

Royal New Zealand Navy Damage Control Overview

2023 Defence Leaders

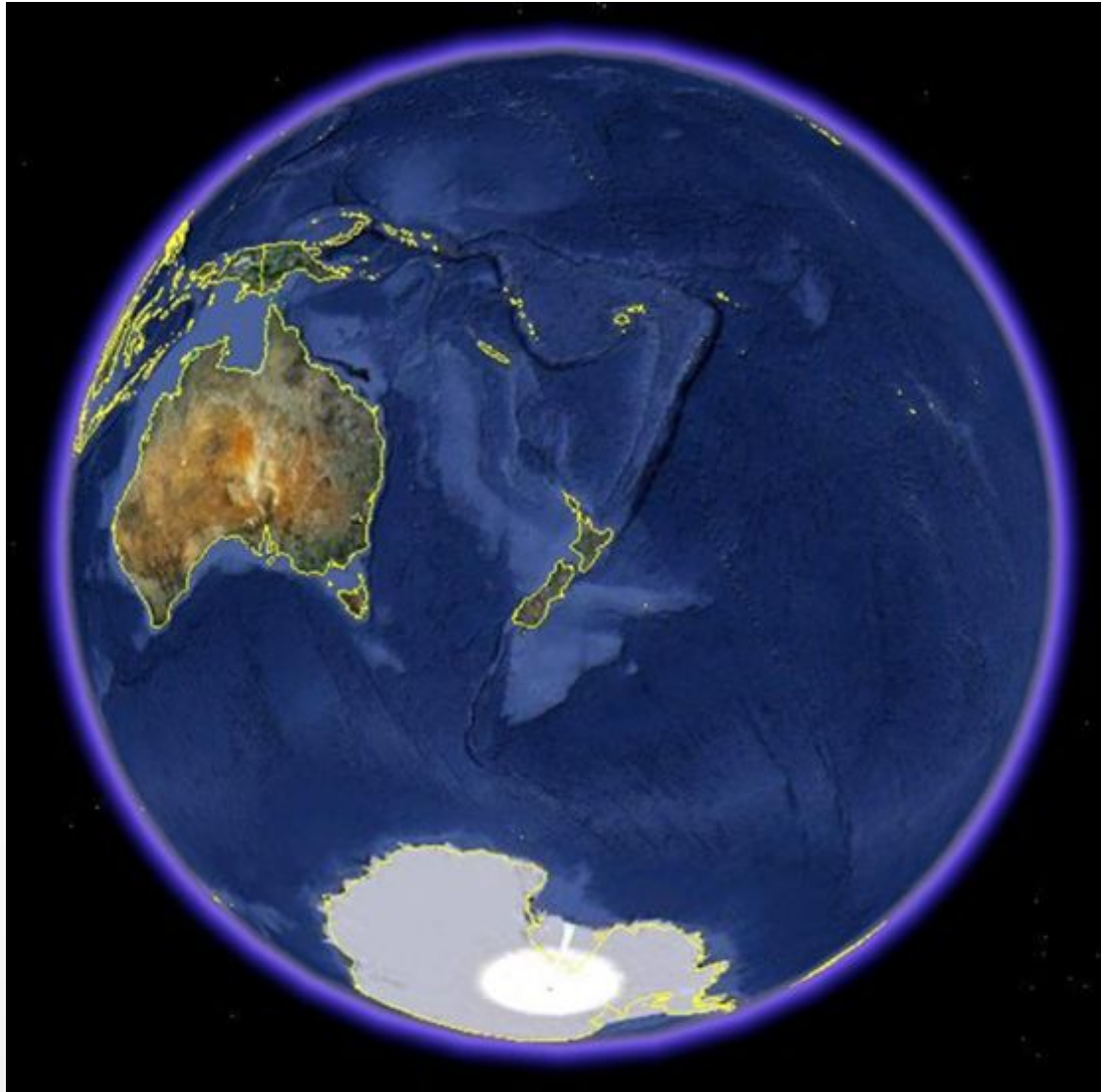
Fleet Damage Control Officer
Lt Cdr Ray McLaughlin
Fleet Damage Control Instructor
Warrant Officer JJ Leybourne

Lean-manning Impact on DC within the RNZN

Today's presentation

- RNZN and the New Zealand Context
- Training and Assessment Capabilities
- DC and Firefighting issues and Emerging Requirements

New Zealand - Geographically

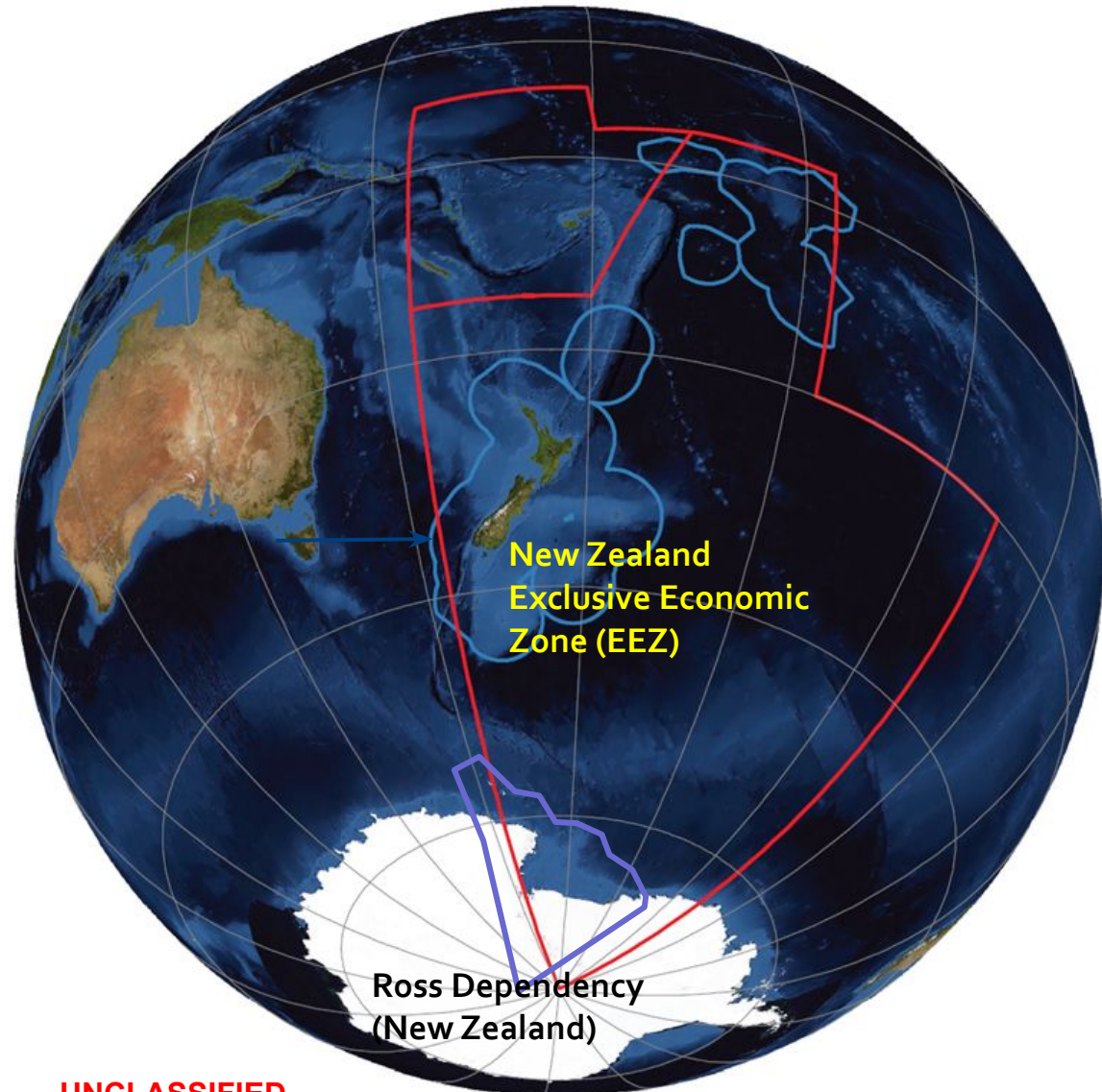


Our Area of Responsibility

Fourth largest EEZ.
15 times the size of New Zealand's landmass.

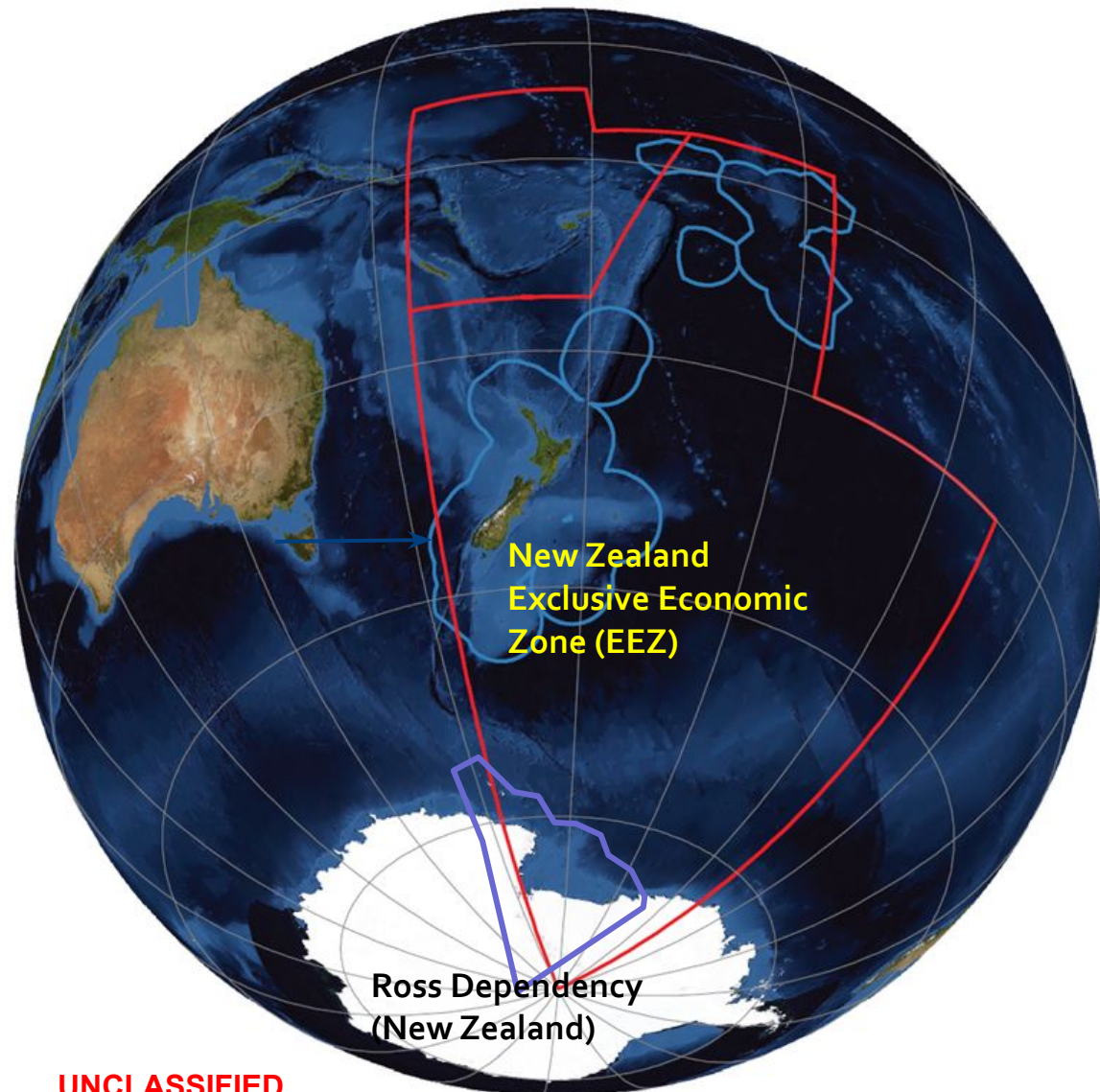
15,000 km coastline.

Largest Search and Rescue region in the world, with more than 10,000 commercial vessels transiting annually.



RNZN Overarching Vision

*To be a world-class
Navy
for a large
maritime nation*



RNZN Historical Influences

- Creation of RNZN - Oct 1941
- Superseded formation of NZ Division of the RN - 1921
- RN provides doctrinal cornerstone with naval training and policy
- Shared naval warfare experiences and losses



RNZN DC Training and Assessment

- Sea Safety Training Squadron
-Individual training specifically for CBRNDC and Sea Survival
- Maritime Training Group –
Collective training/coaching with Fleet Force Generation



Fundamental DC Challenges for RNZN

- Last battle damage incident experiences WWII
- Proportionally limited range of significant peacetime damage incidents over last thirty years
- Significant reduction in CBRND capability generation
- Continued maintenance of partner Navies contacts network
- Ongoing reliance/availability on 'Lessons Learnt' from partner Navies for significant both peacetime and warfare incidents - fires, floods, collisions, toxic gas, etc

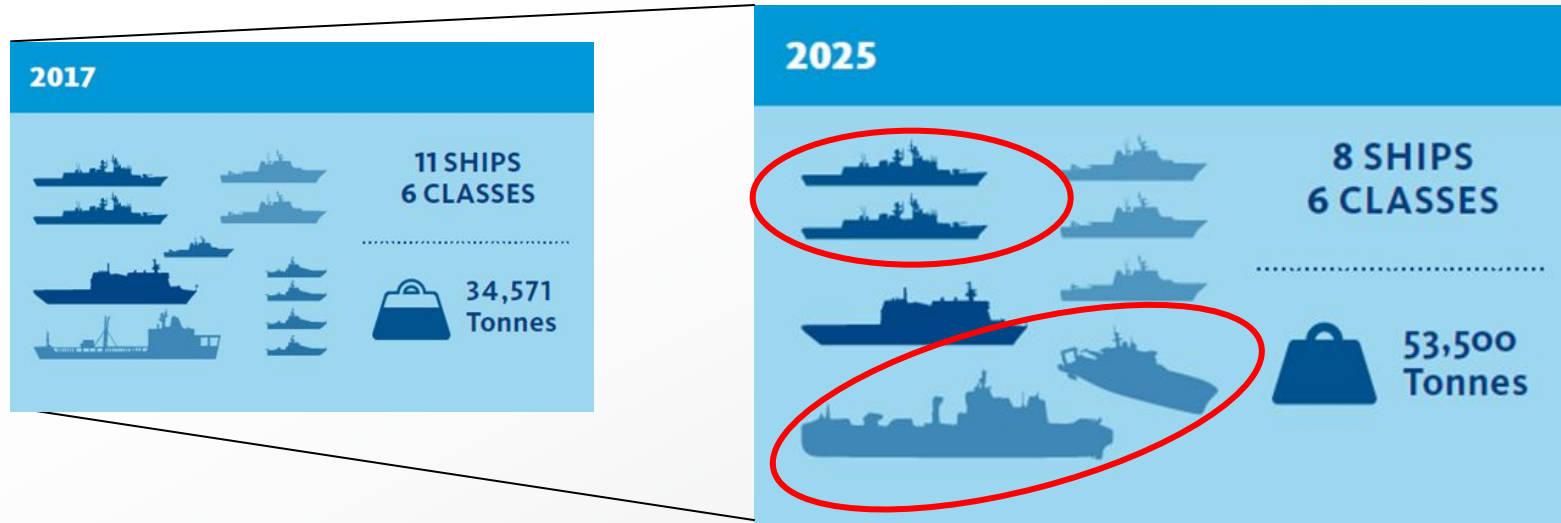
Covid Manning Response - NZDF and RNZN

- AOG response from Apr 2020 to May 2022
- 6200 NZDF service personnel involved with Isolation and Quarantine Operations
- Accelerated attrition rate across NZDF especially over last two years, just under one third in total



RNZN Future Fleet Outlook as at 2015

Concerns Impacting Capability



- Accepted increase in RNZN personnel and new skills range required
- Accepted Introduction into Service efforts vice BAU 2019-2021
- Accepted increased tempo in FORGEN

Our Navy

Naval Combat Force



Naval Patrol Force

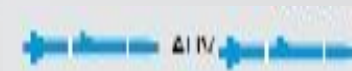


Naval Support Force



Naval Littoral Force

- Dive & Hydrographic Support Vessel
- Expeditionary Reconnaissance
- Mine Countermeasures
- Maritime Explosive Ordnance Disposal
- Survey, Search, & Recovery



Covid Manning Impacts - RNZN

- Delay to completion of Anzac Frigate Upgrade
- Focus on Introduction and Acceptance Into Service of new platforms – continued but extended
- Marine Training Group Force generation challenging and restricted to lower end of Fleet Unit operational capability
 - Safety Readiness Check
 - Targeted Shakedown
 - No MFU WUP's
- Delays to DC equipment upgrade programmes
- Crawl/Walk vice Walk/Run

RNZN Post Covid Regeneration Challenges

- Critical crewing positions in Fleet
- Host of strategies to raise, train, sustain and retain sea going personnel
- Ship Specific Collective CBRNDC organisation development beyond CMS
- Maritime Training Group Organisational Knowledge Shortfall - last Frigate WUPE 2017
- Combat Force Focused Forgen – Ready to Fight
- Re-establishment of partner Navy contacts

RNZN DC Challenges - Summary

Post Covid challenges have exacerbated Fundamental challenges

Focus firmly on Combat Force Forgen – Ready to Fight as Naval Organisation works to raise, train, sustain and retain sea going personnel

Progress collective DC from an essential Core Mariner Skill to an element complementary to Naval Warfare

**What is the most important
thing in the world?**

What is the most important thing in the world?

“He tāngata, he tāngata, he tāngata”

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people



