

CERTIFICATE OF BOAT NUMBER – Denial or Revocation

What is being considered?

The Department is considering establishing a process by which it may deny an application for a certificate of number or revoke a previously issued certificate of number.

The Department has the ability to deny applications or revoke licenses in other contexts, such as hunting and fishing licenses. By creating the ability to deny or revoke a certificate of number for a vessel, the Department will be aligning these abilities in its various regulatory contexts. If the Department denies an application for a certificate of number or revokes a previously issued certificate of number, the Department will follow the same procedures it currently follows in the hunting and fishing license context. This means that the Department will provide notice to the individual of the Departmental action through a Notice of Agency Action and the individual will have an opportunity to request a hearing on the matter with the Office of Administrative Hearings. The Department would then have to show an Administrative Law Judge that its actions were appropriate and lawful. If the Administrative Law Judge agreed that the action was appropriate and lawful, the Department would be able to either deny the application or revoke the previously issued certificate of number. If the individual instead were to show the Administrative Law Judge that the Department was incorrect in its action, the Department would then issue the certificate of number at issue.

Why is this change being considered?

The Department has discovered that there is no regulatory mechanism to deny an application for a certificate of number, or to revoke a previously issued certificate of number. The Department may need to undertake either action upon discovering an object that may have at one time been a vessel but has been modified in such a way that it is no longer a vessel. Examples of these scenarios would be applying for a certificate of number for a vessel that has had its floor removed and is now being used as a planter in a yard, or attempting to renew a certificate of number for a vessel that has been modified to act as a shell on a car, to give the impression of a vessel driving down the road.

Who will this affect?

Any individual who applies for a certificate of number for an object that is not a vessel or any person who has a certificate of number and modifies the vessel in such a way as to no longer be a vessel.

When will this be effective?

The Department anticipates that this change could be effective in the winter of 2025. The Department will follow our normal [procedures](#) if this topic moves forward.

Has this change been discussed with advisory bodies or other interested individuals?

No.