



# Media Release

## Marine rescue exercise tomorrow at North Haven

Friday, 28 October 2016

Mariners in the North Haven and Outer Harbour area may see an increase in rescue vessel activity when marine search and rescue agencies conduct a multi-agency exercise tomorrow (Saturday, 29 October), beginning at 8.30am.

Up to 10 boats and around 80 personnel from the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard (AVCG), SA Sea Rescue Squadron and SA Police (SAPOL), along with the MAC Rescue Helicopter Service, will be involved in the exercise which has been designed to practise and validate existing search and rescue protocols, and ensure interoperability and coordination between the various agencies.

Manager of Volunteer Marine Rescue (VMR) in South Australia Mr Darryl Wright said tomorrow's exercise was the first in a series of exercises conducted annually in various locations across the state.

"The annual exercise program is a significant activity to ensure that search and rescue agencies are adequately prepared to respond to a range of marine emergencies, under the coordination of SAPOL," Mr Wright said.

"Volunteers in all aspects of emergency service train hard to be prepared to respond to emergencies and requests for assistance, and at this time of year it's particularly relevant for the marine rescue sector to come together given that the traditional boating and aquatic activity season is approaching."

"Exercises such as the one tomorrow validate that training and ensure that when an alert is raised the emergency response is efficient and effective," Mr Wright said.

The exercise will be coordinated by SAPOL from the AVCG base at North Haven

In addition to rescue vessels, mariners in the area tomorrow may also see helicopter activity including the use of flares between 8.30am and 1pm.

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