ERAC Summary of Initial Charges / Collaborative Activities for 2018-2019 Cycle, September 2018

Charge teams will review and, as needed, recommend changes to the scope of these projects

ERAC_M&E 2019-1 Input to USCG policy / regulatory proposals and actions (Monitoring & Evaluation):

Monitor, research and provide feedback to Coast Guard policy initiatives and regulatory proposals on accident reporting and other areas related to ERAC’s charter, whether published in the Federal Register or issued through other official mechanisms. Inform the States and encourage them to provide feedback. Coordinate NASBLA’s organizational responses to such proposals and use NASBLA’s Federal Register webpages, the NASBLA Lighthouse On the Horizon, and NASBLA Connect discussion forum portals to provide resources and promote open discussion among the States.

ERAC_K&CM 2019-1 Lighthouse Forum – continue developing (Knowledge & Content Management):

Continue growing the content and components of the NASBLA Lighthouse and actively promote its use by target audiences. Ensure ERAC’s continuing involvement in NASBLA-wide discussions and execution of the association’s knowledge and learning management systems (KMS and LMS, respectively). Maintain/update the Lighthouse webpages, continue integrating ERAC (completed) products, and upload and classify library resources in accordance with protocols developed through the KMS efforts. Implement best practices for driving users to the discussions and resources.

USCG/ERAC_IR&A 2019-1 Collaborative development of national policy on accident reporting (Investigation, Reporting & Analysis):

In collaboration with the USCG, complete the outstanding project work from “phase 1” of the project—that is, conducting all review and feedback processes with the committee, NASBLA and USCG leadership, and the States, in order to achieve consensus on the policy and regulatory recommendations associated with the accident reporting structure, vessel determinations, incident report data elements, roles and relationships, and vessel safety issues/defects/recalls/bridge allisions. Initiate and complete work on “phase 2” of the project—that is, developing system recommendations for the future BARD to accommodate the recommendations, and identifying best practices and guidance for implementation in the near term (especially for policy-based recommendations). [NOTE: this charge is very likely to have offshoots associated with the development of best practices and implementation guidance.]

ERAC_IR&A 2019-2 Roll out BARD-based, State-level statistical report template (Investigation, Reporting & Analysis):

In coordination with the USCG, complete outstanding work resulting from the beta test of the latest iteration of the BARD-based template and facilitate rollout of the product for use by the States in creating their own accident statistics reports. Refine the product and instructions based on user experiences and need. Assist States in report development upon request. Maintain instructional materials and links to other template resources on the NASBLA Lighthouse Get Equipped dedicated subpage. Participate in related, State-specific template work associated with the NASBLA Boating Safety Dashboard project.

ERAC_IR&A 2019-3 Continue pilot program / refine best practices for collection and analysis of human factors data (Investigation, Reporting & Analysis):

Continue working with Florida and Oregon in applying aspects of the human performance investigation guidance and supplemental report form (v. 2016). Evaluate the resulting data, resolve any data collection
issues, and recommend refinements to the guidance and form as needed. For practical application among the pilot and any other States, determine how best to analyze and apply the results. Continue building the human factors product webpage in the Lighthouse and the resources in the Lighthouse Library.

ERAC_S&R 2019-1 Collaborate with the NASBLA Paddlesports Committee and partnering organizations on collecting and analyzing paddlesports-related data and trends (RBS Statistics & Research):

Continue collaborative work in this area to develop a comprehensive knowledge base on paddlesports accidents and related statistics. Continue refining data elements as part of the USCG/ERAC policy workgroup’s efforts (see USCG/ERAC_IR&A 2019-1). Expand into review and feedback on data collection and analysis of accident data and the survey results from the Paddlesports Statistical Analysis grant project (NASBLA partnering with USCG non-profit grant recipient ACA).

ERAC_E&E 2019-1 Continue examining basic flotation issues associated with canoes and kayaks and assisting the NASBLA Paddlesports Committee regarding flotation standards (to work with ABYC on updating H-29) (Engineering & Equipment):

Continue joint efforts between Paddlesports, ERAC and manufacturers to increase awareness of and improvements to the ABYC standard and flotation in these craft.

The following 2018 charge and monitoring activities were completed or are pending other action or issuance of datasets for analysis before any additional work can be conducted by the committee

ERAC_E&E 2018-1 Identify best approaches for capturing/recording/analyzing role of vessel hull and other design characteristics in accidents (Engineering & Equipment): No carryover as a separate charge. However, committee should be updated on any data that may be collected from the question currently in use in the pilot State of Massachusetts, and be prepared to recommend refinements to the data element in response to state feedback that will be solicited through the USCG/ERAC accident reporting policy project review and approval process (see USCG/ERAC_IR&A 2019-1).

ERAC_S&R 2018-1 Exploring boating fatality/casualty rate numerators (RBS Statistics & Research): No carryover into this new cycle. The charge was completed as revised, and results regarding the resident/non-resident status of incident victims have been forwarded to the NASBLA Boating Safety Dashboard steering group for incorporation into the accident statistics dashboard(s). When additional exposure data becomes available from the next National Recreational Boating Safety Survey—to assess how much out-of-state boaters are on the water as opposed to just knowing the percentage of out-of-state boaters involved in accidents—ERAC will revisit the merits of a charge in this area.

ERAC_E&E 2018-2 Develop resources re marine carbon monoxide incidents and detection systems (Engineering & Equipment): The products associated with this charge—investigative guidance and resource webpage—were completed. The resource webpage and related library holdings, however, should be updated as part of the ongoing maintenance of the Lighthouse.

ERAC_S&R 2018 Monitor activities associated with the Coast Guard’s 2018 NRBSS and other safety/participation surveys conducted at the national and state levels (RBS Statistics & Research): Continue to monitor the national survey progress, and await the release of data in 2019 before making any future charge recommendations.