

NSW State Rescue Policy


4th Edition

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Approver	Minister for Emergency Services

Authorisation

The New South Wales State Rescue Policy has been prepared by the State Rescue Board in compliance with the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989* (as amended) and is hereby submitted for the approval of, and issued by, the Minister for Emergency Services.

Recommended



Commissioner Stacey Tannos ESM
Chair
State Rescue Board

Approved



The Hon David Elliott MP
Minister for Police
Minister for Emergency Services

Amendment List

Proposals for amendment or addition to the contents of the State Rescue Policy are to be forwarded to:

The Executive Officer
State Rescue Board
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SYDNEY NSW 2001

Amendments promulgated are to be certified in the under mentioned amendment sheet when entered.

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Table of Contents

Chapter 1 – General Introduction	7
The State Rescue Board of NSW.....	7
The SRB's Function	7
Board Membership.....	7
Responsible Minister.....	7
Secretariat	8
Definitions.....	8
Rescue Units	12
Rescue Crews - land.....	13
Rescue Crews - flood.....	14
Rescue Crews – marine.....	14
Rescue Vehicles	14
Rescue Vessels	15
Vessel Registration	15
Use of Helicopters in Rescue	16
Body Recovery Tasks	16
Land and Waterway Search and Rescue Operations.....	16
Marine Search and Rescue Operations	17
Search and Rescue Coordination Centres	18
Marine Radio Bases.....	18
Debriefings and Reviews	19
Responsibilities for Rescue Scene Clean Up	19
Recording of Images and Video	19
When is it appropriate to record images and video?.....	20
Ownership of Images and Video	21
Public Display of Images and Video	21
Using Images and Video for Training	21
Storage of Images and Video.....	22
Statements to the Media and Public	22
Complaints	22
Chapter 2 - Response Policy	24
General Principles.....	24
Unavailable/Available.....	25
Interim Response Arrangements.....	25
Medical Emergency Access	26
Response Policy - Land	26
Call-Out.....	27
Unavailable due to existing deployment	27
Call-Off	27
On Scene Control	28
Calls for Additional Rescue Units	28
Response Policy - Marine	28
Overall Coordination	28
Call-Out.....	29
Notification	29

On Scene Control	30
Unavailability.....	30
Marine Radio Monitoring	30
Call-Off	30
Suspension	30
Response Policy - Flood	31
General Principles.....	31
Flood rescue framework.....	31
Control – task areas.....	31
Activation, communication and coordination	32
Non established areas of operations	32
Established Flood Rescue Area of Operations.....	32
Call-off	33
Response Coordination Disputes.....	33
Chapter 3 - Accreditation.....	34
General.....	34
The Principles	34
Pre-accreditation Policy	35
Safety Requirements and Rescue Operator Physical Pre-requisites	35
Infectious Disease Policy	35
Critical Incident Support Policy.....	35
Specialist Rescue	35
Underwater Search and Recovery	35
Cross Border Rescue Operations.....	36
Support Units	36
Rescue Identification.....	36
Risk Management for Land Rescue Service Provision	36
General Land Rescue	37
Vertical Rescue	37
Marine Rescue.....	37
Flood Rescue	38
Competencies and Equipment lists.....	38
Equipment lists.....	38
Competencies.....	39
Chapter 4 - Accreditation Procedures	40
General.....	40
Land Rescue Accreditation Procedures.....	40
Pre-Accreditation	40
Full Accreditation	41
Marine Rescue Accreditation Procedures.....	41
General.....	41
Marine Rescue Vessel Requirements	42
Pre-accreditation.....	42
Accreditation Process	43

State Rescue Board Marine Inspection Team	43
Flood Rescue Accreditation Procedures	44
Pre-Accreditation	44
Full Accreditation	44
Chapter 5 – Operational Capability Inspections	46
Operational Capability Assurance Framework	46
Annual Reporting Requirements	47
Chapter 6 - Committees	48
Policy Advisory Committee.....	48
Duties of the Committee.....	48
Local and Regional Rescue Committees	48
Membership – Local.....	48
Membership – Regional	49
Functions and responsibilities – Local and Regional Rescue Committees	49
Meetings	50
Minutes of Meetings.....	50
Resolution of Problems	50
Marine Advisory Sub-Committees	51
Chapter 7 – Rescue Training and Exercises	52
General.....	52
Flood Rescue.....	52
Rescue exercise funding.....	53
Attachments	54
Attachment A - Flood Rescue Framework.....	54
Attachment B - Flood Rescue Activation Process	55
Attachment C - Minimum Equipment List - General Land Rescue (GLR)	56
Attachment D - Minimum Equipment List - Road Crash Rescue (RCR)	59
Attachment E - Minimum Equipment List - Vertical Rescue (VR)	61
Attachment F - Minimum Equipment List - Marine Rescue (MR)	63
Attachment G - Minimum Equipment List - Flood Rescue (FR)	70
Attachment H - Competencies - General Land Rescue (GLR)	72
Attachment I - Competencies - Road Crash Rescue (RCR)	73
Attachment J - Competencies - Vertical Rescue (VR)	74
Attachment K - Competencies - Marine Rescue (MR)	75
Attachment L - Competencies - Flood Rescue (FR)	83
Attachment M - SRB Annual Report Template - Rescue Agency	85
Attachment N - SRB Annual Report Template - Regional Rescue Committee	86
Attachment O - SRB Medical Emergency Access Protocols.....	87

Chapter 1 – General Introduction

The State Rescue Board of NSW

- 1.01 The State Rescue Board of NSW (the SRB, the Board) is a Statutory Body constituted under section 42 of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989* (the SERM Act).

The SRB's Function

- 1.02 The SRB's principal function is to ensure the maintenance of efficient and effective rescue services throughout the State. The SRB will carry out its responsibilities through the Heads of the agencies which provide accredited rescue units and the NSW Police Force, who are responsible for the coordination of rescue within the State.
- 1.03 The SRB is generally responsible for the development and promulgation of rescue policy, the setting, promulgation and monitoring of standards of training, and for providing advice on equipment levels for all rescue units in the State. The SRB is also responsible for recommending to the Minister the accreditation of units to undertake those forms of rescue for which the Board has decided that accreditation is required.
- 1.04 At the direction of the Council of Australian Governments, the Productivity Commission is to report annually on the efficiency of road rescue in all States and Territories. The SRB contributes to this report and the agencies are to provide information as required.

Board Membership

- 1.05 The SRB is chaired by a Member of the Board who is appointed by the Minister. The SRB comprises of the following senior officers:
- a) State Emergency Operations Controller
 - b) Member of the NSW Police Force Senior Executive Service
 - c) Chief Executive Officer, NSW Ambulance
 - d) Commissioner, Fire & Rescue NSW
 - e) Commissioner, NSW State Emergency Service
 - f) Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service
 - g) Commissioner, NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc.
 - h) Commissioner, Marine Rescue NSW, and
 - i) the Heads of other volunteer rescue agencies approved by the Minister
- and may vary depending on agency priorities.

Responsible Minister

- 1.06 The SRB is responsible to the Minister administering the SERM Act

Secretariat

1.07 The SRB is supported in the execution of its function by a Secretariat in Resilience NSW.

Definitions

- 1.08 **Accredited** means formally recognised units as having a particular status or being accredited to conduct rescue activities as authorised.
- 1.09 **Accreditation** means formal approval by the Minister to undertake rescue in NSW.
- 1.10 **Area of Responsibility** means boundaries used to define specific geographic areas where an emergency services agency has the authority to plan and conduct operations.
- 1.11 **Authorised** means those authorised by emergency services agencies to perform specific tasks.
- 1.12 **Combat agency** means the agency identified in the State Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) as the agency primarily responsible for controlling the response to a particular emergency.
- 1.13 **Command** means internal direction of the members and resources of an agency in the performance of the organisation's roles and tasks (by agreement and in accordance with relevant legislation). Command operates vertically within an organisation.
- 1.14 **Confined space** means an enclosed or partially enclosed space that:
- a) is not designed or intended primarily to be occupied by a person
 - b) is, or is designed or intended to be, at normal atmospheric pressure while any person is in the space
 - c) is or is likely to be a risk to health and safety from:
 - i. an atmosphere that does not have a safe oxygen level, or
 - ii. contaminants, including airborne gases, vapours and dusts, that may cause injury from fire or explosion, or
 - iii. harmful concentrations of any airborne contaminants, or
 - iv. engulfment
- but does not include a mine shaft or the workings of a mine.
- 1.15 **Control** means the overall direction of the activities, agencies or individuals concerned. For the purpose of this policy, authority for control may carry with it responsibility for tasking other emergency management agencies in accordance with the needs of the situation. Control relates to the situations and operates horizontally across organisations.
- 1.16 **Coordination** means the bringing together of agencies and individuals to ensure effective emergency or rescue management but does not include the control of agencies and individuals by direction.
- 1.17 **Currency** means the process that recognises member's skills, training and capabilities, captured via operational activity or skills maintenance, as determined by the agency.
- 1.18 **Domestic animal** means an animal that has been domesticated by humans so as to live and breed in a tame condition and depend on humankind for survival.

- 1.19 **Flood Rescue** means all rescue activities in a relatively high water level which overtops the natural or artificial banks of any part of a stream, river, estuary, or dam, and/or local overland flooding associated with drainage before entering a water course, and/or coastal inundation resulting from super-elevated sea levels and/or waves overtopping coastline deficiencies. Any vehicle or pedestrian access way is deemed to be an artificial bank.

Swiftwater Rescue encompasses rescue from canyons and waterways where swiftwater flowing within the banks is the norm. Many recreational activities such as rafting, kayaking etcetera take place in these environments.

Flood Rescue and Swiftwater Rescue are operational different. However, as the training competencies and the qualifications received for completion of training are the same for In Water Flood Rescue and Swiftwater Rescue, this Policy references In Water and Swiftwater Flood Rescue collectively as 'In Water Flood Rescue'. This includes arrangements for dispatch and coordination, accreditation and training competencies.

There are five levels of Flood Rescue:

Flood Rescue Awareness

Flood Rescue Awareness is not an accreditation. The training package, which is provided through the NSW State Emergency Service (NSW SES), provides a basic understanding and awareness of generic flood water hazards and associated risks and simple actions which can be taken to assist the victim without entering flood waters. The methods involved are Talk, Throw (released) and Reach. These methods include the operator yelling or signalling to the victim to provide assurance or throwing the victim an unconnected object such as a rescue tube or portable flotation device.

Land Based

Land Based Flood Rescue provides support to On Water and In Water Flood Rescue operations. Accreditation is not required, however personnel should be trained in Land Based Flood Rescue. The methods involved are Reach, Wade and Throw (held). These methods are undertaken from the shore and include reaching to the victim with a ladder or throwing a connected object such as a rope or portable flotation device.

On Water

Accreditation is required for On Water Flood Rescue. The method undertaken is Row (powered vessel). This method involves reaching the victim by powered vessel where there is a low likelihood of the operator entering the water.

In Water

Accreditation is required for In Water Flood Rescue. The method undertaken is Go. This method involves the operator entering the flood waters to reach the person by swimming or using a raft or unpowered vessel to reach the victim.

Over Water

No accreditation is required for Over Water Flood Rescue. The use of professional helicopter crews to rescue person/s from flood water is at the direction of the NSW Police Force Radio Operations Group Rescue Coordinator (ROG RCO) or NSW SES Incident Controller.

Note: 1.20 sets out when specific agencies are responsible for coordinating flood rescue operations.

- 1.20 **Flood Rescue Area of Operations (FRAO)** means the boundaries used to define specific geographic area(s) where the NSW SES have the authority to coordinate and control flood rescues. The NSW SES Incident Controller is the authority that establishes a FRAO. A FRAO may be established when an actual or imminent flood occurrence endangers or threatens to endanger the safety of persons or animals and a significant and coordinated response is required.

The NSW Police Force is responsible for coordinating flood rescue response and for determining priorities of action taken in flood rescue operations in the geographic areas outside of the established FRAO.

- 1.21 **Flood Rescue Cell** in the Australian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS), a flood rescue cell means the area responsible for flood rescue coordination and tasking. In the AIIMS structure it comes under the 'Operations' functional area but may have direct communication with the Incident Commander.

- 1.22 **Flood Rescue Controller (FRC)** means the person appointed by, and subject to, the direction of the NSW SES Incident Controller to be responsible for determining the extent of the flood rescue site, establishing control of the flood rescue operation, controlling the 'on the ground' response to the flood rescue and determining the priority of actions to effect the flood rescue. In the absence of an appointment, the Team Leader of the first arriving Flood Rescue Team will assume the functions of the FRC until an appointed FRC arrives on scene.

The FRC may be appointed within a Flood Rescue Team from any organisation engaged by the NSW SES for the purpose of conducting flood rescue response within a declared FRAO.

During flood rescues, including in an established FRAO, the senior police officer at the scene works in collaboration with the FRC.

- 1.23 **General Land Rescue (GLR)** means the capability and capacity to undertake all rescue activities involving the safe removal of persons or domestic animals from actual or threatened danger of physical harm. A GLR unit has the skills and equipment required to undertake road crash rescue, agricultural, animal, domestic and industrial rescues and is trained in Urban Search and Rescue Category 1.

- 1.24 **Industrial and Domestic Rescue (IRDR)** means the capability required to gain access to and extricate entrapped casualty/ies from a range of industrial and/or domestic incidents while minimising the potential for further injury and preserving the integrity of evidence.

Industrial Rescue (IR) involves the safe removal of persons who have had an accident in the workplace such as factories, warehouses and building sites. It involves disentanglement from machinery and extrication from heavy machinery such as cranes. Rescue of occupants trapped in elevators and escalators is also included.

Domestic Rescue (DR) – involves the rescue of occupants trapped in household settings. This includes such things as children with fingers in drain plugs, removal of rings, and individuals who are incapable of leaving their home due to ill health.

- 1.25 **Land Search and Rescue (LANDSAR)** refers to the coordination of Land Search and Rescue for the provision of life saving assistance to people in distress and imminent danger of loss of life.

- 1.26 **Marine Rescue (MR)** means a rescue performed on open, enclosed or inland waterways where there is a threat.

- 1.27 **Marine Rescue unit** means one or a combination of Marine Rescue Vessels and/or a Search and Rescue Coordination Centre or Marine Radio Base.
- 1.28 **NSW SES Incident Controller** means the individual responsible for the management of all incident control activities across the FRAO.
- 1.29 **Operating procedures** means a set of step by step instructions on how to carry out operational activities.
- 1.30 **Powered vessel** means any vessel powered by a motor.
- 1.31 **Radio Operations Group (ROG)** means the NSW Police Force Radio Operations Group.
- 1.32 **Rescue** means the safe removal of persons or domestic animals from actual or threatened danger of physical harm.
- 1.33 **Rescue crew** means competent and current rescue operators.
- 1.34 **Rescue equipment** means sufficient and appropriate equipment to perform the tasks for which the unit has been accredited.
- 1.35 **Rescue Function Coordinator** means a person that may be appointed at the direction of the Site Controller, or senior police officer on scene, as required. The Rescue Function Coordinator may be appointed from any combat agency and is responsible for coordinating those activities directly related to an actual rescue operation.

A Rescue Function Coordinator will not be required at every incident and may only be appointed at those that are large scale and/or complex. The Rescue Function Coordinator reports to the Site Controller, or senior police officer on scene.

Note: See 1.22, 1.40 and 2.28 for the definitions of Flood Rescue Controller, Site Controller and Scene Control.

- 1.36 **Rescue vehicle** means a vehicle that is designed, adapted or equipped for use in rescue work; and is clearly marked with the word 'RESCUE'; or is fitted with warning devices such as flashing lights, or a siren, or both.
- 1.37 **Rescue vessel** means a vessel that is designed, adapted or equipped for use in rescue work and is clearly marked as a rescue vessel.
- 1.38 **Resources** means all personnel, vehicles, plant and equipment available, or potentially available, for incident tasks.
- 1.39 **Road Crash Rescue (RCR)** means the capability required to gain access to and extricate casualty/ies from vehicles travelling on the road such as cars, motorcycles, buses, trucks and semi-trailers while minimising the potential for further injury and preserving the integrity of evidence.

Rescue operators are required to access entrapped casualty/ies using a range of techniques and to operate specialist equipment to undertake the rescue. While RCR units are trained and equipped to respond to road crashes, they are not trained in competencies such as IRDR or Urban Search and Rescue.

- 1.40 **Site Controller** means a police officer appointed by, and subject to, the direction of an Emergency Operations Controller (under the SERM Act - the Emergency Operations Controller is responsible for controlling the response to an emergency where no specific combat agency is nominated under the EMPLAN). The Site Controller is responsible for determining the site, establishing site control and controlling 'on the ground' response to an emergency and determining priorities. In the absence of a Site Controller being appointed, the senior police officer present will assume control.

Note: see 1.22, 1.35 and 2.28 for definitions of Flood Rescue Controller, Rescue Function Coordinator and Scene Control.

- 1.41 **SOC** means State Operations Centre.
- 1.42 **Urban Search and Rescue Category 1 (USAR Cat 1)** means the capability required to provide safe and effective rescue support to an urban search and rescue (USAR) incident as a member of a first responder rescue team. It involves assisting with the rescue and removing surface (lightly trapped) casualties or deceased victims, applying basic search techniques such as carrying out limited debris removal and following safe work practices.
- 1.43 **Vertical Rescue (VR)** is any height or depth situation where person(s) need resources to gain access to, move within, and extricate from hazardous environments utilising rope based and/or mechanical systems, in order to ensure the safety of person(s) and/or animal(s).
- 1.44 **Victim** means the person or animal being rescued.

Rescue Units

- 1.45 Section 52 of the SERM Act defines 'rescue unit' as meaning a unit (comprising a group of persons) which carries out rescue operations.

A rescue unit comprises four elements:

- a) **Registered Crew** – competent and current rescue operators
- b) **Rescue Vehicle/Vessel** – an appropriate and clearly marked rescue vehicle/vessel
- c) **Rescue Equipment** – sufficient and appropriate to the tasks for which the unit has been accredited, and
- d) **Operating Procedures** – procedures for call-out, response, operation and training.

Land Rescue Units

- 1.46 There is a two tiered system of land rescue capability in NSW:
- a) **General Land Rescue (GLR)** – units which meet current SRB accreditation standards for Road Crash Rescue, Industrial/Domestic Rescue and USAR Category 1.

A GLR unit is considered the **most appropriate rescue resource** as it is equipped to a standard to carry out all forms of GLR and in some cases has the capability and capacity to undertake other specialist rescue reducing potential delays in extrication.

The guiding principle is that the **most appropriate accredited rescue unit (GLR)** with the shortest response time to the incident should be responded.

- b) **Road Crash Rescue (RCR)** – units which meet current SRB accreditation standards for Road Crash Rescue in rural, regional and remote areas of NSW.

RCR accreditation of additional units should be considered for areas **currently outside of the 60 minutes response times of any existing GLR unit**, or as an option to support a GLR unit where there is a risk based requirement for this level of capability.

- 1.47 Upon commencement of the two tiered system of land rescue capability, existing rescue units will be recognised as holding either GLR or RCR accreditation as appropriate based on current capabilities.

Vertical Rescue Units

- 1.48 Vertical Rescue units are units that have been endorsed by the Minister as meeting current SRB accreditation standards for Vertical Rescue. Operators are specifically trained and the unit equipped with appropriate equipment to carry out vertical rescue operations within the scope of their accreditation.

Flood Rescue Units

- 1.49 Flood Rescue units are units that have been endorsed by the Minister as meeting current SRB accreditation standards for In Water and/or On Water Flood Rescue. They are considered the most appropriate flood rescue resource to carry out In Water or On Water Flood Rescue (in accordance with their accreditation) and must have access to a powered vessel or inflatable raft and equipped to a standard to facilitate all aspects of flood rescue.

Marine Rescue Units

- 1.50 Marine Rescue units are those of Marine Rescue NSW that have been accredited by the Minister, and where the unit's rescue operators are specifically trained and the unit equipped with appropriate equipment to carry out marine rescue operations within the scope of their accreditation. Marine Rescue units are accredited to respond on a 24 hours, seven days a week basis.
- 1.51 The general operational functions of a Marine Rescue unit are stipulated within this Policy and Marine Rescue NSW Standard Operating Procedures. Standard Operating Procedures developed by Marine Rescue NSW in relation to this Policy are to be endorsed by NSW Police Force Marine Area Command before being implemented.
- 1.52 Marine Rescue NSW is the recognised provider of volunteer marine rescue services in NSW and maintains accredited Marine Rescue units along the NSW coastline and at key inland waterways. An accredited Marine Rescue unit is comprised of one or a combination of Marine Rescue Vessels and/or a Search and Rescue Coordination Centre or Marine Radio Base.

Rescue Crews - land

- 1.53 The minimum crew required to respond to a rescue incident is two qualified and current operators. Trainees may attend to conduct on the job training in addition to the two qualified rescue operators but must be supervised by a qualified and currently competent rescue operator not actively involved in the rescue

Rescue Crews - flood

- 1.54 An accredited Flood Rescue unit is to have available a minimum of two trained operators at all times.

Rescue Crews – marine

- 1.55 The minimum crew required to respond to a marine rescue incident is two appropriately qualified and authorised operators for a marine rescue vessel (boat) and one appropriately qualified and authorised operator for a Rescue Water Craft (RWC). Marine Rescue Vessels/RWC's of accredited Marine Rescue units are to be equipped in accordance with the provisions of the Commercial Vessel Regulations (vessel survey requirements), plus additional requirements set by Marine Rescue NSW and the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command and listed in the relevant sections of the Marine Rescue NSW Standard Operating Procedures.
- 1.56 Trainees may attend to conduct on the job training in addition to the minimum qualified rescue operators but must be supervised by a qualified and current Marine Rescue NSW trainer (or authorised subject matter expert).

Rescue Vehicles

- 1.57 In accordance with Vehicle Standards Information, *VSI08 Flashing lights and sirens*, blue or blue and red flashing lights must only be fitted to vehicles used by accredited rescue units.
- 1.58 **Rescue Vehicles** - Exemptions for drivers of emergency vehicles. The *Road Rules 2014* (NSW), Rule 306 provides an exemption for drivers of emergency vehicles if:
- a) In the circumstances,
 - i. the driver is taking reasonable care
 - ii. it is reasonable that the rule should not apply, and
 - b) if the vehicle is a motor vehicle that is moving – the vehicle is displaying a blue or red flashing light or sounding an alarm.

This provision applies to any vehicle driven by a person who is:

- a) an emergency worker, and
- b) driving the vehicle in the course of his or her duties as an emergency worker.

An emergency worker, defined in the road rules means:

- a) a member of the Ambulance Service or the ambulance service of another State or Territory, in the course of providing transport in an emergency associated with the provision of aid to sick or injured persons, or
- b) a member of a fire or rescue service operated by a NSW Government agency, a member of the State Emergency Service or a member of a fire brigade (however referred to) or rescue service of the Commonwealth or another State or territory, providing transport in the course of an emergency, or

- c) a member of Airservices Australia providing transport in the course of a fire or rescue emergency, or
 - d) a person (or a person belonging to a class of persons) approved by the Authority.
- 1.59 Qualified rescue vehicle drivers must have one of the following competencies (or agency equivalent) from the Public Safety Training package:
- a) Drive vehicles under operational conditions
 - b) Drive police vehicles.
- 1.60 Units and agencies are able to pursue further, more advanced training to address any additional risks or agency specific operational requirements.
- 1.61 Agencies need to ensure that their operators maintain competence through regular training, exercising and operational deployment.

Rescue Vessels

- 1.62 Marine Rescue Vessels of an accredited Marine Rescue unit shall operate within the required legislation and regulations and as per any additional requirements set by Marine Rescue NSW and the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command.
- 1.63 Operating limitations of Marine Rescue Vessels shall be set through the combination of the legislated vessel survey requirements (under the Australian Maritime Safety Authority) and any additional operating restrictions set by Marine Rescue NSW and the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command.
- 1.64 Only accredited volunteer Marine Rescue units may fit flashing lights to their rescue vessels in accordance with Article 27 of the *Second Geneva Convention 1949*, Chapter XIV of the International Code of Signals.
- 1.65 Flashing lights are only activated:
- c) when proceeding to a rescue incident or emergency situation
 - d) to indicate a dangerous or hazardous situation in public
 - e) to provide visual identification for the safety of the rescue vessel and its crew, or
 - f) as directed by NSW Police Force for specified duties.
- 1.66 At all times the use of flashing lights is to be kept to a minimum.

Vessel Registration

- 1.67 Vessels are to be registered and/or otherwise comply with the survey certificate and accompanying exemption schedules as provided by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA).

Use of Helicopters in Rescue

- 1.68 The insertion and extraction of crew and/or equipment into a scene by a helicopter and/or a helicopter winch may not constitute a 'rescue'. Where a helicopter has been deemed to provide the most efficient capability to extract a person from a rescue scene by helicopter winch, they may be used.
- 1.69 When a helicopter is used to extract a person from a rescue scene the helicopter is subject to paragraphs 3.08 and 2.16 of this Policy.
- 1.70 Helicopters that are under contract to the NSW Ambulance Medical Retrieval unit and those operated by the NSW Police Force Aviation Support Branch have known rescue capabilities, equipment and crewing, and are regularly inspected. For quality assurance reasons, helicopters that are under contract to the Medical Retrieval unit and those belonging to the NSW Police Force will be tasked for most rescue incidents in which helicopter retrieval is required.
- 1.71 The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) owns and contracts helicopters, which are regularly inspected, some of which have known rescue capabilities, equipment and crewing. NSW RFS owned and contracted suitable helicopters can be tasked in support of flood operations and bushfire events for the extraction of persons in imminent danger.
- 1.72 The NSW Police Force has arrangements in place to task other helicopters when they are needed to effect a timely rescue, and they are considered to be suitable for the task.
- 1.73 When helicopters are tasked for protracted rescue incidents at sea, rescue vessels will also be tasked to the same area of operations.

Body Recovery Tasks

- 1.74 The NSW Police Force is responsible for body recovery and body recovery tasks, under the *Coroners Act 1980*. With the exception of Police Rescue Squads accredited rescue units are only to be employed in a body recovery task at the direction of the NSW Police Force.

Land and Waterway Search and Rescue Operations

- 1.75 The NSW Police Force is the search and rescue coordinating authority as determined by the Intergovernmental Agreement on National Search and Rescue Response Arrangements.
- 1.76 Land Search and Rescue is the search for and provision of life saving assistance to people in distress and imminent danger of loss-of-life. The NSW Police Force is responsible for:
 - a) coordinating Land Search and Rescue operations in respect to:
 - i. persons and vehicles on land
 - ii. aircraft not included on the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and Recreational Aviation Australia registers including ultralights, para-gliders, hang-gliders and gyrocopters, and
 - b) coordinating land searches for missing registered civil aircraft in support of AMSA.

- 1.77 The NSW Police Force is responsible for the overall coordination of Land Search and Rescue operations in NSW and has the authority to call-out any resource whether accredited or not to undertake or assist in search and rescue operations. Requests for assistance by the NSW Police Force should only be done in exceptional circumstances and should not be used for routine response by non-accredited agencies.
- 1.78 The NSW Police Force must be aware of the capabilities of all emergency services to provide assistance and it is acknowledged the significant multi-agency commitment to Land Search and Rescue operations across NSW ensuring the search and rescue system has the capability and capacity to locate, support and rescue persons in distress in the shortest time possible.
- 1.79 The NSW Police Force is responsible for Inland Waterway Search and Recovery. Police must be aware of the capabilities of all emergency services to provide assistance. Units must meet any standards laid down by the NSW Police Force.

Marine Search and Rescue Operations

- 1.80 This Policy recognises the established roles and guidelines laid down in the Australian National Search and Rescue Manual, the Australian and International boundaries for areas of Rescue Coordination Centre responsibilities, including Australian Search and Rescue Regions and the Inter-Governmental Maritime Search and Rescue Agreement.
- 1.81 Under the Inter-Governmental Agreement, the NSW Police Force is the authority responsible for arranging and coordinating marine search and rescue operations in respect to pleasure craft and fishing vessels at sea, unregistered aircraft, persons missing in a coastal environment, persons and vessels on inland waters and all non-military vessels in port. The NSW Police Force Marine Area Command is responsible for this function.
- 1.82 For marine search and rescue, the senior police officer present in the search and rescue coordination centre from which the operation is being controlled, is responsible for coordinating and determining the priorities of action of the agencies engaged in the rescue operation.
- 1.83 Marine rescue includes the locating of vessels in distress at sea or in sheltered waters and bringing the vessels and their occupants to safety. If that is not feasible, rescuing the occupants and bringing them to safety. Marine rescue also includes the rescue of persons who have fallen into the sea or sheltered waters from land or a vessel.
- 1.84 In order to execute a marine rescue, the vessel in distress must first be located. Therefore, a co-ordinated search operation is normally required before a marine rescue can take place.
- 1.85 The NSW Police Force is responsible for the overall coordination of marine search and rescue operations in NSW and has the authority to call-out any resource whether accredited or not to undertake or assist in a rescue. This Policy notes a range of non-accredited resources, including entities engaged in surf lifesaving activities, are available to assist with the rescue of people in the sea close to shore.
- 1.86 Coordination responsibilities for Flood Rescue incidents should reference Response Policy – Flood at Chapter 2.

Search and Rescue Coordination Centres

- 1.87 A Search and Rescue Coordination Centre is a specially designated facility, equipped and accredited to monitor maritime radio distress frequencies for the purpose of receiving distress calls and coordinating marine search and rescue operations.
- 1.88 The NSW Police Force Marine Area Command maintains the State Marine Search and Rescue Coordination Centre located at the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command Headquarters.
- 1.89 Along the NSW coast, Marine Rescue units provide a combination of regional Search and Rescue Coordination Centres which deliver the Marine Rescue NSW role of public marine safety radio monitoring of the NSW coastline.
- 1.90 Search and Rescue Coordination Centres are to be operational, ideally 24 hours per day, but as a minimum, between the hours of sunrise and sunset daily. 'Operational' may include marine radio monitoring via means other than occupation of a local facility, including but not limited to internet-based radio-over-IP (RoIP) links to other Search and Rescue Coordination Centres (or centralised Marine Rescue NSW location/s). Search and Rescue Coordination Centres are to be prepared for activation at any time at the request or direction of the NSW Police Force.
- 1.91 Search and Rescue Coordination Centres are to be licensed in accordance with the *Radio Communications Act 1992* (Cth) and are to be staffed by qualified radio operators and have qualified search and rescue coordinators on standby and available for call out 24 hours per day.

Marine Radio Bases

- 1.92 Marine Radio Bases are a specially designated facility, equipped and accredited to monitor maritime radio distress frequencies for the purpose of receiving distress calls. Marine Radio Bases operate for the purpose of receiving distress calls, monitoring routine radio calls, notifying the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command in the event that a marine rescue is required and maintaining communications with vessels in distress until rescue is affected.
- 1.93 Marine Radio Bases are to be operational ideally between the hours of sunrise and sunset daily on weekends and public holidays. 'Operational' may include marine radio monitoring via means other than occupation of a local facility, including but not limited to internet-based radio-over-IP (RoIP) links to other Search and Rescue Coordination Centres (or centralised Marine Rescue NSW location/s). Marine Radio Bases are to be prepared for activation at any time at the request or direction of the NSW Police Force.
- 1.94 Marine Radio Bases are to be licensed in accordance with the *Radio Communications Act 1992* (Cth) and are to be staffed by qualified radio operators.

Debriefings and Reviews

Debriefing Rescue Operations

- 1.95 Each rescue service is to ensure that appropriate and timely critical incident support is readily available to its members.
- 1.96 Individual rescue units and agencies are responsible for the conduct of unit and agency debriefings after the conclusion of a rescue operation. The Chair of the appropriate Rescue Committee is responsible to conduct a combined unit/agency debrief after conclusion of a major rescue operation. Time must be allowed for the prior conduct of unit/agency debriefs.
- 1.97 The Chair of the appropriate Rescue Committee is to submit to the SRB a report on rescue operations as soon as possible after the conduct of the combined debriefs.

Review Panels

- 1.98 The SRB may convene a panel to review rescue incidents where concerns about procedures have been expressed. Reports of such panels are to be provided to the SRB.

Rescue Capability Reviews

- 1.99 Regional Rescue Committees are to at least annually, review the capability of rescue units within their area and submit reports to the SRB via the appropriate chain of command.

Responsibilities for Rescue Scene Clean Up

- 1.100 The NSW Police Force has the responsibility to ensure that clean up occurs at the scene of a rescue operation before the incident is concluded and units return to base.
- 1.101 The NSW Police Force may direct clean up to occur as part of their responsibility for control and coordination of rescue. Individual agencies and rescue units are responsible for the clean-up of agency generated medical, contaminated wastes and consumables resulting from their attendance at the scene.

Recording of Images and Video

- 1.102 The recording of images and/or video at a rescue incident can result in considerable undue stress to those involved as well as their friends and relatives. In addition, the taking and use of such images and/or video may be in breach of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* or the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*.
- 1.103 Members of accredited rescue units are to comply with the directions of this Policy in relation to the recording of images and/or video at a rescue incident.
- 1.104 Members and crew of resources directed by the NSW Police Force to assist with supporting rescue activities, including the insertion or extraction of crew and/or equipment to a rescue incident are to comply with the directions of this Policy in relation to the recording of images and/or video at a rescue incident.

1.105 For the purpose of this Policy images and video means still or moving images on any medium including film, magnetic video, digital storage or any other method of analogue or digital information storage. This includes images and video temporarily stored for the purpose of being streamed, digitally shared or otherwise broadcast.

When is it appropriate to record images and video?

1.106 In most circumstances, there is no legitimate reason for rescuers to take images and/or video of dead, injured or other victims of a rescue incident.

1.107 The SRB does however recognise that there are a limited number of circumstances where it may be appropriate or even necessary to record images and/or video at a rescue incident. They are:

- a) when directed to do so by a police officer at the scene for the purpose of collecting evidence, or
- b) for use as instructional material where the images and/or video recorded can significantly enhance the delivery of rescue training.

1.108 Regardless of the circumstances images and/or video are not to be recorded by any rescuer at any rescue incident without the express permission of the NSW Police Force. Further, any such images and/or video are not to include deceased, injured or other victims of a rescue operation unless specifically directed by the NSW Police Force. If such permission or direction is given by the NSW Police Force the recording of such images or video should be conducted discretely and with dignity and under direct police supervision.

1.109 Whenever possible, images and/or video should only be taken once all deceased, injured or other victims involved in the rescue incident have been extricated and are clear of the accident site.

1.110 If there are no dignity or privacy considerations, the NSW Police Force will not unduly reserve permission for recording images and/or video. Agency social media policies for both official and personal use still however apply. This includes the standards that must be followed where individuals identify themselves as rescue operators or working for rescue operation agencies by the content of their postings.

1.111 Marine rescues, in most instances, are not related to a boating accident but rather the retrieval of a vessel and its crew as a result of a mechanical or fuel failure. Under these circumstances images and/or video can be taken and used provided the appropriate permission has been obtained by any person/s rescued if they are identifiable.

1.112 Animal rescues, in most instances, are not related to accidents but rather their retrieval from a difficult location. Under these circumstances images and/or video can be taken and used provided the appropriate permission has been obtained by the owner of any domestic animal rescued if the animal is identifiable in the image/video.

Ownership of Images and Video

- 1.113 All images and/or video taken at the direction of police at a rescue incident are considered to be the property of the NSW Police Force in the first instance. Any person seeking to use or acquire copies of images and/or video must apply to the NSW Police Force explaining the reason for requesting such images and/or video, the intended use and how any duplication or circulation of such images and/or video will be controlled.
- 1.114 Where the NSW Police Force has provided prior express permission for another agency to record an image/video for training, promotional or similar purposes, the images/video are considered the property of the agency. The storage and any subsequent use of an image/video must comply with this Policy, and privacy legislation.

Public Display of Images and Video

- 1.115 The SRB considers that it is not acceptable to publicly display any images and/or video of dead or injured people or animals. The only exceptions are when such images and/or video are presented in court or with the written permission of the NSW Police Force Commissioner.
- 1.116 Public display includes:
- a) publication in SRB or emergency service organisations' books, manuals, journals, videos, or other publications that can or could be accessible to the public
 - b) publication in external publications such as newspapers, journals or conference papers
 - c) on display stands at events
 - d) digital or printed displays in premises used by SRB accredited rescue units including notice boards, kiosk displays, lockers, etc
 - e) on internet sites, and
 - f) any other use where the images and/or video would be accessible by the public.

Using Images and Video for Training

- 1.117 Only the Manager responsible for Rescue of the emergency services organisation to which a rescue operator or a rescue unit seeking use of images and/or video from a rescue incident is a member, may apply to the NSW Police Force for permission to use images and/or video from a rescue incident.
- 1.118 If the NSW Police Force release or approve the use of any images and/or video from a rescue incident, the Manager responsible for rescue is responsible for ensuring the images and/or video are used appropriately and in accordance with this Policy. While the Manager responsible for rescue cannot be responsible for controlling the circulation of such images and/or video, they are responsible for ensuring the users of such images and/or video are aware of this Policy and an assurance from the users that the images and/or video will be used in strict adherence to this Policy.

1.119 An image does not have to contain a picture of a dead or injured person to be distressing. Consider the feelings of the people who may be viewing the image and/or video before use. In some cases, warnings may be appropriate. The production of any training materials containing images and/or video from a rescue incident released by the NSW Police Force must be done in consultation with the Manager responsible for rescue of the emergency services organisation to which the rescue unit or rescue operator belongs or is affiliated with.

Storage of Images and Video

1.120 Any organisation that has images or video of dead, injured or other victims from a rescue incident must handle the images or video as 'personal information' as defined in section 4 of the Privacy and Personal Information Act 1998, whether bound by that Act or not.

1.121 Any organisation that has images or video of dead, injured or other victims from a rescue incident must ensure that:

- g) accurate records are kept of the images and/or video held
- h) they are stored securely
- i) access to the images is restricted
- j) any contractors that are required to access the images and/or video are warned of the content
- k) users are warned of the content of the images and/or video before use
- l) images and/or video are securely destroyed when no longer required.

Statements to the Media and Public

1.122 Individual rescue units, agencies and organisations are responsible for developing policy for making statements to the media and the public. Unit public comment should be limited to factual circumstances on the agency actions. There should be no volunteering of personal opinion or criticism of other organisations. Any request for public comment over and above the foregoing provisions and covering matters of policy should be referred to the NSW Police Force or to the nominated media officer of the organisation concerned.

Complaints

1.123 Complaints regarding rescue are to be handled as follows:

- a) **Complaints from members of the public received by Local or Regional Rescue Committees.**

Complaints received by Local or Regional Rescue Committees are to be dealt with promptly. The Complaints process is meant to try and resolve the issues raised at a local level by encouraging a discussion between those involved.

Where the complaint does not identify misconduct or maladministration and relates to a purely service delivery/customer service issues, then the matter can be resolved by way of explanation by direct response. Complaints concerning service delivery/customer service issues received by the Regional Rescue Committee should be referred to the Local Rescue Committee in the first instance for resolution, where appropriate.

Complaints concerning more substantial matters beyond customer service should also be attempted to be resolved at the local level in the first instance, where appropriate.

Local Rescue Committees are to refer complaints to the SRB through their respective Regional Rescue Committee. Regional Rescue Committees must make efforts to resolve the complaint at the regional level before escalating to the SRB.

Complaints can only be referred to the SRB where satisfactory resolution of the complaint cannot be achieved at the local or regional level.

b) Complaints from agency members.

Complaints from agency members should also be referred to the Local Rescue Committee in the first instance.

The SRB only addresses complaints referred to it by Regional Rescue Committees or directly by a SRB Member. While most complaints received directly from members will be referred to the appropriate Regional or Local Rescue Committees, the SRB can make an exception where one agency wishes to formally complain regarding the actions of another agency. If however, these matters cannot be addressed at a local or regional level, they can be referred by the SRB as appropriate.

c) Complaints received by the State Rescue Board Secretariat

The SRB Secretariat receives direct complaints and enquiries from time to time.

Where appropriate, the SRB Secretariat will refer complaints and enquiries to the SRB, the SRB's Policy Advisory Committee (PAC), Local or Regional Rescue Committees, or direct to combat agencies.

Enquires of an administrative nature can be resolved by way of explanation by direct response.

1.124 The SRB is to be notified in writing of issues where satisfactory resolution of the complaint cannot be achieved or where action is required by the SRB.

1.125 Where a complaint requires escalation to the SRB, an agenda paper detailing the nature of the complaint must be prepared and presented at a meeting of the PAC. If the matter remains unresolved, it will then be listed for the SRB's consideration.

Chapter 2 - Response Policy

General Principles

- 2.01 The SRB has adopted the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) to guide response times across NSW. The ARIA code index consists of five levels of remoteness: Very Remote, Remote, Outer Regional, Inner Regional and Major Cities.
- 2.02 The SRB has adopted the Metropolitan, Regional and Remote classification categories and subsequently determined the minimum road accident rescue response times for each category as follows:

ARIA Code Definition	SRB GLR Definition	SRB Response times
Major Cities	Metropolitan	20 minutes
Inner Regional/Outer Regional	Regional	40 minutes
Remote/Very Remote	Remote	60 minutes

- 2.03 Coordination among all services, medical and non-medical, is essential to ensure that there is effective linkage between acute medical care, family support and ongoing rehabilitation and return to life.
- 2.04 Rescue units are to respond within accreditation limits, to any perceived or actual rescue incident in a timely and safe manner.
- 2.05 Where a suitably accredited unit is unavailable, NSW Police Force may request assistance from a non-accredited person or unit. This should only be done in exceptional circumstances and is not to be used for routine response by non-accredited agencies.
- 2.06 It is recognised that in some instances it may be appropriate for a composite crew deployment to be undertaken. For example, a NSW Volunteer Rescue Association (NSW VRA or NSW SES member may make up crew on a NSW RFS vehicle.
- 2.07 Existing rescue resource dispatch ('Primary' and 'Secondary') arrangements and areas of responsibility are to remain until the full implementation of real time Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) and Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) tracking systems to identify the closest most appropriate rescue resource.
- 2.08 Areas of responsibility are allocated for all accredited rescue units throughout the State. In some localities rescue agencies share an area of responsibility, with response managed via a roster system. The NSW Police Force Radio Operations Group Rescue Coordination Officer (ROG RCO) is responsible for coordinating the response of rescue units.
- 2.09 It is the responsibility of Local and Regional Rescue Committees to determine local rescue areas of responsibility for rescue units. Once determined, the Committees are to inform the NSW Police Force ROG RCO.

Unavailable/Available

- 2.10 When an accredited rescue unit (GLR, RCR, VR, or FR) becomes temporarily unavailable for tasking, the responsible agency must immediately notify the NSW Police Force ROG RCO and submit the Rescue Unit Unavailable/Available notification form. The Rescue Unit Unavailable/Available notification form is available on the Emergency NSW website.
- 2.11 In the event that a land or flood rescue unit is already fully engaged in a task (or tasks) and is not available for immediate response (including prioritised re-tasking) the NSW Police Force ROG RCO is to be advised.
- If a Marine Rescue Unit is already fully engaged and is called for another task, therefore unavailable for immediate response, the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command is to be advised.
- 2.12 The NSW Police Force ROG RCO must also be notified once the rescue unit is back online. The Rescue Unit Unavailable/Available notification form must be completed in accordance with the protocol for this purpose.

Interim Response Arrangements

- 2.13 If a situation occurs where an accredited rescue unit is temporarily unable to respond to the types of rescue for which it is accredited, the following principles apply:
- a) Alternative Unit. Rescue tasks may be temporarily allocated to another accredited rescue unit by the Local Rescue Committee. The arrangement should be endorsed by the Regional Rescue Committee.
 - b) Joint Response. Where a rescue unit is temporarily understaffed, the Local Rescue Committee may endorse another rescue unit, which has the capability and agrees to provide support, to be called out and respond jointly to rescue incidents.
 - c) In these instances, the Local Rescue Committee is to advise the NSW Police Force ROG RCO and the Regional Emergency Management Officer (REMO) who in turn advises all Regional Rescue Committee members of the interim arrangement and new call-out regime. Temporary joint response arrangements are to be implemented only at the request of the rescue agency requiring support (regional representative or corporate authority), or where there is clear evidence that the accredited unit is unable to respond effectively.
 - d) Resumption of normal arrangements. As a guide, temporary response arrangements are to be put in place for a maximum period of six months. The agency requiring support is to provide a report to the Local and Regional Rescue Committees after three months, so that progress on re-building capability can be reviewed.
 - e) When the accredited rescue unit is able to resume provision of rescue services (by itself), the regional representative of the agency is to inform the Local and Regional Rescue Committees that the interim arrangements are no longer required. Rescue response arrangements are to revert to original arrangements. The Local Rescue Committee is to advise the NSW Police Force ROG RCO and the REMO is to advise all regional Rescue Committee members.
 - f) If the situation is not resolved refer to paragraph 1.124.

Medical Emergency Access

- 2.14 In the event that a person requires urgent medical assistance but **cannot be readily accessed** due to some form of physical or environmental barrier, a Medical Emergency Access response may be required.
- 2.15 Where a situation is identified, the NSW Police Force ROG RCO must immediately be notified and will activate a Medical Emergency Access response. The Medical Emergency Access Protocol can be found at **Attachment O**.

Response Policy - Land

- 2.16 Land Rescue Units are to respond to any perceived or actual rescue incident in a timely and safe manner.
- 2.17 **A standard response to a road accident rescue incident will include:**
- NSW Police Force – responsible for coordinating and determining the priorities of action of the agencies engaged in the rescue operation
 - the Fire Service with operational jurisdiction for the area – to provide fire protection
 - NSW Ambulance – to provide pre-hospital triage, treatment and transport.
 - a rescue unit – a GLR or RCR unit, depending on the location of the incident, will be responded in the first instance to provide rescue skills. A GLR unit is considered the most appropriate unit to respond to an incident, with the exception of motor vehicle accidents in any of the 11 identified areas, once RCR units have been established and accredited.

Where an incident involves a vehicle that presents a hazardous materials risk:

- Fire and Rescue NSW – to contain any hazardous materials and to render the site safe.

A standard response to a General Land Rescue incident will include:

- NSW Police Force – responsible for coordinating and determining the priorities of action of the agencies engaged in the rescue operation
- NSW Ambulance – to provide pre-hospital triage, treatment and transport.
- a rescue unit – closest available GLR to provide rescue skills.

A standard response to a Vertical Rescue incident will include:

- NSW Police Force – responsible for coordinating and determining the priorities of action of the agencies engaged in the rescue operation
- NSW Ambulance – to provide pre-hospital triage, treatment and transport.
- a VR rescue unit – to provide rescue skills.

- 2.18 The emergency services response to other land rescue incidents will be determined by the specific nature of the incident. Not all emergency services may be required.

Call-Out

- 2.19 Responsibility for calling out rescue units is vested in the NSW Police Force. However, if an accredited rescue unit is contacted directly by a person other than the NSW Police Force, it is to respond to incidents within its area of responsibility and must advise the NSW Police Force ROG RCO as soon as possible.
- 2.20 In the event of 2.19, where an accredited rescue agency has been contacted directly by another person other than the NSW Police Force the onus of responsibility rests with the respective agency communications centre without delay to contact NSW Police Force ROG RCO.
- 2.21 The guiding principle is that the appropriate accredited rescue unit with the shortest response time to the incident scene is to be tasked to respond. Local and Regional Rescue Committees should determine response arrangements of GLR, RCR and VR.
- In the 11 remote areas identified for improved service delivery, the closest most appropriate rescue unit is to be responded. In the case of an accredited RCR unit, the closest GLR unit is also to be responded.
- Where a vertical rescue has been identified and a VR unit called out, the NSW Police Force ROG RCO, is to determine whether the GLR unit is also required to deploy. This decision is to be risk assessed taking into account response times for both units.
- 2.22 In the event of a rescue incident where the NSW Police Force has not yet assumed on-site control, the NSW Police Force ROG RCO is to respond direct to any request for assistance from emergency service units already on scene. Once the NSW Police Force have arrived at the scene the NSW Police Force ROG RCO is to respond directly to any request from the senior police officer present, or the Site Controller if appointed.
- 2.23 It is illegal under the provisions of the SERM Act for non-accredited units to respond to call-outs for rescue without the approval of the NSW Police Force. However, all members of the emergency services have a responsibility to preserve life, so if a non-accredited emergency services unit is in close proximity to an incident requiring rescue, it may commence the rescue, within its capabilities and training, but must advise the NSW Police Force as soon as possible and hand over to an accredited unit on its arrival, if requested to do so.

Unavailable due to existing deployment

- 2.24 In the event that a rescue unit is already fully engaged in one task and is called for another task, therefore unavailable for immediate response, the NSW Police Force ROG RCO is to be advised.

Call-Off

- 2.25 The senior police officer present at the scene of a rescue incident is responsible for ensuring that appropriate rescue assets are in attendance. Where the senior police officer present at the scene of the rescue incident is aware of information which changes the initial rescue response requirements, they should issue directions to the NSW Police Force ROG RCO to change the rescue arrangements accordingly.

- 2.26 The senior police officer present at the scene of the rescue incident may call-off rescue units, after it is determined in consultation with the senior NSW Ambulance paramedic present, that no extrication or specialised support requirements exist. In the absence of on scene police, the NSW Police Force ROG RCO may downgrade a rescue unit's response from urgent duty (lights and sirens) to normal driving conditions on advice of the senior NSW Ambulance paramedic present at the scene. Responding units are to acknowledge the changed arrangements.
- 2.27 In the absence of both NSW Police Force and NSW Ambulance paramedics, the senior officer of an emergency services organisation present at the scene of an incident, may request through the NSW Police Force ROG RCO to call off responding rescue resources belonging to their own emergency services organisation.

On Scene Control

- 2.28 At any rescue incident that is large and complex, it is the responsibility of the Site Controller, or senior police officer present at the scene to appoint a Rescue Function Coordinator. The Rescue Function Coordinator is responsible for coordinating those activities directly related to the actual rescue operation. The senior NSW Ambulance paramedic at the scene will determine the priority for the release of the trapped patient(s). The senior police officer present remains responsible for overall control of the incident.

Note: See 1.22, 1.35 and 1.40 for definitions of Flood Rescue Controller, Rescue Function Coordinator and Site Controller.

Calls for Additional Rescue Units

- 2.29 Where a rescue unit attends a rescue and determines that additional rescue resources are required, all requests for additional assets are to be directed to the senior police officer present and passed to the NSW Police Force ROG RCO. The NSW Police Force ROG RCO is responsible for dispatching an appropriate rescue unit to reinforce rescue assets.

Response Policy - Marine

Overall Coordination

- 2.30 The NSW Police Force is responsible for the overall coordination of marine search and rescue operations in NSW. The NSW Police Force Marine Area Command will coordinate the search and rescue operations in line with Appendix B of the National Search and Rescue Manual.
- 2.30 Both the NSW Police Force and members of Marine Rescue NSW must be conversant with the capabilities of the relevant local resources and their limitations. Should the accredited Marine Rescue unit be inadequate or unavailable for an operation, the NSW Police Force is responsible for the acquisition of appropriate resources for the task.
- 2.31 The NSW Police Force Marine Area Command shall conduct operational readiness inspections on Marine Rescue units in conjunction with Marine Rescue NSW representatives at least once every two years and additionally if/as required. Copies of reports shall be provided to Marine Rescue NSW.

Call-Out

- 2.32 While responsibility for the call-out of rescue units is vested in the NSW Police Force, responsibility for alerting the NSW Police Force to the need for a marine rescue operation will frequently fall upon the accredited Marine Rescue unit which receives the 'distress' or 'urgency' call. Any Marine Rescue unit receiving a 'distress' or 'urgency' call, or which receives other intelligence of a vessel or persons in distress on the water is to immediately respond a Marine Rescue Vessel within its authorised operating limits and inform the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command in line with the notification process set out in this Policy.
- 2.33 If information about a vessel being in distress or missing is received by the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command, they will notify, and if necessary, activate the appropriate Marine Rescue unit/s to monitor or establish and maintain radio communications with the vessel. They may also notify and task the necessary Marine Rescue Vessel resources and if necessary, seek assistance from the local police.
- 2.34 Before doing so, the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command will have undertaken a risk assessment of the prevailing sea and weather conditions, taking into consideration the type of vessel to be tasked.
- 2.35 Marine Rescue units or operators of other resources requested by the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command to deploy are responsible for further undertaking their own risk assessments and decision to deploy safely. If it is determined a resource cannot deploy safely, the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command must be advised immediately so other arrangements can be made.

Notification

- 2.36 A Marine Rescue unit must immediately notify the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command Search and Rescue Coordination Centre whenever the following 'notifiable' incidents occur:
- a) a mayday is received
 - b) a request for assistance is received from Australian Search and Rescue (AusSAR) or the NSW Police Force (other than the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command Search and Rescue Coordination Centre)
 - c) a person involved in an incident has died or sustained a serious/life threatening injury
 - d) advice is received that a person/s is in a life threatening situation
 - e) advice is received that a vessel is seriously disabled and is in danger of sinking
 - f) a vessel requires assistance in the offshore/open water environment.
- 2.37 For all notifiable and non-notifiable incidents, the Marine Rescue unit will submit an electronic Incident Report to the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command following the completion of the incident and safe return of Marine Rescue vessels.
- 2.38 The NSW Police Force Marine Area Command must also be notified of any unusual circumstances, including if any breach of the regulations is evident or injury is occasioned to a person and/or serious damage is occasioned to a vessel.

On Scene Control

2.39 In a multi-vessel search situation, the Marine Rescue Unit for the area, working under the control of the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command, is to nominate a vessel master or other Marine Rescue NSW Officer as the On Scene Controller, to control the search under the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command directions until a NSW Police Force vessel arrives at the scene. If a NSW Police Force vessel does not attend the scene, the nominated vessel master is to maintain on scene control under the direction of the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command.

If a police vessel is involved, the senior police officer on board will assume the duties of the On Scene Controller. The NSW Police Force Marine Area Command remains responsible for the coordination of the search.

2.40 If prior to the NSW Police Force arrival at the scene, the relevant Marine Rescue unit believes that air assistance is required, the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command are to be requested to seek authorisation for such aerial assistance.

Unavailability

2.41 Whenever an accredited Marine Rescue unit is not able to activate/operate/respond resources appropriate to its accreditation or it becomes part or wholly unavailable for tasking, the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command is to be notified immediately.

Marine Radio Monitoring

2.42 When a Marine Rescue Unit's Search and Rescue Coordination Centre / Marine Radio Base has to close down any of its normal public marine radio coverage, the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command is to be informed, along with any alternate arrangements made with other centres to ensure the continuity of service. It is noted that this may involve centralised (regional and state) monitoring via RoIP based systems.

Call-Off

2.43 The NSW Police Force Marine Area Command will call-off a resource being utilised as part of a marine search and rescue operation when appropriate.

Suspension

2.44 Unless directed by the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command, the On Scene Controller will not suspend searches except for reasons of safety. The On Scene Controller will not suspend marine search and rescue operations without providing prior advice to the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command.

Response Policy - Flood

General Principles

- 2.45 The purpose of this Policy is to provide direction and enhance existing emergency management arrangements for flood rescue at a state, regional and local level. This Policy takes an 'all agencies' approach and outlines key requirements, principles, authorities, responsibilities and mechanisms for the establishment, activation, operation and management of flood rescues in NSW.
- 2.46 The NSW SES is the legislated combat agency for flood, storm and tsunamis.
- 2.47 All agencies must be authorised/accredited to undertake flood rescue operations in accordance with SRB requirements as prescribed by the NSW SES.
- 2.48 This Policy details the requirements for other agencies to undertake flood rescue operations, in accordance with the following principles:
- a) Only appropriately trained agency personnel should perform at the functional levels whether it is at the 'land based', 'on water based' and 'in water based' flood rescue operations.
 - b) In developing and maintaining flood rescue capabilities, rescue units and agencies are to adopt a risk management approach (as outlined in the Rural Service Delivery Model) in conjunction with the Local Rescue Committee.
 - c) Each agency needs to ensure training, vehicles, vessels, equipment and procedures are sufficient and appropriate to address the risks that exist in the local area, as identified in the relevant local flood plan, or informed by other sources.
 - d) The prepositioning of flood rescue resources will be coordinated with agencies under the direction of the NSW SES. This will generally be where the NSW SES has established a FRAO or is preparing to do so.
- 2.49 The NSW SES has the authority to request any asset or resource, public or private, whether accredited, trained or not, to assist in flood operations, as referenced in the State Flood Plan.

Flood rescue framework

- 2.50 In order to provide for the safety of both rescuer and victim, a low to high risk flow-chart has been adopted for the various rescue methods in flood rescue.
- 2.51 The flow-chart shows 'talk', 'throw' (released), 'reach', 'wade', 'throw (held)', 'row', 'go', 'helo', and 'No' outlined at **Attachment A**.

Control – task areas

- 2.52 There are three task areas: search, flood rescue or body recovery.

Flood rescue activation and coordination is based on whether a FRAO has been established by the NSW SES or not.

- a) Search – NSW Police Force
- b) Flood Rescue – where there is no FRAO – NSWPF
- c) Flood Rescue – where a FRAO has been established – NSW SES
- d) Body Recovery – NSW Police Force

2.53 It is possible during flood rescue operations that as an operation progresses through the above phases the control of the incident will reflect the above identified agencies.

Activation, communication and coordination

2.54 Flood rescue activation and coordination will be based on whether an FRAO has been established or not. A FRAO will be determined by the NSW SES Incident Controller.

Non established areas of operations

2.55 The NSW Police Force ROG RCO will activate the nearest accredited flood rescue unit to initial flood activations.

2.56 The NSW Police Force ROG RCO must advise the NSW SES State Operations Centre of all flood rescue activations.

2.57 The NSW Police Force ROG RCO will activate the nearest GLR Unit.

Established Flood Rescue Area of Operations

2.58 Where the NSW SES has established a FRAO for the coordination and management of flood rescue, they must notify the NSW Police Force ROG RCO prior to its commencement.

2.59 When the NSW SES establishes a FRAO, the use of inter-agency flood rescue resources in support of that FRAO requires effective communications to manage those resources be established prior to the support agency's deployment.

2.60 Once a FRAO has been established, flood rescue responses within that FRAO are to be managed in accordance with the NSW SES Incident Controller's priorities and direction and the established flood rescue coordination mechanisms. The NSW SES Incident Controller will control assigned rescue resources from other agencies.

2.61 The NSW SES will advise the NSW Police Force ROG RCO of all flood rescue activations within their FRAO.

2.62 The closest appropriate available flood rescue resource will be activated initially by the appointed NSW SES Incident Controller.

2.63 All flood rescues will be triaged and prioritised in accordance with NSW SES flood rescue management protocols.

2.64 In a FRAO, the GLR will not be activated unless deemed appropriate by the NSW SES Incident Controller. This will be initiated through the NSW Police Force ROG RCO.

- 2.65 The NSW SES may respond any other additional flood rescue resources as deemed appropriate.
- 2.66 Effective communications must be established between all agencies supporting a FRAO.
- 2.67 The Flood Rescue Activation process is outlined at Attachment B.

Call-off

- 2.68 The call-off of responding flood rescue resources will be controlled and co-ordinated through the NSW Police Force ROG RCO and/or NSW SES, when the senior officer of an emergency services organisation present at the scene determines there is no immediate or potential need of removal from a life threatening flood environment.

Response Coordination Disputes

- 2.69 In areas serviced by the NSW Police Force, Fire and Rescue NSW, NSW Ambulance and NSW SES Communication Centres, disputes may arise regarding the coordination of response resources.
- 2.70 When disputes occur the NSW Police Force RCO ROG will determine the responsible agency in consultation with the other communication centre agencies and refer any matters that cannot be resolved to the appropriate Rescue Committee.
- 2.71 Local or Regional Rescue Committees may decide the need to convene a standing Control Room Committee if required to:
 - a) monitor the coordination of response of accredited rescue resources within the area for which it is responsible
 - b) ensure rapid exchange of information between Service Control Centres relating to call-out and call-off of accredited rescue units
 - c) be aware of the rescue response requirements and rescue plans for adjoining areas
 - d) resolve day to day disputes relating to call-out or call-off of accredited rescue resources within the designated rescue area, and
 - e) bring to the notice of the appropriate Rescue Committee and to the SRB, those matters which cannot be satisfactorily resolve

Chapter 3 - Accreditation

General

- 3.01 **'Accreditation'** is the formal approval by the Minister to undertake rescue in NSW. The approval provides the authority to undertake general land, road crash, flood, marine or specialist rescue operations under the coordination of the NSW Police Force.
- 3.02 The identification of rescue needs and services across NSW by Local and Regional Rescue Committees continues to ensure an appropriate consideration of local priorities based on identifiable risks. Local and Regional Rescue Committees should be supported to make determinations of capability level requirements in their area.
- 3.03 Applications for accreditation are to be submitted to the SRB using the prescribed form, through Local and Regional Rescue Committees.
- 3.04 Once the Minister accredits a rescue unit that Unit is obliged to respond in accordance with their accreditation on a 24 hour, seven days a week basis.

The Principles

- 3.05 The intent and purpose of accreditation is to establish and provide continuity of service delivery across NSW. This is achieved through standardisation of levels of training and maintenance of skills by ensuring resources are located appropriately, and with the ability to respond within acceptable timeframes; and ensuring local communities across NSW have appropriate rescue vehicles and equipment available.
- 3.06 The principles for the consideration of applications for accreditation are:
 - a) the rescue needs of the community should be based on the all-hazards approach
 - b) the SRB will consider the organisational affiliations of any unit applying for accreditation when making a recommendation to the Minister (to be eligible for accreditation a unit must be a member or an affiliate of one of the agencies which operates accredited rescue units).
- 3.07 Accreditations are for periods determined by the Minister and remain valid until a rescue unit is notified that the Minister has withdrawn accreditation in accordance with the provisions of section 56(2) of the SERM Act.

Request to withdraw accreditations can be made to the Minister. Any requests to withdraw accreditation must be in writing to the Board, outlining the reasons for the withdrawal, with the written acknowledgement of the Local and Regional Rescue Committees outlining any alternate arrangements put in place.

Agencies which provide accredited rescue units are required to maintain a register of personnel who comprise each unit, including the currency of qualifications.
- 3.08 Police must be aware of the rescue capabilities of emergency services agencies within their area.

Pre-accreditation Policy

- 3.09 Pre-accreditation is a status granted to new rescue units that authorises them to commence training, purchase equipment, acquire facilities and develop operating procedures. Pre-accreditation is formal acknowledgement that a new rescue unit can expect to attain accreditation once an operational capability inspection has been undertaken. Pre-accreditation status lasts for 12 months, or as otherwise determined by the Board. After that time, pre-accreditation will expire and a new application will need to be submitted. Pre-accredited units are not authorised to undertake rescue operations.
- 3.10 Pre-accreditation may be extended by the Board, beyond 12 months in extenuating circumstances. To seek an extension of pre-accreditation, application must be made to the Board setting out the reasons that an extension is required. Extensions will only be granted where a unit has been prevented from completing the requirements due to circumstances outside of the unit's control.

Safety Requirements and Rescue Operator Physical Pre-requisites

- 3.11 All agencies must ensure proper risk assessment practices are in place to ensure the safety of rescue operators.
- 3.12 All rescue operators are to be 18 years of age or older and of sufficient physical and mental fitness to undertake the full range of tasks likely to be required as a result of accreditation.

Infectious Disease Policy

- 3.13 Parent organisations of accredited rescue units are to ensure that all members of accredited rescue units are appropriately protected against infectious diseases.

Critical Incident Support Policy

- 3.14 Critical incident support for members of accredited rescue units is the responsibility of their parent agencies.

Specialist Rescue

- 3.15 In accordance with the all-hazards approach, units accredited for GLR should be trained and equipped to undertake all types of rescue within their area, wherever possible. However, where there are efficiency or effectiveness advantages, a specialist unit may be accredited to perform additional particular types of rescue.
- 3.16 The SRB may determine the types of specialist rescue which require particular accreditation. The SRB may need to seek technical advice about the standards of specialist organisations before either recommending their accreditation to the Minister or accepting their standards.

Underwater Search and Recovery

- 3.17 The NSW Police Force is responsible for underwater search and recovery. Other agencies must be accredited to undertake underwater search and recovery operations.

Cross Border Rescue Operations

- 3.18 Established rescue units in other jurisdictions are recognised in NSW.

Support Units

- 3.19 Support units provide support services to land rescue units and their operations. Support units include, but are not limited to, communications groups, aerial observation patrols and general support units.
- 3.20 Support units do not require accreditation and members are not authorised to participate in the conduct of rescue operations. This does not preclude activation by another authority for operations within that authority's jurisdiction (for example Australian Search and Rescue).
- 3.21 Support unit members may be considered authorised volunteers and covered under section 59 of the SERM Act for liability purposes. To be afforded this protection, Support units must be recognised by a parent emergency services organisation.

Rescue Identification

- 3.22 The word 'RESCUE' is only to be used on rescue vehicles, vessels and aircraft belonging to rescue units having been accredited by the Minister on the recommendation of the Board. Support unit, ancillary and other agency vehicles are not to display the word.
- 3.23 Exclusions apply where agencies have the word rescue in their agency name. In this instance, the word rescue is only to be used in conjunction with or as part of their registered business name but must not be used as a standalone word unless they are an accredited rescue unit.
- 3.24 Vehicles, vessels and aircraft of non-accredited units are not permitted to be fitted with red or blue lights, or audible warning devices that could be interpreted as a rescue siren.

Risk Management for Land Rescue Service Provision

- 3.25 Regional and Local Rescue Committees are to manage the rescue risk in their areas by implementing the Rural Service Delivery Model (RSDM). The RSDM is a risk management Standard Operating Procedure which guides committees through the process of identifying, analysing, evaluating and treating risks. It is based on the current Australian Risk Management Standard.
- 3.26 Representatives on committee planning teams that are implementing the RSDM need to ensure that any treatment options included in risk treatment action plans are supported by their agency and are able to be implemented.
- 3.27 Any risk treatments that result in recommendations for changes in accreditations or other significant changes to rescue arrangements will need to follow usual procedures to be forwarded to the Board for consideration.
- 3.28 Regional Rescue Committees will provide advice to Local Rescue Committees on the implementation of the RSDM, and further technical advice, supporting maps and data will be made available by the SRB Secretariat.

General Land Rescue

- 3.29 Land rescue unit accreditation is based on the general accreditation principles articulated above and is formal approval to undertake general land and specialist rescue operations, within NSW. In assessing the application, the SRB will consider:
- a) the need for the rescue unit concerned
 - b) the standard of equipment and training, and
 - c) the effect of the unit on the control and coordination of rescue services.
- 3.30 The SRB will not recommend accreditation of independent general land or specialist organisations which are not part of or affiliated with specified organisations. Applications for GLR, RCR or specialist accreditation are to be submitted to the Board in accordance with the processes detailed at Chapter 4.

Vertical Rescue

- 3.31 Accreditation is required for Vertical Rescue (VR). Vertical Rescue can be a stand-alone specialist accreditation, without the need for those specialist units to hold GLR accreditation. Requests for specialist stand-alone VR accreditation should only be done in exceptional circumstances where the risk has been identified and assessed by the Local and Regional Rescue Committees as an appropriate mitigation strategy.
- 3.32 In developing and maintaining VR capability, rescue units and agencies are to adopt a risk management approach. It is each agency's responsibility to ensure that training, vehicles, equipment and procedures are sufficient and appropriate to address the risks that exist in the unit's area of responsibility.
- 3.33 A VR unit must have a minimum of two qualified and current operators to respond to a rescue incident.

Marine Rescue

- 3.34 Accreditation is required for Marine Rescue. Marine Rescue NSW is the only recognised provider of volunteer marine rescue services in NSW.
- 3.35 Marine Rescue unit accreditation is based on the general accreditation principles specified above and is formal approval to undertake marine search and rescue operations, within the limits of the unit's responsibility in NSW waters, including coastal marine radio network monitoring.
- 3.36 The SRB will not recommend accreditation of independent marine organisations which are not part of, or affiliated with, specified organisations.
- 3.37 Applications for Marine Rescue unit accreditation are to be submitted to the SRB in accordance with the processes detailed at Chapter 4.

Flood Rescue

- 3.38 All agency personnel that participate in flood rescue activities should be trained to a minimum level of flood rescue awareness. Flood rescue awareness provides a basic understanding and awareness of generic flood water hazards, the associated risks when working near flood water and simple actions which can be taken to assist the victim without entering flood waters. Flood rescue awareness is not an accreditation.
- 3.39 The NSW SES will provide access to the flood rescue awareness training and relevant support to agencies as required.
- 3.40 Flood Rescue accreditation is required for 'On Water' and 'In Water' flood rescue capabilities, and applies to all agencies involved in Flood Rescue. Land based competencies (as specified at Attachment L) are required to support 'On Water' and 'In Water' operations but do not require stand-alone accreditation.
- 3.41 All flood rescue operators must complete the required training and attain the specified competencies, or equivalent, to be an accredited flood rescue operator.
- 3.42 The NSW SES will maintain records of all agencies who have been authorised to conduct specific flood rescue activities and will provide these to the NSW Police Force as required.
- 3.43 Agencies that have formal flood rescue accreditation must maintain current and accurate records of each current recognised operator. Agencies with flood rescue operators must provide annual reporting as outlined in this Policy.

Competencies and Equipment lists

- 3.44 The minimum competencies and equipment lists required for each category of rescue accreditation are contained as annexures to this Policy. These competencies and equipment lists are periodically reviewed for currency.

Equipment lists

General Land Rescue and Road Crash Rescue

- 3.45 The equipment list for GLR and RCR is provided at Attachment C and D.

Vertical Rescue

- 3.46 The equipment list for VR is provided at Attachment E.

Marine Rescue

- 3.47 Marine Rescue Vessels of accredited Marine Rescue units are to be equipped in accordance with the vessel survey certificate requirements and any additional requirements set by Marine Rescue NSW and NSW Police Marine Area Command.
- 3.48 The equipment lists for MR are provided in Attachment F.

Flood Rescue

- 3.49 The SRB, in conjunction with the NSW SES shall prescribe minimum equipment required for all flood rescue operations. Each agency should determine the appropriate flood rescue equipment required to meet the prescribed minimum.
- 3.50 Agencies are to ensure that all flood rescue equipment is fit for purpose and flood rescue operators are sufficiently trained in the use of each type of equipment.
- 3.51 The equipment list for FR is provided at Attachment G.

Competencies

- 3.52 The minimum training competencies required to carry out GLR is provided at Attachment H.
- 3.53 The minimum training competencies required to carry out RCR is provided at Attachment I.
- 3.54 The minimum training competencies required to carry out VR is provided at Attachment J.
- 3.55 The minimum training competencies required to carry out MR are outlined in Attachment K.
- 3.56 The minimum training competencies required to carry out FR are outlined in Attachment L.

Chapter 4 - Accreditation Procedures

General

- 4.01 The accreditation process is designed to guide units and organisations to submit a proposal for accreditation before expending or allocating any funds acquiring new facilities or equipment. The purpose of this process is to prevent an organisation establishing a unit that may not, in the opinion of the SRB, be required.
- 4.02 Organisations are advised that the pre-emptive acquisition of facilities or equipment will not influence the SRB in its deliberations towards endorsing unit accreditation, nor will it influence the Minister towards approving unit accreditation.

Land Rescue Accreditation Procedures

- 4.03 The GLR, RCR or specialist unit accreditation process is dealt with in two stages:
 - a) **Stage 1** – Pre-accreditation
 - b) **Stage 2** – Full accreditation.

Pre-Accreditation

- 4.04 In the first instance, the unit seeking accreditation is to liaise with an official delegate from their respective agency in order to acquire an endorsed letter of intent. The SRB Secretariat will not action any pre-accreditation proposal without receiving an endorsed letter of intent from the respective agency.
- 4.05 The Rescue Accreditation Proposal for pre-accreditation must be completed by the relevant organisation. Once this occurs, the proposal must be considered, and ultimately endorsed by, the Local and Regional Rescue Committees prior to submission to the SRB.
- 4.06 The Rescue Accreditation Proposal is then tabled for the Board's consideration. If a recommendation for pre-accreditation is made, then proposal is endorsed by the Board and forwarded to the Minister for approval.
- 4.07 Once the Minister's endorsement has been obtained, the SRB Secretariat will forward a letter advising the rescue organisation, the Regional Rescue Committee, the NSW Police Force Emergency Management Unit (EMU) and the NSW Police Force ROG of the Minister's decision.
- 4.08 Pre-accreditation status remains in force for 12 months, unless extended in accordance with paragraph 3.10. After that time, pre-accreditation will expire and a new application will need to be submitted. pre-accreditation entitles the unit to:
 - a) Acquire a suitable facility in accordance with the in-principle endorsed proposal.
 - b) Acquire a suitable vehicle/s in accordance with the in-principle endorsed proposal.
 - c) To commence the recruitment and training of personnel (rescue operators).

- d) Commence procuring equipment/facilities in accordance with the relevant SRB equipment lists. See Attachments C to E.

4.09 Pre-Accredited units are not authorised to conduct or respond to rescue incidents.

Full Accreditation

4.10 When the unit is ready to proceed to full accreditation, the unit Commander or Manager is to submit a Rescue Accreditation Proposal for full accreditation.

4.11 The REMO should then coordinate an inspection of the unit by a Regional Inspection Team. The Regional Inspection Team reports to the SRB Secretariat that the unit has satisfactorily met all necessary requirements for accreditation, including:

- a) Satisfactorily equipped facility/ies.
- b) Evidence of qualified rescue operators (personnel) to staff the Unit and operate in the field.
- c) Evidence of suitable rescue vehicle/s.
- d) Evidence that equipment is sufficient and appropriate to the types of rescues for which the unit is to be accredited.
- e) Confirmation that operating procedures are in place.

4.12 The Regional Inspection Team must submit an Operational Capability Inspection Report to the SRB Secretariat indicating whether the proposal has, or has not, been implemented satisfactorily.

4.13 If the Board approves full accreditation, the SRB Secretariat will submit the necessary paperwork to the Minister for approval. The SRB Secretariat will then forward a letter advising the rescue organisation, the Regional Rescue Committee, NSW Police Force EMU and NSW Police Force ROG of the Minister's decision.

Marine Rescue Accreditation Procedures

General

4.14 Under the SERM Act rescue units are accredited by the Minister. The responsibility for ensuring Marine Rescue Units have the necessary capability, in terms of suitable operators, vessels, communications and operating bases to undertake marine rescue operations in accordance with their approved accreditation requirements, rests with the Commissioner (Chief Executive) of Marine Rescue NSW (MRNSW). The following principles apply to the marine rescue accreditation process:

- a) Marine Rescue Units (MRU) are accredited by the Minister.
- b) Local and Regional Rescue Committees are only to consider applications for accreditation submitted by MRNSW and then forward recommendations to the SRB, including the justification of the need for such a unit.

- c) Any changes to accreditation of MRUs is to be processed in accordance with the accreditation process detailed in this Policy.

A new MRU may be granted pre-accreditation status as per the process detailed in this Policy

Marine Rescue Vessel Requirements

- 4.15 MRUs are accredited to operate Marine Rescue Vessels (MRV).
 - a) MRV shall operate within the required legislation and regulations and as per any additional requirements set within the Marine Rescue NSW Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
 - b) Operating limitations (including distance offshore) of MRV shall be set through the combination of the maximum vessel survey certificate limit ('plying limit') and any additional operating restrictions set by MRNSW and NSW Police Force Marine Area Command.

Pre-accreditation

- 4.16 The pre-accreditation process is designed to guide units and organisations to submit a proposal for accreditation before expending or allocating any funds acquiring a new vessel or facility. The purpose for this process is to prevent an organisation establishing a unit that may not in the opinion of the SRB be required.
- 4.17 A new rescue unit may be granted pre-accreditation status.
- 4.18 The procedure for pre-accreditation will be processed in accordance with the accreditation process identified for land rescue units.
- 4.19 Pre-accreditation remains in force for 12 months, unless extended in accordance with paragraph 3.10. After which time pre-accreditation will expire and a new application will need to be submitted.
- 4.20 Pre-accreditation entitles the unit to:
 - a) Acquire a suitable facility where practicable.
 - b) Acquire a suitable vessel and necessary equipment.
 - c) Commence the recruitment and training of personnel (marine rescue operators).
 - d) Train personnel to a level or levels required by either law and/or this policy for operational duties.
 - e) Commence procuring equipment/facilities in accordance with the relevant equipment lists at Attachment F.
- 4.21 Pre-accredited units are not authorised to conduct or respond to rescue situations.
- 4.22 When the crew, operating procedures, facilities and vessels are ready for operations, Marine Rescue NSW is to arrange an inspection by an SRB Marine Inspection Team. This is co-ordinated by NSW Police Force Marine Area Command.
- 4.23 If the SRB Marine Inspection Team reports to the SRB Secretariat that the unit has implemented the proposal satisfactorily, the SRB Secretariat will commence the accreditation process.

- 4.24 Organisations are advised that the pre-emptive acquisition of a vessel or facility will not influence the SRB in its deliberations towards endorsing unit accreditation, nor will it influence the Minister towards approving unit accreditation.

Accreditation Process

- 4.25 When a MRU is ready to proceed to full accreditation, the Unit Commander or Manager is to submit a Rescue Accreditation Proposal for full accreditation.
- 4.26 The Marine Inspection Team, through the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command should then coordinate an inspection of the MRU. The Marine Inspection Team reports to the SRB Secretariat that the unit has satisfactorily met all necessary requirements for accreditation, including:
- a) Satisfactorily equipped facility/ies.
 - b) Evidence of qualified rescue operators to staff the MRU and operate in the field.
 - c) Evidence of suitable rescue vessel/s.
 - d) Evidence that equipment is sufficient and appropriate to the types of rescues for which the MRU is to be accredited.
 - e) Confirmation that operating procedures are in place.
- 4.27 The Marine Inspection Team must submit an Operational Capability Inspection Report to the SRB Secretariat indicating whether the proposal has, or has not, been implemented satisfactorily.
- 4.28 If the Board approves full accreditation, the SRB Secretariat will submit the necessary paperwork to the Minister for approval. The SRB Secretariat will then forward a letter advising the rescue organisation, the Regional Rescue Committee, NSW Police Force Marine Area Command, NSWPF EMU and the NSW Police Force ROG of the Minister's decision.

State Rescue Board Marine Inspection Team

- 4.29 The SRB Marine Inspection Team is to be led by a NSW Police Force Marine Area Command representative and consist of representatives from a Local Marine Rescue Sub-Committee (where there is one) or Local Rescue Committee, Regional Rescue Committee, and the relevant Marine Rescue Regional Operations Manager.
- 4.30 The SRB Marine Inspection Team will inspect, amongst other things:
- 1) Satisfactorily equipped MRU facility, or alternatively that satisfactory systems/structures are in place to deliver an acceptable level of service (if no dedicated facility is available at that time).
 - 2) Evidence of qualified marine rescue personnel to staff the Unit and operate MRV and/or SARCC/MRBs.
 - 3) Evidence that equipment procured including the MRV, satisfies the relevant vessel survey certificate (AMSA) and Marine Rescue NSW/NSW Police Force Marine Area Command operating requirements.
 - 4) Confirmation that SOPs are in place.

Flood Rescue Accreditation Procedures

4.31 The FR accreditation process occurs in two stages:

- 1) **Stage 1** – Pre-accreditation
- 2) **Stage 2** – Full accreditation.

Pre-Accreditation

- 4.32 In the first instance, the Unit seeking accreditation is to liaise with an official delegate from their respective agency in order to acquire an endorsed letter of intent. The SRB Secretariat will not action any pre-accreditation proposal without receiving an endorsed letter of intent from the respective agency.
- 4.33 Any non NSW SES agency seeking FR accreditation must notify the NSW SES of their intention to seek accreditation.
- 4.34 A Rescue Accreditation Proposal for pre-accreditation must be submitted to the Local and Regional Rescue Committees for review and endorsement.
- 4.35 Once endorsed by the Local and Regional Rescue Committees, the respective agency must provide the completed Rescue Accreditation Proposal and supporting documents to the SRB Secretariat.
- 4.36 The proposal is then tabled for the Board's consideration. If the proposal is endorsed by the Board, the SRB Secretariat will forward it to the Minister for approval.
- 4.37 Once the Minister's endorsement has been obtained, the SRB Secretariat will forward a letter advising the rescue organisation, the Regional Rescue Committee, the NSW Police Force EMU, the NSW Police Force ROG and NSW SES (if application is from a non NSW SES agency) of the Minister's decision.
- 4.38 Pre-accreditation status remains in force for 12 months, unless extended in accordance with paragraph 3.10. After that time, pre-accreditation will expire and a new application will need to be submitted. Pre-accreditation entitles the Unit to:
- a) Acquire a suitable facility in accordance with the in-principle endorsed proposal.
 - b) Acquire a suitable vehicle/s in accordance with the in-principle endorsed proposal.
 - c) To commence the recruitment and training of personnel (Flood Rescue operators).
 - d) Commence procuring equipment/ facilities in accordance with the relevant SRB equipment list at Attachment G.
- 4.39 Pre-accredited units are not authorised to conduct or respond to flood rescue incidents.

Full Accreditation

- 4.40 When the Unit is ready to proceed to full accreditation for flood rescue operations, the Unit representative is to submit a Rescue Accreditation Proposal requesting full accreditation for consideration by the Local and Regional Rescue Committees.
- 4.41 Once endorsed by the Committees, the REMO should then coordinate an inspection of the Unit by a Regional Inspection Team (the Inspection Team will be led by a REMO and/or representative from NSW SES).

- 4.42 The Regional Inspection Team reports to the SRB Secretariat when the unit has satisfactorily met all necessary requirements for accreditation, including:
- a) Satisfactorily equipped facility/ies.
 - b) Evidence of qualified Flood Rescue operators relevant to the accreditation requested (personnel) to staff the Unit and operate in the field.
 - c) Evidence of suitable flood rescue vessel/vehicle/s.
 - d) Evidence that equipment is sufficient and appropriate to the types of rescues for which the unit is to be accredited.
 - e) Confirmation that agency operating procedures, including activation protocols are in place in support of flood rescue.
- 4.43 The Regional Inspection Team will submit an Operational Capability Inspection Report to the SRB Secretariat indicating whether the proposal has, or has not, been implemented satisfactorily.
- 4.44 If the Board approves full accreditation, the SRB Secretariat will submit the necessary paperwork to the Minister for approval. The SRB Secretariat will then forward a letter advising the rescue organisation, the Regional Rescue Committee, the NSW Police Force EMU, the NSW Police Force ROG and the NSW SES (if application is from a non NSW SES agency) of the Minister's decision.

Chapter 5 – Operational Capability Inspections

- 5.01 It is the responsibility of the Head of each organisation providing accredited units to carry out operational capability inspections as may be required to ensure that those units are capable in all aspects of carrying out the tasks for which they have been accredited, and sufficient personnel within them are qualified to do so.
- 5.02 The NSW Police Force Marine Area Command shall conduct operational readiness inspections on Marine Rescue Units in conjunction with Marine Rescue NSW representatives at least once every two years and additionally if/as required. Copies of reports shall be provided to Marine Rescue NSW.

Operational Capability Assurance Framework

- 5.03 Regional Rescue Committees nominate membership of a **Regional Inspection Team** which should at least consist of:
- a) the Regional Emergency Management Officer
 - b) a representative from the organisation being inspected
 - c) a representative of the training unit from the organisation being inspected
 - d) a representative from an organisation not being inspected.
- 5.04 The SRB nominates membership of a **Board Inspection Team** which should consist of:
- a) a Regional Emergency Management Officer from the region being inspected
 - b) a representative of the training unit from the organisation being inspected
 - c) a representative from SRB member organisations as nominated by the Policy Advisory Committee.
- 5.05 Attendance from other organisations will be determined on a case by case basis.
- 5.06 The Operational Capability Assurance Framework should be used in a manner that provides visibility to the SRB on the standard of rescue capability across the State, while supporting organisations to meet and maintain their training, vehicle and equipment requirements for accreditation.
- 5.07 Audits/Inspections can occur in the following instances:
- a) accreditation applications
 - b) requests for capability inspections from Regional Rescue Committees
 - c) requests from individual units
 - d) if there are concerns regarding the availability of a rescue unit.

- 5.08 Inspection teams will use the Operational Capability Inspection Report template to assess a rescue unit's level of capability. The template provides a clear and concise overview of the unit and allows the SRB to report to the Minister, as required under section 54 of the SERM Act.
- 5.09 As part of the pre-accreditation process a unit needs to ensure their crew, operating procedures, facility and equipment are ready for operations.
- 5.10 At the conclusion of the pre-accreditation period, the unit commander will organise an inspection of the unit. This inspection is to be done by a Regional Inspection Team and is coordinated by the REMO.
- 5.11 The Rescue Accreditation Proposal template and Operational Capability Inspection Report template are available on the Emergency NSW website.
- 5.12 The SRB may initiate an audit, including inspections, of any accredited rescue unit.
- 5.13 The Chair of a Regional Rescue Committee may request the SRB arrange for an audit of any accredited rescue unit.
- 5.14 This inspection will be conducted by a Board Inspection Team.
- 5.15 The Operational Capability Inspection Program (which includes RCR, GLR and VR) is designed to encourage regular capability reviews within rescue organisations. Units will be provided with sufficient warning prior to inspections occurring.
- 5.16 A minimum of six rescue unit inspections will be conducted across the State each calendar year through the Operational Capability Inspection Program.
- 5.17 The Operational Capability Inspection Program will be conducted by a Board Inspection Team and co-ordinated by the NSW Police Force Emergency Management Unit.

Annual Reporting Requirements

- 5.18 All agencies are to provide annual reports to the SRB at the completion of each financial year.
- 5.19 Under Section 49A of the SERM Act, the SRB is to prepare an Annual Report on its work and activities. The SERM Act states:
 - a) As soon as practicable after 30 June, but on or before 31 December, in each year, the SRB is to prepare and forward to the Minister a report on its work and activities for the 12 months ending on 30 June in that year.
 - b) The Minister is to lay any such report or cause it to be laid before both Houses of Parliament as soon as practicable after receiving the report.
- 5.20 The SRB Secretariat prepares the Annual Report on behalf of the Board. Regional Rescue Committees, via the REMOs and the Heads of each rescue agency will be asked to prepare information to assist in the compilation of the Report.
- 5.21 Templates will be circulated as soon as practicable after 30 June each year for this purpose. Example templates are provided at Attachment M and N. The templates may vary from year to year depending on reporting requirements.

Chapter 6 - Committees

6.01 The SRB has a hierarchy of committees to provide advice on rescue matters and assist in the passage of information in all directions throughout the NSW rescue community.

Policy Advisory Committee

6.02 The SRB has a Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). Schedule 3 of the SERM Act applies to the procedures of the PAC.

6.03 The PAC consists of senior representatives from the following organisations, nominated by the agencies' Board member:

- a) Executive Officer, State Rescue Board (Chair)
- b) Fire and Rescue NSW
- c) NSW Ambulance
- d) NSW Police Force (including Rescue and Bomb Disposal Unit, Marine Area Command, EMU and ROG)
- e) NSW Rural Fire Service
- f) NSW State Emergency Service
- g) Marine Rescue NSW
- h) NSW Volunteer Rescue Association.

Duties of the Committee

6.04 The PAC has the following duties:

- a) provides advice to the Board on rescue policy matters
- b) provides advice regarding issues being progressed by the SRB Secretariat, including reviewing all applications and matters submitted to the SRB from agencies and the Local and Regional Rescue Committees, and
- c) refers training issues to the sub-committees and working groups as required.

Local and Regional Rescue Committees

6.05 Rescue Committees are to coincide with emergency management regional and local areas designated by regional Rescue Committees.

Membership – Local

6.06 Local Rescue Committees are to be chaired by the Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON). Other membership is to comprise a senior representative from each of the emergency services organisation operating in the local area.

Membership – Regional

- 6.07 Regional Rescue Committees are to be chaired by the Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON). Other membership is to comprise a senior representative from each of the emergency services organisation operating in the relevant region.
- 6.08 Managers of emergency services agency call centres which operate within a relevant region should be invited to attend Regional Rescue Committees as observers.
- 6.09 The Chair of each Regional Rescue Committee has the services of the REMO to assist them with rescue matters, provide operational assistance, support Local Rescue Committees, and provide executive support to the Regional Rescue Committee.

Functions and responsibilities – Local and Regional Rescue Committees

- 6.10 Local and Regional Rescue Committees are responsible to the Board, not to local and regional Emergency Management Committees. Local Rescue Committees are responsible to the SRB through the appropriate regional Rescue Committee.
- 6.11 **Regional Rescue Committees** are required to:
 - a) Implement the policy directions of the SRB within the Region.
 - b) Make recommendations to the SRB on policy matters relating to rescue.
 - c) Coordinate and review planning for rescue within the Region.
 - d) Provide guidance and direction to Local Rescue Committees established within the Region.
 - e) Produce and disseminate standing orders and instructions and standing operating procedures for rescue operations.
 - f) Ensure proper liaison and coordination with other organisations in the Region in connection with rescue and the provision of rescue services.
 - g) Provide endorsement to land rescue unit applications for Service Head approval to purchase rescue equipment and provide advice and recommendations to the SRB on the purchase, allocation and compatibility of rescue equipment, including communications equipment.
 - h) Make recommendations to the SRB on the accreditation of rescue units (both permanent and volunteer) for participation in rescue operations.
 - i) Identify and arrange for training in those Regional Rescue Committee areas pertinent to Regional rescue requirements.
 - j) Conduct training exercises in rescue operations pertinent to Regional rescue requirements.
 - k) Make recommendations to the SRB on any matter referred by the Board.
 - l) Periodically review capability of rescue units within their area.
 - m) Conduct a combined unit/agency debrief at the conclusion of a major rescue operation (where there is no Local Rescue Committee).

6.12 Local Rescue Committees are required to:

- a) Implement the policy directions of the SRB and Regional Rescue Committee.
- b) Make recommendations to the Regional Rescue Committee on policy matters relating to rescue.
- c) Prepare, coordinate and review planning for rescue within the local area.
- d) Produce and disseminate local standing orders and instructions and local standing operating procedures for rescue operations.
- e) Ensure proper liaison and coordination with other organisations in the local area in connection with rescue and the provision of rescue services.
- f) Provide endorsement to land rescue unit applications for Service Head approval to purchase rescue equipment and provide advice and recommendations to the Regional Rescue Committee on the purchase, allocation and compatibility of rescue equipment, including communications equipment.
- g) Make recommendations to the Regional Rescue Committee on the accreditation of rescue units (both permanent and volunteer) for participation in rescue operations.
- h) Identify and arrange for training in those areas pertinent to local rescue requirements.
- i) Conduct training exercises in rescue operations pertinent to local rescue requirements.
- j) Make recommendations to the Regional Rescue Committee on any matter referred by the Regional Rescue Committee.
- k) Periodically review the capability of rescue units within their area.
- l) Conduct a combined unit/agency debrief at the conclusion of a major rescue operation.

Meetings

- 6.13 Local and Regional Rescue Committees are to meet at least bi-annually and after multi-agency rescue operations, where appropriate.

Minutes of Meetings

- 6.14 Copies of Local Rescue Committee minutes of meetings are to be forwarded to the appropriate Regional Rescue Committee. Regional Rescue Committee minutes of meetings are to be provided to the SRB when there are items of major significance.

Resolution of Problems

- 6.15 Problems arising at local and regional levels are to be resolved at the lowest possible level. As a guiding principle, the Board will not address issues which have not been referred by Regional Rescue Committees, including proposals to change accreditations. Issues may be escalated via the chain of command/SRB representative. Refer to 1.123 to 1.125.

Marine Advisory Sub-Committees

- 6.16 Where Local/Regional Rescue Committees have multiple Marine Rescue units, the relevant Local Emergency Operations Controller/Regional Emergency Operations Controller is encouraged to establish a Marine Advisory Sub-Committee. These sub-Committees' are subordinate to Regional Rescue Committees.
- 6.17 Marine Advisory Sub Committees should be chaired by a senior member of the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command, if present in the area or another appropriate person with access to secretarial functions and comprise of representatives of the marine organisations/units operating in the local/regional area. Where this is not appropriate at local level, representatives of locally based Marine Rescue Units should be invited to become members of the Local Rescue Committee.
- 6.18 There is to be one regional level Marine Advisory Sub-Committee in the Sydney Metropolitan Area. The Chairman of the Sydney Metropolitan Area Marine Advisory Sub-Committee is to be appointed by the Commander, NSW Police Force Marine Area Command.
- 6.19 **Local/regional Marine Advisory Sub-Committees** are required to:
- a) Provide advice and recommendations to Rescue Committees on all marine matters.
 - b) Assist Rescue Committees in the exercise of their functions.
 - c) Provide a forum for discussion and resolution of marine rescue matters.
 - d) Carry out functions and tasks allocated to it by the Rescue Committee.

Chapter 7 – Rescue Training and Exercises

General

- 7.01 The SRB has adopted the National Training Framework as the basis for the training of rescue trainers and operators.
- 7.02 It is the responsibility of each agency which provides accredited rescue units, to ensure that their rescue operators are trained in accordance with the SRB Policy and their skills are kept current.
- 7.03 The SRB will assist the organisations which provide accredited rescue units by conducting periodic, cross agency, activities in accordance with agreed requirements.
- 7.04 The SRB will liaise with individual organisations in scheduling these activities, to ensure that there is no duplication.
- 7.05 Organisations conducting training or exercises for accredited rescue units are encouraged to invite participation from other emergency organisations which operate accredited rescue units in the area.

Flood Rescue

- 7.06 Training and exercising activities for FR will be coordinated through the NSW SES in conjunction with Local and Regional Rescue Committees.
- 7.07 Multi-agency training and exercising activities are a requirement by the NSW SES and the SRB as a means of exchanging ideas, improving interoperability and mutually developing capability.
- 7.08 Training and exercising must be completed at least annually within each regional area, to which agencies within that region must be represented.
- 7.09 Agencies are to ensure they provide for currency training to support their flood rescue operators. Once accredited, flood rescue operators must maintain currency in their skills as follows:
 - a) Fit for task
 - i. Agencies are to determine the 'fit for task' components of the response arrangements for Flood Rescue as part of their risk assessment.
 - ii. Operators must demonstrate that they are fit for task to ensure the safety of both the rescuer and the person being rescued.
 - b) Skills maintenance
 - i. Agencies must ensure that their operators maintain competence through regular training, exercising and operational deployment.

- 7.10 Where an agency does not accredit operators to the national Units of Competency (UoC), that agency must provide evidence of equivalence through mapping of their internal training and assessment processes to the relevant national UoC, for endorsement by NSW SES. Training packages must be mapped to the required UoC to retain flood rescue accreditation.

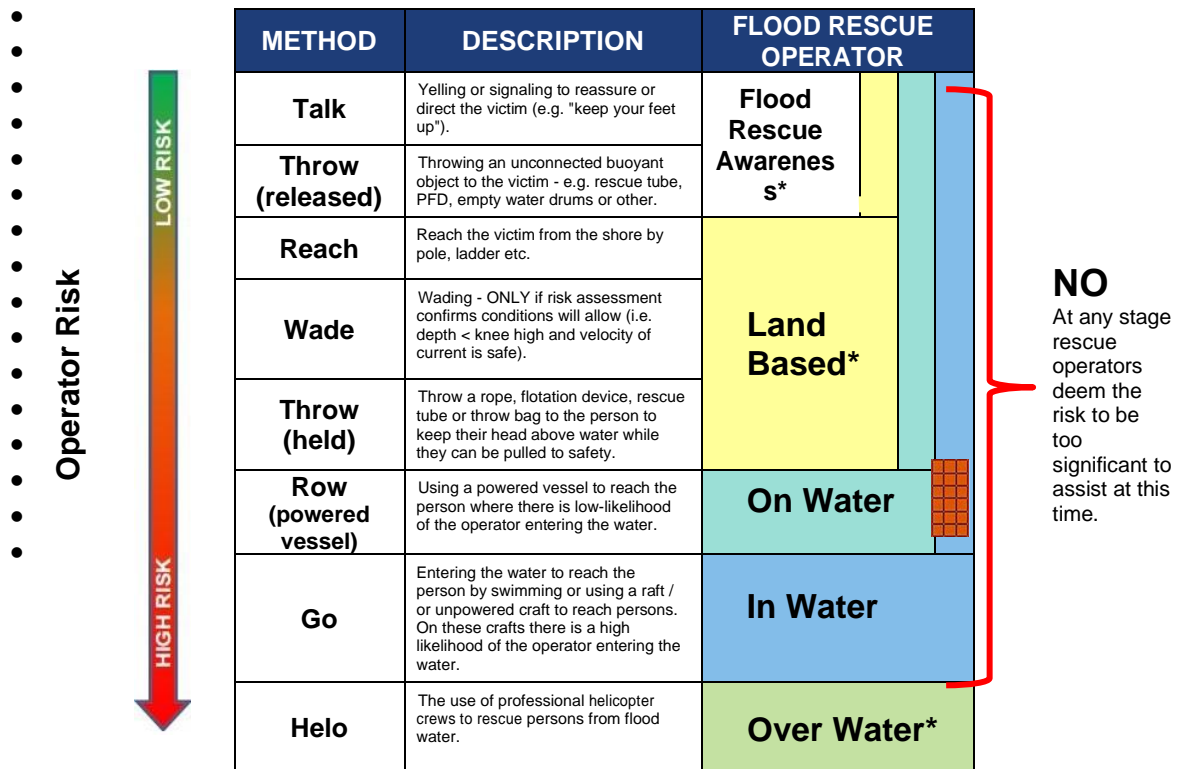
Rescue exercise funding

- 7.11 The funding for training of trainers and operators and maintenance of competencies is the responsibility of the agencies. The SRB will conduct or sponsor relevant National Competency Standards in the delivery of training activities for instructors and multi-agency exercises.
- 7.12 Completed exercise proposals are required to be submitted to trainingadmin@resilience.nsw.gov.au or SRB@resilience.nsw.gov.au. The proposals will then be sent to the SEMC Exercise Management Working Group for initial consideration.
- 7.13 Exercises must have clearly defined aims, achievable and measurable objectives, and incorporate a comprehensive evaluation strategy.
- 7.14 The Exercise Proposal template and additional information can be found on the Emergency NSW website, www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/emsector/training-capability/exercises/

Attachments

Attachment A - Flood Rescue Framework

The SRB has adopted the below flow-chart used in flood rescue operations.

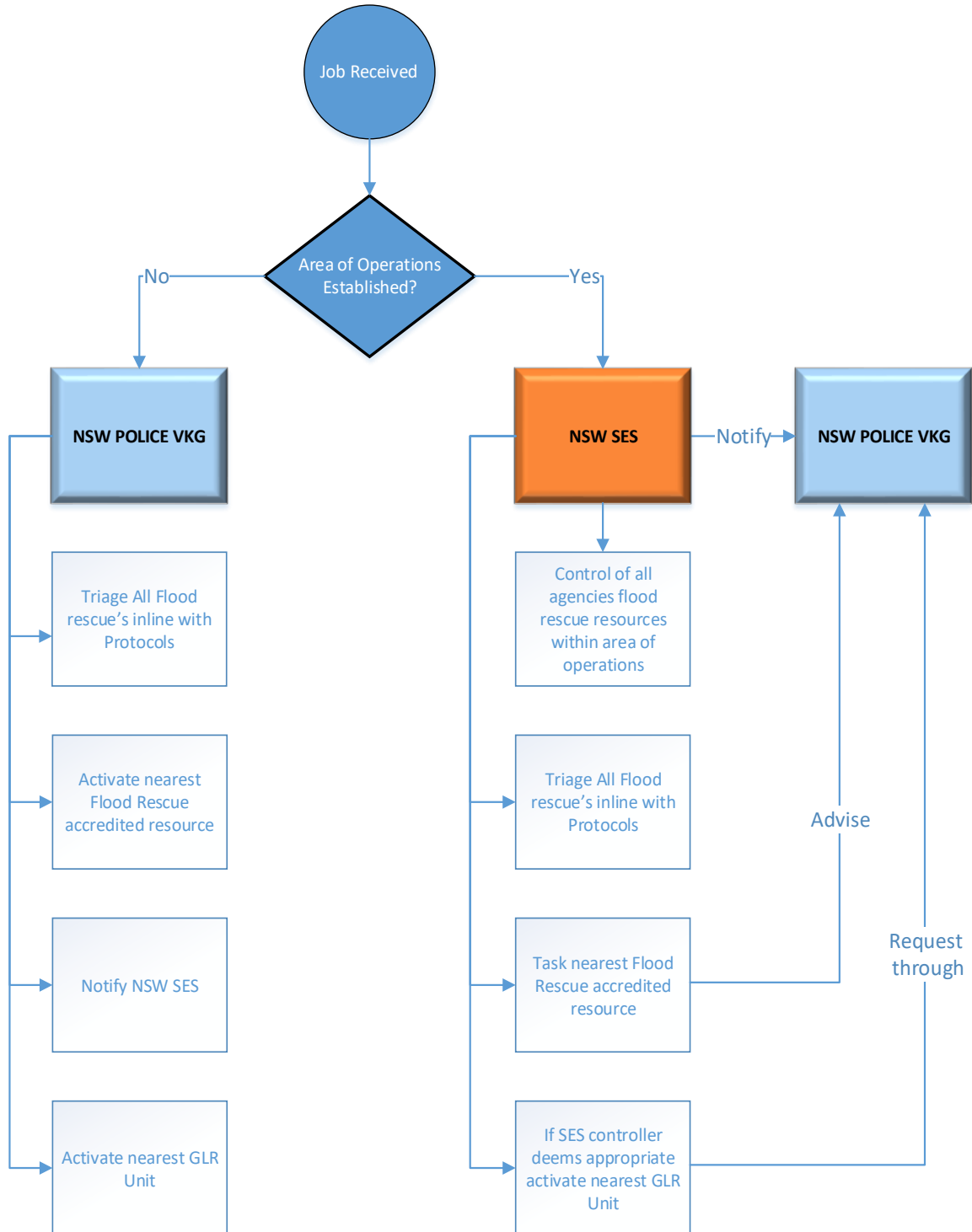


*No accreditation currently required at this level and the use of helicopters is at the direction of the SES Incident Controller or the NSW Police RCO

Note: Powered vessels can only be operated by flood boat qualified personnel.

Attachment B - Flood Rescue Activation Process

Flood Rescue Activation Process



Attachment C - Minimum Equipment List - General Land Rescue (GLR)

Minimum General Land Rescue (GLR) Equipment List
LIFTING KIT
<p>A Lifting Kit should contain sufficient equipment in support of hydraulic rescue equipment, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• raise (lift)• separate (spread)• support (shore), and• lower <p>in a controlled manner, motor vehicles or other objects involved in collision or other rescue scenarios some which may be complex, to enable the extrication of all trapped persons or animals, and may be of mechanical, hydraulic or compressed air type,</p>
CONSUMABLES
<p>Sufficient consumable materials such as cordage, fuels, etc., as determined necessary by the agency to support their rescue equipment in facilitating the safe and efficient extrication of trapped persons or animals from any General Land Rescue activation.</p>
FIRE PROTECTION
<p>Sufficient fire mitigation or retardants to cover the risks associated with fires relating to the General Land Rescue incident.</p> <p>FRNSW recommends that only Dry Chemical powder or water extinguishers are carried as portable extinguishers for Rescue Vehicles¹</p>
FIRST AID KIT
<p>Sufficient materials to provide immediate first aid by first responder.</p>
GLASS MANAGEMENT KIT
<p>Equipment providing protection to rescuers and trapped persons from glass that may be at risk of or require breaking during a rescue operation, and may include sharps protection, Patient Protection blankets, adhesive wraps, windscreen removal tools and hard cased materials.</p>
HAND TOOLS
<p>Sufficient non-powered/hand held tools to effect manual on-scene tasks in support of a road crash rescue and General Land Rescue, such as dismantling vehicle parts, cut electrical leads, or to manipulate / release / dismantle in Industrial / Domestic and Agricultural Rescue Incidents etc., and may include spanners, screwdrivers, tin snips, side cutter, stilsons, saws, etc.</p> <p>These should include finger kits, with sufficient equipment to remove rings, bracelet from a finger or other body parts plus the ability to cut glass, jade or other gem stones.</p>

¹ FRNSW are available to assist any agency in the use and application of fire extinguishers.

HEIGHT SAFETY KIT/SYSTEM

A (respective agency) approved and standards compliant method for safely working at heights on a domestic or commercial structure, that controls person/s movements by physically preventing them reaching a position at which there is a risk of a fall

HYDRAULIC RESCUE EQUIPMENT

Hydraulic rescue equipment including pumps, hoses, couplings and tools capable of cutting, pulling, squeezing, separating or spreading a range of materials including ferrous and non-ferrous metals, metal alloys, composite materials and plastics as found in modern motor vehicles / trucks / complex transport and other objects which may be in impact with as a result of a vehicle collision.

This may include hydraulic rescue equipment including pumps, hoses, couplings etc. and/or cordless battery powered hydraulic rescue equipment capable of performing the same functions as conventional hydraulic equipment. At a minimum:

- Hydraulic shears
- Hydraulic spreaders
- Hydraulic ram
- Petrol/240v hydraulic pump

LADDERS

Ladder - Short, Medium or Long. Industrial 150Kg

STABILISATION

Sufficient equipment to provide stabilisation at a GLR, RCR, complex transport and IRDR incident.

PATIENT / CASUALTY HANDLING

Minimum of one patient spine/rescue board and a basket stretcher with the necessary associated patient securing straps, lifting slings and thermal protection blankets to enable the safe extrication/handling of a patient

POWER AND LIGHT

Vehicle mounted lighting suitable for scene lighting

Power source - Portable, capable of powering equipment to effect requirements of all General Land Rescue scenarios.

Light - portable scene lighting and stand.

POWER TOOLS

Sufficient powered tools to effect manual on-scene tasks in support of RCR and GLR, such as dismantling vehicle parts, cut electrical leads, or to manipulate / release / dismantle in Industrial / Domestic and Agricultural Rescue Incidents etc. and may include Drills - Cordless, Variable Speed, Keyless, Saw - Reciprocating, Cordless, Variable Speed, Keyless, Saw - Chainsaw, Grinder - Angle, Cutting/Grinding, Saw - Cut Off, Cutquik, Camera - Inspection, Flexible Shaft, Finger kits, with sufficient equipment to remove rings, bracelet from a finger or other body parts plus the ability to cut glass, jade or other gem stones.

SAFETY / PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Sufficient protective equipment and consumables to provide protection to rescue operators and casualties which must include helmets, sun protection, gloves (appropriate range of gloves for variety of specific hazards such as patient handling, rescue work, roping or other identified hazards), eye, hearing and respiratory protection and personal lighting. May also include equipment to facilitate safe work on roads (high visibility clothing, vests, traffic cones or signs) as well as SRS airbag anti-deployment or restraint devices or system.

- Head protection
- Eye protection
- Hearing protection
- Respiratory protection
- Hand protection
- Work safely on roadways – High Visibility and Reflective properties
- Suitable vehicle SRS Airbag anti-deployment or restraint device or system
- Safety Gloves – suitable for the task being undertaken
- Patient Sharps kit
- Traffic Cones
- Torch Handheld or head/helmet mounted.
- Voltage testing pole
- Burn/electrical gloves

WINCHING EQUIPMENT - PORTABLE

Manual or power winch capable of hauling, holding and stabilisation and may include hand winch, levers, shackles, slings and cables of varying lengths.

FLOOD RESCUE EQUIPMENT²

PFD, Rescue - CHILD Kit, XS, Small, Medium

PFD, Rescue – Adult (min 2) ,

Tube - Rescue, Water Torpedo

Throw Bags (min 2) min length 10m

Ropes and hardware (may include 11mm & 13mm ropes, with pulleys, karabiners, devices).

Flood Rescue accredited units: may have further equipment, identified to support In Water / flood rescue operations which may include, vessels, rafts, reach poles, inflatable hoses, specific water ropes (floating) and other agency specific operator PPC / PPE.

² Local and Regional Rescue Committees will determine if this capability is required based on an assessment of risk in the area.

Attachment D - Minimum Equipment List - Road Crash Rescue (RCR)

Minimum Road Crash Rescue (RCR) Equipment List
LIFTING KIT
<p>A Lifting Kit should contain sufficient equipment in support of hydraulic rescue equipment, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raise (lift), • separate (spread), • support (shore), and • lower <p>in a controlled manner, motor vehicles or other objects involved in collision or other rescue scenarios, to enable the extrication of all trapped persons or animals, and may be of mechanical, hydraulic or compressed air type.</p>
CONSUMABLES
<p>Sufficient consumable materials such as cordage, fuels, etc., as determined necessary by the agency to support their rescue equipment in facilitating the safe and efficient extrication of trapped persons or animals from a road crash rescue.</p>
FIRE PROTECTION
<p>Sufficient fire mitigation or retardants to cover the risks associated with fires relating to the Road Crash Rescue incident.</p> <p>FRNSW recommends that only Dry Chemical powder or water extinguishers are carried as portable extinguishers for Rescue Vehicles¹.</p>
FIRST AID KIT
<p>Sufficient materials to provide immediate first aid by first responder.</p>
GLASS MANAGEMENT KIT
<p>Equipment providing protection to rescuers and trapped persons from glass that may be at risk of or require breaking during a rescue operation, and may include sharps protection, patient protection, blankets, adhesive wraps, windscreen removal tools and hard cased materials.</p>
HAND TOOLS
<p>Sufficient non-powered/hand held tools to effect manual on-scene tasks in support of a road crash rescue, such as dismantling vehicle parts, cut electrical leads, etc., and may include spanners, screwdrivers, tin snips, side cutter, stilsons, saws, etc.</p>
HEIGHT SAFETY KIT/SYSTEM
<p>A (respective agency) approved and standards compliant method for safely working at heights on an oversized vehicle, that controls person/s movements by physically preventing them reaching a position at which there is a risk of a fall.</p>
HYDRAULIC RESCUE EQUIPMENT
<p>Hydraulic rescue equipment including pumps, hoses, couplings and tools capable of cutting, pulling, squeezing, separating or spreading a range of materials including ferrous and non-ferrous metals, metal alloys, composite materials and plastics as found in modern motor vehicles/trucks/complex transport and other objects which may be in impact with as a result of a vehicle collision.</p> <p>This may include hydraulic rescue equipment including pumps, hoses, couplings etc. and/or cordless battery powered hydraulic rescue equipment capable of performing the same functions as conventional hydraulic equipment. At a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydraulic shears • Hydraulic spreaders • Hydraulic ram • Petrol/240v hydraulic pump
LADDERS

¹ FRNSW are available to assist any agency in the use and application of fire extinguishers.

Ladder - Short, medium or long, Industrial 150Kg
LIFTING & STABILISATION
Sufficient equipment to provide stabilisation at an RCR incident.
PATIENT / CASUALTY HANDLING
Minimum of one patient spine/rescue board and a basket stretcher with the necessary associated patient securing straps, lifting slings and thermal protection blankets to enable the safe extrication/handling of a patient.
POWER & LIGHT
Power source - Portable, capable of powering rescue vehicles equipment to effect requirements of a road crash rescue. Light - Portable Flood or scene Vehicle mounted lighting Light - portable scene lighting and stand.
POWER TOOLS
Sufficient powered tools to effect manual on-scene tasks in support of RCR, such as dismantling vehicle parts, cut electrical leads, or to manipulate / release etc. and may include Drills - Cordless, Variable Speed, Keyless, Saw - Reciprocating, Cordless, Variable Speed, Keyless, Saw - Chainsaw, Grinder - Angle, Cutting/Grinding, Saw - Cut Off, Cutquik.
SAFETY / PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT
Sufficient protective equipment and consumables to provide protection to rescue operators and casualties which must include helmets, sun protection, gloves (appropriate range of gloves for variety of specific hazards such as patient handling, rescue work, roping or other identified hazards), eye, hearing and respiratory protection and personal lighting. May also include equipment to facilitate safe work on roads (high visibility clothing, vests, traffic cones or signs) as well as SRS airbag anti-deployment or restraint devices or system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head protection • Eye protection • Hearing protection • Respiratory protection • Hand protection • Work safely on roadways – High Visibility and Reflective properties • Suitable vehicle SRS Airbag anti-deployment or restraint device or system • Safety Gloves – suitable for the task being undertaken • Patient Sharps kit • Traffic Cones • Torch Handheld or head/helmet mounted. • Voltage testing pole • Burn/electrical gloves
WINCHING EQUIPMENT - PORTABLE
Manual or power winch capable of hauling, holding and stabilisation and may include hand winch, levers, shackles, slings and cables of varying lengths.

Attachment E - Minimum Equipment List - Vertical Rescue (VR)

Minimum Vertical Rescue (VR) Equipment List
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helmet, ear and eye protection• Headlight and/or torch• Whistle, knife• Gloves, (disposable, roping)• Full Body Harness• Foot Loops - Quick Adjustable• Hand Ascender - (Left or right)• Connectors• Descender – auto-stop• Fall arrest/energy Absorbing systems• Edge restraint system• Bound Prusiks – other• Backpack – Operator Kit Bags.
FIRST AID
Sufficient materials to provide immediate first aid by first responder.
VERTICAL RESCUE EQUIPMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cordage, kernmantle 11mm and/or 13mm, quantity and lengths as required• Karabiners, Maillons, pulleys, rigging plates• Tapes, slings (rated)• Rope Grab Devices• Autostop, Progress Capture Devices• Edge Protection (Edge rollers, edge sheets)• Fall arrest/energy Absorbing systems• Ladders – including Industrial 150kg• Spine board• AHD Edge Management Systems• Edge restraint Protection• Pulleys

Rescue Stretcher (per Vertical Rescue Team)

- Stretcher
- Litter Rigging Kit
- Tag lines
- Connectors
- Standard Adjustable Bridle (Optional)

Attachment F - Minimum Equipment List - Marine Rescue (MR)

Marine Rescue Vessels - 2C Surveyed

SAFETY EQUIPMENT	
AMSA Minimum Requirements	
Lifebuoy w rope & light (marked with vessel name)	1
Coastal Lifejacket with light/whistle	Max crew # - refer to survey documentation
EPIRB 406Mhz	1
Flares – Parachute distress rockets (flare container)	3
Flares – Red handheld	2
Flares (smoke) – Orange handheld	1
*Life raft	*If required - refer to survey documentation
Sea anchor	1 for vessels <10m
Fire extinguisher - Class A,B (4.5kg minimum)	1
Fire bucket with lanyard	1 x vessels <10m. 2 x vessels >10m
*Bilge pump	*If required - refer to survey documentation
Additional MRNSW Requirements (minimum)	
MRNSW Lifejackets	1 per crew member
V Sheet	1
Safety knife	1
Sunscreen	As appropriate
Fresh water and non-perishable food	As appropriate

RADIO/NAVIGATION/ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT	
AMSA Minimum Requirements	
Compass	1
Clock	1
Charts	As required for vessel operating areas
Sounder	1
GNSS receiver	1
Speed and distance indicator	1 (can be within navigation equipment)
*Radar reflector	If required per vessel build
VHF radio (with DSC)	1
Additional MRNSW Requirements (minimum)	
Radar	1 – on vessels 6.8m+
Vessel AIS	1 - on all newly built vessels 6.8m+
Mobile phone (with water resistant cover)	1 (number logged with MRB/SARCC)
FLIR	1 - on all newly built vessels 7.5m+
DCN radio	1
27MHz radio	1
UHF handheld radio (with charger mount)	1 - on all newly built vessels
Deviation card	1
Cameras (forward and aft)	2 - on all newly built vessels 6.8m+
*Satellite phone (smartphone sat-sleeve)	*1 - for identified 30NM offshore SAR vessels

LIGHTS/FLAGS/AUDIO EQUIPMENT

AMSA Minimum Requirements

Waterproof torch (battery operated)	2
Signalling light (spotlight)	1
Anchor light (all round white)	1
Masthead light (white FWD)	1
Side lights (red/green)	1 of each
Sound signal (horn – fixed or handheld)	1
Anchor day-shape (black ball)	1

Additional MRNSW Requirements (minimum)

B, C, D, N flags	1 of each
Red/Blue Emergency response lights	1
Towing lights - Stern Light (yellow) Masthead light (white)	1 of each
Public announcer (standalone or radio integrated)	1 - on all newly built vessels 6.8m+
Australian and MRNSW flag	1 of each

FIRST AID/EMERGENCY CARE EQUIPMENT

AMSA Minimum Requirements

First Aid kit (SafeWork compliant) (scale F)	1
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Additional MRNSW Requirements (minimum)

AED	1 – on all newly built vessels 6.8m+
Oxygen Resuscitation Kit	1 – on all newly built vessels 6.8m+
Body bag and protective gloves	1 (body bag) 2 sets (gloves)
Blanket	1

DOCUMENTS & PUBLICATIONS

AMSA Minimum Requirements

Vessel Logbook	1
Vessel SMS	1
Marine Radio Operators Handbook	1 – on vessels 6.8m+
Vessel Emergency Flipchart (when developed)	1

Additional MRNSW Requirements (minimum)

MRNSW operational forms and logs	As appropriate
Operational Risk Assessment (ORA) forms	Suitable number
Notebook and pen/pencil	1

SAR/OPERATIONAL EQUIPMENT

AMSA Minimum Requirements

Binoculars (with neck strap and case)	1
Anchor	1
Anchor chain	1
Anchor rope	1
Boat Hook	1

Reboarding ladder (or safe means of access)	1
Additional MRNSW Requirements (minimum)	
Fenders	2
Heaving and berthing lines	As appropriate
Tow line (with quick release mechanism/knife)	1

Marine Rescue Vessels – 2D/2E Surveyed

SAFETY EQUIPMENT	
AMSA Minimum Requirements	
Coastal Lifejacket with light/whistle	Max crew #-refer to survey documentation
EPIRB 406Mhz GPS	1
Flares – Parachute distress rockets (flare container)	3
Flares – Red handheld	2
Flares (smoke) – Orange handheld	1
Bailing Bucket H/H	1
V Sheet	1
Fire extinguisher	1
Additional MRNSW Requirements (minimum)	
Safety knife	1

FIRST AID/EMERGENCY CARE EQUIPMENT	
AMSA Minimum Requirements	
First Aid kit (SafeWork compliant) (scale G)	1

RADIO/NAVIGATION/ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT	
AMSA Minimum Requirements	
Dedicated Battery	1
VHF radio (with DSC)	1

LIGHTS/FLAGS/AUDIO EQUIPMENT	
AMSA Minimum Requirements	
Waterproof torch (battery operated)	2
Signalling light (spotlight)	1
Anchor light (all round white)	1
Side lights (red/green)	1 of each
Sound signal (horn – fixed or handheld)	1

SAR/OPERATIONAL EQUIPMENT

AMSA Minimum Requirements

Binoculars (with neck strap and case)	1
Anchor	1
Anchor chain	1
Anchor rope	1
Boat Hook	1
Alternative mode of emergency communication (mobile phone)	1
Collar repair kit and pump	1
Boat Hook	1
Reboarding ladder (or safe means of access)	1
Additional MRNSW Requirements (minimum)	
Heaving and berthing lines	As appropriate
Tow line (with quick release mechanism/knife)	1

DOCUMENTS & PUBLICATIONS

AMSA Minimum Requirements

Vessel Logbook	1
Vessel SMS	1

Marine Rescue Vessels - Rescue Water Craft (RWCs)

AMSA Minimum Requirements

Flares – Red handheld	2
Flares (smoke) – Orange handheld	2
First Aid kit (SafeWork compliant) (scale G)	1
VHF radio (with chest harness)	1
MRNSW RWC lifejackets	1 per crew member
Additional MRNSW Requirements (minimum)	
Lanyards (ignition keys)	2
Helmet (Approved MRNSW gath style)	1 per crew member
Wetsuit	Per crew member
Booties	Per crew member
Alternative mode of emergency communication (mobile/PLB/EPIRB)	As appropriate
Sunscreen	Adequate amount for crew duty shift
Tow line (with quick release mechanism/safety knife)	1
Rescue sled	1
Engine flush-plug and bungs	1 (flush plug) 2 (bungs)

Search and Rescue Coordination Centres (SARCCs)

Radio/Navigation/Electronics	
Radio operator stations (consoles)	1 (2 x for 24/7 SARCCs)
Full array of local radios (redundancy) if using computer based radio system	As appropriate
VHF radio (with DSC)	1
VHF radio	1
DCN radio	1
27MHz radio	1
Navigation plotting equipment	1 x set
Backup power supply – radio systems	As appropriate
Documents/Publications (hard and soft copies – immediately accessible)	
MRNSW SOPs	1
Unit LOPs	1
Charts (relevant to coverage areas)	1
Emergency contacts (relevant agency/units/personnel)	1 per operator station
Unit location and asset map (ref)	1
Marine Radio Operators Handbook	1
Learner manuals (ref)–Radio Operator/WO/SARSO	1
Critical incident stress information and support contacts	1
National SAR Manual	1
State Rescue Board Policy	1
Local EMPLANS	1
NSW Tsunami Sub-Plan	1
NSW Storm Sub-Plan	1
NSW Flood Plan	1
Logs and Forms (in hard and soft copies – immediately accessible)	
Communications log	per operator station
Alternative hardcopy form for seahawk	per operator station
Other operational forms and logs	per operator station
Radio network fault reporting log	per operator station
Pens and paper	per operator station
Amenities and Facilities	
Air conditioning	As appropriate
Clock (24hr) – wall mounted/battery operated	1 per operational room
Back-up power supply - general	1
Chart table / Planning table	1
White boards and markers	2 (at least 1 mobile whiteboard)
Chairs and desks	As appropriate for operators, supervisors and additional agency's
Notice board	1

Safety/First Aid	
Waterproof torches (battery)	2
Binoculars	1
First Aid kit (SafeWork compliant) – with first aid sign	1
CPR poster (displayed in common area)	1
WHS and Building Code	
As required to meet minimum statutory and building code requirements	
Communication and Computer Systems	
Telephones (with call-waiting function and diversion)	2 (minimum of 1 copper line)
Computer with internet access	1 per operator console
MRV asset status board (digital or whiteboard)	1
Printer / copier	1
Software and Program Access	
Seahawk	per operator console
Otter	per operator console
AIS feed (Marine Traffic)	per operator console
Google Earth (with unit/asset and radio communication coverage overlays)	per operator console
Microsoft Office Suite (word/excel)	per operator console
MRNSW email	per operator console
Electronic charts	per operator console

*MF/HF Radio is only mandatory on those SARCCs which have been identified to collectively provide state-wide 24/7 MF/HF coverage. Other units with MF/HF capacity should maintain such if so desired or phase-out through natural attrition.

Marine Radio Bases (MRBs)

Radio/Navigation/Electronics	
Radio operator stations (consoles)	1
VHF radio (with DSC)	1
VHF radio	1
DCN radio	1
27MHz radio	1
Navigation plotting equipment	1 x set
Temp backup power supply – radio systems (battery)	As appropriate
Documents/Publications (hard and soft copies – immediately accessible)	
As per SARCC	
Logs and Forms (in hard and soft copies – immediately accessible)	
As per SARCC	

Amenities and facilities	
Clock (24hr) – wall mounted/battery operated	1 per operational room
Chart table / planning table	1
Whiteboard and markers	1
Chairs and desks	As appropriate for operators
Notice board	1
Safety/First Aid	
Waterproof torches (battery)	2
Binoculars	1
First Aid kit (SafeWork compliant) – with first aid sign	1
CPR poster (displayed in common area)	1
WHS and Building Code	
As required to meet minimum statutory and building code requirements	
Communication and Computer Systems	
Telephone - landline (with call-waiting function/diversion)	1
Computer with internet access	1 per operator console
Printer	1
Software and Program Access	
Seahawk	per operator console
Otter	per operator console
AIS feed (Marine Traffic etc)	per operator console
Google Earth (unit/asset and radio coverage overlays)	per operator console
Microsoft Office Suite (word/excel)	per operator console
MRNSW email	per operator console
Electronic charts	per operator console

Attachment G - Minimum Equipment List - Flood Rescue (FR)

On Water Flood Rescue

Minimum On Water Flood Rescue Equipment List
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Radio*• Knife or alternative*• Water Specialist Helmet or helmet appropriate to task (as determined by risk and task)*• PFD Type 2/100 (specific for the environment)*• Operator lighting
FLOOD RESCUE EQUIPMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Throw Bags (min 2) min length 10m• Personal Location Device (PLB) or EPERB (Vessel)• Tube - Rescue, Water Torpedo• PFD, Rescue - CHILD Kit, XS, Small, Medium• PFD, Rescue – Adult (min 2) ,• Tube - Rescue, Water Torpedo• Throw Bags (min 2) min length 10m• Ropes and hardware (may include 11mm & 13mm ropes, with pulleys, karabiners, devices).• Cordage , kernmantle 11mm and/or 13mm (rated and unique identifiers) – lengths as required• Connectors , Karabiners , Mallions – various as required• Pulleys (single and double options) – various as required• 25mm Tapes, or rated round slings – lengths as required• Devices , with rope grab capability (including bound prussiks) – various as required• Auto stop / progress capture devices – as required• Rigging plates – as required• Backpack or stowage bags – as required• Equipment to facilitate Rescue at level (may include reach rescue poles, inflatable hoses) – as required*

*applicable to Land Based operators. Land based flood rescue is not a stand-alone specialist accreditation.

In Water Flood Rescue

Minimum In Water Flood Rescue Equipment List

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- In water boots
- In water specialist helmet
- In water gloves
- In water PFD Type 2/100 (specific for the environment) with cow tail attachments
- Radio
- Goggles
- Wet suit or alternative
- Knife or alternative
- Operator lighting helmet or other
- Throw bag
- Whistle

FLOOD RESCUE EQUIPMENT

- Cordage , kernmantle 11mm and/or 13mm (rated and unique identifiers) – lengths as required
- Connectors , Karabiners , Mallions – various as required
- Pulleys (single and double options) – various as required
- 25mm Tapes, or rated round slings – lengths as required
- Devices , with rope grab capability (including bound prussiks) – various as required
- Auto stop / progress capture devices – as required
- Rigging plates – as required
- Backpack or stowage bags – as required

Attachment H - Competencies - General Land Rescue (GLR)

All GLR operators must be an operational member of an emergency services agency, hold a nationally recognised senior first aid certificate (or equivalent) and have met the requirements of the below training packages (or agency equivalent). The competencies provide a baseline of skills and performance standards that operators must meet and maintain in order to be accredited for GLR in NSW.

Competency Name	Agency Courses
Protect and preserve incident scene	Or equivalent
Maintain safety at an incident scene	
Undertake road crash rescue	
Participate in a rescue operation	
Undertake Industrial and Domestic Rescue	
Participate in an Urban Search and Rescue Category 1	
Drive vehicles under operational conditions or drive police vehicles	Drivers

Attachment I - Competencies - Road Crash Rescue (RCR)

All RCR operators must be an operational member of an emergency services agency, hold a nationally recognised senior first aid certificate (or equivalent) and have met the requirements of the below training packages (or agency equivalent). The competencies provide a baseline of skills and performance standards that operators must meet and maintain in order to be accredited for RCR in NSW.

Competency Name	Agency Courses
Protect and preserve incident scene	Or equivalent
Maintain safety at an incident scene	
Undertake road crash rescue	
Participate in a rescue operation	
Drive vehicles under operational conditions or drive police vehicles	Drivers

Attachment J - Competencies - Vertical Rescue (VR)

All VR operators must be an operational member of an emergency services agency, hold a nationally recognised senior first aid certificate (or equivalent) and have met the requirements of the below training packages (or agency equivalent). The competencies provide a baseline of skills and performance standards that operators must meet and maintain in order to be accredited for VR in NSW.

Competency Name	Agency Courses
Protect and preserve incident scene	Or equivalent
Maintain safety at an incident scene	
Participate in a rescue operation	
Undertake vertical rescue	
Drive vehicles under operational conditions or drive police vehicles	Drivers

Units and agencies are able to pursue further, more advanced training to address any additional risks or agency-specific operational requirements. Agencies need to ensure that their operators maintain competence through regular training, exercising and operational deployment.

Multi-agency training activities are encouraged by the SRB as a means of exchanging ideas, improving inter-operability, and developing capability.

Agencies are to ensure that all vertical rescue equipment is fit for purpose and meets appropriate standards.

Attachment K - Competencies - Marine Rescue (MR)

Marine Rescue Water Craft Operator

All Marine rescue operators must be an operational member of Marine Rescue NSW, hold a nationally recognised senior first aid certificate (or equivalent) and have met the requirements of the below training packages (or agency equivalent). The competencies provide a baseline of skills and performance standards that operators must meet and maintain in order to be accredited for marine rescue in NSW.

Cluster Name/s	Unit name
NSW general boat and PWC licence	The member may already have these licences or may apply for Gratis licences.
200m swim	The member must be observed by a Validated Assessor completing a 200 metre swim with a RWC life jacket continuously and unaided.
Manoeuvre a vessel	Operate and maintain a personal water craft for rescue operations
Equipment checking and maintenance	Prepare maintain and test response equipment
Search and rescue	Participate in an aquatic rescue operations
Sea survival	Apply basic survival skills in the event of vessel abandonment
	Survive at sea using survival craft
Fire	Follow procedures to minimise and fight fires on board a vessel
First Aid	Provide First Aid
	Provide Advanced Resuscitation
Communications	Long Range Operators Certificate of Proficiency

Assessor requirements

Must hold the rating of MR Rescue Water Craft Operator or above as well as the appropriate Assessor qualifications. Minimum requirement of one qualified MRNSW endorsed Assessor (may be an internal unit assessor) – the RTM must authorise all assessments prior to undertaking.

Marine Rescue Crew

Cluster Names	Unit name
Communication	Long Range Operators Certificate of Proficiency
NSW general boat licence	The member may already have this licence or may apply for a Gratis licence.
Shipboard safety – Induction	Meet work health and safety requirements
Seamanship	Assist with routine maintenance of a vessel
	Work effectively as part of a crew on a vessel up to 80 metres
	Apply general purpose hand skills aboard a vessel
	Perform basic lookout duties
	Apply seamanship skills aboard a vessel up to 12 metres
Sea survival	Apply basic survival skills in the event of vessel abandonment
	Survive at sea using survival craft
Fire	Follow procedures to minimise and fight fires on board a vessel
Search and rescue	Participate in an aquatic rescue operations
First Aid	Provide First Aid
	Provide Advanced Resuscitation
Communications	Long Range Operators Certificate of Proficiency

Assessor requirements

Assessor must hold the rating of MR Crew or above as well as the appropriate Assessor qualifications. Minimum requirement of one qualified MRNSW endorsed Assessor (may be an internal unit assessor) – the RTM must authorise all assessments prior to undertaking.

Marine Rescue Leading Crew

Members must have successfully completed all of the assessment requirements for the units of competency at MR Crew level, prior to undertaking training for MR Leading Crew.

Cluster Names	Unit name
Manoeuvre a vessel	Handle a vessel up to 12 metres
Navigation	Plan and navigate a passage for a vessel up to 12 metres
Carry out operations on equipment and systems	Perform basic servicing and maintenance of main propulsion unit and auxiliary systems
	Operate inboard and outboard motors
Vessel handling	Comply with regulations to ensure safe operation of a vessel up to 12 metres
Environment	Follow environmental work practices
Equipment checking and maintenance	Prepare maintain and test response equipment
SRB accreditation requirements	Control a Level 1 incident
Communications	Conduct briefings and debriefings

Assessor requirements

Must hold the rating of MR Leading Crew or above as well as the appropriate Assessor qualifications. Minimum requirement of one qualified MRNSW endorsed Assessor (may be an internal unit assessor) – the RTM must authorise all assessments prior to undertaking.

Marine Rescue Coxswain

Members must have successfully completed all of the assessment requirements for the units of competency at MR Leading Crew level, prior to undertaking training for MR Coxswain.

Cluster Names	Unit title
Engineering	Operate main propulsion unit and auxiliary systems
Search and rescue	Coordinate search and rescue operations

Assessor requirements

Must hold the rating of MR Coxswain or above as well as the appropriate Assessor qualifications. Minimum requirement of one qualified MRNSW endorsed external Assessor allocated by the RTM (may not be an assessor from within the candidates own unit) – the RTM must authorise all assessments prior to undertaking.

Marine Rescue Master

The training and assessment for the additional units of competency required for the MR Master rating, may be obtained either from TAFE NSW or a recognised private RTO delivering the qualification. MRNSW does not currently delivery these units of competency.

Cluster Names	Unit name
Manoeuvre a vessel	Manoeuvre a vessel up to 24 metres within near coastal waters
	Use wheelhouse equipment for safe navigation
Seamanship	Perform seamanship operations on board a vessel up to 24 metres
Communications	Contribute to effective workplace relationships
Navigation	Plan and navigate a passage for a vessel up to 80 metres
	Manage and maintain a navigational watch on board vessels up to 80 metres
Carry out operations on equipment and systems	Observe regulations to ensure safe operation of a vessel up to 80 metres
	Slip or dock a vessel and maintain hull on a vessel up to 80 metres
Equipment checking and maintenance	Perform routine maintenance of main propulsion unit and auxiliary systems
Environment	Monitor environment management on a vessel

Members, who hold all required units of competency for MR Coxswain, have undertaken the MR Coxswain operational assessment and completed the additional external training to the level of MR Master, can be recognised at the MR Master rating level. The TSO completes an Operational Rating Request Form MR731, which is approved by the UC and the RTM. The MR731 is then forwarded to stores for the issuing of rating epaulettes and certificate.

Marine Rescue Radio Operator

Cluster Names	Unit name
Induction safety	Long Range Operators Certificate of Proficiency
	Understand and relay weather information
	Work in a team
	Follow defined OHS policies and procedures
Technical	Work effectively in a public safety organisation
	Operate communication systems and equipment
Communication styles	Communicate in the workplace

Assessor requirements

Must hold the rating of Marine Radio Operator or above as well as the appropriate Assessor qualifications. Minimum requirement of one qualified MRNSW endorsed Assessor (may be an internal unit assessor) – the RTM must authorise all assessments prior to undertaking.

Marine Rescue Watch Officer

Cluster Names	Unit name
Client Safety	Provide First Aid (HLTFA211A Provide basic emergency life support)
Navigation	Elementary Navigation
Systems	Work as a team member in an emergency operations centre
	Provide service to clients
Search and rescue	Control a level 1 incident
	Conduct briefings and debriefings
	Participate in an aquatic rescue operation

Assessor requirements

Must hold the rating of MR Watch Officer or above as well as the appropriate Assessor qualifications. Minimum requirement of one (1) qualified MRNSW endorsed Assessor (may be an internal unit assessor) – the RTM must authorise all assessments prior to undertaking.

Assessment requirements for first aid as a pre-requisite for Watch Officer only

Only a member who can demonstrate adult CPR on the floor, as per performance evidence, will be issued the unit of competency for HLTAID003

A member who due to injury/illness is not able to demonstrate Adult CPR on the ground but can competently demonstrate CPR on a table at waist height will be issued the unit of competency HLTFA211A Provide Basic Emergency Life Support

A member who due to injury/illness is neither able to demonstrate Adult CPR on the ground or on a table – will not obtain the unit of competency and will be deemed not yet competent

The Certificate II Public Safety (Aquatic Rescue) provides for the issuing of the competency HLTFA211A as the first aid component. While this Unit of Competency has been superseded, MRNSW is approved to issue the Unit. The CPR component in that Unit of Competency does not require the candidate to be assessed on the floor. The provision of HLTFA211A will meet the requirements for Watch Officer.

Marine Rescue Search and Rescue Support Officer

Cluster Names	Unit name
Navigation	Navigate in an aquatic environment
Communications	Liaise with other organisations
Search and rescue	Coordinate search and rescue resources
	Coordinate search and rescue operations
	Manage search and rescue operations

Assessor requirements

Must hold the rating of MR Search and Rescue Support Officer or above as well as the appropriate Assessor qualifications. Minimum requirement of one (1) qualified MRNSW endorsed external assessor allocated by the RTM (may not be an assessor from within the candidates own unit) – the RTM must authorise all assessments prior to undertaking.

Attachment L - Competencies - Flood Rescue (FR)

Land Based Flood Rescue

The minimum training competencies required for a Land Based Flood Rescue operator are outlined below. Land Based Flood Rescue is not a stand-alone specialist accreditation.

Competency Name	Agency Courses
Maintain safety at an incident scene	Or equivalent
Participate in a rescue operation	
First Aid qualified as deemed appropriate by the agency	
AND	
Perform land based Swiftwater and floodwater rescue and recovery	Or equivalent
OR	
Swiftwater Rescue Awareness (1 day) provided by Rescue 3	SRA Or equivalent
OR	
Demonstrate self-rescue skills in white water	Or equivalent
Apply River Crossing Skills	

On Water Flood Rescue

The minimum training competencies required for an On Water Flood Rescue operator are all the requirements of a Land based Flood Rescue Operator and competencies outlined below:

Competency Name	Agency Courses
Undertake inland flood boat operations	Or equivalent
OR	
Surf Lifesaving IRB Operator	
OR	
Certificate 2 in Maritime Operations (Coxswain) Up to a 12m Vessel	MAR20313 Or equivalent

In Water Flood Rescue

The minimum training competencies required for an In Water Flood Rescue operator are all the requirements of a Land Based Flood Rescue operator and competencies outlined below:

Competency Name	Agency Course
Swiftwater Rescue Technician Level 1 provided by Rescue 3	SRT1 Or equivalent
OR	
Undertake Swiftwater and floodwater rescue and recovery	Or equivalent
OR	
Demonstrate white water rescues and recoveries	Or equivalent
Perform complex white water rescues and recoveries	

Over Water Flood Rescue

The minimum training competencies required for an Over Water Flood Rescue operator are all the requirements of a Land Based Flood Rescue operator and competencies outlined below:

Competency Name	Agency Course
Work safely around aircraft	Or equivalent
Undertake hover entry exit operations from a helicopter	
Undertake helicopter winch operations	
Perform wireman duties	
Manage human factors in aviation operations	
Maintain basic situational awareness in an aviation workplace	
Apply safety procedures	
Maintain the safety of people and aircraft	
Respond to abnormal and emergency situations in an aircraft	
Complete aircraft and flight equipment pre-and post-flight actions	
Helicopter Underwater Escape and Survival Techniques (HUET)	
AND	
In water components of Swiftwater Rescue Technician Level 1 or Undertake Swiftwater and Floodwater Rescue and Recovery as deemed appropriate by the agency.	

Attachment M - SRB Annual Report Template - Rescue Agency

Name of Rescue Agency

Rescue Agency Role

Provide a brief description of the agencies general role and role in relation to rescue.

Significant achievements or activities

Provide details of the achievements for the agency for the reporting period in relation to rescue.

SRB Accredited Rescue Units

Units and Operators	General Land Rescue	Road Crash Rescue	Vertical Rescue	Flood Rescue - On Water	Flood Rescue - In Water	Marine Rescue	Total
SRB Accredited Units							
Agency trained operators							

Agency contact

Please include details for the person delegated as the agency contact for further information if required. The details will not be included in the Annual Report.

Name:	
Position:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Attachment N - SRB Annual Report Template - Regional Rescue Committee

Name of Regional Rescue Committee

Regional Rescue Committee Meetings

Provide information on the details of Regional Rescue Committee meetings for the reporting period.

- name of committee
- the dates of meetings
- key issues addressed

Exercises conducted

Provide details of significant rescue exercises conducted in the region for the reporting period.

- date and location
- name of exercise
- brief details of exercise

Accreditation Changes

Provide details any changes to accredited rescue units in the region for the reporting period, which have been **approved by the Minister**.

- details of the rescue unit – name/agency/location
- type of accreditation - GLR, RCR, VR, FR (On Water/In Water), MR
- date approved by the Minister

Regional Emergency Management Officer contact:

Please include details for the person delegated as the contact for further information if required. The details will not be included in the Annual Report.

Name:	
Region:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Attachment O - SRB Medical Emergency Access Protocols

Definition

A Medical Emergency (for purposes of this protocol) is defined as an actual or probable situation where a person is considered by either the NSW Police Force ROG RCO or the Ambulance Service Communication Centre Manager as *requiring urgent medical assistance but who cannot be readily accessed due to some form of physical barrier*.

Physical Barrier is defined as any impediment to accessing a patient where paramedics do not have the means (equipment or training) to accomplish access under normal conditions. A barrier may include man made conditions (e.g. locked premises), environmental conditions (e.g. flooded transport corridors) or any other obstruction.

It is principally intended to assist the NSW Ambulance to access a person who is considered by the NSW Ambulance or NSW Police Force ROG RCO as being at risk of further serious injury or death if medical assistance is not provided quickly.

Activation of a Medical Emergency Access Response

It is expected that in all cases where a Medical Emergency Access situation is identified the NSW Police Force ROG RCO is immediately notified. Only the NSW Police Force ROG RCO has the authority to activate a Medical Emergency Access Response.

Response Procedure for a Medical Emergency Access

Emergency Service Organisation (ESO) Communication Procedures

Any ESO Communication Centre receiving a call for 'Urgent Medical Assistance' should, in addition to the information normally recorded in accordance with their respective organisations Communication Centre Standing Operating Procedures:

Communication Officers

- ascertain (for buildings) if the patient is in a **unit or apartment with restricted access** and details concerning the residence that would hinder or prevent access by attending medical personnel (i.e. high rise or multi storey dwelling, security gates, electronic alarms or other devices).
- attempt to make arrangements with the patient to gain access in the event that the patient cannot arrange access to the medical providers themselves (i.e. in the event that they lose consciousness or collapse after having made the call). This could include entry via an alternative means such as fire escapes, service lifts etc or obtaining phone numbers of neighbours or the building manager, or the patient providing an access code if applicable.
- Where it is considered that attending medical personnel will require assistance to gain entry that is beyond their capability, the communication centre operator that is taking the call for assistance should alert the NSW Police Force ROG RCO or NSW Ambulance Communication Centre Manager as to the potential requirement for emergency access assistance.

Communication Centre Manager

- The Manager in the Communications Centre that received the call should then contact the NSW Police Force ROG RCO and request a Medical Emergency Access Response

NSW Police Force ROG RCO

- On request of a 'Medical Emergency Access Response' the NSW Police Force ROG RCO will call-out the most appropriate accredited rescue unit as well as the nearest resource that in the opinion of the NSW Police Force ROG RCO may have the training/equipment to effect access, for example Fire and Rescue NSW (but only if the location is within or adjoining a Fire District) to gain access to residential/industrial buildings, the NSW SES to gain access with flood rescue resources and NSW RFS to gain access using 4WD vehicles.

- The NSW Police Force ROG RCO is responsible for 'calling-off' any units responded if the attending medical personnel or their Communication Centre advise that assistance is either not, or no longer required.

Responding Rescue Unit and other resource

- The attending accredited rescue unit and other resource as responded by the NSW Police force ROG RCO will be responsible for arranging access to the patient but in doing so should be cognisant to gain access with minimal damage.

All ESO are reminded that activation of this protocol requires two elements:

1. A patient is assessed as being in urgent need of medical assistance without which will likely result in further serious injury or place the patient's life at risk; **and**
2. That it is likely given the information ascertained by the Communication Centre that took the call that to access the patient will likely require the assistance of an accredited rescue unit and/or other resource with the capability to effect access.