

Nonprofit Organization Grants:

Coast Guard Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety
Recreational Boating Safety

Federal Grant Title: National Non-Profit Organization Grant Program
Federal Agency: United States Coast Guard
Funding Opportunity Number: DHS-USCG-2020-001
Type of Funding: Cooperative Agreement
CFDA Numbers: 97.012
CFDA Descriptions: Boating Safety Financial Assistance

Grantee: American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC)
Grant Number: 3320FAN112001
Grant Title: Comprehensive Review and Analysis of 33 CFR 181 and 33 CFR 183
Period of Performance: 1 year grant

Award Amount: \$190,000.00

Summary:

This grant application will explore substantive changes and updates to 33 CFR 181, Manufacturer Requirements and 33 CFR 183 Boats and Associated Equipment. With significant review and changes being over 45 years old, the Regulations need substantial updating. Several internal US Coast Guard staff, Boating Safety Advisory Council and American Boat and Yacht Council reviews have been conducted over the years; ABYC plans on using these reviews as well as a complete, comprehensive modern review in order to produce relevant and up to date changes for the Coast Guard's consideration.

The following steps will be taken to conduct this review:

1. Conduct a thorough review of 181 and 183, documenting differences and suggested changes to comply with current ABYC Voluntary Standards and general industry practices.
2. Document and include draft language on personal watercraft (PWC). Using current accepted industry standards such as the Society for Automotive Engineers (SAE), or the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), ABYC will propose regulations for PWC's.
3. Conduct a peer review of the findings through ABYC's Project Technical Committees (PTC's) and the SAE committee on personal watercraft.
4. Review findings with the USCG Grant Technical Manager and apply accident data to those topics where there is a concern.

5. Conduct a Federally acceptable regulatory analysis (cost/benefit) to support the development of policy alternatives.
6. Provide both a comprehensive and high-level overview of the suggested changes.

Successful completion of this grant would result in a baseline level of safety required by all recreational boat manufacturers. Currently there is a disparity between manufacturers using the ABYC Standards and those that choose to only comply with the Federal Regulations. ABYC compliant manufacturers have extensive requirements in areas such as outboard and diesel-powered boats, canoes and kayaks, and pontoon boats where the Federal Regulations are silent. Technology has surpassed these regulations in several areas as well. For example, the Federal Regulations discuss carburetors, where fuel injection has been the standard for the last 15 years.

Successful completion of this grant would have wide-reaching safety benefits for both the manufacturers and the boater.

<https://abycinc.org/>

Final Report – October 2022

Grant # 1120.01 – Comprehensive Review and Analysis of 33 CFR 181 and 33 CFR 183

NOTICE: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ABYC moved to remote operations on March 17, 2020. Work continued on the CFR Review and Analysis grant. Because of pandemic impacts of past quarters, ABYC's application for a one-year no cost performance period extension for the grant was approved.

1. **Conduct a thorough review of the current 33 CFR**
ABYC conducted a thorough review of 181 and 183, documenting differences and suggested changes in order to comply with current ABYC Voluntary Standards and general industry practices. This task was completed and reported in Q1 report.
2. **Consideration of personal watercraft**
ABYC obtained and reviewed SAE and ISO standards on PWCs. A proposal for regulations for PWCs was developed. This task was completed and reported in Q1 report.
3. **Conduct a peer review**
ABYC conducted a peer review of the suggested updated and new regulation proposal. This review also prioritized the list of proposals. The prioritized list of proposals was also reviewed with the USCG. This task was completed and reported in Q2 report.
4. **Conduct a federally acceptable regulatory analysis**
ABYC conducted a kick-off meeting with contractor conducting the regulatory cost/benefit analysis and provided the contractor the top priorities for evaluation. ABYC attended regular meetings with the contractor to provide and confirm data. The contractor completed the regulatory cost/benefit analysis. The contractor researched potentially affected populations (businesses) for the proposed changes to the regulations. The contractor supplied a final report dated March 1, 2022 on the "Regulatory Analysis of Extending Electrical and Fuel System Requirements to Boats with Outboard Motors" to ABYC. This report was reviewed by ABYC and sent to the USCG on March 9, 2022. ABYC worked with USCG staff on next steps. The final report was accepted by the USCG on August 19, 2022. This task was completed and reported in Q8 report.
5. **Provide a comprehensive and high-level review of the proposed changes**
ABYC provided the USCG a comprehensive review of the report findings. Due to COVID-19 and Hurricane Ian, findings were not presented to industry. The task was completed and reported in Q8 report.