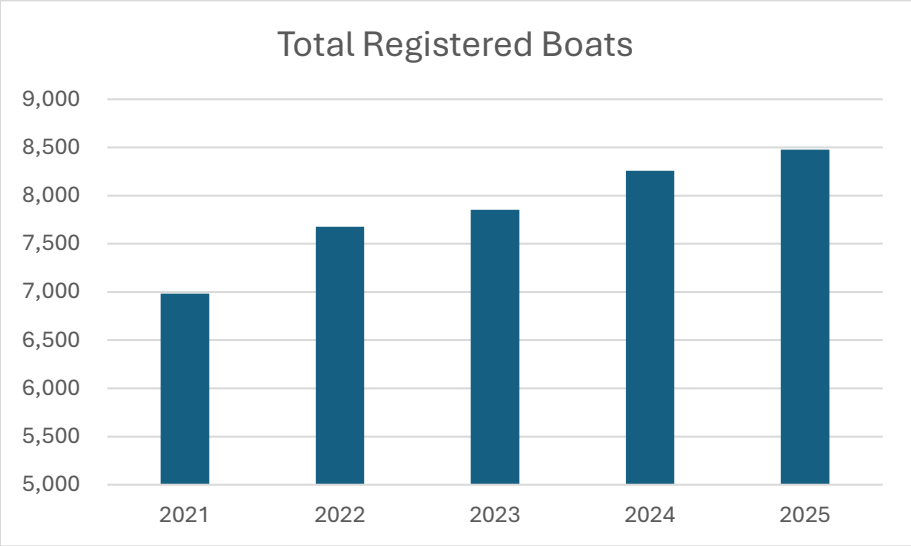
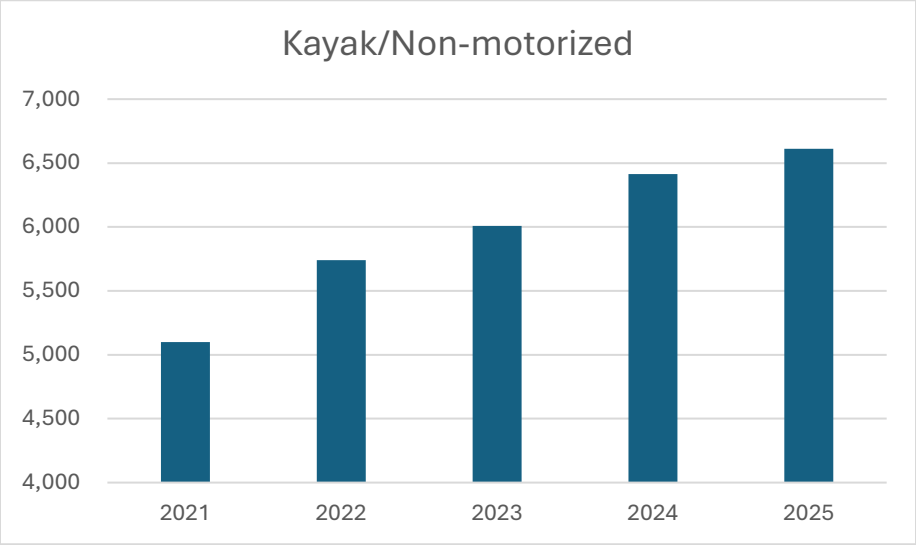
Boat Registration Analysis

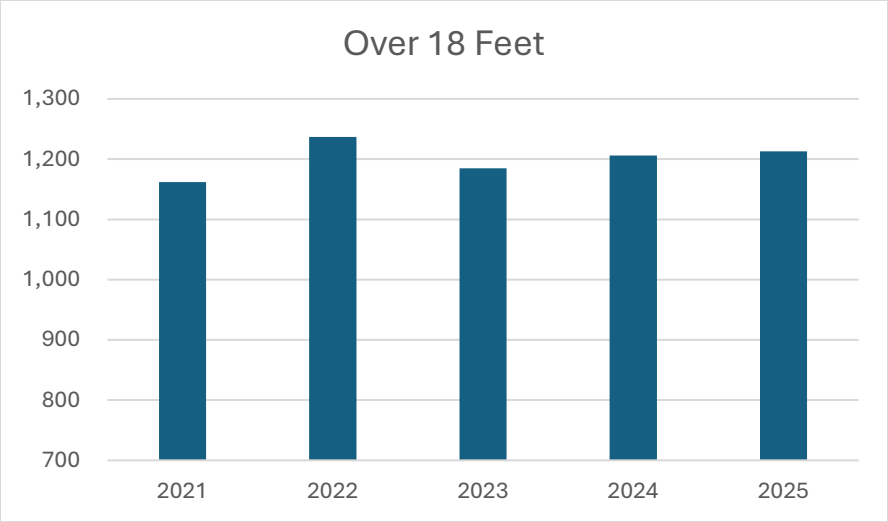
Over the last five years, we have seen a steady increase in the number of boat registrations. Total registrations have grown from 6,983 in 2021 to 8,478 in 2025. This is an increase of 1,495 boats registered, a 21.4% increase.



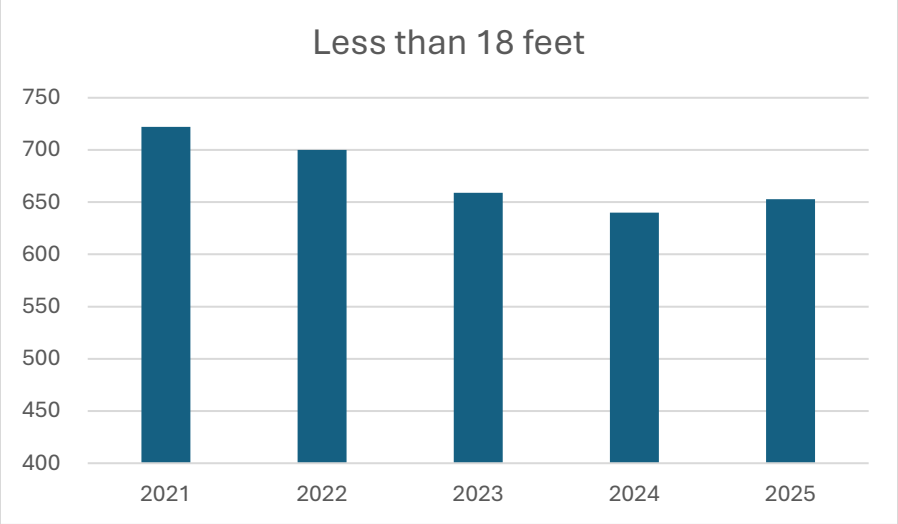
All of the increase in registrations has come from kayaks and non-motorized boats. Kayaks and non-motorized registrations have grown from 5,099 in 2021 to 6,612 in 2025. This is an increase of 1,513 registered kayaks and non-motorized boats, a 29.7% increase.



Registrations of boats over 18 feet have stayed relatively flat, with 1,162 registered in 2021 and 1,213 registered in 2025. This is an increase of 51 registrations, a 4.4% increase.



Over the same period, we have seen a decrease in the number of boats less than 18 feet registered. In 2021 there were 722 boats registered and in 2025 this decreased to 653 registered. This is a decrease of 69 registrations, a 9.6% decrease.



It is still early in the year to determine the full impact of the increase in the cost of registering a boat, since last year 40.8% of all registrations took place in the second quarter. In a year-over-year comparison as of April 30th, we have seen a 3.9% decrease in boat registrations, but this shortfall may increase or decrease in the coming months as more boats get registered. Even with the decrease in boat registrations, revenue is up 42.3% due to the increase in cost to register a boat. The modest decrease in the number of boats registered, coupled with a significant increase in revenue, suggests the community is accepting the fee increase.