



Document Control

Category	Operations
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1. Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this LOP is to provide guideline on protocols needed to be followed on special event days which typically attract a greater volume of vessels on the water. Special Event Days (SED) typically will involve fireworks displays at Sydney Harbour.
- 1.2** SEDs typically include New Year's Eve and Australia Day.

2. Operating protocol

1. Prior to SED, Unit Commander (UC) will endeavour to obtain clear operating protocols from Regional Commander (RC).
2. Instructions will clearly state operational protocols to be followed and all necessary escalation and/or communication process and relevant contact details.
3. Instructions will be disseminated to members of MRS who will be on duty prior with any questions to be brought to the attention of the UC to ensure full clarity and understanding.
4. Flexibility maybe required to be exercised on the day depending on conditions and activity and MRS members may be asked to make adjustments as directed by RC, UC or an officer delegated by the fore mentioned.
5. Roster Officer RO will be responsible to ensure shifts are appropriately covered with back up list of members as deemed required by RO.
6. In the event the DO finds no protocols have been communicated, they may make contact with UC in the first instance and if UC is not available, make contact with the RC to understand what particular operating process (including communication/contact protocols) which needs to be followed. As per standard handover procedure, DO will pass details to the following watch.

3. General Information

1. Sydney Harbour Operations Centre (SHOC) at the NSW Roads and Maritime Services Base, Rozelle, controls the water activity for major events on Sydney Harbour.
2. On such occasions MRS NSW vessels are under the control of SHOC unless there is a major incident when NSW Police Marine Area Command (MAC) will step in.
3. An exclusion zone is generally designated for these events primarily for protection of fireworks fallout and creating the stage for the various events to take place and the responsibility of this rests with an RMS Zone controller assisted by MRNSW patrolling vessels and RMS.
4. At such events, all assist requests by vessels are directed/relayed to SHOC for their decision as to the level of urgency. Any non-urgent assists are generally attended to after the "show" is over. A MRNSW liaison officer is at SHOC to coordinate between vessels in need, MRSNSW vessels and MRS. Any MRNSW vessels tasked calls MRS to log on (and log off after completion).