

# SECTION A

## DEFINITIONS

### Color Key to Definitions:

- Definitions in **bold red print** are headings for a sub-set of related definitions.
- Definitions in **bold blue print** preceded by a ✓ symbol are part of a sub-set.
- Definitions in **bold black print** are stand-alone definitions.

Examples:

**accessible**

✓ **accessible boat slip**

**boarding float**

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### **accessible**

unless otherwise noted in context, accessible means barrier-free elements in a marina, i.e. accessible boat slip

### ✓ **accessible boat slip**

that portion of an accessible pier, main pier, finger pier, or float where a boat is berthed

### ✓ **accessible route**

a continuous unobstructed path connecting all accessible elements and spaces of a marina, including such features as parking access aisles, curb ramps, crosswalks at vehicular ways, walkways, ramps, lifts, gangways, boat slips, main walkways, marginal walkways, fingerfloats, boarding piers, boat launch ramps, etc.

### **berth**

a delineated water surface mooring area, delineated by either floating or fixed dock structures, for the purposes of embarking, disembarking, and the wet storage of a recreational boat (aka *boat slip* or *boat dock*)

### ✓ **covered berth**

a berth that is provided with a roof system to protect a berthed boat from the sun and weather

### ✓ **single berth**

a berth designed to accommodate one (1) berthed boat, with a fingerfloat on each side of the berthed boat

### ✓ **double berth**

a berth designed to accommodate two (2) berthed boats, with a fingerfloat on only one side of each berthed boat

**boarding float** a platform-type structure, either floating or fixed, stationary or adjustable; located on, along side of, or near a boat launch ramp; designed for short-term moorage of boats, and to facilitate pedestrian access to and from boats in the water; synonymous with **boarding pier**

**boarding pier** a portion of a pier where a boat is temporarily secured for the purpose of embarking or disembarking

Note: This is the official definition used in federal accessibility guidelines; synonymous with **boarding float**

**boat launch ramp** a sloped paved surface designed and constructed for launching and retrieving trailered boats and other water craft to and from a body of water

**boat slip** see **berth**

**bull rail** a low-level continuous rail along the edge of a dock, berth or pier in or over the water, intermittently blocked up to provide clear passage of boat mooring lines between the bottom of the rail and the deck surface, the purpose of which is securement of a boat; sometimes also used as a safety curbing to prevent people, carts and equipment from going over the edge of a dock, berth or pier

**bulkhead** a vertical (or near vertical) structural wall constructed along a shoreline to retain soil as an extension of the upland, and provide a near-shore required water depth

**channel** a natural or artificially dredged route on a river, bay, sea or ocean, delineated for the safe passage of boats

√ **entrance channel** a watercourse, external to a marina, through which boats travel between a marina and a water body where the primary boating activities occur

√ **interior channel** a watercourse, within a marina, through which boats travel between an entrance channel and a fairway(s)

**cleat** an object used (1) to secure a boat line, or (2) to provide improved traction on a gangway deck

√ **dock cleat** a raised horn-like piece of hardware fastened along the edge of a boat dock for the purpose of securing a boat

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| √ gangway cleat   | a narrow flat bar, or series of bars, attached to the deck of a gangway to provide improved traction for pedestrians, particularly at steeper gangway slopes  |
| cross slope       | see <b>slope</b>  |
| design high water | a selected high water level elevation (determined on the basis of local long-term hydrographic and/or tide data, and site-specific factors) used to design safe and durable marinas in waterways subject to infrequent extreme high water levels (extreme high tides, floods, etc.) |
| design low water  | a selected low water level elevation (determined on the basis of local long-term hydrographic and/or tide data, and site-specific factors) used to design safe and durable marinas in waterways subject to infrequent extreme low water levels (extreme low tides, droughts, etc.)  |
| dock              | a platform, either floating or fixed, provided in a marina for the wet storage of a boat and pedestrian access to and from the boat   |
| dump station      | a facility located in a marina on docks, or on shore, specifically designed to receive sewage from portable toilets carried on vessels.   |
| edge protection   | generally refers to a raised curb or bull rail provided along the edge of an accessible dock, berth or pier to prevent a person with a disability from accidentally going over the edge and into the water  |
| fairway           | a watercourse, within a marina, by which boats travel between interior channels and marina berths   |
| fingerfloat       | see <b>walkway</b>  |
| freeboard         | the vertical distance from the water surface to the top of the deck of floats, docks, piers, etc., measured under various loading conditions, i.e. dead load only, live load plus dead load, etc.   |
| fuel dock         | a dedicated structure, or a delineated area on a larger pier, dock, bulkhead, or similar structure, that is specifically used for the dispensing of boat fuel ( <i>aka marine service station, fuel dispensing facility, or fueling station</i> )                                   |

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| <b>fuel storage tank</b>             | a storage structure (i.e. tank) that contains boat fuel in storage for dispensing  |
| <b>gangway</b>                       | a variable slope structure that provides pedestrian access between a point on land and a floating dock that moves up and down through a range of rising and falling water levels   |
| √ <b>gangways, series of</b>         | two or more gangways connected by a landing(s) that collectively provide a single route of access to a floating dock as per the definition of a gangway; the length of a series of gangways does not include transition plates |
| √ <b>dedicated gangway</b>           | a gangway that provides access to a single main walkway  |
| <b>guide pile</b>                    | see <b>pile</b>  |
| <b>guardrail</b>                     | see <b>railing</b>   |
| <b>handrail</b>                      | see <b>railing</b>   |
| <b>harbor</b>                        | a natural, or constructed, place of shelter, protection, refuge and safety for boaters as well as their necessary boats, docks, piers, goods and/or services   |
| <b>holding tank</b>                  | any retention system on-board a boat designed and operated to receive and hold sewage, and be periodically emptied at approved pumpout sites   |
| <b>main walkway</b>                  | see <b>walkway</b>   |
| <b>marina</b>                        | a recreational boating facility on a coastal or inland waterfront that provides facilities and services for the wet and/or dry storage of boats, as well as embarking and disembarking of boat operators and passengers        |
| <b>marine power center</b>           | an enclosed assembly that houses electrical outlets, circuit breakers, fused switches, fuses, and/or watt-hour meters  |
| <b>marginal walkway</b>              | see <b>walkway</b>   |
| <b>mean higher high water (MHHW)</b> | a tidal datum determined on the basis of the average of the higher high water heights of each tidal day observed over a protracted period of time known as the National Tidal Datum Epoch                                      |

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| <b>mean lower low water (MLLW)</b>          | a tidal datum determined on the basis of the average of the lower low water heights of each tidal day observed over a period of time known as the National Tidal Datum Epoch   |
| <b>mooring pile</b>                         | see <b>pile</b>  |
| <b>parking space</b>                        | delineated space in marina parking area for the parking of vehicles of various types   |
| √ <b>single-vehicle parking space</b>       | a delineated parking space for a single vehicle, including passenger cars, trucks, vans, and motorcycles   |
| √ <b>recreational vehicle parking space</b> | a delineated single vehicle parking space that is wider and longer than conventional single vehicle spaces in order to accommodate a single large vehicle known as a recreation vehicle (RV)   |
| <b>parking space, accessible</b>            |  |
| √ <b>accessible single-vehicle space</b>    | a marina parking space for a single vehicle that is designated by a sign and a pavement marking, and is reserved for use by a person who displays an approved placard or license plate sticker on their parked vehicle                             |
| √ <b>accessible van vehicle space</b>       | the same as a single-vehicle space except it is marked as “van accessible” and is wider than a single-vehicle space; van vehicle spaces are designated and reserved for barrier-free use, but are not designated for the exclusive parking of vans |
| <b>pier</b>                                 | a structure extending over the water and supported on a fixed foundation (fixed pier), or on flotation (floating pier), that provides access to the water  |
| <b>pile</b>                                 | a long slender structural member, typically of wood, concrete, steel or plastic construction, driven into the bottom of a marina basin to secure and guide docks   |
| √ <b>guide pile</b>                         | a pile that holds marina floating docks on location, and allows the docks to rise and fall with changing water levels  |

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| √ <b>mooring pile</b>  | a pile at the entrance to and in the center of a double berth, to which the berthed boats may be secured   |
| <b>pumpout station</b> | a facility that pumps out and receives sewage from a Type III marine sanitation device (holding tank) on-board a boat  |
| √ <b>Type III MSD</b>  | a holding tank installed on-board a boat to receive and retain untreated sewage for shore-based disposal, transfer to an authorized mobile unit, or discharge beyond the 3 mile offshore limit except within federally designated No-Discharge Areas |
| <b>railing</b>         |  |
| √ <b>handrail</b>      | a railing on a stairway, ramp, walkway or gangway, for pedestrians to grasp with their hand(s) for support   |
| √ <b>guard rail</b>    | a railing system, including a top rail, located along the edge of an elevated walking surface for the purpose of minimizing the possibility of an accidental fall from the walking surface to a lower level; same as <b>safety rail</b>              |
| √ <b>safety rail</b>   | same as <b>guard rail</b>  |
| <b>ramp</b>            | a pedestrian walkway on an accessible route, with a constant running slope greater than 1:20 (5%) but not greater than 1:12 (8.33%), a maximum rise of 30 inches, and a maximum cross slope of 1:50 (2%)   |
| <b>rode</b>            | the line or chain that connects a buoy to an anchor  |
| <b>safety rail</b>     | see <b>railing</b>   |
| <b>service float</b>   | a floating structure equipped to supply oil, fuel, water, sewage pumpout, and other related services to boats  |
| <b>shall</b>           | “ <b>shall</b> ” indicates mandatory minimum safety requirements, and barrier-free access requirements (see explanatory comments regarding this format convention in the Introduction, page iii)   |
| <b>should</b>          | “should” indicates a recommendation, i.e. that which is advisory but not mandatory   |
| <b>slip</b>            | see <b>berth</b>   |

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| <b>slope</b>                | the inclination of a dock, gangway, or walkway component measured as the tangent (vertical / horizontal) of the angle between the component surface and a level reference line |
| √ <b>cross slope</b>        | the slope of the deck of a floating walkway or fingerfloat, measured perpendicular to the primary direction of travel  |
| √ <b>longitudinal slope</b> | the slope of the deck of a floating walkway or fingerfloat, measured parallel to the primary direction of travel   |
| <b>toe plate</b>            | a sloping plate, hinged to the lower end of a gangway, that provides a smooth transition between the variable slope gangway and the deck of a floating dock                    |
| <b>transition plate</b>     | a sloping plate, hinged to the upper and/or lower end of an accessible gangway, that provides a smooth transition between the gangway and a floating dock or landing           |

Note: The term **transition plate** is exclusively used with reference to barrier-free access to marina gangways, and does not refer to various types of plates that span between adjacent sections of floating docks, boarding floats, etc.

## walkway

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| √ <b>fingerfloat</b>      | a finger-like floating structure typically attached perpendicular to a main walkway, that together define the length and width of a berth, provide direct pedestrian access to and from a boat in the berth, provide for the secure mooring of a boat in the berth, and may support the provision of various utility services |
| √ <b>main walkway</b>     | a floating structure to which fingerfloats are attached to define individual berths and to provide pedestrian access between the berths and a marginal walkway or shore   |
| √ <b>marginal walkway</b> | a floating structure that provides pedestrian access between two or more main walkways and shore, and may serve as a platform for lighting, fuel stations, sewage pumpout facilities, lift stations, and utility lines  |
| <b>toilet fixture</b>     | toilet (water closet), urinal, and/or lavatory in a marina  |
| <b>waler</b>              | a structural member(s) fastened along the edges of a dock system to hold it together, provide stability, and protect the flotation pontoons and utilities   |

