

**PRESS RELEASE**

January 20, 2026

Maritime Staff Office

(Announcement)

Mine Warfare Exercise (Ise Bay) and Japan-U.S. Bilateral MCM Exercise

The JMSDF will conduct a bilateral exercise with the U.S. Navy (USN) as described below in order to strengthen the capability of Japan-U.S. Alliance for effective deterrence and response.

1. Objectives

- (1) To improve the JMSDF's tactical capabilities
- (2) To improve interoperability with the USN

2. Period

February 1–10

3. Exercise Area

Ise Bay

4. Participating Units

(1) JMSDF

- (a) Officer in Charge of the Exercise (OCE):

RADM IKEUCHI Izuru, Commander, Mine Warfare Force

- (b) Participants

Surface Units (MST (1), MSO (2), MSC (12))

Aircraft (MCH-101 (1))

EODT

(2) USN

- (a) Officer in Charge of the Exercise (OCE):

Commanding officer of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Five (EODMU5)
dispatch unit

- (b) Participants

EODT, UUV operators

5. Type of Exercise

Mine Warfare (Mine Laying, Mine Sweeping, Mine Hunting and EOD)