

White Island

Ground:

- White/Whakaari Is at VAL 3 still
- Local GNS Scientists monitoring
- Hazards include - Eruption hazards near vent. Note: ash, lava flow, and lahar (mudflow) hazards may impact areas distant from the volcano.
- Wind is around 35kms – towards the upper limit of drone capability
- From GNS: 30-60% chance of subsequent eruption within 24h
- Personnel exclusion zone out to 1km

Situation:

- White Island Eruption
- Drone Teams deployed off HMNZS Wellington
- Drone Operators working with NZ Navy
- Drone missions include - situational awareness of body location, hazard assessments and gas detection
- Assisting in gathering data for body recovery planning
- Mission estimated to extend to Friday 13th Dec

Mission:

- Support NEMA response to White Is.
- Provide situational awareness, monitor recovery operations

Execution and Actions:

- UAV Team completed 3 flight this morning to capture stills and videos
- UAV Team completed 1 gas detection mission to within 10m of the island
- Mapping mission not yet complete
- As @ 1008h – All response personnel have been evacuated out to 1000m due to eruption risk (*from GNS)
- Wind over the last 24h period is on the limit of current drone capability, therefore flights may be deferred as condition change
- All USAR Staff returned to Whakatane
- UAS Data (imagery and atmospheric readings) handed over to Police for analysis

Admin:

- UAS hardware and supporting equipment taken from Northern Base
- BU 4025 – SUB 'F2902465 White/Whakaari Is. Evnt 9/12/19
- All staff duty cover approved out until Friday
- All USAR personnel relocated to Whakatane accommodation

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- [REDACTED] – EOC Whakatane
- [REDACTED] – Operations
- [REDACTED] – NCC RPAS LO