 16 - 22, 2026

WHEREAS, the Petersburg Borough is a maritime community where residents and visitors regularly engage in boating, fishing, and other recreational activities on navigable waters around Petersburg; and

WHEREAS, these activities involve a wide range of recreational vessels, including open power boats, cabin power boats, personal watercraft, and paddle craft such as kayaks, canoes, and paddleboards; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Coast Guard, in calendar year 2024 there were 3,887 verified recreational boating incidents nationwide resulting in 556 deaths, 2,170 injuries, and approximately \$88 million in property damage; and

WHEREAS, the majority of boating accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment rather than by vessel defects or environmental conditions; and

WHEREAS, alcohol use, operator inattention, inexperience, and violations of navigation rules remain leading contributing factors in serious and fatal boating accidents; and

WHEREAS, the United States Coast Guard reports that 87 percent of boating accident victims who drowned in 2024 were not wearing a life jacket, and many lives could have been saved through proper safety practices; and

WHEREAS, boating safety education, vessel safety checks, and public awareness campaigns are proven to reduce accidents and save lives on the water; and

WHEREAS, National Safe Boating Week provides an opportunity for communities to promote safe boating practices and encourage responsible behavior on the water throughout the year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert Lynn, Mayor of the Petersburg Borough, Alaska do hereby proclaim May 16 through May 22, 2026, as National Safe Boating Week and the start of a year-round effort to promote safe boating in the Petersburg Borough.

Proclaimed this 20th day of April 2026

Robert Lynn, Mayor

