



New Zealand Search and Rescue Council

**Minutes of Meeting
New Zealand Search and Rescue Council
Thursday 5 March 2015
Boardroom, Ministry of Transport
Level 6 SAS Tower, 89 The Terrace, Wellington**

In Attendance:

Martin Matthews – MoT (*Chair*)
Superintendent Barry Taylor – NZ Police
Graeme Harris – CAA
Keith Manch – MNZ
Lou Sanson – DOC
Lt Col Dean Gerling – NZDF

Present:

Superintendent Chris Scahill – NZ Police
Richard Davies – DOC
Duncan Ferner – NZSAR
Carl van der Meulen – NZSAR
Rachel Roberts – NZSAR
Phil Burgess – NZSAR
Amy Greig – MoT (*minutes*)

Guests for item 2:

Mark Cassidy – Wellington Community Trust
Joy Cooper – National Ambulance Sector Office
Scott Milne – Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Board (*via teleconference*)
Karen Hope-Cross – Southern Operations (DIA)

Apologies:

Assistant Commissioner Mike Bush – Police
AC Tony Davies - NZDF
Scott Pickering – ACC
Mike Knell - NZCT

1. Welcome

Martin Matthews opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and noted apologies as above.

2. SAR Sector Funding – Strategic Discussion

The NZSAR Council recognises its responsibilities to provide leadership and strategic governance to the Search and Rescue sector. The funding necessary to support organisations within the sector is provided from a range of sources and agencies including the Council. The Council felt it was timely to have a meeting of interested parties to examine options that may help to maximise the value of available funding.

This session was an opportunity to examine how as a broad collective, the sector could share information, priorities and purposes with a view to improving the joint impact of combined financial input. The Council and guests participated in a broad discussion. The summary points are:

- Most resources that SAR use typically exist for other purposes with SAR usage only making up a small part of their overall activity.
- A reasonable body of research is being built which will enable a better understanding of the sector.
- The diverse funding streams experienced by the SAR sector is not a unique situation.
- Community driven 'requirements' as presented to funding agencies are currently often assessed without any strategic context.
- Funding volatility has led to increased pressure on funding agencies and trusts.
- Agencies such as the Lotteries Grants Board and the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Board are bound by statute.
- The notions of an overarching national prevention strategy, emerging issues and trends, incentives, transparency and improved analysis, prioritisation & information sharing was discussed and the ideas were received positively.
- A once per year meeting of funding agencies was suggested with most agreeing that this would be useful. Attendees noted differences in their funding cycles. (Early August preferred for LGB, Combined Community Trusts meet in October/November.)

The group agreed the opportunity to meet in this forum was useful and well received. Discussion was positive and helpful and some tangible ideas were explored. Key points made included the possibility of the Council having an opportunity to meet with funding providers before bids are confirmed i.e – the Lottery Grant Board.

Outcome: Council members and guests welcomed this opportunity to meet and explore funding issues.

Actions: NZSAR Secretariat is to follow up on points made during the session including:

- Send SLA letters of intent attendees.
- Meet with and/or share information with funders with a view to assisting their funding/grant decision making.

Guests left the meeting at this point of proceedings.

3. Minutes of Meeting held 18 November

Minutes of the meeting held 18 November were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Outcome: Council *approved* the minutes from 18 November.

4. Matters arising from minutes

Item 3 – Sector Update

- Ensure key messages from the combined workshops held in April 2014 become a standing agenda item for future Council meetings.
- Add ‘prevention’ to the notes taken for the combined workshops.

Item will be included on future agenda as time allows. ‘Prevention’ added to the notes.

Item 8 – Strategic Discussion – SAR Funding

- Follow up with a multilateral meeting in March 2015

Completed.

Item 9 – Avalanche Advisory Review

- Martin to discuss DOC part funding of the avalanche advisory with the CE of DOC.
- NZSAR Secretariat to work with relevant agencies to implement the avalanche advisory review recommendations.
- NZSAR, MSC and DOC will develop a joint SLA for the ongoing delivery of the avalanche advisory

All in progress.

Item 10 – SAR Governance Review Terms of Reference

- Secure a reviewer to undertake the NZSAR Governance Review.
- Make arrangements to effect the NZSAR Governance Review

Completed.

Item 14 - General Business

- Extend an invite to Water Safety NZ to become a member of the Consultative Committee.

Completed.

Outcome: Council *noted* the matters arising.

5. SLA Monitoring Report: 1 Oct – 31 December 2014 Quarter

Key numbers include:

- 1,680 volunteers involved, totalling 8,773 volunteer hours
- A total of 36 lives saved and 603 SAROPS
- 51,646 beacons registered to date.

SLSNZ

- A service level agreement has been reached between the Police and SLSNZ setting asset costs for Surf Life Saving Equipment used during category 1 searches across all police districts and all SLSNZ regions. This will help to simplify the drawing up of invoices post events for SLSNZ and allow police to gain a clearer insight into the costs of deployment for a response.

LandSAR

- LandSAR has completed the new Safety Management System, LandSAR website renewal and Training Management System projects.

Coastguard

- Coastguard has completed its review of Air Patrol Units, and will shortly share the results with the sector.
- The Auckland Volunteer and Howick Coastguard Units have launched new vessels.
- Callum Gillespie has joined Coastguard as the new CEO of the Northern Region.

Outcome: Council *noted* the SLA Monitoring Report.

7. NZSAR Awards

The NZSAR Awards for 2014 will be held on 21 April 2015, 6.00pm at Government House, hosted by the Governor General.

20 nominations were received; 9 for operational activity and 11 for support activity. The awards were ranked by a non-conflicted sub-group with their advice presented to the council in a paper distributed prior to this meeting.

Council discussed the suggestions made to them by the sub-group. Discussion included whether the sub-group was deemed adequate to be making the first cut on nominations on behalf of the Council. Duncan acknowledged that it had been challenging to find a sub-group that was completely non-conflicted. Council members asked that this be addressed for future awards.

After some discussion, Council agreed to all recommendations except the recommendation that a certificate be awarded to the crew of the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter.

A special award recommendation was proposed by the Secretariat requesting the Council consider a special award to recognise the extreme effort put in by the 5 Squadron RNZAF during the search for MH370. The Council agreed to this.

Outcome: Council *agreed* to all recommendations made by the sub-group with one exception – that the nomination for a certificate for the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter crew be removed. They also agreed to the recommendation that a special award be presented to the 5 Squadron.

8. SAR Governance Review Update

The project is tracking well. Nearly all the interviews have been completed, with follow-up meetings arranged with Maritime NZ and CAA to discuss key projects.

Council can expect to receive a preliminary report at the next Council meeting.

Outcome: The Council *noted* the update on the SAR Governance Review.

9. SAR (ACE) MoU

The MoU is near completion. A summary of course data is below.

	December 2013	December 2014
Total SAR ACE EFTs	153	153.1
Number of courses	83	80
Number of courses cancelled	44	29
Number participants registered for courses	Unknown	1495
Total number participants attending	1267	1272
Average numbers registered for course		18.6
Average Number attending per course	15	16
% non-attendance	10%	16%
% of GPT predicted courses	54%	60%

10. 2014/2015 NSSP Update

Summary of 2014/2015 NSSP is outlined below:

Workshops & Seminars	SAR Training
• Wander Symposium	• Training Support and Advice
• Land Search Seminar	• Air Observer on line material
• SAREX Planning	• Air Observer training
• Helicopter workshop	• Land Formal Search Planning
• SAR Partner Wksp support	• Marine Formal Search Planning
• Organisational Support	• START material
SAR Data management and IT	Prevention
• Data Store and analysis tools	• AdventureSmart Comms & website maint
• Data Extractions	• Visitor Intentions
• SAR Data Standard	• Wander
• Operational Analysis	• Jasons / Tourism Radio
• Resource database enhancements	• Safety Code Partnership
• Maint - SARNET, Website, START, RDB etc	Exercises
SAR Documentation	• Police SAREX support
• SAR Forms and Guidelines	• MRO SAREXs
Secretariat	SAR Research
• Communications and publications	• Review of SAR in NZ
• NZSAR Awards	• Avalanche Advisory Independent review
• Travel, meetings, advice etc	• SAR Funding part II

11. General Business

Adventure Smart

This initiative is stable and delivering good outputs given modest investment. 118,000 brochures were distributed through Jasons, I-Sites, DOC visitor centres, Coastguard, MSC and WSNZ last year. The recreational partnership continues with WSNZ, CNZ and MSC this includes safety code engagement with the public.

Challenges remain in increasing online view figures up but this remains a focus of the Secretariat.

CAA- Air Operators Submission

The NZSAR secretariat has made a submission to the CAA on the proposed Rule for unmanned aircraft operator certification.

Coastguard Radio Update

Council were advised that Coastguard will be obliged to change to new frequencies for many of their radio repeaters. This may have a significant and unanticipated cost implication for them. They will need to inform the public and SAR partners of the new frequencies once they are up and running. Duncan will find out more information and report back.

Phil Burgess Resignation

It was with regret that Duncan announced the resignation of Phil Burgess who has decided to pursue opportunities in Australia. Duncan thanked Phil for all his hard work and the valuable impact he had made on the SAR sector during his time here, particularly in relation to training.

The Council also passed on their thanks and warm regards to Phil.

Outcome: The council *noted* the general business items.

Meeting ended: 3.00pm

Next meeting: 28 May 2015

Martin Matthews
Chair
NZSAR Council

Item	Decisions / Action	Responsibility
2. SAR Sector Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Send SLA letters of intent attendees.Meet with and/or share information with funders with a view to assisting their funding/grant decision making.	Duncan

New Zealand Search and Rescue Council

Notice of Meeting
1-3 pm Thursday 5 March 2015
Te Waka Boardroom Ministry of Transport
Level 6, SAS Tower
89 The Terrace, Wellington

AGENDA

1.	Welcome (Coffee & Tea available)	Chair
2.	Strategic Discussion - SAR Sector Funding Risk Framework item - SAR Funding	Council
	<i>Following departure of guests</i>	
3.	Apologies	Chair
4.	Minutes of meeting held 18 Nov 14 – <i>for approval</i>	All
5.	Matters arising from the Minutes	All
6.	SLA monitoring report: Sep – Dec 14 quarter – <i>paper</i>	Snr Adv
7.	NZSAR Awards – <i>for decision</i>	Council
8.	SAR Governance Review - <i>update</i>	Sec Mgr
9.	SAR (ACE) MOU	Sec Mgr
10.	2014/15 NSSP update	Sec Mgr
11.	General Business	All

Proposed next meetings:

21 April 2015 – NZSAR Awards (Government House)

28 May 2015

27 August 2015 – Combined with Consultative Committee

19 November 2015

27 February 2015

NZSAR RISK MATRIX

Risk #	Risk Description	Reasons or Causes	Consequences	Likelihood	Consequences	Risk Level (reviewed)	Risk Treatment(s)	Post Treatment (planned for)	Comments/Examples
2014/01	SAR Information Search and rescue information is inadequate or unreliable for future planning.	SAR data collection is fragmented, lacks cohesion and is typically collected to meet the requirements of individual organisations. Properly analysed longitudinal information is difficult for decision makers to access. Data gaps and omissions render sound analysis difficult. In some instances, excessive detail is being collected. Insufficient focus is placed on the analysis of existing data. Drivers of SAR demand such as activity participation is not well understood.	Without reliable information, NZSAR will be unable to identify strategic changes and opportunities for the SAR community. Effective decision making is compromised by the lack of reliable, analysed data. Information can also be hard to access as it can reside within silos.	Certain	Moderate	(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/01/A: SAR Data Standard In consultation with operational SAR agencies, develop and document an agreed SAR data standard for collection, collation and analysis.	(14/15 NSSP)	Changing patterns in, for example, society, demographics, tourism, recreational activities, participation rates and technology is likely to impact on SAR needs and resources.
						(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/01/B: Data exchange and storage Establish and maintain a single repository for all SAR data.	(14/15 NSSP)	
						(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/01/C: Data analysis Analyse SAR data to identify trends and patterns in SAR events. Such analyses should be used in conjunction with other data to show broader trends and patterns. The resultant products will be made available to decision makers and stakeholders.	(Ongoing)	
						(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/01/D: SAR Operational Analysis Conduct an operational analysis of SAR need mapped to SAR resources. Assist SAR providing agencies to reshape their organisations to match proven SAR need.	(14/15 NSSP)	
2014/02	The sector experiences funding sufficiency and volatility risks.	Sufficiency. Funding for the wider SAR sector has a variety of sources. Funders may choose to lessen or withdraw their funding support.	Inadequate funding for part or some of the sector may limit investment in training or equipment and lead to inadequate operational responses.	Possible	Moderate	(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/02/A: SAR Funding Maintain an overall SAR funding picture. Work with other key SAR funders to sustain adequate supply. Maintain adequate PLA funding to meet Council goals.	(Ongoing)	
		Volatility. The funding levels for SAR agencies can be volatile due to profit variances with key gaming or lotteries trusts & boards. Grants policies also frequently change which can affect eligibility. Public appeals & donations are susceptible to change.	Volatile funding inhibits long term planning and investment. It also degrades sector effectiveness and efficiency.	Possible	Moderate	(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/02/B: Funded SAR SLAs Continue to support key SAR providing agencies with appropriately funded three year Service Level Agreements.	(Ongoing)	

27 February 2015

Risk #	Risk Description	Reasons or Causes	Consequences	Probability	Impact	Risk Level (reviewed)	Risk Treatment(s)	Post Treatment (Planned for)	Comments/Examples
2014/03	Cohesive SAR Training The SAR sectors training lacks cohesion and a sector focussed integrated training framework.	SAR training has evolved, developed and is often delivered within organisational silos. The perspectives of individual organisations have frequently taken precedence over the needs and goals of the wider sector.	Training variances can impact on sector collaboration and degrade inter agency and internal cohesion. Training divergence can lead to incompatible incident management systems, different understanding of language and incompatible expectations, SAR processes and priorities. These factors can contribute to deficient SAR services, inefficiencies and potentially avoidable loss of life.	High	Moderate	(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/03/A: Redevelop NZSAR Core Training Curriculum Redevelop the 2009 NZSAR Core Training Curriculum and update its content. Include process and procedures around SAR Adult and Community Education options.	(Complete and under action)	Development of the NZSAR Training Framework commenced in 2013.
						(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/03/B: Collaborative SAR training and exercising Continue cooperative and collaborative training, exercising and relationship building. See treatment option 2014/04/A for a treatment option based on cross-agency training.	(Ongoing)	NZSAR supports the conduct of Police District SAREXs
2014/04	Risks exist around volunteer recruitment, retention and training.	Changing demographics and attitudes, increasing work demands impact on volunteer recruitment, availability and longevity with the SAR sector.	<p>The SAR sector is highly reliant on volunteers for the safe delivery of effective SAR services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient numbers of volunteers in the right locations is likely to impact on the safe delivery of effective SAR services. Volunteer turbulence increases the training burden and inhibits the formation of SAR leaders. Excessive training demands, poor or infrequent exercises and/or onerous administrative requirements deter people from volunteering and discourage existing volunteers from remaining. Infrequent utilisation for SAROPs can be dispiriting and discourage long term engagement. 	Unlikely	Moderate	(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/04/A: Maintain good information on SAR volunteers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain good information about SAR volunteers and their expectations. Assist SAR organisations with information around recruitment and retention of volunteers to help ensure a sufficient number in areas and types of need. Ensure administrative requirements are not excessive. 	(Ongoing)	NZSAR supports the conduct of Police District SAREXs
		Growing public and legal expectations of SAR performance and competence impacts upon the training and commitment levels of SAR volunteers.				(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/04/B: Support SAR training alignment to the NZ Qualifications Framework (NZQF) When and where agreed by SAR agencies, NZSAR will actively Support and assist aligning SAR training to the NZQF.	(Ongoing)	
		Trained SAR Volunteers can be difficult to retain and motivate in areas where little SAR activity occurs.				(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/04/C: Quality SAR Exercises The conduct of good quality, appropriately focussed and well evaluated SAR exercises is important as they enhance readiness, reinforce training and build cohesiveness and morale within the SAR sector.	(Ongoing)	

Risk #	Risk Description	Reasons or Causes	Consequences	Probability	Impact	Risk Level (Reviewed)	Risk Treatment(s)	Post Treatment (Planned for)	Comments/Examples
2014/05	Recreational Knowledge Inadequate public understanding of personal risks taken during recreational activities.	A significant number of the public demonstrate a lack of understanding or underestimation of the risks involved with the recreational activity they are undertaking. Due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease in public knowledge about recreational safety. Increase in the range of recreational activities. Little investment in proactive safety message promotion – particularly land, snow and avalanche safety information. Lack of understanding by inbound tourists about New Zealand’s conditions and weather. Poor coordination and cohesion between the plethora of competing agencies which provide safety advice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals fail to take adequate precautions and/or responsibility for their own safety. Unacceptable levels of harm to New Zealand residents and foreign tourists. Harm to the reputation of New Zealand as a tourist destination. Unrealistic public expectations of the SAR sector. 	Likely	Moderate	(May 14)	Risk treatment 2014/05/A: Ensure the public has access to good quality, consistent safety advice. Maintain the NZSAR Adventure Smart website (http://adventuresmart.org.nz/) and support the promulgation of consistent sector messaging.	(Ongoing)	Example - Safety Code material. Example: Safety Partnership.
						(May 14)	Treatment option 2014/05/B: Recreational safety - provision of consistent information to the media. Support the relevant agencies to provide timely information to the media on personal responsibilities and better preparation when undertaking outdoor recreational activities.	(Ongoing)	
						(May 14)	Treatment option 2014/05/C: Support domestic safety organisations. Support the SAR prevention efforts of domestic safety information providing agencies. Encourage and harmonise collaborative action.	(Ongoing)	
2014/06	Mass Rescue Event Catastrophic mass rescue event overwhelms SAR capabilities.	New Zealand's SAR sector has very limited capacity to respond to large scale SAR events. New Zealand has a very large SAR region with little or no SAR assets in much of the region. Significant numbers of vessels and aircraft with large amounts of passengers transit the NZSRR.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant numbers of people injured or killed that could have been rescued. Severe reputational damage to SAR agencies. Severe reputational harm to New Zealand as a tourist destination. 	Rare	Severe	(May 14)	Treatment option 2014/06/A: Develop mass rescue policy and plans. In conjunction with partner agencies, develop appropriate mass rescue policies and plans.	(14/15 NSSP)	This risk is seen as high consequence but low likelihood. It is mainly controlled by the professionalism of ships officers and pilots together with advanced technology to help navigate such ships.
						(May 14)	Treatment option 2014/06/B: Conduct regular mass rescue exercises. In conjunction with partner agencies, exercise the mass rescue plans in all Police districts to validate and refine them.	(14/15 NSSP)	

Risk #	Risk Description	Reasons or Causes	Consequences	Probability	Impact	Risk Level (Reviewed)	Risk Treatment(s)	Post Treatment (planned for)	Comments/Examples
2014/07	MEOSAR Delay Delay in development of the new MEOSAR ground station	A substantial delay in the development of the new ground station for receipt of satellite data from emergency locator beacons is likely to result in an inability to receive distress signals from the new medium-altitude satellites. Due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of or insufficient funding; Poor project management; and, Technical faults. 	Consequences include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to meet international aviation and maritime agreements Damage to the international reputation of New Zealand. 	Rare	Major	(May 14)	Treatment option 2014/07/A: Build and commission a ground station suitable for the MEOSAR satellites Joint planning with Australia is ongoing. Capital finance has been approved and operational finance approved in principle. Tenders have been requested. The project is tracking well.	(Underway)	Existing low-altitude and high-altitude satellites are being replaced by medium-altitude satellites. In 2016-2017 the existing ground station will no longer be reliable and the aviation and maritime SAR capabilities will reduce.
2014/08	Health and Safety Incident or audit exposes SAR sector health and safety deficiencies.	NZ's H&S regulatory environment is changing. The SAR sector needs to adapt to the new requirements and implement the required changes for the SAR context.	SAR organisations fail to implement appropriate / necessary H&S processes and procedures and in the event of an audit or plans to mitigate severely negative H&S incident are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exposed to risk of prosecution. Suffer reputational damage. Experience an outflow of personnel due to perceived risk. 	Unlikely	Major	(May 14)	Treatment Option 2014/08/A: Implement sound H&S processes and procedures NZSAR Council H&S processes and procedures for the SAR sector have been approved and are being implemented. The four SLA documents include H&S provisions from Jul 2014. SAR sector H&S monitoring and reporting has commenced.	(13/14 and 14/15 NSSP)	
		SAROPs and SAREXs often expose SAR people to an array of hazardous environments and situations. The sector is likely to experience a significant H&S related incident at some point.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience an outflow of personnel due to excessive H&S process requirements. Likely to expect significant external pressure / investigation / regulation / over watch following the trigger event. 	Rare	Severe	(May 14)	Treatment Option 2014/08/B: H&S incident contingency planning SAR providing agencies and coordinating authorities are encouraged to develop contingency plans for use in the event of a SAR related severe H&S incident. Plans may include media, internal personnel and SAR partner engagement as well as grief & trauma counselling etc.	(14/15 NSSP)	



New Zealand Search and Rescue

12 February 2015

NZSAR3-2

Distribution:

- Mike Knell - Chief Executive - New Zealand Community Trust
- Jennifer Gill – Chief Executive – ASB Community Trust
- Scott Pickering - Chief Executive – ACC
- Peter Miskimmin - Chief Executive Sport NZ
- Joy Cooper – Group Manager – National Ambulance Sector Office
- Vern Walsh – Chair – Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Board
- Colin MacDonald - Chief Executive – DIA for the Convenor of the Lotteries Grants Board Outdoor Safety Committee.

Dear XXX

FUNDING THE SEARCH AND RESCUE SECTOR

The New Zealand Search and Rescue Council¹ has responsibilities to provide leadership and strategic governance to our search and rescue sector. This sector comprises approximately 14,000 people in over twenty organisations including government agencies, commercial businesses and an array of not-for-profit entities. For most of these organisations, the search and rescue (SAR) function forms only a modest (but important) part of their overall function. In a similar fashion, the funding necessary to sustain and support this diverse sector is provided by an assortment of sources and agencies, including the NZSAR Council and your organisation.

The NZSAR Council recognises while we don't necessarily have fully synchronised goals or purposes, it is likely to be very useful to explore what could be done to maximise the value of our respective investments. The Council is particularly interested in examining what we might do to share information, priorities and purposes with a view to improving the joint impact of our combined financial input.

¹ The NZSAR Council was established by Cabinet in 2003. It comprises the CE's (or delegated senior officials) of: The Ministry of Transport; NZ Police; Maritime NZ; Civil Aviation Authority; Department of Conservation and NZ Defence Force.

As your organisation is a significant SAR sector funding provider, the NZSAR Council would be very pleased if you (or a senior representative from your organisation) could join us for a discussion about the value and scope for greater co-ordination between the various agencies providing funding to the SAR sector. This would be for one hour from 1pm on 5 March 2015 on Level 6, 89 The Terrace Wellington to discuss search and rescue sector funding.

I have enclosed a copy of the Council's latest annual report and current strategic plan, which outlines the NZSAR Council's purpose and goals. It is perhaps worth noting that alongside our operational search and rescue goals, the Council is also very interested in preventing the need for SAR operations through a well informed and adequately prepared public.

The Council's Secretariat Manager, Duncan Ferner, would be pleased to assist with further information or assistance. He can be contacted at (04) 439 9045 or d.ferner@transport.govt.nz. Please let Duncan know if you are able to attend or send a representative.

Martin Matthews
Chair
NZSAR Council

Enclosures:

1. NZSAR Annual Report 2013-2014
2. NZSAR Strategic Plan



New Zealand Search and Rescue Council

**Minutes of Meeting
New Zealand Search and Rescue Council
Tuesday 18 November 2014, 1.00pm
Boardroom, Ministry of Transport
Level 6 SAS Tower, 89 The Terrace, Wellington**

Attendees:

Martin Matthews – MoT (Chair)
Wing Commander Charlie Morris – NZDF
Superintendent Barry Taylor – Police
Russell Wood – Maritime NZ
Mike Edginton- DOC

Present:

Richard Davies – DOC
Duncan Ferner – NZSAR
Amy Greig – MoT (Minutes)
Rachel Roberts – NZSAR
Phil Burgess – NZSAR
Nick Brown - MoT
Geoff Logan– Police
Carl van der Meulen – NZSAR

Apologies:

Keith Manch – MNZ
Commissioner Mike Bush – Police
Air Commodore Tony Davies – NZDF
Graeme Harris - CAA

1. Welcome

Martin Matthews opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and acknowledging the apologies above.

3. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the Council meeting held on the 29 May 2014 were accepted as a true and accurate record and **approved** by the Council.

Notes from the combined NZSAR Council and Consultative Committee workshop held 21 April 2014 were also **approved** by the Council.

Council agreed the notes from the workshop were well put together and will be of value to the sector when it comes to forward thinking and planning. Duncan mentioned that NZ Police and members from the Consultative Committee

raised the lack of any record of 'SAR prevention' in the notes and Council members agreed it would be helpful to have this added for consistency. Duncan will do this.

The Council agreed it would be useful to revisit some of the issues as a strategy matter in future meetings. It was agreed the workshop notes would be kept as a standing item on future agenda to ensure matters are kept front of mind.

Action: Duncan to ensure the key messages from the combined workshop held in April becomes a standing agenda item for future meetings and will also add a note on 'prevention'.

4. Matters Arising from previous meeting

Item 6 – Sector Update

- Letter seeking guidance regarding MH370 type scenarios was sent to DPMC.

Item 7 – Risk Framework

- Risk Framework was added as a standing agenda item.

Item 8 – Health and Safety

- NZSAR have engaged with Worksafe NZ regarding Health and Safety in the SAR sector.

Item 10 – Draft SLA Letters

- SLA letters were amended and sent to SLA partners.

5. SLA Monitoring Report – July 2014 – September 2014 Quarter

A summary report for the 1 July – 30 September 2014 quarter was distributed prior to the meeting. During the quarter there were 395 SAROPs and 29 lives saved.

Issues and Updates:

Coastguard:

- Coastguard is engaged in a full review of its Constitutions
- Coastguard has commenced a review of Air Patrol Operations.

SLSNZ:

- The Bay of Plenty / Coromandel Communications network is near completion and should be operational from 20 October 2014.
- The Capital Coast Communications network is underway and will be completed in time for the 2015/16 season.

LandSAR:

- Competencies Framework is underway with a completion date of December 2014 expected.
- Safety Management System is also underway with a completion date of December 2014 expected.

- LandSAR website and Learning Management System is currently being upgraded and this should also be completed in December 2014.

AREC: No issues or updates to report.

The Council **noted** the Joint Service level Agreement monitoring report.

6. Sector Update

The sector update report was distributed prior to the meeting.

Key points included:

- The Maritime Operations Centre experienced their quietest September on record since 1994.
- There have been (and continues to be) staff changes taking place within the Police. Senior Sergeant Bruce Johnston has resigned from the Police. Advertising to fill this vacancy is currently taking place.
- The Helicopter Association has adopted a project (supported by the CAA) which aims to identify and reduce the main reasons for helicopter accidents. A copy of this report was distributed prior to the meeting.

The Council **noted** the Sector update report and attached Helicopter Association report.

7. Risk Framework – SAR Funding

A copy of the risk framework was distributed prior to the meeting. The risk to SAR Funding is the volatility and frailness of existing funding. Risk treatment includes maintaining an overall SAR funding picture. Working with other key SAR funders to sustain adequate supply and maintain adequate PLA funding to meet Council goals. Risk Treatments also include continuing to support key SAR providing agencies with appropriately funded three year Service Level Agreements.

Council **noted** the SAR Risk Framework.

8 Strategic Discussion – SAR Funding Thought Leadership

Council members agreed that they have a role in providing thought leadership and information in support of SAR sector funding discussions and decision making. Discussions included ensuring the funding is available within the sector where it is needed most and some possible steps that could be taken to ensure this happens.

Possible options discussed included being proactive with the Lotteries Grant Board to see whether it would be possible to have funding allocated to where it is most needed once all applications from the sector have been received. Council also discussed whether it would be possible for the NZSAR Secretariat to take a broad view of the sector as a whole and identify where the gaps for funding are.

Council acknowledged the great work that communities do to fundraise for their rescue boats and other SAR resources. Council commended these community efforts.

In summary, Council agreed they do have a place in providing thought leadership around SAR funding. The Council believes there is value to be gained from Council perspective and the NZSAR Secretariat creating a 'whole of system' picture of SAR funding. The next step is for the Council to engage with other significant funders of the SAR sector in order to forge linkages and create lines of communication.

Action: Duncan to follow up on establishing a multilateral meeting in March 2015.

9. Avalanche Advisory Review

The NZSAR Council recently conducted a review of the Mountain Safety Council's New Zealand Avalanche Hazard Advisory and Information Service. The main objective of the review was to determine whether such an advisory service was still necessary. In summary, the report recommends the advisory service remains. Funding for this service will be co funded up to \$150k per year by NZSAR (\$105k per year) and DOC (\$45k per year) for the 3 years commencing 1 July 2015.

DOC suggested it would be helpful if Martin were able to discuss this issue with the CE of DOC to get traction on the funding allocation approval as there has been a slight delay in getting it signed off. Martin agreed to do this.

The NZSAR Council **decided** to accept the review and its recommendations.

NZSAR and DOC **agreed** to co-fund MSC to provide the advisory commencing in July 2015.

Actions:

- NZSAR Secretariat is to work with relevant agencies to implement the avalanche advisory review recommendations.
- Martin to discuss DOC part-funding of the avalanche advisory with the CE of DOC.
- NZSAR, MSC and DOC will develop a joint SLA for the ongoing delivery of the avalanche advisory.

10. NZSAR Governance Review – Terms of Reference

The SAR Governance Review Terms of Reference was distributed prior to the meeting. In discussions, the Council noted that the current NZSAR governance arrangements have been in place since 2003. The Council agreed that there would be value in having the sector's Governance arrangements re-examined. The Consultative Committee are also of the view that it is timely for the Governance arrangements to be reviewed.

The objective of the NZSAR Governance Review would be to look at the arrangements that the Government has put in place within the SAR sector's connections and architecture to ensure they remain suitable for future challenges facing the NZ search and rescue sector.

Council suggested that the wording is changed slightly to better reflect what isn't in scope i.e. – that the performance of individual SAR organisations are not being reviewed, merely the structure in which they sit within the SAR sector.

Two names were suggested as reviewers who would be suitable to undertake this work – John Hamilton and Simon Murdoch.

The Council **agreed** to the Governance Review and the names of the two suggested reviewers to undertake the work.

Actions: The Secretariat is to:

- Secure a reviewer to undertake the NZSAR Governance Review.
- Make arrangements to effect the NZSAR Governance Review.

11. RCCNZ Organisational Change Update

RCCNZ are currently working through a recruitment round (additional funding has made this possible). Extra staff will enable the RCCNZ to become more collaborated and joined up across the sector and have an extra focus on the readiness and preparatory side of the work they do.

12. SAR (ACE) Progress Report

Phil provided an update to the Council on this item. The SAR Training Update as at October 2014 is below.

As At 31 October 2014	October 2014	October 2013
Total SAR ACE EFTs to date (October 31 2014)	133.4	86
Number of courses to date	69	43
Number of courses cancelled	32	40
Number participants registered for courses	1300	
Total number participants attending	1043	492
Average numbers registered for course	18.84	
Average Number attending per course	15.01	11.44
% non-attendance	19.8%	
% of GPT predicted courses	58%	48%

Training continues to go from strength to strength and while plenty of lessons have been learned for 2015, there is much for the sector to be pleased with. Of note was 69 courses have been held so far this year, as opposed to 43 the same time last year. The number of courses cancelled has also decreased. The sector is still experiencing a rather large percentage of no-shows (19.8%). While this is to be expected in the volunteer sector, members of the Programme Advisory Committee have been discussing options for trying to improve this statistic.

Phil mentioned that a lot of the work to cover the training courses is not something directly allocated for within the Secretariat available funding. Council questioned whether this was a problem, Duncan noted that while the work has taken more time and money than was originally anticipated it is currently manageable.

Council **noted** the SAR Training Update.

13. 2014/15 NSSP Update

Workshops & Seminars	SAR Training
• Wander Symposium	• Training Support and Advice
• Land Search Seminar	• Air Observer on line material
• SAREX Planning	• Air Observer training
• Helicopter workshop	• Land Formal Search Planning
• SAR Partner <u>Wksp</u> support	• Marine Formal Search Planning
• Organisational Support	• START material
SAR Data management and IT	Prevention
• Data Store and analysis tools	• AdventureSmart <u>Comms</u> & <u>website maint</u>
• Data Extractions	• Visitor Intentions
• SAR Data Standard	• Wander
• Operational Analysis	• <u>Jasons</u> / Tourism Radio
• Resource database enhancements	• Safety Code Partnership
• <u>Maint</u> - SARNET, Website, START, RDB <u>etc</u>	Exercises
SAR Documentation	• Police SAREX support
• SAR Forms and Guidelines	• MRO SAREXs
Secretariat	SAR Research
• Communications and publications	• Review of SAR in NZ
• NZSAR Awards	• Avalanche Advisory Independent review
• Travel, meetings, <u>advice etc</u>	• SAR Funding part II

14. General Business

SAR Data Store and Analysis Project Report

Carl provided examples of the data store and analysis now available to the SAR sector using a new computer programme software. Carl advised there is now a real richness of information available to the sector. The Council agreed this is very helpful and will be of great value to the way data is compiled and used.

Martin suggested Duncan approach the statistical research team within the Ministry to see if the data could be broken down ever further (much like the road toll figures). Martin also acknowledged the good work that had gone into securing this data analysis and the valuable contribution it will make to the sector.

NZSAR Awards 2015

The awards will be held on Tuesday 21 April and will be hosted by the Governor-General. This is an exciting and positive opportunity for the SAR sector.

Mass Rescue Exercises Series Rauora

The aim of these exercises is an orientation and validation process, followed by a walk-through discussion exercise using a narrative scenario. The objective is to validate a plan for each district. The Southern District held their exercise on 1 October. This was a success, mainly in part to great leadership from Superintendent Andrew Coster. Positive leadership is crucial to ensuring the exercise series is a success.

Health and Safety Update

The Health and Safety system within the SAR sector is up and running. The system is still faced with some challenges including NGO systems, training and reporting, the dynamic nature of SAR operations and meeting coordinating authorities PCBU responsibilities.

SAR Prevention Update

The AdventureSmart website is working well. Summary of statistics include:

- The main site has had 32k session visits and 68k page views.
- The mobile site has had 3k sessions and 3.6k page views.
- There have been 118k brochures distributed with Jasons, I-Sites and DOC visitor centres.
- Advertising has been placed in the Arrival Magazine and on Tourism radio.

Carl demonstrated a tourism radio advertisement.

Water Safety NZ

Duncan has suggested the Council consider inviting Water Safety NZ to become a member of the Consultative Committee. Their alignment to the SAR sector is strong and there would be great value in having them at the table.

Council **agreed** for Duncan to extend an invite to Water Safety NZ to become a member of the Consultative Committee.

Action: Duncan to contact Water Safety NZ to invite them to become a member of the Consultative Committee.

NATSAR

Duncan recently attended NATSAR. This is a meeting of Australian Search and Rescue at the State, Territory and Commonwealth level. The meeting covered a review of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), MH370, SARMAP Working Group, Australian National SAR stats, Australian lost person behaviour, technology and the National SAR Manual update amongst other things.

Next meeting:

The Council agreed to the following meeting schedule for 2015:

- Thursday 5 March
- Tuesday 21 April (NZSAR Awards)
- Thursday 28 May
- Thursday 27 August (combined with the Consultative Committee)
- Thursday 19 November

The meeting concluded at 3.00pm.

Martin Matthews
Chair
NZSAR Council

Item	Decisions / Action	Responsibility
3. Minutes from Previous Meeting	<p>Ensure key messages from the combined workshop held in April 2014 become a standing agenda item for future Council meetings.</p> <p>Add 'prevention' to the notes taken for the combined workshop.</p>	Duncan
8. Strategic Discussion – SAR Funding	Follow up with a multilateral meeting in March 2015	Duncan
9. Avalanche Advisory Review	Martin to discuss DOC part funding of the avalanche advisory with the CE of DOC.	Martin
	NZSAR Secretariat is to work with relevant agencies to implement the avalanche advisory review recommendations.	Duncan

Item	Decisions / Action	Responsibility
	NZSAR, MSC and DOC will develop a joint SLA for the ongoing delivery of the avalanche advisory.	Duncan
10. SAR Review – Terms of Reference	Secure a reviewer to undertake the NZSAR Governance Review.	Duncan
	Make arrangements to effect the NZSAR Governance Review.	Duncan
14. General Business – Water Safety NZ	Extend an invite to Water Safety NZ to become a member of the Consultative Committee.	Duncan

NZSAR 1-2

27 February 2015

NZSAR Council
NZSAR Consultative Committee

**Joint Service Level Agreement monitoring report:
1 October - 31 December 2014 Quarter**

1. **Reporting.** SLA monitoring reports have been provided as shown in the table below.

Organisation	Report	Comments
AREC	Green	Report received on time
Coastguard	Yellow	Report received late
LandSAR	Green	Report received on time
SLSNZ	Green	Report received on time
NZ Police	Red	No report supplied
RCCNZ	Green	Report received on time

2. **Provision of Services.** Services have been provided by the SLA partners as described in the table of outputs.

Outputs	Coastguard	LandSAR	AREC	SLSNZ
Provision of expert services	Green	Green	Green	Green
Provision of expert advice	Green	Green	Green	Green
Provision of IMT Members	Green	Green	Not Required	Green
Summary of non-SAR activity	Green	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
Up to date details available	Green	Green	Green	Green
Participation in joint SAREX	Green	Green	Green	Green
Attendance at Forums	Green	Green	Green	Green
Nominations NZSAR Awards	Green	Red	Yellow	Green

3. A summary of activity of the SLA partners for the quarter.

Outputs	Coastguard	LandSAR	AREC	SLSNZ	Totals
SAROPs Attended	123	92	12	19	--
Volunteers Involved	852	638	30	160	1,680
Volunteer Hours	2,970	4,637	197	969	8,773

4. This quarter includes the largest amount of volunteer hours provided by SLSNZ since the commencement of their SLA. The majority of these hours (828) came from one search operation.

5. **Activity for the Quarter.** A summary of overall activity for the quarter, as reported by one of the two coordinating authorities.

Measures	Police	RCCNZ	Totals
SAROPs	Nil report	198	198
Lives at Risk	Nil report	298	298
Lives Saved	Nil report	2	2
People Rescued	Nil report	21	21
People Assisted	Nil report	56	56
LandSAR Taskings	Nil report	3	3
Coastguard Taskings	Nil report	2	2
SLSNZ Taskings	Nil report	0	0
AREC Taskings	Nil report	0	0
Performance of SLA Partners	Nil report	Satisfactory	Satisfactory

6. As the incident summary data is incomplete, no comparison has been made between this quarter and the same quarter for previous years.

Summary of Issues and Updates

7. Coastguard

- The Auckland Volunteer and Howick Coastguard have launched new vessels.
- Jo Cowie will join the National Office from 23 March as the new Head of Fundraising & Marketing, and Callum Gillespie has joined Coastguard as the new CEO of Northern Region.

- Coastguard has completed its review of the Coastguard Air Patrol units, and will share the outcomes of the review with NZSAR and partner agencies.
8. LandSAR NZ
- LandSAR has completed the new Safety Management System, LandSAR website renewal, and Training Management System projects.
9. Surf Life Saving New Zealand
- The Bay of Plenty // Coromandel Communications Network is operational, covering an area from Maketu to Onemana. The planned network was to provide radio communications coverage along the coastline between Hot Water Beach and Maketu, however due to a theft of equipment at the Whangamata Repeater site and a prolonged administration period for the DOC consent for the Pauanui Repeater site, the coverage stopped at Onemana in the North.
 - The Capital Coast Communications Network is underway, and will be completed in time for the 2015/16 season.
 - A service level agreement has been reached between the New Zealand Police and SLSNZ setting asset costs for Surf Life Saving equipment used during category 1 searchers across all police districts and all Surf Life Saving New Zealand regions. This will simplify the drawing up of invoices post events for SLSNZ and allow police to gain a clearer insight into the costs of deployment for a response.
10. AREC
- Have no issues or updates to report to the Council.

Carl van der Meulen
Senior Advisor
NZSAR Secretariat

NZSAR 1-3
NZSAR Council

26 February 2015

NZSAR Awards for 2014

Background

- 1) The NZSAR Council has established an annual national awards programme to recognise worthy achievements in the field of search and rescue in the New Zealand Search and Rescue Region.
- 2) There are two categories of SAR related activity covered by the NZSAR Awards:
 - a) **Operational Activity.** This category is for nominations relating to a specific SAR operation(s) that have occurred during the year.
 - b) **Support Activity.** This category is for nominations that do not relate to specific SAR operation(s) but to the wider range of SAR related activities (for example training, prevention, and long-service).
- 3) There are two levels of recognition for each category in the NZSAR Awards programme:
 - a) **New Zealand Search and Rescue Gold Awards.** Commencing in 1999, this annual award honours the person, group or organisation that has made a very significant contribution to search and rescue in the New Zealand Search and Rescue Region during that year or over a sustained period. It was renamed as the NZSAR Gold Award in 2008.
 - b) **New Zealand Search and Rescue Certificates of Achievement.** Commencing in 2008, the certificate is awarded to people, groups or organisations that have made an important contribution to search and rescue in the New Zealand Search and Rescue Region during that year or over a sustained period.
- 4) The **confirmed** date for the 2014 NZSAR Awards is the evening of Tuesday 21 April 2014 at Government House. The Awards will be hosted by the Governor-General.
- 5) A total of 20 nominations were received for the NZSAR Awards; 9 for operational activity, and 11 for support activity. Synopses of the nominations are enclosed.

Costs

- 6) Up to \$23,000 has been budgeted for the costs associated with running the awards based on previous years expenditure.

Selection Process

- 7) The full selection process is contained in the NZSAR Awards Policy, and is briefly outlined here.
- 8) A non-conflicted sub-group of the NZSAR Consultative Committee and the wider Emergency Management sector ranked the eligible nominations, and is providing the following advice to the NZSAR Council. The NZSAR Council will need to consider the advice, and to make the final and incontestable decision regarding recipients. The NZSAR Secretariat is responsible for managing the process.

Advice for Operational Activity Nominations

- 9) The sub-group has reviewed the operational activity nominations and advises the NZSAR Council that:
- a) The NZSAR Gold Award for Operational Activity be awarded to **Tai Kahn from Surf Life Saving Northern Region, Peter Baltus, Lincoln Baltus, Tane Moore, and Mark Goodheuw from Muriwai Lifeguard Service** for the rescue of a surfer from Muriwai Beach on 29 September 2014.
- 10) NZSAR Certificates of Achievement be awarded to:
- a) **HMNZS Otago** for the rescue of the crew from the yacht *Django II* on 8 July 2014.
 - b) **Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service** for their efforts during the search for Jack Dixon in October 2014.
 - c) **Coastguard Houhora and Coastguard Northland Air Patrol** for the rescue of three fishermen from Rangaunu Harbour on 27 December 2014.
 - d) **Peter Muldrew from Oamaru Police, and Robert Borst a member of the public** for the rescue of a trapped motorist in Fuchsia Creek, North Otago on 18 April 2014.
 - e) **Wanaka Alpine Cliff Rescue team from Wanaka LandSAR** for the rescue of a climber from Mount Aspiring on 10 September 2014.
 - f) **Michael Parker, Andrew Cronin, and Michael Melody from the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter Trust** for the rescue of trans-Tasman kayaker Scott Donaldson from the Tasman Sea on 11 July 2014.
- 11) The following nominees do not receive an NZSAR Award:
- a) Grant Holmes, member of the public.
 - b) Coastguard Mana.

Advice for Support Activity Nominations

- 12) The sub-group has reviewed the support activity nominations and advises the NZSAR Council that:
- a) The NZSAR Gold Award for Support Activity is awarded to **Anthony Groome from LandSAR** for his exceptional contribution to land and marine SAR.
- 13) NZSAR Certificates of Achievement be awarded to:
- a) **Brian Boyle from LandSAR** for his services to SAR.

- b) **Constable Peter Comer from the Auckland Police Maritime Unit** for technical innovation in developing a SAR coastal datum computer programme.
 - c) **Geoff Wilkie from Coastguard Northern Region** for his services to SAR.
 - d) **Rowan Leck from Dunedin Marine SAR** for his services to SAR.
 - e) **Heather McDonald from Sumner Lifeboat Coastguard** for her services to SAR.
- 14) The following nominees do not receive an NZSAR Award:
- a) Snr Sgt Martin Paget, NZ Police.
 - b) Constable Conrad Smith, NZ Police.
 - c) Phillip Burgess, NZSAR Secretariat.
 - d) Beverley Groome, member of the public.
 - e) Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand.

Recommendation

- 15) It is recommended that the NZSAR Council **considers** the following when making its decision on recipients of the 2014 NZSAR Awards:
- a) The advice provided by the sub-group of the NZSAR Consultative Committee.
 - b) The selection criteria in the NZSAR Awards Policy.

Carl van der Meulen
Senior Advisor

Enclosures: 2014 NZSAR Awards Synopses of nominations – Operational Activity
2014 NZSAR Awards Synopses of nominations – Support Activity

Synopsis of Nominations for 2014 NZSAR Awards

Operational Activity

Recommended for the GOLD AWARD

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tai Kahn • Peter Baltus • Lincoln Baltus • Tane Moore • Mark Goodheuw 	<p>Surf Lifesaving Northern Region</p> <p>Muriwai Lifeguard Service</p>	<p>On 29 September 2014, a surfer became trapped in a small cave around the gannet colony cliffs at Muriwai beach. He was clinging to the rocks fighting from being washed off over 2.5 metre waves. The sea was churning with extremely strong currents and rips swirling through the area. The surfer was hard to find and not visible from land. The gannets and the rotor wash meant it was not possible to use a rescue helicopter to winch the surfer out.</p> <p>With Lincoln Baltus assuming command and communications from a vantage point and Tai Kahn monitoring the situation from the air, an IRB was launched with rescue swimmer Peter Baltus aboard to assess rescue options. IRB driver Mark Goodhew established he and his crew could not safely attempt a rescue. Tai made the decision to jump into deeper water from the helicopter and get ferried closer to the scene on the IRB. Tai then entered the cave, sustaining minor injuries on the rocks and helped the surfer out of immediate danger and into open water. The surfer was then towed to safer rocks for an initial assessment before being collected by the IRB and taken to safety. The IRB returned to collect the two rescue swimmers still waiting in the water.</p> <p>The sea conditions and position of the surfer added to the complexity and challenge the IRB and helicopters operated in. This rescue demonstrated the full capability of the sector from the coordination of communications between multiple agencies to the individual skill of all the pilots and lifeguards in the field that ultimately led to saving a life.</p> <p>This incident was coordinated by NZ Police.</p>

Recommended for CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Her Majesty's New Zealand Ship Otago (HMNZS Otago)	Royal New Zealand Navy	<p>During the morning of 8 July 2014, in heavy weather the Yacht <i>Django's</i> rudder broke below the water line and she lost steerageway. With the rudder uncontrollable and threatening to breach the hull, the crew of three made a mayday call.</p> <p>HMNZS <i>Otago</i> was 100 nautical miles west of the troubled yacht. It adjusted its position and in heavy seas went to the aid of <i>Django's</i> crew. It positioned itself 40 metres from the distressed yacht and passed a gun-line to initiate the rescue. The first plan to use the gun line to pull the life raft alongside <i>Otago</i> and haul the crew on board was abandoned when <i>Otago</i> began to roll heavily in the swell. The contingency plan was then put into action where a swimmer would enter the water and assist the crew in donning the rescue strop. LT. Simon Wasley RNZN, a trained operational diver was in the water seven minutes after this decision was made. At personal risk to himself, he helped each crew member don the strop and watched as they were all hauled on board via the swimmers gantry which was manned by a large number of <i>Otago's</i> crew.</p> <p>The ability to quickly and accurately provide a gun-line to the yacht as well as the safe recovery of everyone whilst on a violently moving platform demonstrates an exceptional level of seamanship inherent in the crew.</p> <p><i>Otago's</i> crew had to endure heavy seas and rolling of up to 30 degrees whilst in high speed transit and while preparing for the rescue. Their professionalism, skill, teamwork, communication and determination ensured a successful outcome which without the entire crew effort would not have been possible.</p> <p>This incident was coordinated by RCCNZ.</p>

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service	Surf Life Saving NZ	<p>When five year old Jack Dixon was swept into the water from Mauao base near North Rock, Mount Maunganui, on 1 October 2014, it sparked the largest search operation ever involving the Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service (MMLS).</p> <p>They were the first to be alerted to the incident, as off duty lifeguards were at the beach monitoring rough surf conditions at the time, and they were the last group out performing coordinated searches, nearly two weeks after Jack's disappearance.</p> <p>Approximately 1,500 volunteer hours of search were logged by MMLS with 20-30 people per day generally involved for the first seven days of the operation. MMLS personnel also carried out a number of other rescues during this time.</p> <p>Due to the extreme conditions the most skilled and experienced lifeguards available were required so MMLS called on other Bay of Plenty Surf Club squad members early in the operation. Working alongside multiple agencies including the Police (the coordinating authority), Coastguard, LandSAR and Rescue Helicopters, MMLS members controlled and managed the water searches. Only the strongest, fittest and most experienced lifeguards conducted in the water searches. Visibility in the water was very poor, but they searched in and around rocks close to shore, the entire base of Mauao, 100-200m offshore search and further out to sea in a 3.5m easterly swell and strong winds. Simultaneously lifeguards were involved in "edge of the water" searches in extremely difficult conditions.</p> <p>Key procedures were followed including daily briefings, debriefings and counselling was offered. MMLS members also contributed to the significant media coverage during the operation giving interviews and updates.</p> <p>The lifeguards were a critical and essential part of the search. The only service capable of searching the areas where there was most likely to be a successful outcome.</p> <p>This incident was coordinated by NZ Police.</p>

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastguard Houhora • Coastguard Northland Air Patrol 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastguard Houhora • Coastguard Northland Air Patrol 	<p>In the early hours of 27 December 2014, Coastguard Houhora volunteers were tasked by Police to search for three fishermen who had not returned from a fishing expedition in the Rangaunu Harbour the previous afternoon. Conditions that day had been 'horrible' with extreme easterly winds, the men had not left their intentions and repeated attempts to contact them proved unsuccessful.</p> <p>As a relatively new unit Coastguard Houhora is small and relies on volunteers using their own vessels to respond to calls for help. Without any information of the missing boat's whereabouts the volunteers consulted a local fisherman for a likely destination and Coastguard Northland Air Patrol also joined the search at first light.</p> <p>Extending their search area about an hour into the search, the air patrol spotted a partially submerged vessel and then located the three fishermen stranded on a small rocky island – given the conditions the most precarious place the fishermen could have gone to.</p> <p>Two coastguard volunteers' vessels arrived at the scene, and after scoping the Island deemed it unsafe to uplift the men who were all suffering varying stages of hypothermia, and some injuries. By this time they had been exposed to the elements for 16 hours. The smaller vessel did manage to get them food and clothing. One man was able to swim to the rescue vessel while the other two were helicoptered to safety.</p> <p>Both Coastguard Houhora and Coastguard Northland Air patrol went above and beyond their routine work. The air patrol extended the search area and searched where others had not thought to, Coastguard Houhora volunteers not only use their skills but also their own vessels in what is an excellent example of collaboration and co-ordination that saved three lives at sea.</p>

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Muldrew • Robert Borst 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oamaru Police • Member of Public 	<p>On Good Friday 2014 a woman was trapped on the roof of her car in Fuchsia Creek, North Otago while most of the district was under siege from floodwaters. Initial information made it immediately apparent that a life was in danger, the car was being held against the flooded waters by a few strands of submerged wire fence. With the strong current and amount of river debris the vehicle could have moved at any time rendering the situation significantly worse for the woman.</p> <p>The car was directly under power lines making a helicopter rescue difficult if not impossible. Sergeant Peter Muldrew and local farmer Robert Borst were amongst other fire, police, ambulance staff and others to arrive at the edge of the flooded creek. Demonstrating good risk management skills at the scene the initial idea to use Robert's tractor was quickly abandoned. It was decided to try Robert's 14 ton digger. Once they determined it to be safe Robert picked up Peter who was to be the rescuer and they made their way on the digger through deep and swift running floodwater to the car. When they were close Peter climbed into the digger bucket. It took them two attempts to position the digger and extend it to its full reach to be able to get hold the trapped woman and pull her into the bucket.</p> <p>Peter and Robert's quick thinking, local knowledge, practical approach coupled with a good dollop of courage combined all the elements of good Incident and Risk Management to save a motorist from drowning.</p> <p>This incident was coordinated by NZ Police.</p>

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Wanaka Alpine Cliff Rescue	Wanaka LandSAR	<p>In response to a beacon activation at 10.30pm on 9 September 2014, a Wanaka ACR team of two were helicoptered into the vicinity of the Quarter Deck, Mt. Aspiring at 1.30 in the morning. Dropped off just above the bush line with all their rescue gear to cater for an unknown incident, they had ahead of them a significant climb of 1,100 metres to get to the beacon location.</p> <p>It was wet and windy when they set off but when they reached the French Ridge Hut on route, the rain had turned to snow and their wet gear had frozen. They traversed variable snow conditions underfoot, consistent snowfall and minus 5-10 degree wind chill temperatures. At 6.30 am the team discovered the patient and his two family members in a shallow crevasse where the patient had fallen while abseiling down from the Quarter Deck.</p> <p>During the night four more Wanaka ACR members were called in and planned contingencies for a slope lowering operation if the weather did not improve. They were dropped off low on the mountain to walk into the site at 8.30am. Fortunately the weather improved enough for the ACR team to evacuate the patient and his wife by helicopter. The incoming ACR team remained on the mountain with the patient's son until the helicopter returned.</p> <p>This was a true team approach from RCCNZ coordination, to operational management in Wanaka, to the people in the field. Planning by the second team is indicative of the safety first approach shown by these volunteers tempered with a balance of getting the job done. Added to the high skill level was the aggravating factor of operating at night in this environment.</p>

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Parker • Andrew Cronin • Michael Melody 	<p>Taranaki Rescue Helicopter Trust</p>	<p>On 11 July 2014, facing equipment issues, and extremely rough sea conditions trans-Tasman kayaker Scott Donaldson abandoned his attempt to cross the Tasman and asked to be rescued. The Taranaki Community Rescue Helicopter was tasked with the operation. Scott was 63 nautical miles from New Plymouth and 50 nautical miles from the closest land.</p> <p>After establishing communication with Scott's fixed wing aircraft support, Pilot Michael Parker used his TCAS system to follow the fixed wing close to Scott's location significantly reducing the search area. Conditions on scene were; rain, 35 knot winds and over five metre swells. Once in position the helicopter hovered while rescue swimmer Michael Melody jumped from the helicopter to the top of the swell and swam the short distance to the kayak with the rescue 'nappy'. Scott was secured into the nappy and he and Michael drifted clear of the kayak and any obstructions in the water. The helicopter commenced a run in and placed the winch hook within Michael's reach. Once he had secured himself and Scott to the cable they were winched aboard the helicopter, which then flew back to New Plymouth.</p> <p>Offshore marine winching is one of the most challenging tasks faced by helicopter crews, however this and other risks facing the crew were appropriately managed.</p> <p>This incident was coordinated by RCCNZ.</p>

Not Recommended to receive an Award

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Grant Gary Holmes	Member of Public	<p>On 11 November 2014 Grant Homes, David Harris and Gerald Graham were tramping to Thor Hut in the Kahurangi National Park. Gerald fell down a vertical face in the late afternoon and was injured. They called for help on the satellite phone then decided to continue on to Thor Hut. The 2.5 km distance took five hours due to Gerald's injuries. Grant carried his own 21kg pack on his back and carried Gerald 18kg pack across his arms. Gerald was airlifted out the following morning – he sustained a double fracture of the pelvis and severe bruising when he fell.</p> <p><i>Note: not coordinated by SAR Coordinating Authority</i></p>
Coastguard Mana	Coastguard Mana	<p>On 4 April 2014 with Cyclone Lusi fast approaching two fisherman lost power to their four metre runabout and were in urgent need of help off Mana Island. Coastguard Mana were tasked by NZ Police to assist.</p> <p>With limited information available – direct communication to the fisherman was established by cell phone, they spoke limited English but it was established they had no marine radio, no GPS, no charts, but they did have old smoke flares.</p> <p>After completing a weather check to determine whether a rescue was possible, the Incident Management Team identified a mission window of three to four hours. The weather was marginal and the fishermen were not sure exactly where they were. Visible landmarks were identified and used to triangulate an estimated position. At 2pm the Coastguard Rescue Vessel <i>Trust Porirua Rescue</i> launched in deteriorating weather with 2-2.5 metre waves, low cloud and over 25 knot winds.</p> <p>Having not found the vessel at the estimated position, <i>Trust Porirua Rescue</i> fired a flare which the fishermen sighted and their correct position was established. As the rescue vessel got close the fishermen were asked set off one of their flares. The boat was well hidden in the swell as the sea and wind speeds had risen, but both the fisherman and their runabout were rescued. The recovery required careful navigation to avoid protruding items damaging the rescue vessel's inflatable pontoons. The fishermen and crew returned to Porirua Harbour just in time to beat the sharp weather change caused by Cyclone Lusi.</p> <p>Coastguard Mana used their considerable skills in challenging circumstances, continually assessing the conditions, executing a search plan from little information and maintaining communication with the fisherman, Police and other vessels in the area, to carry out a safe rescue within the limited time they had.</p>

Synopses of Nominations for 2014 NZSAR Awards

Support Activity

Recommended for the GOLD AWARD

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Anthony Groome	LandSAR	<p>Anthony (Tony) is being nominated for his exceptional contribution to land and marine SAR. He has been involved in SAR since his teenage years. Tony is an active member of both land and marine SAR in Manawatu. He has been an integral part of SAR management and continuous improvement projects for land and marine SAR throughout the Police Central District. On top of other volunteering commitments (incl. the rural fire serve and NZ Red Cross) Tony was also a voluntary crewman/winch operator on the Palmerston North Philips Rescue Helicopter for ten years.</p> <p>The local SAR community rely heavily on Tony's unwavering and ongoing support. He is often at the forefront of the 50-60 operations the Manawatu/Horowhenua districts annually. He has contributed to saving many lives. Alongside his huge operational experience which has seen him in many roles on a myriad of operations that include the Ercerg helicopter crash, the Pike River Mine explosion and finding a missing elderly farmer using handheld direction finding equipment, Tony has committed to numerous training and asset development initiatives.</p> <p>Tony is frequently asked to instruct on SAR Courses across the country. He has been instrumental in the design, mentoring and debriefing of numerous land and marine search and rescue exercises (SAREX) and operations throughout the Central District and is often used as a SAREX evaluator.</p> <p>His flair for SAR technology, in particular radio communications, has seen the region benefit from vastly improved communication networks. Given his mapping, search planning and organisational skills, Tony has also assisted Police on search operations relating to major crime.</p> <p>Over the years Tony has forged strong working relationships with and is highly respected by NZ Police, Coastguard NZ, NZ LandSAR, 3 Squadron RNZAF, RCCNZ, NZ Fire Service and NZ Red Cross.</p> <p>Tony is usually the first port of call for the Manawatu on call Police SAR coordinator when seeking advice on a SAR response. He manages all this voluntary work while holding down his 'day' job and also providing ongoing care to his wife Beverley who suffers from a severe and crippling arthritic condition that requires frequent hospitalisation.</p> <p><i>Note: Beverly has also been nominated for a NZSAR support award</i></p>

Recommended for CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Brain Boyle	LandSAR	<p>Brian began his long standing commitment to SAR in Taranaki, before eventually settling in Thames, where he joined the local LandSAR Group where he has made a significant difference.</p> <p>Brian became a Thames LandSAR committee member at the first opportunity and immediately started 'taking care of business'. Thames LandSAR formed a wider Coromandel Peninsula SAR (CPSAR) committee to align and steer the five local groups soon after Brian joined. Alongside his other SAR roles, he became the coordinator the CPSAR. Working over and above routine work and service Brian carried out the reporting for all five groups, networked at all levels, organised better equipment for the groups and streamlined the training.</p> <p>Brain has also established and leads the Coromandel Wander Search Charitable Trust. He personally organised the fundraising, and purchase of three receiver units and numerous pendants. Brian and a small team take care of all the pendant hook ups and replacements.</p> <p>Brian's changes have had a positive impact on residents and tourists on the Coromandel Peninsula making it a much safer environment with better outcomes from faster searches.</p>
Constable Peter Comer	Auckland Police Maritime Unit	<p>Constable Peter Comer is nominated for his work in developing a SAR coastal Datum computer programme to assist Marine Search and Rescue Managers at the NZ Police Maritime Units during operations.</p> <p>Based on NZSAR Modules – search area determination and search area coverage - Peter's programme is intuitive, easy to use and significantly improves timeliness and response. It also eliminates human error, can be emailed to any 'on scene' resources and can be used in Incident Management Teams to provide a graphical presentation of the search area. As more information is received the programme can be modified quickly which is another significant improvement.</p> <p>In essence Peter's programme can be up and running in minutes, saving on time and costs in identifying areas of interest.</p>

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Geoff Wilkie	Coastguard Northern Region	<p>Volunteering an incredible amount of time, Geoff Wilkie has been a quietly committed leader who throughout his years at Coastguard Northern Region Communications (CNR Comms) has affected lasting change. He has helped to improve the radio operators' skills by revitalising training programmes, made vast improvements to the volunteer experience, improved unit culture and brought in new members in response to declining volunteer numbers.</p> <p>Geoff joined CRR Comms in 2009 as a volunteer radio operator. Two years later he became the recruitment and retention officer with the aim of turning around the attrition rate – volunteer numbers were down by a third. Running a successful recruitment drive Geoff has guided the group to a full complement of 64 radio operators for 2014/15.</p> <p>Identifying a need for better training he assumed the role of training officer. He worked closely with tutors and the training co-ordinator to revamp the training programme. He and his team developed the <i>Leading Radio Operator</i> programme – a classroom based programme with interactive learning. He is now developing follow on programmes for operators who wish to progress to a senior level. He and his team are also presently adapting the programme for national use and to support the Coastguard New Zealand Radio Operator matrix.</p> <p>Additionally Geoff established a monthly Communications Unit Education evening, which combines information, training, off site visits, guest speakers and opportunities for volunteers to socialise with the larger team and build camaraderie.</p> <p>Geoff has identified weaknesses and taken a position of leadership to drive change thus improving the service to the boating public.</p>

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Rowan Leck	Dunedin Marine SAR	<p>Rowan Leck is being nominated for his long standing efforts and services for Dunedin Marine SAR (DMSAR). In 1971 Rowan joined the St. Kilda SLSC and served on its committee. In 1985 Rowan became the delegate for SLS to DMSAR.</p> <p>In 1989 Rowan was elected the secretary/treasurer of DMSAR, and still holds this position.</p> <p>He recognised the need for a specialist helicopter water rescue capability, in order to provide coverage to the 40 or so beaches with difficult access close to the city; and was instrumental in the formation of the Dunedin water rescue squad. This means DMSAR is able to respond effectively and efficiently to marine incidents in the Dunedin area.</p> <p>The abilities and need for this squad were demonstrated in 2008 with the rescue of 10 French sailors from the yacht "Groupama 3".</p> <p>Among his other contributions Rowan has been involved in writing standards for training manuals and he has organised several DMSAR public displays to raise awareness of safety messages. As a marine SAR adviser to Dunedin police for the past 25 years Rowan has responded to about 750 Marine SAR emergencies.</p>

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Heather McDonald	Sumner Lifeboat Coastguard	<p>For 23 years Heather has been a crew member of Coastguard's Sumner Lifeboat unit, holding diverse volunteer roles that have made an immense contribution to SAR on the water. She is a vessel Senior Master, a SAR coordinator, a Duty officer, a practical Masters course tutor, a regional instructor and evaluated a recent SAREX for Coastguard Bluff. She also serves on the Coastguard Sumner Board, is chair of their fundraising committee as well as chairing the Coastguard Southern Region.</p> <p>Although difficult to track the hours – given her many roles – in a 12 month period she participated in 13 SAR operations, totalling 14 hours as well as an estimated 75 hours training with her unit. Heather's contribution extends beyond Sumner as she had given up weekends to run the Practical Master Courses at five other southern region units, while also assisting Masters to prepare for their practical evaluation through training and coaching. She has committed time to attaining higher level skills that benefit all Coastguard volunteers in the region, effectively assisting them to develop and increase skill levels.</p> <p>Heather's immense knowledge and skills have been put into practice operationally, educationally and at a management levels. Her experience of the many southern units provides an invaluable understanding at a regional level, helping ensure how the region can best build capacity in their units.</p> <p>Heather's dedication, drive and passion for Coastguard through her 'hands on' leadership, education and coaching roles makes her an invaluable asset to the organisation.</p>

Not Recommended to receive an Award

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Senior Sergeant Martin Paget	Auckland Police Maritime Unit	<p>Martin Paget is being nominated for his significant contribution to the SAR Manager's Course. Spending considerable time preparing and attending meetings, chairing review and development meetings, Martin was a course designer, director and facilitator during the courses run to date.</p> <p>An advanced Incident Controller's course, the SAR Manager's Course involves two weeks intensive training. The first week is dedicated to training Police SAR Personnel in advanced incident control - other SAR partner agencies (LandSAR, Coastguard, Surf Life Saving NZ) join the course for the second week. They participate in a series of scenarios and by course end, police personnel are trained to an advanced Incident Controller's level and are able to control larger scale, serious multi-phase incidents. Their SAR partners are trained to operate with them. The course is of a high quality in every aspect, including structure, timetabling and outcomes. It places NZ Inc in an excellent position in terms of incident management within the SAR world.</p> <p>While the nomination relates primarily to this course it also acknowledges Martin's wider contribution to SAR in NZ. His outstanding ability as a communicator and motivator of others to work toward a common goal.</p>
Conrad Smith	NZ Police	<p>As the officer in charge of National Park Police, Conrad Smith has willingly taken on the role of Ruapehu SAR coordinator overseeing the bulk of SAR operations in his area and collating data for end of year reporting.</p> <p>Ruapehu typically makes up about a third of Central District's annual SAR statistics. (54 jobs in the 2013/145 year) He was the Incident Controller for the initial SAR response when seven people drowned in Mangatepopo in 2007, when he had limited SAR experience – receiving a bronze merit award from NZ Police for his efforts that day.</p> <p>Conrad has be instrumental in maintaining and building on the close cooperation between the Central and Bay of Plenty Police Districts that straddle Tongariro National Park – and fostering strong and effective partnerships with the Bay of Plenty Police and LandSAR. He has also joined the Ruapehu Alpine Rescue Organisation (RARO) and has gained valuable skills and knowledge in managing Alpine SAR operations, attending national alpine workshops and conferences.</p> <p>Conrad carries out many of these SAR duties above his business as usual duties. His commitment to SAR has contributed significantly to the numerous positive outcomes for victims rescued within his patch.</p>

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
Phillip Burgess	NZSAR Secretariat	<p>Phillip (Phil) has been nominated in recognition of his support to SAR nationally in coordinating the national SAR training calendar. SAR training is delivered under the SAR ACE training model. An arrangement with the Tertiary Education Commission, SAR ACE received \$1.3 million funding, equating to 155 Equivalent Full Time Students (EFTS).</p> <p>It is essential that these EFTS are used. Through Phil's diligent management this target was largely met in 2014 – the first year of this funding arrangement, delivering a significant improvement to maximising the training delivered.</p> <p>The SAR sector is large and disparate which brings additional challenges in joint training, however Phil has overcome these challenges. Despite the complexity Phil has managed to collate the 2015 SAR ACE training programme, (attached to nomination).</p> <p>This is a significant piece of work that requires a high level of communication and collaboration. Phil has to actively chase SAR organisations in order to draw out their training needs. In terms of Police he has had to extrapolate from past training needs. The programme enhances and improves the SAR effort, the positive impact of the programme reaches the whole of New Zealand's SAR sector.</p> <p><i>Note: Phil is an employee of the NZSAR Council</i></p>
Beverley Groome	Member of Public	<p>Beverley is very much an unsung hero. She has been a key member of the management support to large scale LandSAR operations helping to maintain typed logs for many years. She consistently supports her husband Tony (a long-standing LandSAR member); working alongside him in his business running the office, as well as enduring Tony's lengthy absences whilst deployed on SAR operations, her support of continuous improvement initiatives and training has undoubtedly contributed to SAR in a major way.</p> <p>Beverley has played this supporting role while suffering from chronic arthritis.</p> <p><i>Note: Tony has also been nominated for an award</i></p>

Nominee	Organisation	Synopsis
The Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand	MNZ	<p>The Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand (RCCNZ) is being nominated in recognition of its 10 year anniversary of operational support to the New Zealand and surrounding marine and offshore Islands communities.</p> <p>RCCNZ is responsible for coordinating all major maritime and aviation search and rescue (SAR) missions within NZ's Search and Rescue Region. They are also responsible for land-based missions arising from distress beacon activations. These are termed 'Category II' incidents. RCCNZ also assists with other incidents when required.</p> <p>Covering one of the largest SAR areas in the world, the RCCNZ responds to approximately 1,200 SAR incidents annually.</p> <p>RCCNZ's SAR officers are trained to international aviation and maritime SAR standards and have a wide range of experience in aviation, marine and land SAR.</p> <p>During its 10 years RCCNZ has undertaken roles and responsibilities involving the international COSPAS SARSAT and MEOSAR satellite tracking systems.</p> <p>RCCNZ is heavily involved with SAR matters involving the Pacific nations particularly Tonga, the Cook Islands and Kiribati – covering their rescue capabilities and working closely with their defence forces - they also undertake joint training exercises in the region. RCCNZ covers SAR matters arising in Antarctica and surrounding marine areas and works in close liaison with its Australian counterparts.</p> <p>They run, coordinate, and co-fund a number of training initiatives across marine, land and aviation, on large and small scales.</p> <p>They keep up to date with new technology on a global scale and are involved in the promotion of locator beacons while keeping the up to date register of beacon owners.</p> <p>RCCNZ readily spreads the word with visitor groups and encourages SAR personnel to visit their operating centre at Lower Hutt.</p>

NZSAR 1-3
NZSAR Council

26 February 2015

Special NZSAR Award for 5 Squadron, RNZAF

Background

- 1) On 8 March 2014, Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 disappeared while en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. Over the next 53 days a large multi-national search was conducted, initially based from Penang (Malaysia) and then from Perth (Australia).
- 2) New Zealand's assistance to the international search effort was provided by a P3K2 Orion from 5 Squadron, RNZAF (Kiwi Rescue 795).
- 3) I believe the efforts of 5 Squadron during Kiwi Rescue 795 are worthy of formal recognition by the NZSAR Council, at the NZSAR Awards function scheduled for 21 April 2015.

NZSAR Awards Policy

- 4) The NZSAR Awards Policy states that *the key criterion for the NZSAR Awards is that the nominations are for 'those that have made a significant contribution to search and rescue in the New Zealand Search and Rescue Region during that year or over a sustained period.'*
- 5) The search efforts of Kiwi Rescue 795 were conducted outside the New Zealand Search and Rescue Region (NZSRR), which makes this operation ineligible to receive either the Gold Award or a Certificate of Achievement for Operational Activity, under the standard conditions of the Council's policy.
- 6) Had this incident occurred within the NZSRR, 5 Squadron would likely have received an NZSAR Award for the efforts of Kiwi Rescue 795. The scale of the search effort was well above and beyond the routine work and service expected from 5 Squadron.

Scale of Effort

- 7) A summary of the effort undertaken by 5 Squadron during Kiwi Rescue 795 is listed below.
 - a) The total duration of the Detachment was 53 days. During this period 27 search missions were flown over 285 flying hours.
 - b) The rate of effort required meant aircrew members flew close to aircraft type hours in as little as 3 weeks, at which point they were replaced by fresh aircrew. Some aircrew cycled through the Detachment twice, and flew the equivalent of 6 months' worth of flying in 7 weeks. 5 Squadron was also required to activate some reserve aircrew to maintain the rate of effort required by this operation.

- c) The search area covered (both radar and visual searches) was in excess of 1.55 million square kilometres, which is equivalent to searching the entire area of New Zealand six times over. Search areas were up to 1,500nm from Perth, meaning it could take up to 5 hours to reach the search area.
- d) Work days were typically 15 hours long with 3 hours of pre-flight planning and preparation, 11 hours of flying, and 1 hour of post-flight de-briefing.
- e) On 26 April, Kiwi Rescue 795 successfully coordinated the rescue of a passenger from a sinking sailing vessel 80nm off the coast of Perth. This occurred during the return leg of a search in the MH370 search area.

Special Award

8) Given the scale of effort during Kiwi Rescue 795, I believe it is appropriate that 5 Squadron receives formal recognition from the NZSAR Council. As this operation does not meet the key criterion of the Council's Awards policy, the Council would be required to approve an award outside the scope of the policy.

9) The Council may wish to present 5 Squadron with a Special NZSAR Certificate of Achievement for Operational Activity for its efforts during Kiwi Rescue 795.

Recommendation

- 10) I recommend that the Council:
- a) **Notes** the scale of effort provided by 5 Squadron during Kiwi Rescue 795.
 - b) **Notes** that this operation was outside the NZSRR and is ineligible for recognition under the current NZSAR Awards policy.
 - c) **Agrees** to present 5 Squadron with a Special NZSAR Certificate of Achievement for its efforts during Kiwi Rescue 795.

Carl van der Meulen
Senior Advisor
NZSAR Secretariat

Summary Report for the October – December 2014 Quarter

1. Brochure Activity

1.1 Brochure movement

- At 29 September 2014 there were 24,230 brochures in Jasons' warehouses.
- As at 29 December 2014 this number had reduced to 19,750
- A total of 4,480 brochures were distributed during this period, compared to 17,198 during the last quarter.

1.2 Brochure redesign:

- During this quarter the new brochure design was finalised and approved. A print run is set to happen in January 2015.

2. Website Maintenance and Analytics

- Overall visitor numbers to the main site remained fairly static compared to the previous years, though some metrics are down slightly. Although December saw a marked drop in visitors to the site (and page views) compared to the previous year, it must be noted that last year's result was skewed due to Google advertising. Both the bounce rate and the time spent viewing pages has improved compared to last year – people are taking more time on the site.
- Visitors and sessions for the mobile site have also remained fairly static compared to last year, apart from December which is lower, matching the trend on the main site. Overall visitors to both sites are down by 2895 visits compared to the same period last year.
- November received the most traffic this quarter, while October received the lowest, although for the mobile site December was the top month.
- Visitors are mainly from New Zealand, followed by Australia, the USA and the UK (the last two have swapped places). The top five have changed compared to the same period last year, mainly due to dropping Google advertising – Iraq and Egypt were #2 and #3. Brazil, France, Canada and the Netherlands have now replaced Iraq, Egypt, Pakistan and Singapore in the top 10. Brazil is suddenly featuring strongly, compared to last year, and visits from most countries have increased apart from New Zealand, Australia (down very slightly), India and Canada.
- Mobile visitors are predominantly from New Zealand, Australia and the UK. Russia makes a strong debut and most of the other top 10 countries show growth, apart from the US, India and China which have all declined in numbers compared to the same quarter last year.

- Main site: the pages that received the most traffic were the home page, Outdoor Intentions (including all sub-pages), Land, Water and Walking & Hiking. After these, the most popular 'adventure' pages are Swimming, Target Shooting, Camping and 4x4 Driving. This indicates that, apart from Walking & Hiking, most visitors are viewing the main Land and Water adventure pages and then moving on, although they are making full use of all pages available on from the Outdoors Intentions Process home page.
- Mobile site: the top ten remain varied and include more activity pages than the main site. Land, Walking & Hiking, Water, Boating, Hunting, Powerboating and Translations feature at least twice in the top 10 during this period. Air and Snow were looked at once and other adventures activities featuring once in the top 10 during this period were Paragliding, Flying Lessons, Scenic Flights, Surfing, Kayaking & Canoeing, Canyoning and Outdoors Intentions.
- Top referral sites continue to be DOC and MSC for both websites. For the main site, Great Walks, GWRC, Camping Our Way, Wilderness Magazine and Tourism NZ continue to be solid sources of referral traffic, all featuring in the top 10 this quarter. The main site continues to receive referral traffic from the mobile site.
- For the mobile site, Great Walks moves up to #2 referral site, replacing MSC which remains a solid sources of referral traffic along with DOC, and we have a new entry this period from Lake Wanaka Tourism, which moved to #3 in December. Find A Beach (SLSNZ), Coastguard and the Edgewater Motel in Te Anau are also new to the top 10, along with Facebook and a couple of blog site referrals.

3. Social Media Activity and Facebook

- The AdventureSmart Facebook had 60 'likes' at 1 October and 68 at 31 December 2014.
- The most popular post this quarter was a photo of the Water Safety Code in Chinese with a link to more languages on the resources page, which reached 243 people around the world.
- AdventureSmart received 32 referrals from social media sites between October 2014 and December 2014, up from 9 in the previous quarter. These included 23 from Facebook (up from 5), 3 from Blogger, 3 from Meetup (down 1), 2 from WordPress, 1 from Naver and 1 from Twitter.
- The mobile site received 2 referrals from social media during the same period: 1 from Facebook and 1 from Twitter.

4. Other Marketing Activity

- Sharon met with the owner of Jasons and our AdventureSmart contact, Grant Aitken, to finalise a sponsorship arrangement with Jasons for the next financial year.
- Tourism Radio are advertising AdventureSmart in motorhomes throughout the country (as from July 2014).

NZSAR

New Zealand Search
and Rescue



NZSAR Council Meeting

5 March 2015



1. Welcome

- Superintendent Barry Taylor – NZ Police
- Superintendent Chris Scahill – NZ Police
- Lt Col Dean Gerling
- Mark Cassidy – CE Wellington Community Trust
- Geoff Barry – GM Community Sport (NZ Sport)
- Joy Cooper – GM National Ambulance Sector Office
- Scott Milne – Deputy Chair Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Board (teleconference)
- Karen Hope-Cross – Manager Southern Operations (DIA)
- Lou Sanson DOC

Unavailable

- Scott Pickering – CEO ACC
- Mike Knell – CE NZCT





Introduction - General

- Search and rescue is only one facet of NZs 'safety' arrangements.
- Very few agencies involved in this broad area have SAR as their sole or even primary function.
- NZ is very reliant on community based people, teams, organisations.
 - They bring passion, skill, local knowledge and wide coverage.
 - For SAR - they are utilised only occasionally.
 - For community safety – they have a much larger impact.
 - Existing / preparing for / planning / training etc involves far more effort, time and money than actual 'work'.
 - It can be difficult to focus effort on high risk/reward activity



Introduction - Funding

- For collective effectiveness, the operational agencies involved need to be (should be) cohesive and coordinated.
- The operational agencies tend to be funded (based on their own perception of need) from a variety of sources, to unpredictable levels with variable security.
- As significant funders, are there things we might do / information we might share to improve their (and our) collective and individual effectiveness?



Perspectives

Noting we all have different goals, priorities & perspectives.

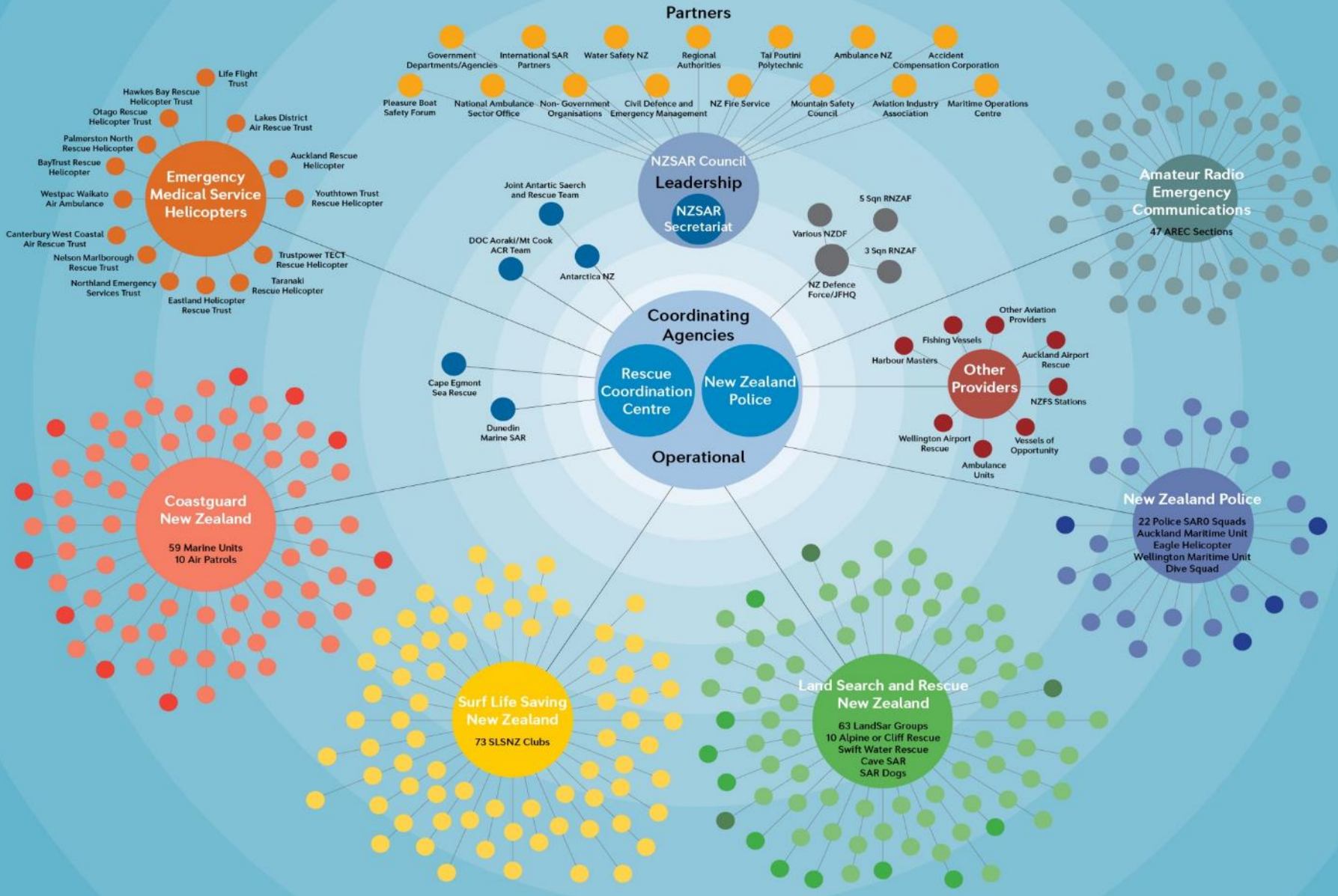
NZSAR seeks “A cohesive community of capable people in sustainable organisations, finding and rescuing people in distress, operating collaboratively within a robust SAR system”.

Our goals are:

- A robust and integrated SAR system*
- Efficient and sustainable SAR organisations*
- Capable SAR people*
- Reduced demand for SAR services*



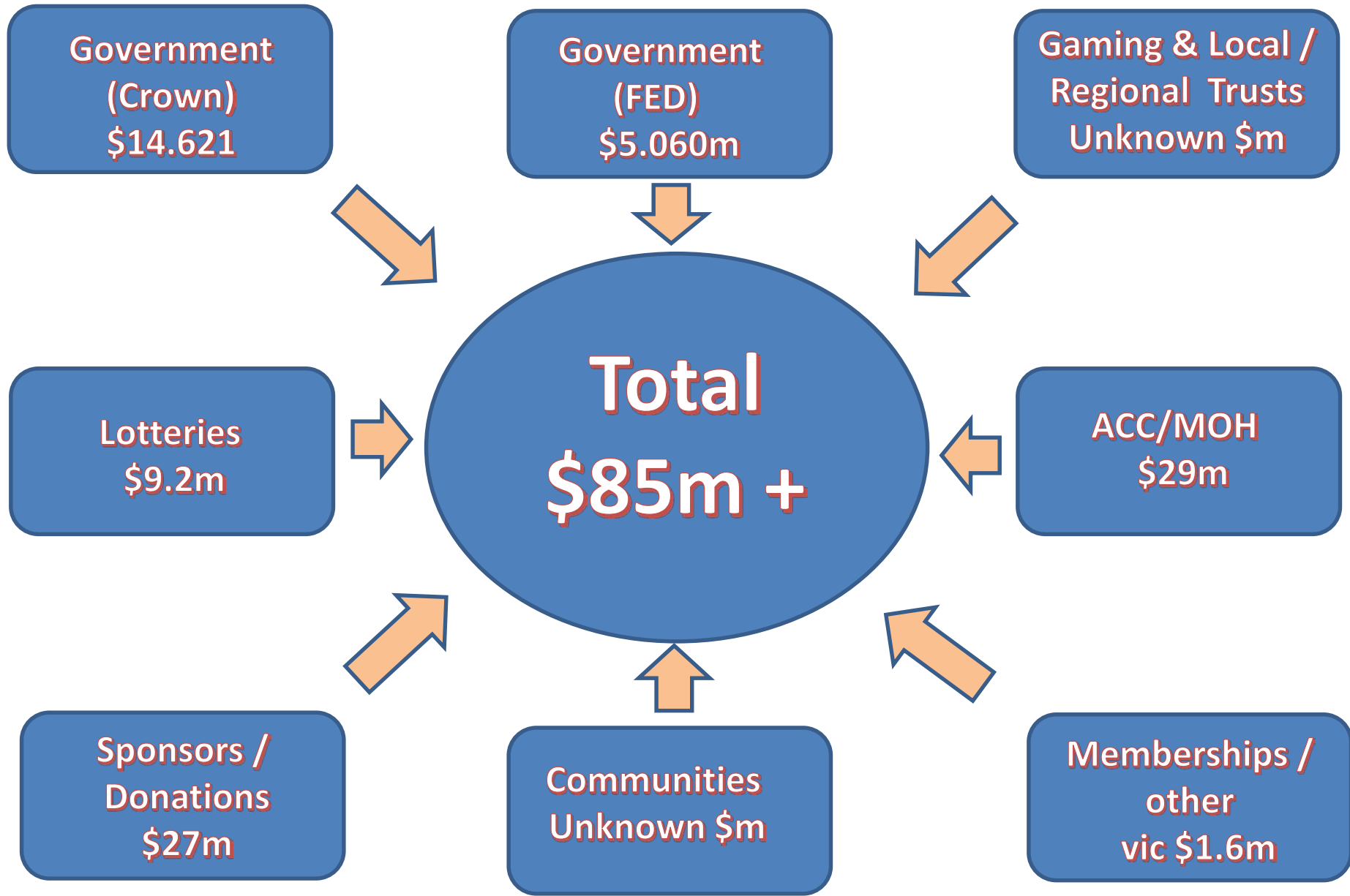
OUR SECTOR



2. RISK discussion: SAR Funding

<p>SAR funding</p> <p>The sector experiences funding sufficiency and volatility risks.</p>	<p>Sufficiency. Funding for the wider SAR sector has a variety of sources. Funders may choose to lessen or withdraw their funding support.</p>	<p>Inadequate funding for part or some of the sector may limit investment in training or equipment and lead to inadequate operational responses.</p>	<p>Possible</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>(May 14)</p>	<p>Risk treatment 2014/02/A: SAR Funding</p> <p>Maintain an overall SAR funding picture. Work with other key SAR funders to sustain adequate supply. Maintain adequate PLA funding to meet Council goals.</p>	<p>(Ongoing)</p>
	<p>Volatility. The funding levels for SAR agencies can be volatile due to profit variances with key gaming or lotteries trusts & boards. Grants policies also frequently change which can affect eligibility. Public appeals & donations are susceptible to change.</p>	<p>Volatile funding inhibits long term planning and investment. It also degrades sector effectiveness and efficiency.</p>	<p>Possible</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>(May 14)</p>	<p>Risk treatment 2014/02/B: Funded SAR SLAs</p> <p>Continue to support key SAR providing agencies with appropriately funded three year Service Level Agreements.</p>	<p>(Ongoing)</p>

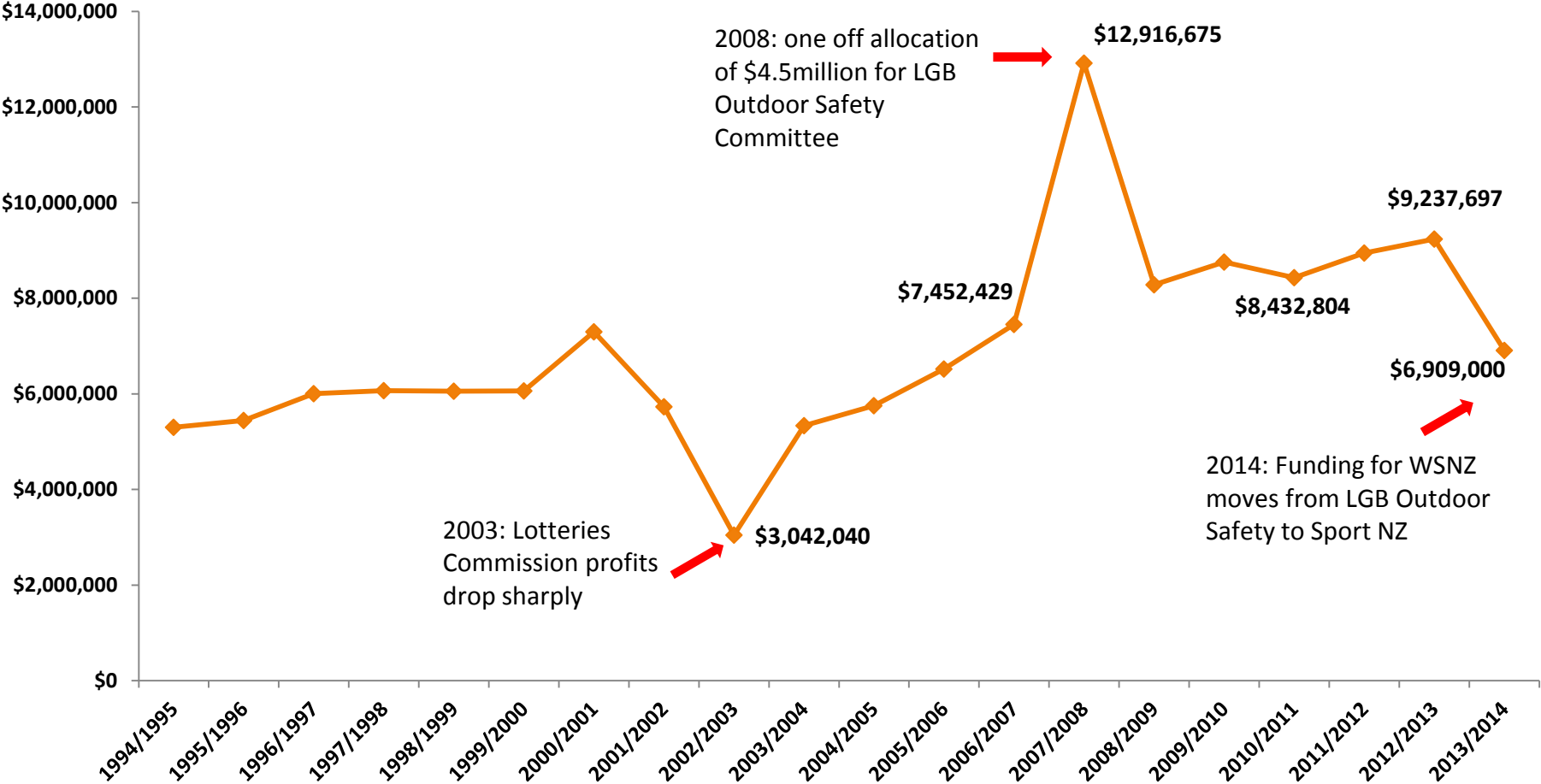




Funding to prevent SAR / educate and inform is largely unknown.

LGB OSC illustration

Total LGB Funds for the Outdoor Safety Sector



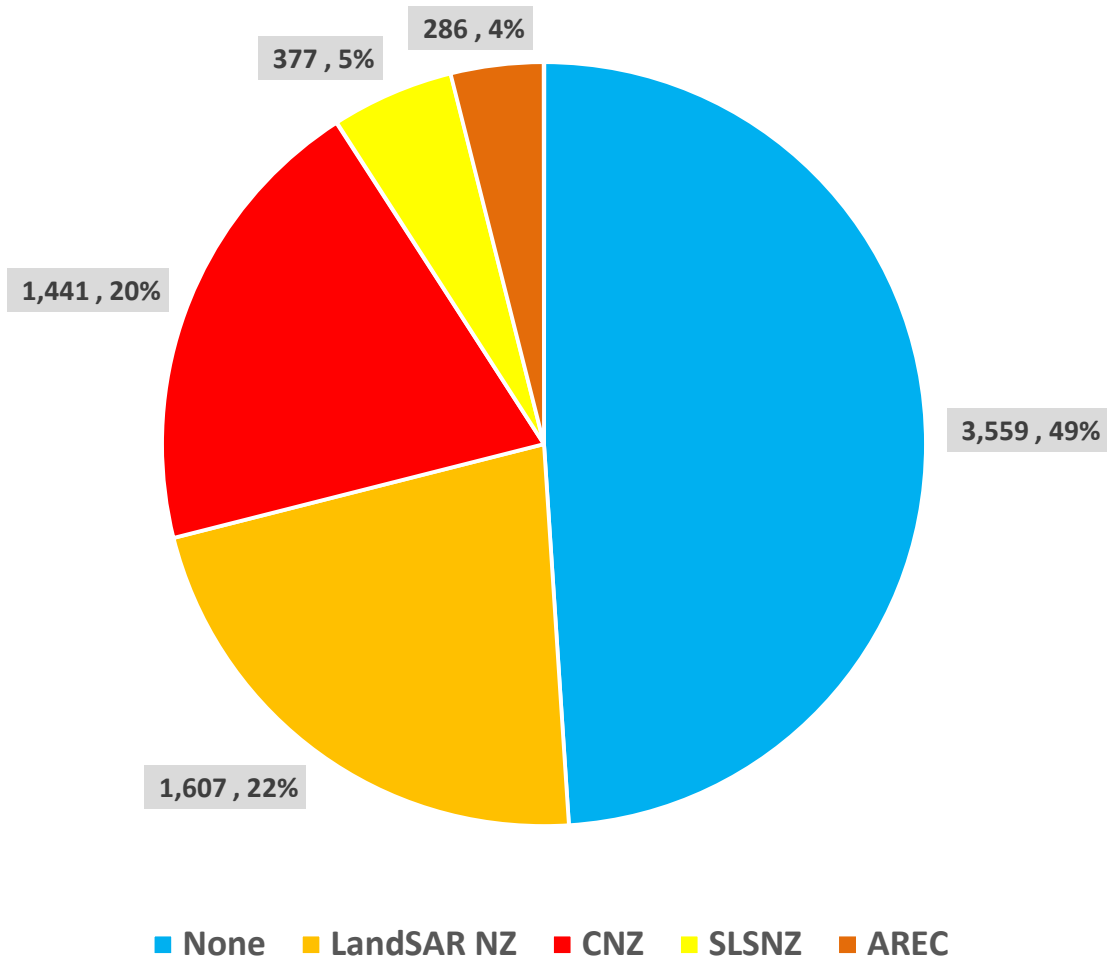
2. Sector Funding

- Noting that SAR service is often only part of total service provided by organisation.
- Council remains vitally interested in SAR Sector Funding:
 - Sufficiency
 - Stability
 - Prioritisation
 - Change / adaptation
- Are there thing we can do to lift our collective performance?
 - Alignments we could discuss?
 - Information we might share?
 - Fora we might establish?
 - Priorities we could agree upon?



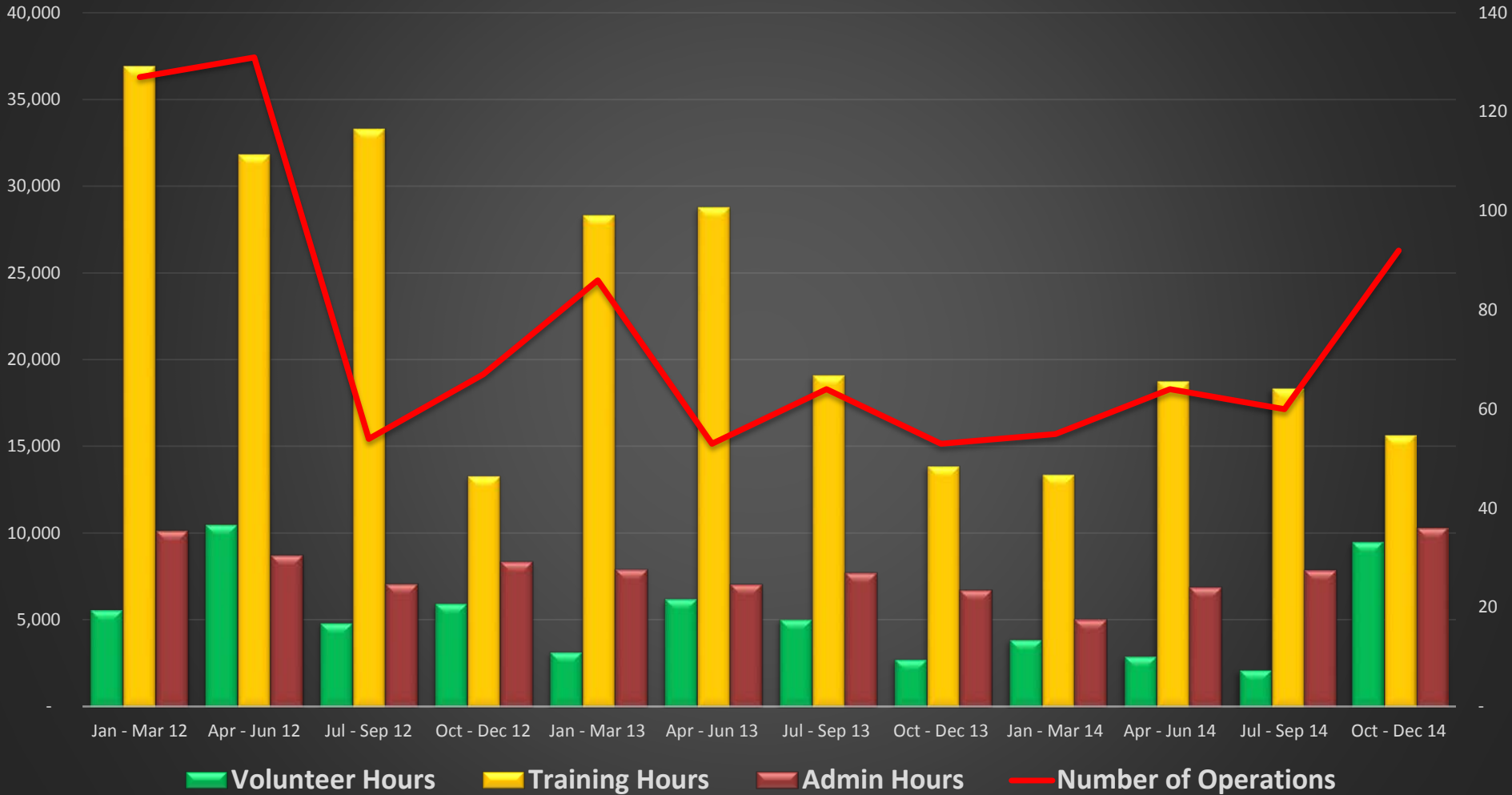
Sample SAR Information

Assistance to Police for Cat 1 incidents over the last 4 years

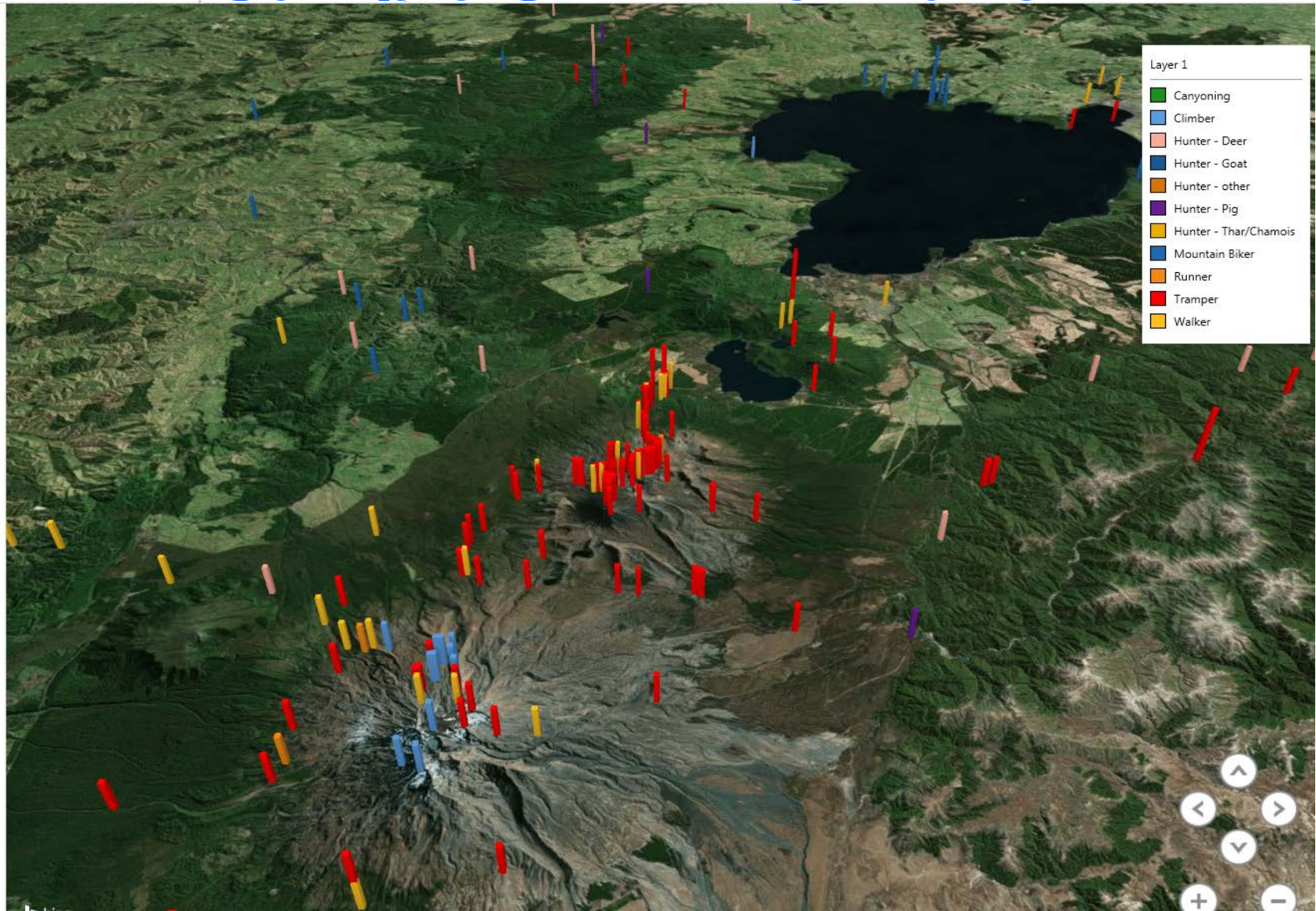


Sample SAR Information

LandSAR activity

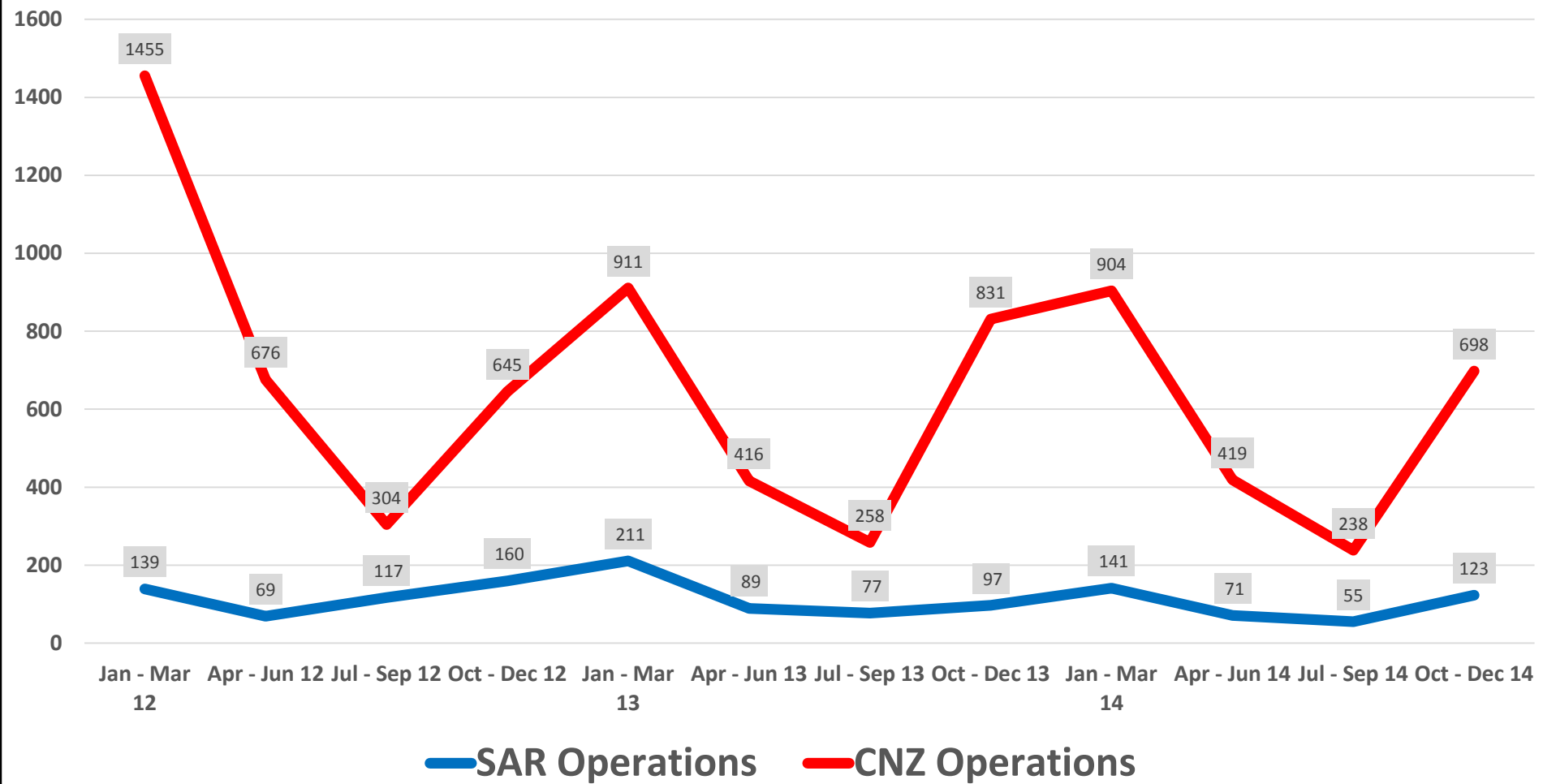


Sample SAR Information



Sample SAR Information

Coastguard Activity: CNZ Operations compared to SAR Operations



NZSAR

New Zealand Search
and Rescue



NZSAR Council Meeting

5 March 2015



3. Apologies

- Commissioner Mike Bush – NZ Police
- AC Tony Davies - NZDF



4. Minutes & Notes

Minutes of the NZSAR Council meeting 18 November 2014 to be *approved*.



5. Matters Arising

Item 3 Sector Update

Secretariat

- Ensure key messages from the combined workshop held in April 2014 become a standing agenda item for future Council meetings.
- Add 'prevention' to the notes taken for the combined workshop.

Will include as the agenda allows. '*Prevention*' added to notes.

Item 8 Strategic Discussion – SAR Funding.

Secretariat

- Follow up with a multilateral meeting in March 2015

Included.

Item 9 Avalanche Advisory Review

Secretariat

- Martin to discuss DOC part funding of the avalanche advisory with the CE of DOC.
- NZSAR Secretariat is to work with relevant agencies to implement the avalanche advisory review recommendations.
- NZSAR, MSC and DOC will develop a joint SLA for the ongoing delivery of the avalanche advisory.

In progress.



5. Matters Arising

Item 10 SAR Governance Review Terms of Reference Secretariat

- Secure a reviewer to undertake the NZSAR Governance Review.
- Make arrangements to effect the NZSAR Governance Review

Done

Item 14 General Business Secretariat

- Extend an invite to Water Safety NZ to become a member of the Consultative Committee.

Done



6. SLA Monitoring Report

Outputs	Coastguard	LandSAR	AREC	SLSNZ
Provision of expert services to CA				
Provision of expert advice to CA				
Provision of IM Team Members				
Summary of non-SAR activity				
Up to date details available for CA				
Participation in joint SAREX				
Attendance at Forums				
Nominations for NZSAR Awards				



6. SLA Monitoring Report

Summary for the 1 October – 31 December 2014 Quarter

Measures	Police	RCCNZ	Totals
SAROPs	405	198	603
Lives at Risk	399	298	697
Lives Saved	34	2	36
People Rescued	133	21	154
People Assisted	172	56	228
LandSAR Taskings	95	3	98
Coastguard Taskings	96	2	98
AREC Taskings	15	0	15
SLSNZ Taskings	22	0	27
Performance of SLA Partners	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory



6. SLA Monitoring Report

Summary for the 1 October - 31 December 2014 Quarter

Reporting requirements for the Quarter have been met by all of the SLA partners

Outputs	Coastguard	LandSAR	AREC	SLSNZ	Totals
SAROPs Attended	123	92	12	19	--
Volunteers Involved	852	638	30	160	1,680
Volunteer Hours	2,970	4,637	197	969	8,773

2,341 Coastguard volunteers responded to 698 non-SAR related calls for assistance during the quarter.



6. SLA Monitoring Report

AREC

- No issues

SLSNZ

- A service level agreement has been reached between the New Zealand Police and SLSNZ setting asset costs for Surf Life Saving equipment used during category 1 searchers across all police districts and all Surf Life Saving New Zealand regions. This will simplify the drawing up of invoices post events for SLSNZ and allow police to gain a clearer insight into the costs of deployment for a response.



6. SLA Monitoring Report

LandSAR

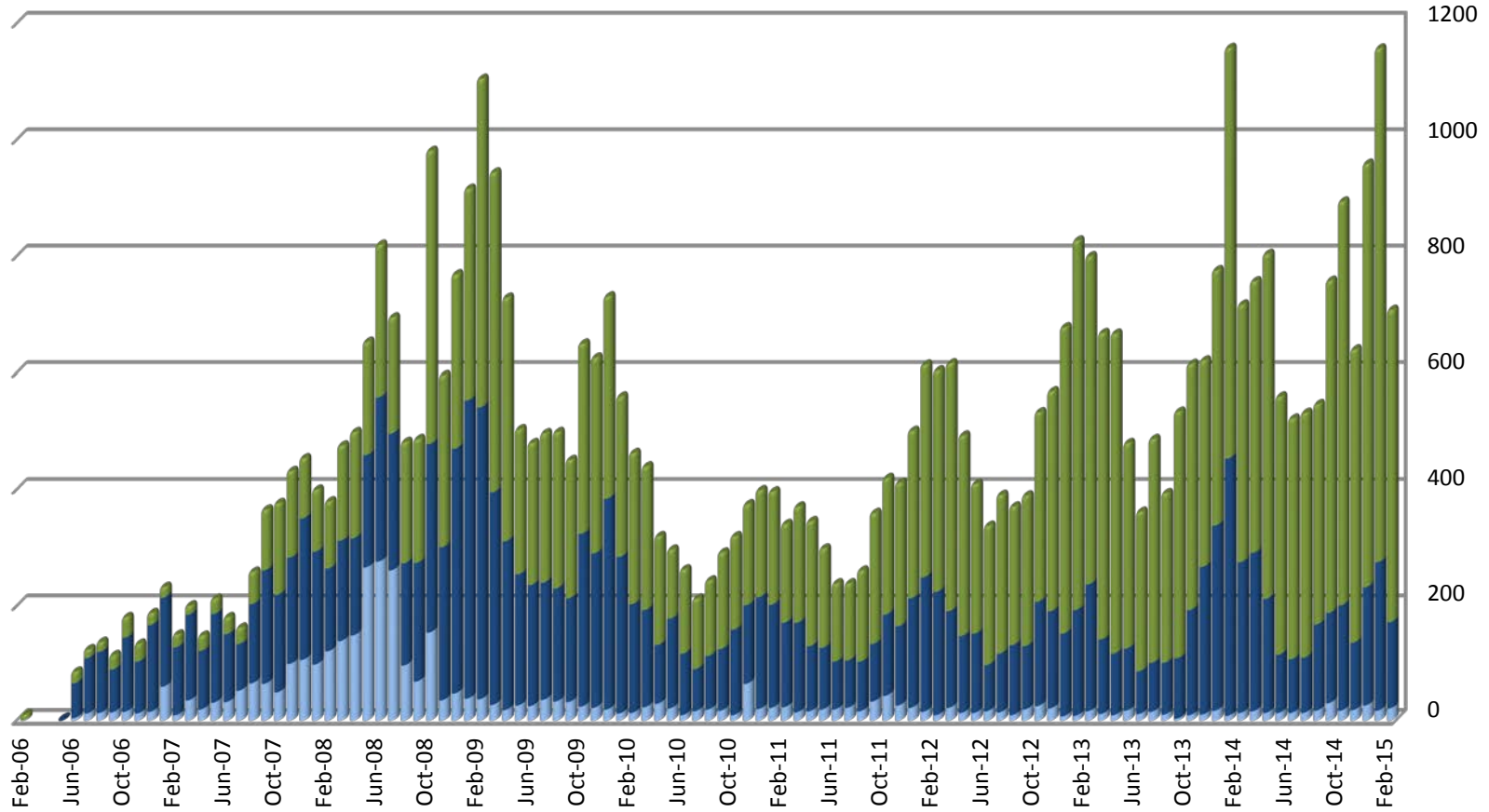
- LandSAR has completed the new Safety Management System, LandSAR website renewal, and Training Management System projects.

Coastguard

- Coastguard has completed its review of Air Patrol Units, and will shortly share the results with the sector.
- The Auckland Volunteer and Howick Coastguard Units have launched new vessels.
- Callum Gillespie has joined Coastguard as the new CEO of Northern Region.



6. Beacon Registrations (51,646)



7. NZSAR Awards

Date & Venue:

- 21 April from 6:00pm-7:30pm, at Government House
- Invitations posted this morning

Nominations & Decision:

- 20 nominations received; 9 for operational activity, 11 for support activity
- Ranked by a non-conflicted sub-group, with their advice to the Council (paper 7a and next 2 slides)
- Council asked to make a decision on recipients of Awards for 2014

Special Award:

- Recommendation from Secretariat that 5 Squadron RNZAF be recognised for their efforts during the MH370 search (paper 7d)

7. NZSAR Awards

Sub-group advice for Operational Activity:

Gold Award:

- SLS Northern Region & Muriwai Lifeguard Service Team members – surfer rescue from Muriwai Beach

Certificates of Achievement:

- HMNZS Otago – yacht *Django II* rescue
- Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service – Jack Dixon search
- Coastguard Houhora & Coastguard Northland Air Patrol – rescue of fishermen in Rangaunu Harbour
- Peter Muldrew & Robert Borst – rescue of trapped motorist
- Wanaka Alpine Cliff Rescue – rescue of a climber from Mount Aspiring
- Crew from Taranaki Rescue Helicopter – rescue of Scott Donaldson

No Award:

- Grant Holmes, member of public – not eligible
- Coastguard Mana – rescue of fishermen



7. NZSAR Awards

Sub-group advice for Support Activity:

Gold Award:

- Anthony Groome, LandSAR – services to SAR

Certificates of Achievement:

- Brian Boyle, LandSAR – services to SAR
- Constable Peter Comer, Auckland Maritime Unit – technical innovation
- Geoff Wilkie, Coastguard Northern Region – services to SAR
- Rowan Leck, Dunedin Marine SAR – services to SAR
- Heather McDonald, Sumner Lifeboat Coastguard – services to SAR

No Award:

- Sgt Martin Paget, Auckland Maritime Unit – services to SAR
- Constable Conrad Smith, Central District – services to SAR
- Philip Burgess, NZSAR Secretariat – services to training
- Beverley Groome, member of public – not eligible
- RCCNZ – services to SAR



8. NZSAR Governance Review

- Almost all interviews complete. Defence (CDF and AC SCI) will be completed in March.
- Have arranged follow-up meetings with Maritime NZ to discuss developments in vessel tracking and a similar session with CAA's Steve Smyth, Director of the New Southern Sky air traffic control project.
- John has completed an outline of the report and commenced drafting.
- The project is on track and John will be prepared to discuss his preliminary suggestions towards the end of March.

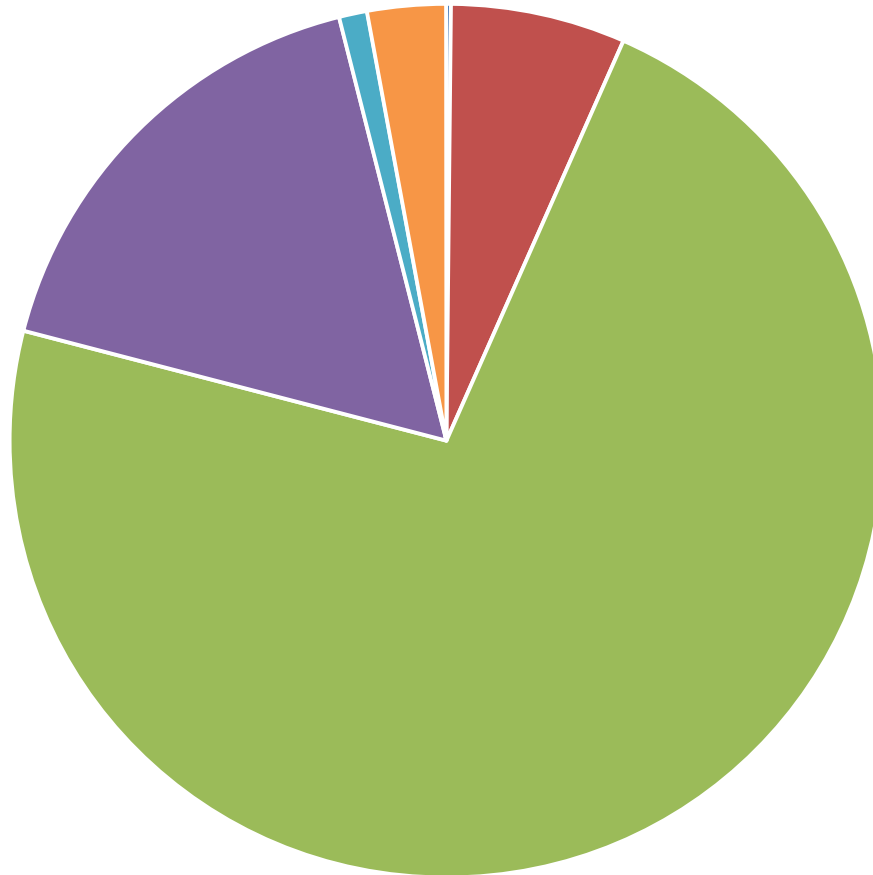


9. SAR (ACE) MOU

	December 2013	December 2014
Total SAR ACE EFTs	153	153.1
Number of courses	83	80
Number of courses cancelled	44	29
Number participants registered for courses	Unknown	1495
Total number participants attending	1267	1272
Average numbers registered for course		18.6
Average Number attending per course	15	16
% non-attendance	10%	16%
% of GPT predicted courses	54%	60%

9. SAR (ACE) Training Update

Relative EFTs by Agency



■ AREC

■ Coastguard

■ LandSAR

■ NZ Police

■ NZSAR

■ SLSNZ

10. 2014/15 NSSP Update

Workshops & Seminars	SAR Training
• Wander Symposium	• Training Support and Advice
• Land Search Seminar	• Air Observer on line material
• SAREX Planning	• Air Observer training
• Helicopter workshop	• Land Formal Search Planning
• SAR Partner Wksp support	• Marine Formal Search Planning
• Organisational Support	• START material
SAR Data management and IT	Prevention
• Data Store and analysis tools	• AdventureSmart Comms & website maint
• Data Extractions	• Visitor Intentions
• SAR Data Standard	• Wander
• Operational Analysis	• Jasons / Tourism Radio
• Resource database enhancements	• Safety Code Partnership
• Maint - SARNET, Website, START, RDB etc	Exercises
SAR Documentation	• Police SAREX support
• SAR Forms and Guidelines	• MRO SAREXs
Secretariat	SAR Research
• Communications and publications	• Review of SAR in NZ
• NZSAR Awards	• Avalanche Advisory Independent review
• Travel, meetings, advice etc	• SAR Funding part II

Exercise RAUORA



Aim: To validate the Plan for each District.

Type: Orientation & validation process, followed by walk-thru discussion exercise using a narrative scenario.

District	Planned Date
Southern	Complete 1 October 2014
Central	29 May 2015
Bay of Plenty	TBC June 2015
Northland	TBC July 2015
Waikato	TBC Jul or Aug 2015
Tasman	14 August 2015
Canterbury	TBC September 2016
Eastern	7 October 2016
Wellington	4 November 2015
Auckland/Waitemata/Counties	31 March 2016

11. General Business



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Get Ready, Get Outdoors

- Last year = 118k Brochures Distributed with Jasons, i-Sites, DOC visitor centres.
- Recreational Safety Partnership continued with WSNZ, CNZ and MSC = safety code engagement with public.
- Advertising. Arrival Magazine then Tourism Radio



Land



Snow



Water



Boating



Air

Be AdventureSmart

ADVICE TO KEEP YOU SAFE

Boating Safety **CODE**



5 simple rules
to help you stay safe

Outdoor Safety **CODE**



5 simple rules
to help you stay safe

Water Safety **CODE**



4 simple rules
to help you stay safe



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NZSAR

New Zealand Search
and Rescue



Council meeting dates for 2015:

- Tuesday 21 April – NZSAR Awards at GH
- Thursday 28 May
- Thursday 27 August – Combined
- Thursday 19 November

ENDS

