

**AVIATION STATE ENGAGEMENT FORUM**

**QUEENSLAND**

**Submission date: 24/03/2021**

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| <b>TITLE</b>                | <b>Proposed RPAS operations Central Highlands Region</b>   |
| <b>SUBMITTED BY</b>         | Rhys Mudford – <a href="#">Insitu Pacific</a> – Chief Remote Pilot: <a href="mailto:rhys.mudford@insitupacific.com">rhys.mudford@insitupacific.com</a>   |
| <b>CONSULTATION SUMMARY</b> | To raise awareness and seek feedback on proposed RPAS survey operations in the Central Highlands Region.   |
| <b>KEY ISSUES</b>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RPAS operations SFC – 4000 feet AMSL, Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS)</li> <li>• Launch and recovery from Rolleston aerodrome and an ALA near Comet</li> <li>• Regular periods with two RPA operating simultaneously</li> </ul> |
| <b>FEEDBACK TO</b>          | Rhys Mudford – Insitu Pacific – Chief Remote Pilot: <a href="mailto:rhys.mudford@insitupacific.com">rhys.mudford@insitupacific.com</a>   |
| <b>CLOSE DATE</b>           | 30 April 2021  |
| <b>ATTACHMENTS</b>          | <a href="#">Link to map</a><br>RPA Operations Central Highlands handout.pdf  |

**OVERVIEW**

Insitu Pacific is proposing to undertake aerial survey operations in the Central Highlands Region between Rolleston and an area south of Middlemount over a two week period in the May – June timeframe. We are seeking feedback from stakeholders operating in the area to further inform the planning and application approval process.

Operations will be conducted beyond visual line of sight of the operating crew and up to 4000 feet AMSL. Launch and recovery will initially be from Rolleston aerodrome (YRLL) and then from an ALA near Comet township to complete the majority of the survey. The proposed area excludes RPA operations within 10NM of Emerald aerodrome (YEML). Operational procedures will ensure the RPA does not conflict with aircraft utilising Emerald instrument approach procedures during transit to survey areas. See map below or [web link](#).

The RPA is a fixed wing aircraft with a wingspan of approximately 3 metres. It is equipped with a Mode S transponder and a barometric altimeter. The aircraft is fitted with strobe, beacon and navigation lights. RPA pilots will monitor and make VHF position reports on Emerald CTAF / Rolleston CTAF / Multicom (126.7) and BN CEN frequency (122.3). Remote pilots will respond to any traffic with position and intentions and engage in procedural de-confliction whenever necessary. The aircraft call signs will be ‘Unmanned Laser 53’ and ‘Unmanned Laser 54’.

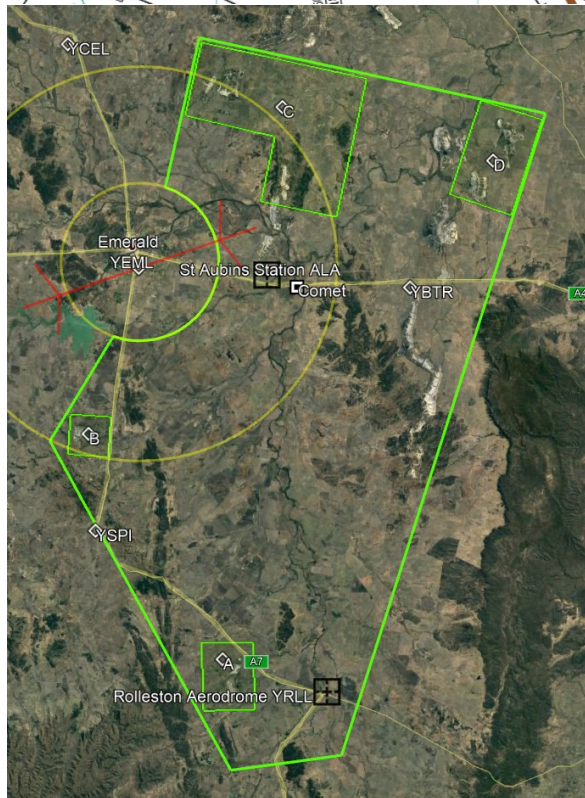
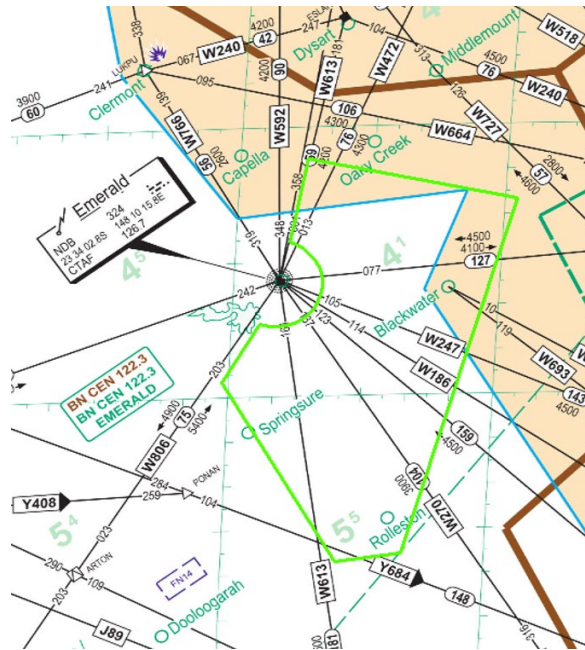
Conventionally piloted aircraft equipped with ADS-B, electronic conspicuity (EC), Mode C transponders or pilots that use the OzRunways EFB will be displayed on the remote pilot station through the use of ground based situational awareness tools. Establishing two-way VHF communications with applicable traffic is the primary tool for de-confliction and separation assurance with other air users.

Up to two RPA may be airborne simultaneously which may be operating in different survey areas. Both RPA will launch and recover from the same site.

When operating from Rolleston aerodrome, only one RPA will be operating within 2NM of the aerodrome at a time and launch and recovery of RPA will not occur during arrival or departures of conventionally piloted aircraft. A NOTAM will be raised to cover all periods of operation and will highlight which launch site is in use.

# PROPOSAL

This information is provided to raise awareness and seek feedback about the proposed BVLOS RPA survey operation in the Central Highlands Region. It provides an opportunity for airspace users to seek further information or raise any safety or operational concerns.



Proposed RPA area of operation SFC – 4000 feet AMSL. Planned aerial survey areas marked A – D



Callsign Unmanned Laser - 3 metre wingspan, cruise speed approximately 45 knots