



# New Zealand Search and Rescue Consultative Committee

## Minutes of Meeting

**New Zealand Search and Rescue Consultative Committee  
2:30 Wednesday 15 August 2007  
Maritime New Zealand  
Level 10, Optimisation House,  
1 Grey Street  
Wellington**

**Present:** Darryl Carpenter(NZ Mountain Safety ), Brendan Comerford (MOC), Chris Raley(RCCNZ), Geoff Logan(NZ Police), Graeme McKay(NZDF), Jim Stuart-Black(NZ Fire Service), John Funnell (AIA), Steve Cruickshank (NZ Coastguard), Peter Williams (MNZ), Rory Addison(MoT), Lyn Turner(MoT), Rob Arlidge (LandSAR), John Scobie (LandSAR), Brett Sullivan (NZSLS), John Yaldwyn (AREC), Eric Barnes (Antarctica NZ), Rachel Roberts (Contractor), Duncan Ferner(NZSAR Secretariat )

**Apologies:** Mike Cuddihy (DOC), David Waters (Ambulance NZ)

1. **Welcome:** Duncan Ferner (NZSAR Secretariat Manager (SSM)/Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the new attendees, Rachel Roberts, and Eric Barnes to the rest of the committee as well as John Yaldwyn (AREC) and Steve Cruickshank (NZ Coastguard). Peter Williams (MNZ) briefed everyone on the procedures for leaving the building in case of emergency and other housekeeping issues.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting (30 May 2007):** These were accepted with one adjustment - David Watson (AIA) was added to the list of attendees
3. **Matters arising from the Minutes:** There were no matters arising.
4. **2008 Proposed budget initiative:** The SSM gave a brief outline on the proposed SAR budget initiative for 2008. He spoke about the structure of the proposed initiative and outlined the assessed strategic risks for the sector. He went on to inform the meeting that in terms of SAR coordination, the proposal going to the SAR Council for acceptance was one of "enhanced business as usual", rather than a fundamental reshape as proposed in the previous 2007 initiative. The Committee discussed the proposed initiative and noted that significant improvements to the sector and the reduction of the present risks were largely dependent on additional resources being allocated to it.
5. **NZSAR Communications:** Rachel Roberts introduced herself to the meeting and spoke to the draft NZSAR communications strategy distributed previously. It was noted by MNZ that NZSAR communications should not serve to diminish the risks faced by the sector. Rachel requested that any potential ideas or articles for the NZSAR newsletter be forwarded to either SSM or herself. Following robust discussion, the strategy was endorsed for approval by the NZSAR Council noting the need to make special provision for communication

with volunteers and the need to provide SAR organisations access to the collated SAR information currently being assembled.

6. **Beacons:** The SSM gave the meeting an update on the 2007/2008 beacons campaign. It will focus on the three modes separately – land, sea and air and tailor the material appropriately
7. **Terms of Reference:** The SSM briefly spoke to the Consultative Committee ToR paper which was distributed prior to the meeting. The Committee confirmed its desire to meet 4 times per year, matching the meeting frequency of the NZSAR Council.
8. **NZSAR Award & Certificate:** The SSM outlined the paper distributed prior to the meeting. Following discussion, the Committee requested that an additional step be introduced into the approval process involving a sub-group of the Committee. An error on Page 5 (d). Reference to “NZ Police and NZDF honours”, was also noted. The SSM will make the changes suggested and present the paper to the NZSAR Council for approval.
9. **NZSAR Stocktake update:** A draft spreadsheet based on the early stocktake returns was distributed and discussed. There was general agreement that this was a good start to what is a difficult exercise. It is envisaged that both the stocktake and the statistics will be included in the annual report.

#### 10. **Sector update:**

- **Landsar:** Rob Arlidge informed the meeting of the recent changes to the management structure of Landsar. A new board of directors has been established along with an advisory group for SAR. Increased funding is being sought and a new website and logo is being finalised.
- **NZ Coastguard:** Steve Cruickshank informed the meeting of the new structure for NZ Coastguard. Bruce Reid has been appointed as the new CEO/change manager. Due to increased costs the Coastguard Board has been forced to restructure it's National Office in Auckland. This has resulted in the loss of 2 full time employees. This is a short term solution to offsetting costs against current income streams. The long term solution is securing sustainable income. Coastguard is focused and committed on its core business of “Saving lives at Sea”. To continue a high level of SAR delivery, Coastguard must pursue Government funding to safeguard its future.
- **Fire Service:** Jim Stuart-Black informed the meeting that the review of the legislation for the Fire Service is still underway. Jim stressed that there was no intent by the Fire Service to encroach into SAR but rather establish the legal framework for the work the Fire Service already does. He noted that there is ongoing work continuing around the Fire Service response to fires at sea.
- **Antarctic NZ:** Eric Barnes gave the meeting a briefing on who Antarctic NZ was and where they fit into the SAR. They are also undergoing a restructure and are in the process of clarifying their role in regards to SAR.

## 11. General Business

- a. Service Level Agreements (SLAs): Chris Raley (RCCNZ) gave an update to the meeting on progress with the development of SLAs. He noted that a SLA between CAA and MNZ is about to be finalised.
- b. Ambulance NZ: The SSM distributed a paper from David Waters regarding the ambulance review. The potential impact on the provision of SAR services caused by this review remains of concern to the Committee.
- c. Drowning Prevention Strategy: The SSM distributed copies of the Drowning Prevention Strategy and it was briefly discussed
- d. Technology: SSM brought a NZ Herald article on a new tracking device to the attention of the committee.
- e. Annual Reports: SSM requested that he be included on the distribution list of any member organisations who produce Annual Reports.
- f. Communication with SAR Council – Peter Williams (MNZ) raised a question around how information and guidance was being delivered to the Council. He suggested that a good way of doing this would be for each organisation present on the Consultation Committee to produce an update paper which could be submitted by the SSM to the Council. This suggestion was agreed to by those present. SSM will produce a template and distribute it to everyone. The first update to be ready for the SAR Council meeting on Wednesday 22 August.

**Proposed next meeting:** 21 November 2007.

SSM informed the Consultative Committee that Lyn Turner would no longer be provided the administration support for these meetings. He thanked her for her assistance both to him as SSM and to the Committee.

The meeting closed at 4.30pm