



In a boating emergency

**Radio for help on**  
**Channel 16 on VHF**  
 (distress and calling channel)

**Channel 88 (27.880 MHz)**  
 on a 27 MHz radio

**Call MRNSW on**  
**9450 2468**

**Or call**



[Events Calendar](#)

[Weather Warnings](#)

Help us save lives **DONATE Today!**

## News & Media

**Three rescued from capsized boat in late night emergency**  
 December 01, 2014



Photo: Marine vessel Point Danger 30

A late night emergency operation has saved three people left clinging to the hull of their boat after it overturned north-west of Cook Island off the Far North Coast of NSW.

The boat's crew activated their EPIRB, triggering the major search operation involving the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter, Marine Rescue NSW and the Queensland Water Police.

The Rescue Helicopter located the 6m vessel 1.5 nautical miles south-east of Tweed Heads about half a nautical mile offshore. Conditions were unfavourable with heavy swells and seas after north-east winds during the day.

A volunteer crew from Marine Rescue Point Danger responded on *Point Danger 30*, retrieving the three people from the hull of the overturned boat.

They were transported to the Tweed Heads Pumping Station Jetty in the Tweed River, arriving about 11pm, where they were met by NSW Ambulance paramedics.

This was the second EPIRB activation in the region yesterday, with another three people rescued mid-morning when their 6m tinnie was swamped by waves, causing it to capsize 13 nautical miles south-east of Tweed Heads.

A local fishing vessel was first on scene and retrieved the three before they were transferred to *PD 30* and transported back to the Tweed River for medical checks.

Marine Rescue NSW Northern Rivers Regional Controller Stephen Reading said the vessel that capsized last night had washed up on Fingal Beach just south of the pumping jetty.

"The three people on board the boat have been through a traumatic experience in the dark and cold and were immensely relieved to see the rescue crews arrive," he said.

"This emergency could have had a far worse outcome but they are incredibly fortunate that our rescue agencies are trained and equipped to the highest standards and to respond swiftly and professionally when people are in need.

"These three were not wearing lifejackets but they did manage to activate their EPIRB. I again urge everyone on board a boat to always wear a lifejacket whenever you are on the water."

Mr Reading congratulated the crew of *PD 30*, Rick Snow, Neil Swift and Chris Ingal, supported by radio operators John Hurdley, Les Green and watch officer Phil Pickering, for their skill in retrieving the boaters from open waters in the dark.

"This was greatly aided by Westpac Life Saver Helicopter keeping its spotlight trained on the stricken vessel and its crew until they were safely aboard *PD 30*," he said.

## Archive

- 2014/2013/2012/2011/2010
- December 2014 (4)
- November 2014 (21)
- October 2014 (18)
- September 2014 (12)
- August 2014 (12)
- July 2014 (32)
- June 2014 (15)
- May 2014 (16)
- April 2014 (7)
- March 2014 (16)
- February 2014 (14)
- January 2014 (20)
- December 2013 (17)
- November 2013 (11)
- October 2013 (19)
- September 2013 (16)
- August 2013 (12)
- July 2013 (9)
- June 2013 (13)
- May 2013 (15)
- April 2013 (11)
- March 2013 (9)
- February 2013 (10)
- January 2013 (12)
- December 2012 (9)
- November 2012 (10)
- October 2012 (11)
- September 2012 (14)
- August 2012 (10)
- July 2012 (12)
- June 2012 (16)
- May 2012 (18)
- April 2012 (13)
- March 2012 (14)
- February 2012 (6)
- January 2012 (5)
- December 2011 (5)
- November 2011 (7)
- October 2011 (7)
- September 2011 (19)
- August 2011 (6)
- July 2011 (5)

"This operation highlights the value of our cross-agency training and collaboration, as we saw just last weekend in the Northern Rivers regional Search and Rescue Exercise at Ballina, which brought together rescue organisations from across the district for two days," he said.

- June 2011 (9)
- May 2011 (5)
- April 2011 (16)
- March 2011 (8)
- February 2011 (11)
- January 2011 (4)
- December 2010 (4)

## Other News This Month

[Back to News](#)

 [Two rescued on Marine Rescue Moama training run](#)  
 December 13, 2014

 [Marine Rescue Merimbula rescues three tired boogie boarders](#)  
 December 11, 2014

 [MRNSW praises members on International Volunteer Day](#)  
 December 05, 2014

## Supporters



Transport  
Roads & Maritime  
Services



[Become a supporter](#)

## Stay up-to-date

Stay up to date with Marine Rescue NSW on Facebook, Twitter.



Copyright © 2014 Marine Rescue NSW. All rights reserved.



Marine Rescue NSW, Building 1, 202 Nicholson Pde Cronulla, NSW 2000  
Phone: 02 8071 4848 Fax: 02 9969 5214

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#)

Design by [iMarketSpace](#)