



**Australian Government**

**Civil Aviation Safety Authority**

## **Terms of Reference for the Airspace Review of Shellharbour Airport, NSW (Shellharbour)**

### **Background**

Section 13 of the Airspace Act 2007 requires the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to conduct regular reviews of Australian-administered airspace. The Office of Airspace Regulation (OAR) is responsible for conducting these reviews on behalf of CASA.

The OAR determines the need and priority for an airspace review based on information provided in a Quarterly Risk Indicator Report (QRIR).

This Airspace Review will assess the suitability of the current airspace structure of the following area:

- Shellharbour Airport – 15 Nautical Miles (NM) radius
- Surface (SFC) to 7500 Feet (FT) Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL) (Below Controlled Airspace)

### **Objectives**

The OAR within CASA undertakes regular reviews of Australian-administered airspace in accordance with the Airspace Act 2007.

As part of the OAR's program of work outlined in its 2024 Strategic Plan, an Airspace Review (the Review) of the 15NM airspace volume in the vicinity of Shellharbour Airport, NSW between SFC to 7500FT AMSL will be conducted.

The objective of the study is to evaluate the appropriateness of the airspace within the vicinity of Shellharbour, recognising that safety is CASA's primary consideration against the following key criteria:

- efficient use of the airspace.
- equitable access to the airspace for all airspace users.
- national security issues.
- environment issues; and
- appropriateness of the airspace classification.

### **Scope**

The scope of the study shall include:

- the airspace architecture, assessing the volume's appropriateness for the range of aeronautical activities conducted.
- an analysis of the airspace related risks indicated by the safety incident reporting from the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) as well as the Air Navigation Service Provider (ANSP).
- circuit traffic operating at airfields and aerodromes within the vicinity.
- evaluation of traffic movements at airfields and aerodromes within the vicinity, and any analysis of future air traffic service requirements at these aerodromes.



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- Restricted and Danger Areas and their impact on traffic flow; and
- other issues determined by the study team to be applicable to the objectives.

### **Outside Scope**

The following are considered to be outside the scope of the study:

- services and facilities provided by the ANSP.
- on and off airport infrastructure which is not applicable to the objectives
- aircraft noise.

### **Duration**

The draft Airspace Review report is to be available to industry and the public for final consultation within three months of the review being approved. Target date for the draft Shellharbour Review is by the end of May 2024. The draft report is to be provided to the OAR Section Manager at least two weeks prior to the target release date.

### **Contact**

Office of Airspace Regulation (OAR)

Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA)

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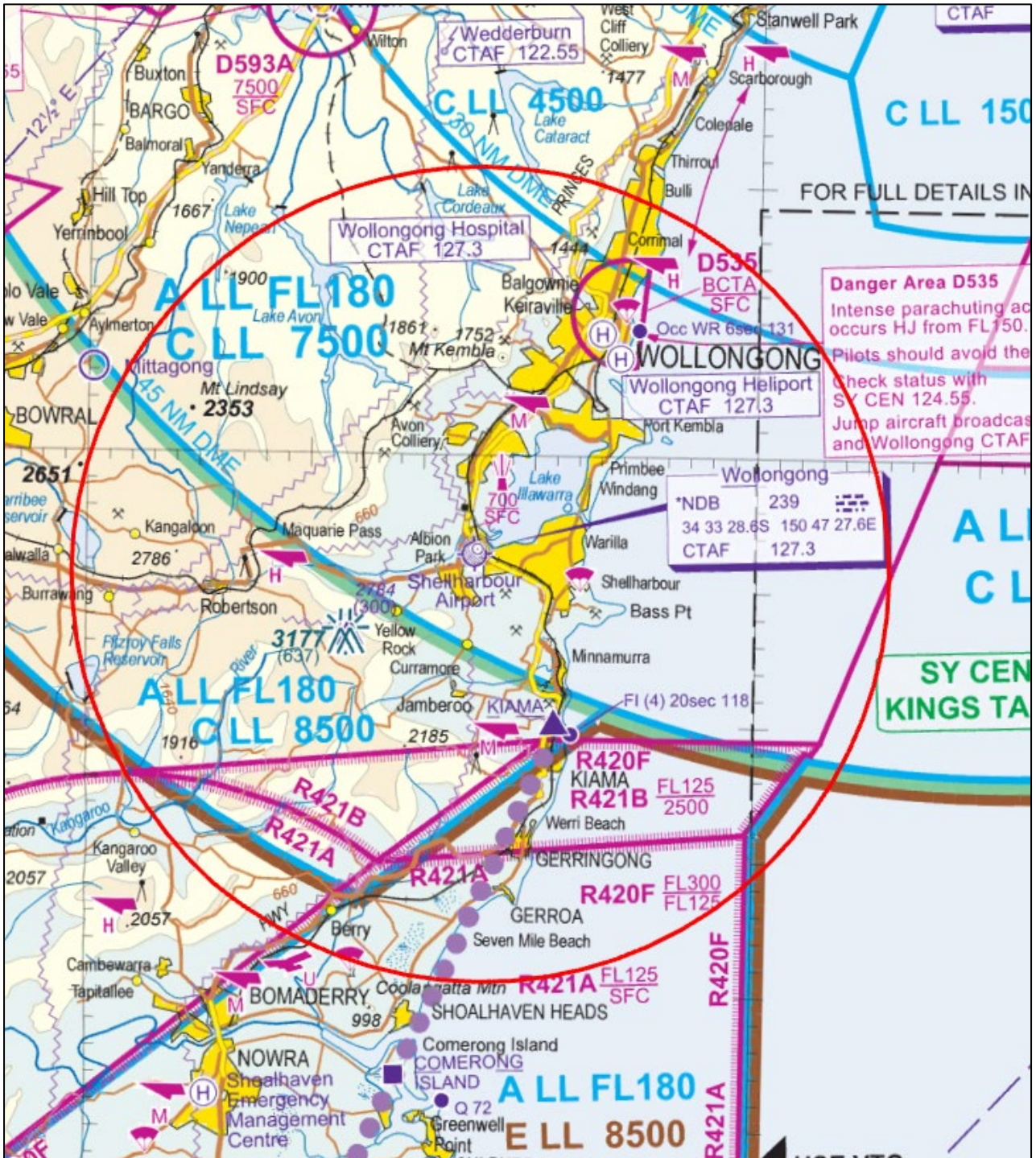


Figure 1: Airspace Review Area 15NM - Sydney VNC 30 NOV 2023