

Former *Annual New Zealand Notice to Mariners, No. 5*, published 1 July 2025 is cancelled. This is a repetition of the former notice.

Authority: New Zealand Defence Force (Headquarters Joint Force New Zealand), Civil Aviation Authority

Use of Towed Submerged Arrays in Firing Practice and Exercise Areas

- Warships operating within firing practice and exercise areas may stream towed bodies outside of notified firing and exercise periods. The length and depth of towed arrays may impact the manoeuvrability of a warship, and its ability to manoeuvre in accordance with the requirements of the International Maritime Organization's *International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea 1972* (IRPCS) (as adopted by Maritime New Zealand's *Maritime Rules Part 22*). All warships towing submerged arrays will monitor safety relative to other vessels and if necessary display the prescribed lights and/or shapes indicating any special condition that may affect manoeuvrability, as prescribed in the IRPCS. Vessels operating in vicinity of warships within the promulgated firing practice and exercise areas are to:
 - Operate with particular caution, noting the possibility that towed submerged arrays may be deployed; and
 - Vessels engaged in fishing are to do so with particular caution, and are to keep the vessel and any deployed gear at a safe distance.
- Firing and bombing practices and defence exercises take place intermittently in a number of areas off the coast of New Zealand.
- In view of the responsibilities of range authorities to avoid accidents, limits of practice areas are not shown on New Zealand and British Admiralty charts, and descriptions of areas do not appear in the *ADMIRALTY Sailing Directions, New Zealand Pilot* (NP51). Diagrams of danger areas are included at the end of this notice. However, such range beacons, lights, and marker buoys which may be of assistance to the mariner, or targets which might be a danger to navigation, will be shown on charts and, when appropriate, mentioned in NP51.
- The principal types of practices carried out are:

Type	Description	Remarks
(a) Air-to-Ground; or (b) Air-to-Sea	(i) Bombing practice from aircraft at ground targets; or (ii) Aircraft firing at towed or stationary targets on sea or land.	Warning signals are usually shown. Firing takes place to seaward of land targets. All marine craft operating as range safety craft or targets will display, for identification purposes, while in the vicinity of the danger area by day, a large red flag at the masthead.
(c) Sea- or Ground-to-Air	Anti-aircraft firing from shore batteries or ships from AA guns or machine guns at a target towed by aircraft as in (a)(ii) above, or at balloons.	Ships show a red flag by day; a night signal is not shown.
(d) Air-to-Air	Aircraft fire at a large white or red sleeve or flag (which may be illuminated by a bright white light) towed by another aircraft moving on a steady course.	
(e) Ground-to-Sea; or (f) Sea-to-Sea; or (g) Sea-to-Ground	Firing from shore batteries or ships at fixed or floating targets.	
(h) Rocket or Guided Weapons Firing	May be (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (g) above.	All such firings under Clear (Air and Sea) Range procedure. Devices are generally incorporated whereby the missiles may be destroyed should their flights be erratic. Ships show a red flag by day; a night signal is not shown.

Notification of Practices

Warnings will not be issued in respect of exercise areas D130 and M306 as these areas are considered to be in continual use. These areas are described in the following pages.

5. For the information of ships at sea, warnings of practices will be notified by:
- The broadcast of VHF and R/T (Radio-Telephony) messages which will be promulgated during evening and morning transmission times before any practice takes place. For times and frequencies of these transmissions, see *Annual New Zealand Notice to Mariners, No. 9*;
 - New Zealand Notices to Mariners* (NTMs), if practices are to be of long duration, i.e. seven days or more;
 - Additional warnings of Army live-shell practices only will be notified by advertisement in a newspaper or newspapers within the port concerned not less than twenty-four hours before a practice begins and by the New Zealand Maritime Radio regional station for the port concerned not less than twelve hours before any practice;
 - In addition to 4(a) for all firings in the New Zealand area, whether in prescribed areas or not, firing warnings are to be passed on R/T 2182 kHz and VHF Channel 16, five minutes prior to the commencement of live firing, every 30 minutes thereafter, and immediately on completion of firings. The nature of the broadcast will be "...I am about to commence gunnery practice....." or "...I have completed gunnery practice..."

Form of Warning

6. In order to promulgate the danger areas, warnings are transmitted:
- Via SafetyNet on Inmarsat-C ECG (Coastal Area Z); and
 - As an R/T transmission to the relevant coastal area(s) affected by such warnings as Coastal Navigation Warnings (see *Annual New Zealand Notice to Mariners, No. 9*, paragraphs 7 – 9).

Note: Warnings may be promulgated in NTMs, see paragraph 5(b) above.

Warning Signals – Visual

7. These consist of a large red flag by day and a fixed red light at night. The absence of any such signal cannot, however, be accepted as evidence that a practice area does not exist. Warning signals are shown from half an hour before practice commences until it ceases.
- Ships and aircraft carrying out night exercises may illuminate with white, green, or red flares.

Caution

8. The range authorities are responsible for ensuring that there should be no risk of damage from falling shell splinters or bullets to any vessel that may be in a practice area. If a vessel is in an area where practice is in progress, the vessel should maintain its course and speed, but, if prevented from doing so by the exigencies of navigation, the vessel should endeavour to clear the area at the earliest possible moment. Practices will not normally take place while a vessel is in a danger area, but the areas must be cleared as soon as possible after the warning has been shown.

Clear Range Procedure

9. The following limits are used by RNZAF crews engaged in dropping live weapons:
- The dropping area is to be at least 30 nautical miles (15 miles*) from the nearest land, outside the 100-metre line and at least 20 nautical miles (10 miles*) from all shipping;
 - The visibility is to be greater than five nautical miles and all attacks are to be made from below the cloud base. The target is to be visible at the time of the drop;
 - The area through which and into which any weapons will pass or fall is to be clear of all air and sea traffic.

*Limits used for practice weapons.

Ordnance Brought to the Surface

10. Fishermen operating in the vicinity of firing practice and exercise areas may occasionally bring unexploded missiles or portions of them to the surface in their nets or trawls. These objects may be dangerous and should be treated with great caution and jettisoned immediately (fixing the position, if possible).

No attempt should be made to tamper with them or bring them back for inspection by naval authorities –
For more information, see *Annual New Zealand Notice to Mariners, No. 6*.

Danger Areas (D) and Military Operating Areas (MOA)

11. Full details of permanent and temporary special use airspace areas are listed in the New Zealand Air Navigation Register available through the New Zealand Civil Aviation Authority www.aip.net.nz

Military Operating Area (MOA) – area where military operations, including firings, may take place.

Danger Area (D) – area where dangers may be present, e.g. firings.

Selected Military Operating Areas (MOA)

12. Note:

(a) Inland ranges and those affecting aircraft only are not included in this notice;

(b) These areas are shown on the plans at the end of this notice; and

(c) All coordinates are given in terms of WGS84 datum, (expressed in degrees, minutes and seconds).

No.	Area	Activity
M102	Bay of Islands, Northland All that area bounded by great circle lines from 34° 30' 00"S., 174° 50' 00"E. to 35° 00' 00"S., 174° 50' 00"E. to 35° 00' 00"S., 174° 15' 00"E. to 34° 30' 00"S., 174° 15' 00"E. and to 34° 30' 00"S., 174° 50' 00"E.	Naval firing and air bombing
M103	South Head, Northland Area bounded by a circle radius 3 NM centred on the point 36° 28' 39.1"S., 174° 09' 38.4"E.	Air firing and bombing
M106	Kaipara, Northland All that area bounded by a great circle from 36° 21' 02.8"S., 174° 18' 07.8"E. to 36° 32' 37.4"S., 174° 20' 50.2"E. thence Anti-clockwise along the arc of a circle of 20 NM radius centred on 36° 47' 12.5"S., 174° 37' 52.4"E. to 36° 36' 53.0"S., 174° 16' 33.8"E. thence Along great circle lines to 36° 38' 00.0"S., 174° 09' 00.0"E. to 36° 33' 00.0"S., 173° 58' 00.0"E. to 36° 20' 05.9"S., 174° 01' 00.4"E. to 36° 18' 38.9"S., 174° 09' 46.2"E. and to 36° 21' 02.8"S., 174° 18' 07.8"E.	Military aircraft manoeuvres, naval and air firing, and bombing
M204	Cuvier Island (Repanga Island), Bay of Plenty All that area bounded by great circle lines from 35° 50' 00"S., 176° 25' 00"E. to 36° 20' 00"S., 176° 25' 00"E. to 36° 20' 00"S., 175° 50' 00"E. to 35° 50' 00"S., 175° 50' 00"E. and to 35° 50' 00"S., 176° 25' 00"E.	Naval firing and air bombing
M205	Bay of Plenty A All that area bounded by great circle lines from 35° 20' 00"S., 177° 17' 30"E. to 36° 20' 00"S., 177° 17' 30"E. to 36° 20' 00"S., 176° 25' 00"E. to 35° 50' 00"S., 176° 25' 00"E. to 35° 50' 00"S., 175° 50' 00"E. to 35° 20' 00"S., 176° 25' 00"E. and to 35° 20' 00"S., 177° 17' 30"E.	Naval firing and air bombing
M206	Bay of Plenty B All that area bounded by great circle lines from 35° 20' 00"S., 178° 10' 00"E. to 36° 20' 00"S., 178° 10' 00"E. to 36° 20' 00"S., 177° 17' 30"E. to 35° 20' 00"S., 177° 17' 30"E. and to 35° 20' 00"S., 178° 10' 00"E.	Naval firing and air bombing

(Continued)

Selected Military Operating Areas (MOA), *Continued*

No.	Area	Activity
M207	Bay of Plenty C All that area bounded by great circle lines from 36° 20' 00"S., 177° 17' 30"E. to 37° 20' 00"S., 177° 17' 30"E. to 37° 20' 20"S., 176° 25' 00"E. to 36° 20' 00"S., 176° 25' 00"E. and to 36° 20' 00"S., 177° 17' 30"E.	Naval firing and air bombing
M208	Bay of Plenty D All that area bounded by great circle lines from 36° 20' 00"S., 178° 10' 00"E. to 37° 20' 00"S., 178° 10' 00"E. to 37° 20' 00"S., 177° 17' 30"E. to 36° 20' 00"S., 177° 17' 30"E. and to 36° 20' 00"S., 178° 10' 00"E.	Naval firing and air bombing
M302	Taranaki Bight All that area bounded by the arc of a circle of 18 NM radius centred on 40° 12' 34.6"S., 175° 23' 31.1"E. Anti-clockwise from 40° 05' 47.7"S., 175° 01' 46.2"E. to 40° 19' 34.8"S., 175° 01' 51.2"E. Thence along a great circle line to 40° 35' 39.6"S., 174° 11' 00.9"E. thence Clockwise along the arc of a circle of 60 NM radius centred on 40° 12' 34.6"S., 175° 23' 31.1"E. to 39° 49' 42.4"S., 174° 11' 18.3"E. thence Along a great circle line to 40° 05' 47.7"S., 175° 01' 46.2"E.	Various Permanently activated during daylight hours
M306	Raumai, Manawatu All that area bounded by a circle of 4 NM radius centred on 40° 12' 16.0"S., 175° 13' 29.4"E.	Air bombing and air-to-surface firing Permanently activated
M504	Wairarapa Coast All that area bounded by great circle lines from 40° 25' 46.9"S., 178° 02' 11.0"E. to 41° 02' 03.9"S., 177° 18' 50.1"E. to 40° 42' 44.5"S., 176° 50' 27.5"E. to 40° 06' 17.7"S., 177° 33' 51.5"E. and to 40° 25' 46.9"S., 178° 02' 11.0"E.	Air gunnery, surface-to-air and surface-to-surface firings, ships and submarine exercises

Selected Maritime Danger Areas (D)

13. Note:

- (a) Inland ranges and those affecting aircraft only are not included in this notice;
 (b) These areas are shown on the plans at the end of this notice; and
 (c) All coordinates are given in terms of WGS84 datum, (expressed in degrees, minutes and seconds)

No.	Area	Activity
D125	Tiritiri Matangi Island, Hauraki Gulf / Tikapa Moana All that area bounded by great circle lines from 36° 31' 31.8"S., 174° 54' 56.9"E. to 36° 35' 30.0"S., 174° 54' 56.9"E. to 36° 35' 30.0"S., 174° 52' 40.4"E. to 36° 36' 36.3"S., 174° 52' 40.4"E. to 36° 36' 17.5"S., 174° 50' 20.0"E. to 36° 35' 42.0"S., 174° 49' 00.0"E. to 36° 31' 31.8"S., 174° 49' 00.0"E. and to 36° 31' 31.8"S., 174° 54' 56.9"E.	Surface-to-air and surface firing
D130	Whangaparāoa, Hauraki Gulf / Tikapa Moana All that area bounded by great circle lines from 36° 33' 50.2"S., 174° 52' 40.4"E. to 36° 36' 36.3"S., 174° 52' 40.4"E. to 36° 36' 17.5"S., 174° 50' 20.0"E. to 36° 35' 42.0"S., 174° 49' 00.0"E. to 36° 33' 50.2"S., 174° 49' 00.0"E. and to 36° 33' 50.2"S., 174° 52' 40.4"E.	Small arms firing and explosives Permanently activated

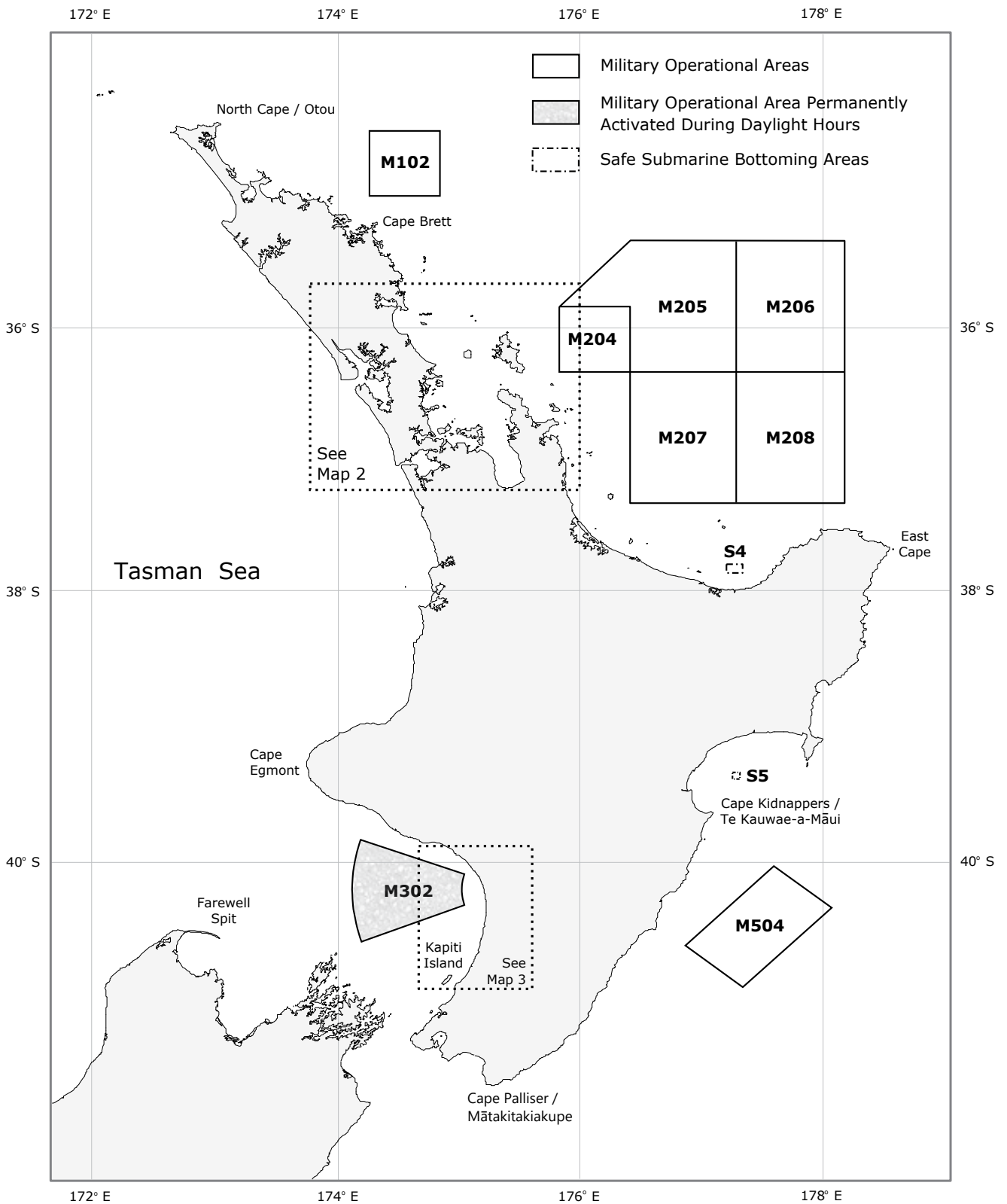
Designated Safe Submarine Bottoming Areas

14. All coordinates are given in terms of WGS84 datum (expressed in degrees, minutes and seconds).

No.	Area	Limits
S1	Hauraki Gulf / Tikapa Moana	All that area bounded by great circle lines from 36° 27' 54"S., 175° 05' 00"E. to 36° 29' 54"S., 175° 05' 00"E. to 36° 29' 54"S., 175° 02' 30"E. to 36° 27' 54"S., 175° 02' 30"E. and to 36° 27' 54"S., 175° 05' 00"E.
S2	Te Hauturu-o-Toi / Little Barrier Island	All that area bounded by great circle lines from 36° 01' 18"S., 175° 03' 15"E. to 36° 02' 51"S., 175° 06' 30"E. to 36° 04' 54"S., 175° 05' 00"E. to 36° 03' 18"S., 175° 01' 42"E. and to 36° 01' 18"S., 175° 03' 15"E.
S3	Great Barrier Island (Aotea Island)	All that area bounded by great circle lines from 36° 26' 18"S., 175° 42' 06"E. to 36° 29' 24"S., 175° 42' 06"E. to 36° 29' 24"S., 175° 38' 30"E. to 36° 26' 18"S., 175° 38' 30"E. and to 36° 26' 18"S., 175° 42' 06"E.
S4	Bay of Plenty	All that area bounded by great circle lines from 37° 47' 54"S., 177° 20' 00"E. to 37° 51' 54"S., 177° 20' 00"E. to 37° 51' 54"S., 177° 12' 00"E. to 37° 47' 54"S., 177° 12' 00"E. and to 37° 47' 54"S., 177° 20' 00"E.
S5	Hawke Bay	All that area bounded by great circle lines from 39° 18' 54"S., 177° 18' 36"E. to 39° 21' 54"S., 177° 18' 36"E. to 39° 21' 54"S., 177° 15' 00"E. to 39° 18' 54"S., 177° 15' 00"E. and to 39° 18' 54"S., 177° 18' 36"E.

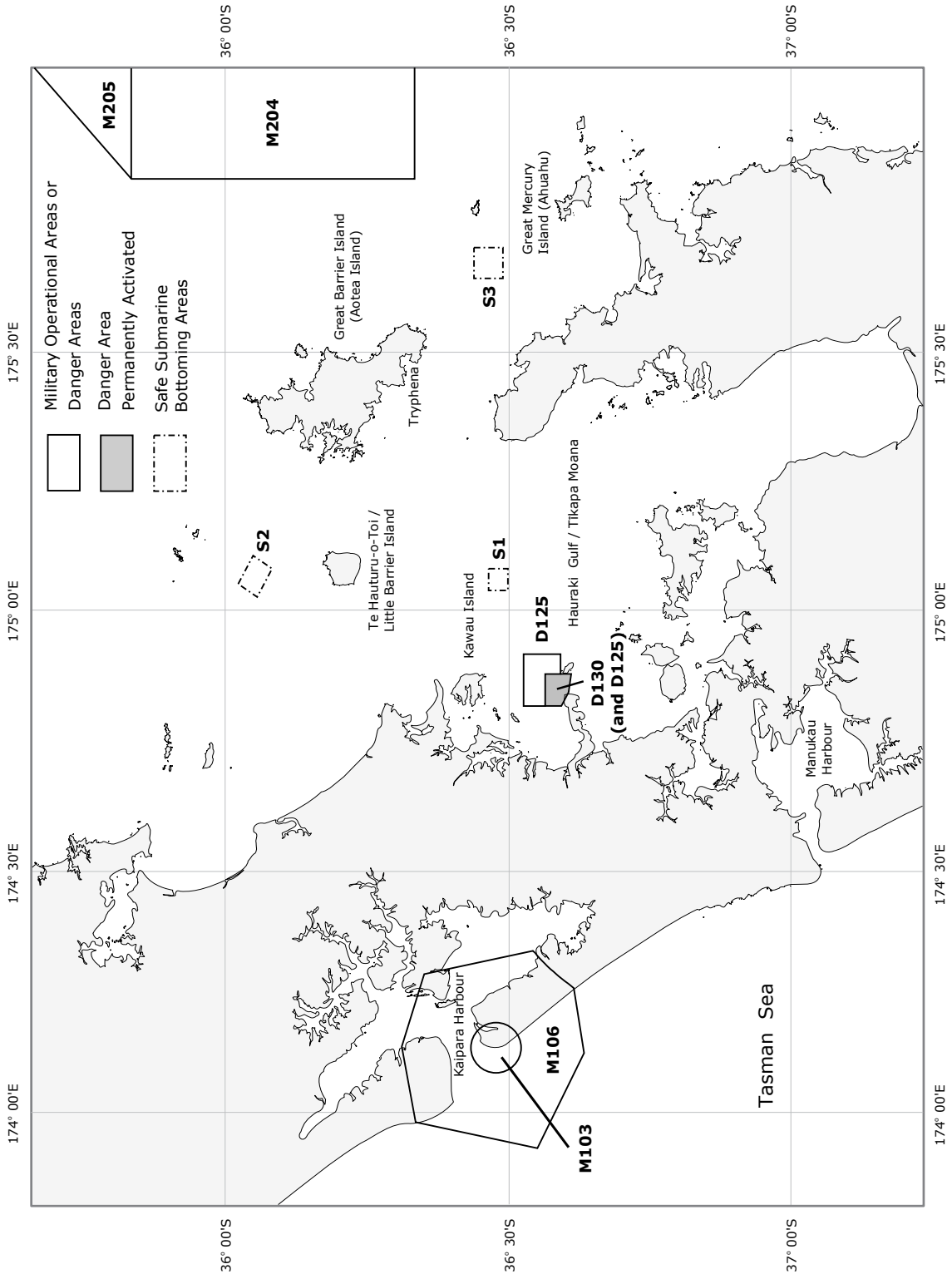
Map 1

Military Operating Areas: North Island, New Zealand



Map 2

Military Operating Areas: North Island, New Zealand – Auckland Area



Map 3

Military Operating Areas: North Island, New Zealand – Kapiti Island – Whanganui

