



HELP-PLB

What Is Austravel's HELP- PLB ?

HELP- PLB is a complimentary service provided for Austravel full members who have an AMSA registered, land based 406MHz satellite **Personal Locator Beacon** as an additional "remote area safety" device, along with their HF radio.

Austravel members who walk away from their vehicle to bush walk, mountain climb, fossick for gems or prospect for gold, are at potential risk of unintended injury or a medical episode that potentially prevents them from getting back to their vehicle and HF radio - to activate the Austravel H.E.L.P. (4357) emergency call system.

A compact PLB, strapped to your belt, while away from your vehicle is a worthwhile and cost effective solution in the above situation.

Austravel does not sell or market any specific brand/model of Personal Locator Beacons; only highlighting the added potential benefit of having one whilst traversing rural and remote areas.

What's the connection between AMSA, a HF radio and a PLB ?

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) state that two-way communication via a mobile/satellite phone or radio is the most effective means of communication when in a distress situation:-

- Instant confirmation that the call has been received by emergency services;
- Ability to communicate position, nature of distress, required assistance;
- Emergency services can adequately scale the response assets according to required assistance;
- Ability to provide updates on the situation and also receive advice until emergency services arrive.
- If two-way communications are not available, then a distress beacon should be activated in situations of grave and imminent danger. This equates to when you feel you are facing a life threatening situation. This is a personal decision that is different for everybody.

HELP- PLB and AMSA Search & Rescue

Austravel's role in conjunction with **HELP-PLB**, is where Austravel members register their 406 MHz PLB, along with Austravel contact details, and note that they carry a HF radio in their vehicle (see attached).....

- potentially enables AMSA to attempt to establish HF radio contact via an Austravel incident responder using the Austravel base network; or
- make a request to Austravel to share any recent GPS or voice sched location data that we may have; which
- may add important information for AMSA in determining a search and rescue action plan.

It will be incumbent on Austravel members, who subscribe to this service, to routinely update their position each day whilst traveling in rural and remote areas for obvious reasons; via the Austravel methods described above.

AMSA 6 Form:- <https://www.amsa.gov.au/forms/406-mhz-distress-beacon-registration-form?page=6>
On-Line Registration Link:- <https://www.beacons.amsa.gov.au/>

A 406 MHz Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) can summon help if you can't get back to your HF radio to call the Austravel H.E.L.P. (4357) system.

Austravel **HELP-PLB** may be used to assist AMSA in search and rescue scenarios

- Include Austravel contact details when registering your 406 MHz PLB with AMSA
- This may assist AMSA in confirming who you are and last known location.
- Important ! ...log your GPS position often with Austravel when remote area travelling.



Austravel Safety Net Inc.
Registered Office
23 Ferguson Ave.
Northgate Qld. 4013
(A not-for-profit club)

For more information:-
Phone:- 07 2101 3456
E-mail:-
secretary@austravelsafetynet.org.au



Launch Version 1.0 February 2019