



**ROYAL CANADIAN MARINE
SEARCH & RESCUE**
Saving Lives on the Water

6040 East Sooke Rd.
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Request for Assistance Instructions – RCMSAR Stations

As per the MOU with the Province, one of RCMSAR's secondary functions is to be prepared to support local and provincial government response agencies on a request for assistance basis. The provincial request for assistance authority being the Provincial Duty Manager (PDM).

The province can be contacted 24/7 by various requesting agencies (RCMP, GSAR, BCEHS, Local Governments/Emergency Program Coordinators (EPC's) and others) by calling the Emergency Coordination Centre at **1-800-663-3456**.

When the province is considering a Request for Assistance by RCMSAR, the following process will be used:

- **Station contacted through pager – Code 3456**
- **Coxswain to call Emergency Coordination Center 1-800-663-3456**
 - Contact Person – **Ask for Provincial Deputy Manager (PDM)**
 - **MUST** State with RCMSAR for Marine Assistance Request
 - The PDM will provide all the details and information on the assistance request and the Coxswain will need to decide if the mission is feasible.
- **Coxswain decides if able to respond/support request**
 - List of approved activities can be found in Annex A of the RFA Guide
 - Limited to provide support to the Province within 10nm of base.
 - Station assessment – Crew/Time/GAR - readiness considerations for CCG/JRCC SAR activities should be considered as well.
 - Any support activities not described in the MOU list of approved activities or requests exceeding the 10nm limit must be approved by HQ Director of Readiness or Operations Manager.
- **If Go – receive request # from PDM**
 - Muster crew
- **Advise MCTS and follow regular RCMSAR procedures**
 - Advise that you are supporting a provincial request for assistance and will be available for any higher priority taskings from JRCC.
 - **DO NOT** contact the JRCC directly as they will be informed of your activities via MCTS.
 - If a primary SAR request is needed/tasked by the CCG/JRCC you will need to respond in the most appropriate manner, as would be initiated if you were on the water for a training activity and a JRCC call was received.
- **Tasking Completed – close out request with call to PDM**
 - RTB normal ops – update MCTS
 - File in SMS as EMBC tasking



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Please Note: there may be other means by which you/Station are contacted, possibly by other local responders, who are wanting RCMSAR support. If this occurs, you will need to direct the response agency to contact the province/EMBC by **1-800-663-3456** to request this support. **You are not authorized under the provincial MOU unless the PDM directs you and provides a Task Number directly.**

Furthermore, **you do not need authorization from JRCC to proceed with a request for assistance with the Province, unless the request is clearly a JRCC mandated marine SAR incident**, such as a person in the water, missing boater, etc. If you suspect the incident falls under the JRCC mandate, ask the PDM if JRCC is aware and have been contacted to support this incident.

For further clarification around support activities to the province and approved requesting agencies, please read the RCMSAR Request for Assistance (RFA) Guide and MOU which can be found on SMS. Please note that any engagement you have at the station level with local responders to clarify the MOU opportunities are at your discretion and other agencies do not need to notify/contact EMBC unless they are requesting assistance from RCMSAR.