

APPENDIX: ERAC-2016-A1(a)

Accident Reporting Terms and Definitions Project –

Building consensus around standardized terms and definitions in accident report categories
NASBLA's Engineering, Reporting & Analysis Committee and the U.S. Coast Guard

Following are five summary tables associated with the five report categories that were the focus of the Accident Reporting Terms and Definitions Project: Accident Types/Events; Contributing Factors/Causes; Operation; Activity; and Vessel Subtypes.

Each table maps the existing (or previously-used) term labels in each report category to the selections developed as part of the Project.

For full detail, see www.nasbla.org/lhtermsproject and download the individual Project lists that were approved by membership of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators in 2012 and 2013.

ACCIDENT TYPES / EVENTS	
Existing or previously-used terms ¹	New terms (Terms & Definitions Project)
Capsizing	Capsizing
Flooding/Swamping	Flooding
Sinking	Sinking
Flooding/Swamping	Swamping
Collision with Fixed Object	Collision with Fixed Object/Allision
Collision with Floating Object	Collision with Floating Object
Collision with Submerged Object; Struck Submerged Object	Collision with Floating Object ²
Collision with Vessel	Collision with Vessel
Grounding	Grounding
Person Left Boat Voluntarily	Person Departs Vessel Voluntarily
Ejected from Vessel; Person Ejected from Boat	Person Ejected from Vessel
Falls Overboard; Person Fell Overboard	Person Falls Overboard
Skier Mishap	Towed Watersport Mishap
Falls in Boat	Person Impacts Vessel
Struck by Propeller/Propulsion Unit	Person Struck by Propeller/Propulsion Unit/Water Jet
Struck by Vessel; Person Struck by Boat	Person Struck by Vessel
Fire/Explosion (Fuel) Fire/Explosion (Other than Fuel)	Fire/Explosion (fuel and propulsion/generator-related)
Fire/Explosion (Fuel)	Fire/Explosion (fuel-related but not propulsion/generator-related)
Fire/Explosion (Other than Fuel)	Fire/Explosion (non-fuel)
Fire/Explosion (Other) or (Unknown Origin)	Fire/Explosion (unknown origin)
Carbon Monoxide Exposure	Carbon Monoxide Exposure
Electrocution	Electrical Shock
	Natural Phenomena
Other	Other / Describe
Unknown	Unknown

¹ More than one term label might be in use or have been in use in the recent past.

² Revised definition of Collision with Floating Object accommodates objects above or below the water surface and includes submerged objects, thus replacing the term Collision with Submerged Object.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS / CAUSES	
Existing or previously-used terms ¹	New terms (Terms & Definitions Project)
	Operation of Vessel Factors Associated with Key Aspects of Navigation Rules
Navigation Rules Violation; Rules of the Road Infraction	---
Excessive Speed	Speed Too Fast for Conditions
Lack of or Improper Boat Lights; Inadequate On-Board Navigation Lights	Lack of or Improper Navigation Lights
	Failure to Maintain Safe Distance
	Failure to Take Adequate Evasive Action
Improper Lookout	Improper Lookout/Inattention
Operator Inattention	(with six Distraction Codes)
	Other Operation of Vessel Factors
Alcohol use	Alcohol
Drug use	Drugs
Operator Inexperience	Operator Inexperience (with drop-down selections regarding aspect of inexperience)
Restricted Vision	Restricted Visibility – <i>Environmental Conditions</i> Restricted Visibility – <i>Vessel Related</i>
Sharp Turn	Sharp Turn
	Passenger or Gear Factors
Passenger/Skier Behavior	Occupant Behavior Towed Watersport Participant Behavior
Standing/Sitting on Gunwales, Bow, or Transom; People on Gunwale, Bow or Transom	Person(s) in Area Not Intended for Occupancy
Improper Anchoring	Improper Anchoring
Improper Loading	Improper Loading
Overloading	Overloading
	Vessel or Vessel Equipment Factors
Equipment Failure	Equipment Failure
Hull Failure	Hull Failure
Machinery Failure	Machinery Failure
Off Throttle Steering	Off Throttle Loss of Steering
Starting in Gear	Starting in Gear
Carbon Monoxide	Carbon Monoxide
Ignition of Spilled Fuel or Vapor	Ignition of Fuel or Vapor
Failure to Vent	Failure to Ventilate
	Environment Factors
Congested Waters	Congested Waters
Dam / Lock	Dam / Lock
Hazardous Waters	Hazardous Waters (with drop-down selections)
Weather	Weather
Force of Wave / Wake	Wake
Missing or Inadequate Navigation Aids	Missing or Inadequate Navigation Aids
	Miscellaneous Factors
Language Barrier	Language Barrier
Sudden Medical Condition	Medical Condition
	Did Not Contribute
Other	Other / Describe
Unknown	Unknown / Explain

¹ More than one term label might be in use or have been in use in the recent past.

OPERATION OF THE VESSEL AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT	
Existing terms	New terms grouped by aspect of Operation and intended to describe the Operation of the vessel at the time of the accident (Terms & Definitions Project)
	First selection - OPERATIONAL STATUS of vessel at time of accident (select one)
	Aground
At anchor	Anchored
Drifting	Drifting
Idling	Idling
	In Reverse
Tied to Dock / Moored	Moored to Fixed Object
Tied to Dock / Moored	Moored to Floating Object
	On Plane
	Non-Planing Vessel at Speed
	Plowing
	Rafted
Other	Other (specify)
Unknown	Unknown
	Second selection - PROPULSION OF VESSEL at time of accident (select one) **
	Under Mechanical Propulsion
Trolling	Under Electric Trolling Motor Propulsion
Rowing / Paddling	Under Human Propulsion
Sailing	Under Sail
	Not in use
Unknown	Unknown
	Third selection - COURSE of vessel at time of accident (select one)
Changing direction	Altering course
Cruising	Maintaining course
	Not underway
Unknown	Unknown
	Fourth selection – SPEED of vessel at time of accident (select one)
Changing speed	Changing speed – accelerating
Changing speed	Changing speed – decelerating
Cruising	Maintaining speed
	Not underway
Unknown	Unknown

****DOES NOT** replace and is not intended to duplicate the main method of propulsion on the accident report form. Effective Jan. 2017, per §173.57(c)(23)(vii), the authorized terms for the main method of propulsion will be *air thrust, manual, propeller, sail, water jet, and other*. In this list, the terms are complementary to those authorized terms, but they are intended to readily identify and capture the *propulsion in use at the time of the accident, which may or may not be the same as the vessel's primary propulsion*.

ACTIVITY – Use of the Vessel and Immediate Activity at the time of the accident	
ACTIVITY - ASSOCIATED WITH USE OF THE VESSEL	
Existing terms	New terms (Terms & Definitions Project)
Recreational	Recreational
Commercial	Commercial
	Marine Event Activity
	Occupational
None; not in operation	None; not in use
Unknown	Unknown (Explain)
IMMEDIATE ACTIVITY AT TIME OF ACCIDENT - ASSOCIATED WITH OPERATOR AND VICTIM(S)	
Existing terms	New terms (Terms & Definitions Project)
Docking/Undocking (Operation term)	Docking Vessel / Assisting in Docking Vessel*
Docking/Undocking (Operation term)	Leaving Dock / Assisting in Leaving Dock*
Launching/Loading (Operation term)	Launching Vessel
	Retrieving Vessel
	Boarding Vessel
	Departing Vessel
Starting Engine	Starting Engine
	Operating Vessel / Assisting in Operating Vessel*
Fueling	Fueling Vessel
Repairs	Making Repairs
Fishing	Fishing
Hunting	Hunting
Boating / Relaxation	Riding in or on Vessel (no other activity)
Racing	Vessel Racing
	Scuba Diving*
Swimming/Snorkeling	Swimming or Snorkeling *
Being Towed (Operation term)	Vessel Being Towed
Towing	Towing Another Vessel or Object
Towing	Towing a Watersports Participant
Towed Watersports	Towed Watersports Participant*
Whitewater	Whitewater Sports Participant
Other	Other (Describe)
Unknown	Unknown (Explain)

*Term applies only to a victim who was not the operator

AUTHORIZED VESSEL TYPES AND OPTIONAL VESSEL SUB-TYPES	
VESSEL TYPES terms authorized in 33 CFR 173.57 (eff. 1/17)	VESSEL SUB-TYPES for optional use with the authorized Vessel Types, to expand the selections (Terms & Definitions Project)
Open Motorboat	Bass Boat
	Center Console
	Runabout
	Runabout-Bow Rider
	Runabout-Low Profile
	Ski Boat
	Wakeboard Boat
	Deck Boat
	Jon/Utility Boat
	Offshore Performance Boat (Open Style)
	Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat
	Open Motorboat (unspecified)
Cabin Motorboat	Cabin Cruiser
	Cuddy Cabin Cruiser
	Offshore Performance Boat (Cuddy_Cabin Style)
	Cabin Motorboat (unspecified)
Paddlecraft	Canoe – Unspecified
	Canoe – Whitewater version
	Canoe – Decked version
Paddlecraft	Kayak – Unspecified
	Kayak – Whitewater version
	Kayak – Recreational version
	Kayak – Touring version
	Kayak – Sit-on-top version
	Paddleboard
	Paddlecraft (unspecified)
Personal Watercraft	
Pontoon Boat	
Sail Only	Sailboat
	Kiteboard
	Sailboard
	Sail Only (unspecified)
Auxiliary Sail	
Airboat	
Houseboat	
Inflatable Boat	Whitewater Raft
	Inflatable Boat (unspecified)
Rowboat	Drift Boat
	Rowing Shell
	Rowboat (unspecified)
Other	Other (Describe)
	Possible sub-types to code as Other
	Amphibious Vehicle
	Hovercraft
	Pedal Boat