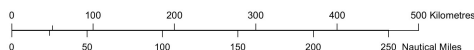# Volunteer Marine Rescue Service Communications Guide

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VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE SERVICES WESTERN AUSTRALIA

■ Volunteer Marine Rescue Services (VMRS) Groups

▭ VHF Repeater Range - Channels 21, 22 & 80 to 82 (Nominal 60Nm)

▭ 27MHz Analog Channels Range (Nominal 25Nm)

▭ Other VHF Channels Range (Nominal 35Nm)

| 0 | 100 | 200 | 300 | 400 | 500 Kilometres |
| 0 | 50 | 100 | 150 | 200 | 250 Nautical Miles |

DISCLAIMER: All information depicted in this map is correct as at creation date.
FESA does not accept any responsibility for assumptions made after this date.

Map created by FESA Spatial Services
Drawn by YP Lee on 29/06/2010 (Updated on 18/05/2015)
VMRS locations and radio channels from VMRS
Our Ref: I:\Products & Services\Operations\Volunteer Marine Rescue
Service\VMRS\VMRS_Communications_guide_A0_WA_1_2010.mxd

COCOS ISLAND VMR678
VHF 16
REPEATER CHANNELS
VHF 20 & 28

CHRISTMAS ISLAND VMR686
VHF 16
REPEATER CHANNELS
VHF 80, 81 & 82

EAST KIMBERLEY VMR 699
Larcrosse Island VHF 81
The Bastion VHF 80
Wyndham (East Kimberley) VHF 16

EAST KIMBERLEY

DERBY VMR 694
Koolan Island
(Stand alone local area only)
VHF 82
Derby
VHF 16
27MHz 88

DERBY

BROOME VMR 650
VHF 16 & 72
26mhZ 88 & 91
Water Bank Tower
VHF 22

BROOME

PORT HEDLAND VMR 691
VHF 12 & 16
27MHZ 88

PORT HEDLAND

PORT WALCOTT VMR 689
Cape Lambert VHF 81
Port Walcott
VHF 16,
27 MHz, 88 & 94

PORT WALCOTT

WEST PILBARA VMR 685
VHR 11 & 16
27MHz 86 & 88

WEST PILBARA

ONSLOW VMR 683
VHF 16
27MHz 88

ONSLOW

EXMOUTH VMR 682
Harold E. Holt
VHF 22
Exmouth
VHF 16,
27 MHz, 88 & 90
Charles Knife Canyon
VHF 21

EXMOUTH

CORAL BAY VMR 679
Ningaloo Station VHF 80
Coral Bay VHF 16
27MHz 88 & 90
Warroora VHF 82

CORAL BAY

CARNARVON VMR 676
VHF 16 & 73
27MHz 88 & 91

CARNARVON

SHARK BAY VMR 675
VHF 16 & 72
27MHz 88 & 90

SHARK BAY

KALBARRI VMR 673
Kalbarri
VHF 16
27MHz 88 & 90
Red Bluff
VHF 80

KALBARRI

GERALDTON VMR 670
Geraldton
VHF 16
27MHz 88 & 91
Moresby Range
VHF82
Abrolhos - Rat Island
VHF81

GERALDTON

PORT DENISON VMR 667
VHF 16
27MHz 88 & 91

PORT DENISON

LEEMAN VMR 664
VHF 16
27MHz 88 & 91

LEEMAN

JURIEN BAY VMR 661
Mt. Leseuer
VHF 21
Jurien Bay
VHF 16 & 73

JURIEN BAY

LANCELIN

LANCELIN VMR 688
VHF 16 & 73
27MHz 88, 91 & 96

TWO ROCKS VMR 677
VHF 16 & 73
27MHz 88 & 91

TWO ROCKS

ROTTNEST ISLAND
(Repeater Station)
VHF 81

FREMANTLE VN6DI
VHF 16 & 73
27MHz 88 & 90

ROCKINGHAM VN6KC
VHF 16 & 73
27MHz 88 & 90

ROCKINGHAM

MANDURAH VMR 611
VHF 16 & 73
27MHz 88 & 91

MANDURAH

TURNER HILL
(Repeater Station)
VHF 82

NATURALISTE VMR 631
VHF 16
27MHz 88 & 91

NATURALISTE

BUNBURY VMR 634
VHF 16 & 67
27MHz 86 & 88

BUNBURY

BUSSELTON VMR 640
VHF 16 & 80
27MHz 88 & 91

BUSSELTON

MARGARET RIVER VMR 628
VHF 16 & 71
27MHz 88

MARGARET RIVER

WALPOLE VMR 619
Walpole
VHF 16 & 67
27MHz 88
Telstra Site
VHF 21

WALPOLE

PEACEFUL BAY VMR 616
Peaceful Bay
VHR 16 &72
27MHz 88 & 96
Mt. Shadforth
VHF 22

PEACEFUL BAY

AUGUSTA VMR 625
Augusta
VHF 16
27MHz 88
Hill View Golf Course
VHF 82

AUGUSTA

WINDY HARBOUR VMR 620
Windy Harbour
VHF 16
27MHz 88 & 91
Cathedral Rock
VHF 81

WINDY HARBOUR

DENMARK VMR 613
VHF 16, 72 & 77
27MHz 86, 88 & 94

DENMARK

ALBANY VMR 610
Green Range
VHF 81
Albany
VHF 16 & 73
27MHz 86 & 88
Mt. Clarence
VHF 82

ALBANY

BREMER BAY VMR 607
Bremer Bay
VHF 16
27MHz 88
Tooreburrup Hill
VHF 80

BREMER BAY

HOPETOUN VMR 604
VHF 16
27MHz 88

HOPETOUN

ESPERANCE VMR 601
6 Mile Hill
VHF 22
Esperance
VHF 16 & 21
27MHz 92 & 94
Howick Hill
VHF 21

ESPERANCE

VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE LINK WITH LIFE

Log On Log Off!

Log On with your nearest Volunteer Marine Rescue Services group when going out on the water, giving your:

- call sign or vessel name
- departure point and time
- intended destination
- trip intention
- number of people on board
- fuel supply
- expected time of return

When you return, remember to **Log Off.**

FESA

⚠ **Warning:**

Distances of VHF radio communications vary greatly due to such factors as geographic location, antenna height above water and equipment used.

As such the ranges depicted should not be considered as reliable.

Repeaters simply extend the communications range for a vessel allowing it to be heard by any other vessels or coast stations within range of the repeater, but may not be monitored at all times.

Prior to their departure, mariners are encouraged to contact the coast station in the area to determine the extent of coverage for their voyage and the monitoring hours of the coast station.

Marine Radio Communications Chart

Group	Call Sign	27 MHz	UHF	VHF	MF/HF	Phone
Albany Sea Rescue	VMR610	88, 90	Y	16, 81, 82	4125	0427 923 557
Augusta Sea Rescue	VMR625	88	-	16, 82	N	0408 907 966
Bremer Bay Sea Rescue	VMR607	88	2	16, 80	N	0429 374 171
Broome Sea Rescue	VMR650	88, 91	Y	16	N	0447 912820
Bunbury Sea Rescue	VMR634	88	-	16	4125	0438 937 038
Busselton Sea Rescue	VMR640	88, 91	-	16, 74, 80, 22	N	0407 755 715
Carnarvon Sea Rescue	VMR676	88, 91	-	16, 73, 81	4125	(08) 9941 3613
Christmas Island VMR	VMR686	N	-	16, 74, 80,	N	(08) 9164 7000
*Cockburn Sea Rescue	VH6CL	88,90	N	16, 73, 82	N	(08) 9410 1544
Cocos Island VMR	VMR678	N	-	16, 20, 28	N	0428 425 874
Coral Bay Sea Rescue	VMR679	88, 90	Y	16, 80, 82	4125	0429 425 874
Denmark Sea Rescue	VMR613	88, 94	-	16, 77, 22	N	(08) 9848 3899
Derby Sea Rescue	VMR694	88	-	16, 81	2182 , 4125	0419 959 376
East Kimberly VMR	VMR699	88	-	16, 80, 81	N	(08) 9161 1747
Esperance Sea Rescue	VMR601	88	Y	16, 21, 22	2182 , 4125	0419 869 655
Exmouth Sea Rescue	VMR682	88, 90	Y	16, 21, 22	Y	048 183 416
Fremantle Sea Rescue	VN6DI	88, 90		16, 73,81, 82	2182, 4125	(08) 9335 1332
Geraldton VMR	VMR670	88, 91	5	16, 72, 82	4125	0427 643 543
Hopetoun Sea Rescue	VMR604	88	8	16, 21	N	0428 383 302
Jurien Bay Sea Rescue	VMR661	88, 91	Y	16, 21	4125	(08) 9652 1950
Kalbarri Sea Rescue	VMR673	88,90,96	20	16, 80	4125	0428 265 500
Lancelin Sea Rescue	VMR688	88, 91	Y	16, 22	4125	(08) 9655 1289
Leeman Sea Rescue	VMR664	88, 91	6	16, 73	4125	(08) 9953 1164
Mandurah VMR	VMR611	88, 91	-	16, 73, 82	4125	0409 081 801
Margaret River Sea Rescue	VMR628	88	-	16, 72, 80	N	0428 387 286
Naturaliste Sea Rescue	VMR631	88, 91	6	16, 74, 80	4125	(08) 9756 8262
Onslow VMR	VMR683	88	-	16	N	0429 688 714
Peaceful Bay Sea Rescue	VMR616	88, 96	15, 2	16, 77,22	4125	(08) 9840 8108
Port Denison Sea Rescue	VMR667	88, 91	-	16, 73	2182, 4125	0419 936 313
Port Hedland Sea Rescue	VMR691	88	-	16	N	(08) 9173 3055
Port Walcott Sea Rescue	VMR689	88,	-	16, 81	N	0439 870 995
Rockingham Sea Rescue	VN6KC	88, 90	-	16, 73, 81, 82	4125	(08) 9527 9988
Shark Bay VMR	VMR675	88, 90	-	16	N	0429 481 446
Two Rocks Sea Rescue	VMR677	88, 91	-	16, 73	N	(08) 9561 5777
Walpole Sea Rescue	VMR619	N	N	16, 21	N	(08) 9840 1527
West Pilbara Sea Rescue	VMR685	88	-	16, 73	N	0437 978 774
*Whitfords Sea Rescue	VJ6LQ	88, 90	N	16, 73	4125	(08) 9401 3757
Windy Harbour VMR	VMR620	88, 91	2	16, 81	2182, 4125	(08) 9840 1527

*Not members of VMRWA

VHF Repeater Stations

A network of strategically located marine VHF repeater stations has been commissioned by both Government and private organisations along the WA Coast. Coastal VHF Repeaters significantly extend the range of VHF communications.

To determine if a repeater network is available in your locality you should switch to a repeater channel and briefly hold the microphone switch down and release it. If a brief 1 second tail (burst) of noise is heard then you are activating the repeater. If not, you are probably out of range.

To discourage lengthy conversations, a time restriction facility that normally limits individual transmissions to 30 seconds can be programmed by the owner of the repeater if required. We urge all users to treat these channels as they would any other VHF emergency channel with respect by limiting any communication to that which is absolutely essential.

Other repeater stations are operated by Port Authorities and Commercial Operators and some are shown on Department of Transport Marine charts where advised. Additional information on Repeater Stations will be included as VMRWA is advised.

Nearest Town / VMR	Repeater Site Name	VHF Channel
Wyndham	The Bastion Lacrosse Island	80 81
Derby	Koolan Island	81
Broome	The Water Bank Tower	22
Christmas Island		80 81 82
Coco (Keeling) Island		20 28
Port Walcott	5 KP Tower	81
Exmouth	Charles Knife Canyon Harold E Holt Naval Base	21 22
Coral Bay	Warroora Ningaloo Station	80 82
Kalbarri	Red Bluff – Water Corp site	80

Nearest Town / VMR	Repeater Site Name	VHF Channel
Geraldton	Rat Island – Abrolhos Group - TBC Moresby Range	81 82
Jurien Bay	Mount Lesueur	21
Lancelin	Nilgen	22
Perth Metropolitan	Rottnest Island	81
Mandurah	Turner Hill	82
Dunsborough	Mount Duckworth	22
Cape Naturaliste	Radar Hill	80
Augusta	Hillview Golf Course	82
Windy Harbour	Cathedral Rock	81
Walpole	Young's Hill	21
Denmark/Peaceful Bay	Mount Shadforth	22
Albany	Mount Clarence Two Peoples Bay	82 81
Bremer	Bremer Bay	80
Hopetoun	Hopetoun	21
Esperance	Howick Hill 6 Mile Hill	21 22

Logging On / Off with
Volunteer Marine Rescue

Most of the Volunteer Marine Rescue Groups provide a log on / log off service.
The idea being that you LOG ON with the VMR Group and let them know who you are, where you are going and when you will be due back. Then you can go off and enjoy your day knowing that someone knows where you are and when you should be home. If you then get into difficulty and are overdue Volunteer Marine Rescue have a good starting point for searching for you.
When you get back in from your day on the Water DON'T FORGET to LOG OFF with the VMR Group so they know you are back safe and sound – otherwise you will start a search party happening when you're already home.

Logging On

When Logging on the following information is what you will need to provide the VMR Group with:

- Your Call sign – this is either the name/registration of your boat, or if you are a member of a VMR group your group allocated call sign plus the registration number.
- Where you have departed from…..
- Where you are heading to…..
- How many People on Board (POB)
- How much fuel you have
- Your estimated time of return (ETR)
- If you are not local to the area, the radio operator may ask you for further information like a description of your vessel, emergency contact no. and car or trailer registration no.

On the next page we will go through the radio process of how to log on

An example LOG ON sequence could go something like this:

Boat Owner: *VMR619   VMR619   VMR619*
This is vessel
Harlequin   Harlequin   Harlequin
requesting Log on on VHF Channel 21 Do you receive? Over

VMR Response: *Harlequin   Harlequin   Harlequin*

This is
VMR619   VMR619   VMR619
Please Proceed with your logon
Over

Boat Owner: *VMR619   This is vessel   Harlequin*

We have departed the town jetty
heading out to fish around Goose Island 2 nautical miles
south of the inlet
There are 3 people on board
We have 60 litres of fuel
and our estimated time of return is 1500 hours
Over

VMR Response: *Harlequin   this is VMR619*

Log on confirmed
we have you heading to fish around Goose Island 2 nautical miles
south of the inlet.
3 persons on board
60 litres of fuel
and an estimated time of return of 1500 hours
Is this correct?
Over

Boat Owner: *VMR619   this is Harlequin*

that is correct
Over

VMR Response: *Harlequin   this is   VMR619*

Have a good day on the water and we will talk to you on your return
This is VMR619 clear and standing by for any further traffic

Logging Off

When you return from your day out on the water it is MOST IMPORTANT that you LOG OFF with the Volunteer Marine Rescue Group.

The log off process is a very simple matter of calling up the VMR group and letting them know you have returned.

An example LOG OFF sequence could go something like this:

Boat Owner: *VMR619   VMR619   VMR619*

this is vessel
Harlequin   Harlequin on VHF   Harlequin
Channel 21 Do you receive? Over

VMR Response: *Harlequin   Harlequin   Harlequin*

this is

VMR619   VMR619   VMR619
Please Proceed

Over

Boat Owner: *VMR619   this is vessel   Harlequin*

We have returned to the town jetty
and wish to log off
Over

VMR Response: *Harlequin   this is VMR619*
We hope you had a good day on the water and
will speak to you next time you are out and
about

This is VMR619 clear and standing by for any
further traffic

Extending your stay

If the weathers good and you're having a good time, sometimes you might want to stay a little longer at that favourite fishing spot or diving/snorkelling the rocks or reef around that island. No problem, simply call up your VMR group and let them know you'd like to change your estimated time of return to a later time.

From all the VMR Groups in WA Have a great time on the Water and Remember

Phonetic Alphabet

A	Alpha	J	Juliet	S	Sierra
B	Bravo	K	Kilo	T	Tango
C	Charlie	L	Lima	U	Uniform
D	Delta	M	Mike	V	Victor
E	Echo	N	November	W	Whiskey
F	Foxtrot	O	Oscar	X	X-ray
G	Golf	P	Papa	Y	Yankee
H	Hotel	Q	Quebec	Z	Zulu
I	India	R	Romeo		

Pro Words

The following is a small summary of correct words to use for radio protocols.

Correct	You are correct
Correction	An error has been made and the correct message will be sent
I say again	Used when repeating all or part of a message
I spell	Used to indicate that you are about to spell the next word phonetically
Mayday	A distress signal not normally used in land communications and only used in an emergency.
Out	Transmission has ended and a reply is not required.
Over	Transmission has ended and a reply is expected.
Read Back	Receiving call sign is to repeat the message back to sender. This assists in showing the message was received and understood.
Received	Message received and understood. (*Romeo* and *Roger* are still acceptable but "*Received*" is preferred)
Say again	Repeat your entire message. Used when the message is not understood.
Send	Ready to receive a message.
Sitrep	Situation Report
Verify	Used when repeating part of a message you want clarified.
Wait	Indicating a pause is required in transmission.