
2014 Hamilton Control Zone and Airspace Review

Initial consultation

25 October 2013

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1. 2014 Hamilton control zone and airspace review

As indicated in the CAA 2014-2016 Airspace Review Plan document, the airspace in the Hamilton aerodrome area is one of the first priority regions for review.

This priority was based on the pressures on the airspace as per the assessment criteria detailed in the 2014-2016 Airspace Review Plan.

While the implementation of performance based navigation (PBN) procedures is not planned until 2016, the pressure on the existing airspace as the result of intensive flight training operations in the Hamilton control zone and environs needs addressing in the 2014 review period.

The CAA objectives in this airspace review are to:

- De-clutter, simplify and clarify
- Take a regional approach to airspace review and change
- Reduce confusion in some airspace areas to improve safety
- Address identified “hotspots” of airspace incidents or occurrences
- Involve stakeholders to ensure all issues are assessed
- Take a long term strategic approach to airspace so changes are less frequent

2. Review Process

Civil aviation rule 71.11 requires the Director to review each current airspace designation and classification every 5 years to verify the continuing need for the airspace.

For the 2014-2016 airspace review period it is intended to take a regional approach to the review process which will allow more focussed consultation and a strategic overview of all airspace in that region. This will allow current and know future issues to be addressed at the same time to reduce on-going changes to airspace on an annual basis.

It is intended that the review should provide an assessment of airspace needs for the full five year period to ensure the stability of airspace design and associated aeronautical charting and to reduce the need for continuous amendments in the intervening 5 year.

The full list and timetable for airspace changes are in the CAA 2014-2016 Airspace Review Plan document.

Scope

This review will comprise the Hamilton control zone and airspace immediately adjacent as detailed on the C3 and C6 visual navigation charts covering the area bounded by the control areas Class D with lower limits 2500 ft overhead the aerodrome and the CTA west of Hamilton with lower limits of 4500 ft and 6500 ft. This area is shaded red on the diagram in Appendix A.

The eastern limit is coincident with the eastern boundary of the CTA/D with a lower limit of 2500 ft and that portion of the CTA/D lower limit 4500 ft south of Hamilton.

The northern limit is the control area boundaries 35 NM south of Auckland through Huntly township and the southern limit through Te Kuiti aerodrome to the coast at Taharoa aerodrome.

The western limit is the coastline from Taharoa aerodrome through Raglan aerodrome to the CTA/D boundary at 35 NM Auckland.

Users/Operators

(a) Airways Corporation of New Zealand

Airways will focus on the existing Hamilton control zone and what current issues there are in air traffic management. As well, Airways are investigating what, if any, changes may be made to current boundaries and still protect the instrument flight paths and procedures.

This assessment covers:

1. Review and establish which instrument flight procedures will be retained at Hamilton aerodrome.
2. Consider what airspace will be needed for planned performance based navigation (PBN) procedures.
3. Consider what airspace is necessary for air traffic management requirements.
4. Review control zone boundaries to ensure that they are as small as practical to contain the retained and planned instrument flight procedures.
5. Assess any changes which may be necessary to lower level control areas.

(b) Aerodrome operators

Aerodrome operators are requested to consider any proposed changes to aerodrome operations that may affect airspace use i.e. expansion to include new activities, air transport operations, addition/removal of runways.

(c) Airline operators

Feedback is sought from the airline operators as to how the current airspace is meeting the needs of the airlines, any changes would airline operators like to be made and information on proposed changes to operations at aerodromes that may impact airspace design and the control zone size.

(d) Military users

Feedback from the defence forces regarding their current and future airspace needs in the Hamilton area is sought.

(e) User groups

Airspace user groups are requested to consider how the current airspace is working, where any issues are and if it still meets the needs of users.

(f) All airspace users

All airspace users are requested to make comments/suggestions as to where any issues are and proposals for desired airspace changes.

3. Consultation

This document will be sent directly to the following organisations.

Aerodrome operators (chartered aerodromes only)

- Matamata – Matamata Piako District Council
- Raglan aerodrome – Waikato District Council
- Te Kowhai aerodrome – Rob Clear
- Hamilton aerodrome – Waikato Regional Airport Ltd
- Waikato Hospital heliport – Search and Rescue Services Ltd
- Taharoa aerodrome – BHP Steel Mining Ltd
- Taharoa Iron Sands heliport – BHP Steel Mining Ltd
- Te Kuiti aerodrome – Waitomo District Council

User Groups

- Auckland Airspace User Group
- Ardmore Flight Operations Group
- Hamilton Airspace User Group
- Gliding New Zealand
- New Zealand Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association (NZHGPA)
- NZ Rocketry Association

This document is also available on the CAA website at the following link:

http://www.caa.govt.nz/airspace/airspace_review.htm

Notifications will be sent to CAA email notification subscribers to Civil Aviation Rule Parts 61, 71 and 91.

When the request involves a specific airspace change please provide this on CAA Form 24071/01 available on the CAA website. <http://www.caa.govt.nz/Forms/24071-01.doc>

The CAA will conduct a meeting at each region following consultation to review proposals discuss and agree on finalised amendments.

If you have any further questions regarding the review process, please contact Paula Moore – contact details below.

4. Submissions

Prior to making a designation or classification of airspace, Civil Aviation Rule 71.9 requires the Director to consult with all parties that may be affected within the aviation industry.

This document forms part of the consultation process. Submissions are sought from any interested person, organisation or representative group.

Submissions are accepted either electronically or via mail.

Please address submissions to:

Group Executive Officer
Aviation Infrastructure and Personnel
Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand
PO Box 3555
Wellington 6140
Fax: 04-569-2024

Email: dianne.parker@caa.govt.nz

Reference – Hamilton Control Zone and Airspace Review

Closing date for submissions is Friday 20 December 2013.

5. Further information

For further information contact:

Paula Moore
Aeronautical Services Officer – Air Traffic Services (Airspace)
Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand
P O Box 3555
Wellington 6140

Phone: (DDI) 04 560 9525 Email: paula.moore@caa.govt.nz

S-D180-20-05 (DW1276550-0)

Appendix A

Hamilton airspace review area

