



Interim Guidelines to operate Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems over Whanganui District Council parks and reserves¹

INTRODUCTION

On 1 August 2015 new rules introduced by the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand (“CAA”) came into effect. Part 101 of the new CAA Rules allows people to “fly” their Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (“RPAS”) (these are also called “drones”) without having to obtain the consent of the CAA **PROVIDED** the RPAS/drone is flown strictly in compliance of these rules i.e. permitted non certified operations.

Since 1 August 2015 no one is allowed to operate a RPAS i.e. “fly a drone” over private land without first obtaining the owner’s permission. Private land includes all land owned or administered by Council.

CAA Rules Part 101 applies to both commercial and recreational users, but is only applicable to those RPAS/drones which weigh less than 25 kgs and are fully compliant with the Part 101 provisions.

If the RPAS/drone which you operate weighs between 15 – 25 kgs it must be constructed or inspected, approved and operated under the authority of the Model Flying New Zealand association.

Any RPAS which weigh more than 25 kg OR which do not comply with CAA Rules Part 101 must be certified by the CAA under the CAA Rule Part 102.

SCOPE OF THESE INTERIM GUIDELINES

Under CAA Rules Part 101 a Remotely Piloted Aircraft is a category of unmanned aircraft. A “remotely piloted aircraft” is *“an unmanned aircraft that is piloted from a remote station and (1) includes a radio controlled model aircraft, but (2) does not include a control line model aircraft or a free flight model aircraft.”*

These interim guidelines apply to all RPAS/drones which are capable of vertical take-off and landing or are small hand launched gliders which have a wing span of less than 1.5 metres. These interim guidelines do not cover:

- Fixed wing electric powered model aircraft which have a wing span greater than 1 metre.
- Fixed wing model aircraft that are internal combustion engine (petrol) powered.
- Gliders which have a wing span of more than 1.5 metres and bungee-launched gliders.
- Single rotor helicopters that are electric powered or internal combustion engine (petrol) powered.
- Jet powered models.

¹ As at 17 November 2015.

These interim guidelines only apply to Council parks and reserves within the Whanganui District and specifically exclude Council's office buildings, libraries, museum, treatment plants, dog pound, cemeteries, roads (including those within Council parks or reserves) or road reserve. Council and its staff, contractors or authorised persons however, may when necessary use drones above these areas for property or emergency management purposes provided they comply with CAA Rules Part 101.

INTERIM GUIDELINES

IF YOU WISH TO OPERATE A RPAS/FLY A DRONE WITHIN 4 KM OF EITHER WANGANUI AIRPORT OR THE WHANGANUI BASE HOSPITAL HELIPAD:

1. Operating a RPAS/drone within 4 km of either Wanganui Airport or the Whanganui Base Hospital helipad is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** unless you have first obtained the **prior consent of both Council and the Wanganui Airport Authority. The Wanganui Airport Authority considers each consent on a case by case, flight by flight basis.** This means that while you need only seek consent from Council once for its permission to fly a drone above Council parks and reserves you must obtain the prior permission from the Wanganui Airport Authority each time you wish to fly your drone within the 4km zones of Wanganui Airport or Whanganui Bae Hospital helipad.

Additionally, because of aircraft movements in and out of Wanganui Airport and Whanganui Base Hospital helipad, the Wanganui Airport Authority consent to fly a drone within the applicable 4km airspace is subject to amendment or cessation at any time.

- This means that if you wish to fly a RPAS/drone above a Council park or reserve anywhere else within the Whanganui District i.e. not a Council park or reserve within 4 kms of either Wanganui Airport or the Whanganui Base Hospital helipad, you only need to obtain Council's prior consent.

IN ALL INSTANCES:

2. If you wish to operate a RPAS/fly a drone above a Council park or reserve you must obtain Council consent by completing and returning the form "*Request for consent to operate Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems / Unmanned Aerial Vehicles over Council parks and reserves.*"² **If you do not do so, and you fly a drone above a Council park or reserve you will be doing so illegally.**
 - **Consents issued will be valid for a 12 month period beginning 1 July and ending 5pm 30 June the following year.**
3. If your RPAS/drone weighs less than 25 kgs and you wish to operate your RPAS/ fly your drone above a Council reserve or park anywhere within Whanganui District you must comply with CAA Rules Part 101 which clearly sets out the "must do" and "must not do" with respect to operating a RPAS/flying a drone.

² This form is available from Customer Services at Council, 101 Guyton Street or our website (A-Z Services – Forms).

- Council is not responsible for enforcing compliance with the CAA Rules Part 101³ – this is the responsibility of the CAA. People breaching these rules may be fined, receive a written warning or be prosecuted.
4. Supervision from a suitably qualified person will be required for anyone wishing to operate a RPAS/fly a drone if the RPAS operator is under the age of 16.
 5. When flying your drone you must comply with the Privacy Act 1993 and not interfere with/infringe on anyone's personal privacy by flying your drone over people who are enjoying using the same Council park or reserve or by flying your drone over an adjoining property without first obtaining that property owner's permission.
 - Council expects all RPAS/drone operators to comply with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner's guidance on both personal privacy and, as RPAS/drones can be fitted with cameras/recording devices, the use of CCTV.
 6. Council expects all RPAS operators / people flying drones to use their common sense and act responsibly, complying with the following good behaviour code:
 - Stop operating your RPAS/flying your drone if asked to do so by a member of the public or Council staff.
 - Be courteous and aware of other people using the park or reserve – these spaces are often used by people for quiet enjoyment.
 - Do not fly your drone:
 - i. Above a sports field if it is in use by other people.
 - ii. Within 20 metres of overhead electrical lines.
 - iii. When there is a fire ban in force.
 - iv.
 7. You must comply with CAA Rules Part 101 or any other such CAA rules and/or regulations which apply to RPAS.

WHAT ARE THE "MUST DO'S" AND "MUST NOT DO'S"?

You must not operate a RPAS/fly a drone:

- Within 4km of either the Wanganui Airport or Whanganui Base Hospital Helipad without the prior consent of both Council and the Wanganui Airport Authority. The Wanganui Airport Authority considers each consent on a case by case, flight by flight basis. When flying your drone you must comply with all airspace restrictions.
- At night - under CAA Rules Part 101 an RPAS/drone may only be flown in daylight - practicably this means after sunrise and before sunset.
- Higher than 120 metres (400 feet) from ground level.
- Beyond the visual line of your sight i.e. you must always be able to see with your own eyes your RPAS/drone.

You must:

³ https://www.caa.govt.nz/rules/Rule_Consolidations/Part_101_Consolidation.pdf

- Complete and return the form “Request for consent to operate Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems / Unmanned Aerial Vehicles over Council parks and reserves.”
- Each time you wish to fly your drone within the 4km zone of either the Wanganui Airport or Whanganui Base Hospital Helipad you must obtain consent from Wanganui Airport Authority.
- Take all practicable steps to minimise hazards/dangers to any person, property and other aircraft.
- Always give way to crewed aircraft.
- Understand Part 71⁴ airspace designations and the airspace restrictions in the area in which you want to fly your drone.
- Obtain consent from anyone you want to fly your drone above.
- Obtain consent from the property owner or person in charge of the area you want to fly above.
- Ensure that you use the right radio frequency i.e. 433 MHz or 2.4GHz for remote control so that you do not cause interference to vital radio systems such as air traffic control, emergency services etc.
 - You must also comply with the licence conditions set out in the General User Licences and the Radiocommunications (Radio Standards) Notice 2015.
- You must comply with CAA Rules Part 101 or any other such CAA rules and/or regulations which apply to RPAS.

WHAT TO DO NOW

1. Complete and return to Council the form requesting Council consent to fly a RPAS/drone above Council parks and reserves.
2. Check the map attached as Schedule 1 to these interim guidelines to ascertain if where you want to fly your RPAS/drone is inside the 4km zones of either Wanganui Airport or the Whanganui Base Hospital helipad.
 - a. **If YES** → Contact the Wanganui Airport Manager as you must obtain consent from the Wanganui Airport authority each time you wish to fly your drone within 4km of either the Wanganui Airport or Whanganui Base Hospital helipad.

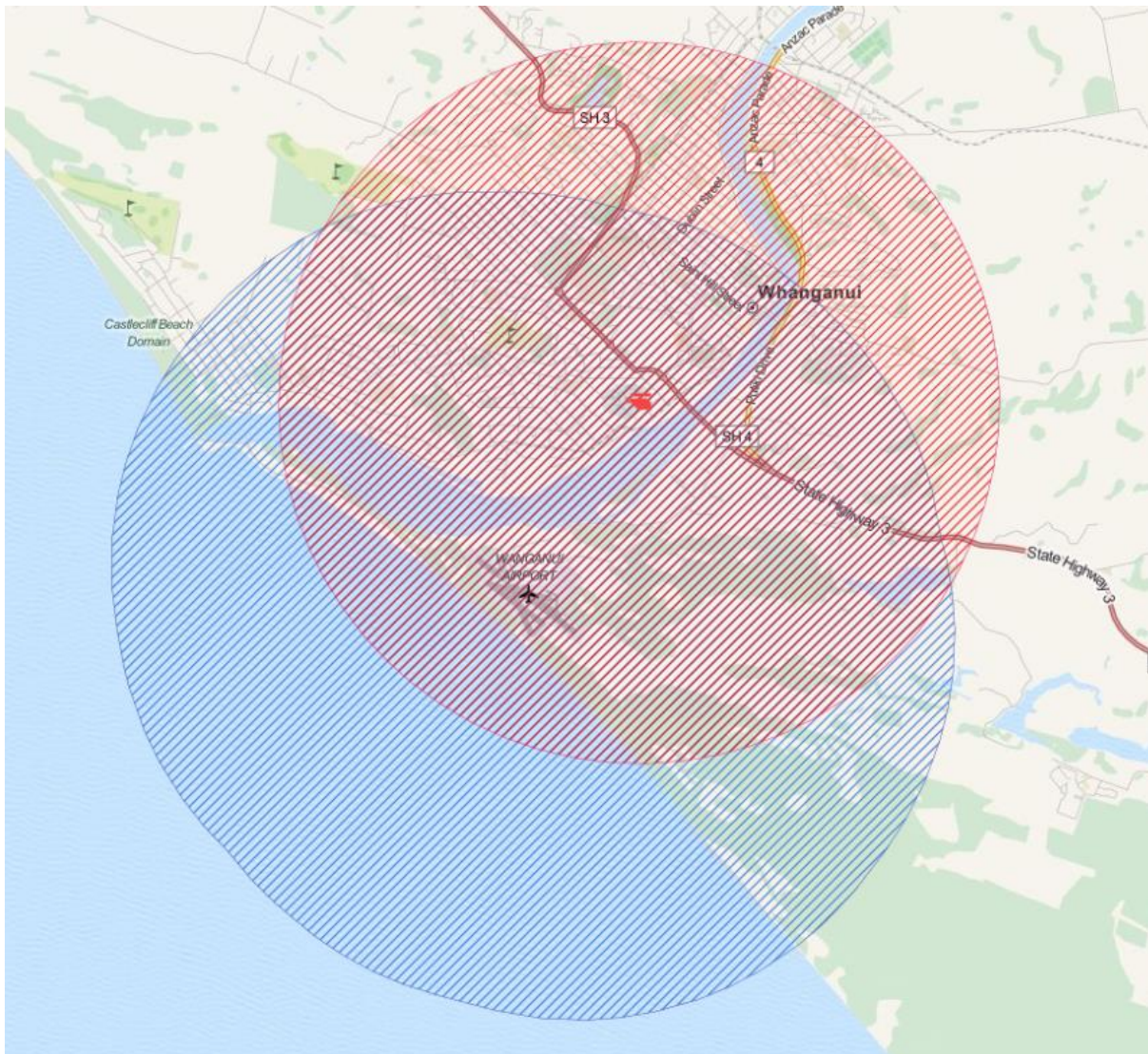
Contact Details:

Airport Manager:	Allan MacGibbon
Telephone:	021 610 851
E-mail:	Allan.MacGibbon@whanganui.govt.nz

3. Make sure you are familiar with the relevant CAA Rules and designations.

⁴ https://www.caa.govt.nz/rules/Rule_Consolidations/Part_071_Consolidation.pdf

SCHEDULE 1



Below is a list of named Council owned parks or reserves located within 4 kms of either Wanganui Airport or the Whanganui Base Hospital helipad above which you are NOT permitted to fly a drone unless you have both the consent of Council and the Wanganui Airport Authority. This list is not exhaustive – always check the map on Council’s website or the Airshare webpage <https://www.airshare.co.nz>

- Airport Reserve.
- South Spit Reserve.
- Recreation Reserve.
- Corliss Island.
- Te Opearourou.
- Putiki Esplanade Reserve.
- Eastway/Westway Reserve.
- Windsor Park - Durie Hill Bowling Green.
- Windsor Park - Durie Hill Tennis Club.
- Polson Park.
- Wanganui Bowling Club.
- Heads Road Cemetery North.
- Heads Road Cemetery South;
- Riverbank Reserve Taupo Quay.
- Ridgway Park.
- Majestic Square.
- Queens Park.
- Pakaitore / Moutoa Gardens.
- Webb Road Park.
- Purua Stream Walkway.

- Blythe Street Memorial Reserve.
- Blythe Street Reserve.
- Durie Hill Steps.
- Gonville Bowling Club.
- Balgownie Reserve.
- Lorenzdale Park.
- Braves Softball Park.
- Gonville Domain.
- Rogers Street Reserve.
- Titoki Swamp Reserve.
- Hinau Street Reserve.
- Karamu Street Reserve.
- Kakaho Estate Reserve.
- Hutton Park.
- Sand Dunes.
- London Park.
- Castlecliff Domain.
- Castlecliff Bowling Club.
- Kaierau Country Club.
- Victoria Park.
- Bens Place Walkway.
- Springvale Park.
- Riding for the Disabled.
- Handley Street Reserve.
- Racecourse.
- Liffiton Street/Carlton Avenue Reserve.
- Spriggens Park.
- Indus Street Reserve.
- Exeter Crescent Reserve.
- Wanganui Tennis and Squash Club.
- Otamatea Reserve.
- Beachcroft Reserve.
- Babbage Place Reserve.
- Wairere Road Reserve.
- Anzac Parade-Mt View Road Reserve.
- Kowhai Park South.
- Bastia Avenue Water Tower Reserve.
- St Georges Gate Reserve.
- Cornmarket Reserve.
- Riverbank Cornmarket Reserve.
- Laird Park.
- Peat Street Zig Zag & Reserve.
- Burnet Terrace Reserve.
- Tennison Oaks Reserve.
- Alexa Place Reserve.
- Dickson Crescent Reserve.
- Peat Park.
- Deer Park Reserve.
- Hillside Terrace Reserve.
- Richmond Park.
- Virginia Lake.
- Rotokawa Reserve.
- Kaitoke Lake Esplanade Reserve.
- Matarawa Stream Reserve South.
- Ikitara Road Zig Zag.
- Kawakawa Street Reserve.
- Matarawa Stream Reserve North.
- Williams Domain.
- Spurdle Street Reserve.
- Belmont Golf Course.
- Whanganui East Bowling Club.
- Kowhai Park North.
- Glen Logie Rose Garden.
- Montgomery Reserve.
- Aiken Road Reserve.