

1. Before the present regulations establishing five ammunition dumping areas in depths over 600 metres were brought into force in 1955, it was the practice to dump ammunition in any suitable area off the New Zealand coast adjacent to the loading point providing the depth was greater than 200 metres.
2. Ammunition has been found inside the 200-metre line, especially in the Hauraki Gulf area and in waters around the Hen and Chicken Islands (35° 55' S, 174° 45' E approx). The area within 5 cables of the shores of the Hen and Chicken Islands is potentially dangerous.
3. The areas referred to in (1) above are defined as being within a radius of 5 nautical miles of the following positions:
 - (a) 34° 40' S, 174° 50' E
 - (b) 36° 28' S, 176° 20' E
 - (c) 41° 44' S, 175° 01' E
 - (d) 43° 15' S, 174° 00' E
 - (e) 46° 00' S, 171° 13' E
4. A disused explosive dumping ground area exists in the Hauraki Gulf between Tiritiri Matangi Island and the Noises centred in position 36° 38' S., 174° 57' E .
5. The areas are shown on the appropriate charts.

Authority: Royal New Zealand Navy

1. Seismic surveys are occasionally undertaken off the New Zealand coast in connection with hydrocarbon exploration. It is seldom practical to publish details of the areas of operation except in general terms and vessels carrying out seismic surveys may be encountered without warning. Two types of surveys are practised:
 - (a) **Seismic reflection surveys**

This is by far the most common form of operation. The survey vessel tows multichannel receiver cable up to 6 km in length, at a depth of a few metres, with the end marked by a tailbuoy and radar reflector. The seismic energy source is usually an array of airguns mounted below large marker buoys and towed immediately behind the vessel. The arrays may have lateral extent of a hundred metres or more.
 - (b) **Seismic refraction surveys**
 - (i) Single vessel operation: The seismic vessel tows a conventional source array (e.g. airguns) away from a stationary sonobuoy. The buoy contains an amplifier and radio transmitter which transmits the received signals to a shipboard recorder. In the rare case of long range (20 - 30 nautical miles) experiments, explosive charges are used.
 - (ii) Two vessel operation: One vessel tows a conventional reflection acquisition system (generally a cable of 1.5 nautical miles in length) away from another vessel at a fixed location firing a source array.
2. Survey vessels generally carry the signals described in Rules 23 (a), 24 (a) and 27 (b) and (c) of the *International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972*.
 - (a) They may also show the signals **PO** and **IR** (International Code):
 - *IR (India Romeo)**
 - 'I am engaged in submarine work (underwater operations). Keep clear of me and go slow.'
 - * The use of this signal does not relieve any vessel from compliance with the *International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972*.
 - PO (Papa Oscar)**
 - 'You should pass ahead of me (or vessel indicated)'
 - (b) The shooting vessel may display signal **B** (International Code) or at night a single red light in addition.
3. Survey vessels are unable to manoeuvre freely and masters should therefore give them a wide berth of at least 5.5km.
4. Refraction survey vessels occasionally keep radio silence if charges are fired by radio so as to avoid uncontrolled firings. Vessels being called by light by a survey vessel should therefore answer by the same means and not by radio or radiotelephone.
5. Further information can be found in "Chapter 3" of the *Admiralty Publication, The Mariner's Handbook (NP 100)*.

Authority: Maritime New Zealand