



Document Control

Category	Operations
Version	3.0
Effective Date	Feb 2016 (last revised 17 April 2021)
Authorised By	Unit Commander
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1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this LOP is to provide the procedure for broadcasting of weather for Greater Sydney Region.

2. Broadcast Times and Broadcast Details

MR Sydney will broadcast an abbreviated Sydney Region coastal and local weather forecast two times per day. MF/HF broadcasts will no longer be done. Weather warnings for Sydney, Illawarra and Hunter regions will be broadcast as and when received.

VHF - Coastal and Closed Waters forecasts will be made at 0640*hrs and 1640*hrs. Broadcasts should be done on North Head radios unless they are out of service in which case use South Head.

Only the BOM forecast for the day of the broadcast and the following day are to be announced (a two day forecast). They are to be read as described in the addendums including each day and its date.

Any new or updated release relating to weather warnings for the Sydney, Hunter and Illawarra Regions are to be broadcast immediately as a Securite or as soon as it is practical.

If the watch is experiencing high work volume and you cannot complete the full broadcast at the scheduled time, then then you can do an “on request:” announcement on VHF 16. Refer Addendum 3 for script.

3. Radio Scripts – Weather

3.1 There are 4 standard radio scripts attached to this LOP which are to be used for broadcasting weather as follows:

Radio Script – Weather Forecast	Radio/Channel to use	Reference for radio Scripts
Coastal and Local forecasts No warnings	VHF 16/67	Addendum 1
Coastal and Local forecasts Warnings Current (Securite)	VHF 16/67	Addendum 2
Short Form Weather- on request announcement only	VHF 16	Addendum 3
New and Update Warnings Broadcast	VHF 16/67	Addendum 4



VHF Weather Broadcast Format No warnings

Broadcast Times: 0640hrs; 1640hrs;

Announce on VHF Ch 16:

All Ships, All Ships, All Ships, this is Marine Rescue Sydney. The forecasts for Sydney Coastal and Sydney Closed Waters will follow on VHF Ch 67. Changing channels now.

Change to VHF Ch 67:

All ships, all ships, all ships, this is Marine Rescue Sydney going ahead with the Sydney Coastal, and the Sydney Closed Waters forecasts, issued by the Bureau of Meteorology at hours today,(day).

Announce Disclaimer: ***“Please be aware wind and wave forecasts are averages. Wind gusts can be 40 per cent stronger than the forecast, and stronger still in squalls and thunderstorms. Maximum waves can be twice the forecast height.”***

Announce: ***“Warnings. There are no current warnings for the Sydney, Hunter or Illawarra regions”.***

Announce the Weather Situation: ***“The Weather Situation.*** (broadcast weather situation)”

Announce the two – day forecast for Sydney Coastal Waters followed by Sydney Closed Waters: ***“Going ahead with the Coastal Waters Forecast for the Sydney Coast, Broken Bay to Port Hacking”*** (broadcast weather forecast for today and tomorrow).

Then announce: ***“Going ahead with the forecast for Sydney closed waters”*** (broadcast weather forecast for today and tomorrow).

Then Announce:

Forecasts for the Hunter and Illawarra Waters are available on request.

Local conditions: *From the Bureau of Meteorology’s website, the wind at North Head is from the (direction) at knots, gusting to knots.*

From the Ports Authority website, the Significant Wave Height off Botany Bay is

..... (Hs) metres, with an average of (Tz) seconds between peaks.

The next tide at Fort Denison will be a High / Low ofmetres athours.

The next weather broadcast from Marine Rescue will be at.....hours today/tomorrow. Marine Rescue Sydney, out.

Addendum 2 LOP OP4
Marine Rescue Sydney
VHF Weather Broadcast Format Securite Warnings
Broadcast Times: 0640hrs; 1640hrs;

Announce on VHF Ch 16:

Securite, Securite, Securite All Ships, All Ships, All Ships, this is Marine Rescue Sydney. The forecasts for Sydney Coastal and Sydney Closed Waters will follow on VHF Ch 67. Changing channels now.

Change to VHF Ch 67 and announce:

Securite, Securite, Securite All ships, all ships, all ships, this is Marine Rescue Sydney going ahead with the Sydney Coastal, and the Sydney Closed Waters forecasts, issued by the Bureau of Meteorology at hours today,(day).

Read Disclaimer ie ***“Please be aware wind and wave forecasts are averages. Wind gusts can be 40 per cent stronger than the forecast, and stronger still in squalls and thunderstorms. Maximum waves can be twice the forecast heigh”***

Announce warnings for today ***“ Warnings. There is a (state type of warning) for today for (state region or location in Sydney, Illawarra or Hunter).***

Announce the Weather Situation: ***“The Weather Situation.*** (broadcast weather situation)”

Announce the two – day forecast for Sydney Coastal Waters followed by Sydney Closed Waters: ***“Going ahead with the Coastal Waters Forecast for the Sydney Coast, Broken Bay to Port Hacking”*** (broadcast weather forecast for today and tomorrow).

Then announce: ***“Going ahead with the forecast for Sydney Closed Waters”*** (broadcast weather forecast for today and tomorrow).

Then Announce:

Forecasts for the Hunter and Illawarra Waters are available on request.

Local conditions: *From the Bureau of Meteorology’s website, the wind at North Head is from the (direction) at knots, gusting to knots.*

From the Ports Authority website, the Significant Wave Height off Botany Bay is (Hs) metres, with an average of (Tz) seconds between peaks.

The next tide at Fort Denison will be a High / Low ofmetres athours.

The next weather broadcast from Marine Rescue will be at.....hours today/tomorrow. Marine Rescue Sydney, out.

VHF Weather Script – Short Form on request only announcement

To be read out at scheduled times when watches are experiencing high work volumes or as directed by UC, DUC, Ops Officer or Deputy Ops Officer:

VHF CH16: 0640hrs; 1640hrs

No Warnings

Announce and Broadcast on VHF CH 16

“All ships, all ships, all ships.

This is Marine Rescue Sydney.

The weather forecasts for Sydney Coastal and Sydney Closed Waters are available upon request.

Marine Rescue Sydney, out”

OR

With Warnings

Announce VHF CH 16

“Securite, Securite, Securite, All ships, all ships, all ships.

This is Marine Rescue Sydney.

“ For today (state the day and date the warning relates to e.g for Monday 10 March) there is a (state the type of warning e.g. strong wind warning) for (state region(s) affected e.g Sydney, Hunter and/or Illawarra).region(s)

Sydney Coastal and Closed Waters Forecast details are available on request.

Marine Rescue Sydney, out.”

New and Updated Warnings - VHF Weather Script

New or updated weather warnings for Sydney, Hunter and Illawarra are to be read when received from BOM and at the scheduled weather broadcast times.

Announce VHF CH 16 (North Head radio)

“Securite, Securite Securite

All ships, all ships, all ships.

This is Marine Rescue Sydney.

For updated Weather Warnings please go to Channel 67, changing channels now.”

Note: if it is a short warning e.g., only a strong wind warning for the Sydney region for today that can be announced on 16. Lengthier announcements must be made on CH 67 as set out below.

Broadcast on VHF CH 67 (North Head radio)

“Securite, Securite, Securite

All ships, all ships, all ships.

This is Marine Rescue Sydney.

Going ahead with an updated weather warning issued by the Bureau of Meteorology at hours today.”

There is a (state the type of warning e.g. Strong wind warning or Severe Weather warning or hazardous surf warning) for today (and following days if relevant) for the following areas (state the regions or locations covered by the warnings. Note that Severe Weather warnings are written for land areas. Select the locations named that relevant to Mariners in the Sydney region, Hunter and Illawarra areas)

Full weather forecasts for Sydney Coastal and Sydney Closed Waters are available upon request.

Marine Rescue Sydney, out.”

Addendum 5 LOP OP 04

Weather Broadcast on VHF Radio – Guide to the order of Broadcast

NOTE: Announcements on both VHF CH 16 and VHF CH 67 to commence with saying “Securite” x3 if there are any warnings in Illawarra, Sydney or Hunter Coast on any of the days weather is being broadcasted ie usually today OR tomorrow.

Broadcast forecast in the following sequence:

1. Announce on VHF CH 16
2. Change Channels to VHF CH 67 and Announce
3. Read the disclaimer
4. Read “Warnings” (Hunter/ Sydney/Illawarra if any) OR if there are no warnings, state “There are NIL warnings”
5. Read “Weather situation”
6. Read “Forecast for Coastal Waters Forecast for Sydney Coast Broken Bay to Port Hacking”*
7. Read “Forecast for Local Waters Forecast for Sydney Closed Waters”*
8. Final announcement

*Please read the forecast verbatim example:

“Forecast for Tuesday xx (date) and m (month)”; (read forecast)

“Forecast for Wednesday xx (date) and m (month)”; (read forecast)

Etc etc