

## **GUIDELINES – USE OF DRONES AT GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS SITES**

### **PURPOSE**

This document outlines information regarding the use of drones or Remotely Piloted Aircrafts (RPA), for events and commercial filming in the Greater Sydney Parklands (GSP). It provides guidance and procedures to be followed to operate drones safely and effectively within Centennial Parklands, Parramatta Park, Western Sydney Parklands, Callan Park and Fernhill Estate.

### **LAWS & REGULATIONS**

Use of a drone will only be permitted in GSP if it is compliant with the local law and CASA regulations and operated by qualified and CASA certified persons in a controlled environment.

Operating a Drone on GSP land without written consent is an offence and a breach of Trust Regulations.

All commercial drone use regardless of size and type requires GSP approval to take-off or land on Trust land. The use of drones for recreational purposes or to capture footage of a private or corporate event or activity is prohibited on Trust land.

### **SAFETY INFORMATION**

- DO NOT fly closer than 30 meters to vehicles, boats, buildings or people without a CASA exemption - please note this also applies to trees. Commercial operators may be granted permission to fly within 15m of authorised persons in accordance with the operator's flight manual.
- DO NOT fly over any populated areas such as heavily populated parks, large events or sports ovals where there is a game in progress.
- DO NOT operate within 3 nautical miles or 5.5 km of a controlled aerodrome or helicopter landing site without CASA approval – reference can be made at Open Sky, the drone safety app approved by CASA to identify exclusion zone boundaries.
- ONLY operate your drone during daylight (unless with CASA exemption), good weather and in visual-line-of-sight. Drone operations beyond pilot's visual-line-of-sight require a CASA area approval.
- DO NOT fly above 400ft/120m Above Ground Level (AGL).
- Operations within restricted airspace requires approval from the controlling authority – this may be CASA.
- Operations within military airspace requires military approval (LOA -letter of agreement) and CASA approval.
- Operators are to operate keeping within the privacy legislation.

### **CERTIFICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED**

- CASA issued RPA Operators Certificate (ReOC)
- CASA issued Remote Pilot Licence (RePL) or UAV Operations Certificate (UOC) for each proposed operator
- A copy of the drone operating types & nominated personnel from the ReOC operations manual
- A copy of the Public Liability Insurance certificate of the drone operator's company (\$20M)
- Flight risk assessment

- Flight site map – including take-off & landing location and flight path
- Any required CASA issued exemptions or approvals e.g. flying at night, over 400ft AGL or in restricted airspace.

Operators of drones weighing less than 2kgs (Sub 2 Kilo drones) that are unable to provide the above certifications and documents will not be permitted to operate a drone on Trust land.

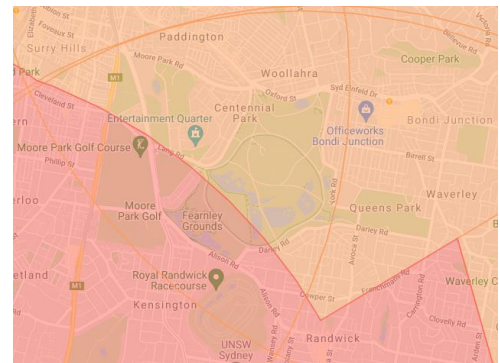
**GSP PROCEDURE- the following steps must be completed at least 5 working days prior to the proposed flying date in order to obtain Executive approval:**

- ✓ Completed Filming & Photography application form
- ✓ Copies of all the above-mentioned certifications and documents must be supplied by the applicant, including flight site plan and risk assessment
- ✓ Site visit must be scheduled with the applicant, the drone operator and the venue representative to ascertain feasibility and safety of each proposed location
- ✓ CASA approvals or exemptions for any drone flights that do not comply with the above-mentioned safety information, and any other required licences (e.g. Threatened Species Licence)
- ✓ Proof of notifying NSW Police and Roads & Maritime Services or any other relevant Public Authorities that may be impacted by the drone flight must be supplied by the applicant
- ✓ Pedestrian control plan and traffic control plan if drone operations are near pathways or roadways must be supplied by the applicant; depending on the size of your shoot this may need to include spotters, signage and/or barricading plan to enforce the required clearance from the public

Additionally, Ranger Security Officer resources may be required to be engaged through GSP at a cost to the applicant to monitor compliance to the conditions of approval.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF NOTE**

- Commercial filming including drone filming is generally not permitted at **Callan Park & Fernhill Estate**.
- Drone filming is generally not permitted at **Parramatta Park**.
- Drone filming is only permitted outside of the restricted air space (red area) at **Centennial Parklands ->**
- Additional consultation and/or permission may also be required to fly a drone near highly sensitive areas.
- Drone filming in close proximity to bats (flying fox) in particular when bats are in flight requires a Threatened Species Licence also known as Biodiversity Conservation licence. Further information on this link:  
<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/licences-and-permits/wildlife-licences/licences-to-control-or-harm/licences-to-harm-threatened-species>



**REFERENCES**

- <https://www.casa.gov.au/aircraft/landing-page/flying-drones-australia> or call CASA on 131 757
- <https://wing.com/opensky>
- <https://ok2fly.com.au/?lat=-37.81&lon=144.95&map=street&zoom=11>