



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Marine Safety

Speed Determination

Eric Stolzenberg
Engineering

Sources for Vessel Speeds

- Electronic data
- Coxswain and crew
- Sea Ray operator
- Witnesses
- Photographs
- Video and audio

Electronic Data

- Sea Ray
 - No engine or navigation data
- CG 33118
 - No engine download data
 - AIS installed
 - JHOC recorded no AIS data
 - Scalable Integrated Navigation System
 - No data capture available

Operator Statements

- Crew of the CG 33118
 - Coxswain reported 3000 rpm
 - Equating to about 19 knots
 - Rear crewmember stated 20 -25 knots
- Operator of the Sea Ray
 - Traveling at idle (2 to 4 knots)

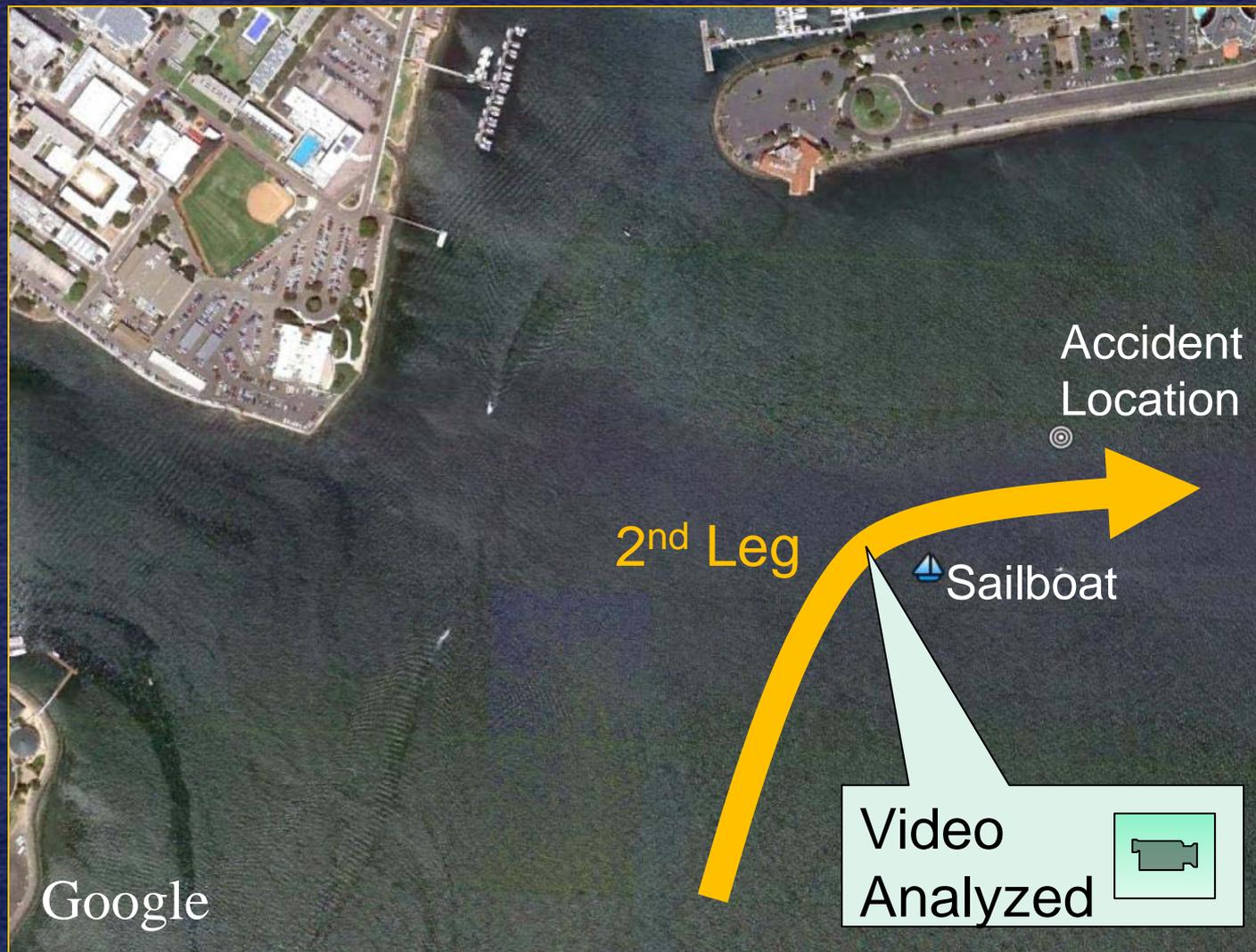
Witness Statements

- Consistently stated CG 33118 was planing
 - Some stated that eastbound leg was similar in speed to westbound leg
- Sea Ray traveling slowly
- Both vessels at steady speeds
 - Similar course and headings

Photographs, Video and Audio

- Attempt to determine speed and track
- Unable to determine
 - Sea Ray
 - CG 33118 on accident leg
- CG 33118 on leg (2nd) prior to collision
 - Calculated speed and portion of track

Video and Audio Study



CG 33118 Speed

- Approximately 42 knots (about 5200 rpm)
 - During a portion of the eastbound or 2nd leg
 - A few minutes prior to the collision
 - Within 100 yards of the accident location
- At least planing speed (19 knots or more)
 - During the westbound accident leg



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SPC-LE Visibility

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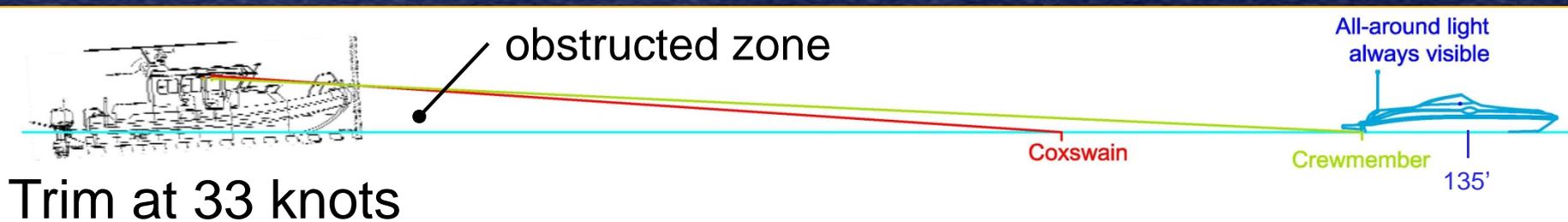
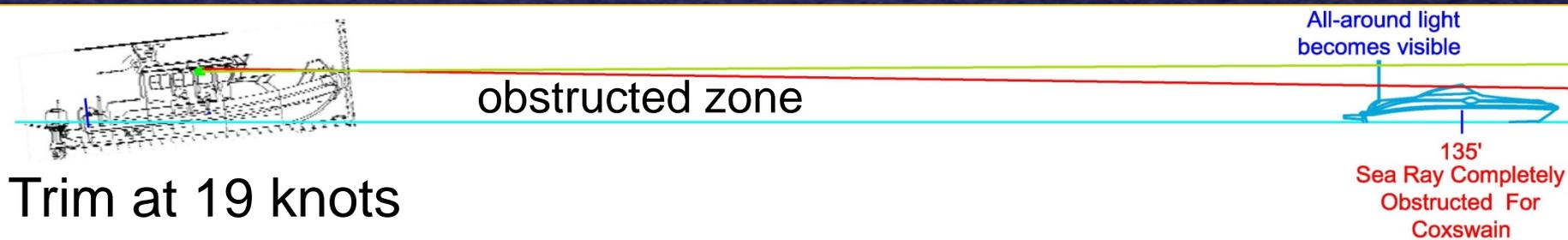
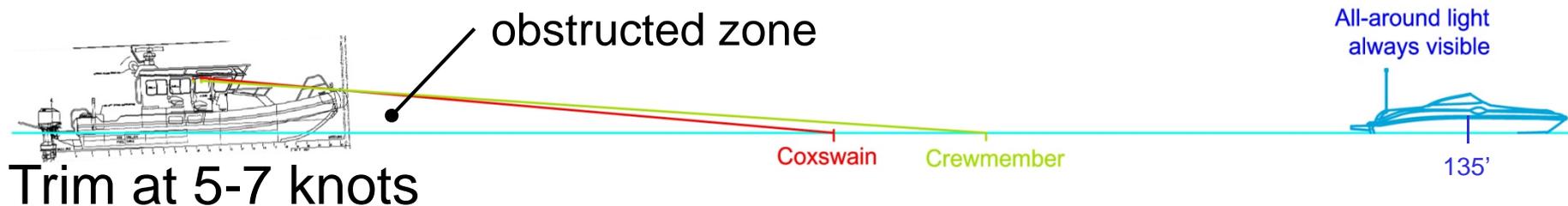
Forward Visibility

- Indications visibility could be challenging
- Contract called for ABYC standards
 - H-1 visibility standard included
- SPC-LE did not meet H-1 standard
 - Vertical range of visibility
 - 3000 rpm highest trim angle
 - Corresponds with worst visibility

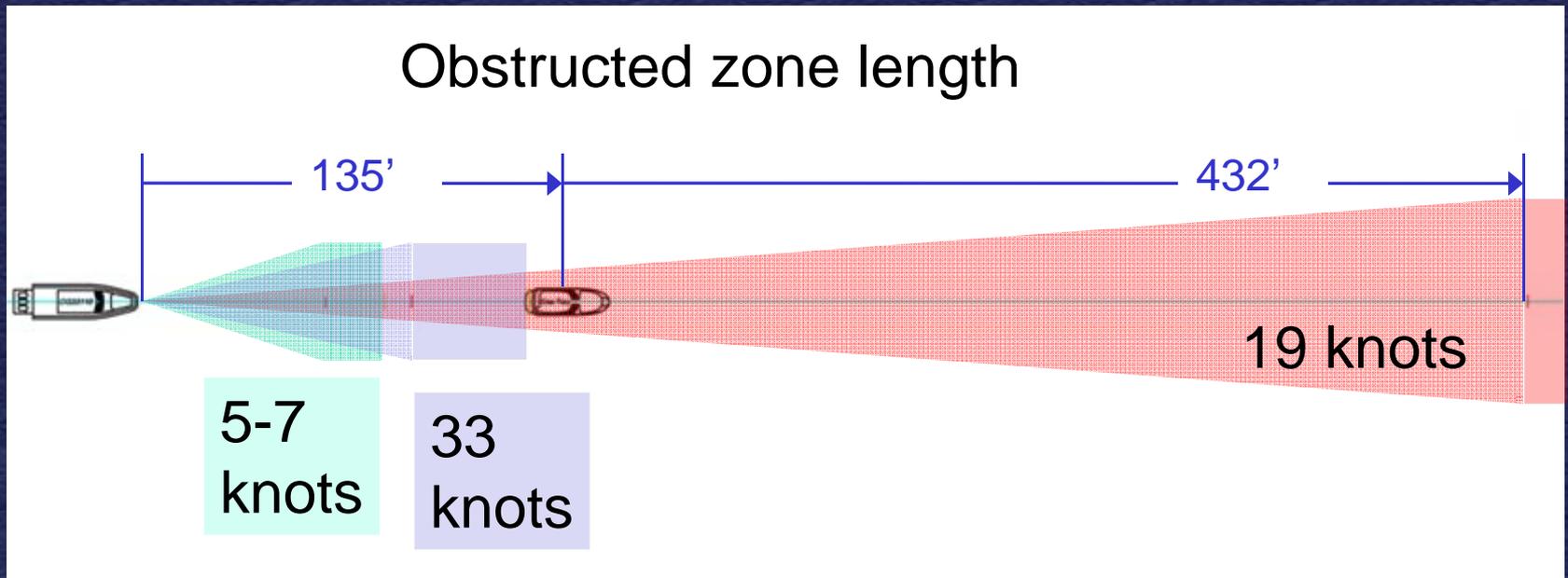
Vertical Visibility Comparison Study



Comparison Study Results



Comparison Study Results



Visibility Conclusions

- Can't precisely determine obstruction for crew before collision
- Shorter operators may have an obstructed view of the horizon
 - Specifically at lower planing speeds



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