



Memorandum of Understanding September 10, 2007

National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and the States Organization for Boating Access

This Memorandum of Understanding is between the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (hereafter referred to as "NASBLA") and the States Organization for Boating Access (hereafter referred to as "SOBA").

WHEREAS, NASBLA is the professional association representing the recreational boating authorities of all 50 states and the U.S. territories; and

WHEREAS, SOBA is a national, non-profit association of state officials responsible for the acquisition, development, and administration of state recreational boating facilities; and

WHEREAS, both organizations desire to form a covenant of mutual cooperation and collaboration in support of recreational boating and boating access objectives for the benefit of boaters throughout North America;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, and in furtherance of the mutual goals and premises hereof and the conditions hereinafter set forth, the parties do hereby covenant and agree as follows:

- NASBLA and SOBA will work to support each organization's respective mission:

NASBLA's mission is to strengthen the ability of the state and territorial boating authorities to reduce death, injury and property damage associated with recreational boating and ensure a safe, secure and enjoyable boating environment.

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators accomplishes its mission by:

- Providing national leadership and advocacy to focus policies and resources on reducing risks in recreational boating and in waterway security.;

- Providing models and standards that foster best practices and uniformity among the states and territories;
- Providing professional development opportunities and other products and services that benefit members; and
- Identifying and employing the highest professional standards and best practices in governing, administering and measuring the performance of the association.

SOBA's mission is to encourage, promote and support federal and state programs that provide safe, high-quality and environmentally sound public recreational boat access to the waterways of the United States and its territories.

The States Organization for Boating Access accomplishes its mission by:

- Providing strong and effective national leadership for the planning, funding, design, construction, operation and maintenance of boat access facilities;
 - Creating and maintaining a national forum for the exchange of information relative to recreational boat access:
 - Encouraging cooperation between and forging partnerships with; federal, state, local and private entities in the provision, design and operating of boat access facilities; and
 - Working to influence federal, state and local legislation on recreational boat access issues.
- NASBLA and SOBA will work cooperatively to identify opportunities to strengthen both national and local collaborative efforts including fostering mutual support for NASBLA and SOBA programs which will identify future boating trends including demographics, boat and equipment designs, types of craft, patterns of use and new access demands.
 - NASBLA and SOBA will explore, and when appropriate, jointly pursue projects mutually determined to be beneficial to the recreational boating public. These projects include, but are not limited to, initiatives funded under the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the U.S. Coast Guard.
 - NASBLA and SOBA will work together in identifying and developing opportunities to recognize and promote the importance of environmental responsibility in recreational boating, and in the planning, developing and operation of boat access facilities.
 - NASBLA and SOBA will strive to maintain routine communications between each organization's policy-makers and staff to promptly address concerns that may arise on boating and boating access issues, and to keep each organization informed of policies, priorities, actions and other developments that might impact the parties' relationship and/or their ability to support the broader boating safety and access agenda. These routine communications may include an invitation for each party to send a representative to attend the other organization's respective governing board meetings, but does not preclude the possibility of special (member only) executive sessions.

- The Presidents of NASBLA and SOBA will coordinate the participation of their respective organizations on appropriate committees.

- Finally, in consideration of each organization's willingness to provide complimentary membership benefits to the other party, NASBLA and SOBA agree to waive any relevant annual membership fees and treat each organization as an associate member of the other.

This Memorandum of Understanding will become effective upon its signing and will remain in effect unless terminated by written notice by either party. This understanding does not constitute a legal or binding agreement between or among the parties or their authorized representatives. This mutual pledge of support does not commit, bind or obligate either party to participate in any relationship that involves corporate sponsorships and/or a commercial entity, with the exercise of these options left to each organization's respective governing bodies. Either party may request modifications, cancellation, or amendments to this agreement at any time by written notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have herewith set their hands and seals as of the day and year written.

For the States Organization
for Boating Access:



Ed Poolos on behalf of
Terry Boyd, President
September 10, 2007

For the National Association of
State Boating Law Administrators:



Jeffrey S. Johnson, President
September 10, 2007