

Thursday, 8 December 2022

ATT: National Airports Safeguarding Advisory Group
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
GPO Box 594
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Sent via email - safeguarding@infrastructure.gov.au

To whom it may concern,

Brisbane Airport Corporation (BAC) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the review of the National Airports Safeguarding Framework (NASF) Guideline C Wildlife Strike (the Guideline).

Brisbane Airport is Australia's third largest international gateway, operating 24/7 across 53 domestic and 23 international destinations. Passenger volumes in FY19 (the last year of uninterrupted operations) amounted to 24m passengers. Population growth and the recovery of international travel will see increased passengers at Brisbane Airport, and in turn, further investment in infrastructure. With the opening of the airport's parallel runway in July 2020, Brisbane Airport can facilitate up to 110 aircraft movements per hour, with planning underway for a third integrated terminal to accommodate increased travel demand.

At BAC, the health and safety of our team, our passengers and our partners is paramount. We are committed to providing a world class airport that is safe for aviation activities and promoting a positive safety culture across our aviation operations. The Airport Safeguarding Framework is a critical component of this commitment.

Aviation safety regulations do not address the risk of wildlife strikes occurring outside the boundary of airports in the same way as they address on-airport risk. The risk of a strike off airport relates mostly to wildlife activity in areas surrounding the airport. As such, we are supportive of the review of the guideline as a means of strengthening arrangements to address the risk of wildlife hazards that occur off airport.

To this end, we suggest some clarification of the mitigation measures set out in Attachment 1 is needed and serve as key considerations for any development approval by the local authority. Table 1 sets out proposed amendments in the form of clear actions for the local authority to use in the development decision process.

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Table 1 Proposed amendments to the guideline

Current terminology in Attachment 1 of Guideline C	Proposed consideration	Reason for the proposed change
Incompatible	Development approval not granted.	Currently, the guideline does not address incompatible land uses or what actions to take
Mitigate	Proponent to develop a wildlife hazard management plan by a suitably qualified professional and supplied to the local authority and airport operator.	This allows the local authority to link wildlife hazard risk to a condition on development approval requiring action.
Monitor	Proponent to monitor wildlife activity and report to the local authority and airport operator should a change in activity levels occur.	This allows the local authority to link wildlife hazard risk to a condition on development approval requiring action.
No action	No action required.	n/a

The proposed considerations recognise that not only do airport operators and local councils form part of the solution but surrounding commerce and other organisations also play a role in wildlife hazard management.

In addition to the above, the Guideline contains examples of wildlife zones for Brisbane Airport in place when the Guideline was initially prepared in 2012. Attached to this submission are updated zones reflective of the current parallel runway airfield which we are happy to have included in the revised version.

Thank you for the opportunity for to provide feedback on the guideline. BAC recognises the importance of NASF and has identified other opportunities for improvement in other guidelines. We would be happy to meet with the Advisory Group to discuss these opportunities in more detail.

If you have any questions regarding this submission, please contact Helen Clarke via email, helen.clarke@bne.com.au

Yours sincerely

Helen Clarke
Statutory Planning Manager



Attachment - Current wildlife strike zones at Brisbane Airport

