

APPROVED POLICY COMMITTEE CHARGES

2022 - 2023

APPROVED 11.98.22

Engineering, Reporting & Analysis Committee (ERAC)

Charges

INVESTIGATION, REPORTING & ANALYSIS

ERAC-USCG IR&A 2023 - Extension - Phase 1-Incident Reporting

(Continuing 2022 charge)

The 2019-2020 Phase One charge, originally considered complete with the August 2020 delivery to the Coast Guard of the NASBLA member-accepted recommendations emerging from the [Recreational Boating Incident Reporting Policy Project](#), was reinstated during the 2021-2022 cycle to accommodate a delay in receipt of Coast Guard policy responses to those recommendations. With continuing activity in this area and the need for ERAC to advise and accept assignments from the NASBLA board on this project, the proposal is to extend this charge into the 2022-2023 cycle.

ERAC IR&A 2023-1 Best Practices Development (Incident Reporting)

(Continuing 2022 charge w/updates)

Using the [Recreational Boating Incident Reporting Policy Project](#) consensus recommendations to the Coast Guard, continue developing “best practices” and other reporting guidance for the states. Review [2022 Best Practices list – working document to identify remaining areas needing work](#), focusing in the short term on the steps used to determine which incidents require states’ reporting to the Coast Guard for inclusion in the annual Recreational Boating Statistics. Work closely with other ERAC charge teams and the NASBLA staff to adopt the best formats for delivering the information to users (e.g., officers/investigators; incident report reviewers; data entry personnel; etc.).

ERAC IR&A 2023-2 Reporting System Redesign (Incident Reporting)

(Continuing 2022 charge w/updates)

Participate in NASBLA and Coast Guard efforts intended to address the deficiencies in the current online incident reporting system in order to assure that the design and content of the future system(s) and any other resolutions are responsive to the report data consensus recommendations in the [Recreational Boating Incident Reporting Policy Project](#).

ERAC IR&A 2023-3 Human Factors: Refine data collection/analysis

(Continuing 2022 charge w/updates)

Continue to assess the experiences 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, especially as apply to operator distractions; resolve data collection issues; refine the guidance as warranted; issue a report on the findings. Review related tasks expected to be assigned to the National Boating Safety Advisory Committee (NBSAC) by the Coast Guard and determine whether

ERAC might contribute by serving as a resource or by modifying this charge to accommodate additional, relevant activities regarding human performance in recreational boating incidents.

KNOWLEDGE & CONTENT MANAGEMENT

ERAC K&CM 2023-1 Complete Lighthouse reevaluation and develop ERAC product placement/marketing plan (Continuing 2022 charge w/updates)

Continue evaluating the current reach of the NASBLA Lighthouse compared to other NASBLA knowledge and learning tools and evaluate those tools for sharing existing and near-future ERAC products. Determine the best ways to make products more user-friendly (e.g., cheat sheets, webinars, how-to videos and other means), and based on the charge team's work regarding available NASBLA tools, determine the best channels for sharing and posting products for wider use. Gather feedback from users to refine strategies moving forward. When complete, this activity should be reclassified as an ongoing committee function, possibly with a standing workgroup to facilitate additional marketing, distribution and housing of committee materials going forward.

RBS STATISTICS & RESEARCH

ERAC S&R 2023-1 National Recreational Boating Safety Surveys (NRBSS)—2018 follow-up and input to upcoming surveys (Continuing 2022 charge w/updates)

Using the [national webinars and participant survey results from the ERAC-sponsored May 2022 events](#), along with feedback from other forums (e.g., anticipated presentations/discussions at National Boating Safety Advisory Committee (NBSAC), August 2022) and in coordination with Coast Guard staff, develop relevant follow-up activities regarding the 2018 methods and findings. Solicit additional feedback from the states, and on behalf of the states, make recommendations on the content of instruments that will be used for future surveys and on the potential data uses at the state level.

ERAC S&R 2023-2 Investigate factors associated with incidents during pandemic years (Continuing 2022 charge w/updates)

Conduct a deeper dive into the factors associated with recreational boating incidents, fatalities and injuries reported during the pandemic years. Review the data from the period 2019-2021 and potentially preliminary data from 2022; and review and draft an annotated summary of studies already conducted on recreational boating and boater behaviors, and on statistics and risk factors identified for other recreational activities and transportation modes during the pandemic years. Evaluate findings for potential product(s) or more specific charge ideas for consideration in the [ERAC – Triage – Issues and Trends Monitoring process](#).

ENGINEERING & EQUIPMENT

ERAC has not had an assigned charge in this category since 2019. Preliminary discussions with the Enforcement & Training Committee staff suggest there might be an opportunity for a crossover or sole-assignment charge related to issues and implications associated with emerging

marine propulsion technologies/systems. While the topic(s) have been broached in recent forums, the Coast Guard's recent Federal Register publication of a draft policy letter establishing regulatory compliance guidance regarding the weight of recreational vessels (less than 20 ft) that use batteries to power their primary propulsion has generated additional interest. Status / potential focus TBD.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

LIAISON WORK

ERAC will liaison with or serve as a resource to the other NASBLA policy committees as requested.

ONGOING COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

Monitoring and giving input to USCG policy / regulatory proposals and actions: ERAC will continue to monitor, research as needed, inform the states, 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. ERAC will inform the other NASBLA policy committees on topics under their jurisdiction and assist, as requested, in developing responses. ERAC will continue to maintain the [Federal Register pages on the NASBLA website](#). (NASBLA Goals 4 and 5) (RBS Initiative 2, CoA, milestone 13)

ERAC - Triage - Issues and Trends Monitoring: 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 procedure 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 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).