AIS Update from the American Boat & Yacht Council

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The American Boat & Yacht Council

- Non-profit
- Develops voluntary safety standards for recreational boats:
  - Design
  - Construction
  - Maintenance
  - Repair
- Offer seminars, workshops, and technician certification courses

90% of boats on the water are built to ABYC standards

In U.S., very few laws with regard to construction of recreational boats

• Mission:
  • To engage major stakeholders in an in-depth dialogue regarding prevention, inspection and decontamination of boats

• Focused on:
  • Boat design and construction
  • Component/system design and installation
  • Engine and propulsion systems
  • Trailer design and construction

• Attendees (100)
  • ABYC
  • USFWS
  • State Marine Boards
  • NMMA
  • Industry Representatives and Associations
  • SOBA
  • Marine Fisheries Commission
  • NPS
  • Sea Grant
  • etc...
Boat Design and Construction

• Education Opportunities
  • Boat builders don’t know where to go for information
    • For themselves
    • For their consumers/dealers

“What’s a villager?”

• Action Items – Education
  • Centralized web-based resource on AIS
    • Audience includes industry, consumer, etc.
    • Ask NMMA and ABYC to distribute information
  • ABYC/NMMA to further educate boat builders/industry
    • Webinars
    • IBEX seminars
Boat Design and Construction

• Action Items – Boat Design
  • ABYC Task Force for Boat Design Considerations for AIS
  • Intentional water uptake
    • Ballast tanks, live wells
  • Incidental water
    • Anchor compartments, bilge
  • Hull and external structures
    • Strakes, keels, thru hulls

• Other Opportunities
  • “AIS Safe” boats – consider future action to develop acceptance, marketing, and certification standards
  • Include post-construction retro-fit opportunities

Large drains to remove water
System and Component Design and Installation

• Needs/Solutions for AIS
  • Unified consumer education
  • Filtration devices
  • Alternative decontamination
  • Uniform minimum requirements
    • Standard decontamination process

• Action Items
  • Survey water pressure and temperatures in decon process
  • Distribute Uniform Minimum Protocol
  • Explore grant availability for systems testing
  • Unified consumer education resource for manufacturers
Propulsion and Engine Systems

• Considerations/Issues
  • Engine types
  • Veligers vs. adults
  • Engine flushing interface
  • Water temps for decontamination
  • Alternatives to hot water

• Action Items
  • Industry engine/cooling system diagrams circulated by ABYC
  • Engine manufacturers evaluate water temps and determine max temps possible
  • Industry provide flushing manuals
  • Summarize effects of higher salt concentration on mussels and engine components
  • ABYC: address engine flush attachment in standard
Trailer Design and Construction

• **Issues**
  - Cleaning plants/organic material
  - Eliminating standing water
  - Adult mussel/organism attachment
  - Design changes are influenced by consumer preference

• **Action Items**
  - Develop recommended best practice for how to thoroughly flush and drain a trailer
  - Incorporate a “flush here” opening with label
  - Outreach
    - Additional info in owners manual on jacking boat up to tilt and further drain once parked
Summary – Overall

- Educate the boater of the need for responsible AIS considerations
- Strive for greater involvement by the boating industry
- Uniform inspection/decontamination procedures
- Develop a technical information report to assist boating industry in best known AIS mitigation strategies
- Centralized location for AIS information, regulatory information and inspection/decontamination procedures
ABYC T-32: Boat Design and Construction in Consideration of Aquatic Invasive Species

• Drafted March 2016
• Call for Comments addressed at ABYC AIS Project Technical Committee Meeting on May 17-18, 2016
• Resulting draft from the subcommittee will go out for another call for comments period.
• Next meeting scheduled for October 3rd at International Boatbuilders Exhibition and Conference
ABYC T-32: Boat Design and Construction in Consideration of Aquatic Invasive Species

- Sections
  - Hull Considerations
  - System/Component Considerations
  - Engine Considerations
  - Trailer Considerations
- Each Section Contains
  - Design and Construction Considerations
  - Inspection
  - Decontamination
  - Best Practices
Ohio Clean Marinas Program

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FIND OUT MORE

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