

STATE RESCUE BOARD

OF

NEW SOUTH WALES

ANNUAL REPORT

2004-2005

DISTRIBUTION OF STATE RESCUE BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2004/2005	
Minister (for tabling)	6
Office for Emergency Services	6
Legislative Assembly Procedure Office	15
Legislative Council Office	5
Treasurer	1
Spares	7
TOTAL	40

Note: The Annual Report for 2004/ 2005 will be available for viewing in electronic format from the Office for Emergency Services web-site.

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**STATE RESCUE BOARD
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES**

CHAPTER ONE

PRELIMINARY

LEGISLATION AND ESTABLISHMENT

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHARTER

Corporate Objective:

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

Functions:

The Board is required to:

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

LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

There was one minor change to the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act, 1989 during the reporting period. The definition of 'Emergency' was amended to include the words 'terrorist act' after the word 'explosion' in Section 4(1). The amendment assented on 6 July 2004.

STATE RESCUE BOARD MEMBERSHIP 2004/2005

Chairperson: Mr P C Koperberg, AO AFSM BEM
Commissioner
NSW Rural Fire Service

Members: Deputy Commissioner D B Madden APM
State Emergency Operations Controller

Assistant Commissioner R.J. Waites APM
Commander Inner Metropolitan Region
NSW Police

Mr G. Mullins AFSM
Commissioner
NSW Fire Brigades

Mr S Whinfield
General Manager Operations
Ambulance Service of NSW

Brigadier P J McNamara CSC
Director General
State Emergency Service

Mr R G Gill ESM
President
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc

Mr D. Morgan ESM
Chairman
Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of NSW

ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE BOARD

THE VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE COUNCIL OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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

Chairperson: Mr D. Morgan ESM
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association

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

Sergeant R. Trussell
NSW Police Marine Area Command

Mr R. King
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol

Commodore F. Robards
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association

Mr R. Isaacs ESM
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc

Mr S. Reading
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc.

Mr J. McCloskey (Commencing 17 May 05)
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol

SUB COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

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

TRAINING ADVISORY PANEL

- Chairman:** Mr A. Kaine (From 22 Nov 04)
Assistant Secretary
NSW State Rescue Board
- Members:** Inspector S. Gilchrist
NSW Police
- Acting Superintendent K Williams ASM
Ambulance Service of NSW
- Station Officer W Kidd AFSM
NSW Fire Brigades
- Mr J Young
State Emergency Service
- Mr H Black ESM
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc

ANNEXES:

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

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

State Rescue Board – Members Attendance		
MEMBER	PRESENT	REPRESENTED
Mr P C Koperberg AO AFSM BEM Chairman	4/4	Nil
Deputy Commissioner D B Madden APM State Emergency Operations Controller	0/4	Nil
Assistant Commissioner R.J. Waites APM Commander Inner Metropolitan Region NSW Police Service	3/4	Nil
Mr S Whinfield General Manager Operations Ambulance Service of NSW	3/4	1
Mr G. Mullins AFSM Commissioner NSW Fire Brigades	2/4	2
Brigadier P J McNamara CSC Director General State Emergency Service	3/4	1
Mr R G Gill ESM President NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	4/4	Nil
Mr D. Morgan Chairman Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of NSW	4/4	Nil

Note: The State Rescue Board conducted four meetings during the reporting period:
3 September 2004, 2 December 2004, 2 March 2005 and 24 May 2005.

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

Volunteer Marine Rescue Council – Members Attendance		
MEMBER	PRESENT	REPRESENTED
Mr D. Morgan, ESM Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association Chairman	6/6	Nil
Superintendent T. Dalton NSW Water Police Deputy Chairman	0/6	5/6
Sergeant R. Trussell NSW Water Police	6/6	Nil
Mr R. King Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol	6/6	Nil
Commodore F. Robards Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association	6/6	Nil
Mr R. Isaacs, ESM NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	6/6	Nil
Mr S. Reading NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	5/6	Nil
Mr G. McCloskey (From 17 May 2005) Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol	1/1	Nil

Note: The Volunteer Marine Rescue Council conducted five meetings during the reporting period – 25 July 2004, 27 September 2004, 14 November 2004, 6 February 2005, 3 April 2005 and 5 June 2005.

**STATE RESCUE BOARD
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES**

CHAPTER TWO

**OVERVIEW OF BOARD
AND COUNCIL
OPERATIONS**

OVERVIEW OF BOARD OPERATIONS – 2004/05

The Board is responsible for the development and promulgation of rescue policy, the setting, promulgation and monitoring of training standards, the appointment of Senior Rescue Instructors, providing advice and recommendations on the compatibility of rescue equipment, assisting in the conduct of training exercises and for recommending to the Minister the accreditation of rescue units. In addition, the Board maintains a register of all rescue operators.

Over the reporting period the Board conducted four meetings. The Board continued to concentrate on minor variations to the accreditation of land and maritime rescue resources, and the effective delivery of rescue services.

The Board remains committed to the introduction of competency-based training in accordance with the Australian Quality Training Framework. The Board will base its future individual training requirement for rescue operators on the Australian National Training Authority endorsed Public Safety and Maritime Training Packages. The Board is now considering the financial implications to the volunteer agencies of this requirement.

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

The Board's Training Advisory Panel met once during the reporting period. The Panel examined several technical and procedural issues; including a review of the requirement to affix Safety Stickers to vehicles fitted with Air Bags and the establishment of a Swift Water Rescue Technical Sub-Committee; that were either referred by the Board.

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

The Board's principles for the accreditation of rescue units remain:

- ❖ The demonstrated need for rescue services in the community;
- ❖ The precedence of full time emergency services over volunteer resources within Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong City areas; and
- ❖ That rescue units accept Police responsibility for the control of response to rescue incidents and for control and coordination at the scene of rescue operations.

The Board commenced a review of the State Rescue Policy, appointing Major General Hori Howard, AO, MC, ESM to undertake the process. The Terms of reference were agreed and the review was completed and presented to the Board on 20 April 2005. Although it was not a requirement of the terms of reference, General Howard proposed that his report should include a draft of a revised policy that was in accord with the recommendations of his report. During the consultation that was undertaken as part of the review the draft policy was progressively up dated to include those amendments proposed by all agencies. At its meeting in May 2005 Board members were asked to provide submissions on Major General Howard's report. The Board will consider all submission prior to forwarding the draft Policy to the Minister in the next Financial Year.

In August 2004 the Board was advised that the NSW Auditor General was to undertake a performance audit on the Coordination of Rescue Services. The audit focused on land rescue only, in metropolitan and rural areas and examined how the Board:

- Is able to shape the long-term strategic direction for rescue
- Establishes standards for performance and monitors the results
- Designates rescue units
- Recommends the accreditation of rescue units
- Assures their ongoing compliance with accreditation requirements

The Board members have been involved in extensive consultations with the Audit team and the Board has been briefed regularly on the progress of the audit. The Board expects the Audit Office report to be completed and tabled in Parliament early in the new Financial Year.

The Board agreed that work should continue on recognition of the training regimes that are used by specialist groups in order that the Board may make informed recommendations to the Minister on the accreditation. In the interim, the Minister approved their provisional accreditation, remains extant.

The Board continued to work on gathering statistical information to be submitted to the Productivity Commission in relation to road accident rescues for inclusion in its Report on Government Services 2005. The information collected from the agencies related to the number of call outs, how many of those call-outs were called off prior to arrival on scene, how many of those call outs involve an extrication, and the total elapsed time from call out to the unit being available for re-tasking. The information required for the Report on Government Services at this stage remains confined to the reported number of road rescues and the number of reported road rescue extrications. For the year 2004/2005 NSW Police Rescue Coordination Officers reported 6324 road rescues of which 3690 involved extrications.

It is noted that the Productivity Commission has yet to develop performance indicators for road rescue as the Board has similarly been challenged in the development of meaningful indicators.

The Board recommended to the Minister that \$1,200,000 be made available to the Volunteer Rescue Association for the 2004/05 financial year.

The Board also made recommendations to the Minister on the disbursement of \$684,200 provided in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement negotiated with the New South Wales Maritime Authority.

The Minister for Emergency Services again made provision of \$250,000 for cross agency emergency management and rescue training. \$90,000 was made available to the Board. Allocations were made from these funds to assist in the conduct of 14 rescue training activities across the State involving members from all the rescue agencies.

The training of individual rescue operators to the Board's rescue training standards is the responsibility of the individual rescue agencies.

At the conclusion of the reporting period, there were 195 primary and 130 secondary accredited general land rescue units. Of the 325 accredited general land rescue units, 94 units are accredited for vertical rescue operations.

OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE COUNCIL – 2004/05

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

Mission Statement:

The Council's Mission Statement is:

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

Corporate Objectives:

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

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

Marine rescue operations are normally conducted by the local accredited units to a level consistent with the level of its equipment capability. Operations are conducted in cooperation with the NSW Police Marine Area Command who are responsible for the coordination of search and rescue operations within state waters. There are over 5,000 rescue missions performed by the accredited marine rescue units in NSW each year.

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

Training & Development

During the period, the Council continued to focus its attention on the continued rationalisation of accredited marine rescue resources and refining funding requirements for the training of marine rescue operators in preparation for the introduction of competency based training.

Funding

The member organisations of the VMRC continue to rely heavily on the support of the general public, the boating community and corporate sponsorship to meet their significant capital and operational costs. At present the Government, in recognition of the significant contribution of volunteers, provides funding support through a special arrangement between the NSW Maritime Authority and the State Rescue Board. The funding agreement provided a total of \$409,200 towards capital improvement of volunteer marine rescue units. There was an additional \$275,000 provided to offset operational expenses such as fuel, insurance and administration.

One of the Council's significant long-term objectives is the progressive upgrade of all seagoing units to the equivalent of the commercial 2C survey standard. To assist in achieving this goal the total funding of \$684,200 from the Government for this financial year was distributed to volunteer organisations as follows (includes Capital Improvement and Operational Support component):

Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol.....	\$304,701
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard.....	\$224,083
Volunteer Rescue Association, Marine.....	\$155,416

Funding Expenditure

Capital Improvement

The Memorandum of Understanding between the NSW Maritime Authority and the State Rescue Board requires the total funds of \$409,200 disbursed to the marine rescue organisations for Capital Improvement in 2004/05 to be expended proportionately against three specified categories as follows:

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

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

- NSW Volunteer Rescue Assoc. (\$92,970)

Camden Haven Sea Rescue Squad - replacement Cat 3 vessel; Point Danger Marine Rescue – upgrade of SARCC; Base Level Funding for 10 units.

- Australian Volunteer Coast Guard (\$134,017)

Port Hacking – replacement Cat 2 vessel; Port Jackson– replacement Cat 2 vessel; SARCC/MRB upgrades at Port Kembla; Swansea; Port Stephens, South Head and Solander.

- Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol. (\$182,213)

Sydney– replacement Cat 3 vessel; Sussex Inlet– replacement Cat 2 vessel; Ulladulla – replacement of Cat 2 vessel; SARCC refurbishments at Foster and Coffs Harbour; Base Level Funding for 7 units.

Operational Support

The disbursement of the allocated \$275,000 for purposes of operational support was based on an agreed formula developed by the constituent members of the VMRC. The resultant disbursement for 2004/05 was: NSW Volunteer Rescue Assoc. - \$62,446; Australian Volunteer Coast Guard - \$90,066; and Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol - \$122,488.

Accreditation

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

Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol

- RVCP Trial Bay – change of accreditation from SARCC to MRB.

New South Wales Police

- Yamba Police LAC – MRU revoked. No longer operational.
- Narooma Police LAC – MRU revoked. No Longer operational.
- Broken Bay Water Police – SARCC revoked. No longer operational.

Note: Several changes in vessel accreditation for various Marine Rescue Units took place during the reporting period. These changes are reflected in Annex B.

Recreational Vessel Advisory Group

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

Awards

Three emergency service members were recipients of the Emergency Service Medal (ESM) during the period. The Emergency Service Medal is awarded in recognition of 'Distinguished Service' to emergency services. Those awarded were Mr B. Goodes ESM, Office for Emergency Services; Mr D. Morgan ESM, Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association; Mr W. Lingen ESM, Volunteer Rescue Association.

ANNEXES:

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

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

**Annex A to
Chapter 2
SRB Annual Report**

Accreditation Breakdown By District

District	Primary	Secondary	Vertical
Central West	15	12	6
Far West	9	3	6
Hunter	18	5	9
Illawarra	6	4	4
Mid North Coast	16	14	9
Monaro	13	8	10
Murray	15	12	2
Northern Rivers	11	19	7
Peel	24	17	9
Riverina	15	9	7
Sydney Metropolitan	22	6	13
Southern Highlands	12	7	5
Western Slopes	19	14	7
TOTALS	195	130	94

Accreditation Breakdown By Service

Service	General Rescue		Vertical Rescue	Rescue Operators
	Primary	Secondary		
Police Service	9		9	98
Ambulance Service	14		7	185
Fire Brigades	45	120	12	2065
State Emergency Service	79	10	38	898
Volunteer Rescue Association	48		28	429
TOTALS	195	130	94	3666

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Land Rescue Accreditations

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

Legend:

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

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

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Land Rescue Accreditations

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

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

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Land Rescue Accreditations

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

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

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Land Rescue Accreditations

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Land Rescue Accreditations

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Land Rescue Accreditations

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Land Rescue Accreditations

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Land Rescue Accreditations

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

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

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Land Rescue Accreditations

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

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

**Annex B to
Chapter 2
SRB Annual Report**

SERVICE	SARCC	MRB	MRU	TOTAL ACCREDITATIONS	TOTAL UNITS	TOTAL MANNING	MRU VESSELS
NSW WATER POLICE	1	2	13	16	13	138	25
NSW VOLUNTEER RESCUE ASSOCIATION	3	6	12	21	12	329	23
ROYAL VOLUNTEER COASTAL PATROL	8	18	21	47	26	874	37
AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEER COAST GUARD	6	8	16	30	19	485	23
OTHER	Nil	Nil	2	2	2	36	3
TOTALS:	18	34	64	116	72	1862	111

OPERATIONAL AREA CATEGORIES FOR MARINE RESCUE UNITS	WATER POLICE	RVCP	AVCGA	VRA	OTHER	TOTAL
Category 1	2	10	4	8	3	27
Category 2	12	14	11	5		42
Category 3	8	10	5	4		27
SUB TOTAL	22	34	20	17	3	96
OPERATIONAL COORDINATION						
SARCC	1	8	6	3		18
MRU	13	21	16	12	2	64
MRB	2	18	8	6		34
SUB TOTAL	16	47	30	21	2	116

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

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

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

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

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
<i>NORTHERN RIVERS DISTRICT (continued)</i>			
9.	Evans Head Flotilla	AVCGA	MRB MRU Cat(3) 072/AUKEV80172E298
10.	Iluka/Yamba Flotilla	AVCGA	SARCC MRU Cat(3) 075/CG17N
12.	Wooli Rescue Squad	VRA	MRB MRU Cat(1) 069/EM327N Cat(2) 070/VRS016N
13.	Ballina Lighthouse & Lismore Surf Life Saving Club	SLSA	Ministerial Limited. Ballina Bar Operation only. MRU Cat(1) 071/SR900N Surf Rescue Jet Boat

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

SQUAD NO:	UNIT – MARINE RESCUE AREA	ORGANISATION	ACCREDITATION & CATEGORY
ILLAWARRA DISTRICT			
53.	Bellambi Flotilla	AVCGA	MRU Cat(2) 027/ACWWA077462C00
54.	Wollongong Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(3) 040/CP778N
55.	Port Kembla Flotilla	AVCGA	SARCC
56.	Port Kembla Police	NSW Police MAC	MRU Cat(3) & Cat (2)
57.	Lake Illawarra Flotilla	AVCGA	MRU Cat(1) 112/CG20N Cat (1) 113/AUHDLP593G898
58.	Shellharbour Flotilla	AVCGA	MRU Cat(2) 035/ACWWA077462C00
60.	Nowra Police	Shoalhaven Police LAC	MRU Cat(1) 029/50491
61.	Jervis Bay Division	RVCP	MRB MRU Cat(3) 039/43001 Cat(1) 038/CP41N
63.	Shoalhaven Marine Rescue Association	VRA	SARCC MRU Cat(3) 036/SMRA8N Cat(3) 037/SA24N

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Summary of Marine Rescue Units

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

State Rescue Board of New South Wales
Summary of Marine Rescue Units

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

STATE RESCUE BOARD

OF

NEW SOUTH WALES

CHAPTER THREE

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

RESCUE OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

OBJECTIVE ONE

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

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

The Board, with the support of District Rescue Committees, has made recommendations to the Minister regarding rescue accreditations in accordance with the established protocols for the accreditation of rescue units. During the period one general land rescue unit was accredited to secondary status, while two general land rescue units had their accreditation increased to include vertical accreditation. The accreditations of two primary general land rescue units were revoked.

During the period one Marine Rescue Unit and one Marine Radio Base were accredited, while two Marine Rescue Units and a Search and Rescue Coordination Centre had their accreditations revoked. One Search and Rescue Coordination Centre had their accreditation reduced to Marine Radio Base level.

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

At the conclusion of the reporting period there are now 195 primary and 130 secondary rescue units accredited for land rescue in NSW (of which 94 are accredited for Vertical Rescue), 64 Marine Rescue Units, 18 Maritime Search and Rescue Coordination Centres and 34 Marine Radio Bases throughout the State. Certificates of Accreditation for 2005 were issued to all accredited land rescue units on 1 January 2005. Certificates for the marine units accredited for rescue were issued on 1 July 2004 for the twelve months to 30 June 2005.

DEVELOP AND PROMULGATE STATE RESCUE POLICIES.

The 2nd Edition, State Rescue Policy, including the Maritime Rescue Policy dated 10 May 1995 has been issued to all participating organizations, accredited general land rescue units, marine rescue units, search and rescue coordination centre, marine radio bases, Police Stations, Ambulance Service Stations and Fire Brigade Stations.

A complete review of the State Rescue Policy was conducted on behalf of the Board by Major General B.W. Howard, AO, MC, ESM and submitted on 20 April 2005. A revised Policy will be issued following the Board's consideration of the review.

DEVELOP STANDING ORDERS, INSTRUCTIONS AND STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURES.

In accordance with the State Rescue Policy, Standing Orders, Instructions and Standing Operating Procedures are developed by the Board, District and Local Rescue Committees. In 2001 the State Rescue Board in conjunction with the VMRC developed SRB Standing Operating Procedures for Marine Rescue Units. These have now been promulgated to all District Rescue Committees, accredited marine rescue units and appropriate local Police and Police communication centres.

DEVELOP LIAISON LINKS WITH ALL RESCUE AGENCIES.

The following sub-committees are established and meet regularly:

- Training Advisory Panel;
 - Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of NSW;
 - 13 District Rescue Committees and
 - 104 Local Rescue Committees;
 - District Maritime Rescue Advisory Sub-Committees in the Northern Rivers, Mid North Coast, Hunter, Illawarra and Monaro Emergency Management Districts.
-

ESTABLISH INTERSTATE LIAISON WITH RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS

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

MONITOR RESCUE RESPONSE ARRANGEMENTS

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

In 1998 the Board, in response to several incidents, resolved to amend the State Rescue Policy to allow for the constitution of a Significant Incident Review Panel to ensure timely and objective review of incidents where significant concerns had been expressed.

Following an incident at the Port Kembla Sewerage Works on 10 February 2004 the Board commissioned a review of the rescue aspects of the incident. The final report of the review was presented to the Board in late June 2004. The report was forwarded to the Coroner, who has yet to sit in consideration of the case. The Board has addressed a number of the recommendations detailed in the Report and has forwarded others to the Training Advisory Panel for consideration.

MONITOR ACCREDITED RESCUE UNIT PERFORMANCE

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

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

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

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

For the year 2004/2005 NSW Police Rescue Coordination Officers reported 6324 road rescues where rescue units attended, of which 3790 involved extrications.

The Board maintains a 'Register' of Registered Land and Maritime Rescue Operators pursuant to section 57 of the Act.

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

SERVICE	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
NSW Police Service	118	137	98
Ambulance Service of NSW	181	211	185
NSW Fire Brigades	2188	2051	2056
State Emergency Service	937	918	898
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	648	597	429
TOTAL:.....	4072	3914	3666

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

SERVICE	2002/03	2003/4	2004/05
NSW Water Police	152	118	138
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association Inc	515	530	485
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol	866	840	874
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	358	341	329
Others	32	32	36
TOTAL:.....	1923	1861	1862

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

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

ACCREDITED RESCUE UNITS	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
General Land Rescue Units	324	326	325
Vertical Land Rescue Units	92	92	94
Marine Search & Rescue Coordination Centres	19	20	18
Marine Radio Bases	33	32	34
Marine Rescue Units	65	65	64

**OBJECTIVE
TWO**

To ensure the maintenance of efficient and effective rescue services throughout the State.

ESTABLISH DISTRICT AND LOCAL RESCUE COMMITTEES.

Thirteen District and 104 Local Rescue Committees are established. No further Rescue Committees are envisaged. Police Commanders with responsibilities for marine rescue have also established Maritime Rescue Advisory Sub-Committees. These are currently established in the Northern Rivers, Mid North Coast, Hunter – Central Coast, Illawarra and Monaro Emergency Management Districts.

REVIEW DISTRICT AND LOCAL RESCUE COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS.

District Rescue Committee Minutes and Reports are reviewed and actioned as an on going program.

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

Skill levels have been reviewed for Senior Rescue Instructors, Rescue Instructors and Rescue Operators. These skill levels are for the most part encapsulated in the Public Safety Training Package. Senior Rescue Instructors and Rescue Instructors are progressively re-qualifying as trainers and assessors in accordance with the Australian Qualifications Framework.

DEVELOP TRAINING STANDARDS TO MEET THE TRAINING SKILLS REQUIREMENTS.

General land, vertical and marine rescue training standards are incorporated within the State Rescue Policy. The Board has endorsed competency based training and has approved it as the system by which land and marine rescue operators at all levels will be assessed for purposes of registration. The training standards for general land rescue have been developed in consultation with industry representatives. The package has been accepted as the basis for the standards required by the Board and is being delivered by all agencies. The current training material for general land rescue originally approved by the Board in 1991 will be retained until the formal introduction of Competency Based Training.

The training standards for marine rescue have been reviewed by the VMRC. The development of the Board marine rescue training package is completed and the full introduction awaits a review of the funding implications.

DEVELOP TRAINING PACKAGES.

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

- Board's Rescue Training Reference Manual (Second Edition).
- Board's Rescue Instructors Training Guide (Second Edition) along with 65 copies of a package of high quality "rescue Instruction Overhead Transparencies."
- General Motors Emergency Service Bulletin Booklet concerning the safety arrangements for "Air Bags".
- Board's Reference Manual for Supplementary Restraint Systems (SRS) Airbags.
- 5700 copies of a Federal Office of Road Safety publication on Supplementary Restraint Systems.
- Australian Defence Force Publication "Military Aircraft Accident Sites – Safety Guidelines for Emergency Services Personnel".
- NSW Police Publication "NSW Emergency Services Organizations)".
- Board video on the Brifen Safety Fence.
- Video working Safely with Aircraft.
- Electrical Awareness Safety Package.
- Reference notes relating to Procedures of the Coroner's Court.
- OZPOD frame pamphlets.
- SRB Marine Standing Operating Procedures.
- Urban Search & Rescue Category 1 compact disks.
- US Emergency Services Response to September 11 Attack compact disks and video.
- Public Safety Training Package compact disks.
- Maritime Training Package compact disks.
- Hybrid vehicle package compact disc.

ARRANGE AND CONDUCT RESCUE TRAINING.

The Training Advisory Panel met once during the reporting period. The Training Advisory Panel is responsible for monitoring and reviewing issues related to training. This includes making recommendations to the Board on the suitability of candidates for appointment as Rescue and Senior Rescue Instructors.

The basic rescue operator training syllabus is included within the State Rescue Policy. This is supported by a Second Edition Rescue Training Reference Manual and a Second Edition Rescue Instructors Training Guide.

Rescue agencies are continuing to conduct rescue operator training in accordance with the Board's rescue operator training syllabus and the Board's policy requirements.

MONITOR RESCUE TRAINING STANDARDS.

The Board Secretariat monitors training on behalf of the Board. The Secretariat attended several District Rescue Committee Meetings and attended Local and District multi-agency rescue training activities.

RECOMMEND AMENDMENTS TO LEGISLATION.

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

DEVELOP AND DISTRIBUTE APPROPRIATE RESCUE PUBLICATIONS.

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

See also section – “Develop Training Packages”.

DETERMINE AND RECOMMEND ON RESCUE EQUIPMENT STANDARDS AND NEEDS.

Equipment standards and lists for primary and secondary land rescue units and equipment lists for maritime rescue units have been developed and incorporated within Parts 4 and 5 of the State Rescue Policy. Marine equipment lists were updated in 2004.

RECOMMEND ON LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO VOLUNTEER ORGANISATIONS.

Recommendations were made to the Minister resulting in the provision of \$1,200,000 to the NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc for distribution to its accredited land rescue units.

The Volunteer Rescue Association has used the additional funding to set up a fund to assist in the acquisition of capital equipment and to arrange centralized insurance arrangements for all its affiliates.

The funds for the marine rescue units were disbursed according to arrangements agreed between the Board and the NSW Maritime Authority and incorporated in a Memorandum of Agreement between those bodies. The amount allocated to each organization is shown below. It incorporates a significant proportion for the replacement of rescue vessels to conform to the standards set out by the NSW Maritime Authority.

ORGANIZATION	AMOUNT ALLOCATED FY 2004/05
NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Inc	\$155,416
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol	\$304,701
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association Inc	\$224,083
TOTAL	\$684,200

STATE RESCUE BOARD

OF

NEW SOUTH WALES

CHAPTER FOUR

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT RESCUE OPERATIONS

OVERVIEW OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT RESCUE ARRANGEMENTS AND RESOURCES

In accordance with Section 48 A of the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act, District Rescue Committees are established in the Central West, Far West, Hunter, Illawarra, Mid North Coast, Monaro, Murray, Northern Rivers, Peel, Riverina, Southern Highlands and Western Slopes Emergency Management Districts. In addition, a Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee is established with responsibilities for all Police Districts within the area served by Police Radio (VKG) Sydney.

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

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

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

DISTRIBUTION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT RESCUE RESOURCES

Emergency Management District	Local Rescue Committees	Primary Land Rescue Units	Secondary Land Rescue Units	Marine Rescue Units	Search & Rescue Coordination Centre	Marine Radio Bases
Central West	9	15	12	Nil	Nil	Nil
Far West	6	9	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Hunter – Central Coast	10	18	5	14	2	10
Illawarra	3	6	4	11	3	4
Mid North Coast	8	16	14	8	3	5
Monaro	7	13	8	9	4	3
Murray	12	15	12	Nil	Nil	Nil
Northern Rivers	7	11	19	9	4	4
Peel	10	24	17	Nil	Nil	Nil
Riverina	12	15	9	Nil	Nil	Nil
Southern Highlands	10	12	7	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sydney Metropolitan	1	22	6	13	2	8
Western Slopes	9	19	14	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	104	195	130	64	18	34

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE DISTRICT RESCUE COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The District Rescue Committees and where applicable their associated Marine Rescue Advisory Sub-Committees continue to provide valuable input into the considerations of the Board. The continued success of the District Marine Inspection Teams in the reporting period is particularly pleasing.

It is clear to the Board, that the District Rescue Committees play a vital part in the rescue arrangements within the State. Much of the credit regarding the quality of services provided by accredited rescue units to their respective communities is due to the District Rescue Committee.

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

The Board is satisfied that the District Rescue Committee structure and the district rescue arrangements were both efficient and effective throughout the reporting period.

DISTRICT RESCUE COMMITTEES

Central West District

Nine Local Rescue Committees are established: Bathurst, Blayney, Cabonne, Cowra, Forbes, Lachlan, Oberon, Orange City and Parkes. The District Rescue Committee met on three occasions at Dubbo. These meetings were held in conjunction with the Western Slopes District and Far West District Committees. The Police, Ambulance and Fire Service communication centres, which service the western areas of NSW, were represented at these meetings.

Several local area exercises were conducted throughout the reporting period. These were mainly based on airport scenarios to revalidate licences issued by CASA.

The Care Flight helicopter service based at Orange has significantly enhanced patient evacuation from rescue incidents. No significant issues occurred during the reporting period.

Far West District

Six Local Rescue Committees are established: Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Cobar, Central Darling and a Broken Hill City/ Unincorporated area. The District Rescue Committee met on three occasions at Dubbo. These meetings were held in conjunction with the Western Slopes District and Central West District Committees. The Police, Ambulance and Fire Service communication centres, which service the western areas of NSW, were represented at these meetings. Through this active partnership issues associated with the call-out of accredited rescue services can be constantly monitored and managed. The South Australia / NSW rescue based “Barrier Highway Committee”, which in NSW centres on Broken Hill, met twice during the reporting period.

NSW Police continues to assist and improve communications with accredited rescue units through the provision of superseded Police VHF radios for rescue vehicles. The access to the Police Radio network enhances the call-out process and delivery of rescue services.

The Ambulance Service of NSW (ASNSW) completed its Honorary Ambulance Officer program at Menindee, Tibooburra and Ivanhoe, where on call Ambulance services are now provided.

Numerous airfield rescue operation exercises were conducted in conjunction with Local Government Authority airport owners to meet the Air Service Australia safety regulations and to enhance rescue services associated with aircraft incidents.

The issue of Remote Airstrips has been raised at all Local Rescue Committees, with a motion passed at the final District Rescue Committee for the period for ‘ASNSW to liaise with the Royal Flying Doctor Service to develop a strategic plan for identifying existing airstrips and developing other along major roads and rail corridors in Western NSW’.

A declining resource base of volunteers in rural areas continues to provide challenges for rescue and emergency service agencies within the District. This problem has manifested itself with the Bourke VRA Rescue Squad having to rely on the Bourke NSW Fire Brigade secondary unit to respond to all call-outs.

Hunter – Central Coast District

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

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

Rescue units reported normal levels of operational responses within the District during the reporting period, with majority being to motor vehicle related accidents, along with marine rescue operations.

The District conducted two major multi-agency rescues training activities over the period. These two exercises included active participation from RailCorp, Hunter New England & Northern Sydney Central Coast Health. Rescue Agencies also conducted various other training activities and rescue workshops.

Illawarra District

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

The District Rescue Committee, Local Rescue Committees and the District Marine Rescue Advisory Sub Committee each conducted three meetings in 2004/05 with excellent attendance and support from all rescue agencies.

There was no marked change in the number of rescues responded to within the District. The majority of which were MVA related but with some vertical and marine rescue operations being recorded.

The District conducted four significant multi agency rescue training activities including two (2) marine search and rescue coordinator's courses with exercises and two combined emergency services rescue training camps.

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

Mid North Coast

Eight Local Rescue Committees are established: Bellingen, Coffs Harbour, Gloucester, Great Lakes, Hastings, Kempsey, Nambucca and Taree. A Marine Rescue Advisory Sub-Committee is also established. These committees generally meet formally twice per year and will meet additionally as required by notification through LEMC meetings. Apart from some minor issues with boundaries there were no major issues of concern, or accreditation issues.

No DEMO was in place from July 2004 to January 2005 however, the District was cared for by the Hunter DEMO until the appointment of new DEMO. The Mid North Coast District Rescue Committee met regularly during the reporting period with three meetings held. No major concerns. Mid North Coast District Rescue SOPS incorporated as an Annex to Mid North Coast District DISPLAN these SOPS describe general operating boundaries of units. No major issues have been raised.

The Mid North Coast Marine advisory Committee (a sub committee to the Mid North Coast District Rescue Committee) also met on a regular basis. No major concerns have been raised at these meetings. Some communication issues between radio bases and SARCCs between Mid North Coast and Northern Rivers and Queensland agencies are being taken up by Police Marine Area Command with the view to resolution.

A bus accident with a small van at Coffs Harbour in late June had potential to be a significant rescue operation resulting in a small number of trapped/deceased (occupants of van). It should be noted that of major concern was a helicopter that hovered over the scene for significant periods that caused problems with those on the ground communicating and also concerns about small glass shards being blown around with potential to injure those at the scene.

Monaro District

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

The District Rescue Committee, the Local Rescue Committees and the Marine Rescue Advisory Sub Committee each met on three occasions during the reporting period.

The majority of the District land based rescue operations were MVA related. Marine rescue units all reported normal levels of operation in their areas of responsibility.

Several local area training activities were conducted during the period as well as the annual District inspection of accredited marine rescue resources. The District continues to promote multi agency marine and general land rescue training. With regard to this point, Monaro District Rescue Committee recognises value in having an involvement in multi-agency exercises and training and at a recent meeting a decision was arrived at that would ensure the District Rescue Committee is informed of all multi agency rescue training activities in their planning stage.

Issues have arisen regarding cross border (NSW / ACT) operations, specifically the ACT tasking their resources into NSW without informing NSW authorities of the existence of the subject incident. Endeavours to address this are being conducted by the Southern NSW and ACT Control Room Committee.

Murray District

Twelve Local Rescue Committees are established. They are Albury, Balranald, Berrigan, Corowa, Deniliquin-Conargo, Greater Hume, Jerilderie, Murray, Tumbarumba, Urana, Wakool and Wentworth.

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

The rescue resources in the Murray District attended many MVA incidents but none of the severity of last years bus crash. There was also an increase in the number of search operations in the District. Both river and bush searches.

The Murray District Rescue Committee with the assistance of the SRB is conducting some Search familiarity activities in the new financial year.

There are also planned two District Rescue Workshops and several Local SRB sponsored training activities.

There are two main areas of concern for the District.

1. The first is the difficulty in maintaining the rescue capability, particularly in the smaller towns whose populations are decreasing in size and increasing in age.

Moulamein was the first area affected and the SES has surrendered the Primary Rescue Accreditation. Unfortunately this decline has not stopped at Moulamein and is having an impact on most small rural rescue units and fire services regardless of agency.

Concern is currently located on Oaklands and Urana areas, but areas such as Moama have also had concerns during the year.

We will have to look at new models for delivery of rescue and fire services to rural and remote areas.

2. The second is the increased number of rescue operations being experienced on the Western side of the Australian Alps. This is mainly due to the improved access roads in and through the area coupled with a significant increase in adventure touring in the high country. The District is reviewing its existing rescue resources in the area with the aim of improving its rescue response in the area. The area serviced by the Alpine Way is an area of concern because of the lack of local rescue resources and a large increase in the traffic using the road and associated trails.

The District continues to foster its important cross border relations through rescue training and exercises and active participation in several other Local and District forums. The District conducted two multi agency rescue training activities during the reporting period including a workshop with the Police Forensic and Accident Investigation Teams. The District is reviewing several rescue initiatives including more specific training in search and working in remote areas.

Northern Rivers District

Seven Local Rescue Committees are established: Ballina, Byron Shire, Richmond Valley, Lismore, Kyogle, Clarence Valley and Tweed Heads. A Marine Rescue Advisory Sub-Committee is also established. The District Rescue Committee met on three occasions and the Marine Advisory Sub Committee met on four occasions over the reporting period.

A multi-agency marine rescue training exercise, including an on-water exercise, was coordinated by NSW Police Marine Area Command during the reporting period. Annual Marine Inspections were also conducted.

An attempt to instigate a multi-agency inspection of accredited Land Rescue Units was attempted, but reluctance on the part of some agencies hampered there effective completion.

The District Emergency Operations Controller gave direction to the District Police Communications Centre to call out the nearest Rescue Unit based on the location of the incident. The intent of this directive was to expedite rescue in locations where Primary Unit were required to respond from further away than Secondary Units.

Peel District

Local Government amalgamations continue to impact on the structure and functioning of Rescue Committees within the Peel District. Tamworth is to recommence its meetings under a newly restructured Local Rescue Committee and will conduct its first meeting in August this year. Guyra and Walcha are continuing discussions with Armidale Dumaresq/Uralla with the view to amalgamate for the purposes of Emergency Management. This will strengthen the rescue capabilities within these four Local Government Areas. At present there are 10 Local Rescue Committees: Armidale Dumaresq/Uralla, Glen Innes Severn, Gunnedah, Gwydir, Inverell, Liverpool Plains, Moree, Narrabri, Tamworth and Tenterfield.

The District Rescue Committee met on four occasions during the reporting period. All meetings were well attended. All Local Rescue Committees have commenced reporting to the District in a consistent manner using a format developed by the District Rescue Committee and details such issues as training, accreditation status and audits, manpower capability and skills and incidents.

During the year Deepwater SES gained accreditation for vertical rescue while Boggabilla SES unfortunately lost its land rescue accreditation status. That area is still able to be covered by Moree and Yetman rescue units with assistance from Queensland Fire and Rescue.

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

A number of exercises were held through the year including 2 aerodrome field exercises involving multiple casualties and rescue.

Riverina District

Twelve Local Rescue Committees are established and function for the Bland, Carrathool, Coolamon, Griffith, Hay, Junee, Leeton, Lockhart, Murrumbidgee, Narrandera, Temora and Wagga Wagga local government areas.

The Riverina District Rescue Committee met on four occasions over the reporting period and was supported by all agencies. With approval and support from the District Rescue Committee, Ambulance Rescue at Wagga Wagga is following State Rescue Policy protocols for accreditation for vertical rescue.

Rescue responses during the period have been rather typical in size and severity, it was reiterated at district level that there is a need for agencies personnel to be mindful of preservation of evidence at incident scenes, of particular importance is limiting personnel access into the scene after combatant actions have been completed.

Local rescue committees continued their program of promoting multi-agency rescue training and refining rescue response procedures within the District. To this end funding for multi agency training activities were sought and approved from the State Rescue Board with a large scale road rescue activity taking place in Temora during September 2004. The State Rescue Board conducted a Bi-annual District Workshop at Narrandera 9th & 10th October 2004, this activity was well supported.

Southern Highlands District

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

A Communications Advisory Group comprising the Managers of Police, Ambulance, Fire and other major communication centres that cover the Murray, Riverina, Monaro, Illawarra and Southern Highlands Districts and the Australian Capital Territory, has been formed. The principle function of the advisory group is to resolve communication issues and to implement improvement strategies to provide more effective inter-agency communication coordination.

The Yass/Gunning Local Rescue Committee coordinated a multi agency rescue training activity at Wee Jasper. The Cootamundra Local Rescue Committee coordinated a multi agency rescue exercise at Cootamundra. The Southern Highlands District Rescue Committee coordinated a multi-agency Rescue Training Camp at Bungonia.

Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee

The Sydney Metropolitan Area Rescue Committee was formed to provide the Rescue Committee function for the Sydney Metropolitan Area. Membership comprises senior representatives from Police, Fire Brigade and Ambulance. The Committee did not meet during the reporting period.

Western Slopes District

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

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

NSW Police continues to assist and improve communications with accredited rescue units with the provision of superseded Police VHF radios into Rescue vehicles. The access to the Police Radio network enhances the call-out process and delivery of rescue services.

There were several Helicopter crash rescue incidents during the year. These incidents occurred following collisions with electricity lines whilst engaged in locust plague operations. The most serious incident being near Dunedoo where 2 persons were deceased from a 3 person crew incident.

The Careflight Rescue Helicopter, which is based at Orange, continues to provide a valuable service with medical retrievals from rescue incidents within the District.

Several Rescue Units have experienced serious declines in their volunteer membership base because of the effects of the prolonged drought on communities. The accredited Primary Rescue Units at both Warren and Coolah (Volunteer Rescue Association), whilst still being able to meet minimum State Rescue Board accreditation requirements, have been endorsed by Local & District Rescue Committees to have a 'joint call-out' arrangement with the accredited Secondary Unit (NSW Fire Brigades) to ensure that there is an adequate and timely rescue service at these areas.

The District Committee has formed a "Training Officers Forum" as a Sub Committee. This Committee will consist of agency Training Officers and will coordinate mutual benefit training activities across agencies and plan a large-scale annual Exercise within the district.

OVERVIEW OF DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICERS

District Emergency Management Officers are members of the NSW Police Service and provide executive support for Police Commanders in their role as District Emergency Operations Controllers. It is in this capacity that District Emergency Management Officers also support the District Rescue Committees and district rescue structure and arrangements.

**STATE RESCUE BOARD
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES**

CHAPTER FIVE

**BOARD SECRETARIAT
SERVICES**

THE STAFF OF THE STATE RESCUE BOARD AS AT 30 JUNE 2005

▪ Mr B. Goodes	Secretary
▪ Mr A.W. Kaine	Assistant Secretary
▪ Mr J. Rossi	Support Officer Marine
▪ Mrs A. Raiti	Support Officer Land

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

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**Personnel and Staffing**

The equivalent full-time (EFT) staff as at the 30 June 2005 was four.

Consequently the profile of the combined staff is as follows:

a. Management	2
b. Land and Marine Rescue Accreditation	2

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

CONSULTANTS

Major General B.W. (Hori) Howard, AO, MC, ESM was appointed by the Board to conduct a review of the New South Wales State Rescue Policy. General Howard commenced the review in December 2004 and presented his report to the Board on 20 April 2005.

PUBLICATIONS

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

1. State Rescue Board Corporate Plan 1995-1999;
2. State Rescue Policy (2nd Edition – 1995);
3. State Rescue Board Reference Manual;
4. State Rescue Board Rescue Instructors Guide;
5. State Rescue Board Rescue Instructors Overhead Transparencies;
6. State Rescue Board Exercise Management Guide;
7. State Rescue Board Supplementary Restraint Systems (SRS) Air Bags;
8. State Rescue Board Marine Standing Operating Procedures.

FINANCE

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

CONTACT DETAILS

Board Secretariat	Level 12 52 Phillip Street SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone	(02) 8247 5900
Facsimile	(02) 9252 9169
Postal Address	Level 12 52 Phillip Street SYDNEY NSW 2000