

Exercise Evaluation Report

Exercise Overdue

Location: Waikato District
Whitianga

Date: 18 & 19 November 2022

*Report
version:* FINAL

Evaluator(s): Vince Ranger
Tauranga LandSAR

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Executive Summary

This was a very successful exercise.

It identified several shortcomings, particularly of the responsibilities of respective function managers within the IMT.

That aside it demonstrated collectively and sound knowledge base of Marine Search and Rescue.

The exercise demonstrated the ability for the participating organisations to work together and has opened the opportunity for individual Coastguard Units and Surf Lifesaving clubs to train together.

The exercise was supported by RCCNZ who sent two SAR Officers to participate. Their knowledge and experience greatly assisted the IMT throughout the exercise. They were a great source of advice and direction to the IMT.

The exercise was well supported by the Waikato Police Squad in attendance; however, it would have been a great opportunity for a representative of the district leadership team to attend and demonstrate support to both the Police SAR squad and their SAR partners.

The exercise demonstrated very sound SAR search techniques by both the Coastguard Units and the Surf Lifesaving crews.

Recommendations

(1)

To involve RCCNZ Sar Operators in a support role in all District Marine SAREXs

See comments in findings, General

(2)

*To evaluate the Information IT system for operational radio logs and function logs, as developed and used by Whitianga Coastguard .
(Contact Graham CADDY)*

See comments in findings and conclusions Objective 4

(3)

To hold a district IMTEX (Marine) to develop and enhance the knowledge and practice of CIMS, SAR management and SAR practice.

See comments in Findings and Conclusion objectives 2,3 and 4.

(4)

To create an NZSAR IMT form-set laminated and AO size to display in the ICP. The Action Plan, Information Collection Plan, Missing Persons Summary. Marine SAR Units, Sitrep Form, Found Item Register.

See findings and Conclusions Objective 4

(5)

To encourage local coastguard units and local Surf Lifesaving clubs to hold regular joint training

See findings and conclusions Objective 5

(6)

To modify the purpose built ICP at Whitianga to separate the radio operators to a room adjacent to but in close vicinity.

See findings and conclusions General.

(7)

To consider changing the name of “On Scene Command” to “On scene Coordinator”

See Findings. General

Introduction

Exercise Overdue was the Waikato Police District SAREX for the eastern seaboard of the Waikato District, run contemporaneously with the Western seaboard exercise run out of Raglan.

Both exercises were held so as to not burden one exercise with the whole Police SAR Squad and to fully involve those Police members.

The exercise was planned by the Waikato Police SAR Coordinator with a planning team which included members from Coastguard both the local unit and Coastguard Eastern Region, and from Surf Lifesaving Eastern Region.

The exercise was run as a scenario-based exercise with crews responding from their home bases or from Whitianga.

The exercise was controlled from the Whitianga Coastguard base, where the ICP was set up.

The exercise controller maintained the cadence of the exercise with injects from time to time, pointing towards the search subject, or by removing assets.

The exercise was interrupted by a real time call to assist a boat. This removed one asset for a short period of time during the exercise.

Weather conditions dictated that an alternative scenario was used, bringing the search area closer to shore and more sheltered sea.

The exercise was supported with two RCCNZ personnel. Both these senior SAR controllers for RCCNZ gave advice to the IMT members and were able to supply and explain drift patterns that were developed.

Background

Background to the Exercise

The need for this was identified by the need for multi-agency training, particularly with Coastguard and Surf Lifesaving clubs and Police and to test their joint efforts in a scenario-based exercise.

This need included IMT functions as well and on water assets working together.

Dates, location, organising agency(s), key people

The exercise was held on the 18 & 19 November 2022 and run from the Whitianga Coastguard Building.

This was purpose built with the vision of having the ICP set up in this building.

The exercise was controlled by Mark HARRISON of the Waikato Police Squad and Graham Caddy from the Whitianga Coastguard Unit.

Participating organisations

The agencies involved included

-Police

-Coastguard units from Whitianga, Pauanui, and Thames. Weather and sea conditions precluded the Whangamata unit attending.

-Surf lifesaving members from Hot Water Beach, Tairua and Pauanui.

-RCCNZ

Exercise aim

To Enable a Multi-Agency IMT to work effectively together as a team.

Exercise objectives

- 1- Test the resources (eg field team, vessel) response and readiness plan*
- 2- IMT operates within the CIMS principles*
- 3- IMT operates in accordance with the CIMS model*
- 4- IMT maintains situational awareness*
- 5- SAR personnel carry out search to locate the missing party*

Exercise Scenario

SAREX OPERATION OVERDUE – SCENARIO B

At about 1100 hrs on Friday 18 November, Bob and Beverley Brown booked into the private mobile home camping facility at Simpsons Beach. The owner of the facility noted that there was a double kayak (two person sit on model) coloured blue, strapped to the top of the vehicle, brand of the kayak is not known.

During the introductions the Browns indicated that they intended to take the kayak out that afternoon and head up towards Matapaua Bay. The couple stated that they were experienced kayakers, and the trip was within their capabilities. They stated that they would be back before dark or shortly after.

The facility manager Mrs Simpson last saw the pair at about 1600 hrs that afternoon on the water paddling towards Round Island. It was thought both were wearing life jackets, but the informant is not sure on this point. The pair had not returned when Mrs Simpson did her final check around the camp at 1900 Hrs.

This morning, Saturday 19 November, at about 0745 Hrs Mrs Simpson noticed that Bob and Beverley were not at their camper and that the kayak was not in the camp or on the beach. Enquiries with other people within the camp reveal that there has been no movement around the Browns camper van overnight or early morning. Calls to the two cell phone numbers supplied by the Browns go to answerphone.

Mrs Simpson now has a real concern for the safety of Bob and Beverley.

Bob is described as a male European, aged in his middle 30's, slim build, English accent. When last seen he appeared to be wearing a black

sleeveless wet suit top with possibly a blue life jacket over the top with a floppy hat.

Beverley is described as a female of Asian descent, mid-twenties, slim build, last seen wearing a full sleeved wet suit top, pink & black, possibly a yellow life jacket and a baseball type cap.

The couple are thought to be tourists who have only been in the country for a couple of days.

All stations broadcasts have been made on VHF Channel 63 & 61. No sightings of the couple have been reported.

This was an alternative scenario and used because on inclement weather preventing operating further out to sea.

Evaluation Methodology

The agreed outcomes of the evaluation activity

It was agreed that the exercise evaluation would cover the whole exercise with the outcomes to include any shortcomings in training, experience and resources

Evaluation scope

The whole exercise is part of the evaluation. All the objectives form part of the evaluation

Aspects of the exercise observed, what was not observed

The evaluator was principally focused on the IMT and the ICP, with any comments or observations of assets based on comments made during the hot debrief.

The process followed in preparing and submitting the report

The evaluator was contacted by the Police District SAR Coordinator to evaluate this exercise and to assist with setting objectives.

It was agreed that the draft report would be submitted to him for any comments prior to the final report being submitted.

The draft report was submitted and accepted by the SAR Coordinator without any further comments.

This is the FINAL report.

Other information

The evaluator was based at the Whitianga Coastguard building throughout the exercise and observed all of the IMT functions.

The evaluator did not observe the on-water activities.

Findings

Objective 1

Test the resources (e.g., field teams, vessels) response to a readiness plan.

Other than the initial call out SOPs for the coastguard unit, no pre-plan exists for a search operation.

The SOPs exist as an initial call out and stand-by for resources and then to wait for taskings.

This was useful for that initial callout and certainly reduces the response times for units. However, it is still reliant on an IMT to formulate a plan prior to any deployment options.

Like many units around the country, there is limited operations and trainings involving both the Surf Lifesaving and Coastguard at the same time. There are no common SOPs or plan, and each relies upon their individual SOPs only.

During this exercise both organisations were involved in the IMT, with Coastguard fulfilling roles in Intel, Planning and Ops.

Surf Lifesaving were involved as liaison from the IMT to Surf Lifesaving crews and visa-versa.

There is no demobilisation plan that was referred to.

Objective 2

IMT operates within the CIMS Principals.

The principles of CIMS were largely adhered to, certainly with the responsiveness to the needs and flexibility but to a lesser extent the unity of effort, particularly within the IMT. That came about due to a lack of situational awareness between function managers and a limited consolidated plan.

Primarily this came about because of function managers becoming involved in other functions. The prime example during this exercise was the planning manager's involvement in developing a search area determination and calculating sweep widths and times for assets to complete certain tasks. Together with the planning manager doing all the tasking, the ops manager assisting the planning manager doing his calculations, the logistics manager monitoring tasked assets. All this while, no plan had been documented and no objectives having been set.

Ultimately the IMT were managing by task, and not managing by objective.

Objective 3

IMT operates in accordance with the CIMS model

Operation within the CIMS model means in effect operating in line with the CIMS characteristics.

Again, the IMT did operate within those characteristics but struggled with the consolidated planning, managing by objective, and integrated information management.

The comments relating to the previous objective are re-iterated here

Objective 4

IMT maintains situationally aware

Situational awareness was lost throughout the IMT

The Planning function manager was doing all the tasking as well as manual Search Area Determination.

At the same time Intel and Logistics function Manager was obtaining the Search Area Determination from RCCNZ.

Nobody was doing any planning. Occasionally the Incident controller modified a previous plan, but planning was not managed.

Despite IMT meetings, this led to IMT members not knowing what the other function managers knew or what they were doing.

An example being that the result of the scenario analysis, even though they participated in it, was not known to the Planning or Operations managers.

The incident controller did conduct regular meetings and it was only through these meetings that a semblance of awareness was maintained.

The IT Log system that was used is recently developed and worked very well when function managers looked at it.

The NZSAR forms were not used during the exercise. Had these been displayed it may have been easier for IMT Members to be more focused and aware of what decisions were being made and been able to maintain some situational awareness.

Objective 5

SAR personnel carry out a search to locate the missing party.

This was not observed by the evaluator, but my comments are from the comments made by on water crews during the hot de-brief.

While this scenario had no clues or subjects to locate, the on-water teams all did a good job, and all demonstrated a high degree of competency in their roles.

The Surf Lifesaving crews participated to their fullest capability and endurance.

GENERAL

The IMT was not focused on an action Plan. Nor were they focused on other functions within the IMT. This exasperated the lack of situational awareness, created information barriers and a dislocate between function managers.

This could be minimized with the use of large AO size pre-formatted NZSAR forms, including (other than the Action Plan) Information Collection Plan, Sitrep form and Marine SAR Units.

In general, I will also comment of the support from RCCNZ to this exercise with the inclusion of two staff sent as advisors for the IMT. Their respective experience in search management was a valuable tool for the IMT to refer to. It gave the IMT members for this area a far greater appreciation of the work and ability of RCCNZ SAR operators and certainly enhanced the relationship between the local Coastguard units and RCCNZ.

I make a recommendation in this report to replicate this support across as many of the District Marine SAREX's as possible.

During the initial briefing to coastguard skippers, it was necessary to fully describe the "On Scene Command" roles and responsibilities.

The name of this role seems to create confusion of its status.

This position is that of coordination and is not a command position.

Conclusions

Objective 1

Test the resource response to a readiness Plan

MET

The Coastguard unit holds a standard SOP for radio operators and duty officers in the event of the need to activate the on-water crews.

The SOP finishes at the stage that the crews are on the water, on stand-by awaiting tasking.

It still requires a tasking to be done by the duty officer, which is consistent with good practice.

No further recommendations are required in relation to this objective.

Objective 2 and Objective 3

IMT operates within CIMS principles and model

PARTLY MET

While the IMT operated mostly within the principles of CIMS, it lacked the unity of effort. This was not as a result in individual efforts during the exercise, but as a result of misunderstanding of the roles of function managers. Some of these examples are noted in my findings.

Recommendations made in respect to this objective relate to further training and practice.

Objective 4

Maintains situational awareness.

PARTLY MET

Barriers to situational awareness came about as a consequence of function managers not managing their functions. In particular the planning. The action plan was not referred to by the planning function

manager nor worked on. He was however busy doing the search area determination calculations, and taskings.

The IT system used as a log was very sound. The system was developed in Tauranga and allows both radio log and IMT function logs to be inputted. This system is worthy of consideration for other coastguard units and regions.

The use of the full NZSAR form-set was not used. The use of and displaying these forms within the ICP may have been helpful, not only to maintain IMT focus, but also to assist with situational awareness.

A recommendation in relation to training and practice in relation to function manager responsibilities and to consider the use of the IT information tool.

Objective 5

SAR personnel carry out search to locate missing party

MET

Although not observed it was apparent that the on-water crews of the coastguard and surf lifesaving crews demonstrated sound SAR practices and very sound skill levels.

A recommendation is made in respect to encouraging more local training between each organisation.

General

The ICP was noisy with radio operators and IMT members all working within the same room. This was difficult for both groups to operate, with noise from each group interfering with the others capability to focus.



MARINE SAREX – “OPERATION OVERDUE”

FRIDAY 18TH & SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2022

Introduction:

Periodically Coastguard and other Marine SAR Agencies participate in exercises that consider or simulate real life situations. The aims of these exercises are to improve Operational readiness and identify any gaps or weaknesses in the SOPs of all participating Agencies. They also clarify roles, demonstrate agency capabilities, and provide a sound training platform.

The New Zealand Police, Waikato Police SAR District, have requested that selected Coastguard Units and Surf Life Saving Squads take part in a combined SAREX to provide training for and to test the capabilities of on water Marine SAR resources to work together in a multi-agency SAR response, whilst under the direction of an Incident Management team, working within the CIMS process.

Functions to be exercised:

- Multi-Agency and intergroup coordination with the emphasise being to test the inter-capability of communications between participating SAR Agencies.
- Search and Rescue incident management
- Applying CIMS to SAR at a moderate level within a scenario-based environment.
- Coastguard Units/Surf life Saving squads and their resources.

Exercise Name:

This marine SAREX will be called “Operation Overdue” which is consistent with the SAREX scenario.

Operation Overdue:

Operation Overdue is a Marine SAREX which incorporates the activation of several Coastguard Units/Surf Life Saving squads, to respond to an on water Marine SAR Scenario. The SAR response will be coordinated by a Police Incident Controller utilising a multi-Agency IMT. It will test the IMT's ability to effectively manage the incident within the CIMS process. The on-water scenario will test the participant's ability to work together to achieve the outcomes required by the Incident Action Plan. It will also present the opportunity to identify any communication problems between the on-water resources and the IMT.

Coordinating Authority:

New Zealand Police.

Exercise writing Agency:

Coastguard NZ / Eastern.

Participating Agencies:

New Zealand Police, Coastguard NZ Eastern, Whitianga Coastguard, Tairua/Pauanui Coastguard, Whangamata Coastguard, Surf Lifesaving (To be confirmed)

Budget Provider:

New Zealand Police, Waikato SAR District / Coastguard NZ Eastern

EXERCISE COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS**Ground:**

The Incident Control Point (ICP) for this exercise will be based at the Whitianga Coastguard HQ, Dundas Street, Whitianga

The on-water scenario will be conducted in the coastal waters between Red Mercury Island and Slipper Island.

Situation:

This exercise will be conducted in two phases over a two-day period.

Phase 1: Friday 18th November 2022, 1300, Hrs

IMT Personal will assemble at the Whitianga Coastguard Unit for a SAREX briefing and tabletop exercise to refresh their CIMS training.

Phase 2: Saturday 19th of November 2022

IMT Personal will assemble at the Whitianga Coastguard Unit at 0830 Hrs.

The On water SAREX will commence at 0930 Hrs with the activation of Coastguard CRVs and Surf Squads.

The on-water assets will be coordinated by an IMT working from the designated ICP at Whitianga Coastguard HQ.

Mission:

To ascertain how effectively a multi-Agency IMT working from a centralised ICP can manage the on-water scenario of this exercise in respect to, utilizing gathered information, formulating an effective Action Plan, establishing effective communication with on water resources and coordinating and controlling the SAR response within existing SOP's.

To test how the on-water resources of multi-agencies can effectively work together to complete the tasking's assigned to them by the IMT. How they communicate with the IMT. How their SOP's mesh and to identify any changes needed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their response.

Execution:

Safety Statement:

The exercise directors are responsible for the appointment of a SAREX Safety Officer.

The emphasis during the entire exercise is safety first.

The Safety Officer will bring to the attention of the exercise Directors any concerns that he may have in relation to the Health & Safety of any exercise participant, and he may call for a time out to allow the concerns to be addressed by the exercise control team.

A SAREX safety briefing, for all participants, has been prepared and is attached for reference. This will be distributed to all relevant Coastguard Units and Surf clubs with the requirement to acknowledge receipt and compliance.

Likewise, a comprehensive SAREX risk analysis has been prepared and is attached for reference.

Surf lifesaving will be responsible for formulating a Safety plan to cover the activities of Surf Life Saving Club Personal. The Safety plan must be submitted to the SAREX Safety Officer for sign off prior to the SAREX commencing.

Exercise Coordination:

The exercise shall be coordinated by an exercise coordination team led jointly by the exercise Directors namely, Sergeant Sean Keeley, New Zealand Police, Murray Whitehead, Coastguard NZ Eastern, Allan Mundy, SLSNZ (to be Confirmed)

The exercise coordinating team will facilitate the various stages of the exercise and will be responsible for initiating the exercise, coordinating the input of information to keep the exercise on track, monitoring performance and providing guidance and or tuition on operational matters, using a time out facility if required.

Incident Management Phase:

The incident Control Point (ICP) for this exercise is at the Whitianga Coastguard Unit HQ.

All equipment, relevant Charts and other resources required for a functional ICP, operating within the CIMS process, is to be provided by the Host Unit.

Participating Coastguard Units and Surf Squads are encouraged to have some representation on the IMT team. **It is requested that IMT Personal have the minimum of a CIMS 4 Qualification.**

IMT personal will report to the ICP no later than 1300 hrs on Friday the 18th of November 2022. A briefing will be given on the conduct of the SAREX. IMT personal will then be given the opportunity to run a tabletop exercise to refresh their CIMS training. This phase should be concluded by 1730 Hrs. A meal will be provided before participants leave for home.

IMT personal will again assemble at the Whitianga ICP at 0830 Hrs on Saturday the 19th of November 2022.

Planning will commence for the on-water response to the SAREX Scenario.

The exercise will be conducted using the CIMS process with all members of the IMT having assigned roles and responsibilities. The appropriate vests will be worn to identify personal assigned to management roles within the IMT.

Management roles may be rotated to enhance the learning experience of IMT personal.

This is a learning exercise. All personal are encouraged to seek clarification, from the SAREX training officer, of actions taken or procedures employed. The SAREX training Officer may utilise the time out facility where a wider group or team discussion is required. This course of action could fill any learning requirement or realign the team's efforts with search management best practice.

A light lunch will be provided for IMT personal which will have to be managed within the context of the exercise.

A hot debrief will be conducted at the end of the day's activities which should be approximately 1600 Hrs.

On water (wet crew) Phase:

At 0930hrs on Saturday the 19th of November 2022 the Marine SAR on water phase will commence.

Coastguard Units will be activated in accordance with the CER Marine Communications SOP's. Surf Life Saving Squads will be activated according to the SOP's established with the Police and Coastguard or in accordance with any activation process put in place for the purposes of this SAREX.

Once the IMT have developed their action plan for the on-water scenario Coastguard and Surf Squads will be tasked accordingly and the on-water phase of the exercise will commence.

Coastguard CRV's and crews should be resourced to be self-sufficient on water for a period of up to five hours.

Surf Life Saving on water Squads will receive logistical support from a designated Coastguard CRV.

CRV Skippers are to ensure that a trip report is filed with the Radio Operator having the watch over their normal operating VHF Channel before changing to the SAREX operational channel VHF Channel 61

It is envisaged that the on-water exercise will conclude at approximately 1600 Hrs.

This will enable wet crews to conduct an on water hot debrief prior to returning to their home Ports.

Administration & Logistics:

The on-water area of operation for Operation Overdue has been chosen to allow participating Coastguard and Surf resources to be available for business-as-usual assist and SAR responses.

If an on-water resource is required for deployment on a real time task the appropriate Agency representative shall contact the exercise Director and request the release of the appropriate resource from the exercise.

The tasking advice to that resource will be prefixed by the phase **NO DUFF NO DUFF**.

In the event of a category one or two SAR Incident occurring in the SAREX area of Operation, the appropriate Agency representative shall immediately inform the Exercise Directors who will appoint an IMT to coordinate the SAR response from the Whitianga ICP.

The prefix **NO DUFF NO DUFF** will precede the tasking instructions to crews involved in the SAR response.

The SAREX Directors may halt this exercise at any time to satisfy Operational requirements.

Exercise Observers:

There will be an independent SAREX observer appointed to review the conduct of the SAREX. The observer is to be briefed in accordance with the NZSAR guidelines for SAREX evaluation. The Evaluators reports shall be available to the SAREX Directors for consideration during the cold debrief phase of this exercise.

Provision is to be made to accommodate a Police observer on each of the participating Coastguard CRV's. Police personal will make themselves available at their designated Coastguard Unit by 0830 Hrs on Exercise date.

Adverse weather:

In the event of adverse weather conditions being such that the safety of the on-water crews is in question, or the objectives of the Exercise cannot be achieved the on-water component of this exercise may be cancelled. The IMT component shall continue as planned with a full tabletop run through of the SAREX scenario.

Operational expenses:

Coastguard Units and Surf Life Saving Clubs are responsible for their own costs in relation to this SAREX.

There may be some reimbursement of fuel costs available. Applications for fuel reimbursement are to be made in writing to the CNZ Eastern Regional manager.

Command:

Coordinating Authority: New Zealand Police

Exercise Directors:

Police: Sgt Sean Keeley, Waikato SAR, Phone 021 191 6408

Coastguard: Murray Whitehead 027 210 5196

Surf Life Saving Contact: Allan Mundy 027 245 2660

SAREX Management team:

Exercise Safety Officer: Murray Whitehead 027 210 5196

Exercise Planning Coordinator: Graham Caddy, 027 295 4861

Exercise evaluation: Vince Ranger.

Signals:

The Call sign for the Whitianga ICP will be **Coastguard Rescue Base**.

The VHF Operational Channel will be Channel 61

VHF Ship to ship Communication Channel **6 or 8**

The prefix SAREX SAREX should be used at the commencement of each VHF transmission in connection with this exercise.

A full communications plan will be developed for this exercise once Exercise participants have been confirmed. The Communication plan will be circulated as an Appendix to these coordinating instructions.

Murray Whitehead

CNZ Eastern USM.

**SAREX -OPERATION OVERDUE- FRIDAY 18th & SATURDAY 19th NOVEMBER
2022**

SCENARIO.

At 0700 Hrs on Thursday the 17th of NOVEMBER 2022 the Vessel Gay Gwen left West Haven Marina, Auckland, bound for Whangamata.

The vessel Gay Gwen is a 30ft 1958 Classic Kauri displacement hull Launch fitted with a single 90HP diesel engine. Her cruising speed is 9 Knots. The vessel has a white hull and blue top decks.

Gay Gwen has been on the hard for 12 months and has been recently purchased by her present owner David Swift as a restoration project. The vessel was checked over by a Mate prior to her relaunching and was declared seaworthy albeit that the VHF Radio needed replacing. The vessel has a GPS and older Radar fitted. There are life jackets on board.

There are two persons on board, the owner David Swift, aged 63 years and his mate Joe Henry aged 65 years. Both are in good health. David has completed a Coastguard VHF course and a Day Skippers Course but has very little boating experience. Joe has no boating qualifications but has done a bit of recreational boating over the years. Both men are now living in Whangamata.

The plan is to have a leisurely trip down the Coast staying Thursday night in Port Charles, Friday in The COVE on GMI and Saturday night in Home Bay, Slipper Island before making their run for home on Sunday the 20th of November 2022.

Because of the faulty Radio on Board David has arranged to contact his partner Doris, per phone, twice a day. Once on weighing anchor in the morning and again when dropping anchor for the night.

The trip to Port Charles was uneventful although David did mention to Doris that they were taking on a bit of water but nothing the bilge pump couldn't handle.

Gay Gwen left Port Charles at 1000 Hrs on Friday Morning 18th of November heading to The Cove on GMI.

At 1230 Hrs on date David advised Doris that they had arrived at The Cove and were intending to spend the day at the Cove before heading out to do a bit of night fishing around Red Mercury Island.

At 2200 hrs David contacted Doris to advise that they had left Red Mercury Island because they were becoming concerned over the amount of water the vessel was taking on. They were heading for Home Bay on Slipper Island to assess the situation. Their current position was 36 46. 740 - 175 54.845 David also indicated that they may very well make a run for home from there to Whangamata because the batteries on their Cell phones were just about shot. David assured Doris that he was confident they could get to Whangamata without any problems.

There has been no contact from the Vessel Gay Gwen from this point in time.

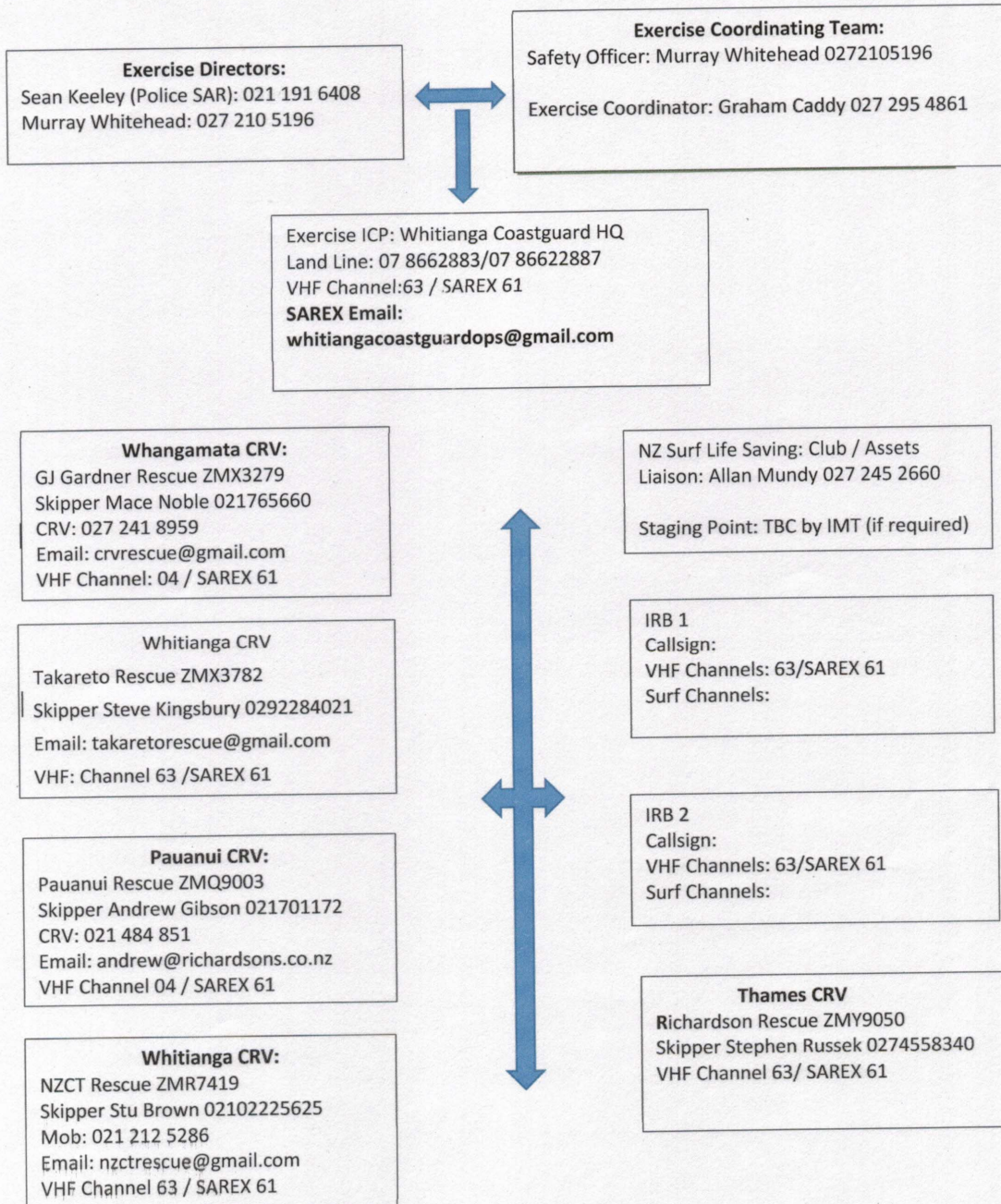
Calls to the two cell phones on board go to answer phone.

Doris has waited until the Morning of Saturday the 19th of November 0800 Hrs to see if the vessel arrived at the Whangamata Marina. The vessel is a no show.

Doris has contacted Police Via 111 to report the Vessel Gay Gwen overdue.

Coastguard Radio has commenced all station Broadcasts for information as to Gay Gwen's whereabouts with a negative result.

COMMUNICATION PLAN OPERATION OVERDUE



SAREX – OPERATION OVERDUE

Crew List.

TeMorehu:

Master Stuart Brown

1. Richard Horne
2. Bill Walkington
3. Michelle Lidgard
4. Arie Lute

Police Observer:

RCCNZ Observer: Conrad.

Takareto:

Master Steve Kingsbury

1. Philip Blackler
2. Alan Beange
3. Niels Dijkstra
4. Ian Davis

Police Observer:

Richardsons Rescue (Thames)

Master Stephen Russek

1. Wayne Hopkins
2. James Kiaricich
3. Bruce Bensemen
4. Matt Allen

Whitianga Coastguard Liaison:

Tony Masters

Puanui Rescue

Master Andrew Gibson

1. Mike Flooks
2. Fred Crawford
3. Dan Steinemann
4. Mark Eyre
5. Adam Ross
6. John O'Brien
7. Ken Bush
9. Robert Van Kampen

Contd.

G J Gardner Whangamata

Master: Mace Noble

1. Rodger Jack

2. Harry Norberg

3. Dylan Trust

4. Andy Woolfield

~~5. Callum Goodwin~~

Waikato Police SAREX – WHITIANGA – 18/19 Nov 2022

Attendee numbers for catering purposes

Who / Unit	Friday	Saturday	Numbers for Debrief
IMT - Base			
RCCNZ	2	2	2
NZSAR	1	1	1
Police SAR	6	6	6
Whitianga	6	6	6
Tairua-Paunui	1	1	1
Whangamata	2	0	0
Waihi Beach	3	3	3
SLSNZ	2	2	2
CNZ – MW & DA	2	2	2
TOTAL	25	23	23
Boat crews			
Te Morehu	0	5	5
Takareto Rescue	0	5	5
Pauanui Rescue	0	9 – self sufficient	9
GJ Gardner Rescue	0	5 – self sufficient	0
Richardsons Rescue	0	5	5
SLSNZ – IRB SAR Squads			
Hot Water Beach	0	2 - self sufficient	2
Tairua-Paunui	0	4 - self sufficient	4
O/All TOTALS	25	38	53

Note:

3 x Boat crews have a packed lunch

Other boat crews & SLSNZ IRBs crew will be self sufficient (supply their own)

Possibly 1 extra person will go out on 3-4 of the boats so will require a lunch pack and they will come off the Saturday lunch numbers

SAREX – Operation Overdue (19th November 2022)

Emergency and Hazard Management Plan

Basic First Aid facilities will be maintained at the ICP base at Whitianga Coastguard HQ
External assistance will be through normal emergency services.

If any emergency occurs the notifying member must relay the incident starting with.
"NO DUFF NO DUFF NO DUFF"

ICP Base: Coastguard Whitianga; ph 07 866 2883 or Marine VHF Channels 61
SAREX Safety Officer; Murray Whitehead mob 027 210 5196

Evacuation point: Whitianga Marina / unless directed by the ICP to a different location

Injury Related Emergency

Specific Responsibilities

- 1 **The Patients** – The highest priority is the provision of first aid. This includes ensuring that the patients are not exposed to further harm. The vessel master will select the most appropriate person to administer the first aid. This decision will be based on skills, experience, and currency. This decision-making process must not delay the administering of first aid.
- 2 **Other Team Members** - Steps must be taken to ensure the safety of the remaining team members. The activity should continue if the safety and wellbeing of the remaining participants and the patients are not compromised by the accident.
- 3 **Summons Assistance** – At the earliest opportunity contact should be made with ICP Base via VHF 61 in the first instance, then with request to go to cell phone 027 210 5196 advising them of the incident and that it is **"NO DUFF"**. Police will assume control and follow emergency procedures to extract the injured person/s. In the event you are unable to contact base call VHF 61 or cell phone call 111 ask for Police and advise them of the incident.

General

- **The responsibility for the injured persons remains with the SAR IMT and Leaders until the injured persons leave the site, whether by helicopter, ambulance, or private car.**

Specific Responsibilities

- 1 IMT at base, Steps to be taken to ensure that all remaining members are available to assist with a search.
 - a. All relevant equipment and personnel are ready for deployment
 - b. All activities are recorded
 - c. Formal search planning is done by the base IMT including consensus and scenario analysis
- 2 This is to be treated by the IMT as per normal callout procedures.

Hazard Identification

Task hazard identification will be carried out by individuals continuously during the exercise. Existing hazards and the proposed controls are as follows:

SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN		
Activity: MSAR Search Teams in the Field		Name: Marine SAREX Operation Overdue
Risk identification (Hazards)		Date: 19th November 2022
1 Injured team member/s (Sprains/Strains/Fracture)		5 Emotional Harm
2 Hypothermia, Members/member of team		6 Critical Incident Stress
3 Hypothermia, victims		7
4 Drowning		8
	Casual Factors (lemons)	Risk Reduction Strategies
People Skills, attitudes, age, fitness, ratios, experience, health, etc	1 Lack of physical fitness/experience	<input type="checkbox"/> Proceed at the pace of the slowest team member
	2 Failure to eat breakfast	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure all team members are well fed and watered
	3 lack of adequate hydration	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure all team members are carrying water
	4 All of the above can contribute	<input type="checkbox"/> Awareness of team members capabilities/ fitness
	5 Abuse from other team members	<input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate leadership style used
	6 Finding the lost party deceased	<input type="checkbox"/> When closing in on the POD use an older experienced member in front
	7 Difference of opinions between different organisations causing potential risk to either other team members or victims	<input type="checkbox"/> IC to be informed straight away and control
	Interference from the public/Media	<input type="checkbox"/> Police & IMT to control
		<input type="checkbox"/> Identify media liaison
Equipment Clothing, shelter, transport, activity specific & safety gear, etc	1,2,3, Inappropriate clothing, e.g.; warm clothing, wet weather gear, wetsuits, survival suits, footwear	<input type="checkbox"/> Only accept in team well equipped persons, ensure all staff in water vessels are wearing a life jacket
	Accident while in vessel on route	<input type="checkbox"/> Obey rules of road at sea to local conditions and environment. SAP to ensure scene safe
	Equipment fails in operation	<input type="checkbox"/> Resort to safety officer and request assistance

Environment Weather, terrain, water, season, etc	1,2,3 Adverse weather conditions	<input type="checkbox"/> Balance the needs/ concern for the lost parties with the safety of the team, alternative locations have been selected if weather/sea conditions are an issue
	Any injury occurring during SAREX	<input type="checkbox"/> All search members to be 1st Aid trained and carry a 1st Aid kit, if serious contact ICP for evac. Communication No Duff x3 comm's to ICP & StopEx when directed
	Victims become hypothermic or end up in the sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Support vessels in close vicinity and have two forms of comms with both victims and HQ, (VHF & Cell) Communication No Duff x3 comm's to HQ & StopEx when directed

Note:

The above safety management plan is general for the SAREX.
All Coastguard units and participating agencies are required to hold their own safety briefing prior to the SAREX starting on the 19th of November 2022

Contact Details:

SAREX ICP Base and contact details:

Coastguard Whitianga
Ph: 07 866 2883
VHF: 61
Physical address:
Whitianga Coastguard Building, Whitianga Marina
Dundas Street
Whitianga

SAREX Safety Officer:

Murray Whitehead
M: 027 210 5196



New Zealand
POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana O Aotearoa



SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW ZEALAND

OPERATION OVERDUE -MARINE SAREX WARNING NOTICE

FRIDAY 18TH & SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2022

This notice is to provide advanced warning that Operation OVERDUE, a Marine SAREX, will be conducted in the Coastal waters between Red Mercury Island and Slipper Island.

The SAREX will involve a combined Police, Coastguard IMT and on water assets from Whitianga, Tairua/Pauanui and Whangamata Coastguard Units. Surf participation yet to be confirmed.

OVERVIEW:

Exercise aim:

The New Zealand Police, Waikato SAR District, have requested that selected Coastguard Units and Surf Life Saving Squads take part in a marine SAREX to test the on-water capabilities of Marine SAR resources along with their ability to be coordinated by an incident management team following the CIMS management process.

Exercise location:

The Operations ICP (Incident control point) will be located at the Whitianga Coastguard HQ,

The staging point for Surf Life Saving on water squads will be determined by the planned Operational response for these assets.

Coastguard CRVs will deploy from their home base on activation.

Exercise type:

The Exercise will be a two-phase operation conducted over a two-day period.

Phase one: 1300 Hrs Friday 18th November 2022: will involve the selected IMT personal taking part in a tabletop exercise to reinforce the CIMS principles.

Phase two: 0930 Hrs Saturday 19th of November 2022 will be the commencement of the on-water exercise.

The day commences at 0830 Hrs with a Briefing of selected IMT personal at the ICP which will be the Whitianga training room.



One the IMT has developed their action plan on water Coastguard and Surf squads will be tasked accordingly and the on-water exercise will commence.

The day will conclude with a hot debrief of the exercise.

Participation:

New Zealand Police, Waikato SAR District.

Coastguard NZ Eastern

Whitianga Coastguard.

Tairua/Pauanui Coastguard.

Whangamata Coastguard.

Surf lifesaving Call out Squads.

Formal Invitations:

Coastguard Units named above, and the Surf lifesaving Call out Squads are to take this warning notice as a formal invitation to take part in Marine SAREX "Operation Overdue"

To assist with planning, it is requested that Coastguard Units intending to participate in this SAREX please notify the SAREX planning Coordinator ASAP on the receipt of this warning notice.

The SAREX coordinating instructions will be forwarded to all participants in due course.

Lead Agency:

New Zealand Police.

Exercise Directors:

Sergeant Sean Keeley Waikato Police SAR, Murray Whitehead CNZ Eastern, Allan Mundy Surf lifesaving. (yet to be confirmed)

SAREX Management team:

SAREX Planning Coordinator: Graham Caddy 0272954861

SAREX Safety Officer: Murray Whitehead 0272105196

Exercise Enquiries:

Murray.whitehead@coastguard.nz

New Zealand Search and Rescue SAREX Guidelines

Analyse SAREX Need

completed



- 1 Establish SAREX Planning Team. (See Appendix A on page 6 for instructions and Appendix C and D on pages 8-13 for examples)



Sgt Sean Keeley Waikato Police SAR - SAREX Director -
Allan Mundy Surf Lifesaving NZ - SAREX Director
Graham Caddy Coastguard Eastern -SAREX Planning
Murray Whitehouse Coastguard Eastern -SAREX Director
Stuart Lowth Coastguard Eastern - SAREX Safety Officer

- 2 Identify trends and predictions, response needs and asset assessment. (See Appendix B on pages 5-6)



Coastguard Eastern recognize that in the event of a major Marine SAR incident off the Eastern Seaboard of the Coromandel peninsula

a multiple SAR Agency response would be required.

To meet this challenge NZSAR and the NZ Police are actively encouraging Multi SAR agency interaction and training. Coastguard Eastern are committed to the establishment and training of IMT's capable of providing I/C's of the Coordinating Authorities with Marine SAR Subject matter expertise within the CIMS process.
There is a need to provide an opportunity for Police, Coastguard and Surf IMT personal to test their ability to effectively work together as part of an IMT
Within the CIMS process.

The NZ Police, Waikato SAR District, have the need to provide their personal with hands on training as Marine Incident controllers

Within a multi-agency IMT.

There is also a need to test the ability of Coastguard and Surf on water resources to work together effectively to complete the tasking's assigned by the IMT. How their SOP's mesh and to identify any changes that need to be made to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the SAR response.

- 3 Summarise need.



A major Marine SAR incident off the Eastern Seaboard would require a multi-SAR agency response.

There is a need to provide realistic training for Police, Coastguard and Surf lifesaving IMT personal on a multi-agency basis.

There is a need to test the ability of Coastguard and Surf on water resources to work together to achieve the tasking assigned to them by the IMT.

There is a need to test the lines of communication between the IMT and on water resources.

- 4 Specify the purpose of this SAREX.



To facilitate the necessary training needed to enable Multi Agency IMT personal to work effectively together as a team.

5 Determine specific SAREX objectives: (Refer to nzsar.govt.nz/training-resources/collective-training/sarex-guidelines/)



i. i. Test the resource (eg field team, vessel).response to a readiness plan

ii. IMT operates within the CIMS principles

iii. IMT operates in accordance with the CIMS model

iv. IMT maintains situational awareness

v. SAR personnel carry out a search to locate the missing party

vi.

6 Select exercise name:

Operation Overdue



7 Establish a budget:

Budget providers NZ Police/Coastguard Eastern



8 Obtain lead/joint agency authority:

New Zealand Police




9 Seek multi agency participation:

New Zealand Police
RCCNZ
New Zealand Surf Life Saving
Coastguard Eastern

RRT?



Design SAREX

completed 

10 Set key Performance indicators (KPI's):



- i.
 - Resource is activated in accordance with the readiness plan
 - Resource is mobilised in accordance with the readiness plan
 - Resource response is in accordance with the readiness plan
 - Demobilisation of all resources is in accordance with the readiness plan
- ii.
 - IMT structure is in accordance with CIMS
 - IMT roles and responsibilities are in accordance with CIMS
 - Information is communicated within and across agencies
 - IMT operation ensures integrated information management and communications
- iii.
 - ICP established
 - IAP review meetings are conducted by the IC
 - Appropriate structure established
 - IC leads regular IMT briefings
 - Documentation is completed
 - IMT function managers undertake regular team briefings
 - IAP is established for the initial operational period
- iv.
 - Briefings and debriefings are conducted
 - IMT planning meetings are conducted on a regular basis
 - Information is relayed appropriately and in time
 - IMT is continuously aware of resource progress, welfare and activities
 - Information received within the IMT is analysed
 - Information is collated and disseminated within the IMT as appropriate
- v.
 - Marine Units apply appropriate search techniques
 - Team GPS tracking is consistent with tasking
 - Assets undertake taskings in line with the IAP
 - Assets provide regular updates
 - Assets provide accurate and timely information to the IMT
- vi.

11 Develop exercise scenario:



An exercise Scenario has been developed.

12 Evaluate plan against training need:



IMT and on water exercises meet current training needs

13 Determine exercise controllers, participants and resources required:



Exercise controllers as per item 1.
Exercise Safety plan to be developed- Murray
Accommodation and meals provided by Police.

Transport allowance Coastguard IMT Members.

Local Logistics officer to be appointed.

14 Confirm and announce exercise date/time location:



15 Develop detailed events:



16 Develop exercise safety plan:



17 Develop exercise 'control rules':



18 Appoint exercise evaluator (local and external) and define their role:

Vince Ranger. Will be provided with check list for Key performance Indicators.

All prepared.



19 Confirm multi agency participation:

As per item 9



20 Set up SAREX



Conduct

completed ☒

21 SAREX's are run under CIMS, IAMSAR, or other recognised structure.

☐

22 Evaluation systems/real time feedback processes are in place.

☐

23 Start the exercise.

☐

24 Sustain and control exercise activity.

☐

25 Intervention (if required) to keep on track.

☐

Debrief

26 Hot debrief immediately after SAREX includes:

All personnel/agencies, written or verbal.

☐

Preliminary feedback from evaluator.

☐

Provide appropriate exercise closure.

☐

27 Cold debrief within appropriate time frame:

Key performance indicators are evaluated.

☐

Internal review and analysis of SAREX systems, performance and processes.

☐

28 Evaluation report analysis and findings completed.

☐

29 SAREX report completed.

☐

30 Report circulated to participants and agencies.

☐

Implement learning

31 Implement report findings into Readiness-plans, SOP's and training and development.

☐

32 Ongoing evaluation.

☐

33 Develop 'lessons learned' and distribute as appropriate.

☐

Appendix A

1. Instructions

- The guidelines are designed to provide a generic framework for running SAREX's.
- The extent to which they are used and completed depends on the size and complexity of the SAREX. This may vary from a local three hour exercise to a national two day multi agency SAREX.
- Support to complete the guidelines can be sought from experienced personnel in the key SAR agencies.

2. References

- The Ministry of Civil Defence publication "CDEM Exercises – Directors Guidelines for Civil Defence Emergency Management Groups (DGL 010/09) provides in depth detail of how to run exercises:
www.civildefence.govt.nz.
- The Annex provides the following useful checklists:
 - **Annex A:** Exercise development checklist
 - **Annex B:** Exercise Coordinating Instruction
 - **Annex C:** Communications and media management plan
 - **Annex D:** Exercise General Instruction
 - **Annex E:** Standard message/inject template
 - **Annex F:** Exercise control and evaluator rules of play
 - **Annex G:** Sample master schedule of events
 - **Annex I:** End of exercise report
- The NZ Police system is utilised to apply for RNZAF support.
- Resources and guidelines for using the Coordinated Incident Management System are available at:
www.civildefence.govt.nz.

Appendix B

1. Identifying trends, predictions, response needs and asset assessment using SAR Vulnerability Assessment (SVA)

SVA means establishing the operational trends:

- what has happened historically in an area or district
- what is happening
- predicting what is going to happen

The purpose of the SAREX can then be customised to meet the predictions. The depth and degree this process is followed will vary depending on the intended SAREX size and complexity.

2.1 Identify Operational Trends

Identify operations that have happened locally and in adjacent areas/region over last five years with an emphasis on the last year:

- Type
- Number
- Debrief information/notes
- Issues in the readiness plan/standard operating procedure/ systems/processes and equipment for IMT's and in the field

Identify predicted trends locally and in adjacent areas/regions over the next five years. Consider:

- Demographics
- Activities
- Terrain/ease of access
- Existing assets
- Facility changes
- Type of operations
- Research and development
- Anticipated issues in the readiness plans, standard operating procedures, systems, processes and equipment for IMT's and in the field

2.2 Informal trends and incidents

Survey key local or regional SAR or related persons and organizations for near misses, unreported incidents and in house incidents to develop an overall picture.



Appendix B continued

2.3 Organisations/groups/individuals to consider consulting

- Government and local body
- SAR Council and SAR Secretariat
- Rescue Coordination Centre NZ (RCCNZ)
- Police
- LandSAR
- Department of Conservation (DOC)
- Coastguard
- Surf
- Defence
- NZ Water Safety Council
- NZ Mountain Safety Council
- Outdoors New Zealand (ONZ)
- Coroners
- Advisers
- Local SAR Committee
- Related recreational and commercial groups
- Medical services
- Fire
- Helicopter operators
- Media
- Industry newsletters
- Cultural groups
- Educational and representative organizational bodies
- Other

2.4 Research, Developments and Training

Survey key individuals and partner organizations and industries globally for:

- New research and developments
- New equipment
- Technology
- Internet/literature search
- Related industries
- Research reports

Review:

- Local/regional and national goals and training plans
- Past SAREX training and exercise recommendations

