

Exercise Evaluation Report

Exercise MOONTIDE

Location: *Whangarei Heads*

Date: *30th September to 2nd October 2022*

Report version: *FINAL*

Evaluator(s): *Vince Ranger
Tauranga LandSAR*

Contents

- 1..... 2
- Executive Summary 2
- 1. Recommendations 3
- 2. Introduction 4
- 3. Background 5
- 4. Evaluation Methodology 9
- 5. Findings 10
- 6. Conclusions..... 13
- 7. Appendix 14

Executive Summary

This was a very successful and challenging exercise for all involved, both in the IMT and field staff.

The exercise was planned and controlled by Sergeant TURNER of the Northland SAR squad, on behalf on the district SAR Coordinator.

It included multiple agencies, some of whom are not the standard SAR response agencies. It included the St John Major Incident Support Team with their new inflatable triage tent and associated equipment.

About 85 personnel were involved in the exercise in some form and the objectives were met either partially or completely.

The exercise was veery well planned and controlled.

Poor weather attributed to an earlier finish than planned. Safety was paramount throughout and at all levels.

The attendance of the duty Police Inspector demonstrated great support by the Northland District Leadership Team for SAR within their district.

The exercise confirmed a very committed, experienced, and willing SAR community in the Northland Police District.

Recommendations

- (1) IMTEX training and desktop exercises.
To carry out desktop training activities with IMT personnel from all agencies to gain further understanding of CIMS structure, principles, characters and to understand the responsibilities and functions as described in the CIMS model. To include multi agency response to IMT function.

See findings and conclusion objective 2.

- (2) To fully brief the IMT mentor to maintain the pace of the SAREX. Alternatively to include the mentor as an IMT member in a lesser role, i.e. response manager.

See comment in evaluation methodology, the process followed.
See findings IMT initial action.

- (3) To update and laminate A1 to AO sized full set of NZSAR form set for land and marine based search operations

See conclusion objective 2
See findings briefing and situational awareness

- (4) To hold a local SAREX to embed learnings

See findings understanding of IMT members and de-brief comments

- (5) To develop protocols and SOPS with tasking St John and FENZ teams into a SAR environment

See Conclusion Objective 2
See findings with reference to St John staff

Introduction

Exercise Moon tide was a multi-agency District SAREX for the Northland District. It was planned as a multi-faceted exercise with both marine and land components to the search exercise.

The exercise was planned and controlled by Sergeant Shane TURNER, of the Northland Police SAR squad, on behalf of the district SAR Coordinator. The planning documents were full and complete but did not disclose a planning team. However, throughout the planning documents it became obvious that good communications occurred between the exercise planner and the agencies involved.

The exercise involved “lost parties” on the seashore and on land with a variety of injuries to those people. It also included victims in water, in the form of dummies, and a life raft.

The exercise began on the Friday afternoon, with a brief phone call from one of the lost parties with very limited information.

That information started the search for that informant and involved land and shoreline searches, both searching for and recovering that party, well into the night. It included recovering that lost party by stretcher on a difficult track.

The information gleaned from that victim lead to more information that led to the addition of the marine based phase of the exercise.

The active searching of the exercise was suspended during the Friday night, with the IMT planning the response for the following morning. IMT activity was suspended at 2300 hrs. on that night.

The exercise continued throughout the Saturday involving both land and marine resources and concluded mid afternoon.

The Weather during the weekend was wet, windy, and cold. The weather prevented the planned use of air assets including the Coastguard Northern Air Patrol, and it led to the earlier than planned finish to this day.

The Sunday plan included learning activities and workshops, led by the surf lifesaving club, covering IRB crewing, rock recovery and rip reading.

The Sunday activities were cancelled due to the weather conditions. However, in its stead, a full debrief of the stretcher carry component of the exercise and relevant learnings took place with SAR members who had remained, the bulk being the Police SAR squad.

Background

Background to the Exercise

The plan did not disclose any projects or activities that relate to or support this exercise. However, during the exercise, it was noted by the evaluator that some of the agencies had not exercised together in a SAR related exercise, and it provided excellent learnings for everybody involved.

Dates, location, organizing agency(s), key people.

The exercise began at 15.40 hrs. on Friday the 29 September 2022, and concluded at 10.30 hrs. on Sunday the 2 October 2022

The exercise was initiated at the Whangarei Police station with initial actions managed from there, until the IMT relocated to an ICP at the Whangarei Heads Surf Life Saving Club.

The area of land and Marine activities were the Whangarei Harbour from the Whangarei Heads to Urquhart's Bay and the adjacent bush area on the Northern coastline of the harbour.

The key people for the exercise were

Shane TURNER,	exercise planner and controller
Cliff METCALFE	exercise and IMT mentor and district SAR Coordinator
Craig BURROWS,	IMT mentor

Participating organizations

Organizations involved included

Police.	12 members
LandSAR	24 members
Surf Lifesaving	12 members
Coastguard	12 members
St John	10 members
NZ Customs	2 members
Media	2 members
FENZ	4 members

The Northland Rescue Helicopters were invited to take part in the exercise; however their schedule precluded their ability to be involved. The weather would also have affected their ability to respond in an exercise.

Including the SAREX management and support, NZSAR, other Police, a total of about 80 members of the various organizations were involved in the exercise.

Exercise aim

The purpose of the exercise was to

“Provide a realistic Marine Based, multi-agency rescue incident to build positive relationships and skills between partner agencies through effective incident management and teamwork.

Exercise objectives

The exercise objectives were

SAR Partners Collaborate effectively: Incorporating partner agencies and organizations. Attending agencies collaborate effectively, work together under common structures, roles and responsibilities.

IMT effectively manages the exercise: IMT structure is in accordance with CIMS. Situational awareness is maintained, appropriate structure is established, IMT follows GSMEAC format in all briefings, tasks resources in accordance with the IAP. Information is collated and disseminated within the IMT and tasked appropriately and is consistent with search urgency. Health and safety considerations identifying risks and managing welfare. A full IMT handover will be conducted on day 2 at 0900hr it will be imperative information for the next operational period is established and operational risks are analysed and a plan moving forward. New IMT gain enough information to proceed forward.

SAR operational personal refresh and practice SAR skills: SAR teams apply appropriate search techniques and provide accurate and timely information to the IMT. Team GPS tracking is consistent with taskings. Safety of any located lost party and search team members is maintained during recovery. Field teams provide debriefs and their welfare is managed throughout the exercise and on demobilization.

Exercise Scenario

The area of operation will be Whangarei Heads involving a vessel returning from Hen and Chickens towards One tree point when it catches fire and explodes, sending all on board into the water before sinking southeast of Bream Head. The vessel involved will be a 16 m Launch named Moon Tide and will have 10 pax on board including crew. The vessel will be privately owned, operating a dodgy fishing charter from One Tree Point.

Sometime later 2 pax will call Police Communications advising in broken Comms they are at Peach Cove Hut and need help and are suffering from bad burns as the result of an explosion. Call becomes disconnected.

Police communications will advise on call SAR. The oncall SAR will only become aware of the actual marine incident once the 1L is located.

Expectation Police will deploy to 1L incident and set up Police lead an IMT deploy a hasty team to Peach Cove Hut to search the area in hope of locating lost parties. The area is known for poor communications

One person will be located, badly injured (Burns) and require medical attention. The second party will have gone for help and not be located.

Located lost party will provide information advising that they have come from a boating incident and that is how they have been injured. They will not know details of others but indicate the amount and nature of incident.

Expectation this information will need to be fed back to IMT however this will be difficult given location and require radio relay.

Once received nature of actual event IMT to task Police make enquiries with boat owner and gain intel on all lost parties. Once received the Intel will be fed into the IMT thick and fast giving a full picture of event.

Expectation IMT will consider a better location to set up. Call other assets as needed. Tasking IMT roles and gathering and accessing Intel and moving into planning phase while recovery event is ramping up. Possibly deploy a forward Commander to oversee the recovery. Once night fall arrives if NEST is available, then another person will be located in the water by Coast Guard and transferred to helicopter. Another issue to be managed by IMT.

IMT will be advised they need to gather, analysis information. Prepare IAP, tasking and GSMEAC briefing for the morning with set close of business at 2300hr.

Expectation Injects will prevent a water extraction and recovery team will need to plan a stretcher recovery which due to the incline will require a rope team to provide assisted haul.

The following day will involve a land-based search for the missing pax who went for help and also locating the remaining 8 or 9 pax who will be scattered along the coast from Bream Head to Smugglers or on the water. *Expectation if tasked correctly the pax on the coast will be located quickly but hindered by recovering them from the coastline. Some will be walking wounded others may be more difficult and reflect injuries. We have access to a life raft and a consideration that we will have dummies with trackers attached that will be set afloat between raft and water.*

To manage fatigue and health and safety the initial IMT will be advised after briefing they will need to prepare a full hand over to new IMT at 0900hr while managing an active recovery phase all going well.

The IMT will manage hot debriefs throughout the incident and conclude with a debrief to identify lessons learnt. This may be needed to held during the following week as some water-based assets may not be able to get ashore.

Evaluation Methodology

The agreed outcomes of the evaluation activity

The evaluator and exercise controller discussed the evaluation prior to the exercise and agreed that the evaluator will base himself with the IMT but will evaluate the exercise as a whole. It was also agreed that the evaluator will discuss key findings and recommendations during the evaluating process.

Evaluation scope

It was agreed that all the exercise will be evaluated, but that the evaluator will base himself with the IMT and focus on that activity.

Aspects of the exercise observed, what was not observed

None of the field activities were observed by the evaluator, so any comments are based in discussions with participating members

The process followed in preparing and submitting the report

The evaluator maintained his position with the IMT throughout most of the exercise, and at times during the initial actions and initial planning phase, needed to mentor the IMT through this process.

The report was submitted as a draft to the exercise planner for him to review and comment on any matters, prior to completing the report as a final document for submission.

That has been completed and the report is submitted as a final version.

Other information

Field activities were not observed by the evaluator, other than the St John Major Incident Support Team and their tented triage area. Any comments of field activities are based on comments made by field team members.

Findings

This exercise was a well-planned, controlled and choreographed to meet the needs of all the participating organizations.

There was a considerable effort by the exercise planner to provide the documented plan and associated material for the exercise.

Safety was considered through the plan and throughout the exercise.

While the plan did not disclose a planning team, it was obvious from the plan that all the participating organizations were consulted during the planning process.

The initial notification was made via Police Comms, from an event entered by the exercise planner. The exercise planner having forewarned comms of this exercise.

This provided a reality for the initial actions.

The call was made to the on-call Police SAR member. This member, while an experienced SAR squad member, and having completed the initial response course and extended search planning course, was inexperienced in search management.

However, an experienced SAR manager was provided as a mentor for him.

During that initial action planning period the SAR on call member struggled and it took some time for him to develop and make up the IMT. In effect he was trying to do everything himself.

Ultimately initial teams and units were deployed to appropriate taskings.

Briefings to teams and units were sufficient for their purpose

One of the taskings was to take St Johns staff by Coastguard rescue vessel to be dropped off on the shoreline to assist Land based SAR team with patient care. They did not have any gear or training for a bush environment.

The IMT made no reference to SOP's, Preplans or the NZSAR guidelines.

The decision was made to relocate the IMT to an ICP at the Whangarei Heads Surf Life Saving Club.

The incident controller briefed the IMT with all the updated information that was available at that time. The briefing was slightly disjointed as, although he had written the briefing, he did not refer to it.

The ICP was set up adequately, however the IMT members did not take ownership of their respective functions.

The incident controller was carrying out tasks himself, including logistical functions. The planning manager was also doing logistic functions. The ops manager was setting up SARtrack.

Consequently, no plan was formulated until such time as the evaluator pointed out to them what their respective roles and responsibilities were.

Part of the response was to task the Fire and Emergency team into the bush area to assist with the stretcher carry., No consideration was made to the fitness, training, or capability to carry out this task.

The action plan template that was available to the IMT was an old format. A new format was ultimately found within the surf club. No other templates were available to the IMT.

SARtrack was used as the preferred management tool. In the initial phase the operator was inexperienced but learning the functions within the programme. This led to the IMT ops manager, who was experienced in this programme, to be sidetracked from his function. The second day had an experienced operator who mentored the initial operator; however, they had a backlog of information to input. This led to a backlog of radio messages to be inputted and ultimately to some of the IMT losing their situational awareness.,

The general briefing to teams was well run in as good GSMEAC format, however, could have been made easier with accessible maps, action plan templates, missing persons templates and safety plan template.

This information was contained within the ICP, and led to team members walking through the ICP and interrupting the planning process of the IMT.

Briefings to individual teams took a considerable period of time. That task was left to the sole Ops manager with no assistance. At one stage he was sidetracked with obtaining and issuing a radio to St John staff.

The task of briefing the teams needed to be resourced to speed up the process to get teams deployed.

There was a lack of understanding from IMT members on how to brief coastguard units with specific search areas, i.e., identifying search areas by coordinates.

The handover from the initial IMT to the incoming IMT was well managed and delivered.

The outgoing IMT fully briefed the incoming IMT, both generally and then function specific. They remained available to the incoming IMT for a short time, as they bedded themselves into the task.

The incoming IMT had spent a time gaining situational awareness by reading available documentation prior to the briefing,

The incoming IMT was able to imbed themselves straight into their functions.

During the exercise, only one map was displayed, which included the Marine response. This was displayed via the SARtrack. This same SARtrack unit was being used to enter data, so often there was a need to stop data input, so the IMT members could refer to the map.

During the exercise, mock media interviews were made. Initially by phone, and subsequently a televised stand-up interview with the Incident controller. This was well run with good learnings for both the incident controllers.

The Northland Duty inspector was also involved in the exercise. Initially receiving a briefing from the initial incident controller by phone., subsequently on the second day he attended the ICP and received an in person briefing by the incident controller. He was able to give very sound advice on dealing with media interviews.

The attendance of the duty inspector to this exercise demonstrated a sound commitment to SAR by the Northland Police District Leadership Team.

Debriefings occurred with individual organizations and as a whole, at the conclusion of the main exercise.

Points raised in the debrief included:

Need to train together to understand each other's roles

IMT training for surf staff

Radio messages to include grid or coordinate positions

IMT function managers to maintain management of their functions and not be distracted

SARtrack, practice, learn, use

More than 1 radio operator required

Conclusions

Objective 1

SAR partners collaborate effectively.

During the exercise all partners demonstrated a willingness to work together for a common goal.

It was recognised during the de-brief that more multi agency training is needed to gain understanding of each agency on others responsibilities and goals.

Some of the findings identify that some agencies require specific learnings and protocols relating to SAR, i.e. St John and FENZ staff deploying to a bush environment, IMT personnel managing marine based searches

This objective has been met, with future learnings to be achieved about developing and learning each other's roles in a SAR context.

Objective 2

IMT effectively manages the exercise.

The IMT structure was in accordance with CIMS, however at times the IMT needed prompting to understand the responsibilities of each function.

Situational awareness was maintained, however could be improved by obtaining full size templated form set for both Marine and land SAR management.

Briefings were adequate with the GSMEAC format followed. The handover briefing was of a high standard.

Tasks were appropriate to the information as it happened and consistent with good SAR practice. The IMT required assistance to identify a search area for the coastguard units.

Health a Safety was considered throughout the exercise and maintained as a high priority.

Two exceptions being the deployment of St John staff from a Coastguard vessel into a bush environment without adequate training or equipment, and the deployment of FENZ staff into a bush environment.

The handover with a new IMT was carried out to a high standard, with the new IMT able to carry on the search management with minimal delay and with good situational awareness as it was at the time.

This objective was mostly met.

Objective 3

SAR operational personnel refresh and practice SAR skills.

This objective was not observed by the evaluator, however comments made during the de-brief were all clearly positive of the exercise allowing them to learn and refresh skills. As an example the two stretcher carries during the exercise, the coastline search by Surf Lifesaving, The coastal search by coastguard locating evidence and the life raft and the St John major Incident Support Team and their new equipment.

This objective was clearly met.

Operation MOONTIDE

Multi Agency Response attendees

AGENCY	Attending no	
Police	15	
FN LSAR	12	
WR LSAR	15	
Surf Life Saving	25	
Coast Guard	15	
St Johns	10	
NZ Customs	5	
NEST helicopter	4	
total	101	
Lost parties	9	
Assessor	1	

Customs will operate 1x RHIB and can be utilised for marine requirements/ patient transports

Coast Guard will operate 2x vessels as marine search component and patient transfers. An airplane asset will be utilised as an ariel search option

Surf Lifesaving will operate as coastal search teams. Coastline retrieval and boat to boat transfer

St Johns will operate as a triage and first aid centre and set up an inflatable mini hospital and receive injured lost parties

NEST helicopter will operate as a winch rescue for water based lost parties

LSAR will operate in an IMT capacity and land-based search teams

Police will operate as I/C and land-based search teams

Operation MOONTIDE: EXHIBITS

- 1 First Aid Kit named ADAMS, contains assorted medical supplies
Located at or near Peach Cove Hut
- 2 Cell Phone with 0217761642 written on back
Located with First Aid Kit
- 3 Life Jacket named MOONTIDE
Located at intersection of Peach Cove and Te Whara Track
- 3 Small Polystyrene Chilli Bin with TIMBERLY written on it
Located at sea (dropped off by boat crew on Sat morning)
- 4 Large Polystyrene Chilli Bin with MOONTIDE written on it
Located at sea (dropped off by boat crew on Sat morning)
- 5 White Overall with pool noodle to keep stiff with Kyle written on left side of chest
Located at sea (dropped off by boat crew on Sat morning)
- 6 Life Raft (expired)
Located at sea (dropped off by boat crew on Sat morning)
- 7 Dummy #1
Located inside life raft (dropped off by boat crew on Sat morning)
- 8 Dummy #2
Located at sea (dropped off by boat crew on Sat morning)
- 9 Burnt clothes
Worn by Lost party No 1 when located
- 10 Small Bag with snacks and name of CROSS
Located on Te Whara Track between Peach Cove and Urquarts
- 11 White Float
Located with Frank MOSS at location #2
- 12 Paint Bucket
Located with
- 13 Alcohol Bottle
Located in the life raft with Harold ADAMS
- 14 Orange Net
Located with Dummy #2 Kyle DAVIS caught in at location 4 or 8
- 15 Red Cap
Located on the Te Whara Track between Peach Cove and Urquarts

Sarah CROSS (Kate LSAR)

Aged 21
148 Deep Street
Manurewa

Located near Peach Cove Hut



Scenario

INFORMATION TO PASS sporadically

I was on a big boat called Moontide

Fishing trip with boyfriend and his dad we left from One tree Point somewhere

Lots of people on board all for fishing and diving

Was on deck at back of the boat as we were coming back from fishing. I made a funny noise and suddenly stopped. The captain was trying to fix something and there was a very quick fire erupted and suddenly before I could act the boat exploded, next I was in the water looked back and never saw boat again. Mark helped me ashore

Lives at home with Mum Barbara Cross and dad Chris CROSS

Wants to be a vet

Boyfriend is Brian TIMBERLY

Brian's Dad was with her when she came ashore his name is Mark.

Don't know where he has gone, I think he went to get help.

INJURIES: Severe burns to upper body focused on left side and head and face. In and out of consciousness with laboured breathing, blurry vision. Slight bleeding from nose and ears

Throw in a convulsion/fit if required

Patch ADAMS aka Harold (dummy #1)

Aged 55y
227 Clipper Cres
Ruakaka

Located at in life raft floating at sea



Unconscious in life raft

Suffering from minor burns and head injury. Minor bleeding to face
Empty bottle of alcohol located in life raft
Heavily intoxicated, won't wake up, non responsive but steady pulse

Tattoo or pot of gold and little man on chest and the words Flexi and Lexi on right arm

Mark TIMBERLY (Steve SHASKEY Ak POLSTAR)

Aged 46
22a Shallow Street
Manurewa

Located off Te Wharo Track between Peach Cove track and Mt Lion (GPS location to be est)

Provide name when asked and following as you feel is needed

Keen hunter
Keen Fisherman

Has a red hat (Exhibit dropped)

Married to Julia has 3 children

Suffers from a knee injury and in progress of mending after a right leg ACL reconstruction.
Has previously had ITB issues from over training left leg

Drives a Ford EXPLORER XGD747 which he parked at the marina

Scenario

Organised the fishing trip and invited his brother-in-law Chris MIDGEY to come and his son Brian and his girlfriend Sarah CROSS
Mark has come ashore assisting his son's girlfriend after swimming from the boat after it exploded. He has helped Sarah ashore and towards the hut where he has attempted to treat her burns. He has managed to call 111 on his cell phone but very bad call and phone has died.

Unsure if he was successful, he can see Sarah is in a bad way and has set her up in a bivy and gone for help.

He has followed the track up from Peach Cove hut and turned left onto Te Wharo track. He has headed along the track and seen lights to the right and headed off track and become lost, tripped and injured his knee.

Will remain lost until located if day progresses and not found can answer to sound line

When found, be ecstatic and overwhelmed and provide full version of events

Injures

Depending when found will depend on how bad his right knee is.

Brian TIMBERLY (Pablo RUST WRSAR)

Aged 22

22a Shallow Street

Manurewa

Located at Position # 3

Provide name when asked and following as you feel is needed

Father is Mark TIMBERLY and girl friend is Sarah CROSS both were on board when boat exploded

Dad has a weak knee after an ACL operation

Free diver

Fit Healthy

Waves for assistance if any search party is seen. Calls for help

Scenario

Was below deck when the boat exploded and was forced deeper into the boat as water poured in. He was momentarily knocked out and could feel the boat sinking fast. He found an air pocket collected his thoughts and swam ashore. The boat had completely sunk, and he found it was at least a 20m swim to the surface. When he was above the water, he could see a life raft in the distance but no one else around. He saw land and swum towards it.

Injuries

Fit and uninjured by the incident. Tired and fatigued but no other issues. Can self-manage and extremely worried by the fact he does not know where his girlfriend and father are.

He is keen to assist the search teams and points out his ability in the water. **Won't take NO for an answer and will become argumentative if not approved.**

If it is identified his father is missing on land, then he will make any attempt to assist if not given opportunity

Thomas DAVID (aka Troy RAITT)

Aged 63

Ruakaka Beach Resort

Located at Position # 7



US TOURIST

Seek assistance when search party is seen.

Provide name when asked and following as you feel is needed

When sighted and rescue team approach fall over and hit head on the rocks creating severe bleeding and becoming initially unresponsive.

Slowly come but remain groggy, mention Michael and Frank. Advise you have come from a boat that exploded but little else.

Expectation that medical attention is provided with a minimum of a bandage to the head

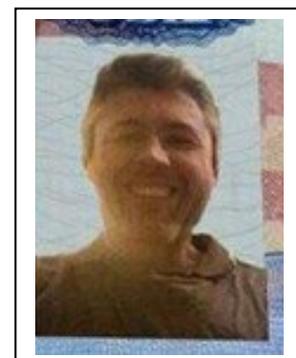
Interesting to see how they progress the rescue. Ensure safety is paramount

Michael REAL (aka Kate LEWIS)

Aged 67

Ruakaka Beach Resort

Located at Position # 1



US TOURIST

Provide name when asked and following as you feel is needed

Arrived in NZ for a holiday with mates

Transgender used to be called Kate but transitioned to male about 30 years ago

He is very quick to correct any mistakes in gender error and can get quite upset at references to his female appearance.

Find a position where you are obscured from view

Scenario

I was in the front cabin on the trip home feeling a little seasick. I could smell fuel fumes and that was not helping. There was a bad engine noise suddenly and the boat stopped very quickly to the point things fell off the bunks. I closed the cabin door and got back onto the bunk, I could hear the Captain swearing and then an almighty explosion. I went to get out, but the cabin door was stuck. I looked out the window and could see several people in the water. Then water poured in under the door and I felt the back of the boat drop. It was clear we were sinking, and I couldn't get out. As the boat went down the air was trapped in the bow. There was orange nets all jumbled up with other gear. Then I saw Kyle on the outside forcing a hatch. The water poured in, but he pulled me out and swam me to the surface

Injuries

If found early, then a badly sprained ankle will hinder the rescue team.
Be a little delicate, precious, and fearful of the rocks and water. Lots of complaining about how long it has taken and correct any reference to being a female

Frank MOSS (Stephen PALCIC WRSAR)

Aged 72

Ruakaka Beach Resort

Ruakaka

Located at Position # 2

US TOURIST

Provide name when asked and following as you is needed

Obese and overweight, struggles with heart and blood circulation and takes blood thinning medication which was left in the room.

Struggles to walk any sort of distance and gets out of breath easily. He has a weak demeanour and gives into his condition and can often be a hypochondriac. He has a problem with women and sees them as useless and only good for menial tasks, he likes things done for him.

Wont like taking instructions from a female or any sort of medical assessment

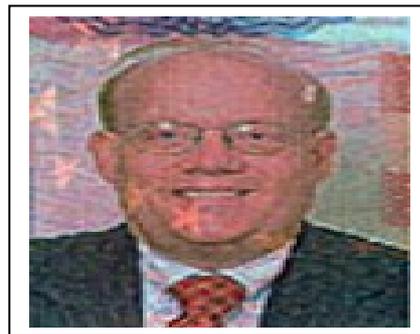
He is a CEO of a US Lingerie company called "HOT BOOTY" and is excessively wealthy.

He will need a large amount of encouragement to get back into the water on or to a boat.

Leave white float visible to search teams try and find a position that is obscured higher up above the water.

Scenario

I was near the bow of the boat when it stopped. I was enjoying the sunshine with Michael; it had been a good day. The boat made some noises and came to a halt. I waited as I had been calling for another round of drinks, but no one came, they seemed busy with something at the back of the boat. I went to stand, and the back of the boat exploded sending a lot of the people into the water, the whole back of the boat was on fire and started to drop into the water. I grabbed a white float and so did Michael I jumped over the bow and into the water. Michael was behind me, but he got delayed as his float was tied to the rail. We drifted apart and I managed to get ashore I haven't seen anyone else since



feel

INJURIES

Fatigue and exposure only which results in laboured breathing and exhaustion.

Complain at any treatment provided by a female

Start off nonresponsive and slowly progress to a wheezing, belligerent, hypochondriac who sees women as useless who has way too much money. Complain at the delay in being rescued and just plain annoy the rescue party with self indulgence

Kyle DAVIS (Dummy #2)

18y

6675 Cave Road

Waipu

Located at Position #4 or #8 as decided on the day

Located caught in a net and floating near sea cave face up.
Suffering from bad burns to hands and face. Nonresponsive but alive.
Will have a white singlet on with Kyle on top half

Requires orange net to tangle around dummy to fix to rocks

Barry FISHER (Paul DONALDSON AKLSAR)

Aged 52

16 North Street

Kensington

Located at Position # 6

Provide name when asked and following as you feel is needed

Drives a Range Rover Sport which is parked at
227 Clipper Road Ruakaka

Married to Naomi FISHER and came on trip with
Brother-in-law Chris MIDGEY

Barry paid for the trip, but it was organised by Chris.

Barry picked up Chris this morning and drove him to the Captains house in Ruakaka.

Used to work on oil rigs but was involved in rig disaster where a lot of his mates were killed.
As a result, received a huge pay out and has retired. After retirement he has become unfit



Suffers from PTSD and has bad anxiety and a healthy fear of the water. He takes pills to manage the anxiety but has left them at home.

Chris organised the trip as a method to help him get over his fear.

Barry swears like a trooper and will get very agitated and physical as a result of anxiety. He has a high pain threshold and a fear of blood. All these issues are not helped by a big hangover. He is dehydrated and feels horrible

Will be calmed by people he knows and reassurance and firm direction once he is aware they are here to help.

Fishing bucket visible on rock or in water try and conceal yourself between rocks
Scenario

I was sitting in the wheelhouse with Chris as the boat returned to port. We were having a few drinks with the Capt. I must say he enjoys his rum; those bloody yanks caught all the fish. Suddenly the boat made a grinding noise, and we came to a sudden stop with the boat lurching forward in the water. Capt. went with Kyle to take a look at the engine. I could smell gas as they open the engine and tried to fix. Suddenly there was an explosion just like the rig. I don't know what happened, but the next thing Kyle was dragging me to the surface I grabbed my fishing bucket and ended up here.

INJURIES

A primary survey will reveal a shrapnel injury to his abdomen and badly cut feet. He will have a laceration to his shoulder which will start bleeding once checked. Neither injury will cause any effect on Barry until he is secured and then he will start to complain of pain to his abdomen and start to go downhill becoming nonresponsive. This will require urgency to get medical attention

Christopher MIDGEY (aka John SHALES)

Aged 46

14 Daphine Place

Manurewa

Located at Position # 5

Provide name when asked and following as you feel is needed

Brother-in-law of Barry FISHER.

Chris organised the trip, but Barry paid the money and drove them to the captain's house in Ruakaka

Chris is pretty freaked out as he can't see hardly anything without his glasses. He is literally blind

He is very worried about Barry and blames himself for pushing him to overcome his fears of the water

Scenario

I was smashing rums with the Captain and Barry in the wheelhouse when the boat suddenly stopped. Sounded like the engine had a big issue. I could hear a hiss as the Captain went to fix it and could smell gas badly. There was a flash and that was the last thing I remember until I was on the surface of the water and Kyle was giving me mouth to mouth. He gave me a float and said he had to check for more people and dived back down under the water. The boat was no longer there. I could see nothing because I lost my glasses but could hear others in the water. I ended up on the rocks and crawled ashore

Injuries

No injuries other than fatigue and symptoms of exposure. He cannot see as he has lost his glasses and is virtually blind.

He is very worried and traumatised by the incident and blames himself for encouraging Barry given what has occurred

He is slightly hungover which could mimic concussion

258
Report Form

TEXT: Northland SAREX 2022
Operation Moontide

Senior Sergeant in Charge
Northland SAR
Whangarei

This report relates to outline for the Northland multi agency marine SAREX set down to run on the 30th September – 2nd October 2022.

The event will combine Police SAR, LSAR, Coast Guard, Surf Lifesaving, NZ Customs and St John (Mass Incident Survival Team).

An invitation has been included to NEST to provide helicopter support and they have indicated they will get involved weather and helicopter permitting.

PURPOSE: To provide a realistic Marine based multi-agency rescue incident to build positive relationships and skills between partner agencies through effective Incident management and teamwork.

OVERVIEW: The area of operation will be Whangarei Heads involving a vessel returning from Hen and Chickens towards One tree point when it catches fire and explodes, sending all on board into the water before sinking southeast of Bream Head. The vessel involved will be a 16 m Launch named Moon Tide and will have 10 pax on board including crew. The vessel will be privately owned, operating a dodgy fishing charter from One Tree Point.

Some time later 2 pax will call Police Communications advising in broken Comms they are at Peach Cove Hut and need help and are suffering from bad burns as the result of an explosion. Call becomes disconnected.

Police communications will advise on call SAR. The oncall SAR will only become aware of the actual marine incident once the 1L is located.

Expectation Police will deploy to 1L incident and set up Police lead an IMT deploy a hasty team to Peach Cove Hut to search the area in hope of locating lost parties. The area is known for poor communications

One person will be located, badly injured (Burns) and require medical attention. The second party will have gone for help and not be located.

Located lost party will provide information advising that they have come from a boating incident and that is how they have been injured. They will not know details of others but indicate the amount and nature of incident.

Expectation this information will need to be fed back to IMT however this will be difficult given location and require radio relay.

Once received nature of actual event IMT to task Police make enquiries with boat owner and gain intel on all lost parties. Once received the Intel will be fed into the IMT thick and fast giving a full picture of event.

Expectation IMT will consider a better location to set up. Call other assets as needed. Tasking IMT roles and gathering and accessing Intel and moving into planning phase while recovery event is ramping up. Possibly deploy a forward Commander to oversee the recovery. Once night fall arrives if NEST is available, then another person will be located in the water by Coast Guard and transferred to helicopter. Another issue to be managed by IMT.

IMT will be advised they need to gather, analysis information. Prepare IAP, tasking and GSMEAC briefing for the morning with set close of business at 2300hr.

Expectation Injects will prevent a water extraction and recovery team will need to plan a stretcher recovery which due to the incline will require a rope team to provide assisted haul.

The following day will involve a land-based search for the missing pax who went for help and also locating the remaining 8 or 9 pax who will be

scattered along the coast from Bream Head to Smugglers or on the water. *Expectation if tasked correctly the pax on the coast will be located quickly but hindered by recovering them from the coastline. Some will be walking wounded others may be more difficult and reflect injuries. We have access to a life raft and a consideration that we will have dummies with trackers attached that will be set afloat between raft and water.*

To manage fatigue and health and safety the initial IMT will be advised after briefing they will need to prepare a full hand over to new IMT at 0900hr while managing an active recovery phase all going well.

The IMT will manage hot debriefs throughout the incident and conclude with a debrief to identify lessons learnt. This may be needed to held during the following week as some water based assets may not be able to get ashore.

Timings: 30/09

Friday 30/09

1945hr Sunset

1754hr Low Tide

1530hr 1L job entered for dispatch

1545hr Communications advise SAR on call

Expectation rough estimate of timings

1600hr hasty team deployed

1630hr team arrive at carpark

1730hr arrive at hut search for patient

1800hr relay information identifying actual incident

2300hr End of Day 1

Sat 01/10

0659hr Sunrise

0616hr Low Tide

0700hr Search briefing by IMT

1600hr End EX and demobilisation

Sun 02/10

0704hr Low Tide

0900hr Workshop begins

1300hr Workshops conclude

OBJECTIVES:

SAR Partners Collaborate effectively: Incorporating partner agencies and organisations. Attending agencies collaborate effectively, work together under common structures, roles and responsibilities.

IMT effectively manages the exercise: IMT structure is in accordance with CIMS. Situational awareness is maintained, appropriate structure is established, IMT follows GSMEAC format in all briefings, tasks resources in accordance with the IAP. Information is collated and disseminated within the IMT and tasked appropriately and is consistent with search urgency. Health and safety considerations identifying risks and managing welfare. A full IMT handover will be conducted on day 2 at 0900hr it will be imperative information for the next operational period is established and operational risks are analysed and a plan moving forward. New IMT gain enough information to proceed forward.

SAR operational personal refresh and practise SAR skills: SAR teams apply appropriate search techniques and provide accurate and timely information to the IMT. Team GPS tracking is consistent with taskings. Safety of any located lost party and search team members is maintained during recovery. Field teams provide debriefs and their welfare is managed throughout the exercise and on demobilisation.

Hazards: The area of operation is steep and thick bush surrounded by rugged coastline. The beach Surf Lifesaving will be operating off, is a surf beach with ambivalent conditions depending on weather. Risk assessments will need to be completed and considerations given to land vs marine taskings. Consideration to water assets operating within their mandates will be another factor to be considered. The exercise will still

run if the weather is inclement but can be varied to make more land based if marine conditions make it untenable.

Social evening: At the end of Day 2 we will have a social evening with some interactive team games lead by Police.

Day 3

Interactive Learning workshop: Participants will have an opportunity to develop Surf Life Saving skills with options relating to IRB crewing, boat to boat transfer, Rip reading, and rock recovery. This will be lead by Surf Lifesaving

Options

1 IRB Crewing/Boat to Boat transfer:

2 Rip Reading:

3 Rock recovery:

A HQ can be set up at the Oceans Beach Surf Club but will need to be co-ordinated by IMT at the time. This location has power and facilities to run a search.

I have booked an Assessor for the event (Vince RANGER)

For your information and noting please.



Shane TURNER
Northland SAR STH296
New Zealand Police
Cameron Street | WHANGAREI
☎ PHONE 0211910276 |
✉ EMAIL shane.turner@police.govt.nz