

Victorian Notice to Mariners

The following Notice to Mariners is published for general information.

Australia – Victoria
No. 312 (T) of 2023
East Bass Strait – Waratah Bay
UNCREWED SURFACE VESSEL (USV) OPERATIONS

Date: EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Details: Operations of a remotely piloted Uncrewed Surface Vessel (USVs) are planned out of Walkerville Beach during August, 2023. The vessel will be engaged in survey activities as part of a geophysical survey in Waratah Bay. (Figure 1 Below)

Operations will take place subject to weather and other operational factors from 9th / 10th August 2023 for an expected duration of 5-6 days.

Mariners are asked to avoid contact with the vessel and be aware of the operational area during this period.

A support vessel will escort the USV from the launch area in Walkerville and will be stationed in both Norman beach/Tidal River and Port Welshpool.

Although the USV is uncrewed, it is crewed throughout the 24 hour operation, piloted remotely using 360 degree cameras and other navigational aids.

Figure 1 indicates the operational area. The survey area boundary is indicated in Table 1 below also.



Table 1: Survey Area Boundary (WGS84)

Point	Latitude (° South)	Longitude (° East)
1	38° 48.79696	146° 03.78674
2	38° 49.34985	146° 06.02521
3	38° 53.41985	146° 06.41549
4	38° 52.85167	146° 02.98395

Table 2: Vessel Details

Name:	X 14 UNMANNED
MMSI:	232035680
Length:	4.5m
Beam:	2.2m
Speed:	3.5kts
Draught:	1.00m
Tonnage:	1,000kg



Figure 1: XO-450 USV

The USV sends real time images and situational awareness data over satellite to a team of operators keeping watch and controlling the vessel remotely 24/7.

Safety Precautions: The USV is equipped with the following to make it conspicuous to other marine traffic:

- AIS
- VHF
- Navigation Lights & Sound Signal
- Active Radar Reflector
- Superstructure Painted Yellow

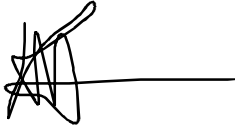
AUS Charts and Publications Affected: AUS 801, AUS 802, AU439146

Victorian Charts and publications affected: Nil

Emergency Contact Details:

Name (Role)	Telephone Number	Email Address
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Further Notice: A further Notice will be issued.



KATE MAHERAS
Director Maritime Safety

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