



 **MARITIME**
NEWZEALAND

WHO WE ARE

At Maritime New Zealand (MNZ) it's our mission to lead and support the maritime community to take responsibility for ensuring our seas are safe, secure and clean, on behalf of all New Zealanders.



The Manaia, the ancient Māori symbol for guardianship, sits alongside MNZ's name and reflects our role, to:

- ▶ make life at sea **safer**
- ▶ **protect** the maritime environment from **pollution**
- ▶ ensure New Zealand ports and ships are **secure**
- ▶ provide a **24/7 search** and **rescue** service

Carrying out this work are 150 staff spread around the country. While most are based at our head office in Wellington, we also maintain a regional office in each of the 10 major ports, and have dedicated search and rescue and marine pollution response services based in Lower Hutt and Auckland, respectively.

MNZ is a Crown entity governed by an independent board appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister of Transport. We are accountable to government, the maritime industry and the people of New Zealand. The MNZ Director is appointed by the board to manage the organisation, and has independent statutory powers under the Maritime Transport Act 1994.



SAFE SEC

CURE CLEAN





OUR MARITIME ENVIRONMENT

New Zealand's maritime environment is diverse, dynamic and changing. It provides valuable employment, trade, tourism and recreational opportunities for people on our seas, rivers and lakes.

Our diverse maritime community includes around 450,000 pleasure craft, 3,800 commercial vessels, and a small number of New Zealand flagged vessels (including interisland ferries) – as well as a range of smaller ferries carrying millions of passengers each year.

With more than 90% of our trade carried by sea, there are 800 foreign vessels making almost 6,000 New Zealand port

visits each year – while 100 commercial jet boats and 300 whitewater rafts carry around 450,000 passengers on our inland waterways annually, generating significant economic benefits for New Zealand.

MNZ has a very important role to ensure that all maritime activities are carried out safely, with minimal impact on the environment and on our nation's security.

WHAT WE DO – A SNAPSHOT



The wide range of maritime activity generates a large number of functions and responsibilities for MNZ. These include standards development, seafarer qualifications and licensing, oil spill prevention and response, search and rescue, inspection of foreign and New Zealand flagged ships, port and ship security, commercial and recreational vessel safety, accident investigation, and aids to navigation. What we do touches the lives of many New Zealanders, as well as international visitors and sea-borne traffic, on a daily basis.

Setting safety and environmental protection standards

MNZ carries out research and analysis to provide technical policy support, and safety and environmental advice to government. This leads to the development of maritime and marine protection rules made by the Minister of Transport, and MNZ codes and guidelines.

Rules are also made to reflect international standards set by the International Maritime Organization, promoting consistent levels of maritime safety and marine protection around the world.

Ship registration and seafarer licensing

We are also responsible for registering New Zealand ships and licensing seafarers. Registration is compulsory for larger vessels and for recreational vessels making overseas voyages. Registration provides nationality and proof of ownership, like a “passport” for ships.

Seafarers employed on commercial vessels need to be trained and qualified to maintain minimum standards for safety of life at sea. MNZ manages the granting and renewal of all New Zealand maritime qualifications.



Commercial shipping – safe ship management

Some 3,800 commercial vessels operate in New Zealand, carrying out activities as diverse as whitewater rafting, fishing, Cook Strait ferry crossings, and international cargo voyages.

Making sure these vessels operate safely and securely and meet the proper maritime standards is the responsibility of MNZ, through its safe ship management (SSM) system. SSM also puts the responsibility for operating safely on the owners and skippers of these vessels, who are required to develop their own specific safety practices for their operation, which are then audited. Our safety auditors also work with adventure tourism operators, including whitewater raft and jet boat operators, to ensure safety.

Staff work from the 10 major ports around the country, regularly inspecting and auditing vessels to ensure they meet internationally-agreed safety standards. This includes New Zealand vessels, such as Cook Strait ferries and large cargo ships, under what is called flag state control. We also have similar responsibilities to ensure the safety of foreign vessels visiting New Zealand.

International shipping – maintaining global safety standards

With thousands of port visits carried out by hundreds of visiting foreign vessels each year, MNZ has an important role to make sure that these vessels comply with various international safety and environmental protection conventions that New Zealand is party to.

These conventions are set by the International Maritime Organization, a branch of the United Nations, which is made up of 168 member states, including New Zealand.

We carry out hundreds of inspections of foreign visiting ships each year and where appropriate we can detain or impose conditions on these vessels if we have concerns over their operation, or they otherwise fail to meet these standards. This activity is called port state control (PSC).

In 2008, MNZ carried out 561 initial PSC inspections of visiting foreign ships, and 360 follow-up inspections. Eight ships were detained for serious deficiencies.



Pleasure boat safety – staying on top

We are responsible for promoting safe recreational boating on New Zealand's seas, rivers and lakes. Whether you have a kayak, jet ski, waka, sail or power boat, you must be a responsible skipper. This means knowing the rules of the water – such as keeping a proper lookout at all times – and having the right equipment, which includes the right size lifejacket for everyone on board.

Research into the common factors in recreational boating deaths has seen development of our four key safety messages:

- ▶ **Wear your lifejacket**
- ▶ **Check the weather**
- ▶ **Take emergency communications equipment**
- ▶ **Avoid alcohol.**

These messages are part of the national boating safety strategy, which uses a mix of education and legislation to target key causes of recreational boating deaths.



MNZ also employs a team of small craft boating safety advisors who promote important safety messages to boaties. They are supported by a national network of volunteers who work in their own communities, often at boat ramps and boat clubs, to inform and educate boat users.

Accident investigations and reporting – lessons learnt to help others

One of the key reasons for incident and accident investigations is to share the knowledge gained, to help prevent similar events from happening to others.

While the circumstances of every investigation will vary, MNZ will often make safety recommendations designed to alert others to potential safety issues. In a small number of cases, where there has been a serious breach of the law, enforcement action may be taken.

The reporting and investigation of accidents is also critical in helping MNZ and other agencies to gather important data on incidents and accidents to better understand what causes them. This leads to targeted safety campaigns, identification of particular safety improvements, and channelling of resources into appropriate areas.



Search and rescue – saving lives

Dozens of people are rescued from danger on our seas, inland waters and mountains each year, and hundreds more receive valuable assistance, thanks to the Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand (RCCNZ) – a professional 24/7 search and rescue response service.

RCCNZ is staffed by a team of trained search and rescue officers, who co-ordinate all major aviation, land, maritime and emergency beacon-related search and rescue operations within New Zealand's search and rescue region. This area covers some 30 million square kilometres, and is one of the largest in the world. RCCNZ works closely with Police, Coastguard and other rescue agencies to help those in trouble.

Every year RCCNZ responds to an average of 1,200 incidents. Since forming in 2004, RCCNZ has saved the lives of over 450 people, and provided valuable assistance to a further 2,500.

RCCNZ monitors all emergency distress beacon activations within the search and rescue region, and ensures that the right search and rescue response gets underway as soon as possible. RCCNZ also maintains the beacon registration database, and it is vital that this is kept up-to-date by beacon users.

Maritime radio – a communication lifeline

MNZ maintains the 24/7 maritime radio distress network, which covers New Zealand and the South Pacific. Because maritime radio is often the main communication lifeline between vessels and land, the network is staffed by trained radio operators, who listen for all radio communications and distress messages. They also broadcast valuable safety information, including marine weather forecasts and advice about shipping hazards.

Navigation aids – safeguarding our coastline

In a country with more than 15,000 kilometres of coastline, much of it rugged and remote, having reliable aids to navigation, including lighthouses and light beacons, is essential to help guide vessels safely around our coast.

As part of this responsibility we maintain a network of 141 aids to navigation, including 23 “classic” lighthouses and 75 light beacons. In addition, a number of lighthouses, light beacons and markers within harbour limits are maintained by various port companies, facility operators and regional councils.



Marine pollution response **– preserving our unique marine environment**

As part of our mission to ensure our seas stay clean, MNZ has established the Marine Pollution Response Service (MPRS), based at Te Atatu, Auckland. MPRS is staffed by a dedicated team of trained oil spill response experts, who look after the stockpiles of specialist oil spill response equipment and provide oil spill exercises and training opportunities to 400 regionally-based oil spill responders from around New Zealand.

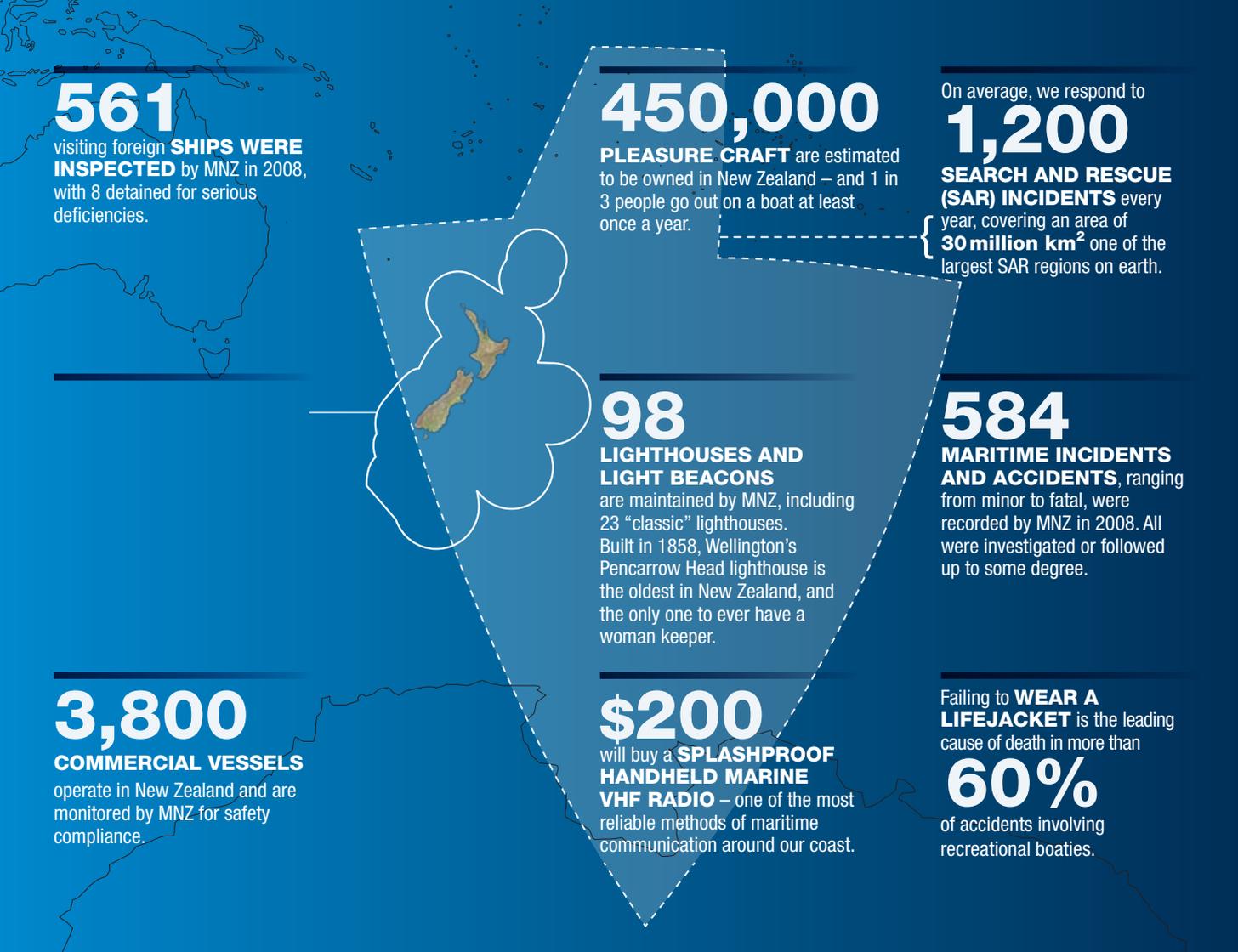
MPRS's role is to minimise the effects of pollution from ships and offshore oil and gas platforms, and act as the lead agency in managing all major oil spills. A three-tiered response system has been developed and refined over time, and has proven effective in responding to marine pollution incidents.

Port security **– protecting our shores**

With more than 90% of our country's imports and exports transported by sea, it is extremely important that this trade is safe and secure, with minimal risk to New Zealand.

This means all vessels that visit New Zealand's ports and harbours must comply with security regulations set out in various New Zealand and international rules.

MNZ achieves this through a programme of security assessments, checks and inspections of ports and vessels, as well as training exercises and information and resource sharing with a range of other government agencies, such as the New Zealand Customs Service, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Biosecurity New Zealand, and Police.

A blue background with a white outline map of New Zealand and surrounding regions. The map is divided into several sections by dashed white lines, each containing a statistic. The New Zealand islands are highlighted in a light brown color. The statistics are arranged in a circular pattern around the map.

561

visiting foreign **SHIPS WERE INSPECTED** by MNZ in 2008, with 8 detained for serious deficiencies.

450,000

PLEASURE CRAFT are estimated to be owned in New Zealand – and 1 in 3 people go out on a boat at least once a year.

On average, we respond to

1,200

SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) INCIDENTS every year, covering an area of **30 million km²** one of the largest SAR regions on earth.

A white outline map of New Zealand is centered on a blue background. The map is surrounded by a dashed white border. The New Zealand islands are highlighted in a light brown color.

98

LIGHTHOUSES AND LIGHT BEACONS

are maintained by MNZ, including 23 “classic” lighthouses. Built in 1858, Wellington’s Pencarrow Head lighthouse is the oldest in New Zealand, and the only one to ever have a woman keeper.

584

MARITIME INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS, ranging

from minor to fatal, were recorded by MNZ in 2008. All were investigated or followed up to some degree.

3,800

COMMERCIAL VESSELS

operate in New Zealand and are monitored by MNZ for safety compliance.

\$200

will buy a **SPLASHPROOF HANDHELD MARINE VHF RADIO** – one of the most reliable methods of maritime communication around our coast.

Failing to **WEAR A LIFEJACKET** is the leading cause of death in more than

60%

of accidents involving recreational boats.

SAFE
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CLEAN

TELEPHONE +64 4 473 0111 FREEPHONE (NZ) 0508 22 55 22 | www.maritimenz.govt.nz

New Zealand Government

