

State Rescue Board Meeting Communiqué

5 December 2013

The State Rescue Board held its 110th meeting on Thursday 5 December 2013.

Rescue Accreditation Changes

The Board was presented with a number of changes to rescue accreditation.

On 20 November 2012, the Minister endorsed the pre accreditation of Marine Rescue Alpine Lakes as a category 1 marine rescue unit. At the meeting on 5 December 2013, the Board was advised that the unit is now trained according to State Rescue Board standards. The Board subsequently endorsed the permanent accreditation of the unit.

The NSW State Emergency Service advised the Board that 71 units meet the requirements for level 3 flood rescue accreditation. The Board endorsed the accreditation of all 71 units.

The Board endorsed the Wollongong City State Emergency Service for vertical rescue accreditation.

The Board also endorsed the request to withdraw the general land rescue accreditation of Nabic State Emergency Service. The area previously serviced by Nabic State Emergency Service will now be covered by Bulahdelah Volunteer Rescue Association, Taree Volunteer Rescue Association and Fire & Rescue Forster.

In accordance with the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989*, the Board will recommend each of the accreditation changes to the Minister.

Interstate Rescue Arrangements

Under section 58 of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989*, the State Rescue Board may make arrangements with any agency which manages or controls inter state rescue units for those rescue units to carry out rescue operations in NSW.

At the meeting, the Board considered a request from the South Eastern Regional Rescue Committee for ACT Fire & Rescue to operate in NSW. The Australian Capital

Territory is serviced by a number of highways and roads that enter from NSW. When incidents occur on these roads, ACT Fire & Rescue may be required to respond into NSW to assist or perform a rescue.

The request was endorsed by the Board. The relevant Local Rescue Committees will now undertake a review of the rescue arrangements incorporating ACT Fire & Rescue.

Vertical Rescue Service Delivery Model Report

The State Rescue Board requested that a comprehensive, risk management based analysis and review of vertical rescue be undertaken in NSW. To support this process a Vertical Rescue Service Delivery Model template was developed and completed by all local rescue committees, where established, or regional rescue committees in NSW. The outcomes of the submissions were compiled into a final report and presented to the Board at the meeting. The Board endorsed the report.

The vertical rescue accreditation of Wollongong City State Emergency Service was an outcome of the Vertical Rescue Service Delivery Model.

State Rescue Board Annual Report 2012-2013

At the meeting, the Board endorsed the State Rescue Board Annual Report 2012-2013. The Annual Report will be presented to the Minister in accordance with section 49A of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989*.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 6 March 2014.