

STATE RESCUE BOARD

OF

NEW SOUTH WALES

ANNUAL REPORT

2005-2006

DISTRIBUTION OF STATE RESCUE BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2005/2006	
Minister (for tabling)	6
Office for Emergency Services	6
Legislative Assembly Procedure Office	15
Legislative Council Office	5
Treasurer	1
Spares	7
TOTAL	40

Note: The Annual Report for 2005/ 2006 will be available for viewing in electronic format from the Office for Emergency Services web-site, www.emergency.nsw.gov.au.

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STATE RESCUE BOARD
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES

CHAPTER ONE

PRELIMINARY

LEGISLATION AND ESTABLISHMENT

The key piece of legislation relating to the rescue arrangements in New South Wales is the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act, 1989*.

Section 42 of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act* (Act) provides for a corporation with the corporate name of the State Rescue Board of New South Wales (Board). The Board is, for the purposes of any Act, a statutory body representing the Crown.

Section 43 (1) of the Act provides that the Board is to consist of not less than eight members, being:

- ❖ the State Emergency Operations Controller;
- ❖ the Director General of the State Emergency Service;
- ❖ a member of the Police Senior Executive Service nominated by the Commissioner of Police;
- ❖ the Commissioner of the New South Wales Fire Brigades;
- ❖ the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service;
- ❖ the State Superintendent of the Ambulance Service of New South Wales;
- ❖ the President of the Volunteer Rescue Association of New South Wales;
- ❖ the Chairperson of the Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of New South Wales; and
- ❖ the heads of any other volunteer rescue agencies approved for the time being by the Minister.

Section 43 (2) of the Act provides that one of the members of the Board is to be appointed as Chairperson by the Minister.

Section 45 of the Act provides that the Board is, in the exercise of its functions, subject to the control and direction of the Minister.

CHARTER

Corporate Objective:

The Corporate Objective, which flows from the Act, is to ensure the maintenance of efficient and effective rescue services throughout New South Wales.

Functions:

The Board is required to:

- develop policies to promote the provision of comprehensive, balanced and coordinated rescue services throughout the State;
- make recommendations to the Minister on policy matters relating to the provision of rescue services within the State;
- review planning for single incident rescues within the State;
- review and disseminate to relevant agencies technical information relating to rescue operations;
- ensure proper liaison and coordination with Federal and other State organisations in connection with rescue services;
- provide advice and recommendations on the compatibility of rescue equipment, including communications equipment;
- make recommendations to the Minister on the accreditation of rescue units (both permanent and volunteer) for participation in rescue operations;
- make recommendations to the Minister on levels of Government support (including financial assistance under Section 60 of the Act) to volunteer organisations providing rescue services;
- assist in the conduct of training exercises in rescue operations involving the various agencies concerned;
- monitor the training standards of the permanent and volunteer services in rescue;
- review proposals for amendment of legislation relating to rescue and make recommendations to the Minister; and
- make reports or recommendations to the Minister on any matter referred to the Board by the Minister.

LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

There were no amendments to the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989* in the period covered by this Report.

STATE RESCUE BOARD MEMBERSHIP 2005/2006

- Chairperson:** Mr P C Koperberg AO AFSM BEM
Commissioner
NSW Rural Fire Service
- Members:** Deputy Commissioner D B Madden APM
State Emergency Operations Controller
(to 28 September 2005)
- Deputy Commissioner A Scipione APM
State Emergency Operations Controller
(from 29 September 2005)
- Assistant Commissioner R J Waites APM
Commander Inner Metropolitan Region
NSW Police (to 28 September 2005)
- Assistant Commissioner M Goodwin APM
Commander Inner Metropolitan Region
NSW Police (from 29 September 2005)
- Mr G Mullins AFSM
Commissioner
NSW Fire Brigades
- Mr G Rochford
Chief Executive Officer
Ambulance Service of NSW
- Brigadier P J McNamara CSC
Director General
State Emergency Service
- Mr R G Gill ESM
President
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc
- Mr D Morgan ESM
Chairman
Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of NSW

ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE BOARD

THE VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE COUNCIL OF NEW SOUTH WALES

The Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of New South Wales advises the Board on all maritime rescue matters.

Chairperson: Mr D Morgan ESM
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association

Members: Superintendent T Dalton (Deputy Chair)
NSW Police Marine Area Command

Sergeant R Trussell
NSW Police Marine Area Command

Commodore F Robards ESM
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association

Mr R Isaacs ESM (to 17 August 2005)
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc

Mr S Reading
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc

Mr W Carter (from 9 October 2005)
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc

Mr J McCloskey (to 2 April 2006)
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol

Mr R. King
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol

Mr M Stringer ESM OAM (from 4 June 2006)
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol

SUB COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

The Board has established the following standing committees to assist and advise it in the performance of its functions.

TRAINING ADVISORY PANEL

Chairman: Mr A Kaine
Assistant Secretary
NSW State Rescue Board

Members: Inspector S McGilchrist
NSW Police

Superintendent K Williams ASM
Ambulance Service of NSW

Station Officer W Kidd AFSM
NSW Fire Brigades

Mr J Young
State Emergency Service

Mr H Black ESM
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc

ANNEXES:

- A. State Rescue Board – Members Attendance
- B. Volunteer Marine Rescue Council – Members Attendance

Chapter One – Annex A – Members’ Attendance – State Rescue Board**1**

State Rescue Board – Members’ Attendance		
MEMBER	PRESENT	REPRESENTED
Mr P C Koperberg AO AFSM BEM Chairman	4/4	Nil
Deputy Commissioner D B Madden APM State Emergency Operations Controller	1/4	Nil
Assistant Commissioner R J Waites APM Commander Inner Metropolitan Region NSW Police Service	1/1	Nil
Assistant Commissioner M Goodwin APM Commander Inner Metropolitan Region NSW Police Service	3/3	Nil
Mr G Rochford Chief Executive Officer Ambulance Service of NSW	4/4	Nil
Mr G Mullins AFSM Commissioner NSW Fire Brigades	4/4	Nil
Brigadier P J McNamara CSC Director General State Emergency Service	3/4	1
Mr R G Gill ESM President NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	3/4	1
Mr D Morgan Chairman Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of NSW	4/4	Nil

Note: The State Rescue Board conducted four meetings during the reporting period:
11 August 2005, 23 November 2005, 22 February 2006 and 24 May 2006.

Chapter One – Annex B – Members’ Attendance - Volunteer Marine Rescue Council

Volunteer Marine Rescue Council – Members’ Attendance		
MEMBER	PRESENT	REPRESENTED
Mr D Morgan ESM Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association Chairman	6/6	Nil
Superintendent T Dalton NSW Water Police Deputy Chairman	0/6	6/6
Sergeant R Trussell NSW Water Police	6/6	Nil
Mr R King Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol	6/6	Nil
Commodore F Robards ESM Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association	6/6	Nil
Mr R Isaacs ESM NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	1/1	Nil
Mr W Carter NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	5/5	Nil
Mr S Reading NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	4/6	Nil
Mr J McCloskey (to 2 April 2006) Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol	5/5	Nil
Commodore M Stringer ESM OAM Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol	1/1	Nil

Note: The Volunteer Marine Rescue Council conducted six meetings during the reporting period – 8 August 2005, 9 August 2005, 3 December 2005, 5 February 2006, 2 April 2006 and 4 June 2006.

**STATE RESCUE BOARD
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES**

CHAPTER TWO

**OVERVIEW OF BOARD
AND COUNCIL
OPERATIONS**

OVERVIEW OF BOARD OPERATIONS – 2005/06

The Board is responsible for the development and promulgation of rescue policy, the setting and monitoring of training standards, providing advice and recommendations on the compatibility of rescue equipment, assisting in the conduct of training exercises and for recommending to the Minister the accreditation of rescue units.

Over the reporting period the Board conducted four meetings. The Board was extensively involved in consideration of the recommendations from the Performance Audit conducted by the Auditor General into the Coordination of Rescue in NSW and the review of the State Rescue Policy that was undertaken by the Chairman of the State Emergency Management Committee, Major General B W Howard, AO, ESM, MC.

Performance Audit

On 20 July 2005 the NSW Auditor General presented to parliament a report titled “Coordination of Rescue Services: State Rescue Board of New South Wales”.

Significantly, the audit sought to examine “...the extent of strategic planning for land rescue and how the Board assigns rescue units and establishes and maintains minimum service levels.” However, it did “... not comment on which agency or agencies should be providing rescue services, nor ... evaluate the performance of individual providers in regard to rescue.”

As a result the Report made the following recommendations:

Develop a Strategic Approach to Rescue

It is recommended that the Board:

- *collect data on rescue performance and cost over the next 12 months to inform the planning process.*
- *use this data to develop an over-arching strategy for land rescue that recommends to the Government who the providers of rescue should be.*
- *use the strategy to review current arrangements and develop a five year plan to implement rescue arrangements which align with the strategy.*
- *develop a risk management framework to assist committees in assessing applications for accreditation.*

If data on rescue performance indicates immediate opportunities for improvement these should be addressed by the Board.

Introduce Service Standards

It is recommended that the Board develop response time standards for metropolitan and rural rescue services to guide committees in determining the number, type and location of rescue units.



Enhance Accreditation Criteria

It is recommended that the Board:

- *include time standards for responding to an incident in the accreditation standards.*
- *revisit the need for specific accreditation criteria for various rescue activities.*

Improve Information on Performance

It is recommended that providers supply data to the Board:

- *for each rescue attended, the location and type of incident, turn out time, response time and time when available for re-tasking.*
- *on the cost of rescue.*

Improve Compliance

It is recommended that the Board:

- *require the Chief Executive of each rescue provider to certify on an annual basis that all rescue units comply with the Board's accreditation standards.*
- *develop an audit program to test compliance with accreditation standards.*

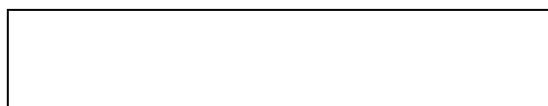
The Board advised the Auditor General on 16 September 2005 that it had accepted all the recommendations contained in the Report and provided a progress report on their implementation.

Since that time the Board has taken action to:

- expand the data reporting requirements to all land rescue call-outs,
- include the requirements for a capability report to be completed annually by each agency as part of the revised State Rescue Policy,
- engage IAB Services to advise on the data and cost collection options, and
- map indicative response times provided by the current network of accredited rescue units.

Costs

IAB Services provided advice to the Board that indicated that establishing the cost per rescue as recommended in the Report would be extremely difficult. This was due to the costs of maintaining capabilities that had applications other than directly attributable to rescue. It suggested that a total cost of rescue services was a more relevant measure. When queried by the Board representatives of IAB Services agreed that this would not provide a measure that would be required to meet the strategic planning imperatives that had formed such a central issue in the recommendations of the Performance Audit. It is proposed that this issue will be addressed by a consultant that is to be retained to provide advice to the Board on all the recommendations relating to strategic planning.



Response Time Mapping

As a preliminary exercise, officers of the NSW Fire Brigades mapped the coverage that was provided within one hour's travel time of the existing network of accredited rescue unit locations. The indication provided by this exercise was that only 1.1 per cent of the population was not resident within that area. Action is now in hand to refine this research and also apply the most recent road accident data provided by the Roads and Traffic Authority to assist in assessing the adequacy of the current arrangements.

The Board has now moved to engage a suitably qualified consultant to address the strategic planning element of the recommendations as a complete package rather than addressing each in isolation.

Policy Review

Last year the Board commenced a review of the State Rescue Policy, appointing Major General B W Howard, AO, ESM, MC, to undertake this process. The Review was completed and presented to the Board on 20 April 2005. Although it was not a requirement of the terms of reference, General Howard proposed that his report should include a draft of a revised policy that was in accord with the recommendations of his report.

The Report recommended:

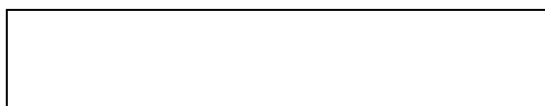
- That the Board utilise the criteria developed by the Productivity Commission as the basis for measuring efficiency.
- That the State Rescue Board as it is currently structured is the appropriate policy making body to coordinate the delivery of land and marine rescue services.
- The State Rescue Policy should acknowledge that the Board will exercise its responsibilities through the heads of the agencies which provide accredited rescue units, and NSW Police.
- That the Board institutes a rigorous annual reporting regime, supported by random audits when deemed necessary.
- That the Board progressively adopts the National Training Framework.
- That the Board examines in detail how best to support each of the non-government agencies to participate fully in the National Training Framework.
- That the Board abolishes the Training Advisory Panel and replaces it with a Training Policy Committee and two Technical Sub-Committees one for land and the other for marine.
- That the Board discontinues the use of Senior Rescue Instructors.



- That the Government agencies should offer places to the non-government agencies for trainer and assessor training, with costs being covered by the Board.
- That the Board provides funds for the conduct of trainer and assessor training for the non-government agencies, but not for operator training.
- That the Board should continue to conduct skill enhancement activities for trainers and assessors, but not for operators.
- That the Board should continue to support combined rescue exercises conducted at district level.
- That the Board should conduct a training needs analysis based on the recommendations above, in order to determine future training budget requirements.
- That a review should be conducted of the workload of the Secretariat to determined staff requirements, when decisions have been made on the recommendations contained herein.
- That the Sydney Metropolitan Rescue Committee should be revitalised, with a Senior Police Officer, who is not a rescue stakeholder, appointed as Chair.
- That the Secretariat examines how offenders may be prosecuted under the Act.
- That a new category of “Support Units” be created to rationalise the situation of organisations which have legitimate supporting roles.
- That Certificates of Accreditation be issued only when accreditations change.
- That the Board ceases to maintain a database of rescue operators in favour of the organisations doing so, and reporting to the Board in accordance with the revised State Rescue Policy.
- That the Board institute periodic reviews of the need for the current number and type of accredited rescue units.
- That the Board develop a Strategic Plan, based on those recommendations which are accepted.

Following extensive consultation with the rescue agencies, the third edition of the State Rescue Policy was approved by the Minister for Emergency Services on 19 January 2006. The revised Policy has been posted on the website www.emergency.nsw.gov.au.

The Board remains committed to the introduction of competency-based training in accordance with the Australian Quality Training Framework and this commitment was endorsed as part of the review of the State Rescue Policy.



Advisory Bodies

The Board's Volunteer Marine Rescue Council met on six occasions during the reporting period. In addition to providing advice to the Board on applications for marine accreditation, the Council focused on monitoring the annual inspection program, monitoring the progress of the marine rescue services improvement program and finalising a system of vessel survey and certification with the NSW Maritime Authority.

At the request of the Board, the Council developed and submitted a business plan that attempted to set out the on-going operating costs of the marine rescue groups. The training costs were seen to be the most significant element and an approach was made to the NSW Maritime Authority to consider an increase in the grants program to meet these costs. As a result, an increase in the grant of \$500,000 per annum has been approved. The first payment was received late in the financial year and has yet to be distributed.

The Board's Training Advisory Panel, in accordance with the revised Policy, has been disbanded and replaced by a Training Policy Committee, to be supported by Technical Rescue and Marine Technical Sub-committees.

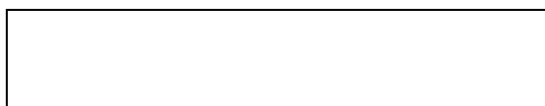
Rescue Committees are established at both Local and District Emergency Management levels. The Committees comprise representatives of emergency service organisations that operate at the respective levels. The Rescue Committees are chaired by an appropriate senior NSW Police officer in recognition of the responsibility of Police to coordinate rescue operations. The Committees are responsible for ensuring an appropriate level of rescue resources in their defined geographic area and for making recommendations to the Board concerning the accreditation of land and maritime rescue resources.

The Review of the State Rescue Policy recommended that the Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee should be revitalised by the appointment of a Senior Police Officer who is not a rescue stakeholder as Chair. The Board believed that the servicing of the Sydney Metropolitan Area would be better served by disbanding the Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee and replacing it with six District Rescue Committees. These Committees have now been established and most have held their initial meetings.

General

The agencies provided statistical information to be submitted to the Productivity Commission in relation to road accident rescues for inclusion in its Report on Government Services. The information required for the Report on Government Services at this stage remains confined to the reported number of road rescues and the number of reported road rescue extrications. For the year 2005/2006 the agencies reported 6,358 road rescues, of which 4,073 involved extrications.

The Board recommended to the Minister that \$1.2 million be made available to the Volunteer Rescue Association for the 2005/06 financial year.

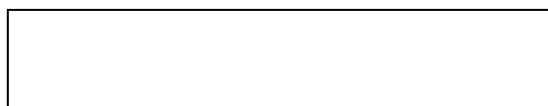


The Board also made recommendations to the Minister on the disbursement of \$792,316 provided in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement negotiated with the NSW Maritime Authority.

The Minister for Emergency Services again made provision of \$250,000 for cross agency emergency management and rescue training. Of this \$90,000 was made available to the Board. Allocations were made from these funds to assist in the conduct of 26 rescue training activities across the State involving members from all the rescue agencies.

The training of individual rescue operators to the Board's rescue training standards and the recording of the information relating to qualified operators is the responsibility of the individual rescue agencies.

At the conclusion of the reporting period, there were 195 primary and 130 secondary accredited general land rescue units. Of the 325 accredited general land rescue units, 96 units are accredited for vertical rescue operations.



OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE COUNCIL – 2005/06

The Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of New South Wales is an advisory body to the State Rescue Board on all maritime rescue matters. The Council comprises representatives of the NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc, the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol, the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association Inc and the NSW Police Marine Area Command.

Mission Statement:

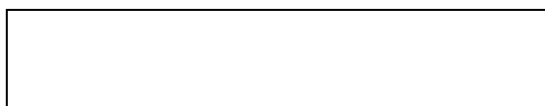
The Council's Mission Statement is:

To provide the necessary climate and environment for the achievement of a fully integrated and coordinated marine rescue service for the New South Wales Coastline.

Corporate Objectives:

In 1996 the Minister for Emergency Services issued the Council with the following Corporate Objectives as part of the Memorandum of Agreement between the organisations represented on Council:

- a. Ensure that member organisations implement the State's Marine Rescue Policy.
- b. Assist in the further development of Marine Rescue Policy.
- c. Ensure that member organisations train members to standards required by the State Rescue Board for marine accreditation.
- d. Assist in the further development of marine rescue procedures and marine rescue resource capabilities.
- e. Provide advice and recommendations to the State Rescue Board on the status of Marine Rescue Units (MRU), Search and Rescue Coordination Centres (SARCC) and Marine Radio Bases (MRB) and on the funding needs of the volunteer organisations.
- f. Provide a coordinating body to the State Rescue Board on marine rescue matters.
- g. Maintain effective liaison with the NSW Police Marine Area Command and ensure that member organisations continue to accept Police responsibilities for the control and coordination of rescue.



Marine rescue operations are normally conducted by the local accredited units to a level consistent with their equipment capability. Operations are conducted in cooperation with the NSW Police Marine Area Command which is responsible for the coordination of search and rescue operations within State waters. More than 5,000 rescue missions are performed by the accredited marine rescue units in NSW each year.

When an incident is beyond the capability of the rescue assets in NSW, the State Coordinator may request the Commonwealth to take over the coordination of operations. The Commonwealth automatically has responsibility for incidents beyond the limit of state waters.

Training & Development

During the period, the Council concentrated on presenting to Government the actual costs incurred by the volunteer units and refining funding requirements for the introduction of competency based training for marine rescue operators.

The Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of the VMRC were successful in an approach to the NSW Maritime Authority to obtain an increase in existing funding to cover the costs of the introduction and continued administration of competency based training by the agencies. NSW Maritime has approved an additional \$500,000 per annum.

The first payment for the 2005/06 year was received late in the financial year and is yet to be distributed. It is intended that these funds will be used to recompense agencies for the costs of establishing the training infrastructure and future funding will meet the on-going costs of administering the system.

Funding

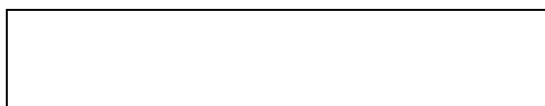
The member organisations of the VMRC continue to rely heavily on the support of the general public, the boating community and corporate sponsorship to meet their significant capital and operational costs. In recognition of the vital contribution of volunteers, the State Government provides funding support through a special arrangement between the NSW Maritime Authority and the State Rescue Board. In the reporting period the funding agreement provided a total of \$473,868 towards capital improvement of volunteer marine rescue units. This was supplemented by an additional \$318,448 provided to offset operational expenses such as fuel, insurance and administration.

This financial year funding was distributed to volunteer organisations as follows:

Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol.....\$352,897

Australian Volunteer Coast Guard.....\$259,484

Volunteer Rescue Association, Marine.....\$179,935



Funding Expenditure

Capital Improvement

The Memorandum of Understanding between the NSW Maritime Authority and the State Rescue Board requires the total funds of \$473,868 disbursed to the marine rescue organisations for Capital Improvement in 2005/06 to be expended proportionately against three specified categories as follows:

Category 3 & 2 Lifeboats.....	68%
Base Level Funding.....	29%
SARCC.....	3%

The funds for Capital Improvement were disbursed within respective marine rescue organisations as follows:

- NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc (\$107,615)

Hawkesbury River Rescue - replacement Cat 2 vessel; Point Danger Marine Rescue – upgrade of SARCC; Base Level Funding for 10 units.

- Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association (\$155,192)

Norah Head Search and Rescue– replacement Cat 2 vessel; Terrigal Sea Rescue– replacement Cat 2 vessel; SARCC/MRB upgrades at Bermagui; Kingscliff; Port Jackson, Evans Head and Ku-ring-gai.

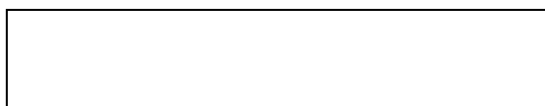
- Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol (\$211,061)

Broken Bay– replacement Cat 3 vessel; Lake Macquarie – Upgrade Cat 2 vessel; Newcastle – replacement of Cat 2 vessel; refurbishments at Tuggerah Lakes and Sydney; communications upgrades at five units and Base Level Funding for 14 units.

The funding approved for Lake Macquarie was subsequently reallocated to meet the cost of urgent repairs to vessels on the South Coast.

Operational Support

The disbursement of the allocated \$318,448 for purposes of operational support was based on an agreed formula developed by the constituent members of the VMRC. The resultant disbursement for 2005/06 was: NSW Volunteer Rescue Association - \$72,320; Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association - \$104,292; and Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol - \$141,836.



Accreditation

All accredited MRU, SARCC and MRB are inspected in accordance with the NSW State Rescue Policy. Prior to a new unit or vessel receiving accreditation, it must first undergo a needs analysis at Local and District Level to ensure that a requirement does exist. During the reporting period the following changes in accreditation were approved by the Minister:

Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol

- RVCP Trial Bay – change of accreditation from MRB to SARCC following the opening of its new facility.

NSW Volunteer Rescue Association

- Nambucca River Marine Rescue – Upgraded MRU from Cat 1 to Cat 2.
- Wooli Rescue Squad – MRU varied from Cat 1 and Cat 2 to Cat 2 only.

Recreational Vessel Advisory Group

The VMRC is a standing member of the Recreational Vessel Advisory Group (RVAG) established as a sub-group of the NSW Maritime Authority Council and contributes to the development of the NSW Maritime Authority safety and emergency policies.

Awards

Three members of rescue units were recipients of the Emergency Service Medal (ESM) during the period. The Emergency Service Medal is awarded in recognition of ‘Distinguished Service’ to emergency services. Those awarded were Commodore Sharyn Gillings, ESM Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol; Commodore Frank Robards ESM, Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association and Mr Les Clarke ESM, NSW Volunteer Rescue Association.

ANNEXES:

- A. Summary of accredited general land and vertical rescue units.
- B. Summary of accredited marine rescue resources.

State Rescue Board of New South Wales
Summary of Land Rescue Accreditations

Annex A to
Chapter 2
SRB Annual Report

Accreditation Breakdown By District

District	Primary	Secondary	Vertical
Central West	15	12	6
Far West	9	3	5
Hunter	18	5	11
Illawarra	6	4	5
Mid North Coast	16	14	9
Monaro	13	8	10
Murray	15	12	2
Northern Rivers	11	19	7
Peel	24	17	10
Riverina	15	9	8
Southern Highlands	12	7	5
Western Slopes	19	14	7
Georges River	2	Nil	1
Sydney East	1	1	1
Sydney Mid West	1	Nil	Nil
Sydney North	5	Nil	2
Sydney S West	5	1	3
Western Sydney	8	4	4
TOTALS	195	130	96

Accreditation Breakdown By Service

Service	General Rescue		Vertical Rescue
	Primary	Secondary	
Police Service	9		9
Ambulance Service	14		10
Fire Brigades	45	120	12
State Emergency Service	80	10	39
Volunteer Rescue Association	47		26
TOTALS	195	130	96

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
CENTRAL WEST	BATHURST	BATHURST PRS (v)	BATHURST CITY SES (v)
	BLAYNEY	BLAYNEY SES	BLAYNEY FB
	CANOWINDRA	CANOWINDRA SES	CANOWINDRA FB
	CONDOBOLIN	CONDOBOLIN SES (v)	CONDOBOLIN FB
	COWRA	COWRA AMB	COWRA FB
	EUGOWRA	CANOWINDRA SES	EUGOWRA SES
	FORBES	FORBES SES	FORBES FB
	LAKE CARGELLIGO	LAKE CARGELLIGO SES	LAKE CARGELLIGO FB
	LITHGOW	LITHGOW VRA (v)	LITHGOW FB
	MOLONG	MOLONG FB	
	OBERON	OBERON SES (v)	OBERON FB
	ORANGE	ORANGE FB	
	PARKES	PARKES SES (v)	PARKES FB
	PEAK HILL	PEAK HILL SES	PEAK HILL FB
	SOFALA/HILL END	TURON SES	
	TRUNDLE	TRUNDLE SES	

Legend:

- VRA - Volunteer Rescue Association
- SES - State Emergency Service
- FB - NSW Fire Brigades
- PRS - Police Rescue Squad
- AMB - Ambulance Service of NSW
- (V) - Vertical
- Unit - Primary Unit from another location

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
FAR WEST	BOURKE	BOURKE SES	BOURKE FB
	BREWARRINA	BREWARRINA SES (v)	
	BROKEN HILL	BROKEN HILL SES (v)	BROKEN HILL FB
	COBAR	COBAR SES (v)	COBAR FB
	MENINDEE	MENINDEE SES	
	NYNGAN	NYNGAN FB	
	TIBOObUURRA	TIBOObURRA SES (v)	
	WHITE CLIFFS	WHITE CLIFFS SES (v)	
	WILCANNIA	WILCANNIA SES	

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
HUNTER – CENTRAL COAST	BRANXTON	BRANXTON FB	
	CESSNOCK	CESSNOCK DISTRICT VRA (v)	
	DENMAN	DENMAN VRA (v)	
	DUNGOG	DUNGOG SES (v)	DUNGOG FB
	GOSFORD	GOSFORD AMB (v)	GOSFORD FB
	LAKE MACQUARIE	COORANBONG SES (v)	
	MAITLAND	RUTHERFORD AMB	
	MERRIWA	MERRIWA VRA	MERRIWA FB
	MURRURUNDI	MURRURUNDI VRA (v)	
	MUSWELLBROOK	MUSWELLBROOK SES	
	NELSON BAY	NELSONS BAY FB (v)	
	NEWCASTLE	NEWCASTLE PRS (v) HAMILTON AMB (v)	COOKS HILL FB
	RAYMOND TERRACE	PORT STEPHENS SES	
	SCONE	SCONE SES	
	SINGLETON	SINGLETON AMB	SINGLETON FB
	TEA GARDENS	TEA GARDENS FB (v)	
	WYONG	CENTRAL COAST VRA (v)	

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
ILLAWARRA	KIAMA	KIAMA SES (v)	KIAMA FB
	NOWRA	BOMADERRY AMB (v)	NOWRA FB
	SHELLHARBOUR	SHELLHARBOUR FB	
	ULLADULLA/ SUSSEX INLET	ULLADULLA FB (v)	
	WOLLONGONG	WOLLONGONG AMB (v) WOLLONGONG PRS (v)	WOLLONGONG FB BULLI FB

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
MID NORTH COAST	BELLINGEN	URUNGA SES	BELLINGEN FB
	BOWRAVILLE	NAMBUCCA DIST VRA	BOWRAVILLE FB
	BULAHDELAH	BULAHDELAH VRA	
	COFFS HARBOUR	COFFS HARBOUR CITY SES (v)	COFFS HARBOUR FB
	DORRIGO	DORRIGO SES (v)	DORRIGO FB
	FORSTER	FORSTER FB (v)	
	GLOUCESTER	GLOUCESTER SHIRE SES (v)	GLOUCESTER FB
	KEMPSEY	KEMPSEY SHIRE SES (v)	KEMPSEY FB
	LAURIETON	LAURIETON FB (v)	CAMDEN HAVEN SES
	LORD HOWE ISLAND	LORD HOWE ISLAND SES (v)	
	MACKSVILLE	NAMBUCCA DIST VRA	MACKSVILLE FB
	NABIAC	NABIAC SES	
	NAMBUCCA HEADS	NAMBUCCA DIST VRA	NAMBUCCA HEADS FB
	PORT MACQUARIE	HASTINGS SES	PORT MACQUARIE FB
	SAWTELL	COFFS HARBOUR CITY SES	SAWTELL FB
	SOUTH WEST ROCKS	SOUTH WEST ROCKS FB (v)	
	TAREE	TAREE VRA (v)	TAREE FB
	URUNGA	URUNGA SES	URUNGA FB
	WAUCHOPE	WAUCHOPE FB	
	WINGHAM	TAREE VRA	WINGHAM FB
WOOLGOOLGA	WOOLGOOLGA FB		

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
MONARO	BATEMANS BAY	BATEMANS BAY VRA	BATEMANS BAY FB
	BEGA	BEGA VRA (v)	BEGA FB
	BOMBALA	BOMBALA FB	
	BRAIDWOOD	BRAIDWOOD FB (v)	
	COOMA	COOMA PRS (v)	COOMA-MONARO SES
	EDEN	EDEN SES (v)	EDEN FB
	JINDABYNE	SNOWY RIVER SES (v)	JINDABYNE FB
	MERIMBULA	MERIMBULA FB	
	MORUYA	EUROBODALLA SES (v)	MORUYA FB
	NAROOMA	NAROOMA VRA (v)	NAROOMA FB
	PERISHER VALLEY	PERISHER VALLEY FB (v)	
	QUEANBEYAN	QUEANBEYAN FB	QUEANBEYAN SES (v)
	THREDBO	THREDBO FB (v)	

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
MURRAY	ALBURY	ALBURY VRA (v)	ALBURY CENTRAL FB
	BALRANALD	BALRANALD VRA	BALRANALD FB
	BARHAM	BARHAM FB	
	BERRIGAN	TOCUMWAL VRA	BERRIGAN FB
	COROWA	COROWA-RUTHERGLEN VRA	COROWA FB
	CULCAIRN	CULCAIRN SES	CULCAIRN FB
	DENILIQVIN	DENILIQVIN VRA (v)	DENILIQVIN FB
	ECHUCA/MOAMA	ECHUCA-MOAMA VRA	MOAMA FB
	FINLEY	TOCUMWAL VRA	FINLEY FB
	HENTY	CULCAIRN SES	HENTY FB
	HOLBROOK	HOLBROOK SES	HOLBROOK FB
	JERILDERIE	JERILDERIE FB	
	MULWALA	MULWALA FB	
	OAKLANDS	OAKLANDS SES	
	TOCUMWAL	TOCUMWAL VRA	TOCUMWAL FB
	URANA	URANA SES	
	WENTWORTH	WENTWORTH FB	WENTWORTH SES
TUMBARUMBA	TUMBARUMBA FB		

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
NORTHERN RIVERS	ALSTONVILLE	LISMORE PRS	ALSTONVILLE FB
	BALLINA	BALLINA SES	BALLINA FB
	BANGALOW	BRUNSWICK VALLEY VRA	BANGALOW FB
	BRUNSWICK HEADS	BRUNSWICK VALLEY VRA (v)	BRUNSWICK HEADS FB
	BYRON BAY	BRUNSWICK VALLEY VRA	BYRON BAY FB
	CASINO	CASINO VRA (v)	CASINO FB
	CORAKI	WOODBURN SES	CORAKI FB
	EVANS HEAD	WOODBURN SES	EVANS HEAD FB
	GRAFTON	GRAFTON CITY SES (v)	GRAFTON FB SOUTH GRAFTON FB
	KINGSCLIFF	TWEED DISTRICT VRA (v)	KINGSCLIFF FB
	KYOGLE	KYOGLE SES (v)	KYOGLE FB
	LISMORE	LISMORE PRS (v)	LISMORE FB LISMORE SES
	MACLEAN	MACLEAN SES	MACLEAN FB
	MULLUMBIMBY	BRUNSWICK VALLEY VRA	MULLUMBIMBY FB
	MURWILLUMBAH	TWEED DISTRICT VRA	MURWILLUMBAH FB
	TABULAM	TABULAM SES	
	TWEED HEADS	TWEED DISTRICT VRA	TWEED HEADS FB
	URBENVILLE	URBENVILLE SES (v)	
	WOODBURN	WOODBURN SES	
	YAMBA	MACLEAN SES	YAMBA FB

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
PEEL	ARMIDALE	ARMIDALE SES (v)	ARMIDALE FB
	ASHFORD	ASHFORD SES	
	BARRABA	BARRABA VRA	BARRABA FB
	BINGARA	BINGARA SHIRE SES (v)	BINGARA FB
	BOGGABRI	BOGGABRI SES	BOGGABRI FB
	BURREN JUNCTION	BURREN JUNCTION VRA	
	DEEPWATER	DEEPWATER SES (v)	
	GLEN INNES	GLEN INNES VRA (v)	GLEN INNES FB
	GUNNEDAH	GUNNEDAH SES	
	GUYRA	GUYRA VRA	GUYRA FB
	INVERELL	INVERELL VRA	INVERELL FB
	MANILLA	MANILLA VRA (v)	MANILLA FB
	MOREE	MOREE PLAINS SES	MOREE FB
	NARRABRI	NARRABRI VRA (v)	NARRABRI FB
	NUNDLE	NUNDLE SES (v)	
	QUIRINDI	QUIRINDI VRA	QUIRINDI FB
	TAMBAR SPRINGS	TAMBAR SPRINGS SES	
	TAMWORTH	TAMWORTH AMB (v)	TAMWORTH CENTRAL FB TAMWORTH-PARRY SES
	TENTERFIELD	TENTERFIELD SES (v)	TENTERFIELD FB
	URALLA	URALLA FB	
	WALCHA	WALCHA SES (v)	
WARIALDA	YALLAROI SES	WARIALDA FB	
WEE WAA	WEE WAA SES	WEE WAA FB	
WERRIS CREEK	QUIRINDI VRA	WERRIS CREEK FB	
YETMAN	YETMAN SES		

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
RIVERINA	COLEAMBALLY	COLEAMBALLY VRA (v)	
	COOLAMON	COOLAMON FB	
	GOOLGOWI	GOOLGOWI SES	
	GRIFFITH	GRIFFITH SES (v)	GRIFFITH FB
	HAY	HAY SES (v)	HAY FB
	HILLSTON	HILLSTON SES	HILLSTON FB
	JUNEE	JUNEE VRA	JUNEE FB
	LEETON	LEETON VRA (v)	
	LOCKHART	LOCKHART FB	
	NARRANDERA	NARRANDERA VRA (v)	NARRANDERA FB
	TEMORA	TEMORA SES	TEMORA FB
	THE ROCK	THE ROCK SES	
	WAGGA WAGGA	WAGGA WAGGA VRA (v) WAGGA WAGGA AMB (v)	TURVEY PARK FB
	WEST WYALONG	WEST WYALONG SES (v)	WEST WYALONG FB
	YENDA	GRIFFITH SES	YENDA FB

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
SYDNEY METROPOLITAN	BANKSTOWN	BANKSTOWN AMB (v)	
	BEROWRA	BEROWRA FB	
	BLACKTOWN	BLACKTOWN FB (v)	
	BURWOOD	BURWOOD FB	
	CAMDEN	CAMDEN AMB (v)	
	CARINGBAH	CARINGBAH AMB (v)	
	CASTLE HILL	CASTLE HILL FB	
	CROWS NEST	CROWS NEST FB	
	EASTWOOD	EASTWOOD FB	
	HURSTVILLE	HURSTVILLE FB	
	KATOOMBA	KATOOMBA PRS (v) KATOOMBA FB	
	LIVERPOOL	LIVERPOOL FB	
	MACQUARIE FIELDS	MACQUARIE FIELDS FB	
	MITTAGONG	BERRIMA VRA (v)	
	NARRABEEN	NARRABEEN FB (v)	
	PARRAMATTA	PARRAMATTA AMB	
	PENRITH	PENRITH VRA	PENRITH FB
	PICTON	CAMDEN AMB	PICTON FB
	RICHMOND	HAWKESBURY SES (v)	RICHMOND FB
	SPRINGWOOD	SPRINGWOOD PRS (v)	SPRINGWOOD FB
	ST IVES	ST IVES AMB (v)	
	SYDNEY	ZETLAND PRS	CITY OF SYDNEY FB
	WINDSOR	HAWKESBURY SES	WINDSOR FB
ZETLAND	ZETLAND PRS (v)		

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS	BATLOW	BATLOW VRA	BATLOW FB
	BINALONG	BINALONG VRA (v)	
	BOOROWA	BOOROWA FB	
	COOTAMUNDRA	COOTAMUNDRA FB (v)	COOTAMUNDRA SES
	CROOKWELL	CROOKWELL FB	
	GOULBURN	GOULBURN PRS (v)	GOULBURN FB
	GRENFELL	GRENFELL SES (v)	GRENFELL FB
	GUNDAGAI	GUNDAGAI SES	GUNDAGAI FB
	HARDEN	HARDEN SES	HARDEN FB
	TUMUT	TUMUT SES (v)	TUMUT FB
	YASS	YASS FB	
	YOUNG	YOUNG FB	

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Land Rescue Accreditations

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PRIMARY UNIT	SECONDARY UNIT
WESTERN SLOPES	BARADINE	BARADINE SES	
	COLLARENEBRI	COLLARENEBRI SES	
	COOLAH	COOLAH VRA (v)	COOLAH FB
	COONABARABRAN	COONABARABRAN VRA (v)	COONABARABRAN FB
	COONAMBLE	COONAMBLE FB	COONAMBLE SES
	DUBBO	DUBBO VRA (v)	DUBBO CENTRAL FB
	DUNEDOO	DUNEDOO SES	DUNEDOO FB
	GILGANDRA	GILGANDRA SES	GILGANDRA FB
	GLENGARRY	GLENGARRY SES (v)	
	GULGONG	GULGONG VRA	GULGONG FB
	LIGHTENING RIDGE	LIGHTENING RIDGE SES (v)	LIGHTENING RIDGE FB
	MENDOORAN	MENDOORAN VRA	
	MUDGEES	MUDGEES VRA	MUDGEES FB
	NARROMINE	NARROMINE VRA	NARROMINE FB
	RYLSTONE/KANDOS	RYLSTONE-KANDOS VRA (v)	KANDOS FB
	TRANGIE	TRANGIE FB	
	WALGETT	WALGETT SES	WALGETT FB
	WARREN	WARREN VRA	WARREN FB
WELLINGTON	WELLINGTON SES (v)	WELLINGTON FB	

State Rescue Board of New South Wales
SUMMARY OF MARINE RESCUE UNITS

SERVICE	SARCC	MRB	MRU	TOTAL UNITS	MRU VESSELS
NSW WATER POLICE	1	2	13	13	29
NSW VOLUNTEER RESCUE ASSOCIATION	3	6	12	12	22
ROYAL VOLUNTEER COASTAL PATROL	9	17	21	26	37
AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEER COAST GUARD	6	8	16	19	23
OTHER	Nil	Nil	2	2	3
TOTALS:	19	33	64	72	114

OPERATIONAL AREA CATEGORIES FOR MARINE RESCUE UNITS	POLICE	RVCP	AVCGA	VRA	OTHER	TOTAL
Category 1	2	12	5	11	3	33
Category 2	16	16	12	6		50
Category 3	11	9	6	5		31
SUB TOTAL	29	37	23	22	3	114
OPERATIONAL COORDINATION						
SARCC	1	9	6	3		19
MRU	13	21	16	12	2	64
MRB	2	17	8	6		33
SUB TOTAL	16	47	30	21	2	116

Note: Accreditation for SLSA Ballina is Ministerial Limited for Operations on the Ballina Bar Only.



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>NORTHERN RIVERS DISTRICT</i>			
1.	Volunteer Marine Rescue Point Danger Assoc. Inc.	VRA	SARCC MRU Cat(3) 065/23173QC Cat(2) 064/26801QC Cat(1) 063/25180QC
3.	Kingscliff Flotilla	AVCGA	SARCC MRU Cat(1) 073/AUWWA069656EB4 Cat(2) 074/AUWWA144924FK9
4.	Tweed Coast Sea Rescue	VRA	MRU Cat(1) 066/AAJ410N Cat(1) 067/ADN353N
5.	Brunswick Valley Rescue Squad Inc	VRA	MRB MRU Cat(2) 062/21883
6.	Cape Byron Division	RVCP	MRB
7.	Ballina Flotilla	AVCGA	SARCC MRU Cat(3) 068/AUSFC90095B020

Legend: AVCGA – Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association
RVCP – Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol
VRA – Volunteer Rescue Association Inc
MAC – Police Marine Area Command
LAC – Police Local Area Command

Cat(1) – Smooth waters, partially smooth waters, enclosed waters & bars.
(Within a limit of 0.5 nm seaward)
Cat(2) – Restricted Offshore. (Within a limit of 7 nm seaward)
Cat(3) – Offshore. (Within a limit of 15 nm seaward)

SARCC – Search & Rescue Coordination Centre
MRU – Marine Rescue Unit
MRB – Marine Radio Base

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>NORTHERN RIVERS DISTRICT (continued)</i>			
9.	Evans Head Flotilla	AVCGA	MRB MRU Cat(3) 072/AUKEV80172E298
10.	Iluka/Yamba Flotilla	AVCGA	SARCC MRU Cat(3) 075/CG17N
12.	Wooli Rescue Squad	VRA	MRB MRU Cat(2) 070/VRS016N
13.	Ballina Lighthouse & Lismore Surf Life Saving Club	SLSA	Ministerial Limited. Ballina Bar Operation only. MRU Cat(1) 071/SR900N Surf Rescue Jet Boat



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>MID NORTH COAST DISTRICT</i>			
14.	Woolgoolga Sea Rescue Inc	VRA	MRB MRU Cat(2) 041/22117
15.	Coffs Harbour Division	RVCP	SARCC MRU Cat(2) 114/TBA
16.	Coffs Harbour Police	NSW Police MAC	MRB MRU Cat(2) & (3)
17.	Trial Bay Division	RVCP	SARCC MRU Cat(1) 048/22262 Cat(3) 047/44-011
18.	Port Macquarie Sea Rescue Inc	VRA	SARCC MRU Cat(1) 044/RescueN Cat(1) 045/DuckieN Cat(3) 046/21887
19.	Camden Haven Sea Rescue Squad Inc	VRA	MRB MRU Cat(3) 043/25881
20.	Crowdy Harrington Division	RVCP	MRB
21.	Forster Tuncurry Division	RVCP	SARCC MRU Cat(2) 049/18944
81.	Nambucca River Marine Rescue Inc.	VRA	MRU Cat(2) 042/VCP6N



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>HUNTER – CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT</i>			
24.	Port Stephens Flotilla	AVCGA	MRB MRU Cat(2) 006/AUWWA128695F64
25.	Port Stephens Division	RVCP	SARCC MRU Cat(2) 024/22281 Cat(3) 025/5209
26.	Port Stephens Police	NSW Police MAC	MRU Cat(2) & Cat(3)
27.	Newcastle Police	NSW Police MAC	MRU Cat(2)
28.	Lake Macquarie Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(1) 023/CP63N Cat(2) 022/CP98N Cat(1) 021/CP187N Cat(2) 020/CP40N
29.	Swansea Flotilla	AVCGA	SARCC MRU Cat(1) 019/AUWWA021430BL6 Cat(2) 018/AUWWA032918BZN
30.	Norah Head Search & Rescue Boat Club Inc	AVCGA	MRB MRU Cat(2) 017/Norah 9N Cat(2) 016/Norah1N



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>HUNTER – CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT (continued)</i>			
31.	Central Coast Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(2) 015/CP2000N Cat(1) 014/CP20N
32.	Terrigal Division	RVCP	MRB
33.	Terrigal Sea Rescue Service Inc	AVCGA	MRB MRU Cat(3) 011/92242308 Cat(1) 012/AUWAV03000H000
34.	Brisbane Waters (Woy Woy) Police	Brisbane Waters Police LAC	MRU Cat(2) 026/18716
35.	Hawkesbury River Rescue Inc.	VRA	MRB MRU Cat(1) 010/VRS014N Cat (2) 009/VRS013N
36.	Hawkesbury River Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(1) 008/CP7N
80.	Tuggerah Lakes Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(1) 013/CP105N
82.	Newcastle Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat (2) 007/21631



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>SYDNEY NORTH DISTRICT</i>			
37.	Brooklyn Police	Ku-ring-gai Police LAC	MRU Cat(2) 100/17818
38.	Ku-Ring-Gai Flotilla	AVCGA	MRB MRU Cat(3) 102/AUSFC90110J020 Cat(2) 101/CG18N
39.	Broken Bay Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(2) 107/CP35N Cat (2) 109/CP751N Cat(1) 108/CP74
40.	Broken Bay Police	NSW Police MAC	MRU Cat(2) & (3)
41.	Sydney Command – Terrey Hills Division	RVCP	MRB
42.	Sydney Division – The Spit	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(3) 104/52-11N Cat(1) 103/B554 Cat(1) 106/CP007N Cat(2) 105/44-007N



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>SYDNEY EAST DISTRICT</i>			
43.	Port Jackson Police	NSW Police MAC	SARCC MRU Cat(3) 084/WPV11 Cat(3) 093/WPV12 Cat(3) 076/WPV21 Cat(3) 077/WPV22 Cat(3) 078/WPV23 Cat(3) 086WPV24 Cat(3) 094/WPV25 Cat(3) 085/WPV26 Cat(3) 079/WPV27 Cat(3) 080/WPV31 Cat(3) 081/WPV32 Cat(3) 082/WPV33 Cat(2) 083/WPV40 Cat(2) 087/WPV41 Cat(2) 088/WPV42 Cat(2) 089/WPV43 Cat(2) 090/WPV44 Cat(2) 091/WPV45 Cat(2) 092/WPV46 Cat(2) 095/WPV47 Cat(2) 096/WPV48 Cat(2) 097/WPV49
45.	Port Jackson Flotilla (South Head Signal Station)	AVCGA	MRB
<i>SYDNEY MID WEST DISTRICT</i>			
44.	Port Jackson Flotilla (Birkenhead Point)	AVCGA	MRB MRU Cat(2) 099/AUMBA00615J101 Cat(2) 098/AUMBA00648G404



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>GEORGES RIVER DISTRICT</i>			
47.	Botany Bay Division	RVCP	SARCC MRU Cat(3) 0003/44003N
48.	Botany Bay Flotilla	AVCGA	MRU Cat(2) 110/AUMBA00640D303
49.	Botany Bay Police	NSW Police MAC	MRB MRU Cat(3), Cat(2) & Cat (1)
50.	Solander Division Flotilla	AVCGA	MRB
51.	Port Hacking Flotilla	AVCGA	MRU Cat(2) 002/AUMBA00647D404
52.	Botany Bay (Cronulla) Police	NSW Police MAC	MRU Cat(2)
77.	Botany Bay Air Services Australia	ASA	MRU Cat(1) 004/55871 Cat(1) 005/54375



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>ILLAWARRA DISTRICT</i>			
53.	Bellambi Flotilla	AVCGA	MRU Cat(2) 027/ACWWA077462C00
54.	Wollongong Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(3) 040/CP778N
55.	Port Kembla Flotilla	AVCGA	SARCC
56.	Port Kembla Police	NSW Police MAC	MRU Cat(3) & Cat (2)
57.	Lake Illawarra Flotilla	AVCGA	MRU Cat(1) 112/CG20N Cat (1) 113/AUHDLVP593G898
58.	Shellharbour Flotilla	AVCGA	MRU Cat(2) 035/ACWWA077462C00
60.	Nowra Police	Shoalhaven Police LAC	MRU Cat(1) 029/50491
61.	Jervis Bay Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(3) 039/43001 Cat(1) 038/CP41N
63.	Shoalhaven Marine Rescue Association	VRA	SARCC MRU Cat(3) 036/SMRA8N Cat(3) 037/SA24N



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>ILLAWARRA DISTRICT (continued)</i>			
64.	Sussex Inlet Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(2) 033/JE768N Cat(1) 032/56017
65.	Ulladulla Division	RVCP	SARCC MRU Cat(2) 031/22209 Cat(3) 030/44006N
79.	Kioloa Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(2) 028/CP27N



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>MONARO DISTRICT</i>			
66.	Batemans Bay Division	RVCP	SARCC MRU Cat(3) 061/44014N Cat(2) 059/CP200N Cat(1) 060/CP83N
67.	Batemans Bay Police	Far South Coast LAC	MRU Cat(2)
68.	Moruya Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(2) 058/JN986N
69.	Tuross Rescue Squad Inc.	VRA	MRB MRU Cat(1) 056/VRS015N Cat(1) 111/ACF41N Cat(1) 057/TSO4N
70.	Narooma Rescue Squad Inc	VRA	MRU Cat(1) 053/VRS619N Cat(1) BM 054/683N
71.	Narooma Division	RVCP	SARCC MRU Cat(3) 052/44-004
73.	Bermagui Flotilla	AVCGA	SARCC MRU Cat(2) 051/70005



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>MONARO DISTRICT (continued)</i>			
74.	Merimbula Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(2) 050/CP9N
75.	Eden Division	RVCP	SARCC
76.	Eden Police	NSW Police MAC	MRU Cat(2)



STATE RESCUE BOARD

OF

NEW SOUTH WALES

CHAPTER THREE

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

RESCUE OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

OBJECTIVE ONE

To control and coordinate the rescue agencies in connection with rescue operations

IDENTIFY THE NEED FOR AND RECOMMEND THE ACCREDITATION OF RESCUE UNITS THROUGHOUT THE STATE

The Board, with the support of District Rescue Committees, makes recommendations to the Minister regarding rescue accreditations in accordance with the established protocols for the accreditation of rescue units.

During the period one general land rescue unit was accredited with primary status and the accreditation of one primary general land rescue unit was revoked. Two existing primary units were accredited for vertical rescue.

Also during the period one Marine Rescue Unit had its accreditation raised from Category 1 to Category 2, and another Marine Rescue Unit had its accreditation revised from Category 1 and Category 2 to Category 2 only. One Marine Radio Base had its accreditation raised to a Search and Rescue Coordination Centre level.

In conjunction with the Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of New South Wales, the Board completed an inspection of all accredited marine rescue units, search and rescue coordination centres and marine radio bases.

At the conclusion of the reporting period there were 195 primary and 130 secondary rescue units accredited for land rescue in NSW (of which 96 were accredited for Vertical Rescue), along with 64 Marine Rescue Units, 19 Maritime Search and Rescue Coordination Centres and 33 Marine Radio Bases.

DEVELOP AND PROMULGATE STATE RESCUE POLICIES

A complete review of the State Rescue Policy was conducted on behalf of the Board by Major General B W Howard AO ESM MC, and submitted to the Chairman on 20 April 2005 following extensive consultation with stakeholders. General Howard included a proposed revised State Rescue Policy as part of his Report and this was considered by the Board.

On the recommendation of the Board, the Minister approved the 3rd Edition of the State Rescue Policy on 19 January 2006.

DEVELOP STANDING ORDERS, INSTRUCTIONS AND STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURES

In 2001 the State Rescue Board, in conjunction with the VMRC, developed SRB Standing Operating Procedures for Marine Rescue Units. These were promulgated to all District Rescue Committees, accredited marine rescue units and appropriate local Police and Police communication centres.

DEVELOP LIAISON LINKS WITH ALL RESCUE AGENCIES

The following sub-committees are established:

- Training Policy Committee;
 - Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of NSW;
 - 18 District Rescue Committees;
 - 105 Local Rescue Committees; and
 - District Marine Advisory Sub-Committees in the Northern Rivers, Mid North Coast, Hunter, Illawarra and Monaro Emergency Management Districts.
-

ESTABLISH INTERSTATE LIAISON WITH RESCUE ORGANISATIONS

Liaison has been established with appropriate agencies in the Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia. In addition, liaison is maintained with Air Services Australia and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

MONITOR RESCUE RESPONSE ARRANGEMENTS

In accordance with the State Rescue Policy, District Rescue Committees include representatives from relevant agency Control Facilities. District Rescue Committees monitor rescue response arrangements and resolve minor issues regarding rescue operations in their areas of responsibility.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Performance Audit conducted by the Auditor General further work has been undertaken to gather additional information relating to responses by accredited land rescue units. Assessing this additional information will allow advisory performance standards to be set. This process is ongoing.

MONITOR ACCREDITED RESCUE UNIT PERFORMANCE

Performance by accredited land and marine rescue units is monitored by the respective committees.

The Productivity Commission has been recording data on road crash rescues in the Emergency Management chapter of the Report on Government services since 2003.

The agencies are reporting to the Board on the following criteria:

- Date and time of call out,
- Location of incident,
- Was unit called-off,
- Was extrication performed, and
- The elapsed time at the incident.

For the year 2005/2006 the rescue agencies reported 6,358 instances where rescue units were responded to road accidents. Of these 4,073 responses involved the units performing extrications.

The rescue agencies maintain a register of current and competent rescue operators and provide those details to the Board on a twice yearly basis in accordance with Section 57 of the Act.

The numbers of Registered Land Rescue Operators by Service at the end of the period were:

SERVICE	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
NSW Police Service	137	98	105
Ambulance Service of NSW	211	185	189
NSW Fire Brigades	2051	2056	1822
State Emergency Service	918	898	840
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	597	429	429
TOTAL:.....	3914	3666	3385

The numbers of Registered Marine Rescue Operators by Service at the end of the period were:

SERVICE	2003/4	2004/05	2005/06
NSW Water Police	118	138	140
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association Inc	530	485	489
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol	840	874	871
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	341	329	331
Others	32	36	30
TOTAL:.....	1861	1862	1861

RECOMMEND CHANGES TO ACCREDITATION FOR RESCUE UNITS TO PARTICIPATE IN RESCUE OPERATIONS

Rescue accreditations are reviewed annually by Rescue Committees. The following table details the number of accredited land and marine rescue units at the end of the reporting period.

ACCREDITED RESCUE UNITS	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
General Land Rescue Units	326	325	325
Vertical Land Rescue Units	92	94	96
Marine Search & Rescue Coordination Centres	20	18	19
Marine Radio Bases	32	34	33
Marine Rescue Units	65	64	64

**OBJECTIVE
TWO****To ensure the maintenance of efficient and effective
rescue services throughout the State.****ESTABLISH DISTRICT AND LOCAL RESCUE COMMITTEES**

Eighteen District and 105 Local Rescue Committees are established. During the year the Board approved of the disbandment of the Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee which was replaced by six District Committees aligning with the existing Emergency Management Districts.

Police Commanders with responsibilities for marine rescue have also established Maritime Rescue Advisory Sub-Committees. These are currently established in the Northern Rivers, Mid North Coast, Hunter – Central Coast, Illawarra and Monaro Emergency Management Districts.

**REVIEW DISTRICT AND LOCAL RESCUE COMMITTEE REPORTS AND
ACTIONS**

District Rescue Committee Minutes and Reports are reviewed by the Board Secretariat.

**EVALUATE THE LEVEL OF SKILLS NEEDED FOR RESCUE PERSONNEL
TO DETERMINE THE TRAINING STANDARDS REQUIRED**

The skill levels of Rescue Instructors, Assessors and Operators are now administered by the rescue agencies in accordance with the Australian Qualifications Framework. These skill levels are encapsulated in the Public Safety Training Package.

**DEVELOP TRAINING STANDARDS TO MEET THE TRAINING SKILLS
REQUIREMENTS**

The Board has endorsed competency based training as the system by which land and marine rescue operators at all levels will be assessed for registration purposes. The training standards for general land rescue have been developed in consultation with industry representatives. All agencies have accepted the package as the basis for the standards required by the Board.

The training standards for marine rescue have been reviewed by the VMRC. The Board's marine rescue training package has been developed and is completed and is being introduced following the allocation of an additional \$500,000 to support its implementation.

An inter- agency agreement between the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association and the NSW Volunteer Rescue Association will see the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association becoming the Registered Training Organisation responsible for the delivery of training to the marine units of the NSW Volunteer Rescue Association.

DEVELOP TRAINING PACKAGES

The following training packages and material have been distributed to accredited units, registered operators and rescue agencies:

- General Motors Emergency Service Bulletin Booklet concerning the safety arrangements for *Air Bags*.
 - 5700 copies of a Federal Office of Road Safety publication on Supplementary Restraint Systems.
 - Australian Defence Force Publication *Military Aircraft Accident Sites – Safety Guidelines for Emergency Services Personnel*.
 - NSW Police Publication *NSW Emergency Services Organizations*.
 - Board video on the Brifen Safety Fence.
 - Video *Working Safely with Aircraft*.
 - Electrical Awareness Safety Package.
 - Reference notes relating to Procedures of the Coroner’s Court.
 - SRB Marine Standing Operating Procedures.
 - Urban Search & Rescue Category 1 compact discs.
 - US Emergency Services Response to September 11 Attack compact discs and video.
 - Public Safety Training Package compact discs.
 - Maritime Training Package compact discs.
 - Hybrid vehicle package compact disc.
-

ARRANGE AND CONDUCT RESCUE TRAINING

Rescue agencies are responsible for the conduct of rescue operator training in accordance with the minimum standard endorsed by the Board.

MONITOR RESCUE TRAINING STANDARDS

Training standards are now administered by the agencies in accordance with the Australian Qualifications Framework.

RECOMMEND AMENDMENTS TO LEGISLATION

There were no recommended changes to the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act, 1989* considered by the Board during the period.

DEVELOP AND DISTRIBUTE APPROPRIATE RESCUE PUBLICATIONS

Rescue publications, safety and training publications and videos are continually being developed and distributed to rescue agencies and rescue units as required.

See also section – “Develop Training Packages”.

DETERMINE AND RECOMMEND ON RESCUE EQUIPMENT STANDARDS AND NEEDS

Minimum equipment lists for primary and secondary land rescue units and equipment lists for maritime rescue units have been developed and incorporated in standing operating procedures.

RECOMMEND ON LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO VOLUNTEER ORGANISATIONS.

Recommendations were made to the Minister resulting in the provision of \$1.2 million to the NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc for distribution to its accredited land rescue units.

The funds for the marine rescue units were disbursed according to arrangements agreed between the Board and the NSW Maritime Authority and incorporated in a Memorandum of Agreement between those bodies. The allocation for this financial year included an additional \$52,000 provided to account for movement in the consumer price index in previous years.

NSW Maritime approved an increase in funding of \$500,000 per annum to meet the costs of introducing and administering competency based training. The grant was made late in the financial year and has yet to be distributed to the agencies.

The amount allocated to each organisation is shown below. It incorporates a significant proportion for the replacement of rescue vessels to conform to the standards set out by the NSW Maritime Authority.

ORGANIZATION	AMOUNT ALLOCATED FY 2005/06
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	\$179,935
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol	\$352,897
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association Inc	\$259,484
TOTAL	\$792,316

**STATE RESCUE BOARD
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES**

CHAPTER FOUR

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT RESCUE OPERATIONS**

OVERVIEW OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT RESCUE ARRANGEMENTS AND RESOURCES

In accordance with Section 48 A of the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act, District Rescue Committees are established in the Central West, Far West, Hunter, Illawarra, Mid North Coast, Monaro, Murray, Northern Rivers, Peel, Riverina, Southern Highlands and Western Slopes Emergency Management Districts.

Previously, a Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee was established with responsibilities for all Police Districts within the area served by Police Radio (VKG) Sydney. The Board resolved in November 2005 that the Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee should be disbanded and replaced by six District Rescue Committees serving the existing metropolitan emergency management districts. They are Georges River, Sydney East, Sydney Mid West, Sydney North, Sydney South West and Western Sydney.

Each District Rescue Committee is chaired by the relevant District Emergency Operations Controller and comprises senior representatives of the emergency services organizations operating within the district.

The District Rescue Committees are required to meet quarterly unless arranged otherwise. Their functions reflect those of the State Rescue Board at Emergency Management District level and are set out in the State Rescue Policy. The functions are to:

- Implement the policy directions of the State Rescue Board within the District.
- Make recommendations to the State Rescue Board on policy matters relating to rescue.
- Coordinate and review planning for rescue within the District.
- Provide guidance and direction to Local Rescue Committees established within the District.
- Produce and disseminate standing orders and instructions and standing operating procedures for rescue operations.
- Make recommendations to the State Rescue Board on the accreditation of rescue units (both permanent and volunteer) for participation in rescue operations.
- Identify and arrange for training in those Local Rescue Committee areas pertinent to local rescue requirements.
- Conduct training exercises in rescue operations.
- Make recommendations to the State Rescue Board on any matter referred by the Board.

DISTRIBUTION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT RESCUE RESOURCES

Emergency Management District	Local Rescue Committees	Primary Land Rescue Units	Secondary Land Rescue Units	Marine Rescue Units	Search & Rescue Coordination Centre	Marine Radio Bases
Central West	9	15	12	Nil	Nil	Nil
Far West	6	9	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Hunter – Central Coast	10	18	5	14	2	10
Illawarra	3	6	4	11	3	4
Mid North Coast	8	16	14	8	4	4
Monaro	6	13	8	9	4	3
Murray	12	15	12	Nil	Nil	Nil
Northern Rivers	7	11	19	9	4	4
Peel	12	24	17	Nil	Nil	Nil
Riverina	12	15	9	Nil	Nil	Nil
Southern Highlands	10	12	7	Nil	Nil	Nil
Western Slopes	9	19	14	Nil	Nil	Nil
Georges River	Nil	2	Nil	6	1	2
Sydney East	Nil	1	1	1	1	1
Sydney Mid West	Nil	1	Nil	1	Nil	1
Sydney North	Nil	5	Nil	5	Nil	4
Sydney South West	1	5	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Western Sydney	Nil	8	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	105	195	130	64	19	33

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE DISTRICT RESCUE COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The District Rescue Committees and where applicable their associated Marine Rescue Advisory Sub-Committees continue to provide valuable input into the considerations of the Board. The work of the District Marine Inspection Teams continues to provide a valuable input to the units and the considerations of the District Rescue Committees and the VMRC.

A number of District Rescue Committees report the ongoing desirability for rescue units of all Services to undertake joint training. The Board strongly endorses the concept of combined rescue training being undertaken and encourages District Rescue Committees to consider this aspect during the conduct of district rescue exercises. Funding support for these activities is available from the Board's allocation of funds for cross agency training.

The Board is satisfied that the revised District Rescue Committee structure set up during the reporting period will provide a more rigorous assessment of the effectiveness of the rescue arrangements in the Sydney Metropolitan area.

DISTRICT RESCUE COMMITTEES

Central West District

Nine Local Rescue Committees are established: Bathurst, Blayney, Cabonne, Cowra, Forbes, Lachlan, Oberon, Orange City and Parkes. These committees met on three occasions with the exception of Cabonne and Oberon which only met twice.

The District Rescue Committee met on four occasions at Dubbo. These meetings were held in conjunction with the Western Slopes and Far West District Committees. The Police, Ambulance and Fire Service communication centres, which service the western areas of NSW, were represented at these meetings.

There were no changes to the accreditations in the District during the reporting period.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Far West District

Six Local Rescue Committees are established: Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Cobar, Central Darling and a Broken Hill City/ Unincorporated area. The District Committee has also begun servicing the Wentworth local committee pending its formal transfer to the Far West District. The local committees were scheduled to meet on four occasions but the Cobar Committee met on only three occasions and the Broken Hill and Central Darling Committees only twice. The South Australia / NSW rescue based “Barrier Highway Committee” met twice during the reporting period.

The District Rescue Committee met on four occasions at Dubbo. These meetings were held in conjunction with the Western Slopes District and Central West District Committees. The Police, Ambulance and Fire Service communication centres, which service the western areas of NSW, were represented at these meetings.

During the reporting period the disbandment of the Bourke Rescue Squad was formalised. The primary accreditation for the area has now been taken up by the Bourke State Emergency Service. The Bourke Fire Brigade, which performed the primary rescue function while the issue of primary accreditation was resolved, has reverted to secondary status.

The District has conducted three table-top exercises involving rail crossing incidents and two airport exercises as well as hosting the annual Tri-State conference that addresses cross border, remote area responses.

The District Committee continues to attempt to have the matter of the identification of remote area emergency aerodromes addressed.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Hunter – Central Coast District

Ten Local Rescue Committees are established; Cessnock, Dungog, Gosford, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Newcastle/Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens, Singleton, Upper Hunter and Wyong with each conducting regular meetings with respective rescue agency representatives.

A Marine Rescue Advisory Sub-Committee is also established.

The Hunter Central Coast District Rescue Committee and the Marine Rescue Advisory Sub-Committee each conducted three meetings during the reporting period.

There were no changes to accreditations in the District during the reporting period.

NSW Police Marine Area Command conducted marine accreditation sessions and a search and rescue exercise at Port Stephens in October 2005.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Illawarra District

Three Local Rescue Committees are established and working effectively in the Illawarra District. They are Kiama/ Shellharbour, Shoalhaven and Wollongong. A District Marine Rescue Advisory Sub Committee is also established and working.

The District Rescue Committee, Local Rescue Committees and the District Marine Rescue Advisory Sub Committee each conducted three meetings with excellent attendance and support from all rescue agencies.

There were no changes to accreditations in the District during the reporting period.

There was only one significant rescue operation during the period. On 5 September 2005 a tourist bus crashed near Jamberoo resulting in the death of two Chinese tourists. The operation involved accredited rescue units from Police, Ambulance Fire Brigades and SES with five helicopters. The debrief conducted after the operation indicated a very high level of cooperation and integration of operations.

The District conducted three significant multi agency rescue training activities including two marine search and rescue coordinator's courses with exercises and one combined emergency services rescue training camps.

The District Marine Inspection Team also completed its annual accreditation inspections program of all accredited District marine rescue resources, with all successfully passing.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Mid North Coast

Eight Local Rescue Committees are established: Bellingen, Coffs Harbour, Gloucester, Great Lakes, Hastings, Kempsey, Nambucca and Taree. A Marine Rescue Advisory Sub-Committee is also established. These committees generally meet formally twice per year and will meet additionally as required by notification through LEMC meetings.

The Mid North Coast District Rescue Committee met three times during the reporting period.

There were no changes to the land rescue accreditations during the reporting period. The following changes to marine rescue accreditations were approved:

- Nambucca River Marine Rescue MRU upgraded from Category 1 to Category 2, and
- Trial Bay Division RVCP MRB upgraded to SARCC following the completion of its new accommodation.

A multi agency debrief was held in July 2005 in relation to a multiple fatality motor vehicle accident at Bonville. The accident involved a Tarago and a coach carrying students on a school excursion. The major issue of media helicopters causing shards of glass to be blown about the rescue scene has been referred to the Helicopter Association.

Planning has been completed and funding approved for large scale table top exercise to be held in August 2006 at Port Macquarie. The theme will be a rail accident involving mass casualties.

A District marine rescue exercise was conducted at Port Macquarie in December 2005. The exercise involved more than 50 marine rescue personnel and five rescue vessels from the District.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Monaro District

Six Local Rescue Committees are established and operational. They are Bega Valley, Bombala, Cooma-Monaro, Eurobodalla, Snowy River and Lake George. A District Marine Rescue Advisory Sub Committee is also established and active.

The District Rescue Committee, the Local Rescue Committees and the Marine Rescue Advisory Sub Committee each met on three occasions during the reporting period with the exception of the Lake George committee which met on two occasions.

There were no changes to the accreditations in the District during the reporting period.

A multi agency cave rescue exercise was conducted at Wyanbene Caves in October 2005. The highly successful exercise was sponsored by the NSW Fire Brigades.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Murray District

Twelve Local Rescue Committees are established. They are Albury, Balranald, Berrigan, Corowa, Deniliquin-Conargo, Greater Hume, Jerilderie, Murray, Tumbarumba, Urana, Wakool and Wentworth. The majority of local committees met on only two occasions during the reporting period with the lack of appointed LEOCONs hampering the conduct of more regular meetings. However the Corowa, Tumbarumba and Wentworth committees met on four occasions and the Deniliquin /Conargo committee on three.

The Albury Local Rescue Committee has been heavily involved during the construction of the Albury/Wodonga freeway and met on eight occasions.

There is consideration being given to varying the local committee structure by combining some of the committees to allow more regular meetings to be conducted. It is anticipated that the Wentworth Committee will be transferred to the Far West District in the near future.

The District Rescue Committee held three meetings during the reporting period at Deniliquin and Tocumwal.

The Oaklands SES has indicated that it is unable to meet its accreditation requirements and the revocation of its accreditation has been recommended. The area is being serviced by Urana SES, Corowa/Rutherglen Search and Rescue Squad and Culcairn SES.

The Murray and Riverina Districts conducted a multi agency rescue training workshop at Deniliquin in March of 2006. The workshop was funded by the State Rescue Board and had some 70 participants from as far a field as Wentworth, Hay, West Wyalong and Tumbarumba. The workshop covered items that may not normally be covered in some training activities and other areas of interest to rescue team members. The workshop was held at the NSW Fire Brigades Training Centre at Deniliquin. The use of the centre was donated by the NSW Fire Brigades.

The SES also received funding to conduct a combined Murray Riverina Flood Rescue Boat Training Workshop at Mulwala. Flood boat teams from both districts and from SES and VRA were involved. Police, Maritime NSW, Australian Volunteer Coast Guard and Victoria SES also participated.

Some local Rescue Committees also received funding for local rescue training and exercises. (Corowa, Berrigan, Albury and Greater Hume).

The DEOCON is satisfied with the arrangements and rescue coverage in the Murray District.

Northern Rivers District

Seven Local Rescue Committees are established: Ballina, Byron Shire, Richmond Valley, Lismore, Kyogle, Clarence Valley and Tweed Heads. A Marine Rescue Advisory Sub-Committee is also established.

The District Rescue Committee and the Marine Advisory Sub Committee met on three occasions over the reporting period.

The position of District Emergency Management Officer was vacant for the majority of the reporting period. Assistance was provided by the Mid North Coast District.

The District Emergency Operations Controller has given direction to the Police Communications Centre in relation to call outs in the west of the Ballina Shire. The direction requires the nearest Rescue Unit, regardless of the level of accreditation, to be responded. This will involve the secondary accredited unit, the NSW Fire Brigade from Alstonville, being jointly responded with the primary unit, the Ballina SES.

Issues concerning the location of response vehicles of the Brunswick Valley and Tweed District Rescue Squads caused the State Rescue Board to conduct a review of the assets in the area. The report is due to be considered by the Board in August 2006.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Peel District

At present there are 12 Local Rescue Committees: Armidale Dumaresq/Uralla, Glen Innes Severn, Gunnedah, Gwydir, Guyra, Inverell, Liverpool Plains, Moree, Narrabri, Tamworth, Tenterfield and Walcha.

The District Rescue Committee met on four occasions during the reporting period.

During the year the Tamworth Ambulance gained accreditation for vertical rescue.

Other than the many MVA rescue incidents carried out through the year across the District, there were no major incidents requiring a coordinated multi agency response.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Riverina District

Twelve Local Rescue Committees are established and function for the Bland, Carrathool, Coolamon, Griffith, Hay, Junee, Leeton, Lockhart, Murrumbidgee, Narrandera, Temora and Wagga Wagga local government areas. Committees met on a regular basis with the exception of Murrumbidgee which only met on one occasion during the reporting period.

The Riverina District Rescue Committee met on four occasions over the reporting period and was supported by all agencies. The Ambulance Rescue at Wagga Wagga received accreditation for vertical rescue.

Rescue units took part in the joint Riverina Murray District multi agency rescue training workshop conducted at Deniliquin in March of 2006. The workshop was funded by the State Rescue Board and had some 70 participants from across both Emergency Management Districts. The workshop covered items that may not normally be covered in some training activities and other areas of interest to rescue team members. The workshop was held at the NSW Fire Brigades Training Centre at Deniliquin.

The Murrumbidgee Division of the SES received SRB multi agency training funding to conduct a combined Murray Riverina Flood Rescue Boat Training Workshop at Mulwala. Flood boat teams from both districts and coming from SES and VRA were involved. Police, Maritime NSW, Australian Volunteer Coast Guard and Victoria SES also participated.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Southern Highlands District

Ten Local Rescue Committees are established and working in the Southern Highland District. They are Boorowa, Cootamundra, Goulburn Mulwaree, Gundagai, Harden, Tumut, Upper Lachlan, Weddin, Yass Valley, and Young.

The District Rescue Committee met on four occasions.

There have been no changes to the accreditations in the District during the reporting period.

A major multi agency rescue camp was conducted at Laurel Hill in the weekend 26/27 May 2006.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Western Slopes District

There are nine Local Rescue Committees established within the District. These committees are based on the following Council areas: Coonamble, Dubbo City, Gilgandra, Mid Western Regional (Mudgee), Narromine, Warren, Warrumbungles (Coonabarabran), Walgett and Wellington.

The District Rescue Committee met on four occasions at Dubbo in conjunction with the Central West and Far West District Committees. Representatives from the Police (Tamworth), Ambulance (Dubbo) and Fire Service (Katoomba) communication centres that service the western areas of NSW attend these meetings on a regular basis.

The District has implemented a formal reporting system between the Local and District Rescue Committees, with an emphasis on current numbers of Rescue Operators within the Accredited Rescue Units.

The prolonged drought, and its impact upon communities, continues to impact upon the volunteer membership within emergency service agencies. Joint call-out arrangements between the Volunteer Rescue Association and the NSW Fire Brigades remain in place at both Warren and Coolah. The Volunteer Rescue Association - Mendooran Rescue Unit continues to receive back-up support from adjoining accredited rescue units. These joint call-out and back-up arrangements have been implemented to ensure that there is an adequate and timely rescue service within these areas.

A major Public Order Management Exercise (Exercise Aroona), involving all rescue and emergency services agencies was conducted in November 2005 at the NSW Fire Brigades Wellington Training Centre. The NSW Police sponsored exercise provided the opportunity for rescue units and emergency service agencies to work in a challenging environment involving the deployment of specialised Police operatives and equipment. This Exercise has been credited as being one of the major factors for the successful management of the 2006 New Year disturbance at Dubbo.

During the year Rescue Units and Rescue Operators attended numerous multi fatality motor vehicle incidents, especially in the Dubbo area over the Christmas / New Year period.

All Rescue Units and emergency service agencies continue to work closely and cooperatively with each other. This provides the foundation for the effective rescue arrangements that exist within the District.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee

This committee was disbanded during the reporting period and was replaced by six District Rescue Committees based on the existing Emergency Management Districts established in the Sydney Metropolitan area.

Georges River District

The District Committee was established following the disbandment of the Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee. There are no local rescue committees in the District.

The Committee only met once in the reporting period where an application for secondary accreditation for the Bundeena Fire Brigade was considered. Action was deferred to the next meeting.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Sydney East District

The District Committee was established following the disbandment of the Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee. There are no local rescue committees in the District. The Committee only met once in the reporting period.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Sydney Mid West District

The District Committee was established following the disbandment of the Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee. There are no local rescue committees in the District.

There is only one accredited land rescue unit in the District. The Committee has yet to meet.

Sydney North District

The District Committee was established following the disbandment of the Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee. There are no local rescue committees in the District.

The Committee only met once in the reporting period.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Sydney South West District

The District Committee was established following the disbandment of the Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee.

There is one local rescue committee at Wingecarribee in the District. The Committee met on four occasions during the reporting period.

The District Committee only met once in the reporting period.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

Western Sydney District

The District Committee was established following the disbandment of the Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee. There are no local rescue committees in the District.

The Committee only met once in the reporting period.

The District Emergency Operations Controller is satisfied with the existing rescue arrangements.

**STATE RESCUE BOARD
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES**

CHAPTER FIVE

**BOARD SECRETARIAT
SERVICES**

THE STAFF OF THE STATE RESCUE BOARD

- Mr B Goodes Secretary
 - Mr AW Kaine Assistant Secretary
- Mr Kain resigned in April 2006. The position remains vacant at the end of the reporting period.
- Mr J Rossi Support Officer Marine
 - Mrs A Raiti Support Officer Land

Mrs Raiti was deployed to other duties in the Office for Emergency Services in December 2005 following the decision that agencies should maintain the records of registered operators rather than the Board. The position has been reclassified and will provide assistance in training administration to the Board and the State Emergency Management Committee.

The Secretariat, which forms part of the Office for Emergency Services, provides the executive support to the State Rescue Board.

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Personnel and Staffing

The equivalent full-time (EFT) staff as at the 30 June 2006 was two.

Consequently the profile of the combined staff is as follows:

- a. Management 1
- b. Land and Marine Rescue Accreditation 1

Mandatory reporting detail in relation to the staff is included in the Annual Report of the NSW Rural Fire Service which provides administrative support to the Office for Emergency Services.

CONSULTANTS

IAB Services were retained to provide preliminary advice on the recommendations of the Audit Office relating to the collection of operational and financial data and the audit of units.

PUBLICATIONS

The following publications have been produced and are available at the Board:

1. State Rescue Policy (3rd Edition – 2006);
 2. State Rescue Board Exercise Management Guide;
 3. State Rescue Board Supplementary Restraint Systems (SRS) Air Bags;
 4. State Rescue Board Marine Standing Operating Procedures.
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FINANCE

Funding for the Board is provided through the budget of the NSW Rural Fire Service. Financial details are included as part of the Financial Statement in the Annual Report of that Service.

CONTACT DETAILS

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