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April 7, 2014

Proposal on the production of a:

## Summit on an Invasive Species

### Boat Design & Construction in Consideration of Aquatic Invasive Species

#### **Premise:**

Since the 1988 discovery of the Zebra mussel in Lake Michigan, state and federal governments have been diligently looking for solutions to all types of aquatic invasive species. Recently the American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) has been asked to be involved from the boat side of this equation. With access to boat builders, law enforcement and component manufacturers ABYC is a natural choice for open and frank discussion on many angles of this growing problem.

#### About ABYC:

Since 1954 ABYC has been creating and publishing voluntary safety standards for use by the marine industry. Our ANSI audited process ensures that a balanced group of individuals have a stake in the work that we do and the standards we produce. In the recreational marine industry, as with many other industries, accidents and hazards are dealt with through the wide use of engineering safety standards. ABYC has a long history of fostering frank and open discussions on matters surrounding boating. We find that the topic of AIS can be addressed in a similar manner; research and consensus among experts followed by a guidance document for boatbuilders and regulators alike. A perfect example is the existence of open, spot-welded "strakes" on the sides of pontoon boats.



These openings and non-continuous welds present an excellent opportunity for marine species to avoid decontamination efforts resulting in the transport of unwanted species from lake to lake. A Technical Information Report produced by ABYC may outline the best practice for design in consideration of invasive species. Citing the above example, the recommendations may include closing and continuous welding of pontoon strakes. Other examples may include the complete drainage of a live bait well, or locating a bilge in a location where water is fully evacuated upon draining. An example of one of ABYC's Technical Information Reports regarding Carbon Monoxide can be found here:

<https://abyc.site-ym.com/store/ViewProduct.aspx?ID=1448778>



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To begin this process, ABYC proposes a summit to engage major stakeholders in an in-depth dialogue surrounding both the boat construction and decontamination sides of this issue. Inviting experts from all aspects of these issues, ABYC proposes a 2 day focused gathering combining small working groups with expanded whole-group sessions in order to produce several actionable plans for a way forward.

Summits like these have been effective in moving an issue from problem to solution. The mitigation of hazards such as Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning, electric shock drowning and propeller injury have all been influenced by take-a ways from venues like the one proposed here. Events like this one, where experts are essentially sequestered for two days' time serve as a catalyst for change that lasts for months, even years beyond the original presentation. ABYC still receives calls for meeting package CD's containing the information from a Carbon Monoxide summit held in 2002.

### ***Expected Outcomes:***

While no one can predict the innovative and unique proposals that will be discussed during these intense sessions, it is envisioned that changes to boat construction, component manufacturing and decontamination practices will be thoroughly vetted and either moved forward or discounted as discussion ensues. What results from this meeting will be well documented and circulated among attendees and interested parties in the form of a final report. Actionable items will be sent to the appropriate party (e.g. Boat Design and construction issues would be ABYC's responsibility) with provision for deadlines and future reporting.

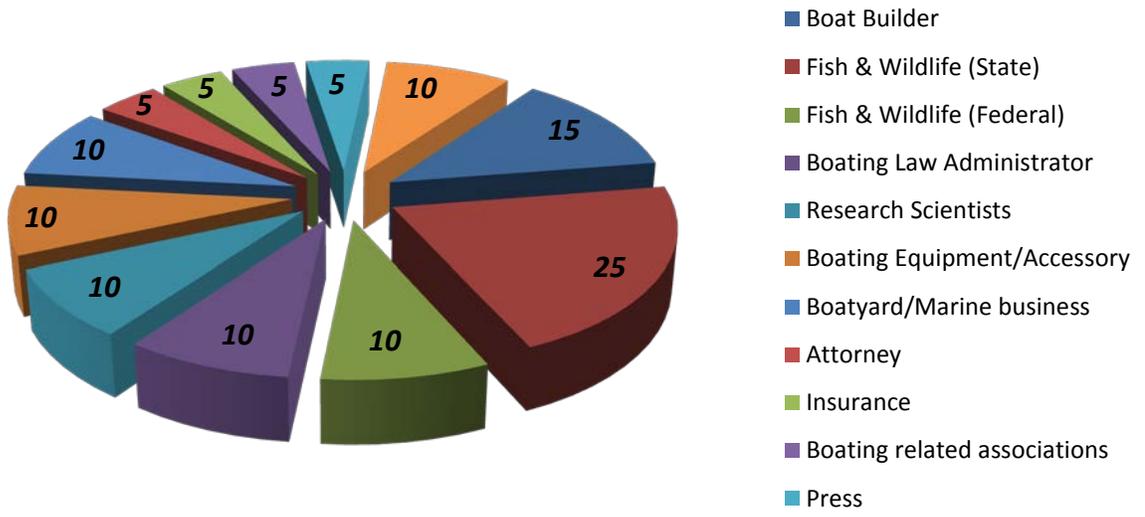
The expected final form of this information would be in an ABYC Technical Information Report. These documents follow the procedures outlined by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and would be eligible for American National Standard (ANS) status. This type of report would follow the ABYC standards making process and follow all of the necessary comment periods and participant inclusion as the rest of our ABYC Standards.

### ***Logistics:***

It is proposed that The Summit on Invasive Species be held in Denver, CO in early fall 2014. With a maximum attendee list of 150, ABYC proposes 120 attendees of the following areas of interest:



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Schedule:

Day 1:

7AM-8:30AM Continental Breakfast  
8:30-10:00 AM Introduction (Facilitator and break-out session leaders)  
10:00-10:30 Break  
10:30-12:00 Issue Discussion – Segment Experts  
12:00-1:30 Lunch Break  
1:30-3:00 – Segment Experts  
3:00-3:30 Break  
3:30-5:00 Introduce and break off into break-out sessions:

Day 2:

7AM-8:30AM Continental Breakfast  
8:30-10:00 – Continue Breakout Sessions  
10:00-10:30 Break  
10:30-12:00 – Break-out session report-out  
12:00-1:30 Lunch  
1:30-3:00 – Break-out session report out  
3:00-3:30 Break  
3:30-4:15 – Break-out session report out  
4:15-5:00 – Conclusions and Observations  
5:00 Adjourn

Sessions for the break-outs could include topics such as:

Boat Design

Engine flush

Trailer design

Decontamination

Component design

Mitigation components

*NOTE: Experts from the various disciplines will be pre-selected for these various breakout sessions. For example, a biologist would be necessary in each session due to the questions that will inevitably arise about different strategies.*



**Budget**

ABYC Staff	Hours	Rate	Subtotal	Total
Project Director	85	\$117.00	\$9,945.00	
Administrative	65	\$50.00	\$3,250.00	
Site Personnel	60	\$50.00	\$3,000.00	
				\$16,195.00
Staff Travel	Qty	Rate	Subtotal	
Airfare	4	\$550.00	\$2,200.00	
Hotel	16	\$179.00	\$2,864.00	
Perdiem	16	\$80.00	\$1,280.00	
				\$6,344.00
Venue Expense	Qty	Rate	Subtotal	
Hotel Meeting Room*	8	\$250.00	\$2,000.00	
A/V Charges	8	\$125.00	\$1,000.00	
Continental Breakfast**	300	\$15.00	\$4,500.00	
Lunch**	300	\$27.00	\$8,100.00	
Breaks (coffee/gallon)**	20	\$65.00	\$1,300.00	
				\$16,900.00
			<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$39,439.00</b>
*Can generally be free with food/beverage minimums				
** Suggest outside sponsors				

**Personnel:**

David Marlow (ABYC Chairman and Director of Product Integrity/Government Affairs Brunswick Boat Group) has agreed to facilitate this session. David also facilitated the USCG/ABYC CO Summit and brings a wealth of boating experience and the right blend of facilitator and crowd control. Working with John Adey (ABYC president) and other experienced ABYC staff members, the session will be well organized, well executed and well documented for the attendees and other interested parties.



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***Conclusion:***

With many varied approaches to the issues of aquatic invasive species, the timing is right for stakeholders across the spectrum to gather and discuss the climate, current solutions and possible solutions. Funding for this stage of the project will need to come from outside ABYC due to limitations on some of the ABYC funding sources. The ABYC Foundation is a 501C(3) and is capable of accepting donations for this project. Potential donors should contact John Adey for details.

Contact Information:

ABYC

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