

**MSI SELF ASSESSMENT – NAVAREA X**

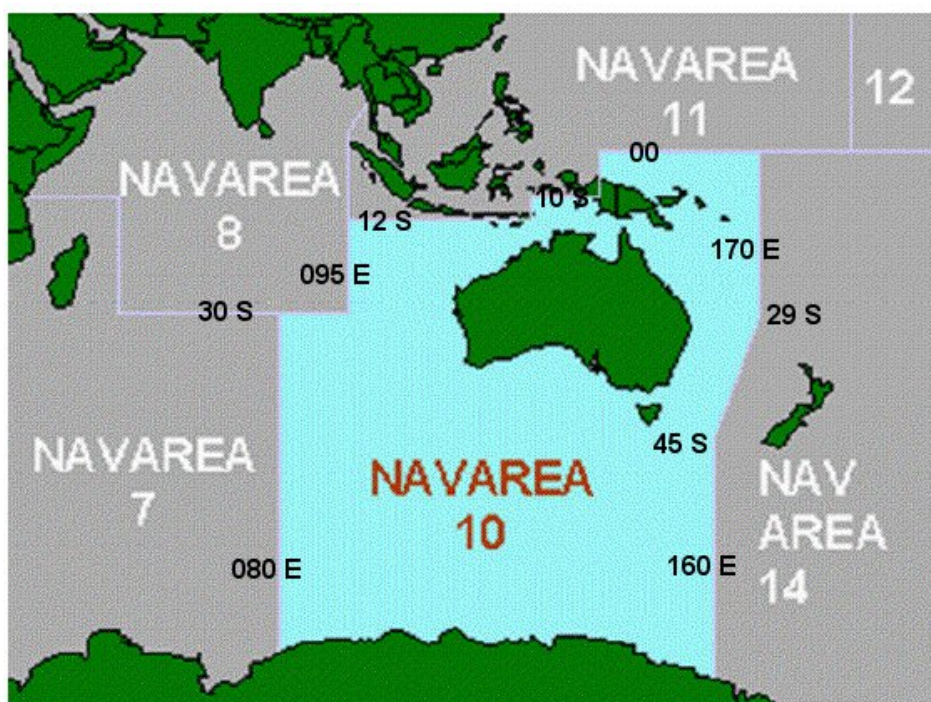
**Submitted by: AUSTRALIA**

**1. ACTION REQUIRED**

None - submitted for information only.

**2. BACKGROUND**

Australia is the NAVAREA X coordinator and the area of responsibility is depicted in Figure 1 below and also on page 251 of ALRS Vol 5, 2006/07 edition.



**Figure 1: NAVAREA X**

Within NAVAREA X there are two active national coordinators, New Caledonia and Papua New Guinea. Little or no information is received from the other two national coordinators, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

NAVAREA X warnings are transmitted through the Perth Land Earth Station (LES) on the IOR and POR at the scheduled times of 0700 UTC and 1900 UTC daily. Warnings are initially broadcast on receipt and then automatically (without operator intervention) at the scheduled times whilst the warnings are in force or until they have been promulgated by other means. Coastal and Local warnings are also broadcast on Inmarsat-C SafetyNET.

The warnings are issued by the Australian Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC Australia), which is manned on a 24/7 basis. RCC Australia is part of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), Emergency Response business unit.

Monitoring of MSI broadcasts is undertaken through two mobile earth station (MES) located in Canberra (POR) and Fremantle (IOR). This monitoring is undertaken automatically using computer software and at the scheduled times. Messages received at the MES are compared against warnings that are known to be active and any anomalies are resolved in consultation with the Perth LES.

Australian MSI broadcasts can be obtained in real time via the Internet and e-mail by accessing the address [www.amsa.gov.au](http://www.amsa.gov.au) and clicking on “maritime safety information”.

No warnings are issued in respect of weapons firing and exercise areas. The Australian annual notices to mariners Nr. 9/2006 lists and defines these areas.

The Australian content in the IMO Master Plan was reviewed and updated with the distribution of GMDSS /Circ.8/Corr.12 by IMO on 31 October 2005.

### 3. COMMENTS

The following numbers of Inmarsat-C SafetyNET messages were broadcast from July to June of each year except for 2002 where the numbers are for the calendar year:

Type/Year	2002	2005	2006/Av. time to issue broadcast	
NAVAREA X	9	14	8	10 Mins
AUSCOAST	380	374	340	19 Mins
LOCAL	72	84	89	24 Mins

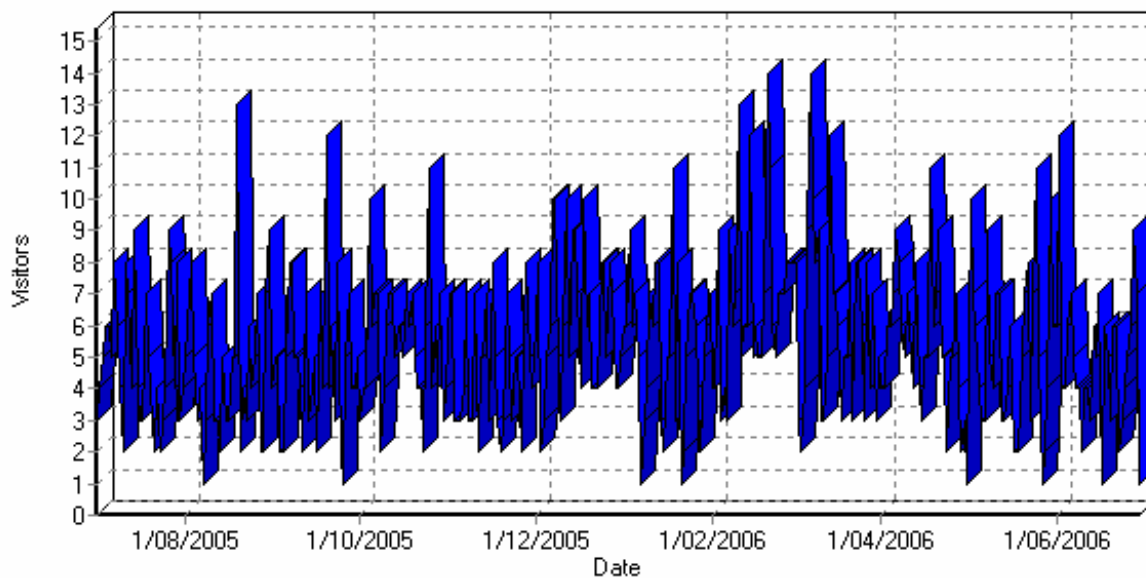
**Table 2: Numbers of SafetyNET Messages Broadcast**

The following statistics for the one-year period, 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006, shows the number of times the following AMSA MSI www link was accessed:

[http://www.amsa.gov.au/search\\_and\\_rescue/distress\\_and\\_safety\\_communications/maritime\\_safety\\_information.asp](http://www.amsa.gov.au/search_and_rescue/distress_and_safety_communications/maritime_safety_information.asp)

Hits	
Hits	2,234
Average Hits per Day	6
Average Hits per Visitor	1.14
Incomplete Requests	0
Visitors	
Visitors	1,967
Average Visitors per Day	5

**Table 3: AMSA MSI Web Link Visits**

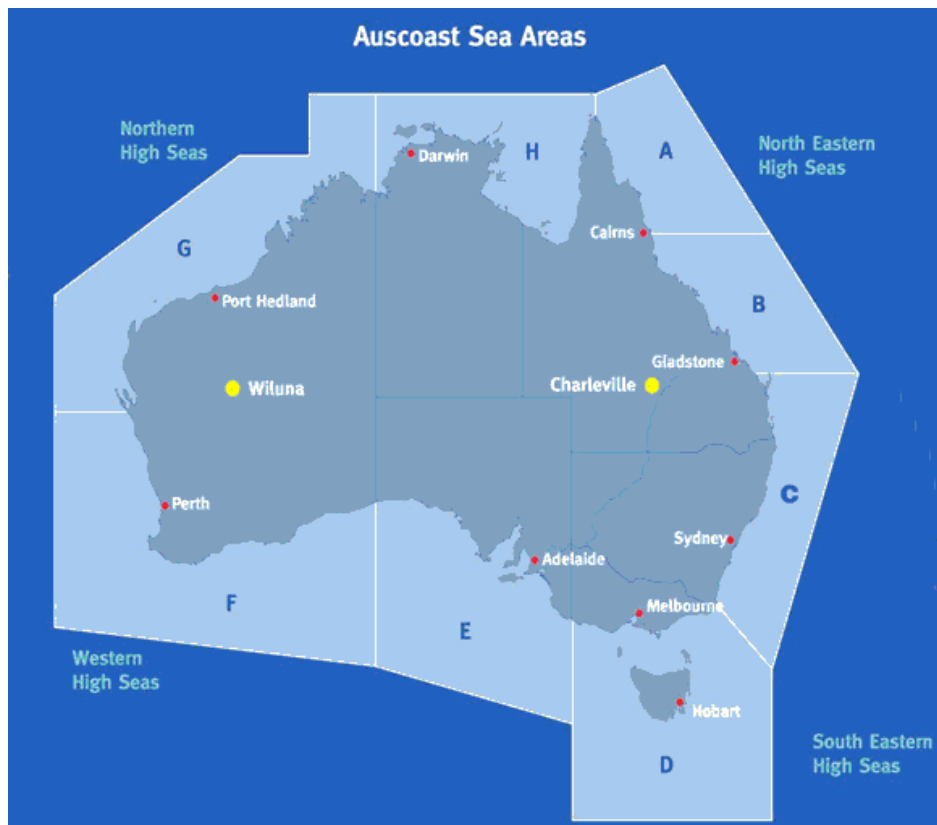


**Figure 2: Daily Activity on AMSA MSI Web Link**

#### **4. NAVTEX COVERAGE**

Australia does not broadcast coastal warnings via Navtex. The maritime areas around Australia have been designated GMDSS Sea Area A3. Given that ships are required to carry equipment appropriate to the area that they are sailing in, carriage of an Inmarsat-C MES is mandatory for SOLAS vessels. Coastal and local warnings are broadcast using SafetyNET to take advantage of the Navtex emulation capability of the Inmarsat-C MES.

The concept of the NAVTEX B1 character is used and eight coastal areas, A to H, have been identified. These coastal areas extend to some 250-300 nautical miles to seaward off the Australian coast and are depicted in Figure 3. Within NAVAREA X, New Caledonia has established coastal area "N". Further information on these coastal areas can be obtained from Figures SN-10N and SN-10/14 in ALRS Vol 5, 2006/07 edition.



**Figure 3: Australian Coastal areas – NAVTEX B1 code**

## 5. OPERATIONAL ISSUES

The Emergency Response business unit of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority has a contractual arrangement in place with the Perth LES Operating Company. This arrangement requires Perth LES to provide an availability of at least 99.5 percent per calendar month. The availability of the Perth LES over the past 12 months is provided in Table 3 below.

MONTH	IOR/POR
July 2005	99.45
August 2005	100
September 2005	99.99
October 2005	100
November 2005	100
December 2005	99.99
January 2006	100
February 2006	100
March 2006	99.95
April 2006	100
May 2006	99.99
June 2006	99.95
<b>Average for 12 Months</b>	<b>99.94</b>

**Table 3 – PERTH LES AVAILABILITY**

Contingency arrangements are in place with the Singapore Sentosa LES in the event that the Perth LES is unserviceable for the long term. This contingency arrangement was tested in September 2005. In addition, a test of the Inmarsat prime satellite contingency was undertaken in October 2005 whereby messages were exchanged with the SafetyNET hub at Inmarsat, London. With the impending phase-out of X.25 communications a further test with the SafetyNET hub was undertaken in November 2005 using e-mail. These contingency tests were undertaken with MSI information being submitted using appropriate C Codes.

During the period July 2005 to June 2006, Australian marine surveyors undertook 3114 port state control inspections. Of these inspections, 104 vessels (3.3 %) were noted to have some form of MSI deficiency, either there was a problem with their Inmarsat-C MES or that the MSI was not available.

Australia monitored NAVAREA VIII and NAVAREA XI broadcasts on the Tsunami that struck Java, Indonesia on the 17th July 2006. Copies of these warnings are provided in Attachment 1. These warnings were transmitted on the POR and IOR.

Whilst undertaking monitoring of MSI broadcasts via SafetyNET it was noted that some of the problems were related to the Perth LES. On 11 March 2006 the monitoring of the scheduled broadcast at 1900 UTC indicated no messages had been received at the MES. A check with the LES indicated that it had a major disk outage and all broadcasts were lost.

## **6. CAPACITY BUILDING**

Officers from the Emergency Response business unit of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority have tentative plans to conduct a SAR and MSI Workshop in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea in financial year 2006/2007.

## **7. OTHER ACTIVITIES**

At the request of Captain Mike Barritt, of the UK Hydrographic office and Coordinator for the revision of IHO S-55 document, information was provided with respect to Australian offshore islands.

An RCC Chief of RCC Australia attended the Southwest Pacific Hydrographic Commissioning Meeting in Suva, Fiji in November 2004 and an IMO Regional Seminar in Manila, Philippines in October 2005. Both these meetings had a major MSI component.

## **8. NAVAREA X CONTACT INFORMATION**

RCC Australia  
Emergency Response  
Australian Maritime Safety Authority  
GPO Box 2881  
Canberra ACT 2181  
Australia

Phone +61 2 62306811  
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E-Mail: [rccaus@amsa.gov.au](mailto:rccaus@amsa.gov.au)  
[www.amsa.gov.au](http://www.amsa.gov.au)

## **9. NAVAREA X COORDINATOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

Mr Chris Payne  
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Emergency Response  
Australian Maritime Safety Authority  
PO Box 1332  
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E-Mail: [chris.payne@amsa.gov.au](mailto:chris.payne@amsa.gov.au)

## **10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

NIL

## **11. ACTIONS REQUIRED**

NIL – for information only.

## **ATTACHMENT 1**

### **TSUNAMI WARNING BROADCASTS 17 JULY 2006**

DTG: 172250 JUL 06

EGC MSG ID: N0717146

17-22:50 344 9521 EGC

LES 303,MSG 521,MetWarn/Fore Urgent Call to Area: 11,Rep# 0

NAVAREA XI WARNING

NAVAREA XI 0313.

TSUNAMI INFORMATION.

INDIAN OCEAN, EASTERN PART.

EARTHQUAKE OF MAGNITUDE 7.2 BROKE OUT AT 170819Z JUL AND TSUNAMI OCCURED.

VESSELS IN COAST REQUESTED TO BE CAUTION.

DTG: 180528 JUL 06

EGC MSG ID: N071825

18-05:28 344 2289 EGC

LES 306,MSG 161,MetWarn/Fore Safety Call to Area: 8,Rep# 0

MSG-E3858

TO ALL SHIPS:

INFORMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED OF AN EARTHQUAKE THAT HAS STRUCK JAVA, INDONESIA AT ABOUT 17 JULY 2006, 0824UTC. THE MAGNITUDE OF THE EARTHQUAKE IS REPORTED TO BE ABOUT 7.2 ON THE RICHTER SCALE.

ALL SHIPS IN THE AREA :

1. PLEASE INFORM D.G.SHIPPING COMMUNICATION CENTRE AT ONCE IF ANY VIBRATIONS ARE FELT OR ANY OTHER INDICATIONS OF AN APPROACHING TSUNAMI SO THAT ALL PORTS AND COASTAL REGIONS CAN BE WARNED AND EVACUATED.

2.SUBSEQUENTLY PLEASE ALSO PROVIDE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- 1) NAME OF VESSEL
- 2) NATIONALITY
- 3) POSITION OF THE VESSEL
- 4) WAVE HEIGHT
- 5) WAVE DIRECTION
- 6) SPEED OF THE WAVE AND
- 7) TIME OF OBSERVATION IN GMT.

ANY DAMAGE TO THE VESSEL MAY ALSO BE REPORTED TO EMAIL ID:  
DGCOMM CENTRE(AT)SATYAMMAIL.NET

ISSUED UNDER THE DIRECTIVES OF NAUTICAL ADVISER TO THE GOVT OF INDIA.DG(S)COMM CENTRE, DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING.