



Engineering, Reporting & Analysis Committee (ERAC)

2021-2022 Charges

APPROVED

Investigation, Reporting & Analysis

- **ERAC IR&A 2020-1A: Complete Phase One of USCG/STATES/ERAC Collaborative Recreational Boating Incident Reporting Policy Project**
 - This 2020 charge, as written, was successfully completed. The consensus recommendations were developed, vetted, voted on by NASBLA membership in July 2020, and formally delivered to Coast Guard leadership in the Office of Auxiliary & Boating Safety immediately thereafter for the purpose of informing their internal development of regulatory and policy provisions. As such, the charge was not “carried over” to 2021 in the traditional sense; the expectation was that the Coast Guard would issue a formal response to the consensus product and charges IR&A 2021-1 and -2 (next page) would be the logical successors to carry the work forward in the new cycle. That formal response has yet to be issued, although elements will be discussed with NASBLA members as part of two information sharing/refresher webinars to be conducted pre-annual conference and then again during a conference presentation. As such, because ERAC leadership and staff are participating in developing the content for these sessions and because the committee – in coordination with the project workgroup members who are not already on ERAC -- can play a valuable and valid role in assisting and advising the Executive Board as it identifies and executes next steps associated with this product, this charge should be reinstated -- with appropriate modifications based on the status/outcomes of the Coast Guard response -- to ensure that it remains on the “front burner.”

- **ERAC IR&A 2021-1: Best Practices Development in Phase Two of USCG/STATES/NASBLA ERAC Recreational Boating Incident Reporting Policy Project**
 - In accordance with and as applicable to the project’s consensus recommendations to the U.S. Coast Guard (reference USCG/ERAC IR&A 2020-1A), develop the “best practices” and other guidance necessary to effectively implement them. As a starting point, review the Best Practices list presented and triaged at the Feb. 28, 2020 ERAC meeting. In coordination with the Coast Guard, initiate work on the highest priority components/items. In developing the content of the guidance, ensure close coordination with the charge team activities described in ERAC K&CM 2021-1 and determine the best format(s) for delivering this information to the audiences of

potential users (officers/investigators; incident report reviewers; data entry personnel; etc.). (NASBLA Goal 5, Obj. 5.1, Strategy 5.1.5) (RBS Initiative 2, CoA 5, milestone 13; and Initiative 3)

- **ERAC IR&A 2021-2: Coordinate NASBLA ERAC/State Participation in the Reporting System Design Component of Phase Two of the USCG/STATES/NASBLA ERAC Recreational Boating Incident Reporting Policy Project.**
 - Collaborate with the project stakeholders in setting the expectations and functionalities of a reporting system that will replace the current Boating Accident Report Database (BARD) and be responsive to the project's consensus recommendations to the U.S. Coast Guard. (NASBLA Goal 5, Obj. 5.1, Strategy 5.1.5) (RBS Initiative 2, CoA 5, milestone 13; and Initiative 3).

- **ERAC IR&A 2021-3: Continue Pilot Program and Refine Best Practices for Collecting and Evaluating Human Factors Data**
 - Analyze the results of a pilot program involving states applying aspects of the human performance investigation guidance and supplemental report form (ERAC products v. 2016) to fatal incident investigations in their jurisdictions. Evaluate the collected data, resolve data collection issues, and refine the guidance and form as needed. Determine how best to apply the form for use by the current pilot and additional states. (NASBLA Goals 3 and 5, Obj. 5.1, Strategy 5.1.5) (RBS Initiatives 2 and 3).

Knowledge & Content Management

- **ERAC K&CM 2021-1: Strategically Enhance and Evaluate the Effectiveness of Current NASBLA Lighthouse Platform and its Contents**
 - Evaluate the current “reach” of the NASBLA Lighthouse, over time and as compared to other NASBLA knowledge and learning tools, and evaluate the various online tools available through NASBLA for sharing existing and anticipated committee products, including the pros and cons of each option. Tasks should include: completion of an inventory of existing and anticipated committee products; consideration and completion of additional work on enhancing the user-friendliness of products through cheat sheets, webinars, how-to videos and other means; and, based on the charge team's work regarding available NASBLA tools, determination of the best channels by which to share or post products for wider use. Continue to evaluate the “reach” of materials under the new schema, including gathering feedback from users to better refine strategies moving forward. When complete, this activity can be reclassified as an ongoing committee function, possibly with a standing workgroup to facilitate additional marketing, distribution and housing of committee materials going forward. (NASBLA Goal 5) (RBS Initiative 2).

RBS Statistics & Research

- **ERAC S&R 2021-1: Evaluate the Results from the 2018 National Recreational Boating Safety Participation and Exposure Surveys (NRBSS)**
 - Review and assess the published findings, raw data, and methods associated with the 2018 version of the NRBSS, with a special focus on the Exposure Survey. Develop product(s) that can assist the States in practical application of the data to their RBS programs. Determine whether the data can be used to reinstate previous ERAC efforts, such as evaluating the use of exposure hours as the denominator for calculating fatality rates and assessing the impact of out-of-state boaters on a State's injury and fatality rates. (NASBLA Goal 5, Obj. 5.1 and 5.2; and Goal 2) (RBS Initiative 3).

- **NEW PROPOSED CHARGE: Investigate Factors Associated with the Increases in Recreational Boating Incidents, Fatalities and Injuries**
 - Conduct a deep dive into the factors associated with the increases in recreational boating incidents, fatalities and injuries reported during 2020 (and continuing 2021 months of the pandemic). Review statistics and risk factors associated with other recreational activities and transportation modes during the pandemic. Collaborate with other NASBLA policy committees on this topic to avoid duplication of data requests and effort.

Other Activities – Monitoring and Liaison Work

- **ONGOING COMMITTEE FUNCTION: Monitoring and Giving Input to USCG Policy/Regulatory Proposals and Actions**
 - ERAC will continue to monitor, research as needed, and provide feedback to U.S. Coast Guard policy initiatives and regulatory proposals in areas related to the committee's charter, whether published in the Federal Register or issued through other official mechanisms. The committee will inform the States and encourage them to provide feedback, and will coordinate NASBLA's organizational responses to such proposals using the NASBLA website and NASBLA Connect discussion forums to provide resources and promote open discussion among the States. (NASBLA Goals 4 and 5) (RBS Initiative 2, CoA, milestone 13).

- **ONGOING COMMITTEE FUNCTION: Issues and Trends Monitoring and Disposition**
 - The Triage is a committee procedure intended for the year-round capture and timely disposition of issues and topics that come to ERAC from internal and external sources. The NASBLA ERAC Procedure v01092015 is used to assign the triage team, process the issues, and recommend an appropriate course of action—whether that be a request to the NASBLA Executive Board to approve a formal charge, a communication

to the states on a matter of immediate concern, continued monitoring, or some other action (including “no” action in the near term). Per the established procedure, the team is to be comprised of the ERAC Chair, Vice Chair, Board Liaison, and two at-large Committee Members assigned at the beginning of each cycle.